Dear Parents and Carers,

DATES TO REMEMBER 2014

Friday 28th March   PSSA last game for Term 1
Wednesday 2nd April Assembly
                 P & C AGM 12.30pm
Friday 11th April   Easter Hat Parade and Mufti Day / Draw of P & C Raffle
                 Last day Term 1
Tuesday 29th April Students return for Term 2

Congratulations to the following students who received awards in the assembly of 19th March:

BRONZE BADGE
- Riya Grewal 1H
- RJ Tautolo 2/6W

SILVER CERTIFICATE
- Christian Capati K2C
- Hamza Rawi K2N

SILVER BADGE
- Taleb Sinno 1H
- Oscar Kennedy 1H
- Mina Tuita 1H

GOLD CERTIFICATE
- Sofi Atanasovski K3H
- Ethan Hanshaw 1H

PHOTO
- Jai Fryer 1H
- Lachlan Metcalfe 1H

PRINCIPAL’S MORNING TEA
- Jai Fryer 1H
- Lachlan Metcalfe 1H

P & C NEWS

EASTER RAFFLE
Thank you to those parents who have already sent in easter eggs and baskets for our raffle. Please continue to do so. Raffle tickets have been sent out to all families, if you would like more tickets please collect them from the office.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Our Annual General Meeting will take place on Wednesday the 2nd April 2014 at 12.30pm in the conference room.
All positions will be declared vacant. Positions are: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer
Information sheets and nomination forms are available from the office.
Parents and citizens are welcome to be part of the P & C without holding an official position.
To be able to be nominated for a position and to vote in the AGM you MUST already be a financial member of the P & C.
**Pink Stumps Day**

**CONGRATULATIONS** Lalor Park PS on a successful Pink Stumps Day. Lalor Park PS held Pink Stumps Day on March 12. The day saw the school coloured pink! Pink hats, pink shirts, pink dresses, pink shoes the pink was everywhere. The mufti day was so strongly supported.

What was even more impressive was the contribution made by the school community to the cake stall. We had marvellous cupcakes, cake pops, banana breads, muffins, and biscuits, all sorts of wonderful treats that the students enjoyed at lunch and recess and even to take home. The support of the school community to this part of the day was overwhelming and greatly appreciated.

The Student Representative Council, Ms Jones and Mrs Sutton should be congratulated on their thorough organisation and preparation for such a worthy cause.

The grand total of money raised for the McGrath Foundation was $585.85 which was a huge effort by our school community.

Thank you everyone for the support!

**Harmony Day**

Harmony Day is celebrated around Australia on 21 March, however we celebrated on Thursday 20 March. The purpose of Harmony Day is to celebrate Australia’s cultural diversity. It is a day to celebrate the cohesive and inclusive nature of Australia. It is about community participation, inclusiveness and respect.

At Lalor Park PS we took the concepts of inclusiveness and respect and created activities around this for the students. The students worked together to make friendship bracelets and took time to write something nice about another person. The focus for us is KINDNESS!

I know the younger students were so happy that the older students assisted them in making their bracelets as they came and showed me these throughout the day.

Interesting fact: there are over 20 different language backgrounds represented at Lalor Park PS. This just adds richness to our culture.

I would like to thank Mrs Bade who did a lot of preparation in ensuring Lalor Park PS celebrated Harmony Day in a positive way. Thanks also to all staff and students in their positive participation in helping to promote a sense of belonging for everyone.

**Blacktown Learning Community**

The Blacktown Learning Community (BLC) held our first meeting last Friday 21 March. This meeting was to be represented by the 24 school Principals who make up the BLC and a parent representative from each school. I attended this meeting with Ms Barbara Carter.

The meeting started with 2 presentations from 2 of our Schools for Specific Purposes (SSP’s) William Rose SSP and The Ponds SSP and the programs they are running under their Every Student Every School (ESES) Initiative. These presentations were fantastic, very informative and inspiring. I know Barb found some of this information very interesting.

The meeting also focussed on the BLC’s next 2 year plan and focus areas. Lalor Park PS is responsible for the STAFF including SASS focus area. Barbara was also a part of this brainstorming group and I appreciate very much her contributions to this discussion.

It was a very enjoyable and productive learning community meeting. It also gave Barbara a chance to meet up with some past principals of Lalor Park PS, Ms Kate Pugh and Mr Doug Perrott.

I would like to thank Barbara very much for her attendance at this important meeting and the productive input she made at the meeting.

**Contacting the School**
Just a friendly reminder that all staff are here to support the students of the school. Lalor Park PS is an inclusive P-6 school. All staff are responsible for the welfare and well-being of all students. If you wish to speak to a staff member about any educational matter regarding your child/ren if you could please do so following the processes available. At all times you should at first consult with your child’s teacher. This can be done by calling the school and making a suitable meeting time between the teacher and yourself. You can also, if needed make an appointment to see the following Assistant Principals responsible for your child’s stage/area:

- Mrs Leigh Bade  AP P- Yr 1
- Mr Jeff Urio   AP Yr 2 – Yr 6
- Ms Chris Wilkie  AP Support Unit

and of course you can make an appointment to see the Principal Mrs Joanne Gardiner. Please ask the office staff to arrange this appointment for you.

Staff at Lalor Park PS are very responsive to discussing any matters with parents and carers; however there are times that certain issues need thorough discussion rather than a passing comment in the morning or afternoon. As staff get very little release time from face to face teaching it is important that we make appointments where necessary.

**Under no circumstances is any adult other than a staff member able to approach students on school grounds to discuss any issues that may or may not have occurred at school.**

**Year 5 / 6**

I missed the last assembly last Wednesday as I had to attend a Preschool Principal Network Meeting at Dundas. This meant that I missed the year 5 / 6 item. Well I missed it at assembly anyway.

Mrs Ignacz had the students redo the item Thursday afternoon so I could see. WOW – what a performance, even though the students were not in the clothes they wore for the performance at assembly, I was able to see the amazing talent of our Year 5 / 6 class. I was so impressed with the entire item, the boys and girls should be congratulated on their dancing ability, their passion and participation. I told them I could see this item being redone at future events I was that impressed. I would like to thank Ms Nicole Lance who has been giving her own time to come and support Mrs Ignacz in teaching the students their routine. The school is lucky to have a talented person such as Nicole to teach choreography to ensure our students maximise their potential.

**EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

We recently sent home an Emergency Contact information sheet. We require updated information if you have moved, or changed phone numbers recently.

Several times over the last weeks we have tried to contact parents and we did not have up to date records. Please complete the form even if you are unsure if you have already advised us or contact us by phone to give current details.