Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to Week 4 of the school year. Already our children are settling into their daily routines with big smiles and lots of enthusiasm. Thank you to everyone for the contribution you are making to support your children with their learning.

An Afternoon with the Prime Minister

This week I was fortunate enough to be one of the VIPs invited to afternoon tea with the Prime Minister, Mr Tony Abbott and the Federal member, Mr Bert Van Manen MP.

The afternoon was insightful hearing the Prime Minister’s views on public sector leadership and the challenges leaders face when leading diverse communities where few people have every detail related to current issues. This was a wonderful opportunity and I felt very honoured to be a part of this event.

Pictured Right:
(Left) Prime Minister – Mr Tony Abbott,
(Middle) Principal – Mrs Susan Cowley,
(Right) Federal Member for Forde –
Mr Bert Van Manen MP

Student Learning and Intervention

As we start the fourth week of school, teachers are focused on delivering a curriculum that is rigorous, relevant and personalised to your child’s needs. At Loganholme our year levels cooperatively design their units of work. Attention is given to core concepts that need to be taught to ensure understanding, an increasing level of skill acquisition and the ability to apply knowledge and understanding to real world and life like problems. Part of our planning process involves in-building adjustments to ensure the success of all students. We use data from our school testing program, NAPLAN data and pre and post-tests to inform where adjustments need to be made and what extra support / enrichment maybe necessary for individual students.

This week we began our whole school intervention and extension program. Currently we have students receiving intensive reading support in Year 3 whilst we also have maths intervention and extension in Year 5.

Important Dates

**February**

25  P&C Meeting
27  School Leader Induction Ceremony

**March**

17  Bonus Behaviour Day
25  Parent-Teacher Interviews

**April**

1  Cross Country Carnival 8.30 am -10.30 am
2  Behaviour Rewards Day
   Last day of Term 1
3  Public Holiday – Good Friday
20  Term 2 Begins
From the Leadership Team

Reading programs right across the school have been structured to ensure we are providing reading extension to all of our students within our guided reading groups.

Our whole school intervention program will ensure students are meeting targets and are continually improving.

Supporting Your Child’s Learning

There are three easy steps parents can take to ensure success for children at school:

1. At school on time every day. Every day at school is important.
2. Read every day. 10 – 15 minutes in the lower grades and 30 minutes in the upper grades.
3. Communicate with teachers. Education is a partnership, we value your participation and involvement with your child and their learning needs. Not only do teachers value your participation, your children are eager for you to share in their triumphs and struggles.

Parent tips for reading and storytelling

All classes are currently introducing these characters during their whole class and small group reading activities. Can you guess what these strategies require a reader to do? Ask your child to find out!

- Eagle Eyes
- Stretchy Snake
- Lips the Fish
- Chunky Monkey
- Skippy Frog
- Flippy Dolphin
- Tryin’ Lion
- Peekin’ Poodle

If you would like further information on these strategies, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher.

Each week we will also continue to provide you with some tips and ideas to best support your children’s learning at home. This week we focus on reading and storytelling. We encourage family members to:

😊 Read to your children every day, even for a few minutes.
😊 Bedtime is a good time.
😊 Take your children to the library for story-telling sessions and to choose books to borrow.
😊 Find picture books that don’t have words and make up the story together.
😊 Be guided by your child about books they like and read their favourite parts over and over again.
😊 Stop when they want to.
😊 Stop, skip the bits they want to skip. Avoid reading stories they don’t like.
😊 Try out a range of different books and stories.
😊 After a scary bit in a story, stop and let your children talk about it.
😊 Pay attention to detail in the book, for example, point out the time on the clock in a picture.
😊 If you have more than one child, read or tell stories that they all like, for example stories about your childhood.
😊 Make time to read to each child individually.
😊 Talk to your children about the things you read, such as the newspaper, so they can see that reading is important to you.

😊 When your child reads out words on signs or food packets tell them you are proud of their reading.

(Department of Education Qld)

Induction Day

Just a reminder of our Student leaders Induction Ceremony for 2015. We will acknowledges students in Year 6 who have been selected by the school community to represent and lead the students this year. The leaders who will receive their badges include:-

✔ School Captains
✔ House Captains
✔ Student Leaders
✔ Music Captains

School Leaders Induction Ceremony
When: Friday 27 February
Time: 8:45am
Where: Kingfisher Hall
Who: All welcome to attend
From the Leadership Team

This year we will also be inducting our very first Music Captains. Congratulations Lara Diggelman & Kirrally Hill who have been selected to lead our Instrument Music Program this year.

Classroom Blitz – Fun Friday

It is with great pleasure we announce the winning class of our Classroom Blitz for week 3.

The winning class for Week 3 was Prep K
Congratulations Mrs K and Prep S students!

Fun Friday
Whole School Reward
20 February
Dress as your favourite sports team!

As the winning class, Prep K student got to select the whole school reward knows as “Fun Friday”. On Friday 20 February, all students from Prep to Year 6 are given the reward of coming to school dressed in their favourite sport team attire. Please ensure that the sports clothes are compliant with our Sun Smart policy. Sports or school shoes must still be worn for Health and Safety reasons.

Little Kingfishers

Our Little Kingfishers Program is up and running again and what a great morning our mums and little ones had with Ms Woodall on Monday morning. Next week we will share with you an overview of what is happening this term with our Little Kingfisher’s program. For now please remember that the location this year is in the I-Centre. Times are the same as last year – Monday and Friday mornings from 8.30am – 10.30am.

School Value of the Week - Punctuality

Each week through the Classroom Blitz we track the categories we need to improve on. During week 3, punctuality was the category with the lowest percentage across the school. Ensuring students are at school on time each and every day is essential to setting students up for success for their learning. This is a shared responsibility of the parents and students to work together to make this happen.

Here are some routine suggestions to help organise your children to arrive at school on time:

- Organise and lay out uniforms the night before
- Make lunches at night and put lunch boxes in the fridge
- Set an alarm to wake students each morning
- Create a picture timetable so children know what order to do things once they wake up
- Ensure the routine you create is followed each and every day
- Use incentives and rewards when students consistently achieve the routine independently

We recognise that mornings are a particularly challenging time for every family when there’s too much to do in a short space of time, and when what you need to do, clashes with what your child wants to do. Here are some useful tips which may assist you through this process:

The morning rush

- “I try to get clothes out and make up their packed lunches the night before – it gives me a bit of extra time in the morning.”
- “Getting them to do a bit for themselves always helps, even if it’s just getting a bowl and a spoon. They feel like they’re helping and it’s one less thing for me to do.”
- “I get up before everyone and have five minutes on my own for a quick coffee each morning.”
- “Create a ‘launch pad,’ where all school-related stuff -- backpack, lunch box, library books, lunch money, and permission slips are stored and prepped. A launch pad can be a box, large basket, dishpan or any large container. Put it in a well-travelled area, preferably near the door your child exits and enters going to and from school.”

For further parenting tips on getting ready in the morning, some great websites you can visit are:

http://www.parentingni.org/usefullinks/documents/tipsforparents_000.pdf
http://www.parenting.com/gallery/de-stress-your-morning-routine
From the Leadership Team

**School Rule for the Week - We keep our hands and feet to ourselves.**

You practise this by:

- ignoring someone if they are annoying you
- using friendly words instead of grabbing things without asking
- walking away when you feel yourself getting angry
- talking firmly and asking others to stop what they are doing that is annoying you
- warning the person that you will report their behaviour to an adult

**Positive Behaviour Tips for Parents**

Being a parent is a wonderful experience; however, it is not always easy. There are many high points but also many challenges and supporting children’s behaviour can be a challenge and sometimes a difficult and stressful time.

**Promoting positive behaviour**

Relationships are built on meeting the emotional needs that we all have for attention, acceptance, approval, comfort, security, encouragement, support, respect and affection. When our needs are met we feel happy and secure. When they are not met we can feel anxious, insecure and unhappy. Children can often display unwanted behaviour because they are tired or hungry. This may also be seen when they feel they can’t communicate what they want or that they feel the adult doesn’t understand. This can sometimes result in tears and/or anger.

**Top tips to encourage positive behaviour:**

**Be consistent** – Try to adopt a consistent approach to behaviour so children can quickly develop their understanding of what is expected. Explain this also to other family members such as grandparents too so children don’t become confused as to what behaviour is acceptable and unacceptable.

**Provide positive role models** - Children learn from those around them. It is important for them to have positive role models who follow the rules and boundaries themselves and model effective practice such as paying attention, listening when someone else is speaking, taking turns, saying please and thank you and using positive body language.

**Have clear and realistic expectations** - Rules or boundaries that are just and fair are an important part of daily life. These may include keeping their room tidy, washing up on a designated night each week and coming home from a friend’s place by a certain time.

**Smart Moves**

Each morning the school oval, hall and other outdoor areas are all a buzz with our children actively involved in our daily exercise program. Students are finishing their physical activity each morning with big smiles on their faces and their brains switched on and ready for learning. Thank you to those parents who have shown such an interest in this whole school activity each morning. Already we have some parents wanting to join in with their child’s class in a volunteer capacity and I encourage any parents interested to do the same. Please chat with your child’s classroom teacher if you are interested.

**Cross Country Training**

Our 2015 school Cross Country carnival is scheduled for late in Term 1. To help prepare our students for the school carnival, weekly training sessions are being offered to students by Mr Bray. Training sessions will be held before school each Tuesday and Thursday morning which is a great way for students to be as best prepared for the carnival as possible. Although these sessions are optional, regular attendance and commitment is required by students to maintain their spot in the training program.

Details of the Training Program are as followed:

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<th>What:</th>
<th>Cross Country Student Training</th>
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<tr>
<td>When:</td>
<td>Each Tuesday and Thursday morning</td>
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<td>Where:</td>
<td>Loganholme SS Oval – Meet at the coloured sheds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time:</td>
<td>7:30am-8:15am</td>
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<td>Duration:</td>
<td>Tuesday 24 February – Tuesday 31 March</td>
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**Please note:** For safety reasons, there is a capped number of 30 spots available for this training program. Therefore it will be the first 30 students who return their permission slips who will be able to take advantage of this opportunity. Students who are interested need to see Mr Bray for the permission form. For students to participate in this additional training program, please complete, sign and return the permission form and return it directly to Mr Bray by Friday 20 February. Please contact Mr Bray if you have any questions regarding this training.
From the Leadership Team

Before School Procedures

It has been wonderful this week to see the number of parents and students who are waiting in the correct areas before school. It is important that as adults, we set a good example to students in following the school rules one of which is the allocated areas before school. We thank you for your cooperation in this area.

Matheletics & Read Egg Logons

At the end of 2014, each family was given the opportunity to purchase Mathletics and Reading Eggs memberships at a heavily reduced price for home through Bedrock Books. The school is in the final process of printing and laminating individual logons and passwords for memberships that have been purchased. This is a very time consuming job as each student’s logon and password is individualised. Early next week, your child will receive their laminated logons and passwords to take home. Only those students who have paid will receive this.

The school would like to remind the community that all students have access to these programs at school and are not excluded from accessing these programs if home memberships were not purchased.

Electronic Devices

We understand that some students bring their mobile phone to school as a security measure for before and after school in order to contact family members if need be. Students are aware that these electronic devices must be handed in at the office as soon as they arrive at school. Unfortunately, we have had some students taking these devices to the under covered area where they are showing other students what is on their device. Please remind your child of the expectations regarding this matter. Please also remember that the school is not responsible for any electronic devices that are lost or stolen.

Early Arrival

Please do not send your child to school before 8:00am in the morning as there are no teachers on duty at this time. You are putting your child at a safety risk by sending them earlier than 8:00am. Ideally, students should arrive after 8:15am so they have a short amount of time to be ready for the first bell at 8:20am.

Bonus Behaviour Day

Today was our first ‘Bonus Behaviour Day’ for 2015. Students received double points on this day if they achieved the goal that has been set for the day. If a student finishes the day in the purple zone they will receive two points. If they finish the day in the blue zone they will receive four points. Teachers discuss the expectations at the start of the day as to how students can earn double points by the end of the day. There are two bonus behaviour days each term for students to work towards earning double points. These extra points contribute towards students moving up the ‘Believe & Achieve’ thermometer at a faster rate. Our Behaviour Rewards’ Day will be held in the last week of this term with the top 5 students on the ‘Believe & Achieve” thermometer participating in this wonderful day of exciting activities. As part of our Loganholme State School Responsible Behaviour Plan, students must be in the green, purple or blue on the ‘Believe & Achieve’ thermometer to be eligible to attend excursions/camps.

Student of the Week

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<td>Prep H</td>
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Kind regards

The Leadership Team
Little Kingfishers

Learn & Play
School Program
Children Aged 0—5 years

Join us on Mondays and Fridays
in the iCentre (behind the Hall)
8.30am—10.30am
All Welcome to attend
See you there!!!