



# THE LINK



## Leumeah High School Newsletter

19 December 2018 Term 4 Week 10

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From the Principal Mr. Zielinski

I have given much thought to what makes a school successful, and how we measure that success. If we listen to the media, it is too often how well students score on a test, such as the HSC or NAPLAN. But as you and I know, while this is very important, a good school is much more than a simple list of test scores. I would like to take a few moments to highlight the many and varied successes of our school over the past 12 months that show we are a very good school.

Firstly, there have been countless highlights within our faculties this past 12 months. Just a few of these have been.....

Our annual M.A.D.D. festival, held in week 8, was an enthralling evening of music, art and dance that showcased the talent and enthusiasm within our student body with 30 performances, over 60 students performing on stage plus a crew of 20 behind the scenes as well as hundreds of artwork on display. The renovation of the Art Quad, completed by Art staff, has created a wonderful outdoor learning space for students. The HSC Showcase in TAS provided Year 12 students with an opportunity to demonstrate their year long projects to parents and for students in Years 11 and 10 to learn first hand what is expected as they begin to prepare for their HSC. In Mathematics, our success continues in the Australian Mathematics Competition with 30% of students receiving Distinction or Credit certificates while the new Science Syllabuses that commenced in Year 11 this year has seen record numbers of students choose Science, with the new course of Earth and Environmental Science proving especially popular. The annual Year 7 Sleepover at the Zoo was also exceedingly popular this year. The ANZAC service led by History was a poignant reminder of the sacrifice made by earlier generations so that we can enjoy the opportunities and freedom we have today.

Academically we continue to enjoy strong success. 48% of our 2017 Year 12 class received an offer of placement to University. Last week, HSC results for our 2018 graduates were released with some outstanding results with Leyna H, Tiarne A and Marian M achieving outstanding results. Our NAPLAN growth for students in Literacy and Numeracy from Year 7 to Year 9 has remained firmly inside the Top 10% of all schools in the state for each of the last three years. In fact this year we were in the top 40 state high schools, which is a testament to the hard work and dedication of teachers and students working together to achieve their potential. Additional to this, we were identified by the Department of Education as one of 4 high performing schools in the state for achieving outstanding growth in NAPLAN for Aboriginal students. The DoE is currently preparing a publication for all schools in the state that highlight the programs we have in place that has allowed our school to achieve this success.

In teaching and learning, teachers have worked with continuing dedication to prepare our students for life after school. This year we implemented the first year of our current three year school plan. This saw new initiatives such as the introduction of STEM classes (Science Technology, Engineering and Maths) for all Year 7 students, the implementation of a simply amazing Project Based Learning program for Year 8 led by Mr Fryer, Ms McWilliam and Mr Tsoupois, which was based around the world of Harry Potter and Quidditch and the preparation of the BYOD IPAD self select class for Year 7 in 2019 began in earnest before a full roll out for all year 7 students in 2020. This has involved establishing strong links with APPLE computer company with several of our teachers now completing an apple educational specialist course. The most significant change though has been our move to reporting student growth via bands of achievement rather than a simple mark.

### CALENDER

#### DECEMBER 2018

19 Last Day 2018

#### JANUARY 2019

24 Uniform Shop Open  
9.30am—3.00pm

30 Year 7 First Day

31 Years 8-12 First Day

This is already proving to be successful as it changes the focus for our students from "what did I get" to one where they ask "what else do I need to learn to improve". We are very excited by this change and look forward to continued improvement in student learning growth over the next few years.

2018 has been another successful year on the sporting field with the highlights being our Girls U14s Rugby League team placing third in the state and our school winning the triple crown in Fischer zone sport for the first time in some years with us being the champion school in Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country. Individually Leah Senkowski represented Australia in the under 19 Indoor Netball team that travelled to South Africa where they finished first in the 7 a side comp. Michael Leatutu represented Samoa in the U/17 World Soccer competition. Shakeet Kumar is a member of the Sydney FC U 18 and Under 20 Youth teams while still only 16, and only last week Lamarr Sovilj-Talo competed in the Australian All Schools Athletics at Cairns finishing 6th in the U/18 Discuss while still only U/16sand has now qualified for the Australian Juniors next March.

Perhaps more significant were the record numbers of students who participated in sport this year, be they Gala days or the many school representative teams. The real success in sport this year has not been how well we have done, but how many who have come to play.

Another measure of our success has been the number of promotions our staff have earned over the past 12 months. Mr Bates was promoted to Principal of Vincentia HS early this year. Ms Osborne and Mr Flanagan have both been promoted to Deputy Principal. Mr Brennan, Ms Gartside, Mrs Gilleland, Mr Clarke and Ms Martin have all been promoted to Head Teacher, Ms Modica and Ms Langford have been seconded to work as Head Teachers in neighbouring schools, whilst our counsellor Ms Bozic has recently been promoted to Senior Psychologist - Education in Western Sydney from next year.

Whilst these highlights are crucially important and for which I and my staff are rightly proud, they are not the most important measure of success we have. Rather, it is our partnership we have with each of you, our parents, and the part we play to nurture each student as they grow to be wonderful young women and men.

Our two student groups, our Student Representative Council and our Aboriginal Representative Council are perfect endorsements for the quality of young people Leumeah High possesses. Guided by Mr Parry-Ewing, Ms Carter and Miss Finucane, their achievements are many:

The Breakfast club

Dogtober - where we raised over 2000 for assistant pets australia

The Biggest Morning Tea to raise money for cancer research

The Refugee Sleepout which raised over \$4000

The enduring partnership with Beverley Park School now in its 9th year.

Our NAIDOC celebrations and reconciliation week activities

The ARC link with Passfield Park school supporting students each week

This is just a very short list of their achievements but it does put paid to the notion that teenagers only care for themselves.

In particular, I am immensely proud of how our Aboriginal students have developed such pride in their culture and they way that they are helping to teach the rest of our school about aboriginal culture, to understand the land and to treat it with respect and care.

I am equally proud of how our non Indigenous students and staff have taken on the responsibility to ensure that we learn and respect Aboriginal culture and traditions, and most of all, Aboriginal people. All of us in our school community and more broadly in our country, have an obligation to learn about our nations history, all of it, not just from 1788, but the 50 odd thousand years before 1788 and to respectfully honour, ALL that history.

At Leumeah High we help our students understand that we do not measure the worth of someone by how much money they have, the colour of their skin, their religion, race, gender or sexuality. Rather, at Leumeah High School, we measure the quality of a persons character by their determination, responsibility, hard work, honesty, integrity. Relationships are built upon understanding, dialogue, acceptance, trust. This is how we build a stronger school, a more successful school. It is how we also build a stronger community, a community that is fair and just.

I would like to make special mention of Mrs Vicki Harper, who is retiring this week after 23 years as a Student Learning Support Officer. Her contribution has been amazing and she will be much missed.

I would like to thank and acknowledge the wonderful support from Wests Leagues who have fully sponsored our SRC breakfast program since its inception 4 years ago and who each year give generously to our annual presentation.

The many highlights I have spoken of would not be possible without the support of the dedicated, committed and passionate staff of our school. That is teachers, support staff, office staff, cleaners. I am constantly humbled by their commitment, passion and unfailing dedication to do the best for all students of our school.

I am so very fortunate to lead such a dedicated, hardworking and talented team. As a school, we are very proud of our efforts to create a learning environment that sets high standards and I continue to have a privileged position as Principal of this wonderful school. I wish you all a Merry Christmas, a prosperous new year and an enjoyable and safe holiday.



### From the Year 8 Advisor

It has been a wonderful and busy year for Year 8. With Yearly Exams over, we are looking forward to the end of the year, and especially our wellbeing day. On Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December, Year 8 went to Luna Park to celebrate their year of achievements. To tie in with this excursion, Year 8 students in their SEL classes have been designing and creating a model of a new ride for Luna Park. During the creation of these projects, students have demonstrated excellent communication and teamwork skills. The students have been very creative, with a variety of rollercoasters, ferris wheels, haunted houses, swings, water rides and many more being designed.

We would like to congratulate all those students who performed in the MADD festival. You have represented the school and grade in style, and should be proud of the achievements you have made in the Creative Arts area.

Whilst we have not been the Year Advisers for Year 8 for the entirety of 2018, it has been a tremendous pleasure working with and supporting the students this year. They have been a wonderful group to be a part of and we look forward to the years ahead.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all Year 8 students and their families a happy and safe Summer Holiday period.

Mrs Stojakovic  
Year Advisor

Mrs Marcus  
Assistant Year Advisor

### From the Year 10 Advisor

Year 10 have been very busy recently completing their Yearly Exams, and finalising the requirements for their Record of School Achievements (ROSA). In these final weeks there are some important programs and events to look out for; the '*All My Own Work*' program about avoiding plagiarism, the inspiring MyStrengths program, the Luna Park excursion, and Presentation Day.

Presentation Day rewarded those students who have worked hard to aim for their best, and have excelled in academic areas throughout 2018. Those students should feel proud along with all the other students who know that they have tried their best at their studies. The recent Sports Assembly also saw students rewarded for achieving excellence on the sports fields and they should feel pleased with their achievements. Well done to Shakeet K for recently receiving a place in the under 20s Sydney FC, a stunning achievement.

Congratulations also go to our leaders in the SRC for next year, and to everyone in Year 10 for making it to the end of a very challenging year. These students are an amazing group of young people, and we look forward to next year when they cross over into their white shirt, symbolic of their growth in age and maturity.

A big thanks to Mr Smith who has filled in as Year 10 Assistant Year Advisor for this term. He has done an amazing job working with our students, and we wish him luck as he embarks on his new journey as Assistant Year Advisor for Year 7 in 2019.

Have a very happy and safe holiday, and a restful break,

Ms Kotsep                      Mr Smith  
Year Advisor                  Acting Assistant Year Advisor





## From the PE Faculty

It has been a huge year in PDHPE and Sport. Staff have been engaging tirelessly in a range of professional learning and team planning sessions to ensure that the new K-10 Syllabus will be brought to life next year in the most engaging and powerful way. Students in Year 7 and 9 next year will be first to engage in the new syllabus with Year 8 and 10 to come onboard in the following year. The PDHPE staff are excited by some of the changes and looking forward to getting into the classroom next year to teach the new content.

It has again been a tremendous year in sport for Leumeah High School. This year we took out first place at all three carnivals, which is a testament to the team spirit and attitude of our students. Earlier this term we hosted the Annual Sport Presentation. We would like to congratulate all award recipients for their achievements this year but will draw your attention to our most highly commended athletes for 2018. Shakeet K. received the award for Sports Participation of the Year, Micheal L. was recognised for Outstanding Achievement in Community Sport, Mia G. and Sarah A. received our Outstanding Achievement in School Sport award, Holly G. received our Junior Sports Person of the year award, Leah S. was our Female Sports Person of the Year and Wyllleon B. was recognised as the Male Sports Person of the Year.



# SPORTS REPORT

2018 has been a successful year for Leumeah High School Sport. There has been success in a range of different knock-out sports including soccer, basketball, cricket, baseball, softball and in particular rugby league. On top of the team sports we have had students participate in individual sports at a Zone, Regional, State and National level. It is because of the commitment from the athletes at Leumeah High School that our success in sport has been what it is. For the first time Leumeah High School was also the winners of all three Zone carnivals.

All of this success wouldn't be possible without the support of parents and the dedication of the teachers. Thank you to everyone who has assisted in anyway throughout sport in 2018. To the bus drivers, scorers, umpires, supporters, water runners, managers and coaches, thank you once again for supporting sport at Leumeah High School.

Keep an eye out for information in regards to Zone trials for the 2019 teams. Information will be posted on the school Facebook page and also outside the PDHPE staffroom. Some trials will be held in December of 2018, with others being held in term 1 of 2019. Below is a list of the 2019 Zone teams:

- \* Opens netball (Girls)
- \* Opens soccer (Boys and Girls)
- \* Opens basketball (Boys and Girls)
- \* Opens volleyball (Boys and Girls)
- \* Opens touch football (Boys and Girls)
- \* Under 16 touch football (Boys and Girls)
- \* Opens rugby league (Boys)
- \* Under 15 rugby league (Boys)
- \* Opens hockey (Boys and Girls) – No trial, however, players with experience are invited to attend the SSW trial in 2019





# Life, Technology and Applied Studies

## Learning through Design

### Thank you for Year 11 VET Hospitality Work placements.

We would like to express our appreciation for the time and care invested by local businesses and MWLP in providing work placements for a week for our students to apply entry level industry skills as part of their course requirements.

Our host employers include:

The Taste Italian Grill - Park Central

Macarthur Grange Country Club - Raby

Do Jo Catering Service - Macquarie Fields

Hogs Breath – Campbelltown

Jamaica Blue – Park Central

Jamaica Blue - Marketfair Campbelltown

Jamaica Blue- Campbelltown Mall

Mustang Spur – Campbelltown

Grilled- Macarthur Square

Crave Espresso- Bradbury

Gloria Jeans- Macarthur Square

Sitas Café- Campbelltown

Bar Centrale- Campbelltown

Macarthur Kitchens - Narellan

Divine Homes - Denham Court

INZ Kitchens - Prestons

Tagright Electrical - St Helens Park

Phoenix Aluminium - Ingleburn

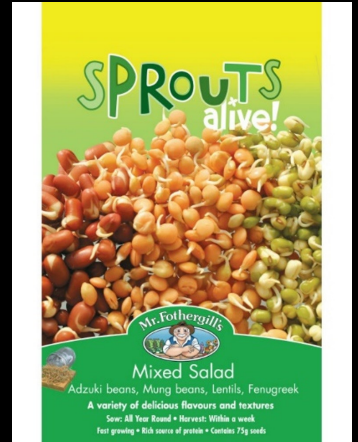
### Year 9/10 Food Technology



Year 7 Tell the Story

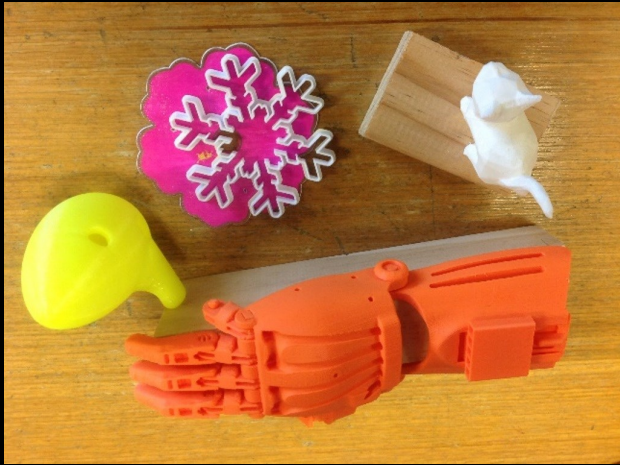


Year 7 Designers Action  
Healthy Salad Wraps



3D PRINTING PROJECTS





Year 8 Technology Mandatory  
Carry All Project

## Hospitality Special Events

During Term 4, Year 11 Hospitality have participated in a range of events catering to students and teachers and also the twilight HSC showcase for the parents and special visitors who attended the evening. Students participated in a mocktail service period creating refreshing and attractive beverages for all who attended the showcase evening. These same students then held a milkshake day. The milkshakes were pre-sold and the class organised the advertising and calculated the quantities of ingredients to order including estimating on the day sales. The class should be very proud of their efforts as both events were very successful and a great way for students to build on their employability skills for the future



On Friday 23rd November, the Year 11 STEP class attended The Art Gallery of NSW to explore the *Masters of Modern Art from the Hermitage* exhibit. It supplemented their learning of their Common Module in English: Texts and Human Experiences where they have viewed the documentary Waste Land. The students thoroughly enjoyed the exhibit, viewing art from the modernist, impressionist and renaissance periods. It was a wonderful opportunity to allow our students to view pieces from the bold experiments of Cézanne, to the radical innovation of artists like Matisse and Picasso.



“I love to view the art from close and then afar. I like how it changes and how I can make my own meaning as I see things. Everytime you look at the piece you see something new”. Sueina N.

“It was great to see the detail in the paintings and the stories and reason behind them, and how every person sees something different”. Trent S.

## Uniform Shop Open

Junior Uniform



Senior Uniform



**Thursday**  
**24<sup>th</sup> January**  
**2019**

9.30am – 3.00pm

## **CASH & EFTPOS**

Sports Uniform



Winter Uniform



## STUDENTS

## RETURN

**30th January 2019**

**Year 7**

**First Day**

**31st January 2019**

**Years 8-12**

**First Day**