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20 March 2015

Principal's Message



Welcome to the second last newsletter of the term. It is always a surprise at how quickly the term passes and assessment and reporting come on the agenda.

Curriculum:

Our continuing focus is on establishing where students are at and then tracking their progress. We do this through a series of NAPLAN style literacy and numeracy tests at the end of one term or the start of the next term.

We enter students results into a computer program that allows us to work out the number of points students have improved by and whether they are at National Minimum Standard (NMS) and what bands they fall in. The program also allows us to print out individual sheets for each student outlining the areas they need to work on and which are aligned to the ACARA statements.

So Year 7, 8 and 9 students will be undergoing some testing next week and at the beginning of next term.

Mentor interviews have begun with each student in Year 7 and 9 being assigned a mentor teacher to work with them one on one to talk about their results, what they need to do to progress and to set goals.

To help with this process, we have started adding to the newsletter a section on how to help your student. I have advertised previously an app that you can download for Year 7, 8 and 9 – called NAPLANG8, or 9 or 10 which gives students an opportunity to practice questions that are similar to the NAPLAN tests.

We are also adding sections prepared by our Master Teacher, Tania Schaller, that you can work through with your student to help them with strategies. This week we have a Maths section. Please be sure to check it out.

Next Monday is the P & C AGM at 7.00 pm in the Library – all parents are welcome.

Attached to this newsletter is a very interesting poster which outlines what happens when your student is late on a regular basis. The time adds up and how it affects your student is staggering. If students are late to school without a note or

phone call from parents, then they complete a lunch time detention. If it keeps occurring, then an afternoon detention will be arranged. Our constant message is about not wasting time, and completing the work that is assigned in classes.

Lesley Andrews
Principal

Chaplain's Message:

Chappy's Corner



How would you finish the following sentence?

Teenagers nowadays.....

Some people might choose words such as these:

'are out of control', 'are disrespectful and rude' or 'are violent and abusive'.

Let me assure you that though these comments might fit a small percentage of teenagers, they definitely do not apply to the vast majority.

A much larger percentage of our young people work hard at school, are busy on weekends with sports and/or other hobbies, and once old enough, are also busy with part-time jobs.

Please take the time to look for the good in each of our young ones and encourage them in their efforts.

Teenagers nowadays are all individuals who, with the nurturing effect of guidance, love and support, will very likely turn into wonderful young adults.

Jenny Edwards
Chaplain

Instrumental Music



Band rehearsals and lessons have begun and the band has its first performance next week at the Mayor's Breakfast. A note will be going home about this on Thursday.

There are a couple of workshops planned for next term along with Barcaldine band students. The QSO is returning to do some workshops with the band and local community also. At the

moment we are preparing to play in the School ANZAC Parade and the Longreach Show next term.

We are always looking for more musicians, so if you play or want to play a brass, woodwind or percussion instrument please see Mr Osman as we do have some instruments spare at the moment.

Music Contracts:

Just a reminder that once a student has joined the Instrumental Music Program they are expected to complete the full year of band and lessons. Students can only leave the program with permission or agreement of LSHS Administration.

Jason Osman
Instrumental Music

Coming Events

P & C Meetings

The next P & C meeting will be held on **23 March at 7 pm** in the Library. This will be the AGM. Everyone is welcome to come along.

Important Notices:

Public Dentist

Students from Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 can go to the public dentist at the Hospital for treatment of toothache or for an examination. Phone 4658 4720 for appointment.

Students in Years 11 and 12 can only be treated by the public dentist if they come under a concession card i.e. for low income, this does not include Medicare card.

Longreach Athletics Club Sign On

Longreach Junior Soccer AGM, Saturday 28 March

To be held in the undercover area at the Longreach State High School at approximately 11 am (at completion of morning cricket).

Thankyou and regards
Sandy Rayner
Longreach Junior Soccer Secretary