



THE LINK



Leumeah High School Newsletter

24 March 2020 Term 1 Week 9

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From the Principal Mr. Zielinski

Dear Parents,

Can I offer the school community my thanks over the past few weeks as we navigate what is a very troubling time for us all as our health specialists grapple with a very difficult disease that is Covid 19. Both students and parents have shown resilience and strong support of our school. Our students have been excellent in adopting appropriate health measures to keep themselves and our school community as safe as we can. Regularly washing hands, not sharing food, keeping open areas clean and practising social distancing will all help to prevent catching Covid 19. Thank you to our parents who have contacted the school thanking us for the regular communication and processes that we have put in place to support student safety.

While the health advice on schools remains unchanged **the Government and Department are encouraging you to keep your child at home from Tuesday 24 March** to contribute to supporting the community response to COVID-19. The school's doors will remain open for those students whose parents are in the essential services or who are vulnerable.

As updated expert information comes to the Department, who are in constant liaison with NSW Health we will keep you informed of any impact on school operations.

Supporting continuity of learning for all students

Our staff have been working hard to develop a suite of learning resources and options for students to undertake from home. The Department has developed and will continue to develop resources and offer professional learning to help teachers with this task.

Whether your child is at school or at home, the aim is for all students to access the consistent learning content provided by our school. This may mean sending work home, either with physical materials or by email, or by making use of one of our online platforms at our school.

Support for students at home

I encourage you to access the [Learning from Home](#) resource which provides practical advice to parents and carers on how to best create and support a productive learning environment in the home.

I must publicly thank all my staff who over the past few weeks have put in tremendous amount of extra work to ensure our move to online learning will be available to all students. Every class in the school now has access to Google Classroom, though many classes already make extensive use of this facility. All staff have received training in Showbie, an online lesson distribution program, one that our Year 7 students have already become familiar with. Staff also have access to Office Teams and senior students have access to EDROLO, a resource for many HSC courses.

CALENDER

MARCH

30-31 Year 12 Half Yearly Exams

APRIL

1-3 Half Yearly Exams

9 Last Day Term 1, 2020

27 First Day Term 2, 2020

MAY

4 Parent Teacher Evening

4-8 Year 11 Exams

6 Year 7 Immunisations #1

12-15 Years 7 & 9 NAPLAN

21 School Athletics Carnival

25 Fisher Zone Cross Country

27-29 Reconciliation Week

JUNE

1-3 Reconciliation Week

1-5 Year 9 - 10 Exams

8-12 Year 7 - 8 Exams

26 Fishers Zone Athletics

JULY

3 Last day of Term 2, 2020

I ask parents to remember to keep us informed of any developments concerning your child and family. Please remember that currently it is somewhat difficult to contact the school by telephone. Our telephone landlines have been cut since the heavy rain almost 6 weeks ago with Telstra informing us that the earliest we can expect them to be repaired is April 11th.

On brighter news, the school recently received a new 25 seater bus for student excursions. This has replaced our old 'big bus' and joins our smaller 12 seater we acquired last year. It means that school excursions for class groups will be cheaper as the cost of hiring a large bus is in excess of \$700 for a day. As well, the construction of our new basketball court and resurfacing of our two original courts is now completed and being used by students. The students tell me that they are 'great' and well worth the wait. You can check them out on our Facebook page.

I wish every family in our community the best as we begin to prepare for Easter break and ask that all of you stay safe and remember to re-enforce the practices of good hygiene over the coming weeks and months.

Paul Zielinski

Principal



Our School Leaders



From the Year 12 Advisor

The final year of schooling for Year 12 students has begun and they are no doubt working very hard in class, completing assessments at home and in the study centre. They are encouraged to utilise all the assistance that is available to them at school for their coursework and to look after their wellbeing.

Year 12 Trivia Night was held on Friday the 21st of February and was a great night where families and friends of the students, and many teachers competed for 1st place. Mr Zielinski did a great job as compare and this year Science won - with Ms Lemos, Mrs Harvey, Mr and Mrs Meluish, Sarah Peck, Moniyah (Yr 10), Deborah and Mrs Christophers.

The students also did a great job in holding a sausage sizzle. We are looking forward to the next one towards the end of this year when Year 11 hold theirs.



Our Fast Forward students attended the Year 12 2020 conference at the Western Sydney University Parramatta campus on the 11th of April. It was an informative day in which the students gained a lot of insight into the university. In attendance were Shyleen Paddy, Aubrey Villacorta, Amir Ajineh, Amena El-Ebady, Mason Painter, Patrick Draper, Om Tapkir and CJ Kennedy. Below is a photo of a Mason, Om, Amir, Aubrey, and Amena towards the end on the very hot day, while waiting for the bus.



We are looking forward to a camp on the 8th and 9th of May at Teen Ranch in Cobbity, which will be a valuable opportunity to sharpen study skills and participate in some fun activities, ahead of the final months of year 12 study. The students will receive notes for this very soon.

Please contact myself Ms Ana Kotsep or the assistant Year 12 advisor, Mr Al Nakeeb if needed,
Ms Kotsep Mr Al Nakeeb

From the Year 10 Advisor

We have had an extremely busy start to the year, with an impressive number of Year 10 students participating in our annual swimming carnival. The day was superb, with many students competing in races throughout the day and demonstrating outstanding school culture, supporting and cheering on their Leumeah High School peers.

Photo Day was held on the 21st of February. Congratulations to the year group for their exceptional behaviour on the day. As always the group presented themselves in a mature and cooperative manner, please be aware that all students present on the day of their photo will receive a student ID card for 2020.

Students are becoming increasingly familiar and confident in their new Project Based Learning (PBL) electives and have started to produce pleasing work samples. This will culminate in a showcase where our community will be invited to observe their brilliant work. Parents are reminded to keep their diaries free so they are able to attend the PBL showcase towards the end of the semester.

I have been working closely with staff to support students in Year 10 to meet the HSC minimum standards. The HSC minimum standard is part of an effort to improve literacy and numeracy outcomes for students. Further information about HSC minimum standards can be found on the NESA website. <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/hsc-minimum-standard/school-resources>

Finally, just a friendly reminder, Homework Centre is available for all students on a Wednesday afternoon from 3:00pm-4:30pm. Please see Mr Smith in the HSIE staffroom for a permission note.

Mrs Stojakovic and I are looking forward to a positive and eventful year ahead with our wonderful Year 10 cohort.

Thank you,

Ms A Scurr & Mrs R Stojakovic

From the Year 8 Advisor

During Week 1, Term 1, Year 8 participated in 'Report Reflections Day'. This day was planned to provide students the opportunity to reflect on their semester two report from 2019 with their year advisors and teachers in order to set learning and extra-curricular goals for the new school year. In addition to reflecting on their reports, students participated in two wellbeing workshops targeted at stress management and developing positive friendships through some fun, yet challenging team building initiatives.

This year there are many exciting and new experiences which will be offered to the Year 8 cohort. Currently some students have begun the work experience program in the school canteen during recess and lunch. The canteen work experience program has been very successful over the past few years, providing students with the opportunities to develop confidence, numeracy, communication and collaborative skills valued at school, the workforce and in life. Students who have had this opportunity have enjoyed their work experience thus far and have asked for more!

There will be an incursion on Friday periods one and two of Week 8 which is focussed on informing students about cyber-safety through an engaging and interactive production. The cost of this excursion is seven dollars and is to be paid to the front office along with a permission note to be returned to Miss Needham or Mr Smith.

Mr Smith and myself look forward to the year ahead.

Miss C. Needham

Year Advisor

From the Welfare Faculty

Year 7 have started off with a very busy semester. They have attended camp and had an awesome time and have completed the Best start assessment, they will be involved in the immunisation program and NAPLAN next term.

Best Start took place in week 5 and we will soon receive the results of the Best Start testing and with these results we will have clearer idea of how we can support all of our year 7 students.

Year 7 will be involved in the Immunisation program. Letters and information will be sent home soon. The first immunisations are on the 6th May 2020.

NAPLAN for Year 7 and 9 will be held on the 12th – 15th May. The students will be completing the paper test this year.

Some selected year 9 girls are currently participating in the Links to Learning program at Leumeah which is facilitated by MTC Australia. The girls are thoroughly enjoying the program.

School photos were taken in week 4 if you are yet to purchase your photos you are able to pay for them on line. The photo company is called MSP.

If you have any concerns with your child please do not hesitate to contact me at the school on 46257755.

Mrs J. Ferro

Head Teacher Wellbeing.

From SRC

The SRC have had a productive start to the year with a number of activities throughout the school.

Breakfast Club has started up for the year again, with toast, fruit and juice served daily in the Common Room from 7:45 am. On Thursdays Week A, students are treated to different breakfast options such as Pancakes, as well as Ham Cheese & Tomato toasties.



Valentines Day was another successful event held by the SRC in February, with students selling chocolate roses and valentines cookies. It was a great day, and students raised \$270 for the school SRC fund.



Elections for the 2020 Year 7 SRC were held in Week 6 this term. Congratulations to the following students who will represent their grade for the year: Krisneth Paddy, Arpita Muskaan Sinha, Christopher Tupouniua and Indianna Wilson.

Ms L. Jensen

SRC Coordinator

From the PDHPE Faculty

It has been an extremely busy start to the 2020 academic year for PDHPE and it has been great to see so many fresh and familiar faces. The PDHPE department is in full swing with a range of learning experiences and exciting opportunities already happening.

We have kicked off the year with our much anticipated Leumeah HS Swimming Carnival which then saw many students selected to represent our school at the Fisher Zone Swimming Carnival held on the 2nd of March. Well done to our competing students and their efforts on the day.

Rec sport for year 10 has commenced in week 3 with students going to Ten-Pin Bowling and Tennis. Year 7 and 8 students have been preparing for their upcoming Gala Day on the 18th of March and are encouraged to bring back their notes so that they don't miss out on this amazing opportunity to exhibit their skills in either Netball, Soccer, Kickball or Touch Football. And we are also looking forward to our annual cross country carnival on the 8th of April, where students will get an opportunity to demonstrate their athletic stamina and determination.

In the classroom PDHPE are reinforcing our PRAC core values and working hard to develop students' literacy skills using ALARM and PEEL writing and response strategies. Staff are also moving to strongly engage our students as owners of their own learning. Students have been covering interesting concepts and are encouraged to be asking the big questions.

“How does change affect me?” for our Year 7 students coping with new challenges.

“How do I fly?” Year 8 learning to improve their movement skills.

“How can I be a good human?” The tough questions being debated by Year 9.

“What makes me different?” Year 10 identifying the positives of diversity and prosocial behaviour.

Students in Outdoor Education, PASS and Child Studies are also looking forward to some exciting learning opportunities that are designed to extend experiences beyond the confines of the classroom. Watch this space for updates on how this will unfold over the rest of the term.

In the PDHPE department we are looking forward to a great year of learning growth with our students. To support this from home, we would like to encourage all our parents to ensure their child is prepared for learning with equipment and sports uniform, encourage reading, check on and help with homework, ask their child what they are learning about (if you can explain it, you understand it!) and if you have any concerns to please feel free to get in contact with your child's teacher.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce and thank the staff helping to change lives in PDHPE – Ms Pearse (2IC) (Year 9 Advisor), Ms Scurr (R. HT Secondary Studies) (Year 10 Advisor), Mr Grubnic (Sport Coordinator), Ms Millers (DoE Coordinator), Mr Jaafar, Mr Fitzpatrick, Ms Loveday and Mr White (DP).

Mr Ellis

HT PDHPE

From the TAS Faculty

LTAS DESIGN AND PRODUCTION

Multiple projects are currently in production across Year 7 -12. Year 7 have been investigating food production and creating food products themselves, while others have been testing the aerodynamics of a bottle rocket.

Year 7 muffins



Year7 Bottle Rocket Unit.



Year 7 are germinating salad sprouts and photographing stages with microscope attached to iPad.



Parfait Desserts



Year 11 Food Technology have prepared a Thai Beef salad and Individual serve Frittata as popular recipes that has been modified from their original cuisine.



Year 8 3D Timber projects

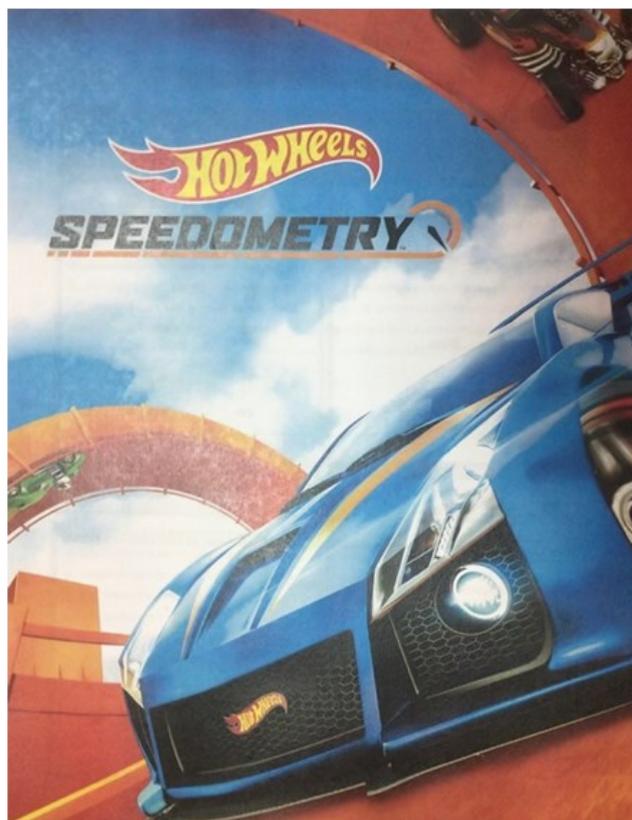


Year 12 Industrial Technology Timber – resin pour



From the Science Faculty

In Week 5 the Science Faculty hosted the first LHS COS Club after-school program. Year 5 and 6 students from our local primary schools were invited to the school to participate in taster lessons at LHS. With close to 30 students from a variety of local primary schools, and some very dedicated and enthusiastic staff members, students were able to experience life and lessons at Leumeah High School. All students were incredibly well behaved and extremely excited by the opportunity.



Year 7 Science students have also been enjoying the hot wheels experience, as they explore physics and the concepts of forces, energy, and motion. The students own ipads have been an invaluable tool for their learning as they have been able to use apps that allow them to easily identify the forces at work, calculate the speed of objects from slow motion frames, and investigating and measuring the potential energy of objects. Hopefully early in term 2 students will be able to experience, first-hand the full effect of forces, energy and motion on the rides at Luna Park, in their upcoming excursion.

Year 11 and Year 12 Science students continue to work hard through their course material and are currently in the midst of submitting an upcoming assessment task. The majority of the Stage 6 Science course have online resources available on Edrolo, an external HSC subscription study aid website the school as funded for the students at LHS. This is a phenomenal resource students' have access to, and we highly encourage all students as part of their regular study routine to access the online videos, practice quizzes, exam helpers and annotated notes to increase the preparation and preparedness for the Half Yearly Examinations ahead.

Stay Curious.

Science Faculty

From the English Faculty

English in a SNAP SHOT in 2020

Minecraft and Year 8 in English

Ahoy there!



It has been an exciting time in English this term with many of our students entering the whimsical world of Minecraft. Students have been studying a range of poetry all about what it means to be Australian. Alongside the creation of their own poems, students have had the opportunity to create their own visual representation in Minecraft.

We are excited to see what other possibilities the world of Minecraft can open up in English this year!

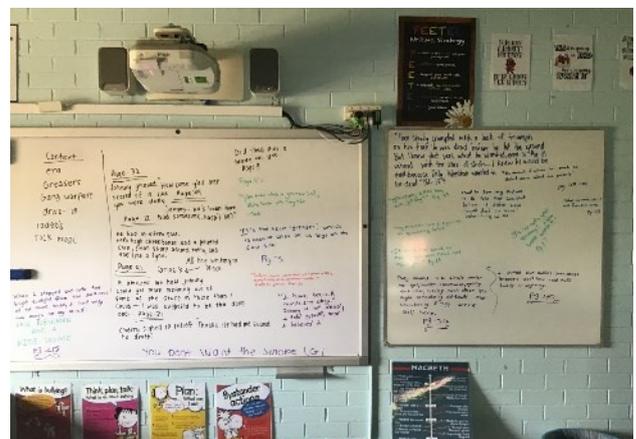
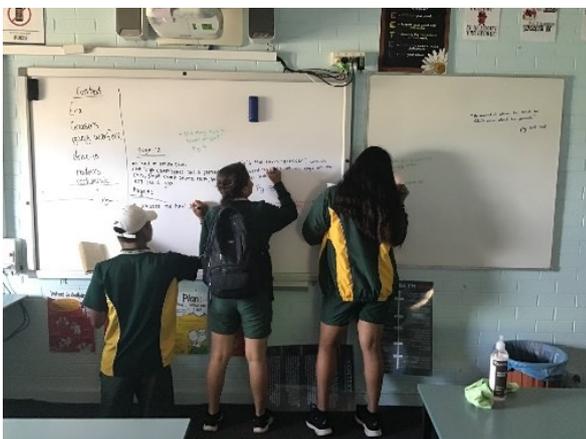
Year 9

Year 9 have been learning about why sustainability matters through the lens of persuasion, as it is now becoming more important than ever to create a sustainable world and to fight the #WarOnWaste. Thus, students have been working on their own campaigns to tackle an environmental issue of their choice and one that they feel strongly about, to present to their peers and to potentially convince them to take action and to fight the #WarOnWaste as a collective.



Year 10

Year Ten have been exploring how Authors have used context to create characters. 10ENGM have been working hard on these posters that represent four characters from the novel *The Outsiders*. In groups, they researched a character and created these collages using quotes and their own interpretations of how context influences these characters after reading the novel.





Year 12

Year 12 are busily preparing themselves for their Half-Yearly Examinations in English and are working hard on drafting and completing a series of practice exams. They have spent a number of lessons breaking down extended response style questions in pairs and groups and discussing these before completing them. Examinations can be a stressful time for our students, however, preparation is the key to success and our classes have been focusing on this so far in 2020.

