Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to welcome back all of our current Loganholme families and also a warm welcome to our new families for the start of Term 2. I hope that you had a lovely holiday with your children and that you are ready for the many events our school has to offer this term.

Welcome back Mrs Austin!

I would like to welcome Mrs Renee Austin, our deputy principal, back from her overseas holiday with her family. It is wonderful to have her back and ready for the term ahead. I’m sure many of you will hear some of her magnificent adventures from her trip to Europe.

Staffing Update

Our lovely Mrs Williams is taking some leave over the next few weeks so she can head north to support her mother through surgery and the recovery process. To replace Mrs Williams during this time we welcome Mr Aaron O’Sullivan to the Year 3W class.

Interschool Cross Country

We start with the Interschool Cross Country carnival that was held on Wednesday 23 April under beautiful blue skies. For those families who attended, I would like to say thank you for the support that you showed the school and your children. I know the students were most appreciative of you being in attendance to cheer them on and to make the day special for them. I would like to congratulate all students who participated on the day. Students tried their very best to conquer the course and I know there were many students who set themselves personal goals for their race. Some students made a tremendous commitment with the training that they did last term and during the holidays for this race. It is a credit to them to see the results that they achieved.

I would like to acknowledge the huge efforts of our wonderful PE teacher, Mr Willis Bray, for his organisation of the event. Mr Bray has had many years of experience in events such as this and contributed to the success of the carnival. I would also like to thank Mrs Austin and Mrs Carroll for the effort that both put in before and during the event to support Mr Bray. The teachers at Loganholme SS also have to be congratulated for their involvement on the day of the event to help make it very memorable for all of our students. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the P&C for organising the yummy sausage sizzle and drinks on the day and for those parents who helped with the preparation and serving. On speaking with parents and students, I know this was a welcomed treat for the students to enjoy after they had finished their race. We presented our first three place getters with their medallions and ribbons on the day. We will be acknowledging the top ten place getters of each race at our whole school assembly on Monday 28 April at 1.45pm. Please join us for this special event.
From the Leadership Team

District Cross Country

From our interschool cross country carnival, students have qualified for the Beenleigh District Trials to be held on Tuesday 6 May at Canterbury College. Mr Bray is putting the final team list together and will be meeting with these students in the coming days to outline this carnival. Forms will be sent home to families shortly.

ANZAC Day

Our ANZAC Day memorial service was held today to commemorate those soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. It was a time for all of us to pause and reflect on the sacrifices made by thousands of Australians who have served our country in wartime. I would like to thank our special guests Mr Mike Latter – State Member for Waterford, Councillor Luke Smith, and Mr Birmingham – Returned Serviceman Vietnam and Lisa Dreyer Loganholme P&C President, for their attendance and participation in the service. Mr Latter commended our students for the respect that they showed throughout the service. I would also like to acknowledge the fantastic job our student leaders did in running the ceremony. Their leadership was an absolute credit to them and their families. Thank you to family members who also attended and for the floral wreaths you contributed. This was another school event that made me proud to see the outstanding behaviour and understanding of our wonderful students. Tomorrow is ANZAC Day and as such, is a school holiday.

Loganholme Littlies

2014 was the introduction of our Early Start data collection. This data provides us with valuable information about where each of the children are at when they enter Prep. Further analysis of this data can show us any emerging patterns regarding the students. In Term 1, each of our very patient Prep teachers spent hours carrying out the Early Start data collection in the hope of gaining more information about each of the students in their class. Mrs Swadling and Ms Hester began visiting our four day care centres last term, meeting with both the director from each centre and the teachers in each of the kindy rooms. In these meetings, they set up a plan of action which will see each of these kindy teachers coming to our school to observe how Prep is taught. Most importantly they will be able to observe the expectations that our Prep teachers have of the children early in the year. Following these school visits Mrs Swadling and Ms Hester will be visiting the day care centres where they will work with the teachers in the kindy rooms.

The next aspect to this project will see both of these teachers doing some leadership rounds in five Victorian schools and their local Daycare centres. This exercise will gather information from five of the top performing schools in the nation to try to establish how the program they run in Prep differs from what we do here in Queensland. This experience will provide the teachers with some very valuable information regarding our own Loganholme Littlies program. I would like to thank Mrs Swadling and Ms Hester for the work they have done so far on this project. Their ideas have been innovative, their commitment to the project has been nothing short of inspiring and their enthusiasm for providing the best they possibly can for our future LSS students is admirable.

IPAD Island

I am pleased to offer students another lunchtime activity that they can become involved in to extend the many choices that students are already offered during playtimes. IPad Island is a place students can go and relax during their break and look at some of the suggested apps for the week on ipads. This activity will be offered to students in the first break from Tuesday to Thursday. It will be run by Mr Wheeler with the support of another staff member. Student leaders will also being involved in helping the littlies on their allocated days. Students in Year 1-3 may visit on Tuesday and Thursday while students in Year 4-7 may visit on Wednesday and Friday. I am sure this will be a popular lunchtime activity with the latest IPad apps on offer.
From the Leadership Team

Professional Development for Parents

We are working to establish a program of parent education sessions to upskill family members who would like to become more familiar with the latest education methods being used in the classroom. Many of us were educated in the 1980s and 1990s, thus making our way of learning quite different to the way the children are being taught in classrooms today. As a parent I know first-hand how difficult this can be when wanting to help our children with their homework. At this stage we are looking at providing a reading PD which is very similar to the 'Support a Reader' program and a numeracy PD which is very similar to the first modules in the 'First Steps in Number' program. More information regarding these workshops will be given in the near future.

School Values Program

Our school values program has been taking shape this year with the vignette appetizer given at assembly each week along with teachers giving out class awards based on the virtue of the week prior. Awards each week are aligned to our values program. The student leadership team will continue to produce these videos to be shared at the school assembly. Some of the values that we have focussed on during last term are:

**Confidence**
Confidence is having faith in someone. Self-confidence is trusting that you have what it takes to handle whatever happens. You feel sure in yourself and enjoy trying new things, without letting doubts and fears hold you back. When you have confidence in others, you rely on them.

**Courtesy**
Courtesy is being polite and having good manners. When you speak and act courteously, you give others a feeling of being valued and respected. Bring courtesy home. Your family needs it most of all. Courtesy helps life go smoothly.

**Friendliness**
Friendliness is being a friend, through good times and bad. You take interest in other people and make them feel welcome. You share belongings, your time and yourself. Friendliness is the best cure for loneliness. Friendship is an unselfish concern for the good of another.

**Honesty**
Honesty is being truthful and sincere. It is important because it builds trust. When people are honest, they can be relied on not to lie, cheat or steal. Being honest means that you accept yourself for who you are. When you are open and trustworthy, others can believe in you.

**Kindness**
Kindness is showing you care, doing some good to make life better for others. It is being thoughtful about people’s needs. Kindness is treating yourself and others gently. It is caring about the earth and all living things.

**Respect**
Respect is an attitude of caring about people and treating them with dignity. Respect is valuing ourselves and others. We show respect by speaking and acting with courtesy. When we are respectful we treat others, as we want to be treated. Respect includes honouring the rules of our family or school, which make life more orderly and peaceful.

**Responsibility**
Responsibility is about being accountable for your actions, allows others to rely on you and means you give your best to any task. Being responsible is a learned behaviour. It is not an accident and it requires patience and effort. If you want to be more responsible and practise the skills that will help you, you can become more responsible.

We would appreciate it if you could discuss these values with your children to reinforce the importance of them.

Levelled Literacy Intervention Program

This program is a school initiated program that comes from the Great Results Guarantee Agreement supported by the State Government. As shared previously Loganholme State School have identified the benefit of providing intensive intervention with selected Year 1 and 2 students who require additional support to reach the required benchmarks. Teachers have been collecting data throughout last term in order to finalise these groups. Once this has occurred, the resources will be prepared and additional staff timetabled to begin the program.
From the Leadership Team

School Uniform Order Forms

Next week we will be sending home a winter uniform order form to all families. While the cold of winter hasn’t hit us as yet, the P&C would like to provide students with the warmer clothing they will need ahead of time. This will allow our students to rug up when the mornings become cooler and a jumper is needed until the sun begins to warm the day. Orders will be distributed to students as soon as the stock arrives at the school.

School uniform shop opening hours are Monday 8.00am – 9.00am and Wednesday 2.00pm – 3.00pm.

School Disco

Week 4 will be very exciting for our students as we host our first school disco for the Year on Friday 16 May. The theme for the disco will be a Pyjama Party and students will be provided with food, drinks and a glow product as a part of their entry cost. More specific information about this disco will be provided in subsequent Newsletters.

Let’s Celebrate!!

Please join us as we March along the streets of Beenleigh in the annual Cane Festival Parade. Last year we had over 60 parents and students participating in the parade and this year we hope to exceed this number by many! To give you advance warning the date is Saturday 31 May. More information in next week’s Newsletter!

Kind regards
The Leadership Team