Dear Parents and Carers,

As this is the last newsletter for this term I would like to thank you for the support you have shown me in my first semester as Principal of our fabulous school. The student and teacher learning that happens at Lakemba is exemplary. Together we are preparing our students to live and work in the world of the future and I am constantly encouraged by the dedication and hard work of everyone in our community.

You will receive your child/ren’s Semester 1 report today. Remember that it is important to look at the effort that your child has put into their work and that a ‘C’ is good and what we expect.

If you want to speak to your child’s teacher about your child’s report please call the office and make an appointment. You will receive the best information about your child’s learning and progress if you give the teacher time to prepare and concentrate on your child. They cannot do this if they are working with their class. Please don’t be offended if a teacher says they cannot talk to you if you approach them when they are working with their class.

Students finish school next Friday 27th June and return to school on Tuesday 15th July.

Enjoy the holidays. Best wishes to all of our families who observe Ramadan which will begin during the holidays.

Kind regards
Jann Price

Food Challenge

The Stage 3 students have thoroughly enjoyed working with the Greater Western Sydney Giants and Woolworths over the last few weeks. Together they have developed and consolidated the students’ knowledge of preparing and eating healthy food.

The students prepared a chicken wrap and a healthy snack or breakfast of yoghurt and fruit. They also enjoyed a Tim Tam making and decorating competition.

Thank you to Ms Rothwell and the Stage 3 teachers for organising the day.

Staff Leave

Mrs Longo, Ms Smith and Ms Kergis will not be returning to school until Week 3 next term as they will be enjoying long service leave. Their programs will continue under the guidance of casual teachers who are well known to us at Lakemba Public School.

Toilets

I am pleased to announce that the security on the outside toilets should be installed very soon – hopefully during the school holidays. We have been working very hard behind the scenes to make this happen. The security system will mean that the toilets will be locked automatically during school time and open for recess and lunch. Kindergarten classrooms will be given swipe fobs to allow them to access the toilets during school time. Other students will continue to use the inside toilets during school time.

I have also been successful in obtaining a demountable toilet block for the school. The new demountable block of five girl’s toilets will be located in playground A. We are hoping that the block will be delivered and installed during the school holidays.

When it is installed these toilets will only be open during recess and lunch times.
Welcome
Welcome and best wishes to all of our families who have welcomed new babies into their families this term.

Lateness
Many of you will know that we have been talking to the students about arriving at school on time. Everyone should be seated at morning assembly by the time the bell rings. Unfortunately it is not uncommon to have more than fifty students wandering up the path from Alice Street up to five minutes after the bell. We understand that sometimes things happen that cause us to be late but as I have explained to the students, it is not appropriate to be late on a regular basis.

We know that in many cases the student is not responsible for being late to school but we have suggested a number of ways that they might be able to help their family get to school on time. They are:
- get up a little earlier
- eat your breakfast faster
- get dressed quickly
- turn the television off
- help to get the younger students ready

Work Health and Safety
Safety is everyone’s responsibility. If you notice something around the school that you think is dangerous for our students and community, please report it to the office so we can organise to have it repaired.

Absences
The law requires that children must attend school every day unless they are sick. It also states that parents must provide a note or doctor’s certificate to explain their child’s absence when they return to school.

Every term the Home School Liaison Officer (HSLO) visits the school and checks student attendance. The HSLO also checks the rolls for students who are regularly late to school.

Parents of students who are absent or sick often without a note will be required to attend an interview to discuss this. You can avoid this happening to you by making sure that you always send a note with your child when they return to school. There is a page of notes that you can use at the back of this newsletter.

Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition
Congratulations to the four students who represented Lakemba Public School in the competition at Greenacre Public School on Wednesday. Thank you to Ms Cooper and Ms Tsoukalas who have organised and trained the students.

Library
Thank you everyone who returns their books on time or renews their library books. All overdue library books must be returned before the holidays. Students will receive overdue notices by the end of this week. It is never too late to return overdue library books.
School as Community Centre News

We are nearing the end of the term so nothing new right now but here are some upcoming events.

English Class for Adults:
Fortunately this class will be continuing next term on Wednesday afternoons 1.00-3.00pm as long as the enrolments are maintained. Childcare provided but a permanent residency visa is required. The class will restart on 6th August after Eid celebrations. New enrolments welcomed.

Yoga Continues!
Good news in that Canterbury Council will continue to fund this weekly Yoga class for women for the rest of the year. New participants welcome every Wednesday at 10.00 in the Lakemba School Hall.

Working with Children?
An information session will be held for women who are doing a childcare course, looking after children in their homes, or thinking about work with a children's service. Find out about Family Day Care and other work avenues, the legal requirements, how much you can earn and much more - Wednesday 25th June 10.00-12.30 at the Cottage, 28 Croydon St, Lakemba. For more information call Kate on 9750 9344.

Refugee Week Community Dinner will be held at the Community Hub, 62 The Boulevarde Lakemba on 20th June at 6.00pm. You are invited to bring a traditional dish and share. Ring Awadea Ibrahim on 0434101163 for more details.

Celebrate Chand Raat:
On Saturday 26th July in the Uniting Hall, cnr Haldon St & The Boulevarde from 4pm – Midnight. There will be a range of services and products available to buy including sweets, henna tattoos, clothing and jewellery. Families welcome and free entry. Call Kate or Romana on 9750 9344 for more details.

Stepping Stones is a specialised parent program for families of children with additional learning or communication needs. The course will be held next term in the Lakemba School Community Centre. The program supports parents to manage their children’s challenging behaviour within an understanding of their abilities. The course starts on Wednesday August 6th from 9.30-11.30 for 5 weeks. Ring Wendi on 9759 4061 for more information or to enrol.

Health Checks for 4 year olds: Families are reminded to take their children to the doctor for their 4 year old check before June 30th in order to receive the Family Tax Benefit A supplement of up to $726.

STEPS: Eye Test for 4 year olds not attending a childcare centre will be happening in the Centre next term. Please register with Wendi if you would like an appointment.

Happy Holidays and Ramadan Mubarak to all.

Don’t forget the Centre is now on Facebook!! We are excited about this and hope you will ‘like’ us soon.

Go to www.facebook.com/LakembaWileyParkSaCC. Information on new activities on new activities will be on the site – so tell your friends.

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