

## LEONAY PUBLIC SCHOOL



### Term 3 Calendar



16-17/9	Stage 2 Camp
19/9	School Tour for new enrolments
23/9	NSW Olympics Unleashed- Paddle Series Program
25/9	Sydney West Athletics Carnival
26/9	Last day of school

#### ASSEMBLY DATES TERM 3

19/9

*Save the date- Term 4 Thursday 30 October-  
Spooky Disco- Notes will be sent home at  
the beginning of Term 4.*



**Please retain this front sheet to keep informed about school activities**

### **School Attendance**

Consistent school attendance is essential for children to reach their full educational potential. This week's newsletter includes a fact sheet for parents from the NSW Department of Education. Please take a few minutes to read it. It is very important that parents provide an explanation for any student absences on the same day, before 11am. Absences can be reported through the student portal on Compass.

### **Dance2BFit- Term 4 Sport**

In Term 4 all students K-6 will complete Dance2BFit sessions on a Friday as our sport for the term. K-2 **will not** have Tuesday sport anymore. This is part of our Creative Arts syllabus and will contribute to Semester 2 report grades. Permission and payment are out on Compass now.

### **Interrelate- Tricky Talks sessions for families**

Join us for Interrelate Tricky Talks sessions in the library on Tuesday 11 November! These interactive workshops are designed to help families navigate those tricky conversations with confidence and care. Don't miss this valuable opportunity to support your child's growth and wellbeing.

Session 1 is Years 3-6 Where Did I Come From ? 6-7pm.

Session 2 is Years 5-6 and 3-4 at parents' discretion 7.15-8.15pm.

Cost \$30 per family regardless of how many sessions you attend.

If you are interested in attending, please contact the school office by 24/10/25 and you will be invoiced \$30.

Payment will be due by Thursday 6 November.

**See the flyers below for more information.**

### **New School Hoodies**

Following the success of the limited edition 50th birthday hoodies, we are pleased to introduce a Leonay PS hoodie that aligns with the current uniform. These hoodies will be available for purchase at Lowes Penrith starting Thursday, 18 September. The cost is \$55.95 and they come in a range of sizes.

### **PSSA Gala Day and Knockout Soccer**

Congratulations to all the students who attended the PSSA Gala days for soccer on Friday. Thank you to Mrs Wallace, Mr Tsitos, Mr Irvine and Mrs Lyne who supported the teams on the day. Once again, the Leonay community were out in force cheering on our students and supporting our teams. Special mention to Mr Mulkern for coaching the Junior girls' team on the day. Thanks to everyone involved. Well done also to the Knockout soccer team who were defeated by Blaxland East PS last week-.

Mr Tsitos reported that all team members did a great job and performed well during this Round 5 clash.

### **Year 3 and 4 Mowbray Farm Camp**

On Tuesday 16 and Wednesday 17 September our Year 3 and 4 students will be spending two days participating in an outdoor education program at CCC Hawkesbury. We wish the group all the best for their two days and thank the teachers for giving up their time to attend.

### **Supervision**

Student supervision begins at 8:30 am each morning. Students arriving between 8:30 am and 8:40 am are required to wait under the COLA area. The duty teacher will then direct students to put their bags in their classrooms before proceeding to the playground. Students arriving after 8:40 am should drop their bags in their classrooms and then go straight to the playground. All students must be in the playground area, as this is where supervision is provided. Parents and caregivers are not permitted in the playground area.

No students or parents/caregivers are allowed near classroom areas before 9:00 am unless they have a scheduled meeting with a teacher. Anyone on-site after 9:00 am must report to the office to sign in, as this is a departmental requirement that must be followed. To support the school's child protection guidelines, students should be dropped off and parents/caregivers should leave the school grounds unless they have an appointment. Your understanding and cooperation with these procedures are greatly appreciated.

### **School Representative Shirts**

When students are selected to represent Leonay PS at various sporting events, they are provided with a school representative shirt on loan. Please ensure these shirts are washed and returned to the school immediately after the event. We are currently missing some shirts from the Zone Cross Country held last term, as well as from the recent Zone Athletics carnival. Kindly check at home and return any missing shirts to the office as soon as possible.

### **Next Assembly**

Next assembly – Friday 19 September. K/1D will be performing for us.

### **P & C Meeting**

Next meeting Tuesday 16 September, commencing at 7pm in the library.

Miss Payne

Principal

## Voluntary School Contributions

Each year public primary and secondary schools across NSW request financial contributions from their community to enhance the school's educational programs. This request occurs because there are no actual fees to attend public schools. These voluntary contributions help provide additional educational resources for the benefit of our students. Our voluntary contribution for this year is \$50 per child. Payments can be made at any stage. We are currently using this money to update our technology in the school through purchasing more laptops and Chromebooks.

## School Tour

If you know someone who is considering enrolling their child at Leonay PS in 2026 then encourage them to come and see what makes our school a great place to grow and learn.

A school tour will be held at 10am on Friday 19 September. Discover the exciting programs we offer and meet our friendly staff. Contact the school on 4735 5999 to register your interest. We look forward to welcoming everyone to the Leonay Public School community.

## Kindergarten Enrolments open!



Applications are now open for children eligible to start Kindergarten in 2026.

Children may be enrolled in Kindergarten at the beginning of the school year if they turn five years of age by 31 July of that year. Applications to enrol for students in the Leonay area can be made online through the school's website by clicking on the enrolments tab. Out of area applications can now also be made online from the website and include additional documentation as part of the process. Once received the office will email you with further instructions. If you know of anyone in the Leonay area who is considering enrolling, encourage them to do so now. Please ring the office to if you have any questions.



## TAP Parent Workshop Information

Dear Parents and Carers,

Due to low numbers, we unfortunately will not be holding another parent workshop for The Anxiety Project this year. However, we are planning to offer a session early in 2026.

In the meantime, a self-paced online version of the course is available to parents who are interested. Please note that online enrolments are limited. The course usually costs \$79; however, we have a limited number of discount codes that can be provided to parents.

If you would like a discount code for the self-paced online course, please contact

Mrs Renny via the school email address: [leonay-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:leonay-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au).

Thank you for your understanding, and we hope this option supports you in the meantime.



# Permission Flyer



## Tricky Talks - Formerly Family Evening Program

### Session 1: Where Did I Come From?

**Time: 6:00pm**

**Audience:** Year 3 and 4 students and their parents/carers

**Program sessions:** 1 x 60-minute session

**Program focus:**

- discuss the male and female reproductive systems, foetal development and the birth process
- sexual intercourse & conception including assisted methods
- personal safety and protective behaviours.

Note: Older students are encouraged to attend if they have not previously seen this program.

### Session 2: Preparing for Puberty

**Time: 7:15pm**

**Audience:** Year 5 and 6 students and their parents/carers

**Program sessions:** 1 x 60-minute session

**Program focus:**

- discuss the physical changes of puberty, emphasising that it can be different for everyone
- develop students' understanding of periods and sperm production, as well as the physical, emotional, social and intellectual changes associated with puberty
- enhance awareness of children's personal safety and protective behaviours.

Note: Younger students are welcome to attend at the discretion of their parents/carers.

For online programs - instructions for registration and payment will be emailed separately.

**Where:** Leonay Public School

**When:** 11/11/2025 18:00 PM

Specialty books are available for purchase on the night)



Scan the QR code to  
purchase books online  
<https://bit.ly/3OeXj9W>

**Please complete and return to school**

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Would like to attend Interrelate's Tricky Talks session at Leonay Public School on Tuesday 11 November 2025.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## overview & session outline

### **Session 1: Where did I come from? (Years 3 & 4)**

#### **Objectives**

- To help children aged 8-10 years gain an understanding of the structure and functions of the reproductive system in males and females.
- To provide information on conception (describing sexual intercourse, associated with love in the context of a caring relationship), foetal development and birth of a baby.
- To provide opportunities for parents and children to discuss various aspects of reproduction in an informal way.
- To reinforce the role of parents as a source of information on matters pertaining to sexuality and reproduction.

#### **Content**

- Introduction
- Family structure and family relationships
- Male/female babies – which is which?
- Protective behaviours / Consent
- Male/female reproductive systems
- Sexual intercourse & conception including assisted
- Foetal development
- Twin explanation
- Birth
- Conclusion

### **Session 2: Preparing for Puberty (Years 5 & 6) (Years 3 & 4 at parent's/guardian's discretion)**

#### **Objectives**

- To provide information on puberty for 10-13 year olds, in relation to the physical changes and emotional changes (in particular, helping them feel comfortable about their bodies and its functions; preparing them for the changes during puberty and dispelling the myths and providing accurate, understandable information).
- To help young people feel okay about being different. Everyone develops at a different rate, especially during puberty.
- To confirm their individuality and promote self-esteem.
- To facilitate communication between parents and their children and encourage young people to take their questions, problems and concerns to their parents.

#### **Content**

- Introduction
- Revision of Session 1 / Consent
- How, why and when of puberty
- Physical and emotional changes to both boys and girls
- Changes to boys only
- Changes to girls only
- Why are these changes happening?
- Conclusion



# Compulsory school attendance

## | Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

### What are my Legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age of 17 years. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the NSW Education and Standards Authority for home schooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

### The Importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

### What if my child has to be away from school?

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
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)



Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

### Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.

### My child won't go to school what should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

### What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- **Compulsory Schooling Conferences**

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- **Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order**

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- **Prosecution in the Local Court**

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

### What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

### Working in Partnership

The NSW Department of Education recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.



# Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

**1** day per fortnight  
 = **4** weeks  = Over **1** year missed

**1** day per week  
 = **8** weeks  = Over **2.5** years missed

## More information

Further Information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

### Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's Policy Library AND The Department's Attendance Matters Website

### The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's Wellbeing and Learning website

### Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on **131 450**. You will not be charged for this service.





kimberwalli



Education

# COMMUNITY SERVICES HUB

## Need help accessing services?

Get the support you need from community and government services all in one place. Whether it's help with documents, payments, fines, or everyday challenges, service providers will be available to assist you on the day.

**For more information call us on (02) 9853 3333**

**Date:** Wednesday, 10 September 2025

**Time:** 10:00am - 2:00pm

**Location:** 1 Mimika Avenue, Whalan



**Don't miss out!  
Register your interest now!**

**Services Attending**

Greater Western  
Aboriginal Health ServiceJUNAFA  
FAMILY DEVELOPMENT SERVICESLegal Aid  
NSWLowAccess  
NSW

NSW Trustee and Guardian

BIRIBEE  
HOUSINGDisability Gateway  
Connecting you to information and services

Fair Trading

Registry of Births  
Deaths & MarriagesWestern Sydney  
ITCServices  
AustraliaThe Yellow Umbrella  
Community Services

Moneycare



Revenue NSW

Aboriginal  
Legal Service  
(NSW/ACT) LimitedYARNING  
CRESCENT

Indigenous Allied Health Australia

Health  
Western Sydney  
Local Health District

GambleAware








# Parenting Programs

## TERM 4, 2025



Courses provided FREE to residents of Penrith & Blue Mtns LGAs.  
Phone 4720 6500 or email [groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au](mailto:groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au)

Program	Date/Time	Location	REGISTER NOW 
<b>Circle of Security</b>  Eight week program that helps parents form secure relationships and stronger bonds with their children (0-12 yrs).	Every Wednesday  22nd Oct – 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec 10:00am – 11:30am	Cranebrook Neighbourhood Centre, 17 Hosking Street CRANEBROOK  <b>** Childcare available</b> <b>** Must register</b>	
<b>Tuning in to Teens</b>  Six week program that teaches parents to help children (10-18 yrs) understand and regulate their emotions.	Every Thursday  30th Oct – 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec 7:00pm – 8:30pm	Online via ZOOM	
<b>Splash &amp; Play Family Fun Day</b>  Join your child (0-5 yrs) in a morning session of sensory "splash and play" outdoor fun	Friday  21 <sup>st</sup> November 9:30am – 12:00noon	Lapstone Public School 1/3 Achievement Ave LAPSTONE	
<b>Parent Drum: Finding Your Beat</b>  Four week program for parents to connect & regulate through the power of drumming.	Every Tuesday  4th Nov – 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov 6:00pm – 7:00pm	St Marys Children's Centre, 7 Collins St ST MARYS	

[Click here to register online at gatewayfamilyservices.org.au](https://gatewayfamilyservices.org.au)



We acknowledge and respect the Traditional knowledge holders and custodians of the land on which we work, the Darug and Gundungurra people.

