

2024  
TERM 4, WEEK 11

## IMPORTANT DATES

### TERM 4, 2024

FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR 2024  
SCHOOL BUSES FINISH AT 12PM.

### TERM 1, 2025

WEDNESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY  
STUDENTS FIRST DAY FOR 2025

# Portlines

LAKES ENTRANCE SECONDARY COLLEGE

## Principal Message

Throughout 2024 there have been many great achievements by members of our school community.

100% of our Year 12 students successfully completed their studies, an outstanding achievement for both students and their teachers. There have been many highlights throughout the years and as students finished up, staff have continued planning for 2025.

Next year we will focus on student learning. Together we can inspire our students improve their achievements. We will commence next year with a focus on uniform and our phone policy reminders.

I wish everyone a safe and joyous festive season and look forward to a successful new year in 2025.

## Presentation Evening 2024- 17<sup>th</sup> December

Congratulations again to all students who received awards at the annual presentation evening, held last Tuesday evening.

It was a wonderful event, well attended by staff, students, parents and carers, and community members. And thanks go to family and community members who attended and join in celebrating our students success.

We would also like to thank the Gippsland Freemasons Lodge – Lakes Entrance, Australian Defence Force – Long Tan and Hon Darren Chester MP for their support.



Photos from the evening will be made available to families soon. Students who did not attend will have their school reports and any awards mailed to them.

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## Farewell and Best wishes

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the school community is losing Mr. Lloyd Sprackling. Mr. Sprackling has been with the school for almost 17 years. Across these 17 years, he has assisted many students achieve great things in their time at school. Current and ex-students still value the knowledge Mr. Sprackling has shared with them and many say he was one of their favourite teachers, known for being approachable, having a high level of knowledge in the subjects taught and for being able to relay important information in a clear and concise way. Mr. Sparkling has decided to move from Lakes Entrance to Maffra. We wish Mr. Sprackling and his family nothing but the best and thank him for his strong years of service to Lakes Entrance Secondary College and the wider community.



Along with Mr. Sprackling, we will also be wishing Miss Lizzie Strickland, Mrs. Evie Pinnock and our ES staff member Liz Stevens the best as they too, transition to other workplaces within the local community.



## School for Student Leadership-Community Learning Project Day

On Friday 6th December, Mr. Brendan Pfanner, the Assistant Principal, visited Kaden Armistead, Shae Munnings, and Noah Walton, who have been participating in the School for Student Leadership program at Don Valley. The students have spent this term at the school, living and working alongside 42 other students from across Victoria. During this time, they have developed their teamwork and leadership skills while embarking on a journey of self-discovery.

A key component of the program is for the students to design and implement a Community Learning Project. They presented their project proposal to their peers, school staff, and community members. Their project aims to raise money for breast cancer awareness by organising and running a fun run for students from Lakes Entrance Primary School and Lakes Entrance Secondary College. We wish them all the best as they implement their project, and offer every support.



## School Savings Bonus – Our Schools Specific Information

### Receiving the School Saving Bonus

Parents and carers of government school students enrolled for 2025 will have now received an email from the Department of Education.

The email contains:

- your unique School Saving Bonus code to use the \$400 support
- a link to the [School Saving Bonus parent and carer online system](#).

Parents and carers will have received one email and code for each eligible student in their family. If you cannot locate the email, check your spam or junk folder.

Please note, the Department of Education and the Victorian Government will never ask you to provide your banking or financial details for the School Saving Bonus.

There will be 3 options available on the system:

1. *In-store purchases (not applicable to our school)*
2. *Online purchases (only applicable if using State Schools Relief)*
3. *School activities (applicable to our school - Uniforms, Excursions, Swimming etc.)*

### Allocating the School Savings Bonus

As our school supplies all textbooks/curriculum consumables and as we have the uniform shop situated at the school, it would be advisable for parents/carers to select "school activities" when allocating the bonus.

"School activities" includes:

- Camps, trips, excursions and incursions
- Swimming and sporting programs
- Outdoor education programs
- Graduations
- School uniforms

Please note that the School Savings Bonus is also eligible to be used as a contribution to a student BYOD laptop device which can be purchased through the schools nominated suppliers portal. There will be no other option available for purchasing uniforms from suppliers using this Bonus other than State Schools Relief. You will be asked to confirm the allocation. Please review this carefully as this cannot be changed or reversed. The amount chosen will be available on your child's account at the college. **Please allow 48 hours for the transfer to take place.** You will also receive an email confirming the allocation.

If you would like further assistance, please contact our Business Manager, Melinda Maroney on 03 5155 2982

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## Whooping cough – still in local community

Whooping cough cases are [continuing to increase across Victoria](#), particularly among school-aged children.

[Whooping cough](#) is a very contagious infection, mostly spread through coughing or sneezing. Symptoms include:

- blocked or runny nose
- tiredness
- mild fever
- severe bouts of coughing, often followed by a 'whooping' sound on breathing.

Whooping cough can lead to life threatening infections in babies.

If your child is unwell, they should not attend school. Please see a doctor if you or your child develops whooping cough symptoms. Early diagnosis and treatment will help reduce the spread of the infection.

Vaccination protects your family and our school

Vaccination is [the best way to reduce the risk of whooping cough](#). The Department of Health recommends staying up to date with immunisations, including booster doses.

- A free booster dose of the pertussis vaccine is covered under the National Immunisation Program for students aged 12 to 13.

If you are unsure about your child's vaccination status for whooping cough, please discuss with an immunisation provider, such as your doctor or pharmacist.

All Victorian local councils run immunisation sessions. You can [find your local council here](#), and visit their website about sessions where you live.

### More information

For more information about whooping cough and vaccination, refer to the [Better Health Channel](#). For information translated into other languages, refer to [Health Translations Victoria](#).

## Exciting news for Bike Ed 2025

We're thrilled to share that we've added a brand-new fleet of mountain bikes to our college! The bikes will give our students even more opportunities to stay active, explore the outdoors, and develop important skills in teamwork, fitness, and environmental appreciation. We can't wait to see our students hitting the trails and enjoying all the adventures ahead!



## End of Year Activities Wrap-Up!

What an amazing couple of days we've had celebrating the end of the school year! Our students enjoyed a range of fun activities, including canoeing ( in some challenging wind conditions! ), tie-dying, mini golf, movies, and games. We were also lucky enough to have the perfect weather for a beach afternoon!

A big thank you to Mr Baker, for coordinating all the fun and the teachers and classroom assistants for giving our students a fantastic way to end the year on a high note!



**STAFF AT LAKES ENTRANCE SECONDARY COLLEGE WISH YOU ALL A SAFE HOLIDAY PERIOD AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

