Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to the handful of parents who came along to our Parent Meeting in Week 1. The Executive team enjoyed hearing your ideas on what you like about Lakemba Public School and what you want for your children by the time they leave us.

For those of you who were not at the meeting you have your opportunity to give us your ideas in the survey that your child brought home on Monday. Please return those surveys to school by Monday 3rd November. **We need only one survey from each family not one from each child.**

Kind regards

Jann Price

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**Commitment – an essential life skill**

One of the most important jobs for parents and teachers is to prepare our children for life as adults and to help them become responsible and successful citizens of the world. An essential life skill is commitment.

A commitment is a promise or agreement to do something. It means that when you say you will do something you need to follow through and do what you say even if you decide that you do not like it or want to do it anymore. You must persevere, stick at it and not give up. This is particularly important if you are part of a team because other members of the team rely on you to be committed. People who are committed are responsible. You can depend on and trust people who keep their promises and do what they say they are going to do.

Some of the commitments school students make include learning and being prepared for learning, completing assignments, returning notes, doing their homework and returning library books they have borrowed from the library. Quite a few of our students have committed to play in a sporting team or attend yoga lessons or be part of Active After School activities. It is extremely important that they honour their commitment. Members of sporting teams must attend training sessions and be ready for PSSA on Fridays by wearing their uniform, bringing their money and playing the best game they can. Students who are committed to doing yoga or Active After School need to be there every week no matter what their friends are doing, what else is on or how hot, cold or wet the weather is. Of course we do not expect children who are not well to participate. But students who are not well enough to do these activities should not be at school.

Please encourage your child and talk to your child about sticking with the things they have put their name down for. We need to work together to educate our children to be the best person they can be. We need to equip them to be great adults.
Permission to Publish and Learning Support
The Permission to Publish note was sent home to all students last term. It is also available on the school website under the notes tab.
Every student must return this permission note immediately. Students who have not returned their permission notes will not be included in any photos online or in print.

Twitter
The school now has a Twitter account @LakembaPS. This account will be used to keep the community informed about everyday activities at the school such as Yoga, teacher learning and Leapfrogs.
We will also be sharing links to videos and information to enable our community to share in the learning that the teachers and students are involved in.

Kindergarten 2015
If your child is turning 5 on or before the 31st July 2015 they are eligible to apply to enrol at Lakemba Public School. Enrolment application forms are available at the office.
Only children whose families have lodged an application for enrolment in Kindergarten in 2015 are eligible to attend the Leapfrogs program. The dates for the Leapfrogs program are at the beginning of this newsletter.

School Awards
Please assist your child to gather together all their Merit Awards and give them to their Stage supervisor. We will be ordering the School Medals to present on Presentation Day. Don’t wait until the last minute to trade your certificates for higher awards.

Mobile Phones at School
No student is to keep their mobile phone or electronic device such as iPods, iPads or electronic games in their school bag or pocket during the school day. Students must sign their device into the office before school and pick it up at the end of the school day. The school cannot accept any responsibility for any device left in school bags or student’s pockets. There are no exceptions to this rule. Students who do not comply with this will be given a red card.
If you need to contact your child while they are at school please contact the office.

Head lice
Please keep checking your child’s hair and treat it if there is any sign of head lice. Chemists sell products to kill the lice in hair. If your child does have lice it is important that you wash all their clothing and bedding.

School as Community Centre News
It feels like the end of the year is rushing towards us but there is still time to try some new programs.

Yoga for Women: This class is on every Wednesday 10.00-11.00 in the School Hall. New participants are welcome to this friendly and private class. Only $3 per week.

English Class for Adults: This class continues until the end of the year and is open to beginner and intermediate learners every Wednesday 1.00-3.00pm. A permanent residency visa is required and regular attendance needed. Childcare provided FREE.

Help for Families: A worker from the Family Referral Service will be based in the School Community Centre every Wednesday afternoon from 1.00 - 4.30. This service helps people find the right help for their family on many different types of issues – such as housing, family support, health concerns, immigration and finances. Free and confidential appointments offered at a time to suit you.

Library News
Please check your child’s library books and return them to school as soon as possible.
Library borrowing for all students will finish on Thursday 27th November. All books must be returned by then.

Children not returning to Lakemba PS in 2015
To enable us to plan accurately we need to know which students will not be returning to Lakemba Public School in 2015. Please complete the note at the end of this newsletter. Students who do not return to school as expected are reported as missing students to the Home School Liaison Officer. This person works with the police to find out where the student is.
If your family travels overseas with an exemption from attendance at school certificate and is unable to return to Lakemba Public School on the date of their exemption certificate, they must contact the school via email and explain the situation.
And for those with young children our Playgroups welcome new families. **Tuesdays 9.30 - 11.30** suits those with children aged 18mths – 5 years, Mums and babies under 12 months are welcome on **Thursday afternoons from 1.30-3.00** and Indonesian families are welcomed at a community led group on **Fridays 9.30-11.30**.

And if you would like to help with our thriving vegetable garden please see Wendi for the time of the next working bee. We will be planting tomatoes, zucchini, corn and basil this Friday if you would like to join us.

All the information about community programs are posted on our Facebook page. Go to

[www.facebook.com/LakembaWileyParkSaCC](http://www.facebook.com/LakembaWileyParkSaCC)

Ring Wendi on 9759 4061 for more information about any programs or activities.

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**Dad’s Meeting**

**Friday, 7th November**

2.15 pm

in the SaCC

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**What should learning look like at Lakemba Public School in 2017?**

*Come along and let us know your thoughts*

We look forward to seeing as many dads as possible.
LAKEmbA PUBLIC School wAste Audit 2014

When?
In Term 3 2014 the Environment team, with helpers from stage 3 and 1M, conducted a waste audit.

Why?
The Environment team conducted the waste audit to try to find out how much rubbish, and what type of rubbish, our school produces each day. Currently all of our playground rubbish goes to land fill.

How?
The waste audit was a big task and involved a large group of students sorting, counting and weighing the rubbish from the playground rubbish bins after lunch.

Results
The pie graph shows the amount of waste for each category by weight in one day. Food, fruit and vegetable scraps, and cartons were the largest types of waste by weight.

The column graphs below show the number of items collected for each category in one day.

Recommendations
• Increasing collections of fruit and vegetable scraps for composting to include lunchtime
• Waste free lunch days more regularly e.g. weekly
• Encouraging students to bring reusable water bottles
• Introducing plastic recycling
• Drinking fountains to fill up reusable bottles
• Nutrition information about alternatives for chips and juice
Dear Parents and Carers,

If your child/children are not returning or attending Lakemba PS in 2015 please fill out the note below and return it to the school as soon as possible.

We also need to know if your child will not be at school to begin on 29th January 2015 because they are overseas. Families must apply for exemption from attendance at school which is a separate document that can be obtained from the school office. This must be done before you travel.

As staffing is allocated based on the whole school numbers and especially the students in K-2 it is very important that the school is aware of the families leaving Lakemba PS and travelling.

Kind regards

Jann Price
Principal
29th October, 2014

Please return this form to the front office.

My child/children will not be attending Lakemba PS in 2015. Please write your child’s/children’s names and class in 2014.

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My family intend to be overseas at the beginning of 2015. Please write your child’s/children’s names and class in 2014.

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