Farewell
McMasters
Thanks to everyone for the kind words.

Thanks to the staff for dressing in red & white

Particular thanks to the student body representatives and musicians.

You’re the reason I’m a teacher.

Before I begin can I acknowledge our indigenous students, the Gadigal people of the Eora nation and indigenous elders both past and present. This is particularly important as we, as a nation, strive to recognise our first nation people in our countries constitution.

This has been a long assembly and I thank you for remaining settled and respectful.

A number of people have asked how I know it is time to retire.

It’s time when you think the idea of a night out is sitting on the front veranda.

Retirement comes with age and experience, and for Jayne and I it comes with an opportunity for some new adventures and some new learning. We will continue to travel Australia and the world and we have purchased a small farm that needs a lot of TLC. Suffice to say we will not be short of things to do.

You also begin to realise you’re ready to retire when

you have more hair in your ears and nose than you do on your head.

You are very lucky to attend a school that is so, so good. The indigenous students I acknowledged earlier are a part of our schools diversity and it is this diversity that makes this such a strong school. A diversity made up of many cultural and religious backgrounds, many skin colours, selective kids, mainstream kids, support unit kids, LGBTIQ kids, kids with a variety of disabilities etc., etc. I could go on and on. We are all different in some way or another. It’s acknowledging and celebrating these differences that makes us stronger.

Schools are about relationships. Student to student, student to staff, staff to staff and the school with the community. Respect these relationship and treat them with care and they will reward you. Say good morning to the staff when you meet, ask a friend if they are OK and be respectful of the broader community.

Another way that you know you’re old enough to retire is when it takes two tries to get up from the couch.

The ‘Leichhardt Way’ is a metaphor for life. In my experience the people you meet in life who are respectful, responsible, learners are the happy and successful people. If you carry the skills and knowledge you learn here into your life you will be good people who are a credit to you families and an asset to the community at large.

Lastly, your school days should be fun and joyous. You get this joy from engaging in all the school has to offer, the curriculum, the learning bit, sport and all the extra-curricula activities that are on offer. Get into it.

To my special friends in the unit Jayden, Andrew, Georgia, Tyler, Adoni, Sufia, Harry and Meli. Thanks for bring sunshine to everyday.

To me, as a school, you’re all shining stars. We have put together a powerpoint for you. The backing track to the power point is from Jayne and myself to you all.

It’s called ‘Shining Star’, by Earth Wind & Fire and it’s about following your dreams and not letting anyone tell you can’t do something. Listen to the words as you watch some images about our life.

Leichhardt stay beautiful and be safe out there.

Thank you and good bye

James McMaster
Before I begin, I would like to acknowledge the Gadigal people of the Eora nation and elders past and present.

Thank you Ms Haidar, Jacob, Griffen and the support unit students for your kind words, they are greatly appreciated.

Today is a bitter/sweet day for James and me. We are sad to be leaving such a wonderful school. However, we are happy and excited that we will be able to realise a dream that has been years in the making.

As teachers, we have always encouraged you to view learning as a lifelong process. As students, current research predicts that you have the capacity to live well past 100 years of age and will have up to 12 different jobs during your lifetime, most of which have not been created yet.

Even though James and I have swapped our pimples for wrinkles, we have a busy future ahead of us. We have formed a partnership to develop a farm with a vision. Not only will it have dogs, goats, alpacas, horses and bees, it will also have crops that will be based on companion planting so no sprays will be used. Water will be recyclable and energy needs will be met from environmentally sustainable sources.

The farm will be set up to operate using computer systems and remote control, so wherever we are in Australia or overseas, we will be able to monitor and control it. We will use the produce to trade with other farmers at local swap days and we will make sure that we become productive members of the local community.

To Year 10 students, I wish you the best in your senior years. 12 months from now, you will be commencing your Higher School Certificate year. You are a very talented group of people and many of you have shown a level of maturity and leadership well beyond your years. The work that many of you have produced has been of an extraordinary level and with consistency, you will do very well. Your supportive friendship groups and your obvious loyalty to each other will also hold you in good stead.

To all students, you have a fabulous group of teachers who are interested in your education and welfare. You have a wonderful principal and deputies who lead the way, supported by the amazing SASS staff.

To the staff that I have the most to do with each day, the Visual Arts teachers of Ms Haidar, Mr Crasti, Ms Duncan and Ms Alcock, it has been a great pleasure to work with you. You give your all to your students in every way. Your care and concern for them is very clear to anyone who visits your classrooms. You should be very proud of the quality of work displayed in the College Art Exhibition this year.

We both requested that no fuss was made about our leaving. This has obviously fallen on seriously deaf ears. To the many staff and students who have been involved in the activities of the past week leading up to this assembly, we thank you very much for your efforts. Given the chance to dress up, Leichhardt has always loved to have a good time. Remember Pirate Day on Friday.

One of our favourite architects, Frank Gehry, who recently designed the UTS crumpled paper bag building at Ultimo started his international career at 60 and has completed many commissions since then. 27 years later he is still working fulltime and has never slowed down.

We now start our new journey with the same level of interest and enthusiasm. We wish you all goodbye and good luck on your own journeys and look forward to hearing about your many achievements in the future.

Thank you

Jayne McMaster
I believe James and Jayne McMaster are foundation members of the Leichhardt Campus we see today. We often talk about Leichhardt being one big family. Jayne and James have demonstrated genuine care and concern for not only the students at Leichhardt but also for the staff and the very buildings and grounds themselves. They know this place like the back of their hand.

As a new principal I was very lucky. I had two staff members who knew and loved this place and were more than willing to share their combined corporate knowledge with the ‘newby’. I will always be grateful for this. They were not only generous in sharing their knowledge of the people and the place, they were also incredibly welcoming and supportive of me.

Throughout my shared time with Jayne and James at Leichhardt I am grateful also for their friendship. There have been many times where we have laughed as well as plotted and planned together for the betterment of the students and staff here at Leichhardt. They have always been very genuine in their desire to see Leichhardt continue to flourish. Our current high standing in the community is without doubt a legacy of their work here.

As a Head Teacher here at Leichhardt Jayne has had a variety of responsibilities. Most recently Jayne has been a vocal advocate for the Visual Arts and has also ensured that Computing Studies prepares our students for the world in which we currently live.

As a Deputy Principal, James McMaster is indeed a ‘master’ of the job. I often refer to him as ‘Uncle James’ but I think, to many students, he has almost been a substitute parent. He makes it his business to learn as much as he can about the students at our school. He makes time to talk to students and let them know he is interested and that he cares. He especially enjoys spending time with our students in the Support Unit. I have watched his interactions with these very special students and it always looks like a very proud parent talking to his kids. He spends hours on the phone to parents listening to their concerns and working out ways to assist them and their child. James is the best possible example of what a Welfare Deputy Principal should be. I know that the students of Leichhardt will miss him dearly.

On a personal note I will miss James very much. He has been a kind and wise mentor for me. I know David Allen will also miss his ‘partner in crime’. We have been a very tight knit and cohesive executive team over the past three years. We will miss you especially when the next opportunity for some whacky dress ups occur but we will be thinking about you!

Jayne and James, I have no doubt that you are both ready for the next adventure life has in store for you. I thank you for your remarkable contribution to public education and congratulate on exemplary careers in the teaching profession. Go with our best wishes – your Leichhardt family salutes you!

Melinda Bright
At the beginning of 2015 Mrs McMaster was given the daunting task of educating the hodge podge mishmash of students that is IST1. She was fortunately undaunted.

Mrs McMaster has been teaching us for the past year, and it has been a great experience. She has a brilliant knowledge of IST and the topics surrounding it and is always telling us about new technologies – ranging from drones that automatically follow you to the latest tech information on topics ranging anywhere between hacking, to the stock exchange.

In the past year she has taught us to make and operate robotics, how to code and to make professional looking presentations and videos.

Every time we have been introduced to new topic with Mrs McMaster, she has proven to be a fountain of knowledge. We always get into the most interesting, philosophical discussions about the current state of the world, and the future. We will miss these, almost as much as we will miss her.

Mrs McMaster always has a can do attitude. Throughout the year, she has taught us that there are no bad ideas, and that if you follow what you want to do, you will succeed in school, and throughout your life. An example was this term, when she was able to articulate and describe to us how to make amazing presentations, by just following what you want to do in a classroom, showing us that there are other methods of learning. She is always open to these ideas.

We’ve learnt a lot from just speaking to Mrs McMaster, and she has given us the wisdom that she has acquired over her years, and we will miss her.

Goodbye Mrs McMaster, we will all miss you and we hope you enjoy the next chapter of your life!

_Griffen Edge and Jacob Coorey_

_Today is a significant day in the life of our school community as we mark the retirement of Mr James McMaster._

_Mr McMaster has played a significant role in the life of many of our students both in and out of school._

_There are many students who have benefited from his kind words and loving fatherly life direction._

_During the huge renovation program that took place more than ten years ago, Mr McMaster proved to be an excellent school liaison manager, making sure that we were supplied with the renovations promised, including the walkway bridge to the Library._

_I know how all of my own children, who attended school here at Leichhardt, have benefited from Mr McMasters genuine love and affection for each and everyone of them._

_Thank you to the whole McMaster Family for their significant contribution to the Leichhardt Campus School Community._

_Jeff Hockey—School Chaplain_
A word from students in our Support Unit....................

Andrew Richards—Year 9

Thank you for being our Deputy Principal
You are very kind
You make us laugh
You make us happy
I am really going to miss you

Tuamelie Mahe - Year 10

I hope you enjoy your holidays.
Go the Dragons.
From Tabitha.

Jayden Hawkey—Year 10
9 September 2015

Sydney Secondary College - Leichhardt Campus
Balmain Rd
LEICHHARDT SW 2040

To Whom It May Concern

Changes to State Transit Bus Services from 4 October 2015

From Sunday 4 October, a new bus network will operate in Sydney’s CBD which will mean changes to your bus services.

The new network, designed by Transport for NSW, will impact most bus routes in the CBD — through a change in route, timetable, or route number. Some routes will now terminate outside the city or close to the entry point of the CBD, adjacent to other public transport options.

State Transit records indicate students at your institution may be affected by these changes. To ensure any students who are affected by service alterations are aware of any change to their travel patterns, it would be appreciated if you could provide them with, or direct them to, relevant information as deemed appropriate.

Full details of changes to bus services can be obtained from www.transportnsw.info or by telephoning Transport Info on 131 500.

If your own website contains transport information for the reference of students and/or guardians, this may be an appropriate time to review information to ensure it is up to date.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate in contacting me on 9582 5965.

Yours sincerely

Rabih Bekdache
A/Regional Traffic & Services Manager
State Transit, Southern Region
Congratulations to the following students who represented Sydney East region at the Combined High schools athletics carnival at Homebush.

Year 7
Max Heinicke
Hong Duncan
Corby Fowler

Year 8
Nicky Kolhrusch

Year 10
Maddie Kohlrusch

12 years boys relay team
Max Heinicke
Corby Fowler
Chris Fowler
Marcello Paul

14 years boys relay team
Nicky Kohlrusch
Lewis Verrill
Louis Mansfield and Hong Duncan
who filled in for an injured Adnan Rahman.

Results
Nick Kohlrusch
1st U14 boys high jump
An outstanding result well done Nick.
He will progress to the NSW All schools athletics carnival.

Max Heinicke
4th U12 200m final
11th 100m heats

Maddy Kohlrusch
6th U16 girls Javelin
Hong Duncan
9th U14 Long Jump
Dylan Abdurahman
6th U13 800m final
Corby Fowler
7th U12 800m heat

U12 relay
9th
U14 relay
13th

Well done to all

Boys AFL
Our U15 College AFL team under the guidance of Mr Parker have progressed to the semi finals of the state knockout competition. They travelled to Albury to play the semis and finals in week 10. Our thanks to Mr Parker and Mr Furlong who drove the boys to Albury and coached the team at the tournament. They won the semi final against Billabong High and went down to a very strong Albury High in the final. The boys can hold their heads up high as they have made us feel very proud. Runner up in the State wide CHS tournament is an outstanding achievement.

Grade sport
A reminder that grade sport fees for term 2 and 3 should have been paid. Students were invoiced for the cost. $60 per term for U14 teams (yr 7 and 8) and $30 per term for Open and U15 teams.

Term 4 sport will commence in week 1. All grade teams will be travelling to their venues on the first Tuesday back in week 1. Students need to come prepared to play in full PE uniform. Term 4 sports are the same as term 1.

YOU’RE A STAR

Xavier has been selected as the U13 Goal Keeper for the NSW State football squad.

The National Youth Championships will be held in Coffs Harbour during the upcoming school holidays.

Xavier has also been selected for the U14 Sydney FC squad in their newly formed Youth development program which commences in late October.

Xavier’s 6 day a week commitment and dedication to training in his chosen sport of football (soccer) has been well rewarded.
HSIE News
Matt Harris
HSIE Teacher

Geography fun fact: **Roughly 51.4 per cent of the world’s population live on mainland Asia.**

Welcome to another fortnightly report on the comings and goings within the world of HSIE. This edition will cover multiple events and learning programs, showing a busy and interesting last couple of weeks in the HSIE department leading up to the term break. Several of our classes are in the midst of interesting topics, with Year 10 International studies finishing an exciting and engaging subject of the Media and Culture. In Year 9 Elective History, the students are starting to wind down on their topic, the changing nature and history of piracy; a fascinating and often forgotten period of history.

Year 9 International Studies recently went on an incredibly engaging excursion, frequenting several different religious buildings, as a part of their religion and culture study. Here is HSIE extraordinaire, Mr. Paterson with a brief summary of the day:

**Last Thursday 10th of September the year 9 International Studies classes went on fieldtrip for their current unit Culture & Beliefs. In this unit we have been studying world religions. In order to supplement this learning the students were taken on an excursion to the Great Synagogue of Sydney and the Lakemba Mosque.**

The experiences at both religious sites were fantastic and all of the students were engaged. At the Synagogue we were treated to some interesting history of the Australian Jewish community and their beliefs and customs. We then caught the bus out to Lakemba for a tour of the Mosque. Here we were shown a number of beliefs and customs, having around 40-45 minutes of question time.

The guides and religious members at each site were welcoming and extremely helpful for our students. It was an extremely valuable experience for those students studying International Studies. Thank you students for being so well behaved, and thank you to Ms Lo for organising the excursion.

In the HSIE faculty, many assessment tasks have been marked and given back to the students, with some seriously good efforts being showcased in each class. On behalf of all the staff members, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the students for the incredible efforts that have been shown in each and every class. On the whole, HSIE is stoked with how the term has gone from a learning and engagement point of view! We wish the students a fantastic and relaxing break and look forward to the start of term 4!

Adios! - HSIE Faculty

**Historical quote of the week: “We are not makers of History, We are made of History” - Martin Luther King Jr.**