

LEETON HIGH SCHOOL

Newsletter

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Week 3

Tuesday 29th July, 2014

“Educating young people for active and responsible citizenship”

~~PRINCIPAL'S REPORT~~

Congratulations to the Leeton High School Open Rugby League team. Last week the team travelled to Wollongong and defeated Woonona High School 18-0 to advance to the final 16 in the statewide University Shield.

This week we welcome students and staff from our Japanese sister school, Tondabayashi High School. The visitors will be in Leeton for eight days. The students will attend school with their hosts; attend English classes; visit local tourist sites; local farms and generally gain as much knowledge of life in an Australian country town. Thank you in advance to the families who have volunteered to host students and staff. This is very generous but is also part of the experience for the visitors and hosts.

Planning for 2015 has commenced with a number of important decisions needing to be made during this term. Enrolment numbers for next year need to be forwarded in the next two weeks. Staff have commenced the process of developing the school plan. This plan will be for the 2015-2017 period and will require input for all the school community.

One aspect of any future school plan will be how we manage technology across the school. The Federal Government's Digital Education Revolution program, which provided laptops for all students in Year 9 each year, has now concluded. The school must now decide what types of technology and devices we will be using across the school. A possibility is to introduce a program called Bring Your Own Device which would require more investigation. We will be contacting families in the next few weeks to seek opinions about our direction with technology. Please “watch this space”!

Mrs Naomi Stout has volunteered to take up the position of Year Adviser for Year 7 2015. Mrs Stout is busy organising information for Year 6 students and will be visiting local partner schools later in the term.

The Federal government has increased the level of funding to schools following the well-publicised Gonski Review. This week teacher organisations are highlighting aspects of the Gonski Review. This was raised at the last P&C meeting. Should parents and carers require any further information please contact me at the school.

Greg Horton, Principal

~~DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT~~

Term 3 has started quite well throughout the school, with a hint of spring sunshine warming up both the playground and the souls of those sitting in it at lunchtime. Quite a number of our students seem to be serious about turning their education around!

Ralph Pirrozzo's workshops with our staff last week were outstanding and there is a genuine buzz in our staffrooms around Teaching and Learning right now!

Parents and students, please remember our simple rule:

“EVERYTHING GOES THROUGH THE FRONT OFFICE”

As the cold and flu season reaches its peak, we have had a number of parents come to the Front Office (...which is good...) and say “I got a text saying that my child is sick”.

Please recall also that if your child is absent, that you are required to send in a note when they return, as per Government Policy. The Front Office sends notes home if your child has been away for 2 consecutive days and an explanatory note has not been received within seven days of returning to school. The Home School Liaison Officer has been most vigilant in tracking absences at Leeton High.

The second part of this sentence is not so good. This suggests inappropriate mobile phone use in class. The staff at Leeton High know that there will be times when people are feeling poorly. Students are to report to the Front Office and parents will be contacted from there. Students will be collected from the Office and signed out. Too easy.

Pleasingly, the issue of **sports uniform to PE classes** appears to be moving in a more positive direction. This is a reminder that if there is a problem with bringing your sports uniform to class that day, please bring a change of clothes and a note. Repeat offenders will be **“Level Dropped”**.

Basically, if a student does not have correct uniform or a note from home explaining why, they will be given a **“Uniform Detention”**. If they don't turn up to that detention, they will be **“Level Dropped”**. If you have issues arising from the

inability to supply your student with correct uniform then I urge you to contact me personally at school.

Good luck to Year 12 as they prepare for their all-important **Trial HSC Examinations**, which will begin in Week 5. Admittedly, luck is not a factor for success in Stage 6. The system is constructed in such a way that those who begin their work early and give themselves time to complete the tasks presented will prevail. Year 11 are encouraged to embrace this fact as their Preliminary Course Examinations will appear sooner than one would think in Week 10.

Andrew Morschel, Deputy Principal

SCHOOL AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students on achieving awards:

SILVER AWARDS: Dayne Butler (Year 7)

GOLD AWARDS: Elise Holt, Tamara Bartram, Dayne Butler (Year 7), Laura Brindley (Year 12).

EXECUTIVE AWARDS: Hayley Graham (Year 7), Tyler Dunn (Year 8), Robert Rimmer (Year 9), Adam Mitchell (Year 10), Claire Quinlivan (Year 11) and Shaylah Elwin (Year 12).

SCHOOL NEWS

HOMEWORK CENTRE

Just to remind all parents and caregivers that the Homework Centre is available to all students on a Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon from 3.30 till 5.00pm. This creates an opportunity for students to make use of the school's resources in a quiet environment, and receive help if needed for completing homework and assignments. If students have group assignments they can work together.

If you would like your child to attend, and have not yet completed a consent form, please collect one from the office or ask your child to see the Librarian.

DEBATING

Last Friday, 25 July, Round 2 of the Premier's Debating Year 7 and 8 Competition was held against Narrandera. The team comprising of Year 8 students Tyler Dunn, Jaime Emerson, Chevaughn Moore and Molly Pettersson, had a win. The second team comprising of Year 7 students Elise Holt, Arcadia Lee, Tarnya Schmidt and Caleb Watson had a narrow loss. Thanks to

Skye Bloomfield and Hannah Bennett who carried out Chairperson and Timekeeper duties.

In a couple of weeks, these teams will be debating each other and this result will determine if one of the LHS teams will be the Zone winner. Congratulations to all participants, and good luck in Round 3.



Year 8 Team: Jaime Emerson, Tyler Dunn, Molly Pettersson and Chevaughn Moore



Year 7 Team: Tarnya Schmidt, Elise Holt, Arcadia Lee and Caleb Watson

TERM 3 PERFORMING ARTS

Term 3 is an extremely busy term for performing arts. Our students have been working hard to get prepared for many performances. Last week, Laura Shelton, Meg Gason and Amber Williams attended Riverina Choral Camp at Borambola. Over the week the girls were tutored by experienced conductors. The camp culminated with a concert held at Sturt Public School in Wagga. Also last week, Esther Deeves was selected as part of the State choir. This choir will perform in a number of concerts at The Opera House later this term.

This week, the Music Theatre Ensemble will travel to Griffith to participate in the inaugural KROP concerts. The group will perform a matinee and evening performance on Thursday and an evening performance on Friday. Some tickets are still available – contact Griffith Regional Theatre. KROP showcases a great range of performances from schools in the Griffith zone. The MTE will perform 'Nicest Kids In Town' and are bound to be the highlight of the show. Josh Nikoro, Esther Deeves and Talise Rudd will also perform the National Anthem to open the show.

Next week, 10 talented male singers will travel to Wagga to participate in a Boys Vocal Workshop. This is a state initiative run by The Arts Unit in Sydney. The boys will work with talented vocal tutor Peter Lehner who has worked with a variety of ensembles as a musical and choral director.

Also coming up this term is Leeton Eisteddfod, LCOPS Shine on Broadway and HSC Music practical exams. Stay tuned for more details on these performances.

Lastly, *Leeton High School Performing Arts* has a Facebook page. To keep up to date with all that's going on with our performers including photos, videos, upcoming rehearsal and performance details. Like us!

SCHOOL SPORTS

OPEN RUGBY LEAGUE

Leeton High School Open Rugby League team travelled to Wollongong on Thursday 24 July, to play Woonona High School in the fourth round of the University Shield.

They came up against a very big and well organised Woonona High Team. In what was a very physical and tough match. The boys played beyond their expectations to come away with a convincing win. The defence from LHS defied belief, turning back waves of Woonona attack. They had to defend set after set on their line throughout the match, which they did in spades without being breached. This was the best defensive effort I have seen from a Leeton High team. They then returned the favour making constant inroads into the opposition line which eventually broke and after having a couple of tries disallowed, they finally go on the score board. Leading 6-0 at the break the game was in the balance, but Leeton came out more committed and dominated the second half running out eventual winners 18-0. Try scorers were Corey Graham and Corey Williams with Baz Blackett kicking one conversion and Corey Williams kicking two.

Every player in the squad did their job. Well done boys we are so proud of you.

Thank you to Cindy and Col Eldridge from the Rice Bowl Hotel, Whitton who ran a number of fund raisers to help with the cost of the bus. This is greatly appreciated.

Special thanks to Garry Wilesmith for all your work, you have done a great job. Also thanks to Mr Hardie for your help on the trip, it was extremely appreciated.

Good Luck against Fairfield High.



SCHOOL P&C

MICK'S BAKEHOUSE PIE DRIVE



A reminder that the P&C are currently conducting a Mick's Bakehouse pie drive. Any parents or carers who would like to be involved forms are available from the front office at school. Orders with payment are due back to school on Wednesday 30th July and pies will be delivered to the school on Tuesday 12th August and can be collected from the canteen between 3.30pm-5pm.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wed 30th July – Pie Drive Orders returned with payment
 Tue 12th Aug – Collect Pies from Canteen (3.30-5pm)
 Wed 27th & Thur 28th – Shine Performance

SPINE SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

National Self-Detection Program for Scoliosis (NSDP)

Scoliosis (spinal curvature) is an important health problem for adolescent girls.

It is recommended that girls in Year 7 & 9 participate in the NSDP by downloading the Self-Detection Brochure for Scoliosis at www.scoliosis-australia.org.

Leeton Community of Public Schools
Presents

“Shine”
on

BROADWAY

A performing arts extravaganza showcasing
the talents of local public school students.

Leeton High School Multi-Purpose Centre

Wednesday 27th August, 7pm

Thursday 28th August, 11am and 7pm

Cost: Adults \$10, Concession \$5, Family \$20

General Admission – No Reserved Seating

**Tickets available from ‘Leeton Trophy and
Gift Centre’**

or your local Public School.

NSW Public Schools – Leading The Way!