

LEETON HIGH SCHOOL

Newsletter

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Principal: Mr G R Horton

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Week 6

Tuesday 4th June, 2013

"Educating young people for active and responsible citizenship"

~~PRINCIPAL'S REPORT~~

All students have now completed their mid-year examinations and staff are busy marking and preparing reports. Parents and students are encouraged to follow these up by visiting staff at the respective parent teacher evenings coming up over the next two weeks. Tuesday 11 June is Year 11 Parent Teacher evening commencing at 6.00pm in the school library.

Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 have a combined Parent Teacher evening in the MPC on Monday 24 June. This evening will provide parents and carers to collect reports and discuss progress with class teachers.

Term 2 is a very busy time for Leeton High School sporting teams. I would like to congratulate all students on their achievements on the sporting field over the last few weeks. I would like to make special mention of the students who represented at the SW Athletics on Friday 31 May with many outstanding achievements. Also to Riverina Cross Country representatives, Netballers, Buckley Shield Rugby League, boys and girls Squash teams.

Monday 3 June we have been privileged to have author Nadia Wheatley visit Leeton High School and work with students across a range of year groups. Ms Wheatley spoke to Year 12 students to support their HSC studies and also workshops for junior students.

Greg Horton, Principal

~~DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT~~

The standard of uniform in our school is generally of a very high standard. With the cooler weather upon us some students find it difficult to meet our uniform code. The school is able to help via the Student Assistance program.

The Student Assistance Program is currently administered by the school to provide financial assistance for families experiencing difficulty. The funds provided are subject to audit by the Auditor-Generals Department and hence have relatively strict guidelines as to their dispersal and the type of assistance offered.

The types of items/activities for which assistance may be given are:

- *Subject materials contribution*

- *School uniforms*
- *Stationery needs*

To apply for assistance, please complete the Application form and return it to me. Each application will be considered by the Student Assistance Committee and confidentiality is maintained. If you are not prepared to provide in writing the information we request, you are invited to contact the school to arrange an interview with the Principal to discuss your needs personally. These forms can be collected from myself or the Front Office of the school.

The school will contact the parent/caregiver when the application has been processed.

If you wish to discuss this matter please feel free to contact the school.

Scott White, Deputy Principal

SCHOOL AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students on achieving awards:

Silver Diploma: Jacob DeMamiel, Kyle Tuckett, Isabella Hopwood, Dylan Smith and Chase Morriss (Year 7).

Gold Diploma: Isabella Hopwood, Dylan Smith, Jaime Emerson (Year 7), Zachary Hanlon (Year 9) Makayla Boots (Year 10), Jasmin Sahota and Stephanie Hanlon (Year 12).

Executive Awards: Edie Rudd, Chelsea Axtill, Emma Brindley (Year 8), Matthew Murphy, Charlize Schoeman, Luke Rimmer (Year 10) and Stephanie Corney (Year 12).

GOLD JACKET RECIPIENT

Year 12 student Stephanie Gale was awarded a Gold Jacket at a formal assembly on 21 May. Stephanie has been an outstanding representative of Leeton High School, involving herself in all aspects of school life. Among her achievements Stephanie is the current Vice-Captain, represents Leeton High School in sport and debating. Stephanie won a Premiers Volunteering Diamond award for the amount of hours she spends volunteering within the community in 2012.

Congratulations to Stephanie on this fine achievement.



NETBALL

On Wednesday 22nd May the Open Girls Netball team travelled to Deniliquin to compete in the CHS Gala Day. The day was not ideal for netball but the girls played their hardest nonetheless. They played two teams, Barham Central School and Deniliquin High School, and although they did not have a win they should be congratulated on their sportsmanship and good spirit. The team consisted of Sheridan Valenta, Anna Korovata, Emily Barton, April Irvin, Stephanie Hanlon, Taylah Block, Jessica Savini, Annalise Ramponi, Laura Brindley, Esther Deeves and Claire Quinlivan.

We were fortunate to be asked to take a second team to compete against Finley High School. As our Under 15 team will be competing in Term 4 it was the perfect opportunity for the girls to have a run together. This was an invaluable chance to see who played well together and to work out positions. The girls did not have a win but it was a great learning experience. The team consisted of Jenna McCallum, Grace Green, Georgia Green, Georgia Dale, Brooke Hardie, Katie Walleth, Emma Brindley, Chelsea Axtill and Sarah Quinlivan.

A big thank you to the girls who volunteered to umpire on the day it was greatly appreciated.

BUCKLEY SHIELD

Leeton High School Buckley Shield Rugby League team were knocked out in the first round of the competition at Yanco Ag High School on Monday 27 May.

The team was decimated with injury and unavailability of players and had to play two matches with just 10 players on the field.

The boys that turned up played outstandingly. After leading at half time in both matches, lack of numbers and a tired defence took its toll in the back end of each match. Going down by 6 and 8 respectively to Wagga High and Narrandera High.

All players played exceptionally gutsy football being lead in the forwards by Koresi Waqanivalu, Elijah Ingram and Kody Collins, while Wade Johnson ran strongly in the backs and Bryce DeMamiel and Robbie Rimmer defended strongly all day.

CROSS COUNTRY REPORT

On Friday the 24th of May, Leeton High School participated in the South-West cross country championships at Yanco Agricultural High School. All students were outstanding with their behaviour, attitudes and efforts on the day with some students achieving some outstanding results in progressing to the Riverina Championships to be held in Gundagai on the 14th of June. While all students were noteworthy of their efforts the following students made it through to Riverina:

12 boys

3rd – Ryan Pitt

13 girls

3rd – Carley Graham

6th – Nakeia McVittie

14 boys

5th – William Ormond

17 girls

1st – Shaylah Elwin

3rd – Anna Poulsen

13 boys

4th – Robbie Rimmer

15 boys

3rd – Bryce Butler

4th – Jonte Schmetzer

5th Mackenzie Saddler

17 boys

1st – Corey Williams

2nd – Ben Hardie

SOUTH WEST ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

On Friday 31st May LHS travelled over to West End Ovals at Griffith to compete in the South West Athletics carnival. Despite extremely bad weather students from LHS performed exceptionally well and won the carnival overall. There were many standout performers and a strong stringency has been selected to go to Riverina. More details to come later.

SCHOOL NEWS

DEBATING

The debating season is well under way with all years either already involved in the Premier's Challenge Debating Competition, or commencing Monday 3 June. This week the Year 9 and 10 teams will compete against each other. Both teams already competed against Wade and Griffith High schools last Tuesday. Unfortunately both teams lost to stronger sides, however the level of competence and intelligence displayed in both their preparation and arguments was encouraging for future debates.

Also on Monday the Year 7 and 8 teams will start off their debating season in competition against one another. This will

be a great 'warm-up' for the debates to come against other schools, and a valuable opportunity for coaching.

The Senior team debated in their third and final round in the Zone Competition, against Wade High last Tuesday 28th May. This was an extremely impressive debate, on the topic of reducing the compulsory debating age. Both teams had won all of their debates and this debate was a decider as to who were the Zone Champions and to continue on in the competition against other Zones. Leeton won this debate and now are waiting to challenge another team to move closer to being Riverina Champions. James Hayward, Annalise Ramponi, Sally Boardman and Esther Deeves were outstanding competitors and representatives of Leeton High School.

LAPTOP HARD-CASES

Hard covers for student laptops are available from our TSO, Karen Bartram. These provide good protection for their laptops. Don't miss out as there are only 10 left at a great price of \$15.

DRAMA CAMP 2013

In week 3, Kate Norvall, Zoe Russell, Grace Green, Jade Smith, Sheridan Williams and Bailey Heath all attended Drama Camp. We arrived at 10am and had to sign your name in and we found out what groups and rooms we were in. We were all assigned into groups where we knew nobody, at first this was scary and by the end we all considered each other family. Every day we had to wake up and go into the gym for morning warm up sessions, this sometimes involved drama games and other days learning how to act like a gorilla or crawl like a caterpillar.

We would then go into our groups and do play building which was just planning our separate plays to perform at the final performance. This created many friendships and opened our eyes to a wide variety of new experiences. Meeting people and interacting with people from many different schools at first was frightening and by the end of it we could all get up in front of a large audience and perform with extreme confidence and know that when we came back to Leeton High we would take all that confidence with us. We would on some days have electives which were just 1-2 hour workshops run by the drama tutors, they all taught the areas that they were experienced in and we all agreed that we learnt so much. In one workshop called "The 7 Psychopaths" we learnt that you must create a link with your character and understand their pain or happiness with something that has happened to you. We all came out of this workshop amazed that we experienced such mixed emotions and we can't properly explain how interactive and personal that workshop was, but it taught us to also find happiness in everything you do.

We were amazed at how talented and professional all the tutors were, they inspired us daily and we thank them for that. At night time, kids from different schools bonded and created friendships that were so strong. We had bedtime stories as well, we thought that these would be normal bedtime stories read by the tutors, but we were definitely wrong when we got into bed and they started either singing us the stories or playing drama games.. it definitely did not settle us for bed.

Our days were filled with drama packed fun, laughs and sometimes during the last days a whole heap of crying. On one of the last nights we all got in the hall in a big circle and the lights were turned off, we then one by one passed around a candle and said how amazing the last week had been. I think it's safe to say when Grace got the candle she nearly passed out because she was sobbing that much, but for once it wasn't only Grace crying, it was the whole hall. Amazing friendships were made and we learnt so much. If you have the opportunity to go next year, like we were lucky enough to have, do it because there will be no regrets. 'You are all people from small towns but you are not small people'.

Thank you to the LHS P&C for contributing funding, to all people who bought our cupcakes and to the parents who transported and supported the camp.

AUTHOR VISIT

Today Nadia Wheatley attended our school to provide our Year 12 English students with some insight into the creative writing process with a focus on the HSC area of study: Belonging.

Mrs Anthony's Year 8 English class also benefitted from tips and a workshop with a focus on methods for story writing. The interactive workshop encouraged students to consider place as a crucial part of story development. Year 8 students will be submitting their final drafts this week as eisteddfod literary entries. We wish them the best of luck in their creative process.

P&C NEWS

PIE DRIVE

Watch this space. Mick's Bake House Pie Drive coming up in Term 3. Order forms will be attached to the first newsletter of Term 3 and also available from the front office. Expected delivery will be August.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Tues 11th June – Yr 11 Parent/Teacher Interviews 6pm

GOLDEN APPLE DOCKETS

The Golden Apple docket promotion is running again this year. Please drop off all your dockets to the Front Office to support this great fundraiser.