

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

LAURIMAR PRIMARY SCHOOL



School No: 5497

School Principal:

Jason McBean

School Council President:

Adam Clarke

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

2017 marked our 9th year in Education allowing our school to continue to build and consolidate on the success, academic and personal growth for each and every student at Laurimar Primary School. Our goal to provide rich educational achievement and opportunities for each child was a major focus. The year was highlighted by the multitude of educational opportunities provided to our highly engaged students. Teaching and learning with a focus on our strong literacy and numeracy programs continued to be a feature, Allowing the time and space for our teachers to deliver high quality content around CAFÉ Reading Strategies, our VOICES Writing program which was introduced as a result of targeted and specific professional development initiatives. The Big Ideas In Mathematics in our Numeracy Program continued to develop knowledge, consistency and understanding across the school

We have continued to deliver and enhance engaging educational programs that respond to the directions of the Department of Education and Training (DET) under the Framework for Improving Student Outcomes. New Initiatives under the Education State such as the Literacy and Numeracy strategy have been implemented where our school's focus on Building Practice Excellence and Empowering Students to Build School Pride were made a priority. In 2017, the first year of our 4-year Strategic Plan, we also drew upon strategies that foster connectedness between our school and each family with a strong emphasis on building relationships between staff, students and families.

As a school we continued to build upon our strong 'Learning Architecture' and continue to reflect and evaluate its effectiveness in the classroom. Through all learning programs, the 10 hours of literacy (RAW Program and VOICES writing) and 5 hours of numeracy each week build proficiency across these areas. Throughout the 2017 school year, we aimed to once again embed our stance in the Doreen and wider community as a Dynamic Educational Institution that creates a strong academic language when it comes to our learning and provide excellence in Primary Education to ALL students and families.

Our school curriculum and opportunities provided through the year has been diverse and extensive. Our strong teaching and learning leader culture allowed for 5 lead teachers (teaching and learning leaders) to coach, model, reflect, inspire and support teachers in being able to focus on their classroom practice and delivering consistency for students. To complement effective teaching, we were also able to offer our strong Clubs program initiative, Energy Breakthrough Program in Maryborough in the Human Powered Vehicle Event, Whole School Production over 3 nights, Diverse Arts program, Physical and Sport Education program, Chinese Mandarin program encompassing our China Exchange Trip and a focussed and strong Social and Emotional Learning program. All programs and teacher delivery within them aim to inspire through a multitude of engaging activities and strategies. In 2017, we certainly were able to cater for and provide the maximum learning opportunities and broad range of extra-curricular activities available for all our students.

There were many wonderful highlights throughout the 2017 school year and many of these I have detailed further in this report.

The successes achieved during the 2017 school year was once again attributed to the large team of hard working professional teaching staff whom work tirelessly to engage, teach, motivate and inspire their students during each available session every day. At LPS, our staff adopt the attitude of 'Every Minute Counts' and 'It's not OK to be away' is modelled and encouraged to all students. Our teachers aim to make a positive difference and add value to every student in their care, which is a unique feature of our school culture. As a school, we will always work hard to maintain this aspect by employing the best possible teachers through a rigorous recruiting process for each position made available. In 2017, we were able to create within our workforce, an excellent blend of dedicated staff possessing a strong work ethic and commitment to the teaching profession and indeed to our school. I would personally like to congratulate all members of our leadership team in 2017 who are committed to reaching our overarching school goals and Key Improvement Areas. They work tirelessly providing fantastic support, professionalism, direction, reflection and advice along the way and is greatly appreciated and valued. Many thanks in particular to my Assistant Principals Mrs Deb Purser, Mr David Williams and Ms Justine Convery(Term 4) for their amazing work ethic, support, advice and professionalism each and every day. 2017 once again had solid consistency within the leadership team at

Laurimar as each member continues to hone and build their individual leadership capacity and experience. All members combined as a team to set a clear direction for our school throughout 2017.

To my team of outstanding office administrators, Christine, Sam, Joyce, Sue, Caroline and Jess. We couldn't possibly ask for a more caring, professional, dedicated, thorough and hardworking team where you all strive hard to get through each busy day in the office area. Your calmness, welcoming nature, poise and dedication is a great credit to you all. Thank you for your high level of care and work for all school community stakeholders and in particular to our students every day.

I would also like to thank all Professional Learning Team Curriculum and Operations and Welfare Leaders for their hard work, drive, energy, support and contributions within their teams and across the school throughout the year. Personally, I would like to say a huge thank you to all teaching staff who make it happen in their classrooms every day. You are all simply amazing! You set the tone and goals for your students and strive for continuous improvement in each session. I would like to particularly note the hard work, focus and high impact from educational support staff on their excellent work, dedication, their passion for children and education, high-level energy and commitment throughout the 2017 school year to achieve the success that we had. It certainly is a large team effort at LPS and takes the entire school to educate and support each child.

During 2017, there were once again so many areas and examples of where our committed and supportive parent body within our school community were involved with their positive impact. Without this support, we would not be in a position to provide our students with the large range of stimulating experiences and vast educational opportunities that were a feature throughout the year. The large amount of excursions, incursions, camps, committees, sub committees, whole school celebrations and sporting events could not be possible without the generous volunteer support from our parents and helpers. Thank you also to the large number of parents who assisted the teachers in a variety of ways such as at school working bees, Town Fair Committee and classroom roster support, Parent Helpers within the classroom to help improve the learning outcomes for our students, social events or fundraisers. The support and continued investment from you all is much appreciated by the entire school community at Laurimar. Thank-You!

I wanted to take the opportunity to acknowledge our professional and hardworking Business Manager, Christine Kalogirou. The scope and importance of your work is enormous as you continue to be across so many areas within our school and are simply 'There' for everyone as you 'Choose Your Attitude' epitomising our Fish Philosophy once again in 2017. Chris is such a huge asset to Laurimar Primary School and always completes her tasks with a beautiful smile and the most upbeat nature and attitude. I cannot begin to thank Chris enough for her ongoing support and advice in which she provides to all of us on a daily basis.

The unheralded support from all teachers, parents and students underpins our school logo which is about 'Partnerships' between our students, staff, parents and the broader community to improve student outcomes. Partnerships - Learning - Success! Congratulations on a fine team effort everyone in 2017!

A major highlight of the 2017 school year is the continued success and culture of our sustainable transport program. This has been a large component of our school culture since opening our doors at Laurimar in 2009. We were able to complete our 36th whole school Ride to School day and 36th Walk to School day which helps to reinforce this unique aspect of LPS. In particular, I would like to thank Sustainable Transport ambassador Matt K, our parents who help to drive and embed the culture and all staff who get behind this program. The commitment from staff to help drive and ensure our sustainable transport culture was an outstanding success at Laurimar in 2017 and we hope to continue for many years to come. Congratulations to all on continuing to reinforce strong safety messages for our students and community and set the positive narrative around correct etiquette.

A big thanks to our second hand uniform leaders who once again kindly provided this service each Monday after assembly and Tuesday afternoons by our dedicated volunteers in Di Bailey, Amanda Moad and Yvette Mac. We thank them for their enormous work, time, organisation, contributions and involvement in providing this important service for the benefit of our students and supporting our families.

Congratulations to our brilliant canteen manager Julie Hazelden and her dedicated band of workers in Jacinda and Lois for their canteen success in 2017. The wonderful work of our grade 6 volunteers is greatly appreciated and acknowledged as they demonstrate their community service skills. This service afforded to our parents, students and staff is of high quality, variety and choice for our students and staff. The professionalism and attitude from the team is a highlight of our school. Julie's dedication and support of numerous morning tea's right throughout the year demonstrates her whole school commitment and her work to provide this variety and service is simply amazing.. Well done to all on a successful 2017 year in our fabulous canteen where you continue to make so many students happy on a daily basis..

In 2017, we continued the great work in our ever-popular OSHC service led by our amazing program leader, Emma Renn and her dedicated program assistants Julie Bamford, Clint Cotter, Shannon Grech and Rowena Pearson along with their broader team of accredited workers. They have formed a dynamic and professional team who generate a homely feel for all students as they continue to benefit from the program. Having a dynamic Before and After Care Service coupled with the ever-popular Vacation Care through the holidays has our program at the forefront and highly sort after for families in our local area. Congratulations to Emma, her entire team, Amanda Moad (OSHC program committee convenor) and her broader team on the enormous success of the year in the OSHC program. We look forward to more innovation and creative ideas through 2018's program.

All things technology and our student 1-1 iPad program continue to be supported by our wonderful technicians John Gerrard and Adrian Szekeres. Once again, their high-level technical expertise, professionalism, knowledge and hard work ensure things are running effectively and smoothly for all staff and students across the school with all things technological. Their ability to support our whole school and large community events such as Anzac Day, Town Fair, Remembrance Day and assemblies is a reflection of their dedication to our school. The boys out of their 'Bat Cave' always complete jobs with a smile and magnificent attitude.

Our grounds and facilities were once again kept in tip top shape under the guide of Mr Bill Chapman. In what is a large portfolio in the school, Bill was able to target areas of need and manage this large job on his own and was once again able to achieve success with all things grounds and facilities and assist in providing a safe environment for all. Many thanks to Bill for his drive, commitment and passion around the school. Certainly a very large job.

Our fundraising efforts throughout 2017 were once again outstanding. I sincerely thank all parents, staff and students in ensuring the fundraising efforts were productive as we target different areas around the school to support our students. Funds raised have been committed to roll out more secure fences and gates around the school. The efforts were reflected in the success of the many fundraisers conducted throughout the year. The 2017 Twilight Town Fair was the 7th event run of this kind and was another huge success for the school and the wider community. Funds raised from the past couple of Town Fairs have gone towards the cover way which was 100% funded by our community. Special thanks to the inspiring and dedicated Town Fair Committee led by Mrs Hannah Bloomfield for making this the continued success for families and overseeing our biggest fundraiser of the year. Michelle Cosgrove and her band of helpers for the huge chocolate fundraiser. Michelle was instrumental in overseeing this committee. To Sarah Walsh, Des Chapman and the Physical Education team for running the successful Walkathon and creating a great atmosphere for our students. We thank all parents for their time and energy to successfully complete the numerous tasks that were planned for 2017 fundraising around the school. We look forward with renewed enthusiasm to the 2018 Fundraising calendar as we continue to prioritise targeted areas around our grounds to further benefit and support our students in their educational setting.

Once again, I would like to congratulate our dedicated School Council team on a wonderful year and one that has contributed significantly to the continued growth and improvement of our students and their learning as we proceed towards our 10th year of operation in 2018. To Adam Clarke and his role as President, thank you for your work, ideas, support, passion and leadership role within our school council. To our hard working and dedicated school council members, LPS cannot thank you enough for your time, dedication to our students,

innovative ideas, passion and energy in this important area of the school operations which is greatly valued by all at our school.

I would like to thank School Council co-opted community member, Bridgid Keele (City of Whittlesea) for her continued investment and support of Laurimar Primary School and our community. Bridgid's knowledge and advice at the school council level is something that we are very grateful for as a community and she brings ideas from the broader municipality to benefit us here at Laurimar Primary School. To all school council members, you belong to a significant and special group of people in our school community who contribute and volunteer their time to make a significant difference to the lives of our students, staff and families here at our school. On behalf of all school community members, thank you all for your enormous support and contribution to our school community throughout 2017 and I look forward to working with you all once again in the coming years.

My thanks are also extended to School Council staff representatives, Assistant Principals, David Williams, Deborah Purser and Justine Convery, Stephanie Pearce, Kathy Plant (On stand by for) and Sam Mercuri for their important contributions in 2017.

Having completed my 4th full year as Principal of this brilliant school, I am once again extremely grateful, humbled, mightily proud, privileged and honoured to be the leader of such a dynamic institution with an outstanding reputation for providing rich educational opportunities for students. I look forward to our progression in growth, consistency and continued academic achievement through improvement, strong focus and strength in 2018!

Finally, congratulations to our wonderful students, staff, parents and key stakeholders from our wider community involved for their support, love and care of our school, hard work and dedication in our 9th year of operation at Laurimar Primary School. You should all be very proud of your contributions, vision and hard work throughout the year to contribute to the success for our students.

We look forward with anticipation, hope, optimism and excitement to the 2018 school year that awaits us and once again having the privilege to work with 1000 plus students with great excitement and enthusiasm for success.

Best Wishes,

**Jason McBean
Principal**

Learning - Partnerships - Success





Our HIGHLIGHTS and ACHIEVEMENTS for 2017 School Year

The following list represents some of the fulfilling achievements and opportunities for students and staff that come to mind when we look back on the success of the 2017 school year at Laurimar Primary School. We can recall many of the engaging activities provided by our entire staff throughout the school during our 9th year of education.

Years leading up to the 2017 school year

Construction of the new school commenced back in 2008, when the Minister of Education, Bronwyn Pike turned the first sod of soil on May 22nd. Construction of the school was of a very rapid pace. Fortnightly meetings were held with the builder (WP Contractors) and architect (Minx) to ensure progress was on track. Many parents were of the opinion that the school would not be completed for the start of the school year. There was a huge final push by the original staff to have classrooms ready for the students for day 1 of the 2009 school year. We opened the school for students and parents the Sunday prior to the start of the school year with 8 teachers and 113 students. Now in our 9th year, our amazing school commenced the 2017 year with 1048 energetic students all eager to learn and take all opportunities before them.

Student Enrolment

Census day, 28th February, 2017 recorded student enrolments at 1048.4 students across 46 classrooms (decrease of 2 classes from 2016) There has been a general slowing of enrolments throughout the year as we witnessed a more transient population of students in and out and the first year of a number of new schools in the area! Prep enrolments remained high from 151 in 2016 to 141 in 2017 which is testament to our enrolment officer, prep team leader and prep team. Well done to all for the work invested into K-P transitions.

2017 Staffing

Indeed, a highlight of the school year is the commitment and dedication to all students from our entire staff! We produced a stable 2017 workforce to cover all program planning across the school and various programs that we offer. Congratulations to all 2017 staff for your continued hard work and efforts and your professionalism in engaging and inspiring our 1048 students. A fantastic team effort in our 9th year with well over 100 teaching and education support staff in our educational institution. To each and every one of you, congratulations on a big team effort and your amazing attitude and approach to this deep and complex work. The commitment and dedication shown by all staff to commence another year at LPS was clearly evident across all levels during our initial start up program to commence the 2017 year. Feedback from parents throughout the year was extremely positive and there was a level of appreciation in all your work to teach, inspire, grow, develop and care for our students. There were a number of departures due to maternity leave with staff either starting or growing their families and opportunities at other schools and the recruiting at the end of the 2017 school year allows for us to be very excited for the 2018 school year. The most important resource and asset at any school is the staff and in ours, I am truly grateful and proud of. I very much look forward to leading and working with this group of amazing professionals once again in 2018 and we all strive forward to further improve our student learning outcomes and take Laurimar PS from good to great.

Organisation / Class Sizes

Our 2017 workforce plan composition comprised the following;

46 classes at Laurimar Primary School. The following education setting was arranged accordingly;

Prep x 7, Grade 1 x 7, Grade 2 x 7, Grade 3 x 7, Grade 4 x 6, Grade 5 x 6 and Grade 6 x 6.

Class sizes were well below the state average again this year with Prep to 2 averages of 20.5 students or less and Gr.3 to 6 average of 24 students. An overall class size average across our entire school of 23.0. These figures represent excellent averages across the school and are well under the current Departmental benchmarks and expectations across the state allowing for maximum student learning for each individual.



Education Week

One of the most important events on the State Education Calendar was celebrated once again in May and provides an excellent opportunity for the school to showcase the collective talents of both students and staff of Laurimar Primary School. Many thanks to Steph Pearce for the innovative and exciting amazing Race Theme of our Open Evening.

We are extremely proud of our school and view this as an important way to showcase our great school to the wider community. There was once again an excellent response to the 2017 Grandparents Day (2500 plus grandparents) as always and is an embedded part of our school culture and history.

The open day program allowed for many parents to walk through our classrooms which were on display and see their children and teachers in action. We had a fantastic turnout on these events for Education week and many prospective parents visiting throughout. Another huge success for Laurimar Primary School in 2017.

Camping Program

Our 2017 camping program was once again another huge highlight of the year without a glitch and comprised the Grade 1 Dinner and Disco, Grade 2 Sleepover, Year 3 Camp to Billabong Ranch in **Echuca**, Year 4 Camp to **Phillip Island** Adventure Resort, Year 5 Camp to **Warrnambool (second time)** and finally our Year 6 Camp to **Anglesea** Recreation Camp. A special thank-you to all staff and parents for making our camping program possible and the success that it was in 2017. The increase in student's confidence and their ability to give things a go is clear evidence of the impact and their sense of independence development.

I am sure all parents and staff would agree, it is certainly a thorough and unique camping experience that we offer our students here at Laurimar Primary School!

Out School Hours Care/ Vacation Program

Many thanks once again to our OSHC Program Leader, Emma Renn, fellow leaders Clint Cotter, Julie Bamford, Shannon Grech and Rowena Manser and her outstanding leadership and innovation of staff for an incredible year of growth in our Mod 9 building. 2017 also had the success of another successful year of opportunity for our Vacation Care/ Holiday Program which has been very popular and moves from strength to strength during each holiday break. The continued success of the program provides Emma and the team the impetus and the strength to strive for applying for 'Excellence' – ACECQA' in all areas under the accreditation framework. A feat in which only one school in Australia has achieved. Our School Council oversee the general operation of our unique OSHC program and generously supports the many school community initiatives including community garden, War Memorial, basketball goals, Welfare Program, security fences and gates and assisted the construction of the cover-way. We wish Emma and her dedicated, caring and professional staff the best of luck on obtaining their goals and efforts through 2017 and beyond. A sensational team and cultural effort of success at our school.

Literacy / Numeracy Program

The strong teaching of Literacy and Numeracy is the foundation of our curriculum and is at the core of our business of what we do here at Laurimar Primary School. The staff are to be commended on their ability to provide all students with such a high quality Literacy and Numeracy curriculum, practice innovation and teach with engaging learning tasks all year. 2017 Naplan Data produced another positive result in year 3 and 5 and continues to head in the right direction. This facet of the school is something we should all be very proud of. The results have our Year 3 cohort at or above state benchmarks across all areas with some improvement in year 5 and the learning gain from year 3 to 5. Our 1-1 iPad program from Years 1-6 provides an additional tool and resource and takes the student learning to a higher level sparking curiosity amongst all children, providing engagement to support learning. We have maintained a relentless commitment of 10 hours of literacy and 5 hours of numeracy every week and this is non-negotiable throughout the entire school. Some very exciting initiatives were achieved in 2017 particularly with VOICES writing and the consolidation across the school with the Café' approach where we were able to adopt the services of experienced educational consultant Lynn Watts for literacy and Rob Vingerhoets for numeracy. All students look forward to engaging in our Laurimar RAW (Reading and Writing) program each day. All staff are committed and dedicated to their continuous learning and improvement ensuring we constantly measure and monitor the improvement of student learning outcomes across the school.



Parent Helper Classes

Once again, to train, skill up and educate our parent community, Robyn Greenwood and Deb Purser facilitated our Parent Helper classes throughout the 2017 school year. These sessions were well attended and allows for parent helpers to support our teachers and students within the classroom program. Parents are required to attend these sessions and sign confidentiality agreements when wanting to participate in the classroom. We are fortunate to have Robyn and Deb's experience and expertise in our school to run these excellent programs' for our parent community in a bid to help improve student learning outcomes and our school greatly appreciates their support.

Energy Breakthrough Experience

Once again, an amazing opportunity was provided for our Year 5/6 students in the form of our EB program as part of the 2017 RACV Energy Breakthrough up at Maryborough in November. Forty-one lucky participants had been preparing strategically since June and had a memorable 4-day experience at this unique event. Now in its 5th year for our school, 3 teams, The Dragons, Phoenix and Gryphons performed admirably and made our school very proud by giving it their all during the 14-hour endurance event often battling some unfortunate luck in racing but were forever resilient in their ability to overcome roll overs, crashes, heat and mechanical issues. Once again, we are very lucky to be able to provide an opportunity of this magnitude to our students. This is all made possible due to the incredible drive, commitment and passion from Mr. Rhett McDonald, ably assisted by Mrs Mel Gibson, Deb Purser, Tracy Sims and their support crew of passionate and hardworking teachers and parents. A special mention to Craig Plant, Steve Howe and Glen Dane for providing the mechanical and engineering expertise to allow for our vehicles to be so proficient during the event. It was also uplifting to see former participants in Nicholas, Caleb, Zane and Hayden. Congratulations to all EB team members involved in the 2017 event and for being such wonderful participants. Our students are very fortunate to have this opportunity in our school and I am sure the next wave of lucky students await the 2018 version to create their own piece of history!

Clubs Program

One of the great program's and opportunities once again on offer to our students in 2016 was in the form of our 'Clubs' program where we offer students some 12 structured opportunities to join a club that they demonstrate a level of interest or a passion in.

The range and diverse engaging Clubs on offer is a credit to the staff who lead these and our students who take up the opportunity. I would like to thank all staff who volunteered their time at lunchtimes to give our students these fantastic opportunities and help add to the great culture of Laurimar Primary School.

VIP Club

In 2017, our second year of the popular VIP Club was conducted and is specifically designed to meet the needs of those students who find the playground and school yard overwhelming at times. This program was supported by teaching staff and education support staff and provided up to 50 students the opportunity to participate in games, craft, sensory activities and structured social interaction to ensure success during lunchtimes for each individual. Many thanks to Elley Heyer for her continued drive of this integral program.

2017 Chinese/ Mandarin program

2017 was very busy year in learning Mandarin at Laurimar. We welcomed our Assistant Chinese Teacher Ms Lei to join Chinese team on February. Ms Lei delivered Chinese cultural and language program to younger students with support from classroom teachers. Prep to Year 2 students learned vocabulary and practised to introduce themselves in Chinese.

Ms Chao run a Chinese cultural club on Wednesday and many students from Year 3 and 4 had lots of fun there. They learned traditional Chinese fan dance and ribbon dance and were very proud to perform it on Grandparents day. Year 3 and 4 students enjoyed learning some scientific content in Chinese and was able to label parts of fruits and vegetable in target language.

Ms Luo and Ms Chao had planned fun activities for Year 5 and 6 to engage them in using Chinese in their daily life. Students are encouraged to compare languages (Chinese with English) and cultural differences. We had fourteen lucky students in Year 5 and 6 went China with wonderful Mrs Purser and Mrs Bloomfield on



Term three. They spent two weeks in Nanjing to learn Mandarin and experience Chinese cultural on first hand.

Laurimar primary school was very proud to host temporary international students from China in 2017 and they are supported in whole school community. They participated in daily learning routines with their Australian classmates and they also had chance to share their Chinese knowledge with our students

Year 5/6 China Trip

The highlight for 14 year 5/6 students was their incredible journey to China in 2017. Since 2014, we have made the annual Pilgrimage and commitment to Engaging Asia and building strong and authentic relations with our Asian Neighbors. An opportunity presented once again through our connection with the Victorian Principal's Association to travel with a party of 50 other teachers and students from 5 schools across Victoria to Nanjing in the Jiangsu Province of China. 12 lucky students from LPS attended 10 memorable days of schooling at Jinling Primary (population of over 3000 students over 2 campuses). Our year 5/6 adventurers once again made our school extremely proud through the many rich, culturally diverse and engaging activities that they were immersed in. Many thanks to Mrs Deb Purser and Mrs Hannah Bloomfield for their incredible high level of hard work, organization, leadership support and care that they provided our students for the 14 days away from their precious families. They both demonstrate a high level of experience and care in order for our school to be able to successfully achieve our goals when it comes to this program.

Thanks to School Council for continuing to support the vision of our Chinese Program in the school and consolidating an amazing opportunity for our students and staff. As part of our strong sister school partnership, Laurimar Primary School had the opportunity to host many Chinese students throughout the year. This enables us to fortify our partnership with China in our educational and hope that this continues for many years to come.

In 2017, we were able to continue our consolidation of the Chinese Teacher Assistant Program (TAP) for Prep-2. Students were immersed in a weekly, 30-minute language program and is a wonderful grounding for when they enter the Year 3-6 Chinese/ Mandarin program.

Grade Six Graduation

Our school was able to celebrate our Grade 6 Graduation for the first time at the magnificent Bendigo Bank Community Stadium in Diamond Creek. Congratulations to all involved in this memorable occasion for our graduating students and their families. Mrs Kathy Plant, Mrs Tanya Kirkright and Mr Brett Hayes for your brilliant planning, organisation, new ideas and hard work in making this venue work. To classroom teachers Emma Sampson, Adam Bodnarchuk, Robyn Greenwood, Kara Jackson and Dani Angeli, well done to you all in helping to shape this into a truly memorable evening for the near 900 plus people in attendance. This was one of those nights where you can't help but feel genuine pride and great affirmation that this school has been an incredible learning experience filled with many poignant learning opportunities for these graduating students over their previous 7 years. We wish each and every graduate every success as they surge through their secondary experience and trust that the education at Laurimar Primary has prepared them sufficiently well for this and their futures. Congratulations to all involved!

Facilities

Throughout the year, we continued to look at further strengthening and improving our facilities for staff and students. Grounds and facilities meetings are conducted through school council level and decisions are made regarding maintenance or introduction of new facilities or playgrounds within to our school. As a school we take great pride in the spaces available in our school and will constantly look to improve in 2018 and beyond.

Just Keep Swimming Whole School Production

One of the more enormous events every second year in our school is that of our whole school production. 2017 was no exception where our highly skilled and committed arts team when about meticulously planning and preparing at the end of 2016 for this 3 Night Spectacular. All students in our school performed on stage and is an incredibly proud evening for all involved. To Mrs Jayde Keenan, Mrs Gemma Phillips, Mrs Laura Warry and Mrs Emily Bullen, what a spectacular performance that you were able to achieve and one that the entire community should be immensely proud of. We look forward to the 2019 event. Congratulations to all involved.



The Arts @ Laurimar in 2017

2017 was a busy and successful year in The Arts with further implementation of the Musical Futures program and the introduction of Process Art. The whole school production 'Just Keep Swimming' highlighted many different talents of our wonderful students including: djembe drumming, singing, dancing and piano and brings great levels of confidence in our students. The overall performance was well received and enjoyed by entire whole community over three magical nights.

Congratulations to Arts Leader Jayde Keenan and her dedicated team of Laura Warry, Gemma Phillips, Melody Grose and Emily Bullen for their inspiring work taking place through the arts and in particular for the hard work behind the scenes for our impressive production at Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre. We look forward to an even bigger year in the Arts in 2018.

Health, Physical and Sport Education

2017 was an outstanding and very busy year for Physical Education and Sport. With the departure of Sarah Fennell and Rachel Attard on maternity leave we had the delightful addition of Karly Coburn. Karly brought expertise, professionalism and a wealth of knowledge to our team.

The beginning of the year saw us take on District swimming, with 50 students representing us and a further 4 going onto Division. Kiara Keenan & James Sadler representing Laurimar at the Northern Metropolitan Finals.

We started the year off strongly with over 60 students representing Laurimar Primary School at District Cross Country. We had a large number progress through to Division and 5 onto Regional Finals. Laila Cooke continued on to represent the Northern Metropolitan Region and LPS at the State Cross Country held at Bundoora park. Laila did us and herself so proud with a gallant performance in the wet conditions. Year 3 and 4 students are introduced to our sports program, with Year 3 students competing in their classes to become familiar with the process.

The Year 4 students are placed in teams and compete against one another each week with a ladder system and fixture being introduced.

The Prep students at LPS are very lucky to participate in our PMP (Perceptual Motor Program) as very few schools run these programs. The PMP program concentrates on gross motor skills, perceptual motor skills, such as balancing and integrates literacy and numeracy aligned with the Prep curriculum.

We had our most successful year to date in Inter School Sports in 2017. The Boys Softball and Girls Volleyball teams both progressed to Regional finals. Tanya Kirkrights' Softball team narrowly missing out on making it through to the State finals, while Bec Burke's Volleyball team were out classed by some very dominant volleyball schools.

Athletics was again another success with more than 60 students competing at District and 30 going through to Division finals. Our 9/10 year old boys and girls 4X100m Relay teams competed at the Victorian State Championships again in very trying weather and all showed grit and determination well above their age! Tess Gillson and Zayne Adams both competed in Shot put and Discus respectively, with Laila Cooke progressing but being unable to compete due to travelling to China through our exchange program.

Karly Coburn coached our Hockey 7's Boys teams all the way through to winning the State Championships in late 2017. An outstanding effort with many hours put in outside of school by Karly to ensure our students success.

2017 culminated with our swimming trials for our 2018 team to allow students time over the holidays to put in their own training and the always successful Walkathon.

The dedication and work ethic demonstrated by leader Sarah Coloe, Des Chapman, Sarah Fennell and Carly Coburn is second to none. They are all wonderful role models when it comes to inspiring our students from Prep-6 and we look forward to building upon all the hard work in 2018.

Tournament of the Minds

In August 2017, Mrs Krieger and Mrs Anna Phillips accompanied 3 teams from Grade 5-6 to the Tournament of the Minds contest held at Latrobe University in Bundoora. These teams competed in a long term language and literature challenge, a mathematics and science challenge and a social challenge on the day. Student teamwork, problem solving skills, initiative, leadership, communication and performance presentation skills



were demonstrated through this program. Our teams performed remarkably well in the middle to high section of the Tournament on the day and made our school very proud. Congratulations to all team members, staff and parents for the success of the program.

Breakfast with the Stars

The Ladies Golf Club at Yarrambat Park Golf Course are to be once again congratulated for supporting a brilliant initiative by Michael Cosgrave, Our Breakfast with the Stars program that supports children that have been suffering in one way or another. This powerful welfare program has been hugely popular and Michael and the team of helpers at each breakfast has been inspirational. These breakfasts are great morale boosting for students and the staff involved. On behalf of the community, I would like to thank Michael and our staff for giving their time at each of these 'Brekks' and in particular to the Ladies at Yarrambat Park Golf Club for providing the financial support required to run such a program. We look forward to increasing this important program in 2018.

2017 Cultural Day

Indonesian, Chinese and African cultures were all celebrated along with all 43 cultures within our school on Cultural Day. Students were immersed in cultural activities within the classroom and had the opportunity to see 3 special performance/ cultural dances and music under the assembly coverway. This is always one of the great highlights of the year showing a high level of respect to all cultures and celebrating the uniqueness of cultural diversity within our school and across Melbourne. A big thank you to our cultural committee led by Stephanie Pearce and Lily Luo for their vision, planning and organisation for the day.

Community Safety Day: 'Day for Daniel'

Now its 3rd year, our 'Day for Daniel' Community Safety Day was another huge success in terms of awareness around keeping our students safe in their school and surrounding community. Many guest speakers and activities were planned and run throughout the day and the awareness and appreciation of our Daniel Morcombe Garden continues to grow. Many thanks to Anna Phillips for leading the organising committee and to Anthony Maguire for his vision and drive to promote this important event. In 2017, we also made a stand as a White Ribbon Ambassador School where we do not tolerate domestic Violence at any level Against Women and Children. We would like to be a lighthouse school in the future in this important space. Thanks to everyone for their support and drive of these initiatives.

2017 Mathematics Olympiad

Enriching our student learning is a large feature within our school. Congratulations to the 25 students who competed in the 2017 Mathematics Olympiad in 2017. Once again our school produced some fantastic results through the Olympiad and we are proud of all your efforts. This aspect of learning and academic performance means so much to some students and we are thrilled with your effort and commitment to the program. Many thanks to Heidi Krieger for overseeing the program and rich educational opportunity for our students.

2017 Anzac Day Dawn Service

On Tuesday 25th April, we conducted the 3rd year of an RSL endorsed Dawn Service at our beautiful Cenotaph to mark the 102nd anniversary of the Gallipoli Landings. The focus also shifted to the 100th anniversary of the atrocities of the frontline on the Western Front. The event was heavily attended by our parents, staff, students and members of the broader community. All tuned into a key note address from local community member Mrs Colleen Bamford who spoke about her Pilgrimage to The Kokoda Track. Many thanks to the organising committee for the countless meetings and organisation who started setting up from 2.30am. To our amazing friends from the Diamond Creek/Doreen RSL sub branch, Mr John Langford and Mr John Chenall, we can't thank you enough for your support, friendship and continued guidance of these ceremonies. The strong attendance was testament to just how important this memorable occasion is to our families and broader community and I'm sure will only grow in stature each year. This is something that we can all take an enormous pride in at Laurimar Primary School and continue to build our strong links with our House Culture.

2017 Town Fair Spectacular and Carols Evening

Our 2017 carols experience had a different feel led by Hannah Bloomfield and Sarah Fennell and combined with the 2017 Town Fair, bringing the school community together during the festive season in December. This is always an important part of the end of year calendar and Christmas Celebrations. The hiring of the truck stage once again and in a new location allowed for each and every child on stage to be clearly seen at the West end of the school and our students made us very proud as they belted out all the favourites and some originals. All our families had a wonderful time during the Town Fair and the rides were in full swing and excitement.

In concluding what was another year of great successes, this was a brilliant way to finish another productive school year at LPS in 2017 and one in which we can all be very proud of!



Double rainbow over Laurimar Primary School- What a wonderful place to learn!