Dear Parents, Caregivers and Community Members,

The first two and half weeks of term have gone by very quickly. Our new students in Kindergarten and across the school are settling into their classes and making new friends. We now have 506 students enrolled.

Thank you to parents and carers for preparing students for the school year. From Day 1 students were in school uniform and prepared for class with a positive attitude. I have had the pleasure of meeting many parents over the past two weeks and I would like to thank you for your warm welcome to Leda Primary School.

Beneath the surface there has been a great deal of work directed to planning our transition to Independent Public School status. Addressing all areas of the curriculum with a specific focus on Literacy, Numeracy, Science and Digital Technologies has been foremost in our whole school planning from both a financial and organisational viewpoint.

In my many visits into classrooms I have noticed a fondness for one of my most favourite author’s Dr Seuss. He has written so many memorable, clever and insightful quotes including the following:

“Kids, you’ll move mountains! Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting! So... get on your way!” -Dr Seuss- 

Ms Durham - Principal

Hi everyone,

It’s been fantastic to see so many happy children!

Our Lifeskills class have had their first community access excursion. They travelled on public transport and enjoyed a lovely lunch. I had lots of fun helping the senior class design and make two knights using lots of silver foil following a literacy lesson. Mrs Pearson and Miss Trolio are working collaboratively and I know that the children will be reaping the rewards of two sets of ideas. I have also had the pleasure of forwarding two letters of commendation for the positive behaviours demonstrated by our senior students.

I received several positive comments from parents about the small class sizes. Something we’ve been able to achieve through becoming an Independent Public School. I’m looking forward to many more positive changes that will see improve student outcomes as a result of becoming IPS.

Mrs Howorth - ESC Principal

Monday 2nd March is a Public Holiday

Students return to school on Tuesday 3rd March
The P & C Annual General meeting has been re-scheduled this term to Wednesday 4th March at 8.45am in the staffroom.

The P & C are an immeasurable support to the school and therefore to your children. I urge those new to the school or those who have never been involved with the P & C, to seriously consider attending the meeting and joining the P & C for the benefit of your children. Why not come along and join us for a cuppa and morning tea.

VISITING THE SCHOOL

School gates are locked at 8.45am and re-opened at 2.15pm. All visitors to the school between these hours must enter via the main path entrance off Feilman Drive. Parents collecting or delivering students between 8.30am and 2.30pm are requested to visit the office to collect a late slip or sign a Student Leave Pass. In the interests of student safety we request our visitors to close the gate on departure.

Our first assembly for the year - Friday 27th February 2015 will be hosted by Room 16.

A Note from our New Primary School Chaplain

My name is Gerda Baalmann and I have been working as the School Chaplain at two primary schools since October 2007.

Being part of a supportive and inclusive school has made my role a rewarding experience and I’m looking forward to being part of the Leda School community.

I provide guidance to students on issues concerning human relationships. I’m available to provide social/emotional support for students, parents and staff where this is requested and I facilitate programs such as Rainbows to support children who are dealing with loss and grief.

I’m also involved in coordinating the breakfast club on Mondays and Wednesdays and will continue to coordinate the School Volunteer Program at Leda.

All programs for students are voluntary and more information will be provided to parents as they are offered to the students.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on Mondays or Wednesdays if you have any concerns regarding your child or if you would like to find out more about my role here at the school. You can make appointments through the office or just have a chat as you collect your child.

CAKE STALL

The ESC will be holding a cake stall at recess on Tuesday 3rd March outside Block 3. Prices start from 50c to $2. Come along with your money to purchase something yummy!!

Unfortunately today’s Bremen Town Performance incursion has been rescheduled to Thursday 19th March.
Congratulations to the girls who have been selected to represent Leda and defend our championship title at the Regional Girls Glory Cup on Wednesday, April 22nd (early next term) at Lark Hill, Secret Harbour. Despite the heat, Team Leda enthusiastically commenced training last Monday after school and Coach Signora Kovacevic was very impressed with the girls’ level of fitness, speed and skills.

Leda Girls Soccer Team 2015:

Year 6
- Makayla Koeberl
- Georgina Gray
- Maddison Gray
- Nikiesha Hinga
- Kymberlee Babb
- Charlie Lawson

Year 5:
- Precious Sesay
- Ashka Lovell Herbert
- Rheanna Salabert
- Sammy-Rose Pairama
- Keana Ireland
- Harmony Holmes
- Teeghan Babb
- Meinah Salman
- Taya Knight
- Marianne Loo

We wish the team all the very best this season.

After reading the big book “The Brave Knight” the students in the Senior ESC class decided we needed knights of our own. Two lucky students were chosen to be dressed in armour. Their classmates did a great job with the foil and masking tape and we ended up with two very different knights. The students displayed great team work and very creative ideas. Everyone enjoyed the story and the activity.

As a member of the Leda School community it is anticipated that all members will have input into our school’s future directions. The School Council transitioned to a School Board in November of last year. The fundamental purpose of The Board enables parents and members of the community to engage in activities that are in the best interests of the students and enhance the education provided by the school. The first School Board meeting will be announced next week via our Skoolbag App and subsequent details will be elaborated in our school’s next newsletter.

All students have now been issued with a Student Update Form. It is important we have up-to-date address, phone and contact details, and are informed of any medical conditions/information such as asthma or allergies. Please help us to assist your child/children by making the necessary alterations or tick the box if there are no changes and return them to the office as soon as possible.
E’Co Australia Pty Ltd “Tri-aid - not aid” programme.

Last October, we requested donations of household items for 3rd world countries in need. Through the kindness and generosity of our school community we collected 175 kgs which means Leda PS also received $61.25. Thankyou once again to our charitable community.

Thankyou to those families who have paid their contributions and charges for 2015. The money received is used to purchase new resources that directly benefit your children. We encourage all families to support the school - payment can be made at the Admin Office during normal school hours.

1st child = $50 and $35 for each other child.

Please note EFTPOS facilities are available for primary school parents. Fees and excursions over $10 may be paid via debit or credit card. American Express not accepted.

• Our Year 2’s and Year 1/2 class have been learning about different traditions and Chinese New Year. Students have been making chinese lanterns. Some classes have written very interesting stories about if they had a pet dragon and what they would teach them.

• To mark Shrove Tuesday, Room 3 made and enjoyed some delicious pancakes.

• Room 10 have produced some amazing drawings of Australian landmarks for the purpose of learning about adjectives and contrasting colours.

PLAYGROUND SAFETY - In the interest of safety we ask that you remind your child/ren not to play on the playground equipment either before or directly after school. Thank you in anticipation for your support regarding this issue.

Child Development Service - Parent Information Workshop

Wednesday 25th February 2015     9.30am—11.30am
Child and Parent Centre Calista, Harlow Rd (next to Calista PS) FREE once off session for parents only
• Learn about how you can support your child’s language and communication development
• Learn more about the role that parents play in their child’s development
• Find out more about the Child Development Service and meet some therapists
• Find out about local community resources and services.
Facilitated by two Speech Pathologists for parents of children aged 0-3 years. Bookings are essential—ph 9367 0960

P & C Easter Egg Raffle

As we do each year, the P & C conducts an Easter Egg Raffle. We would hugely appreciate it if parents could donate an item to the raffle. Any donation small or large can be left at the office - your support is greatly appreciated. Raffle tickets will be sent home later in coming weeks.

P & C Committee

State Swim Secret Harbour
Would like to invite children to attend a Complimentary lesson*
Please phone 9524 7377 or email secretharbour@stateswim.com.au To book a session that suits you!

*New swimmers only