Year 7 - 9 Examinations are in full swing. Unlike the Higher School Certificate! It was a pleasure to attend the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony to celebrate the end of schooling for our Graduating class of 2015. The night itself was wonderfully organised by Year 12 Advisor, Mrs Rebecca Ormond, and featured some terrific speeches by Lucas Meline and Mr Mark Doyle responding to a toast to the teachers. I was personally thrilled to have secured a corner-bit of the scrumptious graduation cake! The sharp suits and frocks on hand paid testament to that fact that this group of fine young people have, indeed, grown up and we wish them all the best for their future endeavours.

I received an e-mail from Jo Pianca, our P&C President who asked:

‘Would it be possible to include a “Please bring in your IGA dockets for the P&C” in the next newsletter as I am about to submit them to the IGA?’

The answer is “Yes, Jo. We can do this.” Please support our energetic P&C who do tremendous things to help our school. Even better, feel free to join their noble quest in 2016.

Mrs Tracey Lourigan deserves collective thanks for organising the Year 10 Peer Leadership Training on Thursday 5 and Friday 6 November last week. She was particularly enthused by the group’s efforts, confirming that if we give our kids and opportunity to rise to a challenge, they usually do. Well done. It has also been pleasing to note the enthusiasm which some of our Year 10 students have showed organising their Work Experience placements and we thank Mrs Papalkar and Mrs Bartram for their assistance and leadership in making this worthwhile program happen. All Year 10 students are well-advised to maintain a serious effort in class. Your teachers will be delivering lessons, which are designed to help bridge the gap between Junior and Senior School.

By now, many homes would have received letters regarding outstanding course fees. We honour affordability when we set the fee structure for our courses, endeavouring to find a balance between cost and resources, but nothing can change the fact that an IT-Metal class will need to buy metal to make things, for example. If these accounts could be squared away as soon as conveniently possible, we can continue to provide this balanced service in 2016.

With respect to building developments, there has been a hold-up beyond our gates with respect to the Stephanie Scott Memorial, but rest assured that this will be rectified in the near future.

Additionally, as a result of 4 years of stringent financial planning, we have elected to lease a 25-seater bus for the next 4 years. This should help reduce costs for students and give us more opportunities.

Speaking of road trips, those students wishing to attend the Wollongong University excursion in early February need to have their permission notes and monies sorted by the end of this year.
To conclude, I would like to stress the importance of communication between home and school. If you have any questions on any issue, please do not hesitate to call us on 6953-2122 or email leeton-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au with your concerns. Stay in touch with the happenings at your community High School on our Facebook page – http://www.facebook.com/LeetonHS

Andrew Morschel, Relieving Principal

**SCHOOL AWARDS**

Congratulations to the following students on achieving awards:

**SILVER AWARD:** Madison Teerman (Year 7).

**GOLD AWARD:** Nathan Ryan, Madison Teerman (Year 7), Arcadia Lee (Year 8) and Jaslyn Heffer (Year 11).

**EXECUTIVE AWARDS:** Makayla Broadbent, Renee Faoa (Year 7), Molly Wright (Year 8), Dearne Hunter-Boyd, Dominique Nunn (Year 9), Tahlia Valenzisi, Tamika Poulson (Year 10) Jonte Schmetzer and Courtney Bartram (Year 11).

**SCHOOL SPORTS**

On Wednesday 21 October a group of Year 7 & 8 students travelled to Wagga Wagga to participate in the U’15s Netball Gala Day.

Despite wet and rainy conditions the girls put in a tremendous effort.

The girls won against Young High School and Gundagai High School but unfortunately went down to Albury High School and suffered a close loss to Griffith High School. All girls played extremely well and are to be commended for their behaviour and performance.

The team consisted of: Hayley Graham, Jenna Elliott, Katie Harrison, April Schmetzer, Acadia Lee, Hannah Rhodes-Boulter, Olivia Eisenhut (Year 8) and Makayla Broadbent, Mikayla Boots, Grace Korovata and Taelah Jackson (Year 7).

A big thank you to Georgia Green for umpiring on the day and also to the parent drivers.

**YEAR 7 ALTINA VISIT**

On Thursday, October 22, 51 Year 7 students journeyed to Altina Wildlife Park at Darlington Point. The students, who are studying ecology in Science, got to see up close a variety of animals, and learnt of their various adaptations and behaviours.

Highlights of the tour included the white and tawny lions, seeing the African Wild Dogs squabble over food, and an unhappy male wombat that chased the tour guide out of its enclosure. Following the tour of Altina the students travelled to Griffith City Cinemas for some lunch and a game of ten pin bowling. A good day was had by all.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tue 24 Nov</td>
<td>School Spectacular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 10 Dec</td>
<td>Presentation Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 16 Dec</td>
<td>Students last day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 18 Dec</td>
<td>Staff last day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2016 Start Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 27 Jan</td>
<td>Staff return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 28 Jan</td>
<td>Years 7, 11 and 12 return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 29 Jan</td>
<td>Years 8, 9 and 10 return</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>