



The Launceston Preparatory School

Truth and Happiness

NEWSLETTER

Thursday 22nd February 2024

From the Principal...



When was the last time you found yourself fretting over time? In our swiftly changing and fast-paced world, it seems as if time is perpetually slipping through our fingers. Much like discussing the weather in casual conversation, the notion of time (or the lack thereof) has become ingrained in our everyday discourse. So, the question arises: Is time truly accelerating?

As I observe with a blend of pride, gratitude, and sheer wonder, I consider the experience a student and their family undergo at our beautiful school truly remarkable, characterised by a myriad of distinguishing factors. Could it be our small class sizes, allowing us to truly connect with each child, recognising them for their individuality, and fostering the qualities essential to the future success of our community—integrity, kindness, and resilience? Or perhaps it lies in the meticulous planning and execution of engaging and meaningful learning experiences? Equally significant is the calibre of educators and educational assistants who uphold high standards, guiding our children through the numerous phenomena of school life. Though I haven't quite pinpointed it yet, I believe it's a combination of these elements and more. However, I must add this: The LPS offers something that many overlook in our carefully crafted and tailored curriculum—time. It may seem simple, yet it is a genuine educational differentiator. Allow me to elaborate.

Life seems to unfold at breakneck speed, doesn't it? Think back to the day your child first crossed the threshold into our school. It feels like just yesterday, doesn't it? Yet, as the years blend together, one after another, why do I assert that time is our distinctive feature?

Firstly, our classrooms provide the space and time to unpack content, allowing students to comprehend the tasks at hand and engage in critical thinking. In a world where the average

speaking rate has surged from 145 words per minute two decades ago to approximately 160-180 words per minute today, this additional cognitive load on students, compounded by the emotional and social demands of everyday life, is substantial. Having the luxury to pause and ponder—"what if?"—is indeed a rarity in an era characterised by "time poverty."

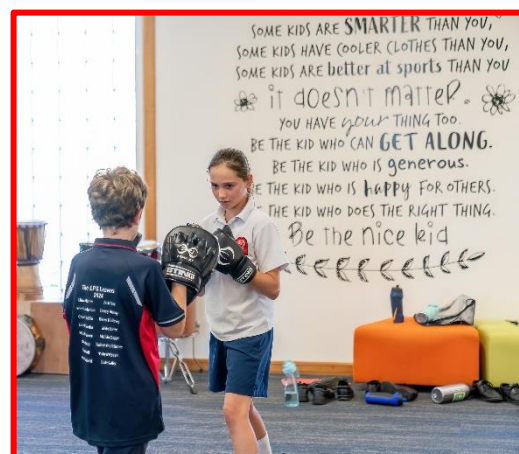
We're all familiar with the adage "there's no time like the present" and the notion that time is a precious commodity. But how often do we truly optimise this resource for success? Mahatma Gandhi astutely remarked that being present is as essential as eating and drinking for our daily sustenance, suggesting, "one should meditate one hour every day—unless you are busy. In which case you should meditate two." Time, indeed, is a gift, and each day at The LPS, we offer this gift freely. Time to reflect, time to be resilient, time to collaborate, and time to delve deep into the past or soar to a realm where time stands still.

Our students are consistently reminded to "take your time" when offering insightful perspectives or structuring their thoughts, work, or play. They are encouraged to regulate their emotions, express themselves freely, make mistakes, and persevere. Blessed with an abundance of enriched opportunities, it's evident that they have ample time to discover and embrace their authentic selves—an endeavor that transcends time.

This week, I urge everyone to take a moment (that's right, give yourself some precious time) to inquire about your child's day—about the challenges they're encountering, the small victories they're celebrating, the dreams they're nurturing, and the timelines they've set for themselves to achieve such greatness. Following Eddie Barnes' poignant reflection on the fleeting nature of time and his family's personal connection to it at our school, let's all prioritise moments of togetherness, joy, and merriment. Eddie understands better than most that time flies when you're having fun, and before we know it, the sands of time will have slipped away. Let's embrace the time we have together, for The Launceston Preparatory School offers more than just an educational journey—it presents an opportunity to savor every moment. After all, time flies when you're having fun!

In thoughtfulness,

Timothy Bristow





Socratic Seminar – Groups 2 and 3

In the shared novel, "Blueback" by Tim Winton, the author describes how "Abel and his mother lived off the sea and the land."

- Describe any ways in which you and your family "live off the sea and the land".
- In what ways do people use more than the sea and the land provides?
- Could/would you live just off the sea and the land? How?/Why not?
- Should we all do this? If so, how can we as a society move towards this?

Leonie McNair

FRENCH IS BACK!

I am delighted to be back teaching French again after spending time in France last year.

At the moment we are dusting off our memories and using common French expressions for social interaction and sharing information about ourselves.

Songs, games and even puppet shows are helping students across all ages to practice and become familiar again with new and old phrases. I hope students share them with their families at home!

Madame Jane Dean



Socratic Seminar – Groups 4-6

In the shared novel, "Blu Fin" by Colin Thiele, the main character does not have a good relationship with his father. We discussed Mr Pascoe's personality and his attitude towards Snook then discussed:

- How might this attitude have developed?
- Is Mr Pascoe's attitude fair? Explain
- How can Snook improve his relationship with his father?
- Whose responsibility is it to improve this relationship? Why?
- Have you ever felt someone's attitude towards you was unfair? Share how this happened and what we can learn from it.

Leonie McNair

Collaborative Learning in Early Learning and Kindergarten

What a wonderful opportunity we have in the Early Learning and Kindergarten to create opportunities and an environment to work and play together. There continues to be some valuable times of sharing and learning between these age groups as we form friendships and learn from each other. This week the Early Learner's worked together build a BIG BLUE WHALE. With the assistance of our Kindergarten students, we have helped plan, paint and decorate this enormous mammal! We have learnt facts about the Blue Whale, read fictional stories about whales, made small whales using craft materials and measured the real size of a BLUE whale using our own bodies.



We discovered it took 18 children and 5 adults to show the true size of the Blue Whale. We were both thrilled and amazed to share these discoveries together.

Ms. Rebecca Howard

Prep / One Hass & Art

Violet and Lottie have been practicing the correct formation of their numbers on the whiteboards.

In HASS, we are discussing our families and exploring the concept of connections. Currently, we are examining the roles of various family members such as aunts, grandparents, and so on.



We are also getting to know our new friends better and recently created "love jars." It's been delightful to see the enthusiasm for sharing about lollies, pets, and families among the students.

In our Art class, we created a masterpiece themed around LOVE in celebration of Valentine's Day. Our focus was on color choices, patterns, design work, and the font style for our letters. These artworks will make wonderful additions to your homes. I am incredibly proud of all the students for their outstanding work on these masterpieces.

Miss Nicole England

Senior Mathematics and Drama

In Mathematics, children in Groups 4-6 have been given a fictional budget of \$20,000 to explore Australia's oceans. Their initial task involves planning flights from Launceston to four destinations across Australia and then back home. This project is providing the students with valuable insights into the mathematical aspects of holiday planning, particularly budgeting and time management.



In Drama, we are drawing inspiration from the dance performance "Out of the Deep Blue" by Birmingham's Autin Dance



Image: Autin Dance Theatre's Out of the Deep Blue

Theatre for this term's drama project. This captivating performance features a four-meter-tall puppet operated by five puppeteers, telling a poignant story that raises awareness about the issues

impacting our oceans.



As part of this project, the children are learning how to design and manipulate their own smaller puppets, paying close attention to movement, posture, eye line, and sound effects. They have already begun crafting their first puppets using a variety of recycled materials.

Mel Andrews

Group 2/3 Swimming

The Group 2/3 children are now a couple of weeks into their swimming program. Each Tuesday morning, they travel to the Launceston Aquatic Centre to take part in a swimming and water safety program.

It has been wonderful to welcome Mr Josh Freestone to our school. He is working alongside Mr Payne to deliver the program and he has very quickly got to know the children and is really helping to advance their swimming skills.



Harriet Thyne, and Melissa Freeland



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On 20th March, The Launceston Preparatory School Association will hold its Annual General

Meeting. This is when the Board and Principal report to members on the progress and development of the school during the preceding calendar year. The meeting generally lasts around one hour.

All parents and friends of the school are welcome to attend this meeting - you can attend as an observer but you are also invited to apply for membership of the Association that administers The Launceston Preparatory School under standard rules and articles of association. Membership of the Association currently costs \$5.00 per annum and is open to all friends of the school comprising current and former parents, educators and supporters from the local community.

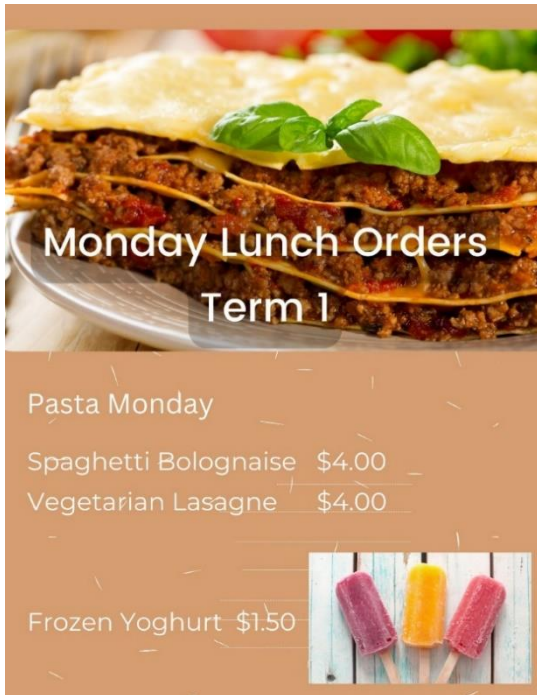
In conjunction with the Principal, the Board has oversight of all issues relating to risk management, compliance with legal obligations, financial accountability and policy development. The Principal has responsibility for managing educational issues, students, staff and parent involvement. The educational progress and direction of the school is primarily the Principal's domain.

The Annual General Meeting of The Launceston Preparatory School Association will be held downstairs in the Multi-Purpose Hall on Wednesday, 20th March from 7.30pm. We hope to see you there!

Craig Stenton

Board Chair

Monday and Friday Lunch Orders



Monday Lunch Orders
Term 1

Pasta Monday

Spaghetti Bolognese \$4.00

Vegetarian Lasagne \$4.00

Frozen Yoghurt \$1.50

The menu features a background image of a lasagne topped with a fried egg and basil. At the bottom right, there is a small image of three colorful frozen yoghurt sticks.



TERM 1
FRIDAY LUNCH ORDERS

Ordering is via Canteen Hub.
Create your account
<https://app.canteenhub.com.au/register-customer>

Please place your order by 11.30pm the night before. All orders are to be placed and paid for online. Please contact Mrs Lamplough or emma@subsforu.com if you have any questions.

SUBS FOR YOU
school lunches made easy online

Subway®
School Lunch

The poster has a green background with a faint drawing of a person. It features two Subway sandwiches at the bottom. The Subway logo and 'SCHOOL LUNCH' text are in a red banner at the bottom.

Monday Lunch orders are given to home group teachers and the cost can be applied to your school account or cash can be sent with your child. Friday Subway orders are made online (see details below) and are delivered to the school prior to lunchtime.

IMPORTANT DATES

23rd February

11 March

20 March

Friday 29th March -

Tuesday 2nd April inclusive

12 April

14 March

The LPS annual Welcome Picnic.5-7pm

Public Holiday

**The Launceston Preparatory School Association -
Annual General Meeting 7.30pm**

Easter Break

Term 1 ends

Senior students to visit The Glover Prize Exhibition

Please note that any notices we include in this newsletter for providers of activities that occur outside of the school, are provided only for the interest of families and do not carry any endorsement by the school.