FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Bring Your Own Device (BYOx) – Meeting the Technology Needs of a High Quality, Modern Teaching and Learning Environment

A Parent BYOx Information Evening is being held on Thursday 3rd September from 6.00pm to 7.00pm in the Clarice Ferrari Hall to discuss the opportunities and implications of the school considering a Bring Your Own device program. All parents/guardians and students are strongly encouraged to attend this meeting to contribute to the decision making process.

Why BYOx?

From 2010 to 2014 the Federal Government funded the Digital Education Revolution program, providing schools with a computer device for every student in Years 9, 10, 11 and 12. This enabled the highly successful Take Home Laptop program that most Senior students benefited from during this time. Since 2010, the school has been provided with 415 computers worth more than $490,000, plus an additional $58 000 in on-costs to support IT infrastructure, peripheral and IT support. Now that this program has ended and those devices are coming out of warranty, the expectation from students, staff and many parents is that the school will continue to provide the same level of access to computers. However, schools do not receive sufficient ongoing funding to be able to both maintain our network infrastructure and provide the number of devices to maintain a high computer to student ratio.

What are the benefits of BYOx?

There are a range of benefits of a BYOx model for teaching, learning, collaboration and communication. These include:

- Preparation for future employment in a world that is ever changing and increasingly reliant on technology and innovation. The jobs we are preparing students for in the future are not the jobs of today!
- Developing higher order thinking skills as students use technology to consume knowledge and information and communicate, collaborate and create with others (including teachers and other students) to demonstrate meaning and understanding.
- Extending on advances in modern teaching pedagogies that have occurred through the existing Laptop program. Teachers have become facilitators of learning rather than content/information providers. They have access to a world of learning resources through the internet and are able to share with these students through the teaching and learning process.
- Students taking greater ownership over their learning, with on-demand and 24/7 access to information and resources on their personalised learning device. Communication with teachers has increased exponentially with the introduction of take home laptops.
- Ensuring social justice and equity by enabling our school to provide our students with the same access to modern, high quality learning opportunities as students living in the wealthy suburbs of metropolitan cities (as long as we can provide access to equity devices for those families that are unable to provide one for themselves).

What has the Parent Survey told us so far?

92 families with students in Years 7 to 12 in 2016 have completed the BYOx survey. Thank-you, this information is invaluable in assisting the BYOx Working Party to understand the needs of our school community. To date key findings from this survey include:

- 60% of families currently own a laptop or tablet, with an additional 25% owning a desktop
- Almost 50% of these devices are 0-2 years old. 25% are more than 4 years old.
- More than 55% would allow their child to bring their existing laptop to school.
- 85% have a wireless network connection at home that enables more than one device to connect.
- 66% would be prepared to purchase a laptop computer for each of their children to bring to school.
- Key questions and areas of concern raised by parents?

The BYOx Parent survey enabled parents to ask questions or raise issues that they would like addressed. The key themes raised up to date are listed below.

- **Costs** - The cost of purchasing, hiring or repairing devices will be beyond some families, particularly when there is more than one sibling at school. Will families have any support if required?
- **Appropriate use** – How will the school ensure that students have appropriate materials on their personal device?
- **Minimum specifications** – Will the school provide guidance regarding minimum specifications and compatibility, or even arrange a bulk purchase process for parents?
- **Device security** – How will students ensure that their devices are safe and secure and how will the school deal with accidental and/or deliberate damage of personal devices?
The Queensland Government is conducting its annual state-wide survey of students who left school in Years 10, 11 and prior to completing Year 12 during 2014. The Early School Leavers survey is a short, confidential survey that collects information about what young people are doing the year after leaving school. The information from the survey helps our schools to understand the pathways young people follow after leaving school and to plan services to support transitions into study or employment for our students.

Between July and August, our students who left school in Years 10, 11 and prior to completing Year 12 last year can expect to receive an invitation to complete a web-based survey or a telephone call from the Queensland Government Statistician’s Office to complete the survey.

Please encourage early school leavers to take part. For more information, visit www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep/ or telephone toll free on 1800 068 587.

Michael Clarkson
Principal

HAVE YOUR SAY - Survey closes 28/08/2015
Go to https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2X6KP59

2015 Early School Leavers survey

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Year 12 at a Glance

QCS Exams - We would like to start by wishing the Year 12 OP students the best of luck for their QCS Exams and hope the hours of preparation put in by the students, Mrs Hickey and the team will pay off.

Formal - We are in need of a number of old hard cover books, nothing too large, to use on the tables for the formal. If you have any that you are prepared to donate we would love to take them off your hands. Please leave at F Block staffroom.

There are a number of stipulations regarding Formal that need to be met prior to purchasing tickets. A note has been sent home detailing these conditions. This includes outstanding assessment and unexplained absences. Please read this note carefully. A number of fundraising events have been proposed for the next few months. More details in the coming weeks.

Year 12 PCD - Financial Literacy has been the focus this term for the non OP students, with particular attention to wages and budgets. OP students have been preparing for the QCS. Year 12 Coordinator - Lou Bruce

PBL Winners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Prize</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liam Bichel</td>
<td>$20 iTunes voucher</td>
<td>Laidley Post Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allison Spiteri</td>
<td>Jelly Beans &amp; Chapssticks</td>
<td>Laidley Chemist</td>
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Lauren Osborne & Ben Hartfiel
Our Year 12 Fitness students who have now completed their Certificate III in Fitness. WELL DONE!
Woolworth’s Earn and Learn Stickers
Laidley SHS is collecting now!
Please support Laidley State High School

Thank You!
Laidley SHS students participated in the 40 Hour Famine over the weekend and raised $150 by washing staff cars last week for the event. Thank you to Indigenous Teacher Aide, Toni for giving up her afternoon to support the cause. This couldn’t be achieved without the support of the Student Council for donating the materials for the car wash.
Desiree - Youth Support Coordinator

We are now offering eligible students from Laidley State High School an examination and treatment at the Laidley Hospital Dental Clinic, William Street, Laidley. Intent to Attend forms have been emailed to all parents/guardians of students in Years 7 - 10 and given to each student in these year. We ask that Intent to Attend forms be printed, completed and returned to school office by Monday 31st August 2015. The Child and Adolescent Oral Health Service offers a quality, FREE oral health program to:

- All children from 4 years old to year 10
- Children aged 0 - 3 years of age who have a current concession card
- All children 2 – 17 years of age who are eligible for Child Dental Benefit Schedule (Medicare voucher $1000.00 over 2yrs)

CDBS eligible clients:
It is a requirement for QLD Oral Health to bulk bill all CDBS eligible clients. Opting to use your CDBS funds within our service will ensure NO FEES OR OUT OF POCKET EXPENSES even if your benefit cap has been reached. If you choose not to use the CDBS funds with our service you have the option of attending a private dentist.

Stars Softball Club Sign on
Where: Leichhardt Park BBQ area
When: Thursday 27th Aug 4:30pm-5:30pm Syrs – Adults
We cater for special needs players of all ages.
Contact: Cate - 0450 235 105 / Karen - 0410 127 652
There's So Much To Gain From A WEP Student Exchange!

A WEP student exchange allows students to exchange their school, culture, family and possibly language for a selected time period in another country. It is far more rewarding than simply being a tourist, as students live like locals and acquire knowledge not available to the general traveller. It is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to travel and study at an overseas school with the support of a volunteer host family. To find out more come along to one of WEP's upcoming information sessions in Kenmore, Ashgrove and Sunnybank Hills.

When you go overseas on a WEP student exchange program, your family, back at home, has no obligation to host an exchange student in return. However, hosting an exchange student allows families to gain insight into another culture and way of living, without leaving the comfort of their own home. The personal rewards and friendships that come from hosting an international exchange student often endure for generations. For more information and to request a free information pack, head to our website, www.wep.org.au or email info@wep.org.au or call 1300 884 733.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HOST AN OVERSEAS STUDENT?
Experience another culture, make new friends and improve your language studies at home

Hosting – An Experience for Life
Student Exchange is looking for host families across Australia to welcome overseas students into their home

www.studentexchange.org.au
1300 135 331 (cost of local call)

Vietnam Veterans Day
- 18 August 2015 -

Laidley State High School student, Eric Thornes wears the WWI Australian Imperial Forces (AIF) uniform with the 2nd Lockyer Light Horse Troop in Laidley.

Congratulations to all our Laidley SHS teams who competed in the Opti-MINDS challenge at UQ Gatton:
- Open Division - Science & Engineering Team (Year 10)
- Division 3 - Science & Engineering Team (Year 11)
- Division 2 - Language & Literature Team (Year 7)

All teams did exceptionally well and have now gone through to the State Finals which will be held in October!
The Opti-MINDS Creative Sustainability Challenge is an inclusive Team challenge which EMPOWERS participants to THINK, CREATE & COMMUNICATE