8 February 2016

Principal’s Message

Welcome back to a new year. There are some great things to celebrate apart from the lovely rain we are experiencing at the moment.

Welcome to new students to the school, especially our Year 7 students. They have already settled in and become part of the school.

Welcome also to our new teachers:

- Mr Allan Crawford – History and HPE
- Ms Emily John – French
- Mr Guiseppe Tedesco-Guileri – who is DRT for one term but will be replacing Elissa Balke as Home Ec when she goes off to have her baby
- Jenny Millen and Marg Kluger are welcomed back to Longreach as DRT’s

Firstly, congratulations to Josh Keene for his mammoth effort in achieving an OP 1 last year. It is a great achievement that Josh has worked hard for, completing two University subjects during the year and obtaining a result of 7 in each, which is the highest mark you can get.

Josh also received an Excellence Scholarship from the University of Queensland. We wish him well for his future career in Engineering.

The refurbishment of two blocks is still underway, but the rooms that have been completed are looking great. A Block has all new ceilings in all rooms, and seen some new paint work and carpets in other rooms. The Sick Bay, Photocopier, Computer Labs and A Block Staffrooms are all complete.

C Block has also had some dramatic changes with the Manual Arts rooms upgraded with new equipment (on its way), paint and rewiring. The kitchen and music rooms has also had new paint and carpet, and the Drama Room and C Staff room when completed will be revamped and have extra space.

Due to the amount of work that had to be completed, Admin office will be refurbished at the Easter Break. Work is continuing for most of the term with windows (old broken louvers) being replaced in A Block and ceilings in non-priority areas being completed.

Tuesday, February 16, is our Investiture Ceremony for school leaders and representatives. Parents are welcome to attend at 9.00 am in the MPS.

Tuesday evening is a welcome for Year 7 parents in the library at 6.00 pm. Come and meet your students’ teachers. This event will be followed by the AGM of the P & C and parents are welcome to stay on and participate.

Just a reminder about some of the schools’ policies:
We are looking forward to the school year and working with you.

Lesley Andrews
Principal

Swim Carnival

Congratulations to Spartans who were the champion house for the 2016 Swimming Carnival.

Age Champions

12 Years Boys - Dean McCoy
12 Years Girls - Hara Fraser
13 Years Boys - Jaxon Hitson
13 Years Girls - Anne McLachlan
14 Years Boys - Brock McCoy
14 Years Girls - Genevieve Madden
15 Years Boys - Kaleb Madden
15 Years Girls - Hannah Bush and Brienna Heisner
16 Years Boys - Jesse Butt
16 Years Girls - Juana Solomon
Open Boys - Lachlan Smith
Open Girls - Chrisne Jacobie

Paul de Vries
Teacher

Mobile phones can be bought to school, but are to be switched off and put away during the whole school day. That means if you as a parent want to contact your student, you will need to phone the school office and we will get a message to them. Phones are an unnecessary distraction to students in classrooms and interfere with classes.

Uniform – the school is a uniform school which is decided by the P & C and as such, when you enrol a student, you agree to the uniform policy. Mostly students are all wearing the right uniform, but we do have some issues with shorts being too short. The school is a work zone for teachers and non-teaching staff, and so students need to be respectful of this. The expectation is that students will be wearing plain black shorts (no writing or colour) of a reasonable length. Uniforms are available from the tuckshop.

The expectations for students are that they come to school prepared to work with correct books, pens etc. and complete the work set in each class. The assessment calendar will be out in Week 3 so you will be able to check what assessment is set for your child.

Instrumental Music

Welcome to all parents and students of the Instrumental Music program for 2016. Lessons began on Thursday 4 February. Students should bring all equipment to their lessons on Thursdays. School instruments and books, if needed, will be allocated during the second lesson. Band rehearsals will start in Week 3, with both the Central West Band 3:45 - 4:45 pm Wednesdays and LSHS Concert Band at 8 am on Thursday mornings. We may need to reschedule band rehearsals depending on the availability of the band room due to repairs, but I will send out a note if band rehearsal is not on. Lessons will be held in the old Chappie’s room for now. The IM timetable has been sent to teachers and has been up on the band room window for students to check since last week.

Students in Years 7 to 12 have the opportunity to be a part of the Instrumental Music program. This year we have many school instruments that we can use should your student want to play: Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone or Percussion.

Please see Mr Osman or leave him a note if you would like your child to play an instrument in 2016.

Jason Osman
Instrumental Music

New IT Trainees

IT support at Longreach SHS has two new members, Shalaina Wallison (Year 12) and Nic Rumsey (Year 11). Shalaina and Nic were successful in obtaining the IT trainee positions sponsored by the P&C Association.

The P&C have been very supportive in the past by supporting one IT trainee and this year have generously offered to fund two trainee positions.
At the end of their traineeship both students will have gained a Certificate II in IDMT (Information, Digital Technology and Media). This certificate is completed through an external provider, Axiom College, while they do the hands-on training component at LSHS.

The students have started the year working very enthusiastically to get the computer labs back in order after all the refurbishments that took place in A Block over the holidays.

Mrs Roberts  
IT Co-ordinator

P & C Meetings

The next P & C meeting will be the AGM and will be held on Tuesday 16 February at 7 pm in the Library. Everyone is welcome to come along.