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7 September 2015

Principal's Message



Another very busy few weeks have passed as we lead up to the end of term.

Events:

Our Year 12 students sat their **QCS test** over two days. They have worked hard over the last six months learning concepts and practicing questions. Thanks to all the teachers who have worked with them to get them through.

Bret Lee visited us again this year and spoke with Year 7, 8 and 9 students about the dangers of putting too much information on the social media sites and learning how to protect themselves from cyber bullying. He again talked with parents about safe sites and controlling students use. The main point is that if a student has an account eg Facebook, then the biggest safety factor from predators is to have a parent, aunt or uncle listed as one of their friends.

The **Junior Secondary night** was held for parents of 2016 Year 7 students. Parents were able to speak with teachers and ask lots of questions about the process for next year. Visits to the primary schools have begun with enrolment packages handed to students.

Process for enrolment:

- Enrolment forms back by Friday September 11
- Interview with the Principal conducted over the next few weeks
- Transition day on Tuesday November 24

Upcoming events:

Tourism Camp – 9 students from Year 11 and 12 are currently completing a Certificate II in Tourism. Students have already completed the modules and next week will be flying to the Gold Coast to complete the next step in the journey – visiting 4 days of attractions including Movie World and Dream World. Students, when they complete this Certificate will earn 4 points towards their QCE.

In the final week, Year 11 students will go to Emu Gully outside of Toowoomba for **the Leadership Camp**. This is one of the best and well organised camps that I have experienced.

Students have a great adventure there and have the opportunity to demonstrate their leadership abilities.

Also, Year 9's are off to Noosa for their **Adventure Camp**. This will also be a great experience for our students.

We know that students will have a good time on these various camps.

Lesley Andrews
Principal

Deputy Principal's Message



On Friday 14 August, Opera Queensland visited our school to deliver their production called FIZZ. The 50 minute opera was followed by a Q & A session for students and staff. All students were given the opportunity to enjoy the unique and engaging performance. A brief overview of the program from the Opera Q website is below.

Welcome to Belcore's Fine Foods! Nemorino (shelf stacker and trolley pusher) is a textbook nerd, desperate to gain the attention of the delightful Adina (register one) but his nerves always get in the way as does Benny Belcore (Daddy's spoilt little boy).

When Dr Dulcamara introduces a new drink claiming to transform you into an improved version of yourself Nemo thinks his prayers have been answered. After all, you can believe anything advertised on TV, right?! Convinced FIZZ! has turned him into a cool-cat, Nemorino finds the courage to approach Adina. He soon learns that FIZZ! isn't all it's cracked up to be.

FIZZ! pops the big issues facing little people today – self-confidence, bullying, honesty and friendship. This modern adaption of Donizetti's *The Elixir of Love* is presented against a dynamic multi-media backdrop and performed by three effervescent young opera performers and an on-screen cast of some of the state's most experienced singers.

This exciting collaboration between Opera Queensland and shake & stir theatre co brings a modern take on a classic opera for students everywhere.

<http://operaq2015.com.au/program/fizz/>



Nick Stead
Acting Deputy Principal

School Support Staff Week

From Monday 31 August to Friday 4 September we celebrated School Support Staff Week acknowledging the people behind the scenes who support our teachers and students. These people include cleaners, schools officers, administration staff and teacher aides.



Congratulations

Congratulations to teacher Elissa Murray, who married Jacob Balke on August 15 in Longreach.



Chaplain's Message:

Chappy's Corner



Food for Thought

Gossiping is something that we have probably all done at one time or another. Do you enjoy having the latest bit of news to share with others? You might ask, 'What's wrong with a bit of gossip?' You might feel it's quite harmless.

The opposite is true. Gossip is extremely damaging. It has been known to destroy relationships. Long term friendships have been destroyed by a few carelessly spoken words. In the case of Facebook gossip, there have been people who have committed suicide because of things that have been said about them.

In many cases the story that has been passed around turns out to be untrue, and yet it has still caused immense emotional pain. It has been said that gossip can sometimes cause more pain than a physical wound.

The next time that you feel tempted to pass on an interesting story about someone else, stop for a moment and consider the amount of pain that your few moments of enjoyment might cause. Treat others the way you want to be treated and refuse to pass on gossip.

Jenny Edwards
Chaplain

Instrumental Music



The Longreach High School Concert Band, Central West Band, Caterpillar Choir, Outback Thistle Pipe Band and Longreach Town Band all performed at the High School on Thursday 27 August.

Our students played extremely well and even though some were quite ill they were a credit to the school and program. Great Work! Thank you to all the students and parents who helped in any way to make this a very successful evening.

The students still have one more concert this term at Longreach SS on Thursday 3 September at their Retreat.



Jason Osman
Instrumental Music

Tourism

The Tourism students ventured out on an excursion recently to the Powerhouse Museum. Some students had never visited before and some had not been there since Primary School. We looked at all the exhibits from a tourist's point of view and enjoyed interacting with the displays. All students agreed that the Museum is worth a more detailed look, especially the items in the cottage down the back. A big "thank you" goes to the Longreach Regional Council for allowing us to visit free of charge.



Coming Events

P & C Meetings

The next P & C meeting will be held on **Monday 26 October at 7 pm** in the Library. Everyone is welcome to come along.