



# TOKSAVE

Dear Parents

Thank you to all parents who attended last Thursday night's School Council Annual General Meeting and first "Ordinary" meeting for 2016.

Congratulations to Paul Napier whose nomination for the position of Parent Representative was unanimously accepted and thank you to our retiring Parent Representative, Killion Konilio, who has served our School Council with distinction over many years.

There is one remaining Parent Representative vacancy for which I have received a nomination – this nomination will be tabled at our next School Council meeting on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> of March.

## Lihir International Primary School Council for 2016 is as follows:

- NML Chairperson – Franz Hemetsberger
- NML Rep – Kelvin Gurra
- NML Rep – Fiona Karaut
- NML Rep – Leo Kola
- P&W Rep– Christine Robertson
- Staff Rep – Jenny Thomas
- Parent Rep – Jerry Tiso
- Parent Rep – Paul Napier

Thank you all for making yourselves available for School Council in 2016 and I look forward to working with you throughout this year.

## Year Five Assembly

Last Friday our year five students shared their Geography research as they took us on a world tour and discussed information about their particular country of interest.

Well done grade fives – it was a very interesting assembly and I am sure everyone in attendance learnt something about a different country.

Tomorrow's assembly will be hosted by the year three and four class. We look forward to seeing you there.



## Congratulations Week Four Principal Award Winners

Jasmine Nichols – Year One

Pat Kola – Year Two

Ivana Zeriga-Gati– Year Five

Chrionie Tiso – Year Four

Oliver Daniel – Year Seven

## Student Learning Data Collection

For a number of years Lihir International Primary School has been testing students, in first and fourth term, in order to collect data about their learning. The 2016 data collection process is happening this

week using the Australian Council for Education Research (ACER) Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT).

Waddington Spelling and Reading tests are also used for Prep and Year One students.

This form of testing is used in Australian schools while students in other countries take part in similar testing processes.

#### *Why do we do these tests?*

Assessment that is specifically designed to promote learning is the single most powerful tool we have for planning effectively to raise teaching and learning standards. We get the chance to do this with data provided as a result of PAT testing.

These tests are Assessment *FOR* Learning rather than Assessment *OF* Learning and analysis of the data gathered allows teachers to develop a deep understanding of where a child, and their class, is at with their learning.

#### *Why is this important?*

We cannot teach children anything properly unless we know what they know and what they do not know. Data from these tests, along with the professional judgment of teachers and continual observation of children in class helps teachers plan for the next stage of learning for individuals, groups and the whole class.

Data collected in these tests is not used to compare students nor is it used for writing student reports – it is used as a tool to support planning for the next stage of learning.

#### *What are we testing?*

All students from Prep to Year 7 will be tested in Reading Comprehension, Numeracy for Year Two to Year 7, Spelling Year 1 to Year 7 and Grammar and Punctuation for Year 3 to Year 7.

#### *Why do we test Reading Comprehension at all year levels?*

It is extremely important that we gather knowledge about how well children understand what they see, hear and read. It is fantastic for children to be good spellers and good readers; however, these skills will be wasted if children do not have a good understanding of what they are reading. It is our aim to develop children with great Reading Comprehension and Inferencing skills. Knowledge derived from these tests gives us the best chance to effectively plan for this.

#### *Why are we not testing Preps in Numeracy or Spelling this term?*

Research tells us that testing in these learning areas for children this young is not effective as children are still in the developmental phase of their learning. Reading Comprehension is able to be tested for our youngest children as tests are able to show us how well children are understanding letters, pictures and other prompts.

The PAT testing used at LIPS is designed in line with the Australian Curriculum. These tests are developed and updated following trials and research involving tens of thousands of Australian students.

PAT tests will be repeated in week four of term four as it is best to leave nine months before repeating this testing process. We are aiming for term four tests to be online as this testing format will feed back an even greater depth of information to teachers.

Staff professional development at LIPS will be closely linked to our important curriculum testing areas of Maths and English to ensure that the already very high achievement standards of students at our school continue.

NAPLAN testing will occur in May for students in grades three, five and seven. I will share information about this Australian testing process at the beginning of term two.

### **Canteen Orders**

It is important to remember that our P&W subsidise school lunch orders on Fridays and therefore the food our children order is available at a lower price than it would be if purchased from the deli.

Please remember canteen orders are available for your child's recess and lunch on a Friday – these orders are not an opportunity for you to order food for the rest of your family or to cover your weekend needs.

Excessive canteen orders will not be filled.

Thank you P&W for continuing to run and subsidise the school canteen.

### **P&W Movie Night – This Friday at Pikinini Park**

Don't forget this week's big event on the Lihir Calendar – P&W Movie Night!

Movie Night will be held at Pikinini Park, beginning at 6pm, and on this night children will be able to purchase popcorn, ice-cream and a juice box for five kina.

Every student attending must be accompanied by a parent.

The identity of Friday night's movie is currently a closely guarded P&W secret – all will be revealed at Friday's assembly.

Thank you P&W for running this event.

The next P&W meeting is on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> of March

### **Library News**

Thank you to families who have had a search for library books and please continue to return any that you find.

Today David Thomas and Morgan Neale are doing a shelf by shelf stock take to try and locate any library books that have been placed on shelves and not registered as returned on the library computer.

Thank you David and Morgan for your help.

### **School Sport**

Netball for prep to year three students and basketball for year four to year seven students continues tomorrow afternoon from 3pm until 4pm.

If you have any questions or suggestions regarding Lihir International Primary School please give me a buzz or make a time to come in for a chat.

Kind regards

*Michael*

Michael Bawden



Congratulations to Clinton and Lionel who received their School Leader badges at last Friday's assembly.



Ivana, Clyrene, Jacinta and Paulette share information on their chosen countries during the year five assembly.