From the Co-Principals ...

Over the last few years, we have been working with the School Board and relevant teaching staff to prepare for a redevelopment of our Kindergarten and Early Learning area.

We are delighted to inform our school community that council approval has been received, the plans have been finalised and tenders are being sought for the project! Hopefully, we will be on track for the redevelopment to commence at the start of next year and complete by Term 3.

Whilst this will involve some logistical difficulties in moving Early Learning and Kindergarten to upstairs in the multi-purpose hall and consequent relocation of classes, this will only be temporary and we will have a fabulous purpose-built facility at the end of it!

These plans will give you an idea of what to expect ...
“At the beginning...”

Kindergarten children have enjoyed regular visits to Launceston Gardens Retirement Village throughout this year. This week was our final visit for the 2018 Kinder group. The children performed a song in sign language taught to us by one of the residents, Angie. She came to school and taught us the song ready to perform to the other residents. The children also performed some dances they learnt last week as part of celebrating dance. The children danced the ‘Heel and Toe Polka’ and a ‘Square Dance’ and then some of the residents joined in with us. After delighting the residents with our entertainment, we enjoyed playing Christmas games together. We finished off our visit with everybody dancing the ‘Hokey Pokey’ together. These visits have been invaluable for both the children and the residents and we were all sad that this was our last visit together. We are thankful to the staff and residents at Launceston Gardens for participating in these activity sessions with us. They have been so much fun.

Miss Jacqui Wise.
Celebrating Hanukkah

The children have made some wonderful menorahs during their HASS lessons. We were lucky enough to view a real menorah on Friday afternoon and learn about some Jewish games and traditions. Thank you, Robin, for sharing your cultural background with us.

“In the middle …”

Socratic Seminar - Presents - should we stop giving them?

This week the group 2/3 children held a birthday party in the City Park for the main character in our novel, Pip. Pip’s 10th birthday was the worst day of her life so we decided to have a party for her. This got us thinking about the giving and receiving of gifts and how much “stuff” we all have. We listened to a Short and Curly podcast about this subject and discussed the following questions:

- On what occasions do you receive presents? Who do you get them from?
- Do you have books, toys, games and clothes that you no longer use or wear?
- What do you do with your unwanted items?
- Do you think you have too much “stuff”? Explain
- Is it time to re-think why we give and receive presents?
- What can we do differently?

Mrs Harriet Thyne

“Towards the end …”

Another star in the making!

Congratulations to Natalia Byrne who has been selected to represent Tasmania in the U/13 Girls State Cricket team! Natalia and her teammates will participate in the National Championships in Melbourne from 21st – 25th January, 2019. Natalia, a right-arm medium pace bowler who bats at #6, is passionate about her cricket. You may have noticed from previous newsletters that she harbours a dream to play for the Hurricanes! Who knows – perhaps she is a Southern Star in the making!
Celebrating our Leavers

Socratic Seminar - Armistice

In Philosophy this week we looked at the significance of the WWI armistice and why this event is now commemorated as Remembrance Day. Students were able to look at images taken in World War I and think about how it might have been to be there. Students found it interesting to discuss the feelings soldiers might have had being there and also what they might ask these men if they had the opportunity.

Do you think it was the right thing to do to change the name from Armistice Day to Remembrance Day? Why/Why not?
When should it be celebrated if not on this day?
How can we remember soldier every day and not just on specific days?
What challenges might soldiers and families have faced as the war ended?
What lasting impacts might there have been for soldiers?

Aspen Chugg
House: Esk

2018 Highlights
Camps
The CEO Sleepout
Being a Leaver

Best LPS memories
I loved Fridays in Kindergarten because it was only me, Jack Wright and Lavinia there.

Outside-school activities
I love listening to music and painting.

Ambitions
I want to be a musician or a farmer since I love music and animals

Ben Sharp
House: Esk

2018 Highlights
Mt Cameron camp
Woodfield camp
Being a Leaver

Best LPS memories
All the camps

Outside-school activities
I play cricket and soccer and enjoy drama with the Launceston Youth Theatre Ensemble (LYTE).
Are you looking for an instrumental teacher?

Our students here at The LPS are so keen to learn at school and to keep learning outside the classroom. You know the right instrument is out there for your child, but once you find it, how do you find the right person to teach your child to play? With the help of Barratts Music, I have compiled a list of teachers who specialise in flute, trumpet, clarinet, saxophone, voice, guitar, drums, piano, recorder, violin and cello. There are also some contact details for community organisations like bands and choirs. This list is available from the office via email.

Please note that I haven’t personally called every phone number to check that it is current and that the teacher is still teaching in the suburb listed, so if you find a number that doesn’t work, please let me know.

Mrs Angela Chapman

Farewell and thank you, Mrs Livingston!

Mrs Livingston has been a teacher aide at our school this year, working with the senior students in literacy and numeracy support, and with the 7-9-year-olds in Digital Technologies. Unfortunately, Mrs Livingston will soon be moving interstate and so we take this opportunity to say farewell and to thank her for the wonderful contribution she has made to the happiness and success of our students. Mrs Livingston will be greatly missed and impossible to replace! We wish her all the best for the future.

### IMPORTANT DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 7th December</td>
<td>9.15-10.30am Early Learning Orientation session for 2019 Early Learning families</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 11th December</td>
<td>‘Jump Up Day’</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 11th December</td>
<td>‘Prep Preview’ 2.45-3.30pm lunch steps</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 11th December</td>
<td>Parents’ Club meeting, 7:30pm (Harriet Thyne’s room)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 14th December</td>
<td>School Picnic 6-8pm, Croquet Lawn (including raffle draw!)</td>
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<td>Monday, 17th December</td>
<td>Reports are distributed to the children at the end of the day</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 18th December</td>
<td>Grand Final of the Socrates Shield debating competition, 11.45am – 12.30pm (MPH). Everyone is welcome to attend.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 19th December</td>
<td>All school families are invited to assembly for the Leavers’ drama performance and other items, 12:45pm – 1.30pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 19th December</td>
<td>Leavers’ dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 20th December</td>
<td>Leavers’ assembly, 1:45pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 20th December</td>
<td>Final day of Term 4 for students and staff.</td>
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The Parents’ Club Christmas Raffle

The LPS Parents’ Club is holding the traditional Christmas raffle again this year, to be drawn at the School Christmas Picnic on Friday, 14th December! Tickets have been sent home with each child, but there are more available from the office if you need them.

A book of 10 raffle tickets = $10

The LPS Parents’ Club would appreciate any prize donations for the raffle. Whether this be edible items, festive accessories, toys, gifts etc. - all will be gratefully received so that we can make up some lovely Christmas prize hampers. Donations can be dropped off at the school office.

Thank you, from The Parents’ Club

For girls’ culottes, blouses and pinafores, please contact Kathy Mayne
(50 Landsborough Avenue, Newstead 7250)
(Please note: Kathy will be closed between 19/12/18 and 15/1/19)

LAUNCESTON YOUTH THEATRE ENSEMBLE
2019 ENROLMENTS OPEN

Have you always wanted to try an acting or drama class? Would you like to perform on the stage? Do you want to meet wonderful new people, have fun and develop your confidence?

Enrolments are open for our 2019 ensemble, for young people from grades Prep-12.

Participating in theatre builds young people’s courage and confidence, and develops their imagination, creative thinking, mindfulness, communication and social skills. At LYTE, you receive excellent acting training, great insight into theatre craft and professional practice, and participate in exciting theatre workshops and productions. And you’ll make some amazing new friends!

We’d love to have the opportunity to welcome you to Launceston Youth Theatre Ensemble.

Contact:
Jane Johnson
E: janejohnson@gmail.com
P: 0402634820
FB: Launceston Youth Theatre Ensemble
Technology holiday guide for parents

by Martine Oglethorpe

As holidays approach, the role that screens and devices will play becomes an increasing concern for parents. Days when kids are usually tied up with school and activities make way for many an idle hour and, as such, parents fear those hours will be spent largely engaged with a screen or gaming console. While there is certainly no harm in some well-balanced screen time and developmentally appropriate online activities, we must remember that, as parents, we have an important role in helping our kids manage and balance that screen time. Here are a few things we can do:

Understand the battle
It is important parents know the beast they are dealing with. It is easy to shout from another room to get off a screen or whinge to our friends that ‘kids of today’ are all addicted to their phones, but we need to recognise the pull that many of these devices have. The social networks are designed to keep us liking, commenting and sharing. The games cajole us into having ‘just one more’ turn at being the last man standing. These technologies tempt us to reach just one more level, or to scroll for just a few minutes more. Our brains experience a dopamine release and a sense of Insufficiency when we use a device. There is always something else to do or something else to scroll through, or one more YouTube video to watch. So our kids are up against it when trying to control their time on a device. We need to help them with that.

Get outside
We can complain that kids never go outside and play anymore, but sometimes we have to physically get out there with them or offer opportunities in which being outside and active play are appealing. We have to work a little harder at this today because we are competing with a device that answers many of our kids’ perceived needs. We need them to know that their needs are greater and more varied than what their screens can offer.

Have some rules
Despite their apparent dislike of rules around technology, kids will (one day) appreciate having boundaries to help them manage their screen time. Rules can be established regarding time limits, devices in bedrooms, device-free meal times, etc. Whatever you decide is important, be sure that you have those discussions with your kids. And any discussion around rules or consequences should happen away from the screens so they are clear on the expectations. (Talking about their screen-time habits while they are just about to be the last man standing on Fortnite is probably not going to make for engaging conversation.)

One console on one television outside the bedroom
Having only one television that is connected to a gaming console or to Netflix is a good way of ensuring that the
In past years, families have been very generous with giving gifts to “the school” rather than individual teachers at Christmas time, as the children interact with several teachers during the day. Please do not feel obliged to do so, but any gifts can be left under the Christmas tree which will soon be set up in the vestibule at 119 Elphin Road. A child’s card or letter would also be a lovely acknowledgement of another special year together.

Any special gifts from under the tree will be shared with the school community at assembly on Wednesday, 19th December.