

# THE LINK



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## 15 November 2017 Term 4 Week 6

### From the Principal Mr. Zielinski

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

There is much happening at the moment at Leumeah High School. If you have driven past the school over the past few weeks you would have noticed the scaffolding around various buildings. The Department of Education is currently replacing the roof on the majority of school buildings. The previous iron roof is 40 years old and we were starting to suffer regular leaks during heavy downpours. Work is expected to be completed by the start of the new school year and we will then hopefully enjoy no leaks for many years to come.

A few weeks ago the SRC led by Mr Parry -Ewing and Mrs Cook organised our 4th annual "Dogtober" event where the school raises money for Assistance Dogs Australia, a charitable organisation that trains Labradors and Golden Retrievers to perform everyday tasks for people with disabilities. Assistance Dogs increase independence, reduce reliance on human caregivers and act as a great ice-breaker helping overcome social isolation. This year the school raised in excess of \$1000 for this worthwhile charity.

The Higher School Certificate concluded last week. I am sure that each student was relieved to hear "pens down" as they completed their last exam. We wish them well as they await their results in mid December. Students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 will currently sitting their end of year exams with reports available in the last week of term. The last day of school for all students from Years 7 to 11 is Friday 15th December.

Parents are reminded to keep their diaries free so they are able to attend end of year events that are planned. These include our annual MADD festival, a night of entertainment not to be missed, to be held the 29th and 30th November and our Annual Presentation evening which will be held on Tuesday 12th December at Wests leagues Auditorium commencing at 9.30am. On Saturday December 2nd, Leumeah High School will celebrate 40 years. On this day the school will be open from 10am till 2pm for past students to view displays, have a wander and reminisce. Later that evening the school will hold a cocktail party for all ex students in the school library. Tickets are now available from the school and further details are available on the school web site.

Over the next week the school will be mailing home invoices for outstanding subject fees and school contributions. Whilst many parents have made arrangements to pay fees, there are still a number of outstanding fees. It is especially important for students in those years that will be signing out at the end of this year to pay their fees as any outstanding fees will delay the signing out process. The school would appreciate it if parents could finalise the payment of these fees well before the end of this year. If there are any difficulties with the payment of fees, I would ask that you make an appointment to discuss them with me.

Our P& C does a wonderful job in supporting our school through raising funds and providing valuable feedback and support on what takes place within our school. This terms P&C meeting will be held in the staff common room on Monday 20th November commencing at 7.00 pm. As always, it would be great to see as many parents present as possible.

## CALENDER

### NOVEMBER

13-17/11	Years 7 & 8 Yearly Exams
16/11	Year 12 Formal
17/11	Year 7 Immunisations
20/11	P&C Meeting
20/11	Outdoor Ed-
	Tree Tops Adventure
23/11	Zone Blues Awards
24/11	Year 8 Pathways to Dreaming
24/11	Year 11 Geography Excursion
27/11-1/	12 MADD Festival Week

#### **DECEMBER**

4-8/12	Year 10 Crossroads/AMOW
11/12	Sports Assembly
12/12	Presentation Day
15/12	Students Last Day, Term 4

#### Dogtober



Exam time for Year 12



#### **From the Deputies**

What a year it has been!! It's disappointing that the year is coming to an end with so much that has been happening. As this goes to print, the school is moving into exam period. Years 9 and 10 will commence in Week 5, followed by Years 7 and 8 in week 6. We remind every student to aim to do their best in all subjects and wish them the very best of luck. Exams are a great opportunity for students to evaluate the learning that has taken place throughout the year and to see what they are good at and what areas can be improved upon. It is also allows our teachers to assess what modifications and changes need to be made to programs to ensure that all students are catered for.

We would also like to remind you about OPAL cards. It is very important that students catching the bus to and from school have a working OPAL card or pay for their journey. Students can apply for school OPAL cards online, if they live within a minimum distance of 2.0km from the school. If students live less than 2.0km from school and wish to use the bus, they need to have a personal OPAL card with funds on it. These funds need to be topped up frequently so that the correct fare is being charged. Not having an OPAL card or not having enough funds could result in your son/ daughter not being permitted to ride the bus. This request has come from the State Government. Please keep this in mind for the remainder of the year and as we commence 2018.

The school has been very busy with the COS visits. It was wonderful to meet so many young and eager year 4 and 5 students from our community of schools. It was also wonderful to meet their teachers and to find out the interesting learning and programs that our primary schools are doing. All the staff and students of LHS had a fabulous day! A special thanks to our SRC and young leaders who looked after our primary visitors for the week.

We are currently engaged with updating our school grounds. Much work has been happening around the school and students and staff have had to adjust to all minor disruptions. It will all be worth it when the school has new roofs. It is not just the roofs that have had a face lift; we would like to draw your attention to the mural and the garden at the front of the school and wish to thank Mrs Kylie Coggans for the hard work she has put into finishing it. There has also been work going on at the back of the school and our agriculture farm has been very productive also. This year we welcomed new arrivals of chickens and lambs to LHS with all Year 7 having the responsibility of looking after the animals and tending to the garden throughout their Agricultural lessons. A big thank you to Mr Hobson, the farm assistant, who is always busy with the farm ensuring it remains productive.

Finally, Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October was Teacher Appreciation Day. It gave us an opportunity to acknowledge and appreciate all the hard work teachers do every day for their students making a difference. The senior executive took time out to celebrate all the great things teachers do at LHS making it the best place in the Campbelltown area to work and learn!

Mr Bates, Mrs Irons and Mrs Spratt



Dear Principal

Adolescent human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination program

Since the inception of the HPV Program in 2007, Year 7 students have been offered three doses of vaccine. However recent international studies show that for children aged 9 to 14 years of age, two doses of HPV vaccine provide the same protection as three doses, as long as the second dose is given at least six months after the first dose. Based on this evidence, the World Health Organization (WHO) now recommends two doses of HPV vaccine, and this has already been adopted in comparable countries (i.e. the UK, Canada, the United States and New Zealand) and is now being adopted in Australia.

I am pleased to advise that most<sup>1</sup> Year 7 students who have received two doses of HPV vaccine are considered to be fully vaccinated and <u>do not require a further dose</u>.

In 2017 Year 7 students were given the second dose of HPV vaccine at least six months after the first dose to accommodate the urgent roll-out of the Meningococcal W Response Program to Year 11 and 12 students. Year 7 students who have received only one dose of HPV this year will be offered their second dose in 2018. Parents/carers whose children were vaccinated in 2017 but who still wish for their child to receive a third dose of HPV vaccine can access a free dose from their GP. Parents with concerns or questions are encouraged to call their local public health unit.

A small number of students are still recommended to have three doses of HPV vaccine.<sup>1</sup> Parents/carers of these students should make arrangements to complete the vaccine schedule with their GP or by calling their local public health unit on 1300 066 055.

I would greatly appreciate your support in distributing the attached letter and article to parents using your routine communication channels (i.e. newsletters, school apps).

More information is available on the NSW Health website at <u>www.health.nsw.gov.au/hpv</u> or by calling your local public health unit on 1300 066 055.

Yours sincerely

Dr Vicky Sheppeard Director, Communicable Diseases Branch 9 November 2017

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Children who still need a three-dose schedule are: those who received their first dose of HPV vaccine at 15 years of age or older, and those with significant immunocompromise (those with primary or secondary immunodeficiencies (B lymphocyte antibody and T lymphocyte complete or partial deficiencies); HIV infection; malignancy; organ transplantation; autoimmune disease; or significant immunosuppressive therapy (excluding asplenia or hyposplenia)).

## From the Year 8 Student Advisor

It has been another busy few months for Year 8, who have been working exceptionally hard leading into their Yearly Exams. It has been a pleasure to see all the outstanding things they have been working on these past few terms and I look forward to the positive things they will continue to be involved in around the school.

Last term Year 8 were involved in a bonding excursion to Dumeresq Street Cinemas, followed by a BBQ and socialising at Koshigaya Park. The students were exemplary, demonstrating all the key values expected of Leumeah High School students, doing themselves, the school and their Year Advisors proud. As a grade, they have continued to display all their skills and talents through their sporting conquests including U14's Rugby League for both boys and girls, with the girls progressing to the State Final and winning the competition. The Year 8 debating team had immense success as well with significant victories over debating powerhouse Elderslie High School.

With yearly examinations just around the corner. I encourage students to begin studying and working on revising for their exams. Following the study skills sessions worked on in SEL this term, I know that they are all capable of achieving some amazing things in upcoming exams. Remember, it's all about that their Growth Mindset!!

## From the Year 10 Student Advisor

It is hard to believe that in 6 weeks my beautiful grade will be Seniors; I don't know where all that time has gone! But before they graduate to the 'White Shirt' status, they will have a lot of things to get through. This term sees them complete their last ever junior yearly exams (week 5), the 'Cross Roads' program and the mandatory 'All My Own Work' DoE course, to name a few.

Subject selections have been finalised for Year 11 at the moment, and students have been issued with their courses

Students are reminded that if they do not have a USI number at this time, they need to do so ASAP as they are now very overdue! Information sheets as to how to create a USI number can still be collected from myself or Mr Shaw. It is really important that all students have a USI number, by the commencement of Year 11 (2018).

I hope that the rest of the year progresses smoothly and that all students enjoy their Christmas break and come back to school in 2018 in one piece.

If you have any issues or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact myself (Mrs Gilleland) or Mr Shaw.

#### Mr Curtain

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On Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> of October 7M, 7A & 7U were given the opportunity to visit Casula Powerhouse for the 1 day. First we saw some Aboriginal Art works and an exhibition called "Home Work". We made our won artwork to add to this exhibition. We worked with local artist Freya Jobbins and made 3D skulls that represented us. We also made posters about our identity with art educator Di McClaughlin. The Powerhouse was a cool place to visit and everyone enjoyed the day.

Written by Mackensie B. 7M





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## From the Year 12 Student Advisor

It is bitter sweet feeling saying goodbye to our beautiful year 12 students. We are so sorry to see such a fantastic, positive and friendly bunch of students leave our school we are so happy for them and look forward to seeing their success in the future.

Year 12 have been a wonderful group who have always worked hard to demonstrate their love of their peers, teachers as well as the school. The students have been such positive role models for the other year groups and have always strived to succeed and make the school proud.

During the last week of Term 3 we celebrated the last official week of school by holding a picnic at Barrangaroo in the city where we ate way too much pizza and tried to avoid Mr Allsopp's desperate attempt to get everyone to play cricket. Thank you to Mr. Bates, Mr. Turnbull, Ms. Roberts, Mr. Allsopp, Ms. Modica and Mr. Tsoupis for attending the picnic and celebrating with the group. We also held the graduation ceremony on Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup> of September at Wests Leagues Club. The ceremony was a fitting and somewhat emotional way to culminate their six years of high school. Students and families can access the photos from graduation via the website with the code they were given in their graduation folder.

Students have started their HSC, and have been very busy study and preparing for the exams. We encourage students to keep up this positive work ethic and preparation as it not only preparing them for the exams but assisting them in their preparation and study habits for further education. Students should also remember to start looking into early entry, any scholarships available as well as any specific deadlines for entry into university, TAFE or apprenticeships that students are interested in. Please also note that students are invited back to LHS on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> of December at 10am in the school library to share their HSC results with their peers and teachers. All HSC results will be available on this day online. Students will need to ensure they have login access in order to access their results.

The formal will be held on Thursday the 16<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm at Curzon Hall. We all look forward to seeing the students looking amazing and celebrating one of last times we will all be together!

All the best for year 12 for the HSC and beyond! You have been an awesome group and we will miss you all!

Ms Rigg, Mr Allsopp, Ms Roberts and Ms Turnbull



Ms Coggans and our Year 9 ATSI students finishing the School Mural at the front of our school.



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## **From the English Faculty**

For this instalment of The Link, English have tried to bring you inside the classroom and get a glimpse of some of the learning taking place both in and outside the classroom.

**Creative Writing** 

A quick glimpse into some student work.

We are very excited that some of our 2017 - 2018 HSC cohort have decided to embrace the challenge of Extension 1 and 2 English. The students have selected a few sentences from their larger works to share as part of The Link. Their Year 11 focus was on Dystopian texts and many students chose to explore the genre of Science Fiction.

"Simultaneously, the seven individuals are injected with the gene, the needle sparkling as it penetrates the skin barrier of their spinal column. Instantly, seven heads bow towards the floor as the process of rescrambling commences"

Levna – Year 11

"The dark abyss of the ceiling was the only thing in my view. Waiting for the right time to leave was more boring than I anticipated. If I left too early, the guards would be suspicious. Too late and Hace would give up and go back to his room " Lauren – Year 11

"I grab the white towel and wipe the shame of my brother off my face. What an absolute fool." Leyna - Year 11



Standard English students taking the opportunity to work with their peers.

### **Creative Writing Competitions**

Are you, or someone you know, interested in creative writing? Do you want to try something new and put your abilities to the test? Check out the Australian Writer's Competition page

## http://www.austwriters.com/AWRfiles/

competitions.htm it's regularly updated and contains competition opportunities for any kind of writer. There are competitions for different genres and styles of writing and many offer cash prizes. The opportunity to try your hand and pen something new is just a click away.

## Feedback and thoughts from a range of, anonymous, Year 10 students.

What have you enjoyed about our study of Macbeth and what makes this story worth stealing?

'Looking at all the different ways that Macbeth can be appropriated, seeing that it can be old or modern.'

ʻI have enjoyed watching the different appropriations of *Macbeth* as it has helped me in gaining ideas for my assignment, which I have enjoyed as well, as it has helped me creatively.'

A beautiful poem by one of our fabulous Year 9 students. We are very lucky that our students are willing to share their creative writing with the community.

Hero of Mine

I know a man who fought real hard committed to his country he travelled near and far he left as a young bloke troubled teens did him wrong but the outcome of his decisions left a man where a boy belonged he fought a hard fight many friends lost on the way but this man that I know came home to finally stay he married his true love had kids over time this man became my Pop who will always be a hero of mine.

Tahliya - Year 9



Year 10 have been busy in the kitchens designing celebration cakes. The students had to decorate and design their own cakes.



Year 8 have been busy learning as well, which they put in to practice and have produced some nice pastries



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The Year 12 HSC Industrial Technology Timber class are to be congratulated on their finished projects.



Year 7 have been busy making their own saw dust and have produced some really nice finished storage boxes.



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What a year in sport we have had in 2017, with success across all areas of the sporting arena. We have gone above and beyond in participation, training and performance. But more importantly our athletes have conducted themselves with respect, dignity, sportsmanship and integrity. All of the athletes of Leumeah High School have made their parents, teachers and peers extremely proud.

Well done to the Under 15 Girl's Basketball team who won Central Venue at the end of term 3 and progressed through to the top 16 of the State Knockout. As a team, they improved on their results from last year by 2 rounds. They girls travelled to West Wyalong to verse West Wyalong High School. Unfortunately, the girls didn't win. However, they played with heart and tremendous sportsmanship. These results are exceptional considering 8 out of 10 girls will be able to compete in the same age group next year! The result is a testament to their commitment to training and the game. We look forward to your future success!!!

The Open Boy's Baseball team also won Central Venue and progressed through to round 1 of the State Knockout. The boys behaviour was exceptional and a true testament to their ongoing dedication to the sport over the past years. Unfortunately they were defeated, but can hold their heads high! Leumeah High School is proud of your efforts.

As the athletics season progresses, we have a future star to watch. Lamarr competed at the All School Athletics competition in both Shot Put and Discus. He performed with a personal best and came second in discus, qualifying him for Nationals in December. Well done Lamarr. We are so proud of you and can't wait to hear your results from Nationals. Good luck.

Summer brings about the cricket season. The Open Girls team have made in through to the regional final which will be played in the coming weeks. The Under 14 Boys were unfortunately beaten by Elizabeth Macarthur. It was exciting to see a range of athletes try out a new sport and give it a good crack. Good luck girls in your up and coming game! We may have some future Australian players on our hands. Overall, 2017 has been one of our best years in sport yet. On behalf of the staff and students at Leumeah High School I would like to thank the parents who support sport at Leumeah High School and those who take time out of their day to attend games and competitions. I'd also like to thank all of the staff who organise teams, training and games for their sporting teams. Without our coaches none of our success in 2017 would be possible.

Ms Pearse



Congratulations Lamaar!



A big congratulations to the students who competed in Leumeah High School colours at the Fishers Ghost fun run.



Last year Leumeah High School community raised some money for the Sri Udom children's home in Thailand. This is a home/school set up for the children in the hills district of Thailand. The children are from Myanmar decent but born in Thailand. They do not have birth certificates and are at risk of being sold into the sex industry. The monks take them in to give them a basic primary school education and teach them some skills. Last week the area was flooded and the school is now underwater.

Ms Mahoney has set up a go fund me page to raise money to help clean up the school/home, to replace water damaged equipment and to help with the cost of buses to get the kids back from the dry area.

Every little bit helps. Even without this disaster the home was struggling with the basic needs of over 300 children.

https://www.gofundme.com/cleaning-up-sriudom-orphanage





Sri Udom Orphanage Sing Buri Thailand





A special "Thank you" to Kims Cookie Creations, Ruse Metro Service Station, Woolworths Marketfair, Ruse Bakery and all of our parents who baked for their donations and support for our "Dogtober" fundraiser today. We have raised approximately \$1,000.











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## THE LINK—LEUMEAH HIGH SCHOOL



