



THE LINK



Leumeah High School Newsletter

June 1 2020 Term 2 Week 6

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From the Principal Mr Zielinski

Dear Parents,

It was fantastic to welcome all our students back to school last week. There were smiling faces everywhere and it was wonderful to hear the noise of happy students in the playground. School had been very quiet these past couple of months.

I just want to remind parents and students of some the changes we have made to our school day for the next few weeks at least. As I wrote in my last letter, our regular day is currently a little different. Students do not start school until 8.40 to enable an extra 10 minutes for parents to help their children arrive at school. Students are still asked to be at school by 8.30 where possible, though the slightly later start will allow students to order lunch each day before school starts to reduce crowding at the canteen at recess and lunchtime, allow parents who need to drop off siblings at primary school that little extra time, and to assist staff with sending students to roll call in a safe and orderly manner each day.

We will continue to have 2 different recess and lunch times each day, at least for the next few weeks to ensure reduced numbers of students in the playground at any one time. School will finish 5 minutes early each day so we can organise students onto buses to ensure safe practices.

CALENDER

MAY

27-29 Reconciliation Week

JUNE

1-3 Reconciliation Week

1-5 Year 9 –10 Exams

8-12 Year 7 - 8 Exams

10-12 Year 7 & 9 Science Project

15 Year 11 Step/Studies Task 2

23 Subject selection

JULY

3 Last day of Term 2, 2020

| | Years 7, 8, 11 | Years 9,10, 12 |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Roll Call: 8.40 -9.00am | | |
| Period 1: 9.00-10.00am | | |
| Period 2: 10.00 - 11.00am | Recess from 10.30 till 11.00am | |
| Period 3: 11.00 - 12.00 | | Recess from 11.00 till 11.30 am |
| Period 4: 12.00 - 1.00pm | Lunch from 12.30 till 1.00pm | |
| Period 5: 1.00 - 2.00pm | | Lunch from 1.00 till 1.30pm |
| Period 6: 2.00-2.50pm | | |

HYGIENE:

Please remind your child to ensure they follow the following each day

- * Students should regularly wash hands, especially after going to the toilet.
- * Use the sanitizer provided by the teacher first thing in the morning, after recess and after lunch.
- * Avoid sharing food or drinks.
- * Coughing or sneezing into your elbow, or a tissue which should be discarded immediately.

Continued from the Principal**SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**

ALL students should now be at school unless:

- They have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition OR they are currently unwell.

If your child is unwell, do not send them to school. If they are unwell at school, you or your nominated emergency contact will need to collect them immediately. Please make sure your contact details are up to date.

If a student is absent without a medical reason for more than three days, this will be recorded as an unauthorised absence and followed up by the school.

If you need any support to get your child back to school, please contact us.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Teachers will continue to follow the same school curriculum with the exception of some activities that can't go ahead for now.

What students can do:

- Use the school library
- Engage in non-contact sporting activities
- VET work placement for Year 12 students is able to proceed from 1 June 2020. Year 10 and 11 work-placement is able to proceed from Term 3 2020.
- School based apprenticeships and traineeships can recommence once the relevant workplaces are back in operation
- Trade Training Centres can operate on school sites.

What students can't do:

- School assemblies (unless for critical information)
- School incursions and excursions including camps
- Work experience
- Inter-school activities (debating, inter-school sport)
- In-school activities requiring parent or other volunteers
- Drink from a water bubbler – ALL STUDENTS ASKED TO BRING A WATER BOTTLE INSTEAD and fill from the water fountain in the quad.
- Students cannot attend TAFE for study but may continue to learn online

School grounds and Visitors

The Department of Education has indicated that there should be no visitors to school sites unless they are essential. When it is necessary to speak with parents, we will do so by phone where possible. I ask that all parents support this until it is safe for regular meetings to begin again.

Parents are asked to not gather outside before or after school each day. When dropping off or collecting students at the end of the day, parents are asked to please remember to also use the rear entry of the school to reduce parents congregating at the front of the school to reduce risk and congestion.

Continued from the Principal**STAFF CHANGES**

There have been a number of staff changes over the last two months. We are very sorry to have said goodbye to Mr White, one of our Deputies. Mr White had worked almost 17 years at Leumeah over two stints. He will be much missed and I thank him for his outstanding contribution to our school. He has moved to Elderslie High School. The school has already begun the process to seek a new Deputy Principal and this should be completed by the end of this term. In the interim, Mrs Ferro will relieve as Deputy and Ms Needham will relieve as HT Welfare. We also said goodbye to Ms Courtelis who has transferred to Camden High. Ms Courtelis will be much missed by the students of Maths and French.

We have welcomed the following staff since the start of the term. Ms Purcell has been appointed full time to replace Ms Morales in Science and Mr Graham has replaced Mrs Lawlor whilst on maternity leave. Ms Devlin is replacing Mrs Marcus who is also on maternity leave, while Ms Priestly joins Maths, and Mr Dimitrievski joins Science whilst Mrs Ford is on maternity leave. Mr Houston has joined HSIE. Finally, Ms Mitchell, who has been a long-term temporary teacher in English (and a former student) has been appointed full time to our school following merit selection.

Finally, can I again thank each family for their support over the past few months. It has been and continues to be a most unusual time, but it sure is good to have all our students back full time.

Stay safe,

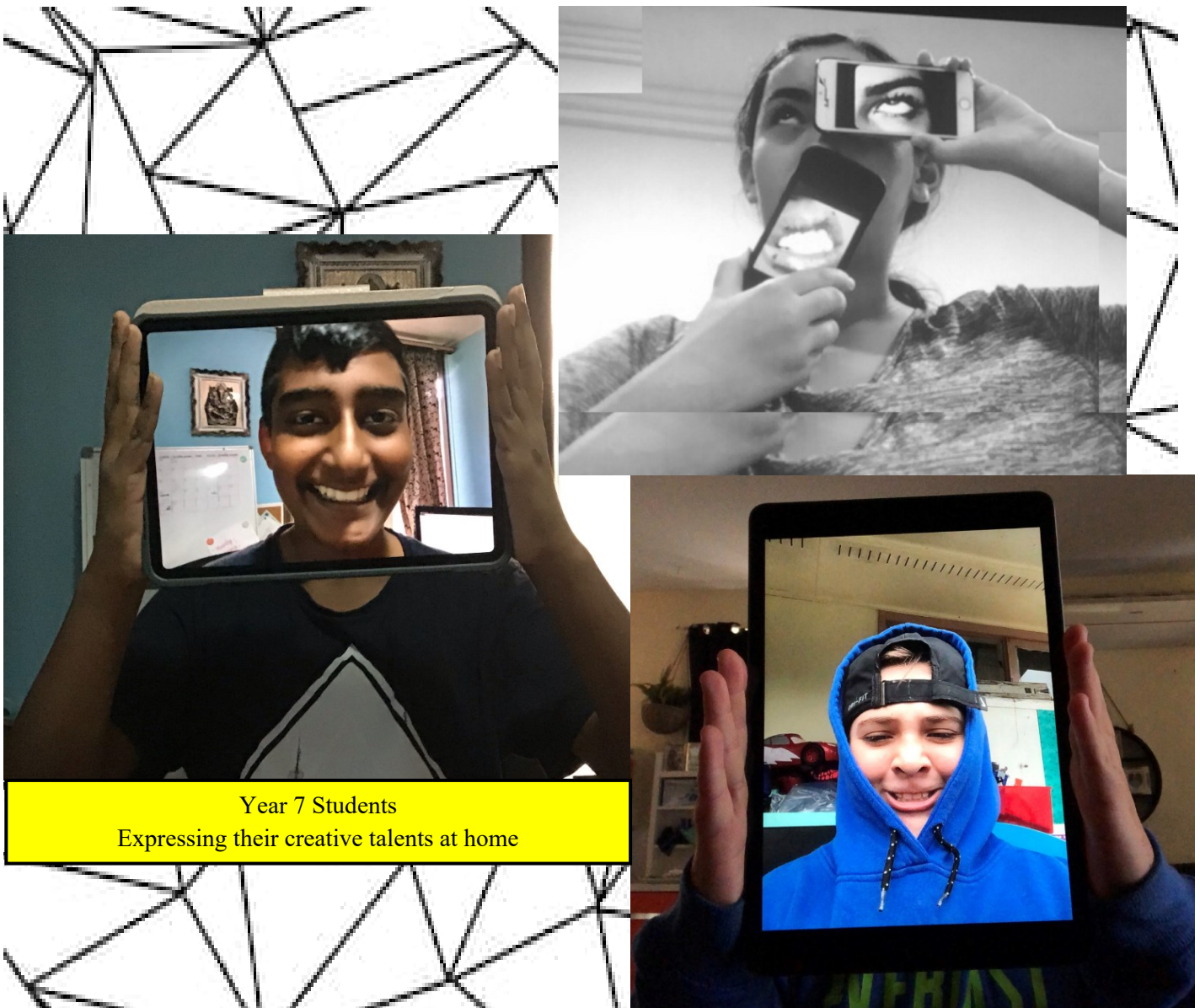
Paul Zielinski
Principal

From the CAPA Faculty

Hoping this Link finds you and your family safe and sound through what has been difficult times for both students, parents and teachers. Online learning has been a test of our technology and communication skills and I am proud of the efforts both Creative Arts students and teachers have shown throughout this time of learning. We have had online zoom meetings, submission of some brilliant pieces of artwork and music by some very creative students with whatever materials were available to them at home. We will be back to face to face learning soon and I know the Creative and Performing Arts teachers are looking forward to seeing students back at Leumeah High School expressing their creative talents once we return.

Mr A. Tsoupis

Head Teacher Creative and Performing Arts



From the Careers Advisor

Careers at Leumeah High School offers a variety of programs each year to help students develop their Employment Related Skills (Years 8 to 10) in their decision making for their study pathways (ATAR or Non ATAR) pathways and post-school.

The start of 2020 has been a disruptive year for many, however, students have still prepared themselves successfully.

The result of our Post-School survey conducted earlier in the year for 2019 Year 12 students had 92 respondents. 42% of students are engaged in tertiary education (University, TAFE and private college studies) and 57% had full-time jobs with 7 in Apprenticeship courses.

There have been a few Year 12 students taking advantage of enrolling in the Winter Gateway Program. Leumeah High School is fortunate to be one of the targeted schools in Sydney to have this opportunity. Year 12 students can enrol now until the July holidays. There is no charge. There will be zoom lessons specifically to NSW HSC Markers in various subject areas. For example, Maths, English, all of the Science subjects, Business and Legal Studies. They can assist our students in helping prepare for their assessment tasks and trial examinations.



University of NSW has early entry available. This is through Gateway. There are three categories. Firstly, a recent school report, secondly two completed assessment tasks related to the course you want to apply for needs to be submitted. Finally, a one or two paragraph statement on the applicant's passions in life, reasons for going to university etc. If they are accepted it would be a conditional early entry. This means that if they apply for a course that usually has an ATAR of around 80, they could be accepted into the course with an ATAR of 68 or above. **Entries close May 29, 2020.**



TAFE delivered vocational education and training program:

There are approximately 45 students who successfully enrolled at various TAFE colleges this year. TVET courses commenced in Week 3 of Term1.

TVET Courses (Technical, Vocational Education and Training) in NSW. There are 240-hour TVET courses which are delivered in one year to Year 11 school students. Young people returning to Year 11 as 'result of the resulting of the school leaving age' can undertake a TVET course as part of an education, training and employment program whilst still at school. TVET courses count as 4 to 6 units towards Preliminary and are for students **not intending to gain an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR)**. Some students may also choose not to be entered into a complete HSC and receive only a BOS Record of Achievement

Trade Courses are open to those in Year 11 unsure whether they will make it through this year or next year. Available at the start of the year. Apply at the end of year.

TAFE goes back to normal soon. Students will be emailed when their classes resume. In the meantime, lessons are online.

School based apprenticeships and traineeships (SBAT)

Five students in Year 12 and 1 in Year 11 are making a head start on an apprenticeship or traineeship whilst at school combining paid part-time work together with studies at TAFE and school – and having the units counted towards their HSC.

There are still opportunities for students to apply for apprenticeships. See Mr. Melliush in his office or make an appointment with him if you wish to apply.



Elevate Study and Time Management Workshops successfully conduct their workshops during each term. **The run for Years 10 to 12.** When the Covid 19 restrictions end they will continue to run.

Career jobs/apprenticeships/ early entry to university, TAFE news etc can all be found on **GOOGLE CLASSROOM**. It is called Careers 2020. See careers adviser for details.

Students can regularly check updates for early entry to university, apprenticeships, jobs etc on the Careers Classroom site. The number required to join is: eezspm5

I am always available to assist students with resumes applying for jobs.

Work Experience is available again from June 1.

Mr. Melliush

Careers Advisor

From the Bundalong Unit

Students in Bundalong have been extremely busy over the last few weeks engaging with the online learning platforms which has highlighted their creativity and technological skills.

Bundalong staff are excited for face-to-face learning to resume and look forward to continuing the great start to our school year.

Ms Alana Edwards

Head Teacher—Bundalong Unit

**From the Maths Faculty**

It's been a couple of busy months for the Mathematics Faculty recently. The change to from face-to-face teaching to online learning was a challenging one for both staff and student but one we met head on. A variety of teaching strategies were used to disseminate tasks to the students from booklets and videos to recorded lessons. A lot of ICT skills have been learnt by both students and staff. I am very proud of the way our students and the Mathematics Faculty have accepted the challenge.

With the return to face-to-face teaching, we know we will still be facing some challenges and together we will meet them head on and I'm sure we will overcome them.

Year 12 Mathematics students will have the opportunity over the coming weeks to purchase of a copy of the Past H.S.C. Examination Papers book. This is the most vital resource that any senior student can possess as they try to adequately prepare themselves for the HSC. The cost is \$29 (which is \$10 cheaper than if bought in a book store) which is to be paid to the front office by Friday 12th June.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate contacting me.

Mrs Fry

Relieving Head Teacher Mathematics





Grow Together
LOMANDRA COMMUNITY PROJECT

10 Weeks of Ready-made Meals

Address: Unit 4/5 Hollylea Rd.

Pick up on **Tuesdays or Fridays** - between **9.30am** and **2.30pm**



From the Year 11 Advisor

Mr Curtain and I are extremely proud of the effort the vast majority of year 11 have made when faced with changing circumstances this year. It is testament to the stability of Mr Curtain as a leader and year 11 as cooperative and supportive cohort that we have managed to negotiate such a trying time with minimal overtly negative experiences. From day one of Term one, Year 11 have demonstrated maturity and a willingness to comply with directions given during changing circumstances. It has been difficult for many students to manage online class work while their households have also been facing pandemic related challenges, with the difficulties faced particularly exasperated by device and internet issues. Please be assured their teachers are understanding, for they too have had device and internet issues, as never before have so many people worldwide needed simultaneous online access.

Acting DP Ms Ferro, the Welfare and Learning support Teams deserve special mention here for assisting many year 11 students with device and internet access. I hope this has allowed year 11 to see the support staff in a new light and understand that getting support doesn't mean you are not smart, it demonstrates you are intelligent enough to realise you need assistance to get something sorted so you can reach your full potential. Even the brightest minds in the world need advice and assistance from time to time.

It will be some time before we resume some normal practices at school, such as year meetings and fund raising. In the meantime, we will be trying to plan for the year 12, 2021 jacket and gather fundraising ideas to add to the funds raised during Term 1 at the Swimming Carnival. We have a lot of enthusiastic fundraising committee members (approximately a third of the year group) who we are very confident will exceed all expectations when they can continue their good work.



It was immensely pleasing to see the smiling faces of so many students during our zoom year meeting. We are looking forward to finally seeing all of Year 11 back at school on a regular basis. As always, if any student needs to talk about any issues they have regarding the return to school, or just want to see a smiling face when they return, Mr Curtain and I are always happy to help out.

Mrs Peachey and Mr Curtain

Year 11 Advisors

From the Year 9 Advisor

Well done Year 9 for surviving and conquering Remote Learning. In this time of online learning, Year 9 took part in a range of Zoom Year Meetings. These were a fantastic opportunity students and Year Advisors to interact and catch up! Throughout the Zoom Year Meeting Year 9 found out who the potential future comedians may be when they had a chance to share some jokes. Students also shared the things that they loved and disliked about isolation - a big love was the amount of time that they had to sleep and the obvious dislike was not being able to see their teachers everyday! It was surprising to hear that some students were loving everything about isolation and think that should become the new normal.

As school returns to face to face classes, Year 9 will have the opportunity to create a performance in PDHPE, in Geography they are learning all about the population and in Maths they will be refining their knowledge on triangles. I can't wait to catch up with each and every one of Year 9!

Ms Pearse

Year 9 Advisor

From the Year 7 Advisor

It has been an unprecedented time for Year 7 these last few weeks. Just as they were setting down and getting the hang of high school they have had to adapt yet again - this time to the pandemic. The transition to online learning was challenging for all but we have been proud of the way Year 7 have conducted themselves during this time.

As we prepare to return to regular lessons we would like to remind year 7 that semester 1 will soon come to an end, and with that, half yearly exams, semester 1 assessment tasks and reports. It is important over the next few weeks that students use this time to cement their learning by actively participating in class activities and discussions.

We would like to welcome Mr Fryer on board as the new Deputy for Year 7 as we farewell and wish Mr White all the best at his new school.

Ms Lemos and Mrs Mitchell

Year 7 Advisors



Year 7 Students - Online Learning



National Reconciliation Week 2020



To celebrate Reconciliation Week 2020, we have created a PowerPoint presentation to show in roll calls in the morning. The ARC have also worked hard on a special video clip to be shown at the start of roll call. The PowerPoint presentation will go through the meaning of reconciliation week and this years theme "In this together". The students will then complete a hand print activity, the handprints off the students will be displayed around the school.

Ms Carter

Aboriginal Education Officer

This years theme is **‘IN THIS TOGETHER’**