Welcome to our first newsletter for 2015! The year has commenced in earnest, with a full complement of staff. We welcome a number of new staff in 2015. Ms Elizabeth Murdoch joins our staff as Head Teacher Teaching and Learning. She replaces Ralph Turton who has retired. Ms Vinvi Ling has taken over as teacher of Japanese, she replaces Shirlee Rowland who has gained a promotion. Ms Renee Arena replaces Thomas Hartshorn in Science. Special Education teacher Jeremy Copp takes over the reins in the MC Class and Ms Hailey Summer has joined the Mathematics faculty.

During 2014 Leeton High School was successful in gaining grants to support two important upgrades to our facilities. We have refurbished an unused area of the school (above the canteen) and developed a senior study space. Construction is well under way and should be completed within the next two weeks. Additionally, we are replacing the perimeter fence of the school. This project commenced last week and is expected to take six weeks. Both projects will greatly enhance the school.

We welcome Year 7 2015 to Leeton High School. Approximately eighty students have started the year in four classes. Students have been enthusiastic and have settled in well. Parents are asked to contact the school if they have any issues at any time. We have been lucky enough to secure the services of Robyn Gillies Tabrett who will be running a special religious education program for Year 7 students this year. An information letter will be distributed to parents later this week.

A reminder that all senior students are involved in a senior study program called iStudy when they are not in timetabled classes and if they do not attend TAFE on a Wednesday afternoon. In addition we have a study skills program for Year 11 and 12 on 9 February, more details further on in the newsletter.

On Thursday 12 February we will be holding a Community Evening at Leeton High. This will provide all parents with the opportunity to meet staff and discuss how the school year has commenced and raise any issues. A BBQ and entertainment will be provided on the evening. More information will come closer to the time.

Congratulations to the 2014 Leeton High School Open Rugby League team who were selected as Leeton Group of the Year at the 2015 Australia Day Awards last week. Additionally 2014 School Captain Tereapii Nikoro was awarded the Achiever of the Year. What a great effort!

At the end of the 2014 our Higher School Certificate Presiding Officer, Mrs Lyn Brown, retired. We will soon be seeking expressions of interest for a person to replace Mrs Brown. If you know of anyone who might like to take on this position could you please let the school know? This person is employed by the Board of Studies for the duration of the Higher School Certificate.

This Wednesday, 4 February, we have our annual swimming carnival. All students are expected to attend and we encourage any parents to come and support their children. Look forward to seeing you there.

We are hoping to move to email only newsletters later this year. If you have not done so already could you please let the school know your email address by completing and returning the slip at the end of the newsletter or simply email the school.

Greg Horton, Principal
Firstly, welcome back and I wish you all a successful year. The following is a list of things that you may need to do immediately to ensure a smooth start to 2015:

1. **LUNCH PASSES.**
   
   If you wish your child to be issued with a LUNCH PASS for 2105, they will need to collect a green form from the Front Office. On that form is this picture of a map of Leeton. If your residence is outside of the dark line shown, then your house is too far away to be accessed easily and the request will be denied.

2. **FACEBOOK PAGE.**

   We are hoping to use this facility to disseminate useful ‘snippets’ of information in 2015, as well as providing photos and other information. If you have a Facebook account, please find our page and like it to stay up-to-date.

   [https://www.facebook.com/LeetonHS](https://www.facebook.com/LeetonHS)

3. **UNIFORM.**

   As per policy, students not in the correct uniform without a note from home will be issued with a **UNIFORM DETENTION.** A few students have started 2015 out of uniform and have had legitimate reasons for doing so. If this applies to your child, please write a note for the Front Office or contact me personally at school on 6953-2122. If you are having trouble with obtaining a uniform for any reason, please contact the school.

   Additionally, any student who fails to bring PE Uniform for practical lessons for three times in a given term will be ‘level dropped’. Again, write a note on these days if there is a problem and provide suitable alternative clothing.

4. **FRONT OFFICE – Students to and from school.**

   One of our goals in 2015 is to improve our monitoring of student attendance. If you are late to school, you need to get a ‘Late Note’ from the Front Office. If your child has to leave school during the day for any reason, you need to do 2 things:

   - Provide a note for your child to bring to the Front Office before DEAR
   - Collect them yourself from the Front Office at the given time.

5. **BOOKS & PENS!**

   All students are expected to have these things and use them. Students can see the Deputy prior to DEAR if this is an issue on a given day.

   Again, I wish everyone the success that they work for.

Andrew Morschel, Deputy Principal
LHS SWIMMING CARNIVAL

LHS Swimming Carnival is to be held on Wednesday 4th Feb 2015 at Leeton Swimming Pool.

200m freestyle will be held at 8:15am. All other students to arrive by 9am for roll marking.

A sausage sizzle will be available on the day.

If any parents or family are willing to help out please contact Stuart Stout on 6953 2122.

SCHOOL AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students on achieving awards (from 2014):

**SILVER DIPLOMA:** William Nicholls, Toby Moore, Deegan Whiteman, William Rawle, Jarvis Thurgate, Travis Collins, Morgan Lanceford, Riley Taskiran, Lauren Young, Sophie Smith, Jade Poulson, Brandon Catlin, Daniel Fitzgerald, Dylan McKellar (Year 7), Taylah Davy (Year 8), Amanda Johnson, Brianna Celi and Georgia Wallace (Year 11).

**GOLD DIPLOMA:** Trent Jonegbloed, Brandon Catlin, Daniel Fitzgerald, Dylan McKellar, Jakeb Steele, Cherish Kohere, William Rawle, Maanu Alexander (Year 7), Dearne Hunter-Boyd (Year 8), Sarah Bush, Morgan Wilesmith, Shaun Muller (Year 10), Brianna Celi, Natasha Didden, Amanda Johnson and Georgia Wallace (Year 11)

**EXECUTIVE AWARDS:** Hannah Rhodes-Boulter, Rhett MacGregor (Year 7), Caylee Petrie (Year 8), Hayden Minchin (Year 9) and Courtney Bartram (Year 10).

STUDY DAY

On Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th of February, Elevate Education will be presenting a series of seminars and workshops to Years 8, 9, 11 and 12 to help them to prepare for the rigours of the year ahead. The topics being presented on the day are:

**Monday - Year 11 and 12**

Study Sensei – This seminar provides students with a broad range of effective study skills to prepare them for the senior school, including:

- Understanding the criteria/task sheet.
- Effective note taking.
- Concept mapping
- Standing out in assessments and exams.

Time Management – This session provides students with four building blocks of effective time management which are often lacking from students’ daily routines. Specific skills include:

- How to make a study timetable which will actually work.
- How to fit ‘high-end gain’ work into the compulsory work schedule.
- Working in teams.
- Reducing procrastination.

Student Elevation – In this seminar we examine the key drivers for senior school success and introduce students to a range of skills that will sustain motivation throughout the year, including:

- The role of belief, conditioned belief and self-limitation.
- Establishing a 4-step goal setting process.
- Breaking goals into a series of achievable, short-term benchmarks.
Mrs Papalkar will also be presenting a session to each year group about their Post-School options and pathways.

**Tuesday- Years 8 and 9**
Study Skills Kick Start- This seminar provides students with the 4 critical study skills they need to build a study skills platform. It is include:
- Dynamic reading
- Note-Taking
- Conceptual Learning

At 6:30pm that evening, Dan from Elevate will be at the school to run a parent seminar which is designed to address the key issues faced by parents of secondary school students. The usual topics covered are:
- How do I help my child to be more motivated?
- How do I help my child to improve their time management?
- What work should my child be doing?
- How do I help my child deal with distractions?

This seminar is open to **all parents** and I’m sure it will be valuable.
If you wish to find out more information about Elevate Education, please feel free to look at their website: [www.elevateeducation.com](http://www.elevateeducation.com) or contact me at the school.

Rebecca Ormond

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**ASSESSMENT INFORMATION EVENING**

An information evening will be held on the 12 February, 2015 for parents and carers of Senior Students.

It will be held after the Community Evening in the Library at 6.30pm.

This will give parents and carers the opportunity to ask questions and gain an understanding of the requirements of Preliminary and HSC Assessment.

Light refreshments available.

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**P&C NEWS**

**CANTEEN (HUNGRY HUT) NEWS**

Welcome everyone to Term 1 2015. Our canteen, the Hungry Hut opens each day at 8.15am. At this time we sell drinks and take recess and lunch orders. Our extensive menu is attached to this newsletter. We encourage you to place it somewhere handy for easy reference. We strive to keep our prices affordable for our students and also think that we provide a great variety of food that hopefully appeals to all tastes. The Hungry Hut is overseen by the P&C and all profit is put back into the school and its students. If you have any suggestions regarding our menu, please feel free to pop in, send a note with your child or ring us with your ideas. We are always looking for new ways to keep our students (and teachers) happy and well fed.

We also welcome donations of fruit, produce, eggs or your time, if you have any to spare. Feel free to come in and say hi. There will always be something you can help us with or maybe just pop in for a cuppa.

Many of our wonderful students volunteer their time, either at recess or lunch to assist us with serving our customers. If you think your child/ren may be interested, just get them to let us know and we can add them to the roster.

Should anyone have any questions feel free to ask, either by visiting, sending a note with your child or giving us a ring on 02 69532841.

Megan Day, Sharon Elwin, Michele Diebert
Canteen Supervisors
DATES TO REMEMBER

Wed 5th Feb – LHS Swimming Carnival
Tuesday 10th Feb – Junior Study Day
Thursday 12th Feb – Assessment Info Evening (Seniors)

Monday 9th Feb – Senior Study Day
Thursday 12th Feb – Community Evening
Tue 24th Feb – P&C meeting 7pm School Library

LEETON VOLLEYBALL
Registration Night/Skills Night
7pm Wednesday, 11th February, 2015
Leeton Indoor Stadium

Individual or Team Nominations
Women’s & Mixed Competitions
Cost: Adults $100, Under 19’s $80
(includes insurance)
Further Information contact:
Lorraine on 69552604(AH) or 0428 731875
lorraine.kefford@bigpond.com

LEETON JUNIOR BASKETBALL
ASSOCIATION AUTUMN COMPETITION

Thursday 5th Feb – Leeton Indoor Stadium, 5-7pm
Saturday 7th Feb – Jarrah Mall, 10am-12pm
Thursday 12th Feb – Leeton Indoor Stadium, 5-7pm

Payment MUST accompany nomination and includes all game and registration fees
Girls play Monday nights commencing 2nd March
Boys play Tuesday nights commencing 3rd March
Competition finishes Monday 1st June
(Parents are required to be in attendance when children are playing)

Further Information contact Tracy Fletcher:
0439 483760

NEWSLETTER VIA E-MAIL

Would you like to receive the school newsletter via your e-mail? If so please fill in the following and send it back to the front office.

Name: ___________________________________ Student Name: _____________________________ Yr:____

E-mail Address ____________________________________________________________