



Upcoming Dates

MAY

10th Sandhurst Cross Country

Secondary

11th– 14th NAPLAN

Years 3,5,7,9

14th Do It For Dolly Fundraiser

\$2 donation

21st VCAL Pyjama & BBQ day

Gold Coin donation

26th P-6 Melbourne Zoo

Excursion

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Respect

Responsibility

Resilience

Relationships

From the Principal

Respectful Relationships (RR) —Term 2

This week, our specific RR focus was 'Identifying Emotions'. It was amazing to see just how many actual emotions our students were able to identify. In the term I spent time in on Monday, students were able to identify more than 20 individual emotions! Branching out from 'happy' and 'sad', students were able to raise emotions such as 'anxious', 'cheerful', 'stoked', 'embarrassed' and 'surprised'.

Whilst it was terrific to see that our year levels were able to identify such a range of emotions, there is a great deal more to discuss. As we progress further through this term, we will endeavour to unpack some of these emotions and ensure that students actually know what particular emotions are and how they feel.

There are bound to be many thought-provoking discussions in coming weeks and this is something that we are very excited about.

Parent/Carer Question This Week...

After discussing the pros and cons of emotions this week, our RR lead-team discussed the importance of positive modelling and explicit teaching of emotions within family settings. A simple question for all to consider is the following -

What is the (at least 1 hour long) family activity that your family participates in together each week?

School Visits To Our College

Our college has played host to staff and students from two other colleges this week, with Maths Pathways and Student Voice being topics/programs of interest for others. It was really pleasing to see the level of engagement between our staff and students, and the staff and students from elsewhere. Both schools that visited East Loddon also commented very favourably on the general 'feel' of our college and the way in which they found us to be so accommodating and supportive with our time and efforts.

NAPLAN Testing

Our year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students will undertake their NAPLAN testing period next week and we wish all students the very best with these tests. All that we ask is that students do their very best during the testing

period and allow all others within their class to do the same. Good luck is extended to all!

WE CHEER WHEN YOU'RE HERE!!!

This 'catchy' little title sums up the way in which we as a staff feel when our students are in attendance at school each day. We really do love it when we have all students present at school, as we genuinely want all students to succeed. As part of a Professional Learning Community, several college staff (including myself) are looking into patterns of student absence and engagement. We would love to have a positive impact and influence on student attendance as we move forwards and want to work with families to ensure that we are on the same page. A great number of the staff in this PLC group are parents ourselves, and we know how difficult parenting can be at times. Working in education does not make us immune to challenges!

Please endeavour to speak with a staff member that you trust and feel comfortable talking to if you are having any difficulty at all with encouraging your child to attend school each day. We would also be very happy to speak with parents/carers about any other challenging topics/situations that arise.

It is extremely important that we have a 'triangular approach to schooling for each student, with the school, home and student all working together to achieve the best outcomes possible.

VCAL Pyjama day and BBQ day coming soon!!!!

Our VCAL class have planned to run a terrific pyjama and BBQ day towards the end of May. There will be pre-order forms sent home with the students for the BBQ. Sausages, hamburgers and drinks will be included on the order form. There will be a gold coin donation for the pyjama day with the VCAL class raising money for a very good cause. **Parents... if you want a day free from making lunches and getting uniforms ready, then feel free to support the VCAL class on this fun day!!**

This Week's Photo shows a level building site and the first stages of construction about to begin. Things are starting to get exciting!!!

Happy Mothers day to all our mums and female role models. In our college school community.
Steve Leed—College Principal

Friday 21st May VCAL Pyjama and BBQ day. Gold Coin donation

Assistant Principal's news

Literacy & Numeracy

Decodable Texts

As part of East Loddon's commitment to becoming a SOLAR school (that is we use evidence based strategies to teach literacy), we are gradually replacing all texts in the P-2 classes with decodable texts.

A decodable text means that the child has learnt all of the sounds and letters that are in the book that they are being asked to read. They have learnt the code that they are being asked to practice. So at the beginning of Prep, students will learn the sounds and letters for 's', 'a', 't', 'p', 'i' and 'n'. The books your child brings home at this level will almost entirely contain only these letters making their most common sounds.

This means that students never have to guess a word. They should never have to look at a picture or use any strategy that encourages guessing. The eyes of good readers never leave the word they are trying to read. They know that the information they need is in the letters that they are decoding.

Students get a lot of satisfaction from knowing that they are having success and actually reading each word based on the letters: the code.

Rereading the same book lots of times over the week helps students develop fluency which is really important. Fluency means reading the words automatically and smoothly. They have moved past sounding out each sound to work out a word. While a student is still sounding out each letter they are unlikely to have the mental space to think about the meaning of what they are reading. Once they can read with fluency then they can concentrate on meaning.

At Home:

Your child should be reading out loud regularly.

If they get stuck on a word encourage them to sound out each letter and blend them together until they can make the word.

Play sound games. What rhymes with...? What other words start with the sound....? What sounds can you hear in the word....?

You can still snuggle in together and read other wonderful stories to your child.

Sally Fleming
Literacy Learning Specialist



School Captains at Investiture

Thanks to those who attended the Investiture assembly last Friday. We are almost back to normal with large gatherings such as these and its good to feel a little less COVID worried. We did learn a few things in the last 12 months though.

1. Outside assemblies are awesome for set up and pack up. They maybe don't feel as official but they certainly save us a bunch of time and for this reason, we will stick with them to some extent.
2. Sitting on the grass means we don't have to set up 300+ chairs for such assemblies. Whooop!

There's a bit going on at the moment with building works. The shake, rattle and roll machine has



Molly and Travis receiving the Respect a Badge Award

stopped and so my filing cabinet has stayed in position and closed for almost a week. Also the first lot of 180+ pier holes have been drilled which will house the stumps that will raise our building far enough in to the air that hopefully termites can't eat. That said, termites are pretty determined to learn out in these parts and we have had difficulty in the past keeping them out of classrooms. Fingers crossed.

Oh I nearly forgot IT'S NAPLAN NEXT WEEK! YAYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYY YYYYY

For those kids that get a touch of anxiety about this, actually for parents that feel the same, remember this....

No-one is smarter or less intelligent because they have completed a NAPLAN test. This test is for us as a school to find

areas where we can improve. As a parent it gives you the chance to see how your child is tracking 'on the day of the test'. It doesn't determine who the potential most successful child is. It's a snapshot in time of where the kids and the school are at. This year it may be particularly helpful in showing us what impact home learning had. It might put us all out of a job! Anyway, reassure your kids that though we want them to try their best, if their best isn't as highly rated as others, then its no problem.

Next week is Cross country for the senior students is on Monday and a Art excursion to Melbourne National Gallery Victoria. I am so jealous of that. Not the running, the Art. Its so good. Get in to see Top Arts if you get the chance over the next holidays. Its amazing what kids can do!



Sub-School Updates

AROUND ELP SPORTS

East Loddon Cross Country

Overall results will be announced in tomorrow's P-12 assembly at 3:00pm and the first 3 place getters will be presented with their ribbon with the 1st places receiving a medallion

- Prep = Lisa W + Owen H
 1 = Billie A + Tom R
 2 = Reese P + Xavier T
 3 = Penny B + Harvey W
 4 = Lucy P + Oliver L
 5 = Ruby C + Oscar B
 6 = Chloe T + Alex L
 7 = Sienna T + Zac O
 8 = Ava M + Joseph V
 9 = Daisy S + Brodie W
 10 = Bridget V + Jaxon A
 11 = Montana T + Brodie W
 12 = Jasmin G + Jack D

Wednesday 5th May

Inter-school Primary Cross Country— 40 students competed in Bendigo at the Division Cross Country. Well done to the 8 year old boys group for winning their division.



Year 2 girls at Cross country

Monday 10th May— Secondary Division Cross country—top 5 place getters from our Cross Country. Permission notes have been sent home and we wish them luck on Monday

Junior

Cross Country

Yesterday we had a number of students from grades 2 to 6 represent East Loddon at the inter-school cross country. We are very proud of how all of our students competed on the day. I would like to also make a special mention of Penny and Talia who came 4th and 5th in the 9 Years girls race—an outstanding achievement!



Melbourne Zoo

Our excursion to the Melbourne Zoo is just under three weeks away! More information about the specifics of the day will be shared next week, including a detailed itinerary for the day. Thank you to families who have returned their permission slips and payment. A reminder is extended to families that these forms and payments are due on the 17th of May.

Happy Mothers Day

We hope that all of our mothers and caregivers are spoilt by their children this Sunday. You all do an amazing job!

Middle

We have had another busy week in the Middle Years! Remember to contact your child's classroom teacher or me if you have any concerns or questions.

This week Middle Years students have started weekly English homework. This involves reading a set novel and completing pages of a booklet of activities related to their text. Students will have their work checked by their English teachers each week and will have weekly class discussions about their work. If parents have any questions about these activities, they should contact their child's classroom teacher.

There have been some amazing results in our Middle Years Math Pathways classes! Well done to the following students who have achieved great growth rates on

the last test: Zane T(367%), Piper L (267%), Oscar B (233%), Ruby C (200%), Ava R (200%), Sarah D (400%), Miles G (267%), Kyen M (267%), Darcie S (267%), Georgia P (233%), Paige S (233%), Lillie L (200%) and Max G (233%).

Yesterday we had a small group of Grade 5/6 students attend the Sandhurst Interschool Cross Country. Well done to these students for qualifying.

Today we have all Grade 5/6's travelling to Bendigo to attend writing workshops at the Writers Festival and visiting the Soldier's Memorial Institute Military Museum. I am sure all students will return to school inspired to read, write and think.

Next week we will have the Year 7/8 Sandhurst Cross-Country on Monday and NAPLAN for students in Year 7 and 9. Good luck to all students participating!

Senior

Tomorrow Bound Careers Expo: Year 10 & 11 students travelled to Bendigo to attend the Tomorrow Bound Careers Expo. It was a great opportunity for students to talk to various TAFE, College and University representatives as well as other Australia wide and local employers, like Vic Police, Fosterville Goldmine and Bendigo Health. Students were able to meet employers and listen to presentations sharing their stories and offering advice.



Mt Kooyoora Camp: It's not a surprise but the La Trobe Uni leaders that took our students away for 3 days, fell in love with our students. Describing them as the, "the best students they ever had. They said that our students were kind, caring and empathetic". The leaders explained that they felt, "honoured and blessed" to work with our students. Well done Year 9, you're awesome! Thanks also to Mr Young and Mr Smith for enabling this fantastic opportunity and organising the camp.

Compass calendar: Year 11 & 12 students have their School Assessed Coursework dates on the compass calendar for Term 2.

Be kind to your mums or mother figures.

SRC News

Do It For Dolly – Friday 14th May

The SRC's Term 2 fundraiser is for **Do It For Dolly**.

Do It For Dolly supports schools, families and students around online safety, anti-bullying campaigns and suicide prevention as the result of bullying, particularly within rural and remote areas of Australia where access to professional support can be limited and young people and their families may be more physically isolated.

Students are encouraged to dress up in 'cowboy' or farm attire or the colour blue on Friday 14th May in exchange for a \$2+ donation.

More information can be found at <https://dollysdream.org.au/>

Year 10
Advance
Student's
teaching a
game in
class today



Canteen

		2021 MAY	
Fri 7th	Miranda Smith Wendy Murphy		
Mon 10th	Bree Hocking Somara Lever	Mon 17h	Karolyn Campbell Sam Ellis
Tues 11th	Michelle Diss Louise Hocking	Tues 18th	Sue Pickles
Wed 12th	Sue Pickles	Wed 19th	Ebony Lawry Brian Duffy
Thurs 13th	Sue Pickles	Thurs 20th	Sue Pickles
Fri 14th	Bec Cullen Cheryl Green	Fri 21st	Lisa Twigg Shannon Ralphs



East Loddon P-12 College proudly presents a

DRIVE-IN MOVIE NIGHT

to be held at the school grounds

Movie: ZOOKEEPER - starring Kevin James

Gates open at 5.30pm with movie starting at 7pm

Entry by gold coin donation

BBQ & hot/cold drinks available to purchase

Free Jumping Castle

Classic car display

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL VIA SCHOOL OFFICE

03 - 5436 8300

Everyone welcome

Proceeds from the night will go to support school-based activities

Major Sponsor: Loddon Shire Council – Community Engagement Program/Activities Funding