Welcome back to the final term of the 2012 school year. For some families, this will be the last term their child will attend Lalor East Primary. Many students have been with us for seven years and we will be sad to see them leave, but before they leave us, we still have many exciting things to cover!

Important dates for the diary include:
- **Wednesday 31st October** – Excursion to Werribee Zoo
- **Thursday 8th November** – School House Sports
- **Tuesday 11th December** – Grade 6 Orientation Day
- **Wednesday 12th December** – Mini Fete
- **Friday 14th December** – Student reports are sent home
- **Tuesday 18th December** – 5/6 Movie Day at Epping Cinema
- **Wednesday 19th December** – Grade 6 Graduation
- **Friday 21st December** – Last day of Term

Further information regarding these events will be sent home closer to the date.

**HOMEWORK**
Thank you for supporting the students in their creative endeavours. Unfortunately, not all students completed the required work, which was very disappointing.

We have created another homework grid for this term with an Endangered Animals focus. Students need to complete one activity from each column each week. The grid will be sent home in week four and the tasks will commence in week five.

We encourage students to continue to read at home every day. Reading can include books, magazines, comics and newspapers. Students should be aiming for 15-20 minutes a day.

**LITERACY**
The major reading focus this term will be on factual texts and articles on BTN (behind the news) relating to endangered animals. All groups will be provided with a grid of activities relevant to their book.

Our writing focus will be persuasive texts and information reports, to tie in with the Integrated Studies topic. Activities will concentrate on developing the students’ skills in writing factual pieces.

**In grammar we will focus on:**
- using rich descriptive language
- What makes a great sentence?
- What belongs in a paragraph?
- structure of an information report
- persuasive text format & techniques
- proof reading & editing.
NUMERACY
At the beginning of the term, we will reinforce and work on the four processes, ensuring all students can confidently add, subtract, multiply and divide whole numbers. We will also take the opportunity to revisit some of the concepts covered earlier in the year, which are still causing difficulties for some students (e.g. elapsed time and fractions)

It is vital for students to continue to practise their times tables at home as this will greatly assist them with solving multiplication and division equations accurately. Many of the errors students currently make, are related to not knowing the number and multiplication facts.

Measurement sessions will cover:
- **temperature** including reading temperature and graphing weather data
- identifying, measuring and drawing **lines** (vertical, horizontal, parallel etc)
- identifying, measuring and drawing **angles** (right, straight, obtuse etc).
- graphing – recording and interpreting data.

INTEGRATED STUDIES
Our major topic for the term will be **Endangered Animals**. Students will cover many aspects of the topic and will develop a better understanding of the habitats of animals and how changes to their environment affects their survival.

The planned excursion to Werribee Zoo will further enhance the students’ knowledge and learning about this topic.

Students will also be required to complete a project about an endangered animal. We are expecting a more creative presentation this time and asking for a 3D model of the chosen animal’s habitat.

**Information and Communication Technology** sessions will involve students using the **Internet** to research animals facing extinction and **Microsoft Visio** to create mind maps and flow charts, explaining the relationship between animals and the environment they live in. Grade 6 students will also complete work on their contributions to the Grade 6 Graduation Book, using **Microsoft Publisher**.

Have a wonderful final term and remember if you have any queries regarding your child’s progress, please make a time to talk to their teacher.

The 5/6 Team
Leo Alessi, Adrian Parisi, Jeanette Kelm, Dimitra Vassiliou and Pesio I’a
SPECIALIST PROGRAMS

ART – Karren Moncur
The children will complete their painting unit; painting using acrylic paint and brushes as well as Card and other tools to make interesting marks. The children will then focus on drawing. They will use grids and other tools to reproduce pictures. They will also spend some time sketching out doors. The grade six children will make their graduation bears, while the grade fives decorate a treasure chest.

MUSIC – Brad Jones
In term 4, the grade 5/6 students will be learning about Australian music and the musicians and songs that have been influential throughout the history of Australian music. They will have a chance to play a variety of different songs and will work with a partner to complete a poster on an Australian musician of their choice.

PHYS/ED – Lara Arsana
In Term 4, the children in Grade 5/6 will be participating in a range of activities that are designed to develop their Fundamental Motor Skills and Sport Specific Skills.

They will begin the term with the Australian Fitness Education Award (AFEA) fitness tests, which were also completed in Term 2. The tests measure each child’s height, weight, endurance, strength and flexibility.

The children will then participate in a Kanga Cricket SEPEP program (Sport Education in Physical Education Programs) for four weeks and a Korfball/Netball unit for 3 weeks. To end the term, children will participate in a Minor Games unit, with a different focus each week.