Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to Week 7 of the term. It’s amazing how quickly this term has flown with so many things on the go. If you haven’t yet subscribed to our eNewsletter then please do so to ensure each newsletter is delivered safely to your inbox. Please read ahead to see what the latest is for Loganholme SS.

**Induction Day**

Last week I was very proud to watch all of our leaders for 2014 be presented with their badge of office. We have a lot to be proud of at Loganholme and the students who represented our school at the induction ceremony last week did themselves, their families and their teachers very proud. Not only was the entire student cohort commended for their impeccable behaviour and patience throughout the entire ceremony, there were many comments made from special guests and visiting relatives about the good manners and polite and friendly nature of the students in general. Well done to all of our students for being such wonderful role models of the values you so proudly uphold within (and beyond) our school community.

Congratulations to those students who received their badges in last week’s ceremony. We look forward to watching you all demonstrate your leadership skills and become role models to the school community over 2014. We hope your families and friends enjoyed sharing this special memory with you. Here are some of our favourite photos from the day.

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**School Captains**

**Leadership Team**
From the Leadership Team

Jagarra Captains

Yugambeh Captains

Turrbal Captains

Here is an overview of our Leaders for 2014

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<tr>
<th>School Captains</th>
<th>Jagarra Captains</th>
<th>Yugambeh Captains</th>
<th>Turrbal Captains</th>
<th>Leadership Team</th>
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<td>Chloe D</td>
<td>Casey G</td>
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Air Conditioning

How ‘cool’ will Year 1 be soon? Ask your little ones (if they are in the current Year 1 building) if there have been any changes in their classrooms lately. The good news is, our air conditioning for this block is finally getting installed! As mentioned previously, this has been quite a lengthy process in that we had to deal with a power upgrade prior to installing any systems. To combat this and to try not to interrupt our students’ learning time, we have had to relocate two classes both yesterday and today while the systems were installed. Fortunately the electrical upgrade was done last night outside of school time and everything is on track to be completed by the end of the school week. I hope we have some very happy little Year one students sharing stories about their cooler days soon!

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5 and 7. It has been an annual event for schools since 2008.

NAPLAN testing will occur in Week 4 of Term 2 on Tuesday 13 May, Wednesday 14 May and Thursday 15 May. Friday 16 May will be used to catch up any students absent for one or more of the tests.

NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australia children. It also provides valuable information that allows schools and governments to better target effort and support to help all students achieve their potential and acquire the basic skills to help them build successful and happy lives.

NAPLAN tests fundamental skills rather than specific content, and as such is not a test for which students can study or drill. The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to let them know that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day.

If any parents or carers have any questions regarding the NAPLAN testing then please do not hesitate to contact the school office on 3801 9333.
From the Leadership Team

**Tennis Courts**
Our tennis court project has gone out to tender, hence the large number of visitors we have had investigating our current courts and the surrounding area over the past week or so. As this is a project that is centrally managed, we unfortunately can’t give you any more information than we are told with each visit. We have been told the courts will be completed by the end of this financial year so with this in mind, sports like basketball and tennis will soon be offered to our Loganholme students. Watch this space!

**Flying Start**
As you would be aware, at the end of 2014 all of our Year 6 and 7 students will be moving to high school. As such, the end of year processes that would usually only affect our Year 7 students, will affect two year levels this year. Very soon we will begin the process of sending home surveys to our Year 6 and 7 parents to ask for your feedback on various aspects of the end of year processes. At some point in Term 3 we would also like the opportunity to discuss various aspects of the children’s transition to high school with the families of our graduating students. More information will be sent home closer to the time, however, in the short term please expect brief surveys to gauge your opinion on these matters.

**Life Education Update**
Last week saw the commencement of our Life Education Lessons. The feedback provided from those students who have attended put simple in their words is “awesome”. The important topics discussed through these valuable lessons will re-enforce positive healthy choices for life. With Healthy Harold supporting these topics, the students are sure to remember valuable messages now and in years to come.

It was wonderful to hear the Life Education teachers praise the behaviour of our students and comment on how impressed they were with Loganholme SS. The teachers informed me that the students’ prior knowledge and involvement in the lessons enable them to extend the content beyond what they would usually teach. What a wonderful compliment to receive from a teacher who travels to many schools in the south east. Well done everyone.

**Communication**
Schools are a very dynamic and multi-faceted place as it is always a hive of activity. To ensure that families and students are getting the best possible outcomes from school we have continually highlighted the importance of communication. Families can get very frustrated when they are not informed of special events or miss important information, especially when it has been readily available to the community. We would like to take this opportunity to highlight the variety of communication avenues the school provides to ensure that all families are kept up-to-date.

**Newsletters**
Each week we send home a School Newsletter OR Letter from the Leadership Team. This is sent home via the students (oldest in the family). Alternatively, we can also send the School Newsletter via email. The e-Newsletter is only sent to those families who have nominated to receive it. If you currently do not receive our e-Newsletter and would like to, please contact the school office and provide contact details.

**Website**
Our School Website has been something we have dedicated a lot of time on to ensure that all information is current and up-to-date. The website continues to evolve as we find new ways of connecting valuable teaching and learning information to parents. We also upload our Newsletters under our School Information Tab as another way to safe guard parent to receive the information. We also have our calendar of school events under the Calendar Tab. We strongly suggest that parents check the website on a weekly basis.

**Twitter**
In keeping with the 21st Century, we also have a Twitter Account. Parents do not need to have a ‘twitter account’ to access this facility as we have a twitter section on our home page of our website. The advantage of having twitter is that it allows us to communicate to the community 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. I know that parents have checked
**From the Leadership Team**

the twitter section of our website to check if whole school events are still going ahead when the weather conditions have not been favourable. So from the school’s perspective, being able to ‘tweet’ is the easiest and most effective way to reach the community quickly and we will continue to use this avenue to connect to our community.

**Classroom Newsletters**
Class teachers are required to send out a classroom letter at the beginning of each term to give an overview of curriculum areas that will be covered as well as other information pertinent to that classroom.

**School Sign**
We also use our school sign to advertise and remind the community of our up and coming events. The sign is located at the main entrance of our school.

**School Office**
The school office is also another source that can provide you with school information. The office girls are always happy to help and if they don’t know the answer, they will endeavour to find out the answers for you.

So as you can see, there are many avenues to be kept up to date with school information and events. Families just have to work out which communication avenue best fits the context of your personal circumstance and routines.

**School Dress Code**
As we are now in the second half of this term we would like to remind families of the expectations regarding the school dress code. This dress code has been developed by the Parents & Citizens Association following consultation with parents, staff and students. It aims to contribute to a safe and supportive learning environment through:

- Ready identification of students and non-students at school
- Fostering a sense of belonging
- Developing a mutual respect among students by minimising visible evidence of economic or social differences

One area of particular concern is the type and colour of shoes, laces and socks that students are wearing. Please note the requirements below.

**Girl’s Summer Uniform**
Either - School Dress
or - Maroon shorts/skort with School Polo/Sport Polo
Socks - WHITE (short)
Shoes - Predominately black or white joggers/sneakers with BLACK or WHITE laces
Hat - Maroon school hat (no caps allowed)

**Boy’s Summer Uniform**
Shorts - Maroon
Shirt - School Polo/Sport Polo
Socks - WHITE (short)
Shoes - Predominately black or white joggers/sneakers with BLACK or WHITE laces
Hat - Maroon school hat (no caps allowed)

Please also note the following as important aspects of the school dress code.

- Due to Workplace, Health and Safety standards, **no canvas skate shoes** e.g. Vans/Converse etc. are permitted or acceptable footwear.

**ICAS Testing for 2014**
This is the final reminder to the community, if you wish for your child to participate in the ICAS (International Competitions and Assessment for Schools) testing this year, you only have one week left to collect a permission letter from the school office. After **Friday 14 March**, expressions of interest will be closed and no further submissions will
From the Leadership Team

be accepted. Remember testing is offered to Year 3-7 students. Please contact the school office if you have any further questions regarding this.

**Practice Emergency Evacuations & Lockdowns**

Over the last two weeks, students have been involved in two practice drills in response to an emergency situation. These are - an emergency evacuation drill and a lockdown drill. Please talk with your child about the differences between these two types of emergency situations, what the response is and most importantly what signals they need to listen out for. These drills are mandatory for all schools as a part of the workplace health and safety compliance procedures. If you have any questions or queries regarding these, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

**Say No to Bullying Day (21 March)**

Recently some of our senior students approached us asking about the possibility of participating in the “Say No to Bullying” day which is on Friday 21 March. As a staff we believe this is a great idea! So to show our school support of zero tolerance for any form of bullying we would like to invite all children to wear an orange shirt on this day (Friday 21 March). Please note, this is not a free dress day – students are to wear either an orange shirt to support the cause or their school uniform. This is not a fundraising exercise, simply an opportunity for our school community to show support for a very important national campaign.

**Cross Country Before School Training**

If you have seen some very energetic young students and our very energetic and committed PE teacher on the oval early in the mornings then you have been lucky enough to view our cross country runners in training. This training has been offered to students in Years 5-7 and has been very well supported in its first week. Thank you to those parents who have made the effort to get your children to school so early and thank you to the students themselves for the commitment they have been showing to their sport. Most of all a massive thank you to Mr Bray our wonderful PE teacher and super coach! Thanks Mr Bray!

**WiFi Update**

Our newly expanded Wireless Network is up and running making it more accessible for students and teachers to access information through the internet, on laptops and iPads in the classrooms. Although new Wireless Access Ports (WAPs) were installed in Blocks B and C with Year 2, 3 and 5 having classroom access, the iCentre is a communal location where other classes can go to access WiFi. Further expansion of our Wireless Network is currently in the pipeline for this semester with Blocks D, E, F and the Year 4 demountable building having Wireless Access Ports installed.

**Apps of the Week**

Two Free Apps to help your child practise maths facts in an entertaining way are **Maths Splash Bingo** and **Math Monsters Bingo**. Both apps are multiplayer and allow students to practice addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts.

Another series of apps for children aged 3 to 8 years is the **Pocket Charts!** series. This $0.99 app series assists early childhood learners to develop numeracy and literacy skills. The simple matching game covers areas from Upper and Lower Case recognition, beginning and ending letter sounds, consonant blends, long and short vowel sounds, spelling three letter words, rhyming, shapes, fractions and counting from one to twenty. **Pocket Charts! Single Addition and Subtraction** is FREE and worth a look.
From the Leadership Team

Top 5 Ground Rules for Child iPad Usage

1. **Work before play**: Have your child complete learning activities before having free play on games like Angry Birds etc. This encourages them to complete learning in a way that they see as more enjoyable.

2. **Don’t leave the iPad in an unsafe place**: Create a designated place for your child to return the iPad after use.

3. **Always reboot after you purchase an App for your child**: The App Store saves your password for a certain period of time. If you attempt to purchase an App immediately after a previous purchase, the system may or may not ask you for the pass code. This is also the case for App updates. Just to be safe, reboot the iPad to keep yourself and your child out of trouble.

4. **Mandatory iPad break every couple hours**: If you allow it, your child will play the iPad until the battery is completely drained. Too many hours concentrating on a small screen can affect their eyes and cause stress.

5. **Limit night time play**: Using iPads stimulates visual receptors in the brain. This brain stimulation keeps the brain active for a period of time after the child has finished playing and therefore hinders sleep. Limiting the lateness that your child gets off the iPad will allow them to get a better night’s sleep and be awake and alert when learning at school.

Kind regards
The Leadership Team

Loganholme State School
Cross Country
Wednesday 23 April 2014
8.45am on the School Oval
Wear house coloured shirts.

ALL PARENTS WELCOME!!