PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

The beginning of the year has been a busy one for us all and I hope all our new students have settled in and are feeling comfortable and secure in this new environment. The feedback I have received thus far seems to support that this has indeed been the case for most of our new students. Should this not be the case please contact us as soon as possible so that we can remedy the situation. The appropriate contact personnel for each year are listed below in this edition of Highlights.

LAPTOPS

Every student in years 9 to 12 in the past four years received a computer under the government’s $2 billion "digital education revolution".

However, the funding to support this program ceases this year. As it is the final year of the funding support and we have been informed that there will be no replacement program, a change has been put in place this year. The school will receive an entitlement of laptops, equivalent to the number of students in year 9 but the laptops will remain the property of the school. This is different to previous years where laptops were issued to students and remained the property of the student at the end of year 12. With this in mind and no solution as yet to how we might maintain a 1:1 program, we have decided not to issue laptops to individual students. Instead they will remain at school in class sets of 30 to be used by all students. In doing so we hope to maintain access at school for a longer period of time till we can come up with a suitable solution at a local level.

We welcome parent input into finding a suitable long term sustainable solution and expect this to be a hot topic at future P & C meetings. It may well be that we need to explore a ‘Bring your own device’ (BYOD) solution in the future. If this is indeed to be a viable solution we will need to address equity issues to ensure no student is disadvantaged. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss this issue further. P & C meetings are generally held on the first Monday of the month with the exception of this first one, this coming Monday following on from the P & C Welcome to new parents.

No Knives at School

This week on assembly I delivered a mandatory message from the Department of Education and Communities (DEC) – It is against the law to have a knife in a public place or at school. Each year Principals are obliged to remind their communities of this in the hopes of preventing any future incidents. No knives are allowed under any circumstances. A student will be suspended and the police called if a student is found in possession of a knife at school. Please see the parent information leaflet on this further on in the newsletter.

Acronyms

Following on from last week’s mini edition of Highlights I received feedback requesting further explanation of some of the acronyms used. Each of our faculties teach a range of subjects across the Key Learning Areas (KLAs) including English, Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE), Languages Other Than English (LOTE), Mathematics, Music, Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE), Science, Technology and Applied Science (TAS) and Visual Arts.

Yr 10 transition unit

One of the major focus areas this year will be on the development of a transition unit of work for year 10. This is to address the drop off in attendance of year 10 students in the latter half of term four and to better prepare them for the transition to Stage 6. Each subject will develop a five week unit of work focusing on extended writing, similar to the requirements of the HSC. An assessment at the end of term will require all students, in all subjects to submit a subject specific piece of writing which addresses prescribed criteria. This will then make up a portfolio of work for each student which will be forwarded to the senior campus. Work experience has been moved to term three and there will be an expectation that all students in year 10 attend right up to the end of term.
**Uniform Policy**
Leichhardt campus is a uniform school and our P&C support this policy. We expect all of our students to wear their school uniform with pride. For safety reasons students are required to wear black enclosed leather shoes at school. We recommend that students wear caps/hats when outside. Blazers have been bought by the school for students to wear when representing Leichhardt campus. A strong school dress code helps focus students and reminds us that we are united as a school community. I would ask parents and carers to support us in ensuring that all students wear correct school uniform.

*Melinda Bright*

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**College Presentation Day**

Our three campuses will be coming together to celebrate student achievement on Friday 22 February at [Sydney Town Hall](#). At this ceremony we will be celebrating academic excellence as well as cultural and sporting achievements of our students. This is always a very uplifting event, it is wonderful to see Sydney Secondary College staff, students and parents come together at this very special venue.

Students are required to be at the Town Hall by 9.20am for seating by 9.30am sharp. The ceremony will conclude at approximately 12.00noon. Students will be required to make their own way to Town Hall and then home.

Transport will be available for a small number of year 7 students from the school to Town Hall and return. A letter outlining the organisation of this special event will be sent home next week.

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**Welcome to 2013 School Year**

**Welcome to all Students** - We have many talented students with a broad range of experiences who have joined Sydney Secondary College, Leichhardt Campus and of course those who are already here.

Do not forget to keep your “ears and eyes” open for opportunities to participate in the many extra curricula activities on offer such as the debating team, chess club, school magazine - ROAR, thearesports, best buddies, choir, drama ensemble, just to name a few. There are also Gala days, school athletics and swimming carnivals to look forward to and also school excursions.

Parents can contact me any time if they have any concerns regarding their child’s progress. Students are always welcome to see me in my office or have an informal chat in the playground as we strive for a caring and safe environment for our students.

*James McMaster – Year 7 & 8 Deputy Principal*

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**Year 10 Information Evening**
We invite all Year 10 parents, carers and students to a Year 10 information evening on Wednesday 13 February 2013. The evening begins at 6.00pm.

Year 10 will receive important information about their assessment program and their transition to the senior campus.

David Allen – Year 9 & 10 Deputy Principal
No knives at school
NSW Department of Education and Training

There's no good reason to bring a knife to school.

NSW now has the toughest knife laws in Australia. As a parent, you need to be aware of these laws, as you can also be charged if you allow your child to carry a knife.

No knives allowed at school under any circumstances.

- If a student has a knife at school the principal may call the police.
- The student may be expelled or suspended immediately. Possessing a knife includes your child simply having one in their bag or locker. Having a knife for self-protection is also illegal. If you are concerned about your child's wellbeing or safety, contact the principal.
- Tough penalties apply for children convicted of knife offences, including jail sentences of up to 25 years if someone is injured with a knife during an assault.

What kind of knives are prohibited?

School policy is designed to keep all students safe, and so no type of knife is allowed at school. That means no butter knives or fruit knives in lunchboxes, or knife tools for craft purposes.

- Flick knives, ballistic knives, sheath knives, push daggers, trench knives, butterfly knives, star knives are all prohibited.
- Your child cannot bring to school any item that can be used as a weapon (such as a chisel).
- In lessons requiring the use of knives, for example cooking or trades, your child's teacher will supply and supervise the use of the tools.
- There are some senior subjects, such as hospitality, where children may be required to have their own knives. Your child's school will advise you about these courses and the procedures for carrying knives legally to and from school and TAFE.

The law makes parents responsible

You need to make certain your child is aware of the school's rules and the State laws about knives.

- If you allow your child to carry or possess a knife at school or in a public place, you can be charged.
- The police can search any child they suspect of having a knife. They can confiscate any dangerous object they might find during the search.
- Your child must comply with such a police search, or they may be arrested and charged.
- It is also illegal for anyone to sell a knife to anyone who is less than 16 years old.

Every child has the right to feel safe and secure at school. There is no good reason for them to ever have a knife at school.

If you want to talk about children and knives at school, please contact the principal.
Students have selected and been allocated sports for summer Term 1 and term 4. Trials for some sports have concluded and others will continue into next week with all sport groups finalised by week 3.

Recreational sports will commence in week 3 and the grade sport teams in the Northern competition will also commence competition.

Round 1 is against Hunters Hill for our Open and U15 boys and girls grade sport teams.

Open and U15 teams play at a mixture of home and away venues each week. Some teams are at our local Leichhardt fields whilst others will travel to Hunters Hill on a hire bus. Students in Open and U15 teams will be given a letter outlining bus cost once the figure is determined (approx $30).

U14 teams draws are still being finalised for both Northern and Bligh Zone competitions. Bligh Zone U14 competition commences in week 4.

Students in grade sport teams must wear full sports uniform for all matches. Team members who are out of uniform will not be permitted to play and players risk a forfeit for their team if too many are out of uniform. Students may wear their sports uniform to school on Tuesdays.

Students are bussed to all U14 grade sport matches as these are at central venues. Northern Zone U14 venues are in the Concord area and Bligh Zone venues are in the Tempe area. Every endeavour is made to return students to school by 2.25pm, however sometimes traffic and bus delays do occur.

The cost for U14 grade sport is $60 a term which is purely to cover bus hire. Parental support in paying these fees promptly would be greatly appreciated. An information letter will be sent home with students once all grade teams are settled.

Our students enjoy grade competition and we ask for your continued support with payments for bus hire.

The College annual swimming carnival is to be held at Drummoyne Swimming Pool on Wednesday 13th February 2013.

Year 7 will attend along with competitors only from Years 8-10.

All students have been issued information notes and those students intending to compete need to return these with payment by Friday 8th February.

The carnival will run from 9.30-2.00p.m.

Year 7 students will be bussed to and from the pool. Years 8-10 can either make their own way or request a place on the hire buses.

Parents are most welcome to attend but are charged a spectator fee by the pool.

A normal school day will be in operation for those students in years 8-10 not attending the carnival.

Swimmers that gain first or second place in an event will be selected to represent Leichhardt Campus at the Bligh Zone swimming carnival on Monday 25 February week 5.

Year 7 students who qualify for the Bligh Zone swimming carnival will be bussed to Toukley for year 7 camp in the College mini bus, leaving directly from Enfield Pool at around 12.30-1.00pm.

Congratulations to our House Colour Captains

Stewart
Rishika Parathan
Viraj Desai

Woods
Phaedra Brown
William Kam

Pearce
Jenny Huynh
Srirahm Jeyasri

Sauvage
Lorrie Jacob
James Zhang

Blue
Green
Red
Yellow
WHO SHOULD I CONTACT?

If you are concerned with the educational progress of your child in any subject area please contact the relevant Head Teacher or Co-ordinator of that subject area.

If you are concerned about the personal well-being of your child please contact our Head Teacher of Welfare or the student’s Year Adviser.

Our Deputy Principals, Mr Allen & Mr McMaster oversee year groups. They are always happy to assist you any question regarding your child’s education.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Melinda Bright</td>
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<td>Yr 7/8 Deputy</td>
<td>James McMaster</td>
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<td>Yr 9/10 Deputy</td>
<td>David Allen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Head Teacher</td>
<td>Libby Campbell</td>
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<td>Centre For Excellence (C4E)</td>
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<td>Careers Adviser</td>
<td>AnnaLetsios</td>
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<td>Counsellor</td>
<td>Carolyn Edwardes</td>
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<td>English/History</td>
<td>Glenn McClymont</td>
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<td>Human Society and Environment (HSIE)</td>
<td>Tracy Goldstein</td>
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<td>Language Co-ordinator</td>
<td>Mara Safe</td>
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<td>Learning Support</td>
<td>Karin Karuso</td>
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<td>Library</td>
<td>Caroline Pye</td>
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<td>Russell Darnley</td>
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<td>Maths</td>
<td>Safija Bristina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music Co-ordinator</td>
<td>Anna Newbury</td>
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<td>Personal Development/Health and Physical Education (PDHPE)</td>
<td>Mara Safe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Voula Georgelos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Education</td>
<td>Lyn Robinson</td>
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<td>Technical Applied Science (TAS)</td>
<td>David Springbett</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching &amp; Learning</td>
<td>Jayne McMaster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visual Art/Photography Co-ordinator</td>
<td>Jayne McMaster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Welfare Officer</td>
<td>Vince O’Donnell</td>
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<td>YEAR ADVISERS</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Mansfield</td>
<td>Year 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alex Gavel</td>
<td>Year 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gabrielle Senteleky</td>
<td>Year 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roseeta Prasad</td>
<td>Year 10</td>
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</table>
Welcome back Year 10 to another fun filled and exciting year. You are now the proud seniors of our school. The time has surely flown as it only feels like yesterday that you had started your journey in a high school. Now that you are the seniors of our campus, with this comes the responsibility of looking after the junior students and setting positive examples by being the best role models that you can be. Of course there are also privileges such as having the honour of wearing the Year 10 school jersey and getting to go to the ski fields later in the year! Make the most of the coming school terms so that when you leave us at the end of the year, you take away memories that you can cherish for years to come.

“If you don’t go after what you want, you’ll never have it. If you don’t ask, the answer is always no. If you don’t step forward, you’re always in the same place.” – Nora Roberts

Mrs. R. Prasad - Year 10 Advisor.

Welcome back Year 8 students and parents, old and new! I hope everyone is feeling refreshed after the holidays and you are all ready for another productive year. I am happy to report that Year 8 is already proving to be a very focussed and mature year that are embracing their new role within the school as positive role models for the new students. Year 8 is a vital time in a student’s education as they further develop positive relationships with their peers, teachers and the community, as well as establishing their study habits and considering their subject selections for the future. I look forward to another great year with this fantastic cohort.

Alexandra Gavel

WELCOME BACK YEAR 9!

I hope you have had a great summer break and are refreshed and ready to do your best this year.

It’s so nice to see you all again, taller and more grown up than when I left you at the end of year 7. I look forward to working with all of you individually and together as the wonderful year group that you are.

This year is one which demands an application to your academic studies as well as reflection on your own character. Year 9 is a preparatory year for school leadership roles.

Let’s have a great 2013,

Miss G Senteleký
ADMINISTRATION MATTERS

**Leave Passes** - Doctors, dentist, physiotherapist etc appointments, when possible, should be made outside of school hours however if this is not possible a written permission note advising the school of the leave needs to be handed in to the Front Office before school commences.

**Sports Day on Tuesdays** – When students are unable to participate in sport on Tuesdays (Sports Day) due to an injury the school provides a non-sport supervision for the afternoon, where students can complete school work (eg homework). If parents need their child to have an early leave pass, this should be given to Ms Bury before school commences, on the Tuesday.

**Student’s Details** - When writing, sending emails or text messages to the school please include student’s full name and Year.

**Absent Notice** - If your child is going to be absent please phone the School by 9.30am. By phoning the school you are then not required to send a note.

**Long/Extended Absences** (travel, holiday etc) - if your son/daughter will be absent for an extended period, a departmental form needs to be completed, signed and returned to the School. Please contact the School for further information if required.

LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome back to a new school term! Looking forward to meeting the new Year 7 students over the next few weeks as they acquaint themselves with our library.

The library is open before school, at recess and at lunchtime (except for Tuesday lunchtime).

A message to parents regarding printing of student work in the library. -

A fee of $5.00 needs to be paid at the front office before any printing can be done. After paying, the student will be given a receipt which must be handed to one of the library staff so the money can be credited to their account. If the $5.00 has not been paid, the printer will not print. The $5.00 allows for 50 pages of printing and can be carried on into the next school year if not used up. Please avoid disappointment and frustration at not being able to print when needed by paying the fee as soon as possible.

We look forward to a happy and exciting year in the library!

Carolyn Pye & Russell Darnley - Librarians

UNIFORM SHOP – OPENING HOURS FOR 2013

The uniform shop is run by “Your Uniform Shop” and provides the full range of uniforms. The uniform shop is located within the office block at the school and will open during school term on the following days:

- **Monday** 10.35 – 11.15 (during Recess)
- **Tuesday** 2.30 – 3.30pm
- **Friday** 2.30 – 3.30pm

Uniforms may also be ordered online. Please visit www.youruniformshop.com.au for more details.

MATHS TEXT BOOK PROTECTORS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE FROM THE FRONT OFFICE $5.00
Welcome to new parents

The P&C at SSC Leichhardt campus aims to be a welcoming and inclusive environment where parents can support the Principal and teachers in providing the best education for our kids.

The P&C will be hosting an informal evening for Year 7 parents this Monday 11th February 6.00pm in the foyer outside the staff common room (enter at the Balmain Road end of the office block).

We would love you all to be there, ‘old’ parents to welcome the new! Our promise is a nice glass of wine and some good conversation.....

We will follow the social part of the evening with a short P&C meeting to welcome in 2013, from 7.30pm. We will hold the AGM next meeting in March.

The current executive committee, until the AGM, is:

President- Vanessa Palfreeman
Vice President- Suzana Sukovic
Treasurer- Patricia Ware
Secretary- Peter Cox

For more information about getting involved with the P&C and its activities, please use our P&C email address, ssclpc@gmail.com

The P&C at Leichhardt is a great way to meet other parents, meet the Principal and teachers, and become more engaged with the school. The meetings are a forum to gather information, ask questions and float ideas. Our Principal, Melinda Bright always attends, and we often have senior staff members address the meetings to update us on the happenings in their faculty and beyond. Judy Kelly, College Principal also attends meetings during the year.

Meeting dates for 2013
All meetings are held in the staff common room, from 7pm, on the first Monday of the month (except where that falls in the school holidays)

Monday 4th March, at 7pm: **AGM including appointment of executive committee**
Monday April 1
Monday May 6
Monday June 3
no July meeting
Monday August 5
Monday September 2
no October meeting
Monday November 4
Monday December 2

P&C donations
We generally have one social/fundraising event during the year, which has traditionally been a trivia night, held around August.
As parents we are proud of the educational and personal development opportunities that Leichhardt provides and we wish to support the teachers and students by enhancing the learning environment. Many parents are keen to help the school but their other commitments make participating in fundraisers difficult.
Each year we run a P&C family donations appeal, which is a way that all parents can contribute to the benefits the P&C provides to the school and students.
A request will appear on the invoice sent by the school at the beginning of the school year. We urge you to make this payment, as it allows us as parents collectively to consider how we can best help fund various events, programs and equipment for students at the school.

P&C email list
We had a lot of positive feedback from parents who have enjoyed reading the minutes and being kept up to date with our activities even though they weren’t able to attend meetings. If you would like to receive the P&C minutes and information about upcoming P&C events, please email the P&C on ssclpc@gmail.com

P&C pages on the school website
Another way to keep up to date with P&C activities is to view our pages on the school’s website. The minutes of P&C meetings are regularly uploaded, along with information about Lostock. [www.leichhardt-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/parents-citizens](http://www.leichhardt-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/parents-citizens)

Lostock
Sydney Secondary College maintains a modest riverfront camp at Lostock, 60km north of Maitland in the Upper Hunter Valley. Set among working farms and rolling hills right on the banks of the Patterson River, it was once a one-teacher country school that has been converted to provide a rural education camp for groups of 30 or so, but is also set up as a comfortable weekender for College families, staff and general public when not in use by the College. The camp is looked after by an intercampus subcommittee of parents and volunteers on behalf of the SSC community.

For more information, visit the website at [http://lostock-school-camp.wikispaces.com/](http://lostock-school-camp.wikispaces.com/)
Please direct booking requests by email to Lostock-School@hotmail.com
Homework Support Program
FOR YOUNG PEOPLE 12-18 YEARS OLD
EVENWEDNESDAY

NO BOOKINGS NEEDED JUST DROP IN
CALL 9367 9271 FOR ANY QUESTIONS

WWW.LEICHHARDT.NSW.GOV.AU

MATHS MADE EASY
Date: Every Wednesday (during school terms)
Time: 4:00pm - 6:00pm
Cost: Free
Ages: 12-18 years
Venue: Leichhardt Library - Italian Forum, 23 Norton St, Leichhardt

• Would you like to improve your understanding of Maths?
• Having trouble with Maths, or just want a quiet place to do your homework?
• Want help, but in a relaxed environment?
• Food provided
• Call 9367 9271 for any questions
• Conditions & booking restrictions apply (priority given to young people who reside in the Leichhardt Local Government Area)
• A Y on Norton program, visit Leichhardt Council’s website for further information

FAMILY LAW NETWORK AUSTRALIA
helping you through a difficult time

Family Law Network Australia is a free information resource covering family law matters

enquiries@familylawmattersaustralia.com.au

www.familylawmattersaustralia.com.au
The team of math teachers’ at Sydney Secondary College are committed to providing the best instruction, guidance, support and generally help each and every student at this school meet their potential best in mathematics. For us to do this, students must accept responsibility for their learning and come to class prepared to work.

**Student Responsibilities and Expectations**

- Arrive to class on time.
- Bring correct equipment.
- Participate in the lesson appropriately. Examples: join in class discussions; ask relevant questions; listen to others; watch demonstrations; join in group-work and avoid distractions.
- See the teacher if problems arise in a timely manner and communicate directly.
- Complete all work.

**Equipment**

- 240 page Grid Books (5mm × 5mm)
- Board approved Scientific Calculator. We recommend the **Casio FX-82AU PLUS**. See the **Board of Studies** website for other board approved calculators on the link below.

- Geometry set.
- 2 black/blue pens, 2 red pens, 2 HB pencils, 1 eraser, 1 sharpener, 1 clear ruler, 2 highlighters, 1 pair scissors, 1 glue stick.

**Parent signature:**

__________________________

**Date:**

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**Further information**

Head Teacher Mathematics
Ms Safija Bristina
9560 2565

**Paste sheet in front of workbook.**