FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Farewell Ebonnie Smith

It was with great sadness that I informed our school community of the passing of Ebonnie Smith in Year 7 following a tragic car accident that also claimed the life of her father Bradley. A number of staff and students attended Ebonnie and Bradley’s funeral and paid tribute to a young life lost too early. Students and staff wrote private messages to Ebonnie that were presented in beautiful display boxes to Ebonnie’s mother and Bradley’s mother on behalf of our school community. White roses with personal messages attached were also placed on Ebonnie’s coffin by students and staff. I am very proud of students and staff for the way they have cared for each other as we have grieved the loss of Ebonnie. Our support services staff have done a great job supporting students and staff on the first day back at school and on an ongoing basis as required. I thank our local schools who supported us by releasing their Guidance Officers to assist with this process. The school is currently working with students to consider ways to commemorate Ebonnie’s passing on an ongoing basis.

School Opinion Survey

All parents/caregivers are invited to participate in this year’s School Opinion Survey to help our school to understand our strengths and successes and areas where improvement would be beneficial. This online survey is anonymous and information that you provide will be confidential. The survey is available until the 31st July 2015 as indicated in the enclosed flyer. Last year parent opinions were outstanding with 98% of parents reported that “this is a good school” and 97% said that “their children like being at this school”. We are looking forward to receiving feedback from all families again this year. All staff and a random sample of Year 8 and 11 students will also be given the opportunity to complete the School Opinion Survey.

Laidley SHS Camps in Term 3

Two camps are occurring early in Term 3 which include a combined Year 7 and 8 Camp and a STRIVE Camp for forty invited students. Key details about these camps are listed below and letters were distributed in early June.

Year 7 and 8 Camp is from Tuesday 14th to Friday 17th July at CYC Burleigh Heads. The cost is $270 with payment due mid June as outlined in the parent letter sent home earlier in the term.

Year 7 and 8 Alternative Program is for students who are not attending camp and involves participating in an Outdoor Education Personal Development Program at Laidley District SS’s ropes course on Tuesday 14th to Thursday 16th July. Students are to make their own way directly to/from Laidley District SS each day. Students can get off their school buses at Laidley District SS each morning and fetch their school bus home from Laidley District SS each afternoon. Other learning activities will occur at our school on Friday 17th July. A parent information letter was sent home on the 17th June outlining the details of this program. Payment was due on Wednesday 24th June, however if you have not paid then you can pay in full before midday, Monday 13th July. The Alternative Program cost of $15 covers utilising the outdoor education resources and equipment at Laidley District SS. Laidley High is covering the costs of employing qualified outdoor education teachers and leaders to conduct these activities with staff and students. All students not attending camp are expected to participate in the Alternative Program on both days. If you are experiencing financial difficulties, contact Lisa Johnston our Business Services Manager to discuss options so your child can participate in the program.

STRIVE Camp is from Tuesday 21st to Friday 24th July at Moogerah Dam. Forty students have been invited to attend this camp focused on a range of leadership and personal development goals. Information letters have been sent home to parents/guardians and two parent information sessions have already been conducted. Staff organisers are following up with parents who have not yet committed to students attending this camp. There is no cost for this camp as external funding has been sourced to proceed with a target group of students.

Year 11 Subject Selection Prerequisites

The school will be introducing a new scheme to better guide students into appropriate senior subjects where they are well prepared and likely to succeed. This new subject prerequisite scheme is being introduced to reduce the number of students who select OP subjects in Year 11 (often against HOD recommendation) and then need to change subjects because they are not succeeding. This new scheme will be clearly outlined to students/parents in the Year 11 Subject Selection handbook and will be discussed at the Subject Selection evening in August. Various OP subjects will have pre-requisites subjects and achievements that students must meet to be eligible to commence an OP subject. Some subjects may also have recommended subjects and achievements that will assist students/parents with their selections. Students will know how they are progressing in Year 10 as a guide when selecting their subjects for Year 11, however the pre-requisites requirements will be applied based on end of Semester 2, Year 10 performance. This allows a student who is not on track in Semester 1 to choose an OP pathway or subjects and alter the relevant areas during Semester 2 so that they can commence the subject/s.

Continued over
To Laidley SHS students who delivered stellar performances at the District Cross Country carnival:

U15 Girls – Yasmine Bock 2nd
U16 Girls – Savannah Kelly 2nd, Hadley Wickham 3rd
U13 Boys – Tyler Pholi 1st, Jonathon Roll 2nd
U15 Boys – Bailey Williams 1st
U16 Boys – Shaun Redgrave 3rd
U17 Boys – Jayden Williams 3rd
U18/19 Boys – Jake Kelly 1st

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<tr>
<th>Laidley SHS ASPIRE Awards Program – Celebrating Student Effort and Performance</th>
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<tr>
<td>In this mail out is a copy of each student’s individual ASPIRE Awards progress. This information shows student performance and awards in three key areas of Attendance, Achievement and Learning Engagement (classroom effort and behaviour) up to the end of Term 1 2015. Students will be issued a new report early next term that will include Term 2 performance. Although this new ASPIRE Award scheme was introduced in Term 1 2015, student performance and awards have been calculated from the start of 2013 to enable students to plan ahead to receive medallions as per the award criteria listed on the bottom of each student’s individual printout. Silver and Gold medallions will be issued for the first time at Junior and Senior ASPIRE Awards parades in Term 3 and Platinum medallions will be issued for the first time for Year 9 and Year 12 at the Annual Awards Night. Also included in this mail out are bronze, silver or gold Attendance certificates. Attendance certificates were not able to be presented at the Term 2 ASPIRE Awards parade due to some data irregularities. These have now been corrected. I congratulate students receiving these certificates for their Term 1 attendance. I look forward to presenting Term 2 certificates and medallions to students who perform strongly or improve significantly in Attendance, Achievement and Learning Engagement.</td>
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<th>Parent Teacher Interviews and Year 11 QCE Review Interviews</th>
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<td>Just a reminder for parents/guardians about two important opportunities to discuss student’s progress. Parent teacher interviews for all students is on after school on Tuesday 21st July. This is a great opportunity to discuss your child’s academic and social progress with their classroom teachers. Information about how to book interviews is enclosed with this mail out. Year 11 students also have a Year 11 QCE review meeting with a member of our school leadership team on Monday 20th July. A letter was posted home late in the last week of school outlining the processes for booking a suitable interview time on this day. The QCE Interview is a comprehensive review of a student’s achievement, attendance, effort, behaviour, subject choices, career choices and QCE, VET and OP progress. Every student is required to attend this meeting with a parent or guardian. Please contact the school if you are unavailable on this day so that an alternative day/time can be arranged.</td>
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Michael Clarkson
Principal

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<th>NAIIDOC Week</th>
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<tr>
<td>20th - 23rd July</td>
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<td>NAIIDOC Theme:</td>
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<td>We all Stand on Sacred Ground:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learn Respect Celebrate</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAIIDOC week is being celebrated at Laidley SHS from Monday 20th of July to Thursday 23rd July. The celebration is about embracing and celebrating the traditions and culture of Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander people.</td>
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Come along & celebrate NAIDOC at Laidley & District Community Organisation Inc.
Wednesday 8th July Sausage Sizzle 10:30am Activities 9:30am-12:00pm

Continued: Year 11 Subject Selection Prerequisites

A written appeals process will be developed that allows a student and their parent to justify reasons why they should be able to choose a subject where the relevant pre-requisite has not been met. The final list of pre-requisites is still being finalised ready for the subject selection process, however here is a good indication of the likely pre-requisite requirements.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>OP Subjects</th>
<th>Semester 2 Year 10 Pre-requisites</th>
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<tr>
<td>For all OP Subjects</td>
<td>Must achieve a C in English Must have attendance rate of 85% or higher. Must have a Learning Engagement GPA of 3.25. (This reflects slightly above a C average for Effort and Behaviour on report card)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics B</td>
<td>Must achieve a C in Mathematics (Extension) or a B in Mathematics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics A</td>
<td>Must achieve a C in Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Agricultural Science</td>
<td>Must achieve a C in Science</td>
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Free breast cancer screening at Plainland 25th May - 24th July 2015 Women aged 40+ years are eligible. Phone 13 20 50 to make an appointment.
Met West Athletes

It is an impressive feat to make a Representative sporting side, and Laidley High has had another two students selected for Met West to compete at their respective state carnivals: Jayden Williams U17 Touch Football and Jake Kelly U18/19 Cross Country. Well done boys!

CISSSA Metro Finals

Laidley State High School has again put forward some very strong performances in the Metro Finals for the CISSSA competition this year. Although there wasn't a Metro Finals for this competition, the Open Boys Rugby 7’s Team has won the Ipswich Division. Both the Laidley State High School Open Boys Touch Team and the Year 10 Cricket Team also won the Ipswich Division of their competitions and progressed through to the Metro Finals. The Open Boys Touch Team matched their performance last year making it to the second round of the finals, whilst the Year 10 Cricket Team went one better than last year and won their grand final!

Mr Jack Porter – Sports Master & Representative Sport Coordinator

Lockyer District High School and Laidley State High School Concert Bands combined forces for the day and made some beautiful music! Over 45 students gathered for a full day workshop with Mr Clancy-Jones and John Clyde to gain some valuable, diverse learning experiences on their instruments as part of a large ensemble. This gave a lot of students their first opportunity to be a part of a large ensemble and hear the full sound of a balanced band. It was a great experience and one that we will look forward to doing again.

Mr Clancy-Jones – Instrumental Music Teacher

Lost & Found

There are LOTS & LOTS of school jackets and school hats (among other items) in LOST PROPERTY at the office. PLEASE ... if you have lost anything, come and have a look at lunch time. Anything left after the holidays will be sent to a charity shop.

Bookwiz Winners

Alex Wall
Nicholas Phillips
Brittany Perry
Carmen Kinnell
Katie Spelleken
Shyann Richardson-Wright

7A (Ms Kantor)
8C (Ms Stafford)
9A (Mr Barrett)
Chaplain's Corner

End of term 2...where does time go?
Besides the usual school activities such as card making and game playing at school, the Laidley and Lockyer clusters Chaplains combined to promote a school and community event. A twelve metre shipping container left empty since the 2013 floods in Laidley has been filled with useful donations to be sent to Vanuatu. The container is now full and will be leaving Laidley during the school holidays for Vanuatu. The purpose of this venture was to find a tangible way for the community to ‘Pay It Forward’ a way of saying thank-you for support that was received during the 2011 and 2013 floods.
I would like this opportunity to sincerely thank the students and their families, school staff and the wider Laidley and Gatton communities who have donated. The donations you have provided will certainly be appreciated by the people of Vanuatu.

Cambodia Peace House – (similar to the picture left) something you will all hear more about as this year progresses. Ten high school students have put their hands up to go on a humanitarian trip to Cambodia to build a ‘Peace House’. The students raise their own airfares and the $2,500 needed to build the Peace House that will take a family of up to thirteen people off the street. The car boot market on the 3rd of July at the Scout Hall, Patrick Street, Laidley will be their first major fundraiser.

Queensland Father of the Year Award (QFOTY) - Honours and celebrates the importance of fathers and father figures throughout our state and local communities. Nominations are open now. Who do you know that deserves this award? [http://qldfatheroftheyear.org.au](http://qldfatheroftheyear.org.au) Have a safe and restful holiday break.

Chappy Janine

Car Boot Sale

Date: Friday 3rd July
Time: 8am - 1pm
Location: Scout Hall, Patrick St., Laidley
Sell pre-loved treasures and make some cash
Site: $5 per car boot/ute/stall
(Provide own table, change and shade)
Don’t want to have your own car boot sale? Donate your excess for us to sell at charity stall.
For site bookings contact Janine 0421 229 054 or Pauline on 0400 113 918

Face Painting – Sausage sizzle –
  - Novelty stalls –
Chocolate and Raffle ticket Stall – Coffee and Cakes – Clothing – Bric-a-Brac

Larissa Hill - Head of Senior Schooling
After two Terms of hard work our Seniors are coming to the end of their Rural Operations certificate course. For the final leg students have been completing modules on safe tractor and quad bike operation under the instruction of industry professional, Allen Bruce from Rural Training Queensland.

Students have gained valuable knowledge in not only maintaining the vehicles but operating them safely. They are also placing the finishing touches on the gardens at Pioneer Village, focusing on and gaining experience in paving and concreting. We would like to thank the Laidley Historical Society for working in partnership with Laidley SHS in providing unique work experiences for our students. It has been a great privilege to give back to the community in a practical way.

Mrs Sylvester – Alternate Program

National Collection of Data on School Students with Disability

Collecting data on school students with disability helps teachers, principals and education authorities support the participation of students living with disability in schools on the same basis as students living without disability. All State and Federal governments have agreed to work together on the annual collection of data on students with disability. All Australian schools participate in this annual data collection and the data provided to the Australian Government is aggregated data only.

Please be reassured that the Education Department will not provide to another organisation any data that can identify an individual student. The only data being collected at the school level to be reported nationally is the:
- number of students in the school who are provided with an adjustment to address a disability;
- level of adjustments we provide for those students; and
- broad category of disability.

Consultation with parents and carers is important not only for the data collection but also to ensure you are aware of the adjustments being provided to support the student. We will therefore continue to consult with you. Involvement in the project is optional and if you do not want Laidley SHS to provide de-identified data about your child to the Australian Government Department of Education, you can ‘opt-out’ by contacting the school office on 5466 8922 or returning the opt-out form previously sent home to families. Any queries about the collection or use of data please contact Angela O'Toole, Head of Special Education directly. Information and Fact Sheets are available to help you make a decision from the:

Department’s website:

Australian Government Department of Education website

Angela O’Toole – Head of Special Education Services