Our first P&C Meeting for 2016 was held on Tuesday, February 23 and it was most pleasing to see impressive numbers in attendance. We have already alleviated the fears of those Year 7 parents expecting a free hat for their kids and enabled the school to commit to the idea of a Musical in 2017. P&C meetings are open for anyone to attend and have direct input into your community high school, so pencil in the P&C Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, March 22.

Thank you to those who attended our Community Evening and Senior Information Night last Thursday. The latter was designed for students and parents to gain a better understanding of the procedures relevant to Stage 6 Courses and how the HSC and ATAR system works. We shall pick timely slots to deliver this presentation to the students in class time, as it certainly generated healthy interest, questions and discussion.

Congratulations to our swimmers and officials for assisting in the running of the SW Swimming Carnival last week. Outstanding reports of our students that swam or were part of the organisation have been received. Thank you to Mr Stout, Mrs Goman and Mrs Anthony for their work on this day. Leeton High came third overall, registering a few Age Champions (see the sports report for more details).

Actually, our school resembles the set of ‘The Block’ at the moment. Mission brown is finally out and we are removing the heinous partitions from the canteen space.

Our Japanese room will also be prepared and daringly repainted with cream walls and black trims, representing a traditional Japanese house, which should look extremely effective. We will still favour the use of carpet instead of traditional Tatami matting, which is a tad hard to come by in the Riverina.
The amphitheatre project is taking shape and observers cannot but marvel at the skills of quality tradespeople.

Australia needs more of these and Leeton High is in a position to help. Students interested in trades and apprenticeships were advised on assembly to get in touch with Careers Adviser, Mrs Trish Papalkar, and to give their best towards their schooling. History has shown that potential employers will always look at your comments first.

Leeton High School recognises and values 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 via our Facebook page - https://www.facebook.com/LeetonHS.

Andrew Morschel, Relieving Principal

--- RELIEVING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S REPORT---

As Sentral continues to be implemented in our school there will be a number of changes over the coming terms for parents, students and staff. We are using Sentral as our reporting system in 2016, with Year 12 mid-course reports to be completed early Term 2. There has been a considerable amount of time given to setting up for this so that the reports are completed on time without any problems. Sentral also has a notification function that allows the school to SMS or email parents information about student absences. I am currently investigating the use of this as an alternative to some of the letters that are sent to parents. SMS or email could be used to inform parents on the day that their child arrives to school late without a note, anytime that a student is marked absent from a class they are expected to be in during the day as well as whole day unexplained absences. Because of this it is vital that student details are up to date, with correct phone numbers and parent email addresses. If your child’s details have changed or you are unsure if their details are up to date, please contact the front office.

I would like to thank the parents who came to our school community evening last Thursday. It was a very important event for the start of the school year. Parents were given the opportunity to come and meet their child’s teachers in an informal setting and have a look around the school. Following the community evening a small number of parents from the senior school sat in an information session about assessment and the HSC. Hopefully the night was informative and answered any questions you may have had in relation to your child’s assessment and HSC. Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about assessment and the HSC.

Reminders from the last newsletter

- If your child is late to school they must report to the front office.
- If your child needs to leave the school make sure your child brings a note to the front office before 9 am. If your child is in Year 7 to 10 you are then required to pick your child up from the front office.
- If your child is out of uniform make sure your child brings a note to the front office before 9 am.

Damian Bush, Relieving Deputy Principal
School Awards

Congratulations to the following students on achieving awards:

**Silver Award:** Jacob Wilson (Year 11).

**Gold Award:** Isabel Ryan, Juliane Patenia (Year 8).

**Executive Awards:** Izabel Halls, Matthew Ryan (Year 7), Isabel Ryan, Reece Grundy (Year 8), Joshua Baulch, Jessica Murphy (Year 9), Shelby Tiffin, Georgia Saddler (Year 10), Elli Gill, Isaac Collins (Year 11), Alyssa Dundas and Morgan Wilesmith (Year 12).

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**Update Student Details**

A reminder for parents/caregivers:

It is essential that the school is kept fully informed in regards to the following issues:

- Change of Address
- Emergency Contacts updated
- AVO’s
- Court Orders
- Change of phone numbers
- Medical Conditions & Action Plans
- Child Protection

It is important to make sure we have correct phone numbers in case the school needs to contact you about your child/children. The school must be supplied with copies of all documentation involving the above issues for legal purposes, staff awareness and above all for the safety and wellbeing of students.

Please forward copies of any of the above documentation or changes to the front office ASAP if you have not already done so.

**School Photos**

School photos will be held on Monday 14 March. Photo envelopes have been handed out. If you did not receive your envelope please see your Year Adviser or the front office. They are to bring them back on the day of the photos filled in with the correct money inside.

Any student wanting an ID card is encouraged to order one when ordering school photos (these have to be purchase online). Even if you don’t want to purchase photos students will still have their picture taken.

**Personal Development, Health and Physical Education**

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) is one of the key learning areas within NSW Public Schools. Our school’s PDHPE program aims to help our students develop and lead healthy, active and fulfilling lives.

Our school PDHPE program covers a wide range of educational matters including relationships, drug use, sexual education, child protection, nutrition, road safety, resilience, fundamental movement skill development, and physical activity. Some of the content of the program deals with sensitive issues. The school recognises this by teaching about these issues within the context of a developmentally appropriate program by providing information to you about our programs.

The PDHPE program aims to encourage students to make informed decisions about their lifestyle taking into account the values of family, culture and religion to which they belong. The school program will be implemented in a manner that supports the role of parents and caregivers, and reflects the ethos of the school community.
Below is an outline of the sensitive topics covered within each year group. Please feel free to contact the PDHPE staff should you have any concerns or queries about the content your child will be studying within the course this year.

**Year 7**
- Bullying and harassment
- Drug Use
- Adolescence and change (puberty)
- Changes & Challenges (dealing with change, loss & grief)
- Mental Health
- Exploring Risks
- Relationships (abuse and power)

**Year 8**
- Drug Use
- Sexual health
- Mental Health
- Disorder eating
- Resilience
- Sexual health

**Year 9**
- Drug Use
- Body image
- Relationships
- Resilience
- Sexual health

**Year 10**
- Drivers awareness and safety
- Out in the Real World
- Health Promotion (including issues affecting young people such as road safety, drugs & alcohol and sexual health)
- Safe Celebrations – Sexual Health and Drug Use
- Mental Health

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**RYDA**

On Thursday 25 February, 36 Year 11 students participated in the Rotary Youth Driver Awareness program. The students participated in six sessions throughout the day which included learning about their rights and responsibilities as drivers and how to avoid hazards and distractions. They watched ‘Genevieve’s Story’ which was a very moving documentary of a young driver and her best friend killed in a car crash. They were also spoken to by John who suffered a severe brain injury after a car crash and how it has impacted his life. Students also had the opportunity to be passengers in a car which demonstrated the difference in stopping distances while travelling at various speeds. The course was very informative and hopefully it helps our students to be safer drivers.

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**SW SWIMMING**

On Wednesday 24 February, 70 LHS students attended the South West Swimming carnival as competitors or in an official capacity. Our swim team had a great day, finishing third overall. Everyone is to be commended on their athleticism and sportsmanship. Special mention must go to those students who have qualified for Riverina on Friday 4 March:

- Brooke Eglinton – 200m freestyle, 100m backstroke, 50m freestyle, 100m butterfly, 100, breaststroke, 100m freestyle - 12 years girls age champion
- Dion DeMamiel – 100m backstroke – 13 years boys 3rd place age champion
- Reece Grundy – 14 boys 3rd place age champion
- Dayne Butler – 50m freestyle, 100m butterfly, 100m breaststroke – 15 years boys 3rd place age champion
- Joshua Baulch – 200m freestyle, 100m freestyle
- Jenna Elliot – 100m freestyle
- Georgia Saddler – 50m freestyle – 16 girls 3rd place age champion
- Bryce DeMamiel – 50m freestyle, 100m freestyle
- Bryce Butler – 200m freestyle, 50m freestyle, 100m butterfly, 100m freestyle – 17+ boys age champion
- 13 girls age relay – Portia Marks, Sarah Allen, Hannah Pianca, Emily Wright
• 15 boys age relay – Dayne Butler, Joshua Baulch, Thomas DePaoli, Christopher Ryan
• 17 boys relay – Jonte Schmetzer, Reece Grundy, Bryce Butler, Bryce DeMamiel

Our timekeepers are to be commended on their efforts as well. They were a fantastic group, worked professionally all day in extreme heat. Many of these students will now officiate at the Riverina Carnival held in Leeton on Friday 4 March.

Thanks must also go to Swim Team Manager Mrs Anthony, who also helped set up the carnival on Meet Manager, and to Mr Stout who managed our team of timekeepers.

Brooke Eglinton, Reece Grundy, Dayne Butler, Dion DeMamiel and Georgia Saddler

A group of officials cooling off after a hot day
Shelby Tiffin, Georgia Saddler, Montana Bell, Jorgy Eglinton, Siarne Deeves & Carley Graham

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

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<th>Fri 4 Mar</th>
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<td>Yr 7 Camp</td>
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<th>Mon 14 Mar</th>
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<td>Sat 28 May</td>
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