Year 8 Science
**Principal’s Report**

The most recent event at school was high school open night last Wednesday and it was a highly positive evening. I have already received very positive feedback from parents who attended and especially those from out of area who have advised that they would like to attend LHCS. Thank you for allowing your children to assist with displays, performances etc.

As usual, there is much happening at school with excursions, incursions and grounds works. As I write, our goal posts are being installed on our new sports field and also moved on our junior sports field. Next week, refurbishment of our netball/tennis courts commences. Our new cricket practice nets are almost complete and we are particularly pleased with the quality of work provided by the contractor.

Our student clubs/interest groups continue to be a strong feature of the school and today we had a journalist from the Leader visit to write an article on two of the strongest clubs in the school, the Environment Club and the remote Control Car Club. As well as the personal development evident in participants, the actual infrastructure of these two clubs is very evident when you look at what has been created by students. I am hopeful of a very positive Leader article in the near future.

You should also look out for a Leader article on our students who will be representing us at Gallipoli this ANZAC Day. They were also interviewed today along with Ms Graham, who will be escorting them on the tour.

**BUS ROUTES – IMPORTANT!**

We continue to hold negotiations with Transdev regarding the 961 school bus route. The persistent late arrival of this bus just after our high school start time is unsatisfactory. Despite being scheduled to arrive at 0829, there are regular and persistent delays and the three minute buffer between arrival time and our start time of 0832 is inadequate. From the beginning of Term 2, the 961 bus will revert to the old route and not come past LHCS until about 0840 and is therefore not an acceptable bus for high school students to catch each morning. Transdev assure us that there is adequate capacity on the two earlier buses for high school students. After trialing the altered route as a solution to students who preferred to catch the later bus, this has not solved the persistent late arrival which cannot continue. From the beginning of Term 2, high school students are expected to catch the 961 departing Sutherland at 0735 and also 0747 or the 039 departing Sutherland at 0750. The 961 departing Sutherland at 0800 will no longer be an acceptable bus for high school students.

Revised schedules will be available on the Transdev site during the school holidays with the only change being the reversion to the old route for the 0800 (from Sutherland) 961 bus.

Thank you for your support of your child’s learning.

Kevin Haydon
Principal
What is happening in the world of Autism at Lucas Heights Community School?

The wonderful students in the A2 room are attending work experience during term 1 of 2015 at Bunnings at Kirrawee. Students on the Autism Spectrum need 50% more work experience than students in the mainstream. They are practicing and learning new skills all the time that will benefit them and give them a head start when they are looking for employment beyond their school years. We are committed to supporting them during their years at Lucas Heights Community School.

Professional Development for Autism Teachers

Priscilla Wille & Joanne Coombe the Teacher and support teacher in the A2 room were fortunate enough to spend 2 days with Tony Attwood. They attended 2 very worthwhile courses 'Emotional Management of Children and Teens with ASD' & 'Masterclass - Children and Adolescence with Autism Spectrum Conditions'. Both courses were very beneficial and the girls have set in motion a mentoring program for students out in the community in conjunction with Autism Community Network. It commences on Tuesday the 17th of March.

Priscilla Wille (Autism Class Teacher)
E-Diary News

All LHCS parents and students in Year 7-12 should NOW be able to login to e-Diary. If you have not yet received an email with an invitation to register with e-diary, please email the school at lucasheigh-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au with your name, email address and the name of your children in high school.

E-Diary is an additional communication system for students, teachers and parents for homework, assessment tasks and daily timetables. Parents can access it on a computer, Ipad or smartphone. A note has been sent home and there is more information available on the school website.

How can I view e-Diary on my smartphone?

Accessing e-Diary is very effective on a smartphone. All you need to do is bookmark it on your home screen. The 'app' is an HTML5 web app that automatically loads in the browser when a user visits the e-Diary on a modern smartphone. You don't have to install or download anything from an app-store to make it work - it's a mobile-oriented view of the e-Diary. A mobile version.

To view the mobile version, simply search your smartphone (Android, iPhone, Windows Phone etc) to the e-Diary and login as normal. You are immediately directed to the e-Diary after login and will see the mobile version. The Mobile Version only applies to mobile phones. Desktop and Tablet devices will continue to see the standard view.

Save the link to your bookmarks on an Android device. On an I-phone, save it to your home screen. All students have been shown you how to do this! The current version is fairly basic but fast-loading, letting you view today's tasks, events and notes along with all outstanding homework. Homework and tasks can be ticked off as complete.
Sydney Swans visit LHCS

On Monday 23 February our Paul Kelly Cup players were lucky enough to have a training session with two Sydney Swans First Grade players. The boys and girls had the opportunity to practise their skills and drills under the guidance of Kurt Tippett and Dan Hannebery. The students involved were great representatives of our school, showing respect and participating with enthusiasm. I would like to pass on the thank you I received from the Swans media team. The players enjoyed their time at the training session and afterwards at our K-6 assembly, commenting on the friendly welcome they received.

Zone Swimming Carnival

Our Engadine Zone Swimming Carnival was held at Engadine Pool on Tuesday 3 March. LHCS had 30 eager and excited entrants looking forward to the day with a bit of anticipation and trepidation. Overall we had a very successful day with many children swimming their “personal best” times and a few progressing on to the Sydney East Regional Carnival on Wednesday 18/3 at Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush. Congratulations to all our participants, you did yourselves and LHCS proud.

Gardening Frenzy

On Tuesday the 3 February, some of the students from the support unit stayed at school instead of attending the swimming carnival. We used this time to work on some of the garden beds around the high school. The garden beds near the library and the gym were looking messy after the school holidays and needed cleaning up.

One group worked up near the gym. They pruned the native plants and weeded around them.

Another group pruned the flowers near the library. The environmental club garden was also pruned, weeded and we picked some tomatoes. Some students and staff took some tomatoes home.

Mr Foulger bought some new soil from Bunnings on Thursday to fill up the raised garden bed near the library. Symeon brought in some garlic and this was planted on Friday with some other seedlings in this garden bed. By Monday week 4 the garlic cloves started to come up through the soil. We look forward to watching them continue to grow and perhaps use in our food tech cooking classes.

By Symeon and William

Sydney Swans visit LHCS
Year 8 Heart Dissection

In class this term year 8 are learning about the circulatory system. On Friday 6 March, year 8 were able to dissect a pig’s heart. Firstly we put on some gloves for protection. We then placed the heart on some newspaper in a tray. We used some utensils to cut the heart open. Utensils such as: forceps—used to pick up items, scissors—for cutting, scalpels—very sharp and easy to cut with, a probe—sharp and pointy.

We had to find out which side had the lumpy side and then work out which is the right and left side of the heart. We then cut it open across the middle. Once it was cut open we could see all 4 chambers: right ventricle, left ventricle, right atrium and left atrium. We could also see the aorta, the pulmonary artery and lots of veins. The heart felt really cold and some of the blood was frozen. It felt soft and really slimy. Everyone had a turn at feeling and touching the dissected heart. Some enjoyed it and some didn’t’. It was an interesting and fun experiment to experience.

Catherine M 8L

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THE LIBRARY –
Books and Research

I go to the library every second day to borrow some books with Mrs Charlton and to pay compliments to the librarian. The books I enjoy are fiction books. There are also non fiction books, pencils for drawing, games to play and computers to do some research. Sometimes students are doing their homework.

As you enter the library there is a new books section. “The Fault in Our Stars” by John Green is there. It is a New York bestseller.

Inside the library there is a room with resources for the teachers and a mini staffroom, desks, computers, filing cabinets, tote trays, telephones and a glass wall that overlooks the library.

Something new happening in the library is that year 7 students can now borrow laptops. They can borrow them for 2 periods. Students can borrow them before school and return them at recess or borrow at recess and return at lunch. If they borrow at lunch they need to return them at the end of the day. There is a charging station for recharging the batteries.

Maybe you could visit the library at recess or lunch to explore the library and borrow some books. You will find it very interesting, educational and stimulating.

By Alex P Year 12
Senior Support Unit
Paul Kelly Cup Report

On Tuesday 24 February I had the pleasure to take three teams made up of Stage 3 students to the Paul Kelly Cup Competition. The boys and girls involved had given up numerous lunch times to learn and practise their AFL skills, many playing for the first time.

Everyone showed great sportsmanship and support for their team mates. As the day progressed so did the students’ understandings of the game and their standard of play. Our girls red team qualified as one of the Regional Finalists to be held in May. I would like to thank the many parents who assisted with transport and provided encouragement on the day. Due to the high number of participants this year, games were held at two separate field locations and my special thanks to Mrs Taylor and Mr Wilson for helping to co-ordinate the boys team.

Mrs Last

On Tuesday 24 February, two girls teams and one boys team played in the Paul Kelly Cup at Waratah Oval. Unfortunately we lost our first game, we smashed it in the second and our final match was the most challenging. Although we only had one win, we all enjoyed ourselves and had a great time. Thank you Mrs Last for training us and organising our lesson with the Sydney Swans players.

Tyler E, Tristan R and Ishan Z

We all played well and although we didn’t win, we had as much fun as we could. Good luck to the other LH girls team at regionals. Good try boys and thank you Mrs Last for taking us.

Joelyne R, Sienna C and Taylor A

Our team played against Gymea Bay, Lucas Heights Blue and Carlton South. Everyone had lots of fun and played really well. Kurt T and Dan H from the Swans did some training drills and activities with us which helped a lot. We got second place with our three wins.

Lucas Heights Girls Red Team
It’s always interesting to find out what pathways our past year 12 students end up taking when they leave school. A survey was conducted in February to find out what the previous Year 12 graduates are doing. As in past years, approximately 42 percent of the Year 12 cohort continued their studies by going to university straight from school. The breakdown of university places accepted was:

- University of Western Sydney: 18%
- University of Wollongong: 50%
- University of Sydney: 4%
- Australian Catholic University: 8%
- University of NSW: 4%
- University of Notre Dame: 4%
- University of Technology Sydney: 4%
- Deakin University: 4%
- Charles Sturt University: 4%

The most popular faculty areas were –Science, Health related careers (including nursing and nutrition), Business, Creative Arts/Media, Arts, Psychology / social work, Engineering, Teaching (both primary and early childhood) and Policing.

Of the remaining students, most continued with some form of training often combined with work –

- TAFE: 13%
- Apprenticeships: 15%
- Private Colleges: 5%

Approximately 21% were working either part time or full time and 5% were still looking for work or awaiting mid-year entry into courses.

We wish our 2014 graduates well in their future studies/pathways and look forward to hearing of their successes.

**Upcoming Events**

**Discover Engineering Day – Thursday 26 March 2015, ANSTO**

A forum for year 10 and 11 students interested in learning about ENGINEERING as a career choice. The day will include activities aimed at giving high school students a taste of skills required for the engineering profession as well as guest speakers from university students and engineers. **Cost:** $20.

**UNSW Built Environment Parent and Student Information Session**

25 March, 6.00pm to 8.30pm

Learn about degrees within Architecture, Design, Construction and Planning and career paths.

http://www.be.unsw.edu.au/Parent_Info_Night

**Sydney Design School Information Session**

When: Thursday 26 March

**Time:** 6pm at: Level 2, 40 Oxley Street St Leonards

If you’re passionate about becoming an Interior Designer or Interior Decorator then we invite you to come into our studios to learn more. Register for an information session or come to one of our open days to find out which course is best for you.

For more information please visit: www.sydneydesignschool.com.au or call (02) 9437 1902.

**UTS Discover Sessions Nursing and Midwifery**

Discover Midwifery 14 April, 6.00pm
Discover Nursing 30 June, 6.00pm

Interactive workshops.


**Karl Von Busse Institute of Design Work Experience Program**

Applications are now open

Fashion, Graphic or Interior Designer for senior high school students. A four-day work experience.

http://karlvonbusse.com/program/school-work-experience/

Mrs Eagles
Careers Adviser
Enrolments are now open for Council’s April school holiday Vacation Care program.

Council’s centres at Miranda and Lucas Heights offer plenty of fun.

The programs feature many exciting activities – from a mobile 7D interactive cinema experience, a football clinic at Cronulla Sharks and cooking experiences at the centres.

Miranda caters for Kindergarten-12 years, and Lucas Heights Kindergarten-14 years.

For program details and enrolment ph: 9710 0466, email VacationCare@ssc.nsw.gov.au or visit www.sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au
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Following from a great turn out at the Interrelate Special Evening on Tuesday 3 March, the P&C meeting and AGM on Wednesday 4 March was also well attended. Thank you to all the parent representatives from Kindergarten through to Year 12, the school executive and special guest, Melanie Gibbons, Member for Menai, for attending the both the meeting and the AGM.

As the concrete slab for the new cricket nets dries, it was fantastic to be able to personally thank Melanie Gibbons on her support of building community partnerships. Melanie also reminded us that if there are issues that families have regarding school or any other local concerns, she encourages families to contact her so that she can assist in providing solutions or opportunities for improving a situation. Melanie is able to make representations on your behalf to Government agencies, Local Council, and State and Federal Ministers (http://www.melaniegibbons.com.au/contact-melanie).

Communication between school and home was raised a number of times in the P&C meeting, from teething issues with the e-diary to parent communication on the playground to the best way for the school to contact parents about upcoming events or important information. The majority of parents find that the email system works well. If you have not been receiving e-mails from the school, please ensure that you update your child’s contact details. If you are experiencing difficulties with the e-dairy, please email the school with “e-dairy” as the subject. A reminder will also be sent out to parents that if your child comes home informing you of a problem at school, including a problem with another student, and you feel that it is a situation that needs to be addressed, before you do anything else, talk to the class teacher or a member of the school executive. The school have a duty of care to all children at LHCS and will address these issues in a timely and appropriate manner. The open door policy of the school provides parents with a wonderful opportunity to see our children in the playground and at assembly, however there are still important boundaries that must be respected.

At the AGM Parrish Hull gave a comprehensive overview of the achievements of the P&C in the 2014-2015 year. As Treasurer Tania Petrou provided us with a detailed break-down of the income from fundraising events run by the P&C as well as the money that was used to purchase equipment, books, apps, and goal posts for LHCS. Once finalised a copy of the AGM minutes, including the new executive for 2015-2016, will be available on the LHCS website (http://www.lucasheighh.schools.nsw.edu.au/p-c).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Parrish for all his efforts in the past year steering the P&C and coordinating and attending many meetings behind the scenes. Being President takes more than just chairing a monthly P&C meeting. I am really looking forward to learning from Parrish and working along-side the new Vice Presidents, Parrish and Rachel Jones, to continue to represent parents of LHCS.

I look forward to seeing you at the next P&C meeting, Wednesday 1 April 2015

Anita Gardner
P&C President