



### Diary Dates

**March 8**  
Public Holiday  
Adelaide Cup Day

**March 19**  
Ride to School  
day  
Assembly 9:00am

**March 22-26th**  
Parent/Student/  
Teacher  
Interviews

**March 25** Harvest  
Festival and Great  
Stomp

**March 30**  
NO OSHC BUS

**April 1**  
Preschool pupil  
free day  
Assembly 9:00am  
R-7

**April 2**  
Good Friday

**April 5**  
Easter Monday

**April 8**  
School Photos

**April 9**  
Last day of school  
Dismissal 2:15pm

### From the Principal's desk

Dear Families

Half way through the term! It has been great to be able to **re-connect with our school and wider community**, this time last year was a very different story with COVID-19. This year we've had our Meet Greet 'n Learn which was our highest turn out, Mardi Gras with a different format and taken on well, our local cash sponsors for the Harvest Festival raffle and now local wineries supporting our wine fundraiser. Certainly a wonderful community to be a part of.

**Harvest Festival** fundraiser has taken on a **new format** this year, most importantly it hasn't lost what it is about; families coming together to celebrate the end of harvest. The day will see students harvest grapes, stomp grapes and have a celebration with families. **We need your help with running side show alley for the students.** Please have a think of traditional games that you could run from 11-12 noon; donut on a string game, pin the tail on the donkey. Complete the e-form on Skoolbag or reply slip on the last page of the newsletter.



A special thank you to **Riverland Wine Centre at Pike River**. They have coordinated the support of many local wineries to be part of our wine fundraiser, providing great prices on wines knowing proceeds will be going to our school. Please pass onto families, friends, work colleagues the QR code, this promotion will only go for the month of March. All funds raised from the raffle, wine fundraiser and Harvest Festival Day will go to a new nature playground with crows nest, climbing nets, balance beams and more.

**Parent/Student/Teacher interview** notes will go home next week. This is important. We all need to work in partnership and hear about progress, next steps, support that can occur at home, and share issues that may impact on learning. The parent survey that was conducted by the Department last year identified an area to work on; **'teachers identify support that can occur at home'** and **'the school encourages parents to help students to learn'**. Please make sure you ask the teacher about this, we will also continue to share key learning in each newsletter, this edition it is maths and writing.

**Regards Vanessa**



## Maths

Maths has certainly changed, in a good way! The focus is on our maths mindset, understanding maths skills and concepts, applying to problems / investigations and being able to explain our thinking by sharing strategies. Some myths that need to be busted:

### **Myth 1 Some people are just maths people**

**FALSE**—Fact is there is no such thing as a maths person, everyone can learn maths to the highest level. If they aren't learning, they haven't been taught in a way that works for them. Slow down and try a different way or check their mindset.

### **Myth 2 To be good at maths you should be quick**

**FALSE**—speed is no indicator of knowledge (automaticity). Timed tests do not assess fluency, timing doesn't allow you to have insights into strategies students use or how efficient their thinking is. Timed tests aren't needed to master their facts. Drills have been proven ineffective and cause frustration.

### **Myth 3—Mistakes are bad**

**FALSE**—Mistake have been proven to enable the best learning. Students errors are insights into their misconceptions. They are often shared by students and discussion of the problem publically can help others understand.

### **Myth 4—Maths should be done alone and quietly**

**FALSE**—Maths is a highly collaborative exercise (in the real world). It enables students to take ownership of learning and see varied approaches to solving problems. Ability to reason and justify thinking as well as using mathematical vocabulary.

Visit [youcubed.org](http://youcubed.org), go to tasks, parent resources and apps / games that will support you and your child with maths.



## Brightpath

This is the 3rd year the school has been involved in the **Brightpath Writing Improvement Program** through the Department. Students write a first draft using narrative and persuasive text, this is then moderated by a team of teachers. Moderation looks at the layout of the writing ie Narrative- does the student have an orientation, problems throughout story, conclusion and a coda. This is then balanced with the secretarial elements of punctuation and grammar used throughout the writing. After a score is given and a print out of what the student can do and next steps for learning . **This is valuable**, as it is used by the **student to identify writing goals and the teachers for planning and programming to meet individual needs.**



These will be shared with families at Parent/ Student/ Teacher interviews during week 9 this term.



**Costumes are Essential In Schools**

When you were in school didn't you ever just want to be silly and do a funny play in drama class? Because I do. In my mind I can see people laughing smiling on stage and in the audience. It would be amazing. This is why I think that costumes are essential in schools. All schools.

Firstly, alot of people, not just in my class or grade, but the entire school wants to do a proper play. But for that to happen we really do need some new costumes. It would be so much fun dressing up and putting on such an amazing play! I know we would certainly already be able to do that, but, the costumes make it so much more spectacular.

Secondly, with new detailed costumes we would be able to see the characters so much easier. For example, if your character is a teenager going to a party you would be able

Things I do:

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

- Try to gain the reader's interest.
- Write a brief introduction that states position.
- Foreshadow the reasons/argument that will follow in the body.
- Write supporting reasons in the body of the text.
- Write a clear argument.
- Provide more supporting information.
- Write an ending statement or brief conclusion.
- Sometimes summarise the argument in the conclusion.
- Attempt to persuade the reader using a more detailed and convincing argument.
- Try to use the type of persuasion that suits the topic.

Things I need to do:

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

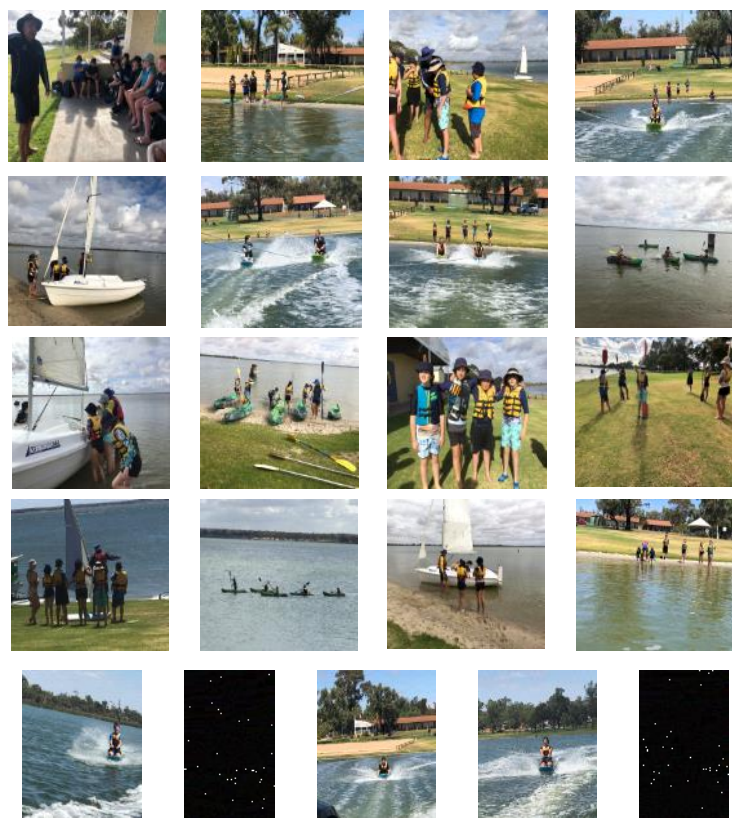
- Understand what the reader expects from a persuasive text.
- Write an argument that is strong and believable.
- Deliberately choose language and persuasive devices.
- Write a clear introduction with a position statement and foreshadow the argument to follow.



## Room 6

# Lake Bonney

A great day was had by students on Lake Bonney. Before each session the instructors Joe, Chris and Sue, talked about water safety and the importance of wearing life jackets. Each group practiced the skills before entering the water. The groups had the opportunity to sail in a yacht, paddle a kayak, windsurf and have a go on a kneeboard.



# In the Math Zone

## MEASUREMENT

Room 6 students explored around the school to answer the following questions.

- ◆ *What measurement units do you use?*
- ◆ *Is it millimetres, centimetres, metres or kilometres?*

people leaves poles around the playground bench seat  
around the earth  
bin to the planets  
playground equipment chickens small bushes  
flowers an ant to the moon  
trees road fence  
a bug

## Room 5

Each day at preschool the children are learning about and responding to the world around them. Many are now able to do their morning routine independently, friendships have begun to blossom and they are learning the importance of setting themselves a challenge to stretch their brain for learning. Over the past few weeks we have been focusing on the school learning dispositions of communicate and think.

Here is what the children think communication is all about;

Amity: Line up.

Aubree: Love.

Easton: Listen, stop, sit still.

Harley: Listen to each other.

Issac: Play with trains.

Jake: You have to listen.

Keanu: That means I have to talk to someone.

Kiesha: Listen to a teacher.

Zoe: Happy. We need to be really happy and smile.



Services at Preschool also include Occasional Care for 2-4 year olds on Tuesday and Thursdays , Playgroup on Wednesdays and an amazing Community Library for all to access.



## School Information

### School Leaders / SRC / Captains

At our first assembly we inducted our School Leaders, SRC and Sports Captains. It was inspiring to hear from Prefects from Loxton High School, Sophie and Will. They shared their experiences that have lead them to be where they are now. They also shared that they had never been an SRC Rep, even though they were willing, they never gave up on their dream to lead.



### Occasional Care

Thank you to all the families who have accessed Occasional care in the first Term. We have had a wonderful start to the year. The children are learning and engaging in different activities each week and the Community Library



is available to take books home. So important for children to have at least 1 book a day read to them so they can hear sounds, rhymes and patterns in words. Even if they are not engaged for long keep sharing the love of reading.



### Festival Choir

Students from year 4-7 have had the opportunity to trial singing in a choir. We have 16 students who have taken on the commitment to be part of the choir for this year with the exciting performance at Chaffey Theatre on Tuesday 3rd August. We will get together with local schools at Loxton Lutheran Life Centre for 3 visits. It is important choir students listen to the songs regularly and learn about each song through the app. Every song tells a story with the commissioned work focusing on 'water is life'. We thank Mrs Casey for being our choir instructor and look forward to her sharing her knowledge and skills.

### Mardi Gras

It was fantastic to have families support this community event. The students certainly enjoyed dressing up in the theme of playing in nature and handing out carrot seeds which also had our Harvest Festival promotion. A special congratulations to Matthew and Layne who were Ambassadors for the event.



### Pastoral Care Worker

The green bags are back!

Loxton North School has been funded to continue receiving the green food bags until mid year. I know I've had quite a few comments from the students that they love seeing what they have in their bag each time. And a number of parents have commented that the contents will 'help out' over the weekend. This has been the intended outcome of the program 'to ease the burden of weekend meals'. Again if there are food allergies in your home and you can't use some items, please pass those along to neighbours or other family members so everyone can feel the impact of a random act of kindness. Have a great weekend!

Karen PCW 🌻

## School Information

### Library

Welcome to a new year of reading and fun in the library!

I'm excited to introduce myself— I'm Amanda Schubert and I'm a local author and illustrator. I feel so lucky to be joining Loxton North School, and have felt so welcomed by the students and staff. I look forward to sharing my love of books with everyone!

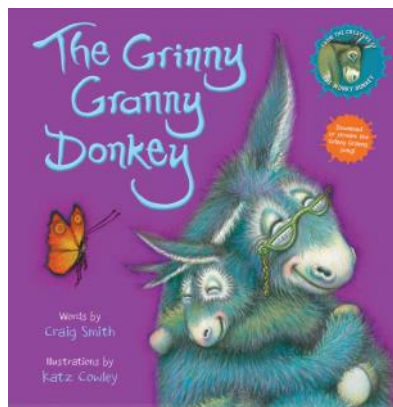
Every **Wednesday** and **Thursday**, the library will be **open during LUNCH play** for the students to come in and read, play games and draw. There are some fun activities in the works for these lunch times, so keep an eye out!

The classes have enjoyed settling into the new term and it has been a pleasure to meet and get to know them. Each class visits the library for half-hour sessions once a week where we read, do some book-related craft activities, and, more recently, we have begun discussing the processes involved in writing and illustrating our own books. There are a lot of fantastic budding artists and authors out there!

Our major focus for the year is the **Premier's Reading Challenge**. Each student has been issued with a form where they can fill out their books as they go. If anyone requires a new one, these are available from the library. In addition to the rewards offered as part of the Challenge, the students and I have been working on a little intra-school competition with a prize on offer for the team that reads the most books. Please encourage your children to read at home, and they are always welcome to read to me in the library to help complete their Challenge.

*"The whole world opened up to me when I learned to read." - Mary Mcleod Bethune*

Room 3 helped decorate the library with these adorable donkeys after reading 'The Grinny, Granny Donkey'.



### NAPLAN Online

NAPLAN will occur this year for year 3/5/7 students. NAPLAN is a nationally developed program that provides schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and what areas need to be prioritised for improvement. The tests are aligned to the Australian Curriculum in English and Mathematics and is one of many assessments in which your child can participate. Students do not have to learn specific skills for NAPLAN tests, they do have an opportunity to become familiar with the NAPLAN tests and with ways of showing their answers to questions. NAPLAN student reports are expected to be ready for distribution to parents/carers during August and September. A parent information brochure is available at [www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support](http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support). This year the school is doing NAPLAN online, year 3 students will undertake the writing test on paper. Friday 27th March will be a practise online test for students to become familiar and to also check our computing systems. NAPLAN Online will occur between 11-14th May with catch up tests till 21st May. The order of tests are writing, reading, conventions of language and maths. More information will be sent home directly to families of students involved.

### Meet, Greet & Learn

Thank you to families who attended the Meet, Greet and Learn. It was a chance for families to be part of the learning and connect with staff and other families. This flowed over with bbq dinner and election of the governing council at the AGM. The 2020 Annual Report was put into a rolling power point with photos of students across the school learning. Thank you to our 4 school leaders for doing the voice over. Take the time to watch, located on **school website under publications—annual report video link**

<https://sway.office.com/yVBxMaE7QFqnYlcy?ref=Link>





**School Information**

# 2021 Harvest Festival and Great Stomp

**Thursday March 25th**

**10:30am-3pm**



**8:50**

**10:30**

**Families  
Welcome**

**11:00**

**11:30**

**12:10**

**1:40**

**2:15**

**2:45**

**3:00**

**Room 6 collect grapes**

**Opening Ceremony**

**Welcome**

**Preschool Mini Stomp**

**History of Event**

**Free time**

**Facepainting**

**Sideshow Alley**

**Food Stalls**

**Lunch**

**Rotation through activities**

**Class stomp/ STEM Grape Challenge and**

**Grape Sports**

**Play**

**Raffle Draw**

**Finals for each room**

**Thank-yous**

**Clean-up**



## Community Information

**ndis MISSION AUSTRALIA**  
Delivering the NDIS in your community

### Coffee and chat



Come and have a coffee and chat with Mission Australia

- Do you know what is available in your community – we can help
- What would you like to see in your community?
- How can you advocate for yourself in your community?

We also offer one on one individual appointments in the community if preferred.

	February	March
Bermark Amato Coffee	11 February 10am – 12noon	11 March 10am – 12noon
Wakere Hub	25 February 10am – 12noon	25 March 10am – 12noon
Loacare Hub	11 March 10am – 12noon	11 March 10am – 12noon
Bent Club	25 March 10am – 12noon	25 March 10am – 12noon

Due to Covid restrictions - Please call first to book which catch up session you would like to attend.  
Please ensure you are well and have not travelled to any current Covid hotspots or been in contact with anyone who is unwell or has travelled to known hotspots.

To book your spot  
Phone Mission Australia NDIS LAC to book on 1800 931 543 option 6  
OR contact Lianne on 0436 692 475 for bookings/cancellations.

**LOXTON NORTH SCHOOL**  
**Playgroup**

All Welcome

Every Wednesday of Term 9am-11am

Gold Coin Donation

Please Bring a water bottle, fruit and a hat

Come along to Loxton North School Playgroup where children can explore the sensory activities in our preschool, use their creativity in our outdoor mud kitchen and have fun on our play equipment.  
\*\*All welcome\*\*  
Enquiries to Loxton North School ph. 85841369

**Riverland Wine Centre**  
**SCHOOL WINE FUNDRAISER**

For the month of March  
Support our local Riverland wineries and  
"Sing the Riverland Song"

by purchasing from a wide range of local wines with part proceeds going towards the creation of an amazing natural climbing structure at our school.

Click the QR code to purchase wine or visit  
<https://riverlandwinecentre.com.au/fundraiser/>




## Harvest Festival—I can support the event by...

- ☐ **Selling raffle tickets** in the main street next to Country Bakehouse on  
- Saturday 13th March 9-10am, 10-11am or 11-12noon (Please circle time)
- ☐ I can **provide pre packaged desserts /cake / biscuits** for sale at the stall—send to school by 24th March.
- ☐ I/We will **run a side show alley** from 11-12noon on the Harvest Festival Day i.e. skittles, pin the tail on the donkey, chocolate wheel, bubble blowing competition.

I/We are thinking \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ **Assist with serving** on the stalls from 11-12noon
- ☐ **Assist with the great stomp** for classes from 12:10-1:10pm on the day
- ☐ **Assist with the finals of the great stomp** form 2:15-2:45pm on the day



Please return the reply slip or complete the eform on Skoolbag

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Best contact no: \_\_\_\_\_

Other things you can help with: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Let's make Harvest Festival a memorable day!**

