



Lowanna Public School

Be safe, be respectful, be a learner

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Week 5 Term 1 – Monday 20/2/2017

Dates to remember

Thursday 23rd February 9am **Parents & Carers** invited to our first P&C Meeting.
+ 10am **Seesaw App for Parents & Carers**

Monday 27th February Coffs District Swimming Carnival

Orara Valley Debating

A new crop of young Lowanna Debaters did a great job representing our school at the Orara Valley Debating Day. This was their first experience as a team, and they worked well together, facing all the challenges head on. Well done, Ally, Kiara, Natalia and Deacan. We hope you enjoy these recounts from their Debating Day.

On Wednesday the 15th of February, I travelled to Nana Glen to learn about debating.

We played warm up games and one was called *Connect the Dots*. The aim of the game was to connect 5 dots with only 4 lines without lifting up your pen from the paper, it was tricky.

Our team was made up of Natalia, Ally, Kiara and me. The teachers from Orara High School were Mr. Ceaser and Miss Butler, and they were a great help to prepare for our debate against Karangi girls.

The topic we debated was "We cannot live without plastic bags". We were the negative team. I was the scribe. We lost but I had the best day ever!

By Deacan

On the 15.2.17 Ally, Kiara, Deacan and I we went down to Nana Glen for Debating. After lunch we had our debate.

We versed the Karangi girls team and our topic was "We cannot live without plastic bags". They were a challenge to try and beat. It was a great experience.

By Natalia

Last Wednesday, Natalia, Ally, Deacan and I went to debate at Nana Glen. Sadly we lost to the Karangi girls but for me it was a win. I was tired after the day out. It was fun day.

By Kiara

On the 15.2.17 Natalia, Deacan, Kiara and I went to Nana Glen to debate against Karangi.

We played a celebrity hot air balloon game where we needed to give reasons why we shouldn't be thrown out of the balloon, it was fun and interesting. Orara High School teachers ran the game and it was fun.

We learnt a lot about how to prepare for a debate.

By Ally

Mrs Quirk's News

Library on Tuesdays

Library is now on Tuesday for all students. Please try to encourage your child to bring back their books every Tuesday.

Book Club

I would like to say a huge thank you to all the families that ordered from the first issue of Book Club this year. Collectively our students purchased \$227 worth of books. This is outstanding for such a small school

and I'm sure these books will be read and cherished by those students.

Our school earned \$42 worth of credits to now spend on more books for our school library through future book clubs, so that we always have a wonderful selection of new books for the children to read and borrow.

Mrs Cassidy's News

Boys Literacy Group

Brodie has now completed his *Lego Technics Racer* and has shown persistence and outstanding problem solving skills throughout. The kit is designed for up to 14 years old, so all the boys are doing an amazing job.

This week the boys will be focusing on designing their own Lego creation and creating their own instruction booklet so that others can build one too. Stay tuned as there are other Lego Technics creations nearing completion.

The training workshop that Mrs Hawken and I attended in Sydney was outstanding and the skills learned will be used to further develop fun, hands on and effective learning activities across our school.

Please regularly return your Home Reading books.

Sustainability Project

If you haven't had a chance to take a peek into the pumpkin patch then please do! The Environment Committee have come up with some wonderful ideas for Lowanna's Outdoor Learning Area (to be renamed "LOLA"!) and we would love to have as much community input as possible so if you have any ideas, please share them with us!

A new resident has taken up roost in the hen house, a new Isa Brown, who the children have named "*Chocolate Sprinkles*". All lettuce scraps gratefully accepted!

Some Kids in the Kitchen activities will be underway this week to use up our plentiful egg supply!

Keep our children safe –

A reminder to all our drivers that the speed limit around our school is **40km/h** from 8:00am-9:30pm and also from 2:30pm-4:00pm.



Any car travelling at just 10 km over this speed will take an extra 9 metres to stop and if that car hits a pedestrian they are twice as likely to be killed. Please check your speedo to keep our precious Lowanna children safe!

Miss Corfe's/ MrsHawken's News

We have begun our reading groups. The Year 4 children were excited about *Wonderopolis*. Deacan in particular, was very keen to share his learning about the Great Wall of China.

We began our investigation into our unit "*What's the Buzz?*" which is all about bees. Do you know that there are over 1600 different species of bees in Australia? Ask your child if they can share any other interesting facts about bees.

Professional Learning

Last week from Monday to Wednesday Mrs Cassidy and I travelled to Sydney to further our knowledge with Project Based Learning. We are all implementing this teaching strategy in our classrooms this year, and we will definitely share what we have learnt with Ms Corfe, Mrs Benfield and Mrs Quirk when we return.

Mrs Benfield participated in CPR and Anaphylaxis training in Coffs Harbour last week on Monday and Tuesday. She will become a qualified trainer, and will be able

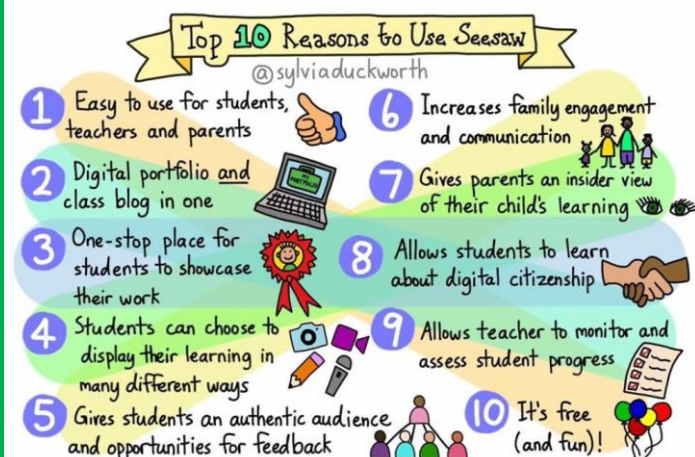
to teach all the Orara Valley teachers these lifesaving skills at the end of the year.

I will be back in Sydney again on Monday and Tuesday this week with Mrs Robinson, our *Early Action For Success* Teacher. This is a State Wide program where all new participating schools are given an introduction to the program.

Seesaw

No, it's not the swings and seesaw at the park, but an app! We are beginning to use this at school, and as you will soon see, it's a great communication tool with parents.

Mrs Benfield will be running an information session on *Seesaw for Parents* on Thursday from 10am, straight after our P&C meeting. Come along and listen and learn about this fun and exciting app.



How Parents and Carers can help with the social development of young children

Family relationships and expectations have a major influence on children's social development. Family relationships set the foundation for children to relate to others. Children learn how to manage relationships by observing the ways that parents, carers and other family members relate to others. Tips for developing young children's friendship skills:

Arrange plenty of opportunities for your child to meet lots of different people starting right from birth.

Children learn from seeing how you treat your friends and their friends and playmates.

Children find it easier to get along with others if they can do the same things (e.g., learning to swim or having ball skills).

Talk with children about how to be with others. (e.g., "When someone comes to visit we say 'Hello'"; for an older child "Being a good sport means saying "well done" to the other person even if you don't feel like it.").

Play games with them so they learn about cooperating and considering others.

Read stories about friends.

If a child is aggressive, respond to their feeling but tell them that you don't like their behaviour. Ask them to think of another way to get what they want. When they are very young you need to show and tell them. "I know you feel angry when I am on the phone, but I don't like it when you hit. If you want me to come just touch me gently."

Have other children over one at a time when your children are young. This means no-one is being left out while they are learning.

When children are first learning to play together have something planned for them to do.

Teach your child to smile and greet other people. Don't force the issue if your child is not ready. It may help to practice at home, when you greet each other in the morning for example.

Teach children some skills like relating and listening to others, being friendly, and responding and showing interest in what others have to say.

Help them to show interest in what others are doing, and give compliments to their playmates.

Praise your child for being friendly and caring about others.

Help children to use words to say what they need and feel (e.g., "I would like a turn with that"; or "Would you like to play in the play house with me?").

Excerpt from:

<https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/mental-health-matters/social-and-emotional-learning/social-development/suggestions-families>

Our first weekly AFL session last Tuesday



3D construction with Mrs Carter and Mrs Quirk last Tuesday



Our gardens and grounds



Preparing the new water tank pad

