This Wednesday, 31 August, is the day for our annual LHS Fest. This is always a great day and is the main fundraiser for our Parents and Citizen’s Association. All students will be involved in the LHS Fest in the morning. Students will then spend the afternoon at Leeton Idol, either participating or voting on the best acts on stage! One reminder, LYNKS students are required to be at school on this day and are asked to contact their employers to inform them.

The Leeton High School ovals are currently undergoing some top dressing in the lead up to summer. The top school oval has been levelled and top dressed already. Both the high school ovals across Pine Ave will be top dressed this week. This is prior to Little Athletics and Cricket commencing their new seasons. The funds for this upgrade were made available through a Premiers Sporting Challenge grant. Thanks to Boots Sand and Gravel for completing the work.

This week students will vote for school leaders for 2012. Nominees will speak to all students at this week’s assembly with voting to follow later in the week.

Eight Aboriginal students will participate in a Work Skills short course program next week from 6 September to 8 September. The short courses are related to OHS and farm maintenance. The course will be conducted at the Murrumbidgee Rural Studies Centre. This is the first time we have involved students in courses of this nature and we will use feedback from participants and staff to see if further courses are a possibility later in the year.

Year 11 2012 elective lines have been set. Year Adviser Tracey Lourigan is currently talking to any Year 10 students who have “clashes” and helping them to develop their best options for next year. Students and parents need to also be aware that for 2012 students who want to pick Work Studies this can be selected on any line. Finally for 2012 we have decided to run Hospitality outside the normal timetable. This is because our Food Technology room is getting an upgrade and we don’t know how long the room will be out of action. Therefore, the staff have made arrangements to use a commercial kitchen elsewhere.

Congratulations to the Open Boys Squash team who last week came 4th in the State in the CHS Knockout. Well done to the team consisting of Mathew Dunn, Mitchell Hutchinson, Hayden Reinke and William Evans. Congratulations also to Nim Sundaram who has been selected in the Riverina debating team.

Greg Horton, Principal

Students in Years 7 and 8 attended the Brainstorm production of ‘The Hurting Game’ last Thursday 25 August. The show was a look at the hurtful games some people play to give themselves a false sense of power and belonging. It promoted a discussion about friendship, bullying, body image and the way students interact at school and on the internet. Students found the performance entertaining and thought provoking. Many thanks to the P&C for paying the $5 entry for all students.

It is disappointing that many students are not providing letters of explanation for their absences. This term an average of approximately 60 letters per week have been sent home reminding parents/guardians to explain absences. It would be greatly appreciated if this matter could be addressed.

Congratulations to the following students on earning awards:

**Silver Diploma**: Kieara Thorpe, Crystal Newman, Grace Holt (Year 7), Lachlan Hetherington (Year 8), Amanda Hodge (Year 9), Ami Nishigaki (Year 11).

**Gold Diploma**: Jonte Schmetzer (Year 7), Cobie Green (Year 8), Kyle Dalzell, Corey Williams, Melinda Broad (Year 9), James Hayward (Year 10), Harry Smout and Ben Jaensch (Year 11).

**Executive Awards**: Cobie Green, Bree Chambers, Joshua Nikoro (Year 8), Aaron Maver (Year 9), Ana Korovata and William Evans (Year 10).

Scott White, Deputy Principal
**SCHOOL NEWS**

**LISA SHANAHAN AUTHOR VISIT**

To help celebrate Book Week, the Griffith Teacher Librarian Group organised for well-known author of children’s books, Lisa Shanahan, to run presentations for students in Griffith and Leeton. On Monday 22 August some Year 7 to 9 students from St. Francis College and Leeton High School enjoyed listening to Lisa speak and asked some questions. Lisa talked about some of the observations that inspired her to write her books and explained the processes that she as a writer had to go through to publish her books. She also talked about the processes involved in working with different illustrators and showed us some of her original storyboards and book covers.

**PREMIER’S DEBATING CHALLENGE**

On Thursday and Friday last week, Leeton High School hosted the Riverina finals for the Premier’s Debating Challenge. The days were a huge success with the best debating teams from around the Riverina meeting at Leeton to determine the Riverina champion team.

While Barham High School took out the win and the next level, it was the LHS Year 9 team and the fellow LHS debaters of other years who impressed the judges with their knowledge, skills and enthusiasm. The three members of the Sydney Flying Squad were full of praise for our students and their participations levels in each of the workshops. Workshops included 1 hour preparation techniques, defining topics and presenting models, as well as speech structure and what adjudicators are looking for.

With Cowra’s withdrawal at late notice we were able to allow our Year 9 team the opportunity to shine in a demonstration debate, beating Wade High School. The judges were very impressed with Annalise Ramponi’s and Nimalan Sundaram’s skills in the debate resulting in Nimalan’s selection as a member of the Riverina Debating Team and Annalise Ramponi as first reserve. Congratulations to all students involved as they have made their school very proud of their efforts.

**SHOPPING DOCKETS**

Parents and friends are reminded to collect both Golden Apple dockets and Woolworth’s dockets and return them to the boxes in the front office. Both organisations are currently running competitions where schools are able to gain prizes and/or funds. Your help is greatly appreciated.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

Wed 31st August – LHS FEST & Leeton Idol
Thur 8th Sept – LHS Social–Las Vegas Theme-Stan Axtill Cnt
8th, 9th & 10th Sept – State Carnival - Athletics

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**LEETON ATHLETIC CLUB REGISTRATION DAYS**

Saturday Sept 3rd – Leeton High School Ovals
11am-1pm
Wednesday Sept 7th – Leeton High School Ovals
3.30pm-5.30pm
Parent Information Afternoon – Monday 12th Sept
Leeton High School Ovals – 5pm
Competition Commences – Wednesday 14th Sept
4.30pm
Registration – Tiny Tots to U17’s - $55
Compulsory Singlet - $25
Proof of Age must be presented
2 week trial without payment is available
Enquiries: David Warburton, President – 0429 900926
Garry Schmetzer -02 6953 6365

**SEWING MACHINES FOR SALE**

Pre-loved Bernina sewing machines from the Textiles Room.
$100 – see the Front Office

**HELPING LEARNER DRIVERS BECOME SAFER DRIVERS**

FREE workshops for parents and supervising drivers

To provide practical advice about:
- New laws for L and P licence holders.
- Supervising learner drivers.
- Completing the Learner Driver Log Book.
- The benefits of supervised on-road driving experience.

Time & Date: Wednesday Sept 14
6.30pm-8.30pm
Venue: Major Dooley Library
Book now on: 0427 530 931