State Drama Festival
Congratulations to Ari Kwasner-Catsi, Sam Sweeney, Lucy Crawford and Felix Loveday who were all involved in this year’s NSW Public Schools State Drama Festival. The festival is co-ordinated by The Arts Unit and was a two day event held at The Seymour Centre that showcases and celebrates the best drama works and performances from across NSW Public Schools Drama Ensembles. “We are very proud of the efforts of these students and the focus, commitment and talent they displayed on stage. They represented Leichhardt Campus with great integrity and skill.” Jane Simmons from The Arts Unit.

Performance Night
It is no wonder the state drama ensembles are littered with students from Sydney Secondary College! On Wednesday evening I had the absolute pleasure to be mesmerised by our talented stage 5 drama students as they played out the performances they had been working on for their assessment this term. Wit, humour, sarcasm, irony, social commentary, intellectual and critical thinking, you name it, it was on show. The drama performers were most ably supported by some musical and dance performances. My, what talented students we have. Mrs Alex Boerma put the program together and supervised all the rehearsals, not to mention teaching and mentoring the performers. Congratulations Alex.

Remembrance Day
Student leaders represented Leichhardt Campus at the local Remembrance Day ceremony in Pioneers Memorial Park this week. They were outstanding representatives of our school. James Baldwin played the Last Post. There are some lovely pictures from the day courtesy of Leichhardt Council in this issue.

Year 7 2016 Day at High School, Year 7 2015 Learning Fair and Year 10 2015 Taster Week
Week 7 this term is one of the busiest weeks of the year for teachers and students. On Monday, Wednesday and Friday we will be hosting all the local year 6 students who will be joining us in year 7 next year across three days. Students will be given a taste of high school life with some mini lessons, join in some further activities with the Year 9 Peer Support Leaders and be the first to see the results of the Year 7 Learning Fair.

This year’s year 7 students meanwhile have been preparing real life projects which will assist our new students to transition to high school. In period 5 on Monday, Wednesday and Friday next week, selected year 7 classes will display their projects to the incoming year 7 students.

Our year 10 students will spend four days at Blackwattle Bay Campus next week in their very own taster experience. They too will experience taster lessons in the subjects they have chosen for year 11 as well as getting to know the physical setting and meeting some of their teachers.
Many teachers have been working to prepare these events so that they run smoothly and are successful. All the while these very same teachers have been finalising assessments and writing reports for parents and careers. As always I am very appreciative of the extra lengths teachers at this campus go to as are you I’m sure.

Melinda Bright

State Drama Festival Photos

SSC Leichhardt Performance Night 2015
Dear Melinda

Thank you to Sydney Secondary College for attending Remembrance Day 2015 @ Pioneers Memorial Park.

It was lovely to see students placing a wreath at the memorial on behalf of the school.

James Baldwin is truly a young gentleman and a credit to the school. James was outstanding on the day participating in the Leichhardt Celebrity Brass Band and the exceptional rendition of the ‘Last Post’.

Thank you for supporting the Balmain/Rozelle RSL Sub Branch and Leichhardt Council.

Kind Regards

Costa Atzemis
Community Events Coordinator
Leichhardt Municipal Council
White Ribbon Touch Football Match

On Tuesday 10 November we had our first ever annual Mixed White Ribbon Touch Football Match. This event was held as part of our school and community wide White Ribbon program to raise awareness for, and put an end to violence against women. There was an amazing turn out from students, parents and community members for the day.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to the Mayor Darcy Byrne, Police Domestic Violence Liaison Office Mel Reilly, Matt Balane and Demetra Proestos who attended on the day as community representatives. Violence against women is a community issues and it is important for us as a school to work with these members now and into the future. I would also like to thank all male and female students that participated and parent representatives Nick Potter, Andrew Francis and Andrew Grimes for taking the time out of their days to help out.

The match was played out in a respectful manner, that typified the occasion, ending in a 4-4 draw. Well done to all participants. We hope to see you again next year.

Tim Paterson
New in the icentre

Take 10 at recess and lunch

The iCentre is now shut for 10 minutes at the beginning of both breaks during the school day. This is to make sure students hanging out in the iCentre fuel up in order to learn well! Have a bite to eat and something to drink and then you are welcome to come in. This is a trial until the end of the Term.

Free Kindle Books

Looking for something to read over the holidays? If you have a tablet, download the free Amazon Kindle App. Visit www.amazon.com and search for free young adult fiction. There are lots of downloadable books in many genres (look at the left hand column in your completed search to refine your preferences). Each book is rated by readers and there is a summary of the book and reviews on the site. This is a great way to get some summer reading done for free!!

Mindful Colouring

The latest craze has hit the iCentre. We have colouring-in pages and pencils at the front desk. Join us for Cookies and Colouring on Thursday lunchtimes in “The Café” until the end of term. You can colour in during any break, it’s great for relaxation and de-stressing or just to do something with your hands while you’re chatting with friends.

What’s new online

The iCentre’s website has been updated recently. Check out our new Information literacy: study and research skills page with tips and tricks for using Google Advanced Search, Google Books and Scholar. Year 10’s note that there is also information on how to add footnotes and citations in MS Word and note taking strategies which will be useful for Year 11 and 12. Visit the website http://sscilicentre.weebly.com

To find quick links to online resources and web tools, check out the iCentre’s new Symbaloo site. http://edu.symbaloo.com/home/mix/13ePReJ3Ua - use the tabs at the top to navigate through the iCentre’s custom webmixes. Our Symbaloo will continue to be added to as needed.

Symbaloo is a startpage that allows you to easily navigate the web and compile your favorite sites all into one visual interface. It is a great way to organise and store web links for yourself too. Sign up for a free account at http://www.symbalooedu.com/
Welcome comrades to another edition of the famous and sometimes infamous World of HSIE. Well it’s coming towards the end of another hugely successful year at SSC Leichhardt, and so the HSIE staff thought it to be in good taste to congratulate all those who have made the year so great, from our fellow teachers, to the students, the staff and to the wider community. Well done!

The HSIE subjects are still continuing crash hot, with year 10 Geography focusing on the challenges surrounding human rights in the world. Year 9 History are continuing an in depth study into World War 1, currently looking at the famous battle of Verdun, the Somme and Passchendaele. Year 8 and Year 7 History are learning about ancient societies in Asia, concentrating on Ancient China and Ancient Japan respectively.

As always, assessment tasks have been coming in swiftly, with many years completing their final exams and semester tests of the year, with some truly outstanding results! Years 8 and 9 have sat their final assessment to much fanfare, while Year 10 have completed their History, Geography and Commerce exams, with Elective history and International Studies being held this week. The only year that is left to complete their formal assessment tasks is Year 7, with their History assessment task to be conducted in the last lesson of Week 7 (next week).

Remembrance Day was yesterday, truly a day for showing utmost respect to past and present members of our defence forces and indeed a time for personal reflection. At the local Remembrance Day celebrations in Pioneers Park members of the SSC Leichhardt community were well represented, with Year 9 elective history students in attendance. Well done to the students who laid the wreath and particular congratulations to James Baldwin, who led the congregation in a stirring performance of the ‘last post’. Here are some pictures from the day.

History quote of the week: They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember them. Lest we forget. For the Fallen: Laurence Binyon
Recently I completed an extensive education based professional learning program called the Stronger Smarter Leadership Program. The leadership program partners with school and community leaders in their pursuit of educational excellence for all students. The program will enable me to have challenging conversations with staff and actively engage the school community to have high expectations relationships, promote positive identities and excellence in schools.

Over the 8 day period which the course took place the Stronger Smarter Leadership Program gave me fundamental strategies, both fun and emotional, to support success for all children including acknowledging, embracing and developing a positive sense of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander identity in schools, whilst ensuring high expectations classrooms, with high expectations teacher and student relationships within an innovative and dynamic school which has a complex social and cultural context.

I had the opportunity and the pleasure to work with a range of professional and knowledgeable facilitators, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, from across Australia in guiding me towards becoming a Stronger Smarter educator. And there was also an opportunity for me to discuss our schools context with the highly acclaimed Dr Chris Sarra, who shed some light on how to build upon the strong foundations we already have at Leichhardt.

The next step will be for our school to take on some of the Stronger Smarter strategies including providing culturally centred opportunities for all our students and solidifying the strong high expectation relationships we have between staff and students.

It truly was the best professional learning experience I have undertaken and something I will never forget as an educator and as a person.

Andrew Higgins
Head Teacher HSIE
Aboriginal Education Coordinator and Worimi man

Leichhardt staff undertake the 8 Ways of Aboriginal Learning through cultural practices

On Wednesday 28 October, for 3 hours after the children had left Leichhardt staff came together in the schools hall to undergo the 8 Ways of Aboriginal learning conducted by the campuses Aboriginal education team.

The training was based around both personal cultural experiences of each teacher and their relationship with culture. The staff undertook a number of cultural processes in the world’s biggest yarning circle, including playing ‘scrambled eggs’ and inserting themselves into roles during the Jelly Bean Feast which looked at different cultures through the magic of role play, and jelly beans. Staff also undertook a personal and emotional cultural questionnaire which looked at each staff members own cultural perceptions of the world.

Finally the staff underwent a ‘speed dating’ type exercise to learn the 8 Ways of Aboriginal learning, which they then took to their faculties and reflected on their current methods of teaching and learning by honouring their strengths already with 8 Ways. The next step was to look at what our school needs next with the 8 Ways by visioning our futures through looking where each subject area needs to improve on. The Aboriginal education team will help take on these visions for the whole school and hopefully implement some Aboriginal processes within each subject area throughout 2016.

An afternoon well spent looking into a different way to think and teach for all of our students. Also some fabulous food on offer as well.

Andrew Higgins
Aboriginal Education Coordinator

Leichhardt Campus completes Stronger Smarter

strongersmarter

Leichhardt Campus completes Stronger Smarter

Leichhardt Campus completes Stronger Smarter
A BIG maths lesson at SSCL

Orange Grove PS Year 6 students having a maths lesson at SSCL.

On Thursday week 4, 30 Year 6 students from Orange Grove PS came to SSCL for a high school maths lesson with Mrs Yen.

They all arrived orderly and calmly with their teacher, Ms Humphries. The students all used their very first maths textbook and writing in the grid maths books. The students learned about dot plots and the mean, mode, median and range. Mrs Yen demonstrated with her frogs figuring with 10 brave volunteers. They all seemed very quiet and a bit nervous at first but soon felt at ease and enjoyed the experience. The one-hour lesson passed very quickly and it was time to go back to their school.

Ms Humphries emailed Mrs Yen the feedback from the students.

“It was very fast-paced lesson. Highly structured learning, very different to our maths lessons in primary. Using a textbook was very new and good to be introduced to. It was a very organised and orderly lesson. The instructional part of lesson was very fast, and very different. You had to keep up or you would be lost. 80% of students thought it was a positive experience!”

MATHS NEWS

by - Ilhea Yen & Greg Wozniak

Designing our own KAHOOT Quiz

As part of BYOD implementation, the maths faculty is regularly using KAHOOT in lessons. Mr Wozniak and Mrs Yen asked their classes to create students’ own maths KAHOOT questions and answers in class and produced their own Quiz to play at the end of their lessons. Mrs Yen’s Year 7 class used shopping pamphlets to create maths questions. They had to work as a group and come up with 1-2 questions. Mrs Yen was very impressed with the quality of the questions, for example, 12.5% was taken off from a product, how much was taken off in a fraction form? Or 40% was discounted for a bottle of cleaning product and its new price is $19.99. How much is the original price? And they all had to have their own answers as well.

OneNote Project 7L

Congratulations to 7L who have recently completed the year 7 course six weeks before the end of the year. As a consequence, 7L are now engaging in extension work using OneNote until the end of the school year. Currently, the class is working on Trigonometry and students have been creating engaging and challenging lessons utilising numerous software programs. Well done and keep up the good work, 7L.