



# Levendale Primary School

*Loyalty, participation, service*

## FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

### NATURE'S WAY

EACH year Graham Raphael comes to Levendale to help us prepare our honey. He collects all the supers from the hives and brings them into the school. The students help him cut off the wax caps using a heated knife. The supers are then put into an extractor. Students help produce the honey, put it into containers and sell it. Each year we make a few hundred dollars for the school.

### LEVENDALE LUNCHES

AT Levendale we host lunches to raise money for our school. Our parents cook lots of delicious food and we sing songs to entertain visitors. We welcome people to our school and show them our history room, the beautiful environment, and our schoolwork — especially our recycling projects and our artwork. Our parents help students with cooking and reading and last Christmas helped us make a float for the pageant.

### SWIFT'S SAVIOURS

STUDENTS from Levendale Primary School planted a number of blue gum trees in 2001 to encourage the swift parrot to stay in its natural environment. The swift parrot is listed as vulnerable and its blue gum habitat is fast disappearing. Swift parrots return to Tasmania in spring to breed in old hollow trees. During the breeding season, the birds feed mainly on nectar. The clearing of blue gums means there is less food for the swift parrots to eat. We hope the new trees will make a difference for this special bird species.

By Ashlie Cowen, Laura McConnon and Brontie Birchall.

THE growth of the Levendale population in the late 1800s led to local demand for some essential services in the area including school infrastructure.

So on April 15, 1901, Levendale Primary School was opened.

The school was the last to be built in Tasmania using Federation funds.

This year Levendale Primary School has 24 students and eight of them are fourth generation students whose relatives have attended the school over the years.

Students travel from Whiteford, Runnymede and Buckland to attend the school at Levendale on a bus driven by the school's neighbour.

In the early days, students had to walk to school.

Some would trave more than five kilometres on foot — no mean achievement.

And once in a while students travelled to Buckland for their sports carnivals.

In 1911 the rules were strict and students had to toe the line.

They had to march into school and have their hands at their sides unless they were working on a particular task.

Children had to stand up to answer a question or to read and neatness, punctuality and cleanliness were paramount.

Teachers ensured the school buildings and grounds

were rubbish free and students were told never to leave rubbish on the classroom floors.

In 2001 Levendale Primary School celebrated its centenary. The late Premier Jim Bacon came to the school to present students with a special badge.

We also had a huge celebration at Easter when we planted 10 new trees — one for each decade of the school.

Mark Graham was the principal at Levendale between 1963 and 1989.

In 1993 the Mark Graham Memorial Photo and History Room (housed in the former principals' residence at Levendale) was opened by Norma

Graham to commemorate the late principal.

Today we have a range of technology at Levendale to help us with our learning.

We use computers, CD ROMs, digital cameras, DVDs and the internet to research, prepare and present our work.

We have modern furniture and sports equipment which make learning and sporting activities enjoyable.

This year we have held cluster sports days and in September more than 300 students from neighbouring schools come to Levendale for an athletics day.

Lots of people visit Levendale as part of their travels on

Tasmania's Heritage Trail and our parents put on lunches for them in the community hall while the school choir entertains them.

At the end of each year we have a presentation night and parents, grandparent and relatives come and see what we have been doing throughout the year and sing a song.

And on the last day of school Santa comes and we get little presents.

I have asked my classmates what it was about Levendale they liked the most and most said: "we all know each other very well and feel like a big family".

By Brendan Iles

## Students' hockey passion

LEVENDALE Primary School fields two teams in the Southern Schools Hockey roster.

Every Saturday during winter our parents take us to Hobart to play.

Students from Levendale have been involved with hockey for more than 14 years.

Our groundsman Ken Rosendale is the coach and he trains us during his lunch break twice a week to make sure we are ready to play.

David Cowen helps Ken on Saturdays because sometimes both teams play at the same time.

Most of the school usually turns up for training.

We learn how to block the ball and pass and play hockey to have fun and keep fit.

Our team plays well together.



**A WINNING TEAM:** Levendale Primary School hockey representatives.

I think that is because we spend so much time training together.

Our last game was particularly rewarding — the scoreline was 19-2.

We got 19 goals and

were very proud of ourselves.

Meanwhile, on the first day of term three we had a visit from Commonwealth Games gold medalist Matthew Wells.

Matthew talked to us about his experiences and revealed that he started playing at primary school too.

He told us that when he was just three years old

his dad cut a stick down for him.

Matthew signed our hockey sticks and our annual shield and showed us his medals and a video of the winning goal at the

Commonwealth Games in Melbourne this year.

By Kain Cowen, Jessica Cowen and Codie Rosendale

**THIS page was compiled by Grade 3-6 students from Levendale Primary School. We would like to thank our sponsors for their support.**

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