



From the Principal

CARE • HONESTY • ACHIEVEMENT • RESPECT
• RESPONSIBILITY • FUN

Dear Parents,

NAPLAN

NAPLAN testing for students resumes in 2021 after being cancelled in 2020 due to the pandemic. Students will have received a cover letter outlining the NAPLAN testing process. Accompanying that letter will have been a Department of Education information/fact sheet. Please read this and if you need clarification or would like to discuss NAPLAN see me or your classroom teacher.

ANZAC DAY

Thankyou to our school captains Zoe, Ari and Kaylie for representing Lower Plenty Primary School at the ANZAC Day Memorial Service at Montmorency-Eltham RSL. They did a wonderful job of respectfully placing the school wreaths at the memorial statue.

STUDENT ATTITUDE TO SCHOOL SURVEY

We value student voice as a means to improving student engagement, wellbeing, and quality instruction, and are conducting a survey to find out what your child thinks of our school.

The AtoSS is an annual student survey offered by the Department of Education and Training to assist our school to gain an understanding of students' perceptions and experience of school.

Students will be asked about their thoughts and feelings in relation to their school, their learning, peer relationships, bullying and life in general. Students from Year 4 to 6 at our school will participate in the survey.

Your child will complete the survey online during school hours using a purpose built secure online survey tool. It is important to note that we are not in any way "testing" your child. Your child has the right to refuse or withdraw from the survey at any time.

Your child will be provided with a unique login to complete the survey. The student login is an assigned identifier that may be used to link data for statistical and research purposes only. All responses to the survey are kept anonymous in the response file. Personal identification data will not be recorded in the survey response file. This ensures that the confidentiality of your child's responses is protected at all times.

This year the Attitudes to School Survey will be conducted at our school over the period Monday, 3rd May to Friday, 4th June. The survey takes around 20-45 minutes to complete and occurs during your child's class time. The survey results will be reported back to the school in an aggregate form throughout the survey period. All survey data that is made available in reports are for groups of students only so that no individual student can be identified.

Data suppression rules are used for schools with low student numbers per year level. Survey results will be discussed with students and shared with School Council. A summary is also provided in the Annual Report.

Our staff will use these results in two main ways:

- 1) To capture what is working really well so that we can keep doing it.
- 2) To make changes that better support our children and their experience at our school.

If you would like more information, please speak to your child's teacher or myself.

EDUCATION WEEK – SUNDAY, 23rd MAY to SATURDAY, 29th MAY

Now in its 77th year, Education Week aims to positively profile and celebrate the strengths and achievements of Victoria's government education sector.

Education Week 2021 will run from 23rd to 29th May and the theme is 'Building Connections'. The theme celebrates the connections between schools and local communities and strengthens bonds with families and carers. Education Week is a time when prospective parents, family and community members are formally invited to come and visit our school.

It encourages current family members to participate in the activities that their child participates in at school.

Lower Plenty Primary School will be running an open day on the morning of Tuesday 25th May. Please share this date and time with families who plan to enrol at Lower Plenty P.S. or are considering their options, as it will be an opportunity to be provided important information about our school and ask questions.

That being said, at Lower Plenty we believe that every day is Open Day. We would rather parents make an individual appointment to tour the school. This way they get a more personal welcome and an understanding of what it means to be a part of our school community. Please encourage all future parents that would like to visit the school to arrange a tour by calling Tracey at the office.

MOTHER'S DAY AFTERNOON – Friday 7th May – 2:30 to 3:15

We will be running a Mother's Day afternoon tea on Friday 7th. An invitation to mothers and special friends has been sent out. We will start by doing some activities in the classroom before going into main building where you can have some afternoon tea and coffee before assembly begins.

CLASS MOVING DAY

After Mothers Day the Prep to Grade 2 students will be moving into the main building. There are a number of key reasons for this.

1. It makes it easier to access the toilets and reduces disruptions
2. Gives access to the outside (front of school area) for the juniors to extend their learning
3. Provides a more welcoming area for students and visitors
4. Reduces the amount of cleaning
5. Ensures we can focus on developing and presenting one cohesive area for the school and students
6. Allows increased collaboration between students and teachers

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our School Council had their AGM on Monday night to review the 2020 Annual Report. Our school council members work extremely hard to represent parents and ensure the continued progress of the school. Our current members are:

School Council President: Mary Koukourikis (Zoe's mum – grade 6)

School Council Vice President: Katrina Walsh (Victoria's mum – grade 3)

School Council Treasurer: Rachel Nassios (Sophie and Nathan's mum – grade 4)

School Council Secretary: Tanya Wellington (Zac's mum – grade 4)

PFA representative: Kate Landers (Dean's mum – grade 1)

Grants and Facilities representative: Katrina

Marketing and communications representative: Mary

Parent Rep A: Amelia Strzebonski (Sebastian and Remy's mum – grade 3 and Prep)

Parent Rep B: Lauren Taylor (Quinn's mum – Prep)

School Representative: Matt Hewatt

Principal: Daniel Frew

Please feel free to talk about any ideas with our members of school council, or you can also email school council at schoolcouncil@lowerplenty.vic.edu.au

CURRICULUM DAY

Monday 10th May will be a Curriculum Day. The school will be working with a group of five other small schools with teachers from Diamond Creek PS, Sherbourne PS, Panton Hill PS, Research PS and Hurstbridge PS.

During the day our teachers will work alongside teachers from other schools with their focus on developing targeted approaches to teaching reading. They will be sharing their student data and then planning interventions together.

Doing this as a group from other schools provides our teachers with the opportunity to collaborate with other professionals from our network.

WORKING BEE

The school Working Bee will be this Sunday 2nd May. We will be here from 9am for a nice soft start and then hope to have everything completed by noon. There is a list at the entrance to the school that highlights the work that needs to be completed. It predominantly involves weeding and moving mulch. I look forward to meeting everyone that is able to attend.

SPORTS

The grade 56 students participated in District Interschool Sport last week. This will run over the next 6 weeks.
Unfortunately we had losses in Netball and Soccer against Holy Trinity.
We will back to fight this week against Briar Hills PS

MOTHERS DAY STALL

Mother's day stall will be open this Friday 7th May. Children are asked to bring a bag to take their gifts home with.
All gifts are priced at \$8.

DATES

Friday 30 th April	Year 56 interschool sport at Briar Hill Whole School Assembly 3:20
Sunday 2 nd May	Working Bee
Wednesday 5 th May	District Cross County
Thursday 6 th May	Digimaker during lunch
Friday 7 th May	Mothers Day Stall – morning Year 56 interschool sport – Home vs Montmorency PS Chess Club – during lunch Mothers Day afternoon tea Whole School Assembly Matt – Professional Learning (Write to Read)
Monday 10 th May	Curriculum Day
Tuesday 11 th May	Year 3 & 5 NAPLAN (Writing and Language Conventions)
Wednesday 12 th May	Years 3 & 5 NAPLAN (Reading)
Thursday 13 th May	Years 3 & 5 NAPLAN (Maths)
Friday 14 th May	Interschool Sports vs Sherbourne PS Matt – Professional Learning (Write to Read)
Monday 17 th May	School Photos
Sunday 22 nd May	Bunnings BBQ