

Ltyentye Apurte Catholic School

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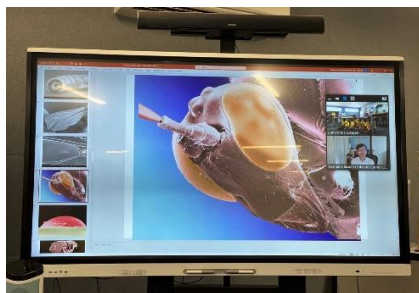
Dear Families,

The last two weeks have seen an **improvement in student attendance at school**. We're now seeing at least 80 students most days. This is due to Ltyentye Apurte's COVID outbreak getting smaller. With so many students returning to school, we're no longer delivering lunches to homes. Children that are still off for any reason must do Home Learning Packs. Please let us know if you need one. It is illegal for students to stay at home and do nothing.

On 10th March we held the **funeral for our dear Kwementyaye (Miriam) Dieudonne**. We gave thanks for all the wonderful things that Kwementyaye did for Ltyentye Apurte and the school over 50 years. She was a real gift the community and an example to us all in how to be a good Christian person. School appreciates everything she did for us. We send our love and prayers to her family at this sorry time. May Kwementyaye Dieudonne *Rest In Peace. Thank You, M!*



On Monday 14th March, Junior 2, 3 and 4 had an exciting lesson – pandemic style! **Dr Grahame Rosolen, a Scientist with the CSIRO, taught students about 'electron microscopes'** that let us see very small things close up. This was a STEM lesson (Science Technology Engineering & Maths). The school has been working with Dr Grahame and the CSIRO for several years now. He normally visits us in person but due to COVID, this time it was by video (Zoom). Students saw bugs under the microscope!



OTHER NEWS:

A very important letter is being sent home this week. **Our SCHOOL MEALS Program is in trouble**. As you know, school serves breakfast, morning tea and lunch to all students (and staff that pay). While government pays for staff and equipment, parents / carers are expected to pay for food costs. Unfortunately, many Ltyentye Apurte families have not been paying and last year the school lost \$55,000 – paying for food so children wouldn't go hungry – even though we shouldn't have to. We cannot afford to continue doing this. If families that are not paying don't start paying, school meals will have to come to an end and that will be bad for everyone. Please see the letter.



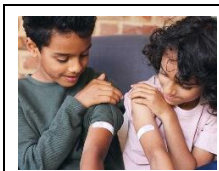
Every few years, **DOGS become a problem at school**. Most belong to families. They follow children / students to school. The high fence does not stop them. They are a nuisance at breakfast. Dogs' mess (poo) is all over the school grounds and we are concerned about students and staff *safety*. In previous years we have called vets in and as many as 25 dogs have been 'put-down'. Please do not let your dogs follow children to school. Please keep them in your yards. Chain them up if you have to. IF dogs continue to be a problem in school, we will have to call the vets again.

Principal – Justin Colley – Long Service Leave: Being Principal of Ltyentye Apurte Catholic School is the honour of my life. It is also very hard. The last few years (and Term 1, 2022) have been *really* hard and I need to take a break and recharge my batteries. I will be on leave from Monday 21st March until Tuesday 3rd May 2022 (six weeks). Georgia Brown will be Acting Principal and Cate Cockayne will be Acting Deputy Principal (again) in this time. They are both very good and will serve the school well.

Arrernte Language and Culture are two of the most important things that we can teach at this school. We're trying to become a more 'bilingual' school. A few years ago, our Student Representative Council designed signs to go around school grounds with key Arrernte sayings (and their English translations). After a very long time we've finally got all of them on display. *Nhe nhe araye. Mwarre Antherre!* 😊



THIS Week and Ahead:



On Wednesday 23rd March, between 11:30 am and 1:15 pm, Clinic nurses will vaccinate students in the school library with **Pfizer – for children**. School and clinic will seek permission before this happens. Students under the age of 9 must be accompanied by a parent / carer.

God bless our students and families. Have a great week, everyone!

Principal

- School **CLOSED** before 7:45 am. **BREAKFAST** starts at **8 am**. **SCHOOL** starts at **8:30 am** and finishes at **3pm**.
- LACS is committed to the teachings of love and justice from Jesus in the Gospels. We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of all students. We have zero tolerance for child abuse and exploitation.