

NEWSLETTER

10th February 2022

Principal's Report

With this being my first column for 2022, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back to school for an exciting year of learning and growth for our students at Pakenham Lakeside. I would also like to extend a very warm welcome to all our new students, families and staff who have joined our school community.

We have 113 Prep students who have commenced their formal education at PLPS, along with another 28 students in years 1-6 who have enrolled and will continue their learning at our school. Our new students are part of an overall student enrolment of 808. Thank you and congratulations to Ms Frith, all of the members of our Prep teaching team and the teaching support staff in this year level on assisting and enabling our Prep students to make such a smooth and effective transition to their primary education and settle into our school so quickly and effectively.

We also have a number of staff who have joined our teaching and education support teams. Welcome to all of our staff members and we look forward to their contributions to our 2022 school year.

We also have some of our students and their families who are currently isolating, and we look forward to welcoming them back to school soon. Once again, I thank all families for keeping us up to date with their circumstances.

Already we have set a number of dates for various events over the coming weeks. Tomorrow all parents will receive their first year level newsletter for 2022. This will communicate to parents the key areas their children will be engaging in this term, including reading, writing, mathematics and our inquiry units. As well as curriculum material, important dates for each year level and other important information for parents about some of our school processes, is also included. We hope this assists parents with an understanding of the learning your children will experience during term 1.

This Friday our senior students in years 5 and 6 commence the summer inter-school sport season against other local schools in the district. Our school teams will participate in the sports of cricket, basketball, volleyball, tennis and softball. As well as endeavouring to perform at their best and trying to achieve success, our students are also aware of their responsibilities whenever they represent our school in the wider community. There is an expectation that our students exhibit a strong sense of sportsmanship, respect the umpires and their decision-making in all games and encourage their team mates. We look forward to student enjoyment through their participation, accompanied by excellent attitudes. Thank you to Mr Seton and Mr Vann for their organisation and supporting our students in their preparations for the games.

This week our year 6 students who have aspirations for leadership positions in 2022 collected their leadership applications. Our student leadership team is made up of our two school captains, eight house captains and a number of student representative council captains. As part of the application process, our students need to:

- demonstrate an enthusiasm to lead and encourage our student body to participate and contribute to the ongoing development of our school
- demonstrate and outline their ability to be positive role models for all students
- demonstrate their ability to think and act in ways that reflect our school's core values—how they “live our values”
- be representatives of our school, when required, out of school at community events.

The applications, together with speeches and conversations with the applicants, will be considered for selection by members of our school's leadership team. Parents of year 6 students will be notified of when the student leadership positions will be announced.

Tomorrow parents will receive information on Compass regarding our 'Meet the Teacher' conversations. Due to current restrictions in place, we will be having these meetings via *Google Meets*. They have been scheduled for Monday, February 21st and Tuesday, February 22nd after school from 3:30—6:30pm. This meeting provides an opportunity for parents and teachers to meet and introduce themselves, as well as share any information that parents believe may impact upon their child's learning in 2022. Please ensure you outline your preferred time and return the form to school as soon as possible. Notes confirming your conversation time will be sent home next Thursday, so if you have not received this, could you please contact our school office next Friday.

Each year our School Council elections take place during the first term. This year we have five parent vacancies. Our School Council plays an important role in the progress and development of our school across many areas including governance, educational directions and policy development and ratification. It also monitors our financial situation and oversees our school's operating budget and expenditure programs. School Council is also a forum where important school community issues that impact upon our school and our students can be discussed and analysed.

If you are available and willing to attend a meeting that last 60-90 minutes once a month, have an interest in your child's school and how we can continue to provide an effective and engaging education to our students, this may be an opportunity for you to make a contribution to our school community.

Please note the time frame below for your information:

- Wednesday, February 16th – notice of election and call for nominations
- Wednesday, March 2nd – closing date for nominations, 4:00pm.

If you would like further information or wish to clarify anything, please don't hesitate to contact me at school on 5940-9532

Kerrie Kingston-Gains
Principal

Admin News

DIARY DATES

Friday 18th February - Friday 25th March: Summer Interschool Sports

Monday 21st February & Tuesday 22nd February: Online 'Meet the Teacher' Conversations

Tuesday 8th March - Friday 11th March: Year 5 Beechworth Camp

ICY POLE FRIDAY

We will be selling
lemonade icy poles at lunch time on
Fridays during term 1.

Icy poles are \$1.20 each and can be
purchased from the Canteen.

**Note: The last day for Icy Poles in Term 1
will be Friday 1st April.**



Canteen

Just a reminder that the
canteen is now open on
Tuesdays & Thursdays for
online lunch orders via the
Qkr! app.

Counter sales will also be
available at recess and lunch
time.



PLPS Bucket Hats

We currently have our old
style bucket hats available
for sale from the office at
the discounted price of
\$10.00

These hats are no longer
available at PSW.

Hats



Hats are part of our school uniform in
Term 1.

It is strongly recommended that all students have
their hats on when they play out in the yard at recess
and lunch time.

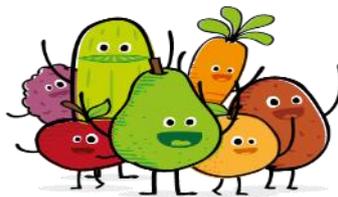
Please remember to label your hats too!

Nude Food Fridays



Starting from next week, Friday the 18th February, PLPS will begin their weekly 'Nude Food Fridays'.

What is Nude Food? Nude food is food without excess packaging such as extra plastic bags, paper bags, wrappings or cling wrap. The purpose of "Nude Food Fridays" is to promote a healthier environment in the school yard. Having a healthier environment means less rubbish around the schools and it also displays PRIDE in our environment and the importance of keeping it clean and safe!



The benefits of packaging "Nude Food" also includes:

Improve Your Child's Nutrition:

Creating waste free snacks and lunches reduces the consumption of packaged, processed foods and increases the intake of fresh, whole foods. Compared to fresh foods, pre-packaged food often contains more kilojoules, fat, salt and sugar. Avoiding those quick, pre-packaged snacks reduces waste and ensures better nutrition for your child.



Reduce Landfill:

Australia is the second highest producer of waste per person in the western world! School lunches are contributing to this, with the average lunch-toting child generating around 30kg of litter a year.

You can do your bit to reduce this by packing a school lunch without including any unnecessary packaging, yoghurt suckers, small tubs, zip-lock bags, paper bags or cling wrap. By reducing the amount of excess packaging this will reduce the amount of waste that needs to go in bins to be sent to landfill.

Nude Food Fridays



Save Money:

Avoiding pre-packaged foods and buying foods in bulk can save time and money. Even better, a home-made carrot and apple muffin/frittata/muesli slice will have a much greater nutrient value AND you can control the amount of sugar used, avoiding preservatives and additives completely. By making your own lunchbox goodies, you can then purchase the raw ingredients in bulk too – instead of buying a 6 pack of yoghurts, purchase a large tub and make up individual, leak proof containers for lunch. For more information go to: <https://www.nudefoodday.com.au>

Examples of Nude Food

Nude Food includes a wide array of options, as long as there is no extra packaging. This could include:

- A sandwich in a reusable container
- A sectioned lunch box with snacks in compartments
 - Yoghurt in a reusable container
- Muesli bars and snack in reusable containers and wraps
 - Fruit and berries in a reusable container