

# LEETON HIGH SCHOOL

## Newsletter

P.O Box 843, LEETON 2705

Ph: 69532122

Fax: 69535085

leeton-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

ABN: 22 761 278 122

Principal: Mr G R Horton

Issue No: 4 Term: 1

Week 8

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2015

*“Educating young people for active and responsible citizenship”*

### *~~ PRINCIPAL'S REPORT ~~*

Term 1 has been very exciting with a number of improvements being made to the school and surrounds. The senior “iStudy” area is now completed with furniture going in this week. Last week we signed off on the completion of the new perimeter fence, which certainly makes the school and grounds look great. The third major project this term saw Jason Wing complete the “Artist in Residence” program. The mural that he and students created outside the school canteen is fantastic. In addition to all of this our annual maintenance has commenced this week with painters busy painting the outside of both weatherboard buildings at school.

During Term 4 2014 we sought feedback from students, parents and staff regarding the direction of the school with technology over the next few years. We have decided to go ahead with a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) program. The next step for our technology committee is to develop the policy for Leeton High School, this will include specifications for devices that students can bring to school. In addition the school has decided to purchase a number of devices that staff will be able to borrow for their classes as needed.

With literacy and numeracy is a key area for improvement in this year's school plan two key programs are in place. Firstly students in Years 7, 8 and 9 are participating in the Accelerated Reader program. Here students read regularly on books at their level and as they progress and improve they attempt more advanced reading books. The second program is called QuickSmart and focuses on numeracy. QuickSmart is new for us this year, staff are currently being trained and will work with students from Term 2.

Next week is the Leeton High School P&C AGM. On Tuesday 24 March at 7.00pm in the school Library. All parents, carers and friends are invited.

**Greg Horton, Principal**

### *~~ DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT ~~*

The people have spoken. Staff and students have grown weary of a small minority of people hanging around in the toilets, doing the wrong thing. As a response to concerns from asthma sufferers and those who feel intimidated, we are implementing the following strategies.

Until now, smoking was a “Level Drop” offence. However, given that there are legality issues with smoking on Government Premises, we are now following a ‘1-2-3 Policy’ with respect to our Level System, from today:

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Offence</b>	<b>Dropped 1 Level</b>	Suspension ramifications for those already on Levels 1 or 2.
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Offence</b>	<b>Dropped 2 Levels</b>	A very dim view of this will be taken if this occurs in the toilets or at the front of the school
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Offence</b>	<b>Dropped 3 Levels</b>	<b><i>Automatically suspended</i></b> for ‘Repeated use of tobacco’ in accordance with DET guidelines.

Additionally, those who are repeat offenders will be asked to satisfactorily complete a comprehensive workbook, which should provide convincing arguments (especially financial ones) to help anyone decide to try and improve their health.

For those loitering in and around the toilets, penalties will be much sterner than they were in the past. It must be stressed that these measures will only affect a very small percentage of our students for the improvement of conditions for the vast majority.

On a much more positive note, I hope that I can report in our next Newsletter, that we had strong support for our League Tag and Rugby League teams over the next two Wednesday nights. Those who remember the atmospheres at our game against Fairfield last year are challenged to recreate it at Yanco Sportsground tomorrow night v St Francis College.

One of our goals in 2015 is to improve our monitoring of student attendance. If you are late to school, you need to get a 'Late Note' from the Front Office. Additionally, up to 40 students are late on some days. Given that this is frowned upon in the Workplace, I challenge those who are regularly late to strive harder to create better habits.

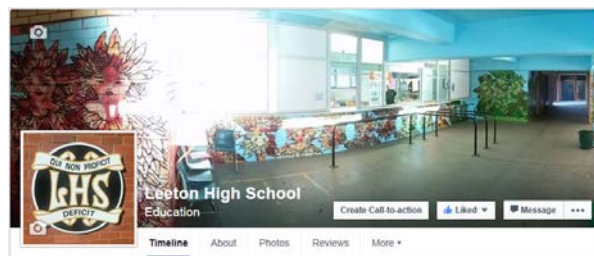
If your child has to leave school during the day for any reason, you need to do 2 things:

- ✓ **Provide a note** for your child to bring to the Front Office before DEAR
- ✓ Collect them **yourself** from the Front Office at the given time.

Speaking of notes, too many of us are failing to account for incorrect uniform, and there are too many students on Level 1 or 2, simply for being unorganised. We know that there are times when correct uniform cannot be achieved 100% of the time. **Simply bring a note** (and a change of clothes for PE practical classes). Seriously, it is that simple.

Finally, anything that helps rid the world of beige gets my thumbs up. The canteen looks awesome! Cheers to the P&C and Jason Wing for their drive with this initiative.

<https://www.facebook.com/LeetonHS>



**Andrew Morschel, Deputy Principal**

### *SCHOOL AWARDS*

Congratulations to the following students on achieving awards:

**SILVER DIPLOMA:** Hannah Pianca and Nathan Ryan (Year 7).

**EXECUTIVE AWARDS:** Trent Petrie, Reece Grundy (Year 7), Peter Fanous, Samuel Manly (Year 8), Sarah Eldridge, Shelby Tiffin (Year 9), Katie Walleth , Chelsea Axtill (Year 10), Jack Robbie, Sarah Bush (Year 11), Jenna McCallum and Nicholas Trifogli (Year 12).

### *SCHOOL NEWS*

#### **ENGLISH GAT PROGRAM**

In 2014 and 2015 Ms Alana Hynard has been withdrawing small groups of our Gifted and Talented students to work on specific writing skills. The focus of the groups has been more about the skills needed for writing, such as the importance of planning, text type conventions and making writing more engaging and technique-rich. Students were asked to share their thoughts on the work they have produced:

- *It was very helpful in constructing my writing for future tasks*
- *It was helpful and easy to ask questions with a limited number of people.*
- *Can we do it again?*
- *It taught me how to make my writing more interesting*
- *Lots of experience with narrative and expository writing*

- *I liked it*
- *We develop better starts to our writing.*

With the success of the program over last year and this year, we will aim to continue it. Thanks to Ms Hynard and to the students for their cooperation and their enthusiasm.

### **ASSUMPTION VILLA VISIT**

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March several Leeton High students put on a musical performance for the Assumption Villa residents. They were very professional and well behaved and sounded terrific. The students were required to set up the microphones and PA equipment and they used computers for backing tracks. The performers were: Chevaughn Moore, Chelsie Wood-Jordan (both on vocal), Molly Wright (Piano), Maanu Alexander (Piano/vocal), William Rawle (sound engineer) and Taylor Moore (Computer/IT). Well done to all students and thank you to Chrissie Vella for organising it.



Taylor Moore, Chelsie Wood-Jordan, William Rawle, Chevaughn Moore, Maanu Alexander and Molly Wright

### **SCHOOL PHOTOS**

School Photos were taken today. If you did pay on the day online payments and orders are open for one week after photo day. Please visit [msp.com.au](http://msp.com.au)

### ***SCHOOL SPORTS***

#### **RIVERINA SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

On Friday 6 March, Leeton High had over 50 students attend the Riverina Swimming Carnival as competitors and officials. 10 students competed in individual events and 3 have gained selection to represent the Riverina at the State carnival. Bryce Butler will compete in the 100 metre breaststroke and freestyle, while Dion DeMamiel and Hannah Pianca will complete in the 200 metre freestyle events. Leeton High was also successful in having the 12 years boys and girls relay teams moving to the next level by winning their races at the Riverina carnival. The boys All-Age relay finished second and will also make the trip to Sydney. Over 30 students acted as officials on the day, and they are to be congratulated for their effort and behaviour. We would also like to thank any parents and friends who assisted in timekeeping at the end of the day, this was greatly appreciated.

#### **OPEN BOYS & GIRLS TOUCH GALA DAY**

On Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February Leeton High School Open Boys and Girls Touch teams travelled to Griffith to participate in an Open boys and girls touch gala day.

Each team had to play 4 games. The girls defeated RAP (combined Central Schools team) 7-0 and Griffith High School 3-2. Unfortunately they went down against Wade High and Yanco Agricultural High. This meant that the girls finished third on the day. The team consisted of Madeline Warburton, Hannah Bush, Georgia Wallace, Grace Green, Taylah Ronfeldt, Elli Gill, Nakeia McVittie, Edie Rudd and Alanah Pitt.

The boys also played RAP and defeated them 3-2, then defeated Griffith High School 4-2. Like the girl the boys also went down to Wade High School and Yanco Agricultural High School to also finish third. The boys team consisted of Josh Nikoro, Isaac

Collins, Jonte Schmetzer, Jordan Hogan, William Ormond, Jaspal Gill, Tamaki Kohere, Koresi Waqanivalu, Morgan Wilesmith, Isaiah Traynor and Matthew Bagley.

All students had a great day and the students demonstrated commendable behaviour and sportsmanship. A big thank you to parent drivers and students who helped referee.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Tue 24 Mar – P&C Meeting – 7pm in school Library  
Tue 24 Mar – Thur 2<sup>nd</sup> April – HSC Mid-Course Exams  
Wed 25 Mar – ½ day Athletics Carnival  
Thur 26 Mar – Athletics Carnival (all day)

Mon 30 Mar-Wed 1 April – Yr 7 Camp  
Thur 2 April – Last day of Term 1  
Mon 20 April – Staff Return for Term 2  
Tue 21 April – Students Return for Term 2

### NEWSLETTER VIA E-MAIL

Would you like to receive the school newsletter via your e-mail? If so please fill in the following and send it back to the front office.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Yr: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

### Science Competition

The 2015 Science Competition is on again **Wednesday June 3<sup>rd</sup>**, Week 7, Term 2. The standardised test produced by the Educational Assessment Australia group of the UNSW provides students with a great opportunity to practise their knowledge & problem-solving skills under exam-style conditions.

Students receive an individual diagnostic report highlighting their strengths & weaknesses, & a certificate acknowledging their level of achievement.

UNSW medals are awarded to those students who achieve the highest score in each year level, & students in Years 11 & 12 have the opportunity to attain ONE bonus ATAR point for entry to UNSW if they successfully achieve the highest score.

Students can go to:

[www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/preparation](http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/preparation)

to access resources that will help them to prepare for the competition. Hints & tips, sample questions, & practice papers are available on the site.

To take part a **\$5** entry fee must be paid at the front office by **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May**, Week 2, Term 2 to take part.

See Mrs Stout for more details.

### LEETON WHITTON CROWS JUNIOR FOOTBALL

Registrations close for boys this Wednesday  
March 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

No late registrations will be accepted.

Use the following link to register

<http://goo.gl/gSkffB>

### LEETON WHITTON CROWS JUNIOR NETBALL

Girls ages 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 this year we need you.

If you would like to represent your town in the SWJFL come to the Leeton Showgrounds this Thursday evening (19 March) for an information session at 5pm.