Principal’s Message

As I write this, I am looking at puddles of water on our oval and, like all of you, I am sure, giving thanks that we have had some substantial rain over the last two days.

NAPLAN is over and we are now getting to the serious end of Term 2. Assessment has been completed for most students and again we had the DSS Room running. This is the Diligent Student Room where students who are not completing enough work in class or who are behind in their assessment, work during lunch hours to get up to date. Our philosophy is that we do not accept excuses for students not completing work and we hope that students realise that they can complete the work with support and help.

We were doing some number crunching and discovered that two thirds of our students in all year levels achieved a Good or Excellent in Behaviour and Effort on their interim report cards. Again, we want classrooms to be productive places for student learning and that the behaviour of those few who disrupt will not be tolerated.

Events:

- 25 Year 10 students enjoyed their day with a photographer – see Aleesha Degen’s report and picture.
- Reconciliation Week was celebrated as well and Amy Brazil’s report is included.
- CQ University also visited and worked with Year 11 and 12 students on career choices and pathways.
- On Monday and Tuesday next week, Matt Rigby returns to work again with our Year 12 OP eligible students to get them ready for the QCS test.
- The Athletics Carnival will be held in Week 10 on Wednesday 15 June.

Lesley Andrews
Principal

Uniform

With the cold weather upon us, students are required to wear the plain maroon uniform jumper which is available from the tuckshop for $25.00. If a student arrives at school with a non-uniform jumper they will be sent to the office and given a school jumper for loan for the day. Their own non uniform jumper will be held by the office for the day and swapped back at the end of the day.

Guidance Officer’s Message

Families That Work Well Together

Success at school is strongly related to families that work well. Below is a list of tips that may assist with strengthening family bonds.

Just as a loving, caring family can help a child develop self-esteem, so an unhappy, fearful family can lead to low self-esteem and a range of problems for a child. Sometimes unhelpful ways of doing things, habits and patterns, form in our families without us realising that this has happened. We often just know that life seems harder and not enjoyable anymore as a parent. You may find it useful to think about how your family works.

Great state. Great opportunity.
Make time for talking and listening.

- Families where a wide range of feelings are expressed seem to be healthier; feelings such as joy, excitement, anger and fear.
- Often parents forget that talking with children can be difficult and that they think in different ways from grown-ups. Try to remember how it was for you. The people you liked were probably those who listened to what you had to say.
- Listening means not only hearing the words but working out what your child is feeling behind the words.
- Listen without jumping in with answers or lecturing or criticising. Remember what it feels like when you want to talk and have someone just listen.
- Check that you’re hearing your child correctly by repeating what you have heard but in different words. Show you are interested with brief fill-ins like “Mmm, go on” or “Really!”
- ‘Put down’ messages, threatening and blaming are likely to make your child feel bad or hopeless.

Show affection, encouragement and appreciation

- Children and adults feel good when they are encouraged and appreciated. Let your child know what you love and like about them.
- Teenagers who remember being praised, kissed or hugged during the previous week are likely to do better at school than those who don’t have this experience.
- Take time to ask what each family member has done each day and show interest in each other’s lives.
- Most people find it easier to criticise than praise, so make an effort to think about the positives and tell your child what you have noticed.
- No one should be left out or made to feel the odd one out in the family.
- Allow each person to be excited about her personal interests and show respect and tolerance.

Share the chores and the power

- Help children to take on responsibilities so that as they get older you allow them to have more say over their own lives.
- The younger the child the more you should be in control, but begin early, giving them chances to do things for themselves with careful watching.
- Use adult power wisely. Keep control through humour and encouragement, not with punishment or threats. In less healthy families there is a never-ending fight for control which is unhelpful to children.
- When children have a real say in what happens and where everyone feels their views are listened to, a very special relationship with trust and intimacy helps build a healthy family.

Keep in touch with friends and relatives

- The more a family is isolated from others the more chance there is of having problems.
- Knowing that there are people outside to turn to when things get tough or in a crisis will make a difference to your child’s happiness and chances of having friends.
- Apart from family and neighbours, share day to day problems with the parents of your child’s friends (but don’t do it in front of children).

Make family time

- Plan so there is time to discuss things that affect the whole family.
- Create a sense of belonging – sharing ideas, values and beliefs.
- Find some way to spend time together as a family group. Make fun times together.
- Shared mealtimes (without television or phone calls) allow everyone to share information, and to know what is happening to each other.
- Do things together – play cards or games, take holidays, go on outings or walks, go camping, play sport, share hobbies.

Commitment

- Put the well-being of your family as a first priority.
- Show loyalty to your family. Stick up for each other so that each person feels confident in the family’s support.
- Pull together to form a united front and to find solutions.

Family rituals and traditions

- The little special things (daily rituals) that you do everyday and on special occasions held build a sense of belonging, inner security and contentedness. Daily rituals can be how you say goodbye, what you do at mealtimes and bedtime. Families benefit from coming together to celebrate special occasions (e.g. birthdays, Christmas and Name Days) and of having traditions about what happens at these times.

Spiritual values and beliefs

Many families have spiritual beliefs which give a sense of meaning and direction to the ordinary events of the day. They can also add strength and hope in times of crisis and difficulty.

Resilience

Strong families are able to withstand setbacks and crises with a positive attitude and shared values and beliefs that help them cope with challenges.

Andrew Ruzicka
Guidance Officer
Chappy's Corner

Local school chaplain, Kerry Morton, is at the High School on Mondays and Tuesdays each week. Chappy’s Place is open Monday mornings from 8 am till first bell and again at second break. Chappy’s Breakfast will be held each Tuesday morning in the cooking room from 8.15 am. This breakfast is free to all students and all students are welcome. Chappy’s Place will also be open at second break.

On both days, students are welcome to visit Chappy’s Place to make themselves some toast, to chill out, play games or have a chat. School bags are left outside the room, and no chewing gum is permitted.

Kerry Morton
Chaplain

Faculty News:

Drama

This term the Year 9/10 Drama class have been making short films. Our first film was a western shootout and luckily we were given the opportunity to film at Outback Aussie Tours for the authentic cowboy feel. Our final assessment is a short horror movie which the students are greatly anticipating.

Additionally, the Year 10 class are challenging themselves by writing, filming and editing a 5 minute short film for entry in the Focus on Ability disability film competition. We are hard at work storyboarding and filming to put our story together.

Year 7 Drama

This term the Year 7 Drama class have been developing their skills in comedy. Most recently the students enacted a script which required them to devise some action missing from the script. The end result was a hilarious set of scenes about two burglars – one very good and the other rather...not.

Erin Landles
Drama Teacher

Photography Workshop

Last week Year 10 and 11 students participated in a photography workshop through the Moran Arts Foundation. Students worked with photographer, Nicki Jackson. As a group we were able to photograph subjects in the local area of Longreach as well as locations within the school grounds.

The students enjoyed the workshop and gained new knowledge and insight into the art of photography.

The photographs from the workshop are up for display underneath B Block.

Aleesha Degen
Teacher

National Reconciliation Week

The week of 27 May to 3 June was National Reconciliation Week. Each year National Reconciliation Week celebrates and builds on the respectful relationships shared by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other Australians.

The 2016 theme is Our History, Our Story, Our Future. A group of students joined Miss Degen and Miss Brazil at lunch times to work on a piece of art to show our school’s support for reconciliation. Several students were involved in the successful project which we look forward to putting on display.

Amy Brazil
Teacher

Year 9 Camp Fundraising

In raising money for Year 9 Camp, Year 9 students have been fundraising with a $100 board. The $100 board was drawn on Wednesday 1 June and the lucky winner of the $100 prize is Tania Osborne from Longreach State High School.
Congratulations to Tania Osborne!!! Thank you to all the Year 9 students who helped to raise money for their camp to the Capricorn Caves.

**Aleesha Degen**  
**Teacher**

**Library News**

**ePlatform**

The high school has recently registered with Wheelers Books to access their digital library through ePlatform. This is a major step forward for our humble little library. Wheelers will customize an age appropriate collection of fiction and non-fiction digital books for us to offer to our students. This has effectively quadrupled the number of titles we can provide to our students. ePlatform provides personal customization as well. Background colour, font size and spacing are just some of the functions that can be adjusted for the comfort and ability of the reader.

The next step is to register our students. The only information that we need to supply Wheelers is a school MIS number (mine is lclar127), year level and a school email which only gets used if books are reserved. There is no personal information provided to Wheelers Books.

Consent forms have been emailed or posted. If you have not already done so, please sign and return the consent form to allow us to register your student so they have the opportunity to experience digital books in a safe and secure environment.

**Lisa Clarke**  
**Library Teacher Aide**

---

**Coming Events**

**P & C Meetings**

The next P & C meeting will be held on **Tuesday 21 June at 7 pm** in the Library. Everyone is welcome to come along.

**LSHS 50 Year Celebrations 17 & 18 September 2016**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 16 June at 5.30 in the High School Library.

“Where are they now?”

For the 50 Year Magazine, we are asking past staff and students (or parents of students), to submit a small paragraph of 4 to 6 sentences including the years you attended or worked at the High School, your name (and maiden name), what you did after leaving LSHS, and where you are now. Please email Lisa Clarke – lclar127@eq.edu.au

We are also offering the opportunity for people and/or businesses to **sponsor a page** in the 50 Year magazine. $10.00 per page and you can sponsor as many pages as you like. Sponsorship form is attached below.

We are chasing some old school magazines. Missing magazines are 1995, 1991, 1984 and 1975. If anyone has access to these “Westerners”, the school would like to take a copy please.

Tickets for the **Dinner and Dance** hosted by the ‘56ers (former Longreach school students turning 60 this year) on Saturday night are on sale at the Longreach RSL phone 4658 1092 and Longreach Leading Appliances phone 4658 1774. Cost is $60 per ticket. Music will be provided by Factory Fleece.