### FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

**Bring Your Own Device (BYOx) Update**

The school is progressing with consultation regarding the introduction of a BYOx scheme for 2016. The Working Party has met on two occasions since the Parent Consultation evening was conducted in early September. Further parent surveying was also conducted. The Working Party will be recommending a BYOx scheme to the P&C Association at the regular monthly meeting in the school administration building at 5.30 pm on Wednesday 7th October. All parents and citizens are welcome to attend this meeting where the P&C will consider recommendations and endorse (or otherwise) the details of the scheme.

**Key Elements of the Proposed BYOx Scheme**

The key components of the BYOx scheme being proposed to the P&C Association by the Working Party are detailed below. The school will need to purchase a $30 000 switch that enables personal laptop computers to safely and securely connect to the school network within legal requirements of Queensland legislation and departmental policies. The total IT Budget over the next 4 years would be almost $700 000, with financial contributions from the school, the P&C and families. Students and families will be able to participate in one of a number of ways including:

1. **Bring Your Own Device**
   - All students could bring their own laptop computer that meets minimum specifications.
   - Laptop would be connected to the school network for an annual fee $50.
   - This fee includes a licence and administration fee and a contribution towards the additional IT Technician time required to connect, maintain connectivity and provide technical support.
   - The school will connect parents with various IT suppliers to assist parents to purchase laptops for prices as low as $300.
   - Students may download Microsoft Office and ADODE Web Premium software suite for free.
   - Students may be able to purchase other software packages at significantly reduced prices (e.g. ADOBE Master Collection for $20 per year or Symantec Anti-Virus for $10 per year).

2. **School Take Home Hire Scheme**
   - In 2016 students could hire an existing school laptop for approx. $120 to $150 per year.
   - There would be approx. 250 laptops available for hire in 2016.
   - Laptops would be used at school and at home for educational and appropriate personal use.
   - Parents would be liable for repairs to laptops damaged by students.
   - From 2017, the school would need to purchase new laptop computers for this hire scheme. A limited number of laptops would be available at an annual cost of approx. $240 to $270.

3. **School Take Home EQUITY Hire Scheme**
   - As some families may be experiencing financial difficulties and may find it difficult to provide their children with their own laptop, the school would provide a limited number of take home EQUITY laptops for hire for 1/3 of the annual hire charge (i.e. approx. $50 in 2016 and approx. $90 in 2017 onwards).
   - A brief application and assessment process may be required to determine which families are genuinely in need of the EQUITY hire scheme.

4. **Computer Labs and Pods**
   - Year 7 students will have access to pods of laptops based in their classrooms (approx. 1 laptop for every 3 students).
   - Year 7 students could bring their own laptop to school, however this would not be required.
   - The school will maintain at least 2 computer labs into the future, including a Media Studies/Film and TV lab and a Graphics lab. These subjects require expensive high end computers to run the relevant software. Maintaining these labs means parents will not have to purchase expensive laptops to undertake these courses.

5. **HOT SWAP Pool**
   - The school would endeavour to have a small number of short term loan “Hot Swap” laptops available for students when their personal laptop is being fixed by your preferred repairer.

Our school IT Technician would not be able to fix your BYOx laptop as they do not have the right to modify or interfere with your personal device. If they tried and failed, school would be liable for any physical damage or software issues caused on your device by staff. Technicians could provide students/parents with basic advice regarding what may need to be done to fix a particular software or hardware issue, however you would need to arrange for your laptop to be fixed by your preferred repairer including any warranty or insurance scheme purchased with your laptop.

The Working Party is working through a range of operational issues that support a well-managed BYOx scheme and address relevant parental and student concerns. Security of student devices is a significant issue for parents. The school is investigating the purchase of lockers that could be hired by students for a small fee to enable them...
The Working Party will be recommending an increase in base school fees to help fund the school BYOx scheme. Laidley SHS school fees are currently the lowest of all high schools in the broad Ipswich, Lockyer Valley and Toowoomba region. The school has kept fees very low for many years, however the BYOx scheme cannot be implemented without an increase in annual school fees of between $25 to $40. A comparison of 2015 Year 9 resource scheme base school fees from other local schools includes Laidley SHS ($130), Lockyer District SHS ($150), Toogoolawah SHS ($160), Toowoomba SHS ($170), Harristown SHS ($183), Bundamba Secondary College ($200), Ipswich SHS ($220) and Centenary Heights SHS ($310). Research indicates that other local schools planning to implement a BYOx scheme in 2016 are also considering increasing school fees in 2016 to help fund their BYOx schemes.

The Working Party has worked hard to design a scheme that enables our school to remain at the forefront of quality teaching, learning and student achievement within our region. We do not want our students to fall behind those in other schools because as a school community we are not able to provide the same access to computers for learning as other schools are able to. The last 4 years of the federally funded school laptop program has clearly raised expectations of students and parents that students will have high level access to computers for their learning, both at school and at home. It is reasonable to believe that by the end of this decade it will be the norm for every high school student and many primary school students in Queensland to be bringing their laptop or other similar device to school for their learning.

At the same time as being strongly in favour of such a scheme, the Working Party has clearly recognised the financial limitations of some of our families and has considered a range of ways the school can support families. These include:
- Sourcing laptops for parents to purchase for as low as about $300.
- Making parents/guardians aware of the School Kids Bonus payments of $856 per secondary aged student for eligible families. This is paid in 2 instalments, ending at the end of 2016.
- Considering using Birthday and Christmas presents as a way of providing students with a laptop.
- Paying school fees in instalments, negotiating repayment agreements with families and providing access to Centrepay.
- Providing an EQUITY scheme at a significantly reduced annual charge to families experiencing financial difficulties.
- Keeping increases in school fees to the absolute minimum.

This is a significant decision for Laidley High and encourages parents/guardians to stay in touch with school information about this potential scheme, participate in future consultations and, if we proceed, attend future parent information sessions. If you have any questions, please contact the school on 5466 8922 or email byox@laidleyshs.eq.edu.au.

Michael Clarkson - Principal

### Theatre Restaurant 2015

Laidley State High School’s hosted their 10th Annual Theatre Restaurant, where the Hospitality and Arts Departments combined to host a three course meal and theatrical production. #Kids was an original production, written by Senior Drama teacher Megan Newbury. The performance explores the complexities of being a teenager in the 21st century. The Year 11 and 12 Hospitality students prepared and served a restaurant quality three-course meal and a range of cocktails.

**Congratulations to the Arts and Hospitality students for working together to create such a successful evening!**

### STUDENT ACCOUNT STATEMENTS

Any student that has an outstanding amount on their account has been issued with a statement. School fees were due to be finalised by week 2 of this term, except for those families paying by Centrepay or have an alternate repayment agreement. **Fees must be paid in full before students are able to attend end of year excursions and the Senior Formal.**

**Payment Options**

There are a number of options for fees to be paid:

- **BPoint** - online credit card payment
- **Office** - EFTPOS, cheque, cash
- **Centrepay**
- **Direct Credit** - School bank account

| BSB 064 | 419 | A/C 00090349 | Reference: STUDENT NAME |

If families are experiencing financial difficulty in payment of school fees, I strongly encourage that you make contact with either the Principal or myself. **Lisa Johnston - Business Services Manager**

### BYOx Survey Open

**HAVE YOUR SAY - Survey closes 28/08/2015**

Go to [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2R88RXG](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2R88RXG)

Parents and guardians are encouraged to complete the **2nd Parent BYOx Consultation Survey** following our BYOx Parent Information Evening on Thursday 3rd September, 2015. The survey can be completed whether you have attended this consultation evening or not. This survey will provide further valuable information to assist our school to design the right BYOx program for our school community.

**Canteen Volunteers needed for Term 4 — Contact Gillian on 5466 8922**
Some school activities and physical education, particularly contact sports, carry inherent risks of injury. Parents are advised that the department does not have Student Accident Insurance cover for students.

If your child is injured at school as a result of an accident or incident, all costs associated with the injury, including medical costs, are the responsibility of the child, parent or caregiver. Some incidental medical costs may be covered by Medicare. If parents have private health insurance, some costs may also be covered through the private health insurance. Any other costs would be borne by the parents. Student Accident Insurance is an insurance policy that pays certain benefits in certain circumstances should your child have an accident. It is a personal decision for parents as to the types and levels of private insurance they arrange to cover their child for any accidental injury that may occur. Parents should contact their insurer or an approved Australian insurance broker for more information about student personal accident insurance cover for their child. Accident insurance cover for students http://education.qld.gov.au/parents/school-life/health-wellbeing/accident-insurance-cover.html

### Expressions of Interest

**Laidley SHS needs experienced cleaners to fill in for casual and temporary vacancies.**

Please send resumes to: Business Services Manager, Lisa Johnston Email: ljohn173@eq.edu.au

Postal: Laidley State High School, 98 Alfred Street, Laidley 4341

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**Laidley High Corporate Row Team**

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**Congratulations**

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**PBL Winners**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Gift Voucher</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kiarra Sherrington</td>
<td>Gift voucher (Laidley Florist and Tea Room)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katie Hawes</td>
<td>Gift voucher (NewsXpress Laidley)</td>
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**What are your ideas on local youth issues?**

We’d love to hear from you.

Develop leadership skills! Make a real difference! Join us today!

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**Careers in Construction**

How would you like to be part of an industry that is building Australia?

A career in the construction industry may be for you! There are many roles in the construction industry, just as there are many facets to the industry. There are many opportunities in the construction industry for women and you can create a strong career that includes roles like engineers, project managers, architects, surveyors, lawyers, accountants, estimators, marketing, graphic designers, 3D graphic modellers, 4D construction visualisation modellers, and trade roles actually constructing the project. The National Association of Women in Construction has a number of video interviews with recent female university graduates working in different roles cross the construction industry.

They talk about what it’s like to work in the industry and what they get to do on a day to day basis:

- Design Manager http://youtu.be/rBaYqOT4vSU
- Building Surveyor http://youtu.be/VAYe8GiPnCg
- Project Management http://youtu.be/-3yXSuUA8go
- Civil Engineer http://youtu.be/p3d6grvVHoK
- Project Engineer http://youtu.be/4ppMcyeA8W

You can visit the National Association of Women in Construction website to find out more www.nawic.com.au
This term, in the interests of promoting a positive school climate, we have focussed on the principle of RESPECT. Students and staff have demonstrated their respect for each other across multiple classes, teams, parades, challenges and big events. One of those celebrated events is the Theatre Restaurant and here’s what some of our participating students had to say about the role of Respect during their experience:

1. It looked like everyone working as a team...everyone supporting and helping each other to be the best they could possibly be.  
   Simone

2. It looked like a group effort. Everyone worked together and no one person was the ‘star’. We accepted each other and lifted each other up...literally.  
   Jade

3. We all helped each other with everything. We had a really fast transition in between a scene where a couple of girls had to get into a body bag each. We helped by having the bags set so that they just had to step in and we pulled it over them. We then helped them get into a line on stage in pitch black.  
   Jade

4. We helped each other by giving positive feedback and thoughts.  
   Jaimie

5. We helped each other with their roles and supporting each other in rehearsals and co-operating to the best of our abilities.  
   Chloe

6. Being committed to rehearsals and workshops.  
   Anna

7. Scheduled extra practices in lunch times and helped with each other’s makeup on the night.  
   Anna

8. Always giving positive feedback and helping people to improve their acts.  
   Romany

9. Remembering people’s cues and helping them find their props.  
   Romany

10. Giving Ms Newbury flowers as a thank you for all her wonderful effort.  
    Romany

11. Never pushing anyone down or dissing their ideas. Always working together and still making sure to have fun while doing it.  
    Megan

12. Listening to Ms Newbury’s feedback and trusting her throughout the term.  
    Megan

13. Taking care and supporting everyone.  
    Cheyenne

PBL congratulates the staff and students who made the Theatre Restaurant such a respectful show.

Marcella Muldoon - Chairperson PBL