PRINCIPAL PENS:

This is the second year of the Department’s Great Results Guarantee (GRG) with increased funding and a third round next year. We continued closely upon the strong results of last year however with some significant changes. Reading remained a strong focus although we have expanded into other areas as well.

Like last year we have employed folk to assist with the individualised practise of reading. However unlike last year we ramped up these sessions to three sessions a week as opposed to weekly sessions last year. To enable this we have employed Ms Little and Mrs Johnson who have been performing their roles with zeal and expert professionalism. Just wish we could continue this quality service after the scheduled cessation of allocated funds. Like last year we also continued with the procurement of resources associated with the Cars and Stars reading program to be able to operate throughout the whole school.

Additionally we also initiated a new foundation program with the Prep and Year 1 class. Letterland is now incorporated into this class’s literacy program and will prove beneficial in providing a solid start to learning in this area. Most excitingly we have also commenced a whole school Maths entitled “Stepping Stones”. Whilst each student has their own Practise Book and Student Journal (as opposed to text book) this program is largely web based. Backed by a wonderful digital bank of resources this expertly designed and sequenced program has been written around the National Curriculum and is mainly presented through interactive white boards. This has been a huge step for me into terms of personal professional philosophy but I guess like most challenges, once accommodated I have enormous confidence in this program to deliver very positive outcomes.

Our GRG also has an ICT component to it which like most technology I come into contact with, turns out to be something very much different to the anticipated forecast! Work in progress.

Whilst I can just remember the holidays, it’s only week 3 going on 8! This term is certainly a busy one and I would like to convey my thoughts about many of the events which have taken place and have been most profoundly impressive but space precludes this. Of note have been our ANZAC ceremony at school as well as our participation in midmorning service in town. Both were most notable for the same reason – student engagement and involvement. It was most pleasing to overhear one senior student comment after the town service that “We seem to be hearing the same message but presented in different ways.” Young folk are ‘getting it’.

Our participation in last Friday’s Football Carnival was also one of the strongest for some time. Some I know rue the fact that we can’t nominate our own teams but the sheer numbers we had running around on the park was simply huge. We can’t expect however to be able to replicate this circumstance year in year out, it just was that way this year. But as I tell the senior folk often “If you want something you just can’t sit and hope. You have to get up and DO something.”

Until next time.
WE ARE STILL GROWING

We have 2 more families enrol at LTSS. We warmly welcome:
Casey McConochie ~ Year 2 and Alannah McConochie ~ Year 5.
Natahleya Ketchell ~ Year 5.

We hope your time with us is an enjoyable learning journey for yourselves and your families. Our enrolment figure stands at 66 students, with the breakdown being:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Group</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep &amp; Yr 1</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yrs 2, 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yrs 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MOTHER’S DAY STALL

Thanks to the generosity of the Tully Heads Craft and Wellbeing Ladies, this Friday students will be able to buy their Mum or loved one a very special gift from the Mother’s Day stall being held here at the school. The ladies have made many beautiful gifts. These items have been made with love by mothers for mothers. Overall value of their donation is approximately $300.00 (excluding their time).

Gifts will be priced between $2.00 and $5.00. Students can bring their money along to do their ‘shopping’ during the day. Please make sure that money is in a secured and named purse or wallet. All proceeds will be given to the P&C Association.

Once again we are blessed with our community support. Our school continues to gain strength and patronage from many areas and we are humbly grateful for the contributions that come along to assist this school in the development and education of the students.

DIARY DATES ~ Busy Times

Fri 08 May : District Cross Country—15 students selected to represent LTSS.

Mother’s Day Cake Stall-Outside Tully Tackle World
Mother’s Day Gift Stall– at school during the day
Mother’s Day Raffle drawn during Assembly.

Tues 12, Wed 13 & Thurs 14: NAPLAN testing for Yrs 3 & 5. Please ensure students involved are at school on these days. Our attendance figures are not what they should be and many absences are being marked as “unexplained” because of no reason given for the absence.

Wed 13 May : P&C Meeting—would LOVE to see new faces as well as the old! 3:30 start.

Sat 30 May : CAR BOOT MARKET DAY @ LTSS! Doesn’t have to be in your car boot….you can set up a shelter or mark out a space to sell off your goodies. Your trash can turn into TREASURE!!! Contact the school to register.

FURTHER FROM THE PRINCIPAL PENS

Jewellery and other paraphernalia seems to adorning ears, necks, wrists and fingers in spiralling frequency. Largely these items simply distract student learning and turn school into a fashion parade often ending up in upset and loss of ‘valuables’. Please leave them at home.

Sleep works. Mondays are particularly poor as so many students present in very exhausted states and can’t learn and indeed cause irritation in relationships and class activities.

Sleep works.
Welcome back everyone to another wonderful term jam packed with fun, learning and growing. Seeing all the beautiful little faces of my PO’s on the first day brought a shine back into that classroom. A big THANKYOU to the students from PO that attended the ANZAC march on Saturday. I was so proud to be a part of LTSS!!

Over the school break I made a few little changes to our timetable and routine. One of these little changes is the have a show ‘n’ tell program that I have allocated for Wednesdays. This is so students can bring in show and tell items and sit them on my desk where they will be safe. Another change I have made is a “Student of the week” presentation. This is where through the week I look for a particular student that can present themselves by following the school rules: Be a learner, Be respectful, Be responsible, and Be safe. Our student of the week for week 1 was Reed Bonassi. Reed showed that he could be a learner by trying his hardest and was always ready and keen to learn.

Friday was the District Soccer Carnival held here at LTSS. I would like to congratulate the PO class because it was just another normal Friday at school for them and they handled the extra disruptions beautifully. Well done and with a very mature approach. I would also like to congratulate the bigger kids for their efforts on Friday as well.

With the cold weather now approaching and big change in temperature I have unfortunately had a couple of little sniffling noses in the classroom. We have been teaching students to cover their mouth when they cough, use a tissue and always wash their hands after blowing their nose or sneezing. I would appreciate it if this could be reinforced at home as much as possible.

Thankyou for your support,

Miss Belinda Brien (Prep/One)
Year 2-3-4 Update

It’s hard to believe that we are three weeks into Term 2 already! As usual we have hit the floor running. The students have been working hard to complete their English, History and Geography assessments this week; meanwhile, I have been desperately trying to get my head around the wonderful new interactive whiteboard and an exciting new Maths program. I love new technology grrrr!!!

It was wonderful to see so many LTSS students at the ANZAC march the Saturday, although Mrs Pacey informed me numbers were way down compared to previous years. However, the students who did attend conducted themselves respectfully and enthusiastically. I was especially proud of the LTSS students’ hand-made poppies, which were on display that day. Well done everyone!

We had a lovely surprise last week when we received our letters/pictures from our pen pals in the UK. The students enjoyed reading the letters, and were amused by some, and captivated by others. Did you know that swans are protected in the UK, because they all belong to the Queen? Also, our students were entertained by the fact English kids thought we had wild lions in Australia!!