



# THE LINK

Leumeah High School Newsletter



20 June 2016 Term 2 Week 9

Junction Road, LEUMEAH NSW 2560

T: (02) 4625 7755, F: (02) 4628 5015

E: leumeah-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Dear Parents and Caregivers

From the Relieving Principal Mr. Bates

I would like officially announce that we have recently filled by merit selection, two critical positions within our staff being Head Teachers of Welfare and Administration. After positions being advertised in term one and then readvertised this term Mrs Josie Ferro has been successful in gaining the position of Head Teacher Welfare and Mrs Rachael Hutchinson has gained the position of Head Teacher Administration. Mrs Ferro is an outstanding practitioner and has worked very hard in leading our welfare team and learning support team over the past couple of years. We look forward to many more welfare initiatives to ensure student welfare remains at the fore of every decision made. Mrs Hutchinson has been brilliantly fulfilling the role of Head Teacher Administration (relieving) for the past two years for Mr White who has moved to a different school. Mrs Hutchinson's communication skills, efficiency, and ability to initiate solutions to whole school problems ensure she is well suited to this position and we look forward to working with her on the school executive over the ensuing years.

Our merit selection system involves a place for the voice of the community. When forming a panel to select a teaching position there must be a person representing the P&C. At present we have two people trained and certified being Kylie Devine and Bob Rogers and we are grateful for their engagement with this role and their professionalism in representing the community of Leumeah High School. If there are parents who would like to participate in this capacity please attend our next P&C meeting where we can discuss it with you.

Most students have just completed their semester one exams and are about to engage in their report reflections. The purpose of these is for students to set goals and targets for their growth over the next 6 – 12 months and take more responsibility for their own learning. You will be able to view what they have written in their report as it will be included in the front pages of the document. It is important as parent's to discuss their reflections with them to be a part of their academic journey. Some of this journey involves selection of subjects to study. Our information evening for year 8 and 10 to select subjects is on next Monday night and is a valuable source for choosing the right course and for the right reasons. We will also have information regarding Vocational Education and Training courses for year 10 students and their parents on the evening. Please ensure you are in attendance to take advantage of the information available on the evening.



## CALENDER

### JUNE

- 23/06 Year 12 English-Standard  
"Away" Play
- 23-24/06 Years 9&10 OE Excursion—  
Tree Top Adventure
- 24/06 Years 9&10 Pathways to  
Dreaming
- 24/06 Year 11  
Maths Assessment Task 2
- 27/06 Years 8&10  
Subject Selection Evening
- 27-30/06 Years 9&10 OE Excursion-  
Tree Top Adventure
- 29/06 Years 10-12  
Careers Options Day

### JULY

- 01/07 Last Day Term 2, 2016
- 18/07 Staff Development Day
- 19/07 Students Return Term 3, 2016
- 21-22/07 Zone Athletics
- 26/07 Years 7-10  
Parent Teacher Evening
- 28/07 Australian Mathematics  
Competition

### AUGUST

- 01-05/08 Education Week

### From the Relieving Deputy Principal

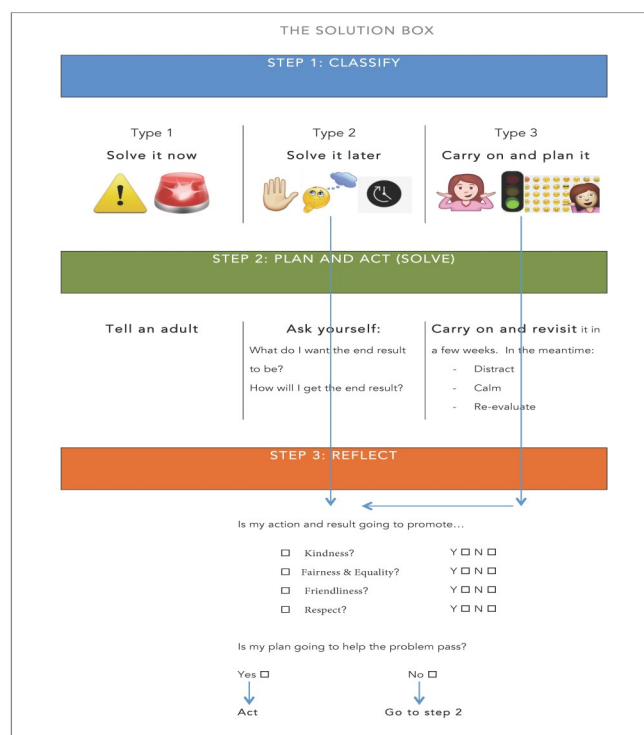
Our years 7 and 8 students have recently completed a number of social skills lessons called “*Solution Box*”; these lessons have been specifically designed by our Learning and Support team for Leumeah High students. *Solution Box* is intended to support students to classify problems, solve problems and practise their values. When classifying problems, students and staff have been encouraged to use a common language and I would encourage our parents and carers to also use the common language when discussing issues with their child.

The first classification, “solve it now”, is used when talking about major incidents such as a fire, someone being seriously hurt or a physical fight. Students are encouraged to always immediately tell an adult for these types of problems. The next classification, “Solve it later”, can be used when a student notices a peer feeling sad all of the time or perhaps something like name-calling that happens a number of times. Students are encouraged to take some time to think about the best end result and how they could achieve it, seeking help if needed. The third classification, “Carry on and plan it”, refers to things like rumours, feeling like someone is staring or perhaps being called a name once. Students are encouraged to stay calm, distract themselves from the issue and re-evaluate in a few weeks. These problems tend to fade away when a response or attention isn’t achieved.

Thanks to our Learning and Support Team for creating and scheduling this fantastic result and to the staff who have been involved in delivering the lessons.

Congratulations to all students for recently completing their exams – we wish you well with the results and look forward to talking about your current achievements and goals for the future at our years 7 – 10 parent teacher night early next term.

Ms Osborne





### From Teaching & Learning Faculty and Norta Norta

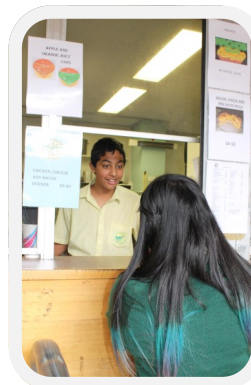
On Tuesday 31st May and Monday 6th June, students attended the exhibition 'With Secrecy and Despatch' at Campbelltown Arts Centre, learning about the Appin Massacre. After the exhibition, our students were privileged to work with Josh Bell and Karen Beetson, creating art works. It was exciting to work with Karen as she was previously a Leumeah High School student who was proud to share her HSC artwork completed at Leumeah in 1986.



### From the Year 8 Student Advisor

Year 8 have been very busy so far this year and their classroom teachers are working hard to prepare them for their assessments and exams. They have been working well across all of their Key Learning Areas and it is pleasing to see productive classrooms where students are engaged and learning.

Year 8 students are also fortunate enough to be offered to gain work experience in our school canteen. Each student will be given a short term to serve in the canteen which will provide them with valuable skills and experiences that would enable them to prepare for possible part time work in the future. The initiative is unique to Leumeah High School and has been commended for the opportunities that it offers students.



Finally, a reminder to all students to continue to demonstrate each of the four PRAC values, in particular PREPARATION, and ensure that they arrive to school each day with all of the equipment that they will need.

### Ms Gartside











Leumeah High was blessed with outstanding weather for the annual school athletics carnival during Week 4. The school community responded accordingly with a record number of students both attending and participating on the day. There was some outstanding competition and sportsmanship displayed on the day. Some commendable performances on the day included Nicholas D; Jackson M and Jay B clearing a whopping 1.67 metres in high jump, Lemar smashing the girls' discus record, Taylah L proving to be the fastest female student in the school running the 100 metres in 14.51 seconds and Austin H taking out the boy's 100 metres in a lightning time of 12.09 seconds!

Beachley were the champion house for the carnival narrowly defeating Fittler and Thorpe with Occhulupo bringing up the rear. House captain, Jack B., acknowledged the strong participation numbers for Beachley as the contributing factor for their house taking out the day. "We rallied the troops from all ages. Yellow was the colour that represented having a go on the day and as Mr Clark always says, you've got to have a go in life." Sports Organiser, Ms Scurr, also paid tribute to all the competitors on the day stating, "the real winners today were the Leumeah Pirate community and sport itself. Participation throughout the day has been outstanding! But I must also acknowledge the teachers' relay team who took out the final relay event of the day. Apart from Mr J, those teachers were flying."

To top off a great month in the sporting life of Leumeah High, the school cross country team were successful in winning the Zone championship for the first time in 4 years. Well done to all involved!





### From the Year 10 Student Advisor

It has been an extremely busy first semester for Year 10 that has provided a challenge to students. The Swimming and Athletics Carnivals provided the opportunity for our athletes in the grade to excel and it is pleasing to see many students advance through to represent our school at zone level. Good luck to those students in their respective events.

With winter having arrived, students are encouraged to be prepared to negotiate the challenges of the cold and wet weather and ensure that they have sufficient warm school attire. Our uniform shop can be accessed if students need any further uniform for the coming months.

Students have undertaken their second set of elective subjects for the year. This structure provides students with an opportunity to explore a wider variety of subjects that may assist them in their selections for senior studies next year. Subject selection information night is fast approaching and I encourage all students to attend with their families to discuss and gather information that will assist students to choose subjects wisely. Senior courses vary and can be different from the subjects students have participated in previously in junior schooling. The information evening will be held on Monday the 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2016 at 7:15pm in the School Hall. Information will also be presented to students whose future may not be in completing the HSC and are looking at undertaking vocational studies or apprentices/traineeships. I encourage all students to attend as these choices have a significant impact on their future and their chosen pathways beyond school. I would like to wish Year 10 good luck with the remainder of the year and hope that they undertake positive habits in preparation for their senior studies.

Mr Clark

### From the Year 12 Student Advisor

It's hard to believe that Year 12 only have thirteen weeks left of school! The year group have been encouraged to be proactive by engaging with their Personal Learning Plan goals, seeking teacher feedback and using their study day productively. Year 12 should be well and truly prioritising their studies and maintaining good revision habits which will lead them up to the assessment period, trial examinations and ultimately their HSC.

All students look fantastic in their newly arrived Class of 2016 jersey. Everyone seems happy with the final product and the jerseys are nice and warm for winter. Thank you again to the jersey committee who worked tirelessly with the design process to ensure the year group were happy with this important Year 12 memento.

Year 12 will soon start planning the celebratory events of the year; designing the yearbook and organising the formal. Students can now start gathering their pictures for the year book, including a baby or kindy photo to accompany their year 12 photo. The formal will be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November at Dockside L'Aqua, Cockle Bay Warf. Tickets cost \$110 and deposits can be paid next week.

Finally, Year 12 are reminded to make the most of their time at school by keeping on top of their work load, seeking advice when they need it and involving themselves in opportunities that are presented to them!

Ms Modica



### From Welfare Faculty

The Year 7 immunisation scheduled for Friday the 10th June has been cancelled, therefore the third immunisation date will also be rescheduled. The new dates will be advertised on our Skoolbag app, our school Facebook page and the school website.

On the 23rd May our students participated in a “Student Leadership Forum”. This forum was very productive and gave students an opportunity to discuss and present initiatives on improving our school.



### From the Learning Centre Coordinator

Year 12 students have been quite busy! As we move into the final weeks of Term 2, there are a considerable number of upcoming assessment tasks. Students need to apply their best efforts to each assessment task to ensure they attain a pleasing assessment mark to support their HSC exam results. Every task counts!

All students need to be using the upcoming holidays to engage in rigorous study and to establish a strong study routine. Students are encouraged to use this time to complete practice essay questions and past HSC papers, and should consult with their teachers about e-mailing draft responses throughout the holidays.

Those students who are required to complete major projects for their subjects need to be especially aware of the approaching due dates for these projects. Before the end of term, students should have a conversation with their teachers about opportunities to work in school during the holidays.

There are a number of HSC study lectures occurring throughout the holidays at University campuses. I urge students to enrol in these events to give themselves the best opportunities for success.

Kind Regards,

**Ms Chandler**

### YEAR 8 ARTWORK





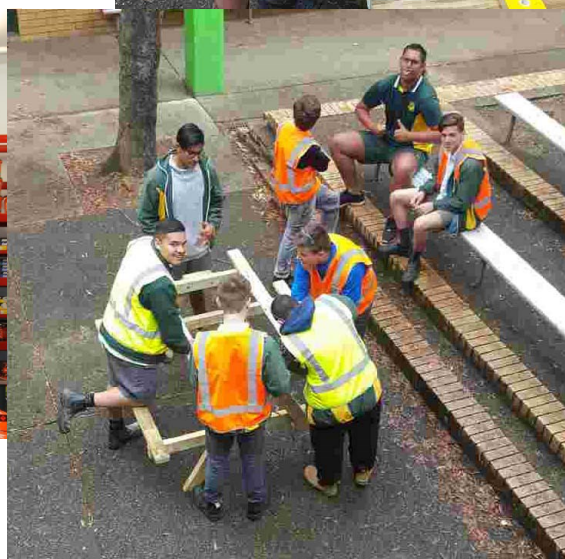


Year 11 Construction students constructing an outdoor table for our Art quad.

Thanks to Bunnings Campbelltown for their kind donation of our shirts for our construction students.



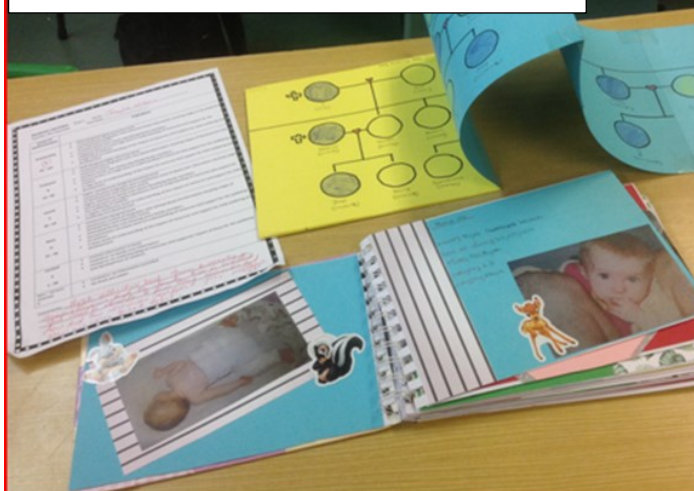
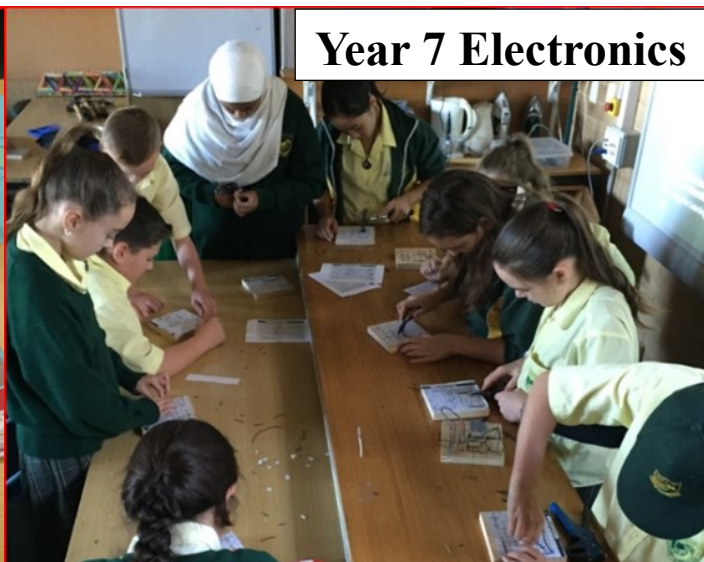
**BUNNINGS**  
warehouse



Students working in IT-Timber (Mandatory)





**Year 9 & 10 Child Studies****Year 7 Electronics**

# LTAS LEARNING ACTION

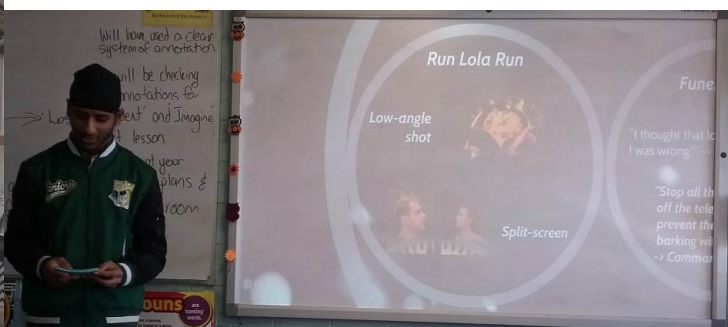
**Bundalong Timber projects****Year 11 Hospitality (VET)****Year 8 Eco wise Tie Dying.****Year 9 &10 Bridge stress testing**



### From English Faculty

Congratulations Year 12 for completing your last ever High School English Speech. It has been wonderful to see such a high level of knowledge being displayed. Congratulations Year 12 Standard English students.

In English, we are continually trying to provide students with engaging opportunities to expand on their knowledge. This week a group of Years 11 and 12 students will head to the theatre to see their set text for the Area of Study, Discovery, the Australian play *Away* by Michael Gow.



*The Year 7 Debating Team: they have been hard at work practising at lunch for their upcoming debates. Good Luck debaters, and thank you for your dedication and keep up the great work.*

*Years 7, 8 and 10 are commencing their novel studies. Please support students engaging with these texts by encouraging them to read at home.*

As Dr. Seuss once wrote, "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

A few Research Supported Reasons to read more at home

It increases intelligence

Reading increases vocabulary (exposing kids to 50% more words than TV)

It boosts brain power

Reading can make you more empathetic

It may help fight Alzheimer's disease

It can help you relax

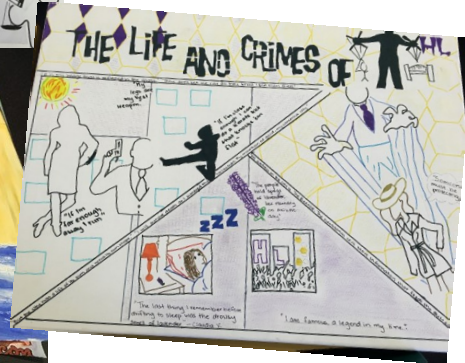
Reading before bed can help you sleep (Cunningham, A & Stanovich, K. 2001. *What Reading Does for the Mind*. Journal of Direct Instruction).

Want to find out more?

Check out Scholastic's Reading Report <http://www.scholastic.com/readingreport/Scholastic-KidsAndFamilyReadingReport-5thEdition.pdf>



The English faculty has been focused on providing students with many different opportunities to display their understanding of their set texts and key course concepts. One opportunity was the Creative Representations Year 12 were creating for their Close Study of Text unit.



#### Class in Focus

Year 8 have just finished their unit on the Heroine's Journey. 8ENGL and Ms. Gartside finished off this study by getting creative. Students, guided by Ms. Gartside, created some amazing visual representations that were accompanied by very detailed visual analysis and justification. Great work 8ENGL.





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## UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS 2016

**Monday**  
8.15am - 11.00am

**Wednesday**  
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