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4 December 2015

Principal's Message



Welcome all to the final newsletter of the year. Again, the year has passed very quickly but we have had some great events to celebrate.

Asbestos Removal

It has been a monumental last two weeks of the year as we prepare A and C Blocks for asbestos removal over the school holidays. Teachers and students have all been part of the great pack and shift and I would like to sincerely thank them for any part they have played.

I also want to mention a special group of people – the teacher aides who have worked as a team and just come in and did what had to be done. We couldn't have done it without their help or without Tony and Craig and the massive effort they have put in. Thank you sincerely to all – it is a great example of what a team can do when there is work to be done.

These two blocks include computer rooms, kitchen, manual arts workshops and the music room so the equipment that needed to be moved was enormous. But we are nearly there.

Stop the Presses!!

Your student's \$50 stationery voucher is being posted today.

This is to be used for stationery for school next year, and can be purchased from the three local businesses who sell stationery – Myer's Newsagency, Barker's Newsagency and Mercury Business Supplies.

Stock up on supplies!

In 2016, we will come back to A Block with new internal rooves, freshly painted and carpeted. And in C Block, again new rooves but also a refurbished metal and woodwork rooms. (Matt Sampson can't sleep at night thinking about the great equipment that is on its way.)

Events

Farewell to Year 12s – Year 12 students had a great night on the Friday night at their Formal. Congratulations to Bec Bell and the Year 12s who made the Civic Centre a place of magic for their final event with Longreach State High School.

Our traditional clap out in the morning, saw a tearful goodbye to the place that had been home to them for 5 years. We wish them all the best for their future careers.

Year 6 students from a number of feeder schools visited the high school for a transition day. They had great fun completing a race around the school, and then attending lessons in various faculty areas.

I would like to thank all staff for this great year that we have had, and take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday and festive season. And may the new year bring us lots of rain!

WARNING!!!

From the close of school, no one is allowed in the school grounds during the asbestos removal.

Usually, students are allowed in the MPS area to play sports under cover. However, the school will be strictly out of bounds, so please do not let your children enter the school grounds.

They will be patrolled and everyone will be turned away.

Thanks for your help in ensuring that students are safe.

Lesley Andrews
Principal

Farewell Class of 2015

The 2015 Longreach State High School annual formal was a huge success judging by the amount of positive feedback received. The seniors were very well presented and parents enjoyed the opportunity to celebrate their son's or daughter's achievements over their past 5 years.

Ebonee Christopher summed up the highs and lows of their schooling experiences and Josh Keene, Ben Cross and Jason Cutting presented the evening highlight of the Mock Awards.

A special thank you must go to David Scutt for all his work preparing for the formal and for his outstanding speech on the night. I wish all the graduating students the best of luck in whatever path they may choose.



Rebecca Bell
Yr 12 Coordinator

Chaplain's Message:

Chappy's Corner



In April 2011, I began my journey as the Chaplain at Longreach State High School. I have seen many students come and go; seen students succeed in many areas of education – including academically, the arts (music, drama, art), and sports. Some have flown from the Longreach nest to either

further their education or for employment opportunities; others have flown and returned to take up positions of employment within Longreach; while others have stayed and settled here, taking on apprenticeships, etc.

In Chappy's Place, we've played Uno, Uno Spin; tried to balance kiwis and little silver men; competed against each other at Connect Four, Chess and Humpty Dumpty; we've completed jigsaw puzzles, both easy and not so easy; we've laughed; we've cried; we've made toast, eaten toasties and pancakes left over from that morning's Chappy's breakfast; we've played snap, fish, speed (card games); encouraged each other; learnt to talk nicely to each other; learnt to extend a little grace to each other; chatted about anything, everything and nothing. And we've all had fun.

I've learned from students how to listen to them – quietness is ok, it means I'm thinking. How to be an encouragement to them and they to me - friendship is like peeing your pants, everyone else can see it, but only you get to feel its warmth.

Thank you to the many people and businesses who have supported Chaplaincy over the years, it has been very much appreciated.

Thank you to all the staff of Longreach State High. Your passion to see the students succeed in ALL they do is a credit to you all.

It is now with several tears in my eyes that I complete my final Longreach State High School Newsletter item. Always remember that you are capable of doing anything; aim high. As Forrest Gump once said, "Mamma always said life was like a box of chocolates, you never know what you were going to get." Whatever you get as your "chocolate", don't waste it, enjoy the opportunity it gives you and learn from it. Remember that you are loved, you are cared about, you are appreciated, you are beautiful, and you are treasured.

Take care and have a beautiful Christmas.

Jenny Edwards
Chaplain

P & C President Message:

The P&C would like to wish our Year 12 students all the best for the future. To all our teachers, we want to say thank you for all the hard work and effort put in for 2015.

We wish all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and please enjoy a wonderful and safe holiday.

Hope to see all back in 2016.

Christo Jacobie
P & C President

P & C Treasurer Report

The Longreach High School P&C Association has again had a successful year raising funds through the school tuckshop and has also received grants and donations. The P&C would like to thank all students, parents and teachers who support the P&C simply by making purchases at the tuckshop and would again like to thank the Masonic Lodge for its recent donation of \$14,800.

In 2015 the P&C had two employees, our tuckshop convenor, Di Daniels and Harrison Everitt who completed a traineeship in Information Technology while completing Year 12. In 2016 the P&C is hoping to expand its traineeship program by employing two students, a Year 11 and Year 12 student.

This year the Association, with the assistance of a grant, was able to provide \$50,000 to the school to help install an automatic watering system to improve the oval and gardens. Funding also went towards classroom improvements by giving whiteboards interactive capabilities and improving students' learning experiences by sponsorship of Academic Achievement Awards, the Year 12 Formal, providing assistance for motivational speaker Michael Tuahine and the Year 11 camp.

The Association has already contributed to a year seven area with seating and is committed to installing new shade sails.

A further \$10,000 has been committed to resurfacing the Multi-Purpose Shelter.

Dave Perry
P&C Treasurer

P & C AGM 2016

The AGM will be held on Tuesday 16 February at 7 pm in the High School Library.

Instrumental Music



Thanks to all the band members and parents for the great performances we have had this year with the Longreach Show, Mayor's Breakfast, School Concert Evenings, Director General's visit, Awards Night and various workshops. You have done yourselves proud.

We have lost Joshua Keene, Simone and Ryan Stephenson who have finished Year 12 after more than seven years in the Instrumental Music Programs in Longreach. Great work guys and girl.

Thanks to parents who have driven students (or been driven up the wall), and made sure the band was a success for 2015. It wouldn't happen without you.



Jason Osman
Instrumental Music

After Ever After

Longreach State High School's Year 9 and 10 Drama class performed their self-devised play 'After Ever After' last week to huge acclaim.

Based on twisted fairy tales, the plot follows the story of a cursed Wolf and his journey to change back into human form. Along the way the wolf meets Cinderella, but not Cinderella as you may know her. The play had many twists, a high death toll and finished with an unexpected ending (sometimes the bad guys win!).

The students worked extremely hard and put in many after school hours to rehearse and produce the 75 minute performance which included musical numbers, shadow screens, a high number of costumes, props and special effects.

Congratulations to all students, who excelled and went above and beyond to make 'After Ever After' a success.



After Ever After

Erin Landles
Drama Teacher

Faculty News:

CREATE Animation

Throughout this term, Year 7 and 8 students in the Create Animation class have been developing their own ideas to make small stop motion animation movies. They needed to think of an idea, make or acquire all props and equipment then use the iPads to film one step at a time to make their movie. Once the photos were taken and downloaded into Moviemaker, they were speeded up to look like movement was occurring. The students enjoyed working on this assignment, using the iPads

with the tripods and stands, and were interested in viewing the finished products made by their peers. A selection of the movies has been attached to this newsletter.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DG97VeyL0Vk>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ng0jlpuyvFs>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r615DsBU1Mc>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n_7N4jgWkLM

Kym Rumsey
Teacher

Faculty News:

Year 10 Home Economics

The Year 10 Home Economics class this year completed a unit on Desserts where their assessment was to create an episode of a cooking show, showcasing a particular dessert of their choice. They designed, starred in, filmed and edited their cooking episodes using the schools iPad filming equipment which was a great way to use ICT in Home Economics. The students created episodes to a very high standard and one has been included for you to see the amount of skills our students have in a vast array of subjects.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QTEA4AQxcdU>

Elissa Balke
Home Economics Teacher