



Education
Public Schools

Lake Illawarra South Public School

Newsletter

Term 1 Week 10: Monday 31 MARCH 2025

CALENDAR

MAR

- 31 Assembly 1:45pm
- 31 Basketball Court work commences
- 31 Easter Hat Making Week
- 31 Dental Van visit continues

APR

- 01 Healthy Deadly Kids (3M & 4B)
- 02 Kinder Phoneme Dress Up Day
- 03 LHS Year Advisor 2026 Visit – Year 6
- 04 Preschool Walk on Country Meeting
- 04 Foam Food Fight
- 07 Assembly 1:45pm
- 07 Cross Country Carnival
- 07 Easter raffle donations due
- 08 Healthy Deadly Kids (3M & 4B)
- 09 – 10 Peer Support Leader training
- 11 Easter Hat Parade 1:00pm
- 11 Last day of term

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

An enormous shout out to our parents and carers who wrote the most beautiful messages to your

children for Absolutely Incredible Kids Day. There was barely a dry eye amongst the staff who assisted students with reading your messages. It was a very special moment for your children and I am sure they will remember your heartfelt messages for a very long time.

I am very excited to announce that Lake Illawarra South is getting a new playing court in the Western Playground. The court will be a multipurpose court for basketball, netball and futsal. New goal posts for both netball and basketball are included along with futsal goals. Covered seating will also be installed. This work has commenced today and should be completed by the middle of next term.

A big thank you to Ms Koerner for planning national Storytelling Day for the students. Teachers read stories aloud across the school grounds to mixed groups of students. It was a lovely way to connect with literature and students from other classes.

The grassed section of the staff carpark will also be re-surfaced in the coming weeks.

Repair work will commence shortly on the main COLA. This work includes replacing sections, painting, replacing the bird netting and installing lighting.

Work continues for the preschool. The area will be surveyed in the coming days weather permitting.

The Lake Learning Community held their annual Kinder Expo at Lake Illawarra High School last week. It was a wonderful opportunity to share information about Lake Illawarra South Public School with prospective families.

I wish all our families a safe and happy Easter holiday period.

Karen Simula
Principal

TERM TWO DATES

Students return from the Easter vacation for Term 2 on **Wednesday 30th April**. Monday 28th and Tuesday 29th April are designated School Development Days. The focus for these days is High Potential and Academically Gifted Education.

FOAM FOOD FIGHT

Lake Illawarra South is very grateful to Foodbank NSW for their support of our Breakfast Club. Foodbank provides all the cereal, spreads, milk and packaged snacks at no cost to the school.

The Foam Food Fight is a small way that Lake South can give back to Foodbank.

The Foam Food Fight is scheduled for this Friday (4th April). Information regarding fundraising for this very worthy cause has been sent home with students. Also, a big thank you to our SRC who have worked hard to plan this event.

Students should wear a white t-shirt, old runners, shorts that can be coloured. Students should also bring along a towel and spare change of clothes to wear home.



EASTER HAT PARADE

The Eater Bunny has made contact with the Liaison Officer and has secured a date of 11th April. The parade will commence at 1:00pm. Students will have an early lunch on the day and parents are welcome to come along for lunch. Information regarding a special lunch deal has been sent home with students. Parents are also able to order for this day.

Students are creating their Easter hats in class throughout this week. We are looking forward to seeing their creations at the parade.

EASTER COLOURING COMPETITION

This year, the school is holding a colouring competition for students across the school. Students should complete their entry at home. Entries should be given to your child's classroom teacher by Wednesday 9th April.

P&C EASTER RAFFLE

Donations for this year's P&C Easter Raffle will be accepted until Monday 7th April. Raffle tickets and money should also be returned to the front office by Wednesday 9th April.

The raffle will be drawn throughout the easter Hat Parade on Friday 11th April.

NSW HEALTH DENTAL PROGRAM

The Dental Van has arrived and the team is currently providing FREE dental check-ups and preventative care to all students that have returned their consent forms. If you would like your child to be included in the program, please return the consent forms as soon as possible. The van is at Lake Illawarra South until 2nd April.

PI DAY

Lake Illawarra South Public School joined forces with the Illawarra Academy of STEM Excellence (IASE) to celebrate the International Day of Mathematics in a big way. In a day filled with colour, creativity, and curiosity, students from Kindergarten to Year 6 immersed themselves in engaging, hands-on activities aligned with this year's theme: *Mathematics, Art & Creativity*.

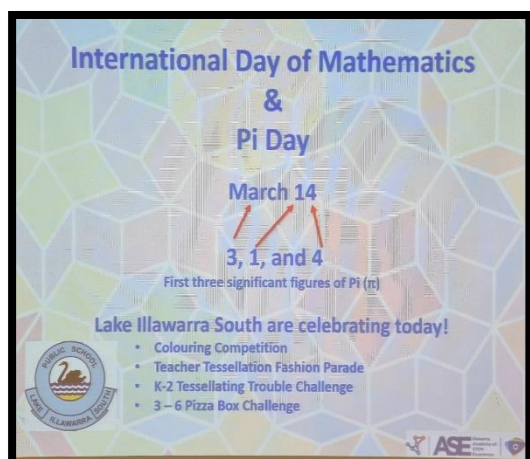
From vibrant colouring competitions and the mind-bending "Tessellating Trouble" challenge to the crowd-favourite "Pizza Box Challenge" where students explored the quirky question of why pizzas are circular, cut into triangles, and served in square boxes—there was something for every budding mathematician.

Adding to the fun, teachers embraced the spirit of the day by wearing clothing featuring tessellating patterns and geometric shapes, sparking conversations and adding a splash of maths-inspired style to the celebration.

The absolute highlight of the day was tuning into a live webinar with Australia's favourite maths teacher, Eddie Woo. Students were thrilled to see three of our very own appear in video questions that Eddie personally answered, inspiring even deeper appreciation for the relationship between maths, art and creativity.

To top it all off, students enjoyed special Pi Day-themed lunches from the canteen, adding a delicious twist to the celebration.

It was inspiring to see so many young minds and their teachers exploring mathematical concepts, thinking critically and having fun while doing it. A fantastic day of learning, laughter, and lots of Pi.



CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL

Our school Cross Country Carnival will be held on Monday 7th April (weather permitting). The carnival will commence at 9:00am. Please note, that as with all PSSA events, only students 8 years and over will go on to the District Cross Country Carnival. Students are able to wear their house colours if they wish.

Swans: red	Pelicans: yellow
Cranes: green	Gulls: blue

Parents and carers are able to attend this event.

Cross Country training is held each Tuesday and Thursday morning from 8:00am.

STATE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Best wishes for the upcoming State PSSA Swimming Championships to Lukas and Jacob. We are very proud of your achievement of qualifying for the championships and can't wait to hear how you go.

PEER SUPPORT TRAINING

Students in Year 6 will undertake Peer Support training in Week 11. The training will be facilitated by Miss O'Keefe and Mrs Gibson Dean. Peer Support is an opportunity for students to build relationships and a sense of belonging.

Our Peer Support program will commence in Term 2.

NSW PUBLIC SCHOOLS SURVEY

In Term 2, our school is taking part in the NSW Public Schools Student Survey. The survey is being conducted by the NSW Department of Education and invites students to provide valuable feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways teachers interact with them. The survey will allow the department to conduct analysis and research into student wellbeing and engagement to drive improvement for all NSW public schools.

Detailed information regarding the student survey, along with an opt-out form, was sent home with students recently.

CANTEEN

This term, Kelley's Place is opening three days per week. The canteen is open from Wednesday to Friday each week. Orders can be placed online using the school24 app. A copy of the 2025 menu is attached to the end of this newsletter.

CRUNCH & SIP

At Lake Illawarra South Public School, we proudly acknowledge that we are a certified Crunch & Sip school. Many packaged products claim to be healthy snacks for children but contain high amounts sugar, salt or fats. The Crunch & Sip program is an easy way to help children stay healthy and happy. Crunch & Sip is a time during the school day to eat vegetables and fruit and drink water in the classroom. Students bring vegetables or fruit to school each day for the Crunch & Sip break.

Giving students the chance to re-fuel with fruit or vegetables helps to improve physical and mental performance and concentration in the classroom, as well as promoting long term health.

ASTHMA MEDICATIONS

If your child suffers from asthma, please ensure, as a matter of urgency, that an in-date puffer is supplied to the school this week. It is also vital that the school is provided with an updated asthma plan.

RIDE2SCHOOL DAY

There were plenty of participants in our Ride2School Day. Thanks to Mrs Aleckson and Mr Bruce for accompanying students to school.

Students also had the opportunity to use our bike track during the play periods.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast Club is held in the library each morning from 8:10am. There is no cost involved for students participating in Breakfast Club. Our breakfast program is supported by FoodBank Australia and Bakers' Delight.

ATTENDANCE

Parents of children from Kindergarten to Year 12 must ensure their children attend school every day. On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- Being sick or having an infectious disease
- Having an unavoidable medical appointment
- Being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- Exception or urgent family circumstances e.g. attending a funeral

Parents must provide an explanation for absences to the school within 7 days from the first day of any period of absence. Where an explanation has not been received within the 7-day timeframe, the school will record the absence as unexplained on the student's record.

Congratulations to the 125 students who had 100% attendance in the last fortnight. Great job!

This is the student attendance data for the last fortnight broken down into year groups:

- Kinder: 95%
- Year 1: 97%
- Year 2: 97%
- Year 3: 96%
- Year 4: 93%
- Year 5: 95%
- Year 6: 92%

Comparing the first half of Term 1 2024 to 2025 has seen a positive growth in the school's overall attendance.

	2024	2025
Attendance rate	89.9%	91.2%
>90% attendance	67.3%	70.4%

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

The focus for the next two weeks is *Respect – Be a good friend*. Building friendships and positive relationships are important social skills for students. Friendships are often the first relationships young people have outside their core family unit. There are a number of things that make a person a good friend such as remembering important events like birthdays or special memories, spending time with each other, helping out when you have a problem and cheering you up when you are sad. Good friends are trustworthy and are someone who you can rely on.

CHAPLAIN NEWS

Our chaplain, Mrs Kahlia Devall, is on site each Wednesday and Friday to support students and their families with their wellbeing. If you would like your child to connect with Miss Kahlia, please contact your child's class teacher.

UNIFORMS

School uniforms are available from the front office. Please contact Ms Mayo to place your order.

School uniforms are able to be purchased by cash payment or EFTPOS facilities at the school office. Uniforms are not able to be purchased online.

