



*A great state school serving
the Lyndhurst community.*

OPENING 2011



October 2010

Issue 3:
A team on board



Principal's message Greg Lacey



Frequently asked questions

Answers to questions that
parents have been asking.
More about student well-
being.
More about our uniform.
Information night
feedback.
A bit more Lyndhurst
history.

Welcome to issue 3 of the Lyndhurst PS newsletter. Things have really ramped up over recent weeks, particularly with the appointment of our new Assistant Principal, Kerry Bates, and our Business Manager, Lisa Sutherland. It's been terrific to have a team here in the office now. I'm certainly not used to working alone! The buildings are really coming along nicely and well within expected timelines. It appears that we may even be able to move into the Lyndhurst offices late in November, which will be fantastic. The oval is looking lush and green and much of the landscaping work is proceeding. Our native garden/outdoor learning area is looking fabulous and new plants keep appearing in garden beds each time I visit. I'm excited about meeting many parents and students at the information evening this evening (as I write) and this, for me, is the first real "community building" opportunity. It's very strange to be so separate from the parent community of a school and we are all eagerly anticipating our first real contact with what will become, the Lyndhurst Primary School community.



The surrounding wetlands of the Marriott Waters estate will bring not only a beautiful, natural backdrop to our school but a wonderful educational and environmental resource to our teachers and students.

Meet the growing team at Lyndhurst

Assistant Principal:

Kerry Bates

My name is Kerry Bates and I am really excited to have been appointed



Assistant Principal at Lyndhurst Primary School. The facilities are already looking amazing and I am looking forward to being part of making our school a fabulous place to learn. My last school was Tyabb Primary School, a medium sized school on the Mornington Peninsula, where I was Assistant Principal for three years. Before Tyabb, I was at Mt Eliza Primary School, where I was a classroom teacher in all levels of the school. My background is in student wellbeing and elsewhere in this newsletter is a brief piece outlining Student Wellbeing at Lyndhurst Primary School. Beginning a new school from scratch is an opportunity that doesn't come along very often and I look forward to getting to know the students and parents of the Lyndhurst Primary School community over the coming months!

Business Manager

Lisa Sutherland

My name is Lisa Sutherland and I am excited to have been appointed as the Business Manager for Lyndhurst Primary School. Opening a brand new school is an opportunity to work closely with the community to build a school of which we can all be proud.

I have worked previously at Cranbourne West Primary School and Tyabb Primary School. As both a parent and a resident of the local area, I look forward to building a school that becomes a cornerstone of the Lyndhurst community.





Lyndhurst PS How do I enroll?

The following are all required to complete enrolment:

- Completed Student Information Forms
- Copy of Birth Certificate
- Immunisation Certificate

Enrolment forms and documentation can be handed in to our host school at:

Cranbourne Carlisle
Primary School
15 Silky Oak Drive
Cranbourne, 3977

Or posted to:

Lyndhurst Primary School
PO Box 7138
Cranbourne North, 3977

FAQ's:

What do you want to know about Lyndhurst Primary School?

If you have a question why not drop us an e-mail at:
lyndhurst.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Have you found out anything more about the history of Lyndhurst Primary School?

I was able to track down two entries for Lyndhurst Primary School in a book called "*Vision and Realisation: a centenary history of state education in Victoria*" published in 1973. The book includes entries dating back to 1854 that relate to Lyndhurst Primary School. The extracts will be reproduced in the next newsletter.

What about Lyndhurst's School Council?

The school council will be formed within the next couple of weeks following a meeting with interested people after the information night.

When can I get uniform?

PSW has been selected as the supplier of our school uniform. They have a retail store in Hampton Park near the intersection of Pound Road and South Gippsland Highway. You will eventually be able to order online and through the school office. The uniform will be available in mid December but PSW will organise some fitting days prior to that to enable children to have the "try on" for parents to pre-order.

Do we have any staff yet?

You will have already seen that we have an Assistant Principal and a Business Manager. They took up their positions at the beginning of term 4. Both Kerry and Lisa are extremely excited about the prospect of opening a new school and we have already gelled into a great key leadership team. We are currently interviewing prospective teachers and interest has been really high. We had more than 100 applicants for the first two positions we advertised and there was certainly a great deal of "new school" excitement evident in those applications.



FAQ continued

What is inquiry-based learning?

Inquiry-based learning is a student centred or active learning approach that takes, as its starting point, the natural process of inquiry, building on this to develop information processing and problem-solving skills. The focus is on 'how we know' rather than 'what we know', with students actively involved in the construction of their own knowledge through active involvement. There is a shift away from a content driven approach towards one that provides children with the skills and resources to discover knowledge for themselves. Children are posed a question and given the skills and resources to explore, investigate and search for answers. They plan and carry out their research, come to some conclusions and decide how they could make change happen. They convert information and data into useful knowledge. Ultimately, the importance of inquiry learning is that students become life long learners and learn how to continue learning.

The aims of an Inquiry Learning Approach are to:

- Nurture and develop the students' natural inquiring mind, helping them to become life long learners who continue to learn how to learn.
 - Develop the students' ability to pose questions and plan, research, investigate and search for answers and solutions.
 - Develop the skills needed to convert information and answers into useful knowledge that can be applied to new situations and prompt further learning.
 - Provide students with different ways of viewing the world, communicating about it and successfully coping with the questions and issues of daily living.
- Develop an understanding that all knowledge changes over time as people challenge, shape and contribute to it.
 - Demonstrate that there are often multiple perspectives for looking at, analysing and understanding things.
 - Provide learning opportunities that are more relevant as concepts are learned in context and relate to existing knowledge and experiences.
 - Develop thinking processes and strategies as sequentially developed in the Thinking Processes Domain of the Victorian Essential Learning Standards and in line with Tyabb Primary School's Thinking scope and sequence.
 - Provide rich learning opportunities that are relevant to the children and cross over all domains eg. English, Mathematics, Civics and Citizenship, Science, Health, Humanities, ICT, Creativity Design Technology and Art.
 - Encourage students to become independent, resourceful and responsible learners.

Will we have school camps?

We are certainly considering school camps in the first year of the school but venues will be difficult to book and we really can't make firm decisions until we know numbers. I am a strong proponent of a quality outdoor education program as I believe there are great physical, social, emotional and indeed spiritual benefits for children from such a program. A camps program will be a key component of a broader outdoor education program at Lyndhurst.

What about those who are not keeping up or those who need extending?

The program at Lyndhurst will be individualized and personalized. Gone are the days when teachers teach to the middle group and hope the others will catch on. Education will be focused on each child's point of need based on clear evidence and a strong, cooperative family partnership.

Some more about Lyndhurst Primary School?

In the first newsletter, I talked a little about the “Cultures” we want to build at Lyndhurst Primary School. Here, our Assistant Principal Kerry Bates, explains her perceptions about the crucial student well-being factors that will create a positive, engaging learning environment.

Student wellbeing is a critical factor in how students learn and the connection that they have to a school and community. Lyndhurst Primary School will have a focus on building relationships between students, teachers and parents.

We aim to be proactive in managing student welfare, not just reactive. Our whole school social skills program will give everyone a common language to develop the social and emotional skills to be successful in school, experience wellbeing and have positive relationships with others. Our aim is to develop students who are self regulating, responsible and accountable, who are able to problem solve and show empathy towards others.

We will be using a Restorative Practice approach at Lyndhurst Primary School. This is a way of viewing relationship-building and behaviour management in schools that works to strengthen a sense community among students and between students, teachers and parents. In the Restorative Practice philosophy, conflict or wrongdoing is seen as causing harm to people and relationships, and there is an obligation first to repair this harm in order for the people involved to move forward. It is a way of educating students towards self-regulated right behaviour that is respectful of all concerned.

In particular, it puts the onus back on the wrong-doer to be truly accountable for their behaviour and to repair any harm caused to others.

Look out for further newsletter publications that explain Restorative Practices in more detail and outline Lyndhurst Primary School’s approach to Student Wellbeing.



Lyndhurst PS

By reaching out to make neighbourhood connections with homes, businesses, the environment and local institutions, Lyndhurst Primary School can:

- offer real world, rigorous, interdisciplinary learning experiences
- provide facilities custom-designed for learners of the 21st Century
- be a school characterised by the laughter and smiles of children
- wholly engage children and the community in the process of learning
- prepare children to be happy, caring and productive adults
- develop adaptable and resilient individuals
- encourage respect for themselves, others and the environment

In the next edition...

- Your questions e-mail them to us.
- Meet our first teaching group.
- Partnerships and community links.
- More on ICT in the school.
- The new School Council.
- How can you be involved?
- Uniform information.
- Helping your Prep child get ready for school.
- Extracts from "Vision and Realisation"
- We may even be able to give you some times when you can come and visit the school! Let's keep our fingers crossed!

Lyndhurst Primary School newsletter



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