

Lardner & District Primary School

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OUR VISION: Building a community of active learners through Empowerment, Engagement, Deeper Thinking and Resilience.

Principal Update

It has been another busy and rewarding few weeks at school. After the statewide NAPLAN technical issues experienced on Wednesday, I am pleased to report that everything was successfully completed by our Year 3 and Year 5 students. Thank you to our staff and students for their patience and flexibility while the issue was resolved.

This term we have been running a strong and focused **intervention program** targeting phonics, reading and simple sentence writing. Students participating in these sessions have recently been reassessed and are already demonstrating encouraging growth toward their individual learning goals. It is wonderful to see their confidence building as their skills improve.



Our **Athletics Day** was a huge success. I would like to thank the families who were able to come along and support the students, as well as the staff from LDPS and NPS for their assistance on the day. Events like this require a great deal of organisation behind the scenes to ensure everything runs smoothly, and it was fantastic to see everyone enjoying the day. Congratulations to Nilma on winning the shield!

The West Gippsland Rural Schools District Athletics will be held on Friday 27th March for all qualifying students, and we wish them the very best.

Next week we are looking forward to our special annual whole school excursion to **Farm World**. Students will explore the sights and local attractions in mixed-age groups, which is always a highlight of the year. It is a great opportunity for students to demonstrate *The Lardner Way* by listening to and respecting their peers across all year levels from Prep to Year 6.



Strengthening number sense at home Mathematics

Developing strong number sense is a key foundation for success in mathematics. When students have a good understanding of numbers, they are better able to solve problems, recognise patterns and apply mathematical thinking to everyday situations. How can families help? practising maths skills at home helps reinforce what students are learning at school and builds confidence with numbers. By strengthening number sense at home,



Newsletter Date
TERM 1 WEEK 8
20th March 2026



"We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respect to all the elders past, present and future for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of indigenous Australia".



Term 1 dates:

- **School Council Meeting**
Monday 23rd March
- **Naplan– Students Gr 3 & 5**
- **Farm World– Volunteers Required**
Thurs 26th—Sat 29th March
- **Farm World Excursion**
Thursday 26th March
- **Last Day of Term 1**
Thursday 2nd April
*Gold coin
*Casual Clothes Day
Early Dismissal at 2.30pm





NUT ALERT SCHOOL



families can support their child in becoming more flexible and confident mathematical thinkers. **The strengthen number sense at home resources** unpack number concepts children learn in their early years, providing simple activities for families to practice at home. This link will take you directly to a short video explaining more.

[Mathematics and numeracy at home](#) The video unpacks 4 number sense concepts that students need to master in their early years of schooling P-2. It shows what number sense looks like at school and provides simple activities that families can practice at home.

The concepts unpacked include:

- one-to-one correspondence
- subitising
- partitioning (part-part-whole)

teen numbers

School Council is currently seeking **two parent members** to join our team. Being part of School Council is a meaningful way to contribute to the strategic direction of our school. Members are involved in decision-making around policies, finance, facilities and school improvement priorities. It is a wonderful opportunity to have a voice, strengthen partnerships and support the continued growth of our school community. If you are interested, please contact the office for more information.



As this will be our final newsletter for the term, I would like to wish all families a very happy and safe Easter holiday break. We look forward to seeing everyone back refreshed and ready for Term 2 on Monday 20th April.

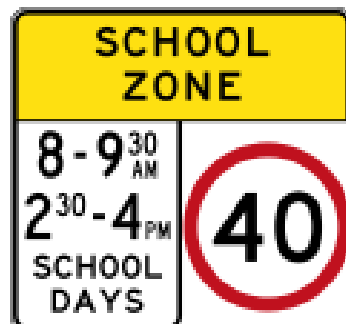
Jane King

**All children have the right to feel safe and protected.
We are a child safe school!**

STAFFED OFFICE HOURS

Our school Office will be staffed on Monday's, Tuesday's, Wednesday's & Friday's between 9am and 3pm.

If you need to drop anything off at the office at other times please post it in the mailbox at reception.



IS IT BULLYING?

NOT NICE

When someone says or does something **unintentionally** hurtful and they only do it **once...**
That is **Not Nice**

MEAN

When someone says or does something **intentionally** hurtful and they do it **once...**
That is **Mean**

BULLYING

When someone says or does something **intentionally** hurtful and they keep doing it, over a period of time, even when you tell them to stop or show them that you are upset...



That is **Bullying**



March Birthdays

Brandan
3rd March

Willow
11th March

Kailey
12th March

Pip
12th March

Nixon
19th March

Hartley
31st March






Farm World Volunteers

A huge Thank-you to everyone for putting their name down to help fill our Farm World Rubbish Collection roster. I am thrilled to say that our roster is now completely filled. At the start of next week I will be working on the Volunteer packs which will be ready to be collected at the office on Wednesday. Please ensure you come and get your pack so that you have your entry ticket along with all the information you will need for your shift.

WELCOME TO THE RESILIENCE PROJECT™

Families

Why wellbeing?

-  **1 in 4 primary students** experience high levels of depression or anxiety.¹
-  **1 in 3 secondary students** experience high levels of depression or anxiety.¹
-  **2 in 5 adults** experience a mental disorder in their lifetime.²


¹ State of the Nation Report 2024
² Australian Bureau of Statistics: National Study of Mental Health and Wellbeing, 2020-2022.

School wellbeing program

With staggering statistics among children, young people and adults in Australia, The Resilience Project is working to **drive change through a preventative approach by building a culture of wellbeing in schools.**


Based on the evidence-based principles of **Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness (GEM) and Emotional Literacy**, our program equips students with lifelong wellbeing habits and **empowers families to support wellbeing at home.**

The whole-school wellbeing program involves explicit teaching through our **evidence-based curriculum** alongside wellbeing habits being integrated in school routines.




Supporting wellbeing at home

We know that when schools, families and communities **speak the same language around mental health, our young people thrive.** Throughout the year, you'll receive resources to help you develop wellbeing and resilience at home.




Proven impact

Through multiple independent evaluations, students participating in our School Wellbeing Program have shown **measurable improvements** compared to students at schools that aren't involved.





Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to learn more.



The Imperfects podcast

On this podcast, founder of The Resilience Project **Hugh van Cuylenburg**, his good friend **Ryan Shelton**, and only one of their brothers, **Josh van Cuylenburg**, talk to a variety of interesting people who **vulnerably share their own struggles and imperfections, or expertly pass on their wisdom on the subject of imperfection.** Whether it's in The Vulnerabilitea House, The Academy of Imperfection, or with their resident psychologist, Dr Emily, The Imperfects are here to find some valuable takeaways we can all apply to our own imperfect lives.





theresilienceproject.com.au **THE RESILIENCE PROJECT.**

Our Values:

- **Inclusion:** *We promote an inclusive culture of kindness, care and respect of our people and place. (That's the Lardner Way)*
- **Environment and Sustainability:** *We work with the environment to create learning opportunities, while respecting the traditional land.*
- **A Culture of High Expectations:** *We have high expectations of ourselves and others and celebrate the personal journey of growth for all.*
- **Community Engagement:** *We build student, teacher, parent and community partnerships to enrich learning.*

Blue Room Literacy Update

In Blue Room, students have been learning about the **long vowel sound /e/**. We have been exploring how this sound can appear in different words and how it can be represented in a variety of ways when we read and write.

Students have been practising listening for the long /e/ sound in words such as *see, tree, eat, and beach*. Together we have sorted words, read stories, and played games to help us recognise when we hear the long /e/ sound.

During writing activities, students have been trying to include words with the long /e/ sound in their sentences. This helps them build confidence with spelling patterns such as **ee, ea, ey, ie** and **e** at the end of words.

It has been wonderful to see students becoming more confident readers and writers as they practise hearing, reading, and using the long /e/ sound in their everyday learning. Keep an eye out for these words when reading together at home!

IN THE PURPLE ROOM

NAPLAN Success

Our Year 3 and Year 5 students completed their **NAPLAN assessments** in Reading, Conventions of Language and Numeracy. We are incredibly proud of the calm and focused approach students demonstrated throughout the week.

A special mention to our Year 4 students, who worked extremely well while learning in the Blue Room during this time. They showed excellent independence, flexibility and positive behaviour—well done!



Literacy Learning

In Reading and Writing, students have been exploring *Voices in the Park*, working creatively to:

- Write their own "Fifth Voice" perspective
- Develop characters and connect them to the park setting
- Use imagination to show different viewpoints

In Grammar, students have been building their skills by:

- Identifying the subject/noun, verb and predicate (the part of a sentence or clause containing a verb and stating something about the subject) in sentences and writing compound sentences
- Upgrading action and speaking verbs to make writing more engaging

Spelling groups have focused on:

- Long vowel sounds (e.g. *li/* spelt with "y")
- Double letter patterns
- Homophones and near homophones

Mathematics Focus

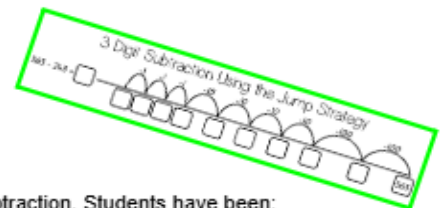
Our maths learning this week focused on Addition and Subtraction. Students have been:

- Using number lines to solve addition and subtraction problems
- Applying the compensation strategy to make calculations easier
- Practising subtraction using jump strategies
- Solving problems and explaining their thinking

Geography 🌍

Students in Year 3 and Year 4 explored natural resources through an African country study. They:

- Interpreted maps, graphs and visual information
- Created mind maps to organise their understanding
- Built knowledge about natural environments around the world



Performing Arts

In Performing Arts, we are thinking about all the things we might teach Hailie's unborn baby girl. (ES staff member in Purple Room). We might have to teach her about forks, volcanos, sandwiches, whales, Minecraft and socks.

We are exploring the big questions for this baby. For eg. How are we travelling around upside down on a big ball covered in dust, liquid and green stuff? Why do we have strange shaped animals like echidnas, giraffes and snails? What is the concept of time?

Like us, Hailie's baby will encounter many strange and wonderful things. She will also need to learn how to deal with life's tricky situations such as ice-cream falling to the ground.

We are using the books 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers, 'Welcome' by Mo Willems, 'All the Places You'll Go' by Dr Seuss and the 'Inside Out' films as inspiration for the creation of our end of year concert. We will also link in our learning from the Resilience Project and Sustainability.

As we explore all our crazy ideas we can't wait to show you all the special things we might need to teach Hailie's baby. We also might make some sort of sense out of our own special time here on earth with each other. How exciting!

Hailie's baby...We have so much to teach you!

Holly Hatch
Performing Arts

