17 November 2016

Principal’s News

Dear Parents and Friends

For our year 12s the light is shining bright, as they are so close to the end they can touch it.

However, the rest of us have to stay and stay committed for a few more weeks. It is also very important that all our remaining senior and junior secondary students continue to maintain their high standards of behaviour and work ethic towards their studies. Please continue to encourage them on the home front as well.

Remembrance Day

Last Friday Mrs O’Dea and her team of junior secondary leaders did an outstanding job organising and leading the combined Lowood SHS and Lowood SS Remembrance ceremony. Our students never disappoint me in their capacity to be extremely respectful during the ceremony demonstrating a very real understanding of the significance of the sacrifice that our service people have made for our freedom.

Year 12 Formal and the Year 12 Graduation ceremony

It is at this time of the term that I always experience mixed emotions, and I know that many of our year 12 students are most likely feeling the same. There is excitement and anticipation around finishing high school and finalising all the results to ensure the best outcomes in preparation of the end of senior events and also a sense of ending and change going into the unknown. Whilst I have been through this many times as a high school teacher with students I, like them, feel edgy and nervous, keen for them all to do very well, proud to see them and share with them their last days after many “normal” days along the way. I also revisit my own parental experiences with my own children as they travelled through the same journey,
feeling a sense of pride for their success but also a sense of trepidation of the unknown.

I sincerely wish all our students, parents/carers and families the very best during this emotional time when an era ends. I am very confident that we have prepared every young person with the best opportunities to have happy and successful life once they leave the Lowood SHS gates.

The new Senior Assessment and Tertiary Entrance (SATE) program

A few weeks ago the Education minister, Kate Jones, announced that the introduction of the new senior schooling system will be extended by 12 months. This means the current year 8 cohort will be the first students through on the new system. This is very good news for all schools as it will ensure we have more time to prepare students, teachers and the community for the changes that are coming.

Feedback

Parent voice, student voice and community voice are very important to our school and our school improvement agenda. If you have any, positive, negative or otherwise, please send it our way. We treat all feedback as a gift and yours will be valued.

Regards
Anne McLauchlan
Principal

Deputy Principal News

Year 11 & 12 Semester 2 Exam Block

Year 12: Timetabled lessons cease at 3.00pm on Tuesday 8th November, and resume on Monday 14th November. Block exams run from Wednesday 9th November until Friday 11th November.

Year 11: Timetabled lessons cease at 3.00pm on Tuesday 15th November, and resume on Friday 18th November. They then break until Wednesday 23rd November. Block exams run on Wednesday 16th, Thursday 17th, Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd November, 2016.

There are two (2) exam sessions each day.
- 9.00am – 11.20am
- 12.05pm – 3.00pm

Students are only required to attend exam sessions in which they have an exam. Students undertaking a VET subject are only required to attend in their scheduled sessions IF they have not completed all set work or if they have not demonstrated competency in the applicable competencies. If students are on track with all VET course requirements they are not required to attend school.

If students are unable to attend for just their sessions due to transport, there will be a study room in operation for the length of the exam block. The study room will operate for the same times as the exam schedule.

All rooms for the exams will be displayed at student reception each day. Students will be required to check their room allocations as they sign in each day.

Below you will find the pamphlet and the exam schedule. If you have any questions about block exams please contact Mr Daniel Johnson.

Preparing for Exams

This guide is intended to help you prepare for any important school exams. Preparation before each set of examinations or tests is considered to be as important as your performance in each exam, so use the guide below as a checklist.

1. Plan Revision
   - Make sure that all your notes are in order and up to date
   - Find out the dates and length of each exam
   - Draw up a revision timetable, and stick to it

2. Preparation
   - Obtain copies of the syllabuses/past papers/revision guides
   - Read through your notes highlighting or re-writing key words/phrases
   - Aim to work in 45 minutes stretches, taking 15 minute breaks

3. Before Each Exam
   - Re-read through your notes but take a quality break
   - Make sure that you have all the equipment needed; include re-fills for your pen(s)
   - Make sure that you are comfortable and have a light snack/meal before each exam

4. In the Exam
   - Read the instructions carefully – do the right number of questions
   - Plan your time – allocate enough time for each question you must answer
   - Answer the question set; not the one you hoped for

5. At the end of the Exam
   - When you think you have finished, check your script for mistakes and complete any unfinished section
   - Cross out any rough work you do not want to be marked
   - Ensure that all diagrams have titles and are fully labelled

6. After the Exam
   - Do not worry about the exam you have just taken
   - Have a rest/meal or take part in a leisure activity
   - Begin to concentrate on the next test or exam

Year 10 & 11 Incomplete Work

Students in year 10 & 11 who are not “On Track” for VET subjects or have not passed English Communication or Pre-Vocational Mathematics will be required to attend school during week 9 & 10 until they have caught up with their work.
By ensuring that all students are on track with work prior to starting in year 11 or 12 we are taking another pro-active step to ensure they are set up for successful outcomes.

End of Year Reports to be E-Mailed

Please ensure that you have your details up to date with the school to ensure that you receive your end of year report card. All reports will be emailed out from this term on. You can update your details by completing the form below and returning to the school office.

2017 Subject Selections – Current Year 10 Students

Last week students in year 10 will have been given a letter to take home that outlines the full subject selection process used to create the 2017/18 subject lines. The process is also outlined below:

Subject Selection Process

STEP 1:
Students underwent a career exploration unit as part of the whole school future program.

STEP 2:
Students were talked through the subject selection options by the Guidance Officer, Senior Schooling HOD or myself.

STEP 3:
The school held a “Pathways to Success” information night for both students and parents to gather up to date information on the subject being offered by the school, University Pathways, TAFE Pathways and Traineeships & Apprenticeships (both full-time and school-based)

STEP 4:
SET Plan meetings were held to ratify your child’s career pathway as outlined in their SET Plan and to choose options from a range of subjects that potentially would be offered to assist the school in creating a timetable.

STEP 5:
In the weeks that followed and due to low numbers of student selection in some subjects some students were given the opportunity to alter their first round of options. Students were given this opportunity prior to the creation of the line structure so that their selections could be taken into account when generating the lines.

STEP 6:
Generation of the lines. This is a process that puts the student preferences into 6 groups (Lines) so that we can create a timetable. Some of the things the school has to take into consideration during this process are our human resources (do we have the teachers available on this line who have the knowledge to teach the subject), physical resources (can only run two ART classes at once as we only have two ART rooms). The overriding factor in this process is to accommodate the maximum number of students as possible. The structure we end up settling on is the one that affects the least number of students as possible.

STEP 7:
Meet with the students who have been affected by the creation of the Lines and inform them that they will need to make alterations to their selections. For around 50% of students who were affected they were required to make a choice between two of their first six preferences and then their 7th preference fitted the line structure. For everyone else their 7th preference was not suitable and is now required to select a subject from the fixed line structure.

STEP 8:
During term four students will be given a sheet of paper containing their subjects and the line structure that we are running in 2017/18 for this cohort of students. Students will be given a one-week period where they can complete a subject selection change form and in turn alter the subjects they will undertake for 2017/18.

STEP 9:
My goal is to be able to issue students with their timetable prior to leaving school this year. This may be without teachers and room allocations, but will contain the sequence they will attend classes for each day of the week.

Students are asked to complete and return the forms by Friday 11th November, 2016. If you have any questions please make contact with me at any time via email on dj@eq.edu.au or through the office on 07 5427 8333.

2017 Elective Preferences – Current Year 7 & 8 Students

Forms were sent home at the start of week 5 for students to re-select their elective preferences for 2017. This re-selection was required as some options were not included on the original paperwork. Students were asked to return the forms by the end of this week. If your child has misplaced their form, replacements are available from student reception.

Speedy return of this paperwork is required to ensure we can finish off the 2017 timetable to ensure we have the correct combination of staff for 2017. Your assistance with this is appreciated.

If you have any questions about subject selections please either contact me through the front office or on email through dj@eq.edu.au.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Being the last term of 2016, it is important that students are here learning until the last day of term. A number of studies have shown that students’ academic performance is directly linked to their attendance. Therefore, high attendance (90% or above) is critical to ensure students achieve to their full potential. As a result of this, Lowood SHS places a high importance on attendance by monitoring absences closely. You can help ensure your child’s absences are explained by phoning the absence line on 07 5427 8360. You may also advise of absences through email at absences@lowoodshs.eq.edu.au Please include the reason for the absence in your message along with your child’s name and their year level.
If we have not received a phone call or email, your child’s home group teacher will ask for a medical certificate or note explaining the reason for the absence. Thank you for your support and we look forward to a productive and successful term.

Current year to date (YTD) attendance for each year level can be found below. This represents the percentage of time that each student in the year level is actually in front of teachers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>YTD % Actual Attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>88.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>86.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>84.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>84.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>85.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>85.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2017 EFFORT & BEHAVIOUR MINDSET

From the start of 2017 students at Lowood SHS will be utilising the Effort & Behaviour Mindset as outlined below. This mindset has been designed with an extensive consultation period that included staff, students & parents on many occasions.

The mindset will enable everyone in the school community to understand what is specifically expected of students in regards to their effort and behaviour in class, but more importantly how each student can improve.

Mr Daniel Johnson
Deputy Principal – Senior School

What’s next for school leavers? Vocational education and training could be the smart next step

Vocational Education and Training (VET) is the right choice for many school leavers. VET qualifications can provide students with a pathway to employment or a stepping stone to university. The Queensland Government subsidises more than 300 qualifications, allowing eligible school leavers to gain a qualification at little or no cost.

All school leavers, from Year 10 to Year 12, can register to receive more information about vocational and training opportunities in 2017.

By texting YES to 0476 850 648, school leavers can start receiving text prompts in 2017. The texts will connect them with information about training opportunities. Young people can choose how much or how little information they receive and they have the option to opt out at any time.

Please encourage your school leaver to register with this service.

The Department of Education and Training (DET) is collecting the young person’s mobile number for the purposes of providing them with regular updates on training opportunities during 2017. The mobile phone number will be accessed by authorised employees or contractors of DET. The young person’s mobile number will not be given to any other person or agency unless they have given us permission or we are authorised or required by law. If you have concerns about how the mobile has been used please contact 1800 210 210 (this is a free call). Opt out details will be provided on every text sent by DET. This information service will automatically end on 1 December 2017.

Standard charges will apply to SMS messages sent to us. SMS sent to the young person will incur no additional cost.

Deputy Principal News

Presentation Night

On Wednesday 26th October, we celebrated the achievements of over 250 students at our annual Presentation Night. This represents over one third of our students who have demonstrated excellence in their academic, cultural, sports or arts endeavours. Our presentation night theme this year was ‘Brain Changers are Game Changers’ and we are extremely proud of all students who demonstrated their perseverance, grit, determination and efforts in achieving such excellence.

Lowood High School contributes to develop as an integral part of the Somerset Region in growing our young people into well rounded, respectful and productive citizens and we were honoured to share our evening with many esteemed members of our community.

Enrolment interviews for 2017

Know someone coming to Lowood next year? We need them to contact our school and book in for an enrolment interview if they haven’t already. This helps ensure a smooth transition for new students, their families and our teachers and is our first
step in creating a relationship where every child matters, every day! Please spread the word.

Thank you
Cherie Smith
Deputy Principal – Junior Secondary

Faculty Highlights

Senior Schooling

As the term comes to a close for the senior students, there are many graduation ceremonies occurring. Students at Lowood State High School are privileged to be offered and participate in so many programs across the school year. Congratulations to everyone who has taken up the opportunities as they have presented themselves.

A small group of year 10 girls were invited to participate in a program run by the Australian Business Community Network in partnership with Adelaide and Bendigo Bank to promote women in leadership.

Joshua Reck in year 12 has spent the year working with the Department of Education and Training program AcceleR8. This program, which contained both theoretical and practical work experience, has earned Joshua a Certificate II in Automotive Vocational Preparation.

Seven year 12 students have also graduated from University of Queensland Gatton Vocational Education College where they have spent two years working on a Certificate II and Certificate III in Rural Operations. This has seen these students attend UQ each Thursday for two years to complete the theoretical and practical components of their course. Congratulations to: Bailey Farrugia, Matthew Goldspink, Shane Ilka, Jacob Keidge, Sharna Quarry, Harley Stiff and Kristen Zahnow.

Congratulations must also go to the following students and their teachers who have been working tirelessly to complete nationally recognised qualifications. These students have not yet been recognised at presentation ceremonies.

- 16 students completed Certificate II Logistics (Axiom College)
- 20 students completed Certificate II Hospitality (Queensford College)
- 12 students completed Certificate III Fitness (Binnacle, trained by Tim Gado)
- 11 students completed Certificate III Business (Binnacle, trained by Andrew Meyer)
- 10 students completed Certificate III Active Volunteering (Volunteering Queensland, trained by Stacey Mallett)

Special mention must go to Helen Bailie and the students she has been working with this year to complete our first Diploma in Business (Train Assess Australia). So far, four students have completed this qualification; Jack Kitching, Tiara McKinnon, Jayden Sandeman and Jaryd Barker. The other 11 students are on track to complete early next year. What an amazing accomplishment!

This year, Lowood State High School has also supported 18 year 12 students to undertake a school based apprenticeship or traineeship. These students have undertaken external training and work experience while completing studies at
school. These traineeships have been across a number of vocations and would not be possible without the employers within our communities. Thank you to everyone who has taken on a school based apprentice or trainee from Lowood State High School.

To all of the year 12s, congratulations!! As the above shows, you have actively taken up opportunities as they arise. It is my hope that you continue in this mindset after you leave Lowood State High School.

Year 9 TAFE Experience Day

Parents/guardians of year 9 students, please keep your eyes out for a permission form coming home soon regarding a TAFE Experience day at Bundamba campus, Monday 5th December. Students will have the opportunity to experience a range of activities covering four different qualifications. This excursion will be at no cost so it is an expectation that all students attend. This should be a good introduction for students into the senior years, and I hope that it aids in helping students make decisions about their future subject choices and career pathways.

USI's

Thank you to everyone who has submitted their USI since the previous newsletter. There are still many more to come in!

All senior students are required to have a Unique Student Identifier (USI) to obtain a certificate or qualification from their registered training organisation when studying a nationally recognised training course in Australia. This includes studying at public or private training organisations, completing an apprenticeship, certificate or diploma course.

A USI gives you access to an online account which keeps all your training records together, even if you move locations, change training organisations or undertake studies at different times in your life. For more information come and ask me in the Resource Centre or visit http://www.usi.gov.au/

The steps to apply for a USI are outlined in the attached documents, if you require assistance please come and see Ms Mallett or Mrs Fox.

Stacey Mallett- HOD Senior Schooling

Senior Schooling Wellbeing

Year 12s are in their final exams and the end is certainly near. During this time of their lives, the unknown begins to weigh heavily and feelings of anxiety can emerge. If your child is feeling this way, I encourage you to speak to them openly and reassure them that these feelings are completely normal and that change is inevitable in all our lives.

Students may also speak to our support services staff here at school about these feelings at any time.

The formal and pre-formal will be held on Wednesday 16th November. I would like to take this opportunity to invite family and friends of the year 12 students to the pre-formal event in the school hall. The students begin arriving at 4:00pm and are formally announced to walk the red carpet at 5pm. Please come along, bring your cameras, and see our year 12s all dressed up!

The year 12 graduation ceremony will take place on Friday 18th November, in the school hall. The ceremony will begin at 9:15am and conclude at approximately 10:30am. Family of year 12 students are welcome to attend. Students must wear their formal school uniform on this day and are free to leave the school at 10:30am. Please note that there is no school for year 12s on Thursday 17th November.

Year 11

The year 11s have voted on the design of the Senior Jersey. The chosen design was a landslide decision, which means that most students in the cohort will be very happy.

Jersey orders are open. Please pay $66 to the office, and ensure you have selected which size you want on the order form. Students are also reminded that they cannot have ‘nicknames’ on the back of the jersey. First name or last name only.

Last Friday, I had the privilege of interviewing some outstanding individuals for the position of 2017 school captains. They spoke with confidence and worked together well in the interview. I am very proud of these students, as it is not easy to step forward and be interviewed.

Good luck to year 11s in their exams.

Year 10

Recently, I have seen an increase in the number of students who come to see me due to being out of uniform. A common factor seems to be that they have grown out of their formal uniform. This is understandable, as year 10s do tend to grow quite a bit from the start of the year to the end of it.

May I take the opportunity to suggest that there are many people who would love to purchase a second hand uniform, and this can offset the cost of purchasing a new formal uniform for your students at the start the year. Maybe you have a neighbour or friend whose child is starting school next year and could purchase your old uniforms? Perhaps you could advertise on a local facebook page?

Thank you to the families who follow the uniform process, and bring a note when out of uniform. It certainly avoids unnecessary conflict.

Have a great fortnight.  
Susan McNichol

Junior Secondary

Junior Secondary Wellbeing

This week, year 7 and 8 Care Support & Information (CSI) classes have begun competing in the CSI Cup. Classes have prepared for the competition by creating a team flag, war-cry and coat of arms for their senior year.
arms. The CSI Cup is aimed at developing teamwork, resilience and an enhanced sense of belonging in our junior secondary students.

The year 9 students are not participating in this as they have begun their preparations for the year 10 Senior Education and Training (SET) planning completing the #DiscoverMyFuture program. This program encourages our year 9s to start to think about life after school with a particular focus on work and careers. The aim of the #DiscoverMyFuture program is to enable students to make informed choices for their future through a guided process, this facilitates the investigation of job suitability and selection, the exploration a variety of career planning tools and how to use them, the identification of career pathways and possible study options, and open discussion regarding career aspirations of students.

Mara Kitson
Junior Secondary Head of Student Wellbeing

Brainways Quest

This year’s Brainways Quest competition encompassed our students being presented with material way beyond the curriculum and they were highly challenged. Nine of our students competed against opposing teams of three students from other schools as well as from Lowood over a two day period.

The Quest challenge activities were designed to encourage students to develop and display their creativity and problem solving skills. Cooperation in the interactions with one another was crucial for successful team work, and students learnt how to work alongside their like-minded colleagues.

The Quest activities were specifically designed to provide gifted students with the opportunity to stimulate and challenge each other, to inspire them to aim higher and extend themselves.

The first day was devoted to rotating through the three learning areas, being introduced to their focus topics and participating in a problem solving activity that prepared them for the second day of challenges. They were assessed on the creativity, problem solving, team work and leadership they displayed when completing the challenges.

I would like to congratulate all our students on their participation in the challenges. A special congratulations goes to team 2 for making it to the state finals.

English

English 2016 and Beyond!

Next week we will be farewelling our year 12 cohort, who are moving onto a bright future. The English Department would like to wish each and every one of you good luck with your future endeavours, and cannot wait to hear about all the amazing opportunities you take hold of in the next chapter of your life.

Although our year 12s are almost finished, we still have assessment happening throughout all other year levels. Our year 11 English students have just submitted a short story and are now preparing to present a multimodal presentation showing their understanding of the structure and language devices used in poetry. They will present this during exam block. The year 11 English Communication students are finalising their persuasive speeches, which look at the effectiveness of their advertising campaign created in term 3.

The year 10 cohort has been immersed in the world of poetry, looking at poets like Henry Lawson and A. B. Patterson, as well as modern day poets like Omar Musa and other slam poetry contestants. They are now working on identifying the themes and representations from a poem of their choosing and transforming this into their own short story.

Our juniors will be working hard to achieve their best in an array of assessment genres.

Year seven students are currently learning how to analyse song lyrics to understand the implied meaning of the song. They will be completing a written analysis task for the rest of this term. Task sheets for this will go out shortly.

Year eight students continue to work on a combined unit with Humanities students, looking at the environment and the importance of social media in making a change. They will be creating their own social media campaign, with some of the best to appear on our school Facebook page.

Year nine students are rounding out the year looking at the influence the media has over our understanding of important social issues. They have been looking at the representations of shark culling, bullying and many other issues in the media. They have also looked at the structure of a feature article and the importance of persuasive language and will complete a feature article for their assessment this term.

Good luck to students for their remaining English assessment this year. I cannot wait to see the final products.

2017 Opportunities- Public Speaking at Lowood SHS

Does your child love to talk? Do they always have something to say? The English Department has the perfect opportunity!

We are currently seeking expressions of interest from students who would like to be a part of the 2017 Lowood State High School public speaking team. Students who join the team, will have the opportunity to be part of numerous events throughout the year including:
• Rostrum Voice of Youth Public Speaking Competition
• Apex Debating Competition
• Lions Youth of the Year (for senior students only)

Along with the opportunity to be involved in a range of events, we will also be offering lunchtime seminars to work on students' confidence in speaking in front of large groups, how to plan a speech for a range of purposes, how to control your voice (pace, pitch, pause, intonation, etc) and much more. These will help students with public speaking and also in their class work!

If your child is interested in being a part of public speaking at Lowood SHS in 2017, please don't hesitate to contact me via email at ehaye40@eq.edu.au or phone on (07) 5427 8333. Students may also like to come and see Miss Hayes in the A-block staffroom.

Emma Hayes
Head of Department English/LOTE

Science

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the academic award winners on presentation night, particularly those receiving awards for science. The demand for graduates with scientific skills and knowledge will increase dramatically over the next few years, so by succeeding in science now, these students are setting themselves up for even greater success later on.

We are at that time of year when we are getting ready to farewell the current year 12 cohort. By the time you have read this most year 12s will have completed their final piece of assessment and will be focussed on schoolies and life after school. The past year has presented many challenges to these students and I am proud to say that these challenges have been met head-on. A special mention goes to three year 12 girls who have shown the determination and commitment needed to achieve outstanding results in science:

Chloe Payne – top student in Biology
Emma Graff – top student in Physics and Chemistry
Sharna Quarry – top student in Science in Practice

Simon Bundy
Head of Department Science

Arts

QLD Youth ShakeFest

ShakeFest is run by the Shake & Stir theatre company, and provides opportunities for actors, dancers, designers, photographers and videographers to get their work onto a public stage and possibly part of the cast or design crew for their 2017 annual production. Each school is only allowed to enter one competitor into each category at the regional finals, and this year we entered pieces by Taleah McMullen in the Monologue category, Kayne Moran and Lacie McDonald in the Duologue category and Sharni Greenaway in the Costume Design category.

Sharni Greenaway (year 12) competed at the state finals at the Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts a few weeks ago and we would like to congratulate her on her tremendous efforts. Sharni won first place for her costume designs for ‘The Twelfth Night’. What an achievement it is to take out first place at state level two years in a row!

In term 3, Drama classes studied Elizabethan Theatre and focused on the many plays by William Shakespeare. For assessment, the year 10 class presented their own excerpts from the plays to the rest of the class. Many students were interested in entering the 2016 Queensland Youth ShakeFest competition with their work.

The 3 selected students from year 10 Drama made an impression on the judges with their professionalism and talent. They were awarded high results and were complemented on their achievements. This is highly sought after praise from such an idolised and valued state theatre company. It is a major achievement for year 10 students to make it to the regional finals and compete against students from year 12. We congratulate them on their achievements for getting that far.

Samantha Drury
Dance Drama Teacher

2016 Construction School Project

A big congratulations to all the students and staff involved in the 2016 Construction School Project!

The year 12 students began excavating the site in term 3 and have nearly finished creating their retaining wall feature located next to the manual arts building. The year 11 students also got involved by preparing and pouring a concrete path that will run along the feature wall, creating a walkway for students leading up towards the basketball courts.
The students should be commended for the dedication and resilience they have shown through this project. They have learned valuable skills and gained real life experiences that will transfer into future employment opportunities. The students demonstrated the ability to work together as a team to reach a common goal, with many showing outstanding leadership qualities.

We commend the students in their efforts and look forward to seeing the project through to its completion.

Anthea Eckermann
Teacher

Football Academy

On 29 October, 8 students from the football academy travelled to Oxley to participate in the under 15 Chantelle Cramb Cup. They displayed courage and determination against stronger and faster players, and earned the respect of the spectators with tight score lines. The students that represented our school were Joel Jaremienko, Izaak Galligan, Jace Martyn, Lachlan Jordan Walters, Raiden Shannon, Jack Marschke and Lachlyn Whitmore.

On 2 November, Lowood hosted the inaugural under 13 Queensland School Sport regional qualifiers at the Lowood SHS hall. With a win over Faith Lutheran College, we secured our place in the next round of competition to represent the Metropolitan West region at the QSS Futsal Cup to be held at Coomera later this term. Special mention to Jace Martyn who scored two goals for Lowood.

Jacob Veraart
Football Academy coach

Learning Development Centre

The Real Farmers of Lowood

Over the past five weeks, the year 8 ASDAN class have been busy bees in the garden. We’re learning about the life cycle of fruit and vegetables and how to grow them. The students had to make a tough decision on what to grow. After researching a variety of vegetables, herbs and fruit, we selected corn, tomatoes, basil, mint and spring onions. Each lesson, we head up to the garden to water and document the growth of the plants. We’re eagerly waiting for the plants to grow. Once the plants have grown to their full size, the students have to decide on recipes for a two course meal which they will then cook. The students are working hard, and are thoroughly enjoying their time in the garden. We’re looking forward to the taste testing of our meals. Only time will tell how we go. Watch this space.

The Farmers: Zayne McAlpine, Brock Hibbard, Kyle Meehan, Jacob Goldberg and Seeba Vine. Farm Hand: Miss Stansfield

Fun fact: Did you know that you can re-grow spring onions by soaking the ends in water and re-filling with fresh water.

Recreation Officer

Hi, my name is Ethan Kitching and I am the newly appointed Recreation Officer here at Lowood State High School. I have a passion for fitness and the outdoors and love seeing clients better themselves physically. I recently completed my personal trainer qualification and am excited to integrate my new skills into the recreational role at LSHS.

I am very excited to be involved in the new exercise program for students here at Lowood SHS, Smart Moves. The program runs at both breaks on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Smart Moves activities will be held on the oval and include soccer, touch football, netball and dodgeball. I would love the opportunity to meet you and hear your ideas/preferences on fitness activities.

If students have any questions about fitness or don’t know how to approach exercise, I’m happy to have a chat. With 7 years of exercise experience and a broad understanding of many
exercise disciplines I will endeavour to answer any questions you may have.

I look forward to meeting you all.

Operation Christmas Child

Our fantastic Lowood State High School students have demonstrated their generosity again in 2016 with their unbelievable support of our Operation Christmas Child campaign. Students were required to work as a team within their home group classes to put together shoeboxes full of gifts ready to be delivered to disadvantaged children for Christmas. The children who receive these shoeboxes have sometimes never opened a present in their life, and the joy that comes to their faces makes this appeal so worthwhile. Our head of Humanities, Jane O’Dea, has had the privilege of delivering these shoeboxes in the past, and always comments on the experience as life changing. This year’s campaign will see our shoeboxes being delivered to children in Cambodia, Thailand and Fiji.

The role that our students played this year was simply inspirational. Last year, we were very excited to have sent 44 shoeboxes away. Being ambitious, we set a target for 2016 of 70 shoeboxes. What I underestimated, was the care and generosity of our wonderful students. By the final day of the campaign on Friday 28th October we reached 110 shoeboxes, which were delivered to the warehouse ready for shipping. Special mention must go to Jan Gray’s 7A class and Lisbeth Goldston’s 8A class who contributed over 50 boxes between the 2 classes. Congratulations to every class and every student for being involved in this year’s appeal.

Date Claimers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16 November</td>
<td>Year 11 exam block commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 November</td>
<td>Year 12 last day &amp; Graduation Ceremony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 November</td>
<td>Year 10 &amp; 11 last day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 November</td>
<td>Year 6 Parent Orientation 6-7:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 December</td>
<td>Orientation Day for 2017 Year 7s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 December</td>
<td>Year 7, 8 &amp; 9 last day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>