



Lowanna Public School

Be safe, be respectful, be a learner

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54A Grafton Street, Lowanna NSW 2450
Principal: Alison Hawken

Week 8 Term 2 – Monday 14/6/2016

Dates to remember

Friday 17th June: OVLC Soccer 3-6 at TOFOG
K-2 at Nana Glen School

Friday 24th June: 2pm, P&C Meeting

Tuesday 28th June: NAIDOC Day at Lowanna

Wednesday 29th June: Ulong, Lowanna,
Upper Orara **Athletics Carnival** at Ulong

Thursday 30th June: Links Gym and Bowling
Sports in Schools activity - note next week

Friday 1st July: Student Reports sent home
Last day of Term 2

OVLC Soccer

This Friday it is a Soccer Day for everyone from Kindergarten to Year 6.

Kinder to Year 2 are going to Nana Glen Public School for PD/Health lessons, followed by a Soccer Round Robin Competition. This will be a great opportunity for the younger children to mix with other K-2 children from the other Orara Valley Schools.

Years 3-6 will be at TOFOG, playing Soccer tournament games in mixed teams.

Notes for both of these events were sent out last week. Please return these notes by tomorrow, Wednesday, with details completed, including your private vehicle travel plans for Friday, to allow us time to plan and organise.

The canteen menu for Nana Glen School is attached for those children in K-2 who wish to order their lunch. You just need to bring your order and money to Nana Glen School

on Friday if you plan to order from their canteen.

No Canteen on Friday

As a result of the Soccer games this Friday, there will be no teachers or children at school, so obviously no canteen this week.

Term 2 reports

It's that time of the year again when teachers are busy writing and finalising their student reports. Reports will be sent home on Friday 1st July, which is the last day of Term 2.

Parent - Teacher Interviews

Last year I sent out a survey about teaching at Lowanna. Parents, teachers and students completed the survey.

At the last P&C meeting I showed the results of the survey to the parents present. It was an interesting result as across students, parents and teachers there was one question where we all thought we could be doing better. It related to assessment: the question for parents said "Parents and students understand how student's learning will be assessed." Only 30% of parents said "almost always" as a response for this question. So, as a result, it was agreed at the P&C meeting that we would have parent teacher interviews at the end of Term 1 each year. Due to the late P&C meeting this year, we will have parent teacher meetings in Week 1 next term. This gives you time over the holidays to think about any questions you may wish to ask your child's

teacher. A note with interview times will be sent out next week.

Active after School

Active after School was a program which ran up to 2014. In 2015 it was replaced by Sports In Schools, which we have been implementing at Lowanna since it began in 2015.

Each term we offer Sport at school in school time, or as an excursion out of school with a Sport focus using our Sports in School funding.

If we were to run a sport program after school in Term 3, it would be funded by our Sports in School money, as the Active after School program no longer exists.

At this stage, we have received expressions of interest from 6 out of 21 families to run Sport activities for an hour a week after school next term. This small amount of interest wouldn't be enough for a facilitator to come up to Lowanna, and as well wouldn't be offered to all children, only those who would be attending after school. So if you are interested, please complete the expression of interest, and return it to school by next Monday, as I believe that to offer this, it should be offered to all of our kids. Then Miss Pellegrino can possibly organise a person to visit after hours at our school next term for sport after school. Otherwise, we will continue to provide a sporting program to all students during school time.

Talking with Children

Talking with our children comes naturally and we don't often give it a great deal of thought. It's something that we just do, like preparing breakfast or making lunches. However, the quality of our communication does make a difference. Good communication helps children shape

positive attitudes about themselves, allows parents a window into their children's thinking and promotes good relationships

Bright Idea

- Meals are social occasions – more than just refuelling stops. They provide a great opportunity for families to get together and talk. Talk about each other's day – the highlights and how low lights. Share your own day with your children.
- If you have a 'conversational clam' in your family try talking over a snack, or while doing an activity. Boys, in particular, tend to open up more while their hands are busy. Relax, go for a walk and watch how their tongues loosen up.
- If 'nah' or 'yep' are the only responses you get from your children consider asking questions that begin with What, Where, How or Why. Ask interesting questions that will spark more than a one-word response.
- Talk with children on their turf. Many children will open up in the privacy of their own bedroom, particularly when they are relaxed and feel secure.
- Respect children's boundaries. There are times when a good listener will know when to keep quiet. Children will often divulge information when they are ready.

Talking Turn – Offs

1. Lecturing children: 'When I was young...'
2. Shouting: Using a quiet voice is a more effective way to get a point across than a raised voice.
3. Put-downs: They lower children's self-confidence and they turn children off listening to you.

Kind Regards,
Alison Hawken.