

# Newsletter

Semester 2 2021



**LOMANDRA  
SCHOOL**

CHALLENGES & CHOICES

## Message from The Deputy Principal

Firstly, on behalf of Lomandra School I would like to thank our parents and careers for their support during this challenging year. Although our year has been disrupted by circumstances out of our control the school has much to be proud of. This year, the school has seen several of our students successfully transition to fulltime employment. We wish these students all the best in the workplace. We have also seen a number of our students increase their time at their homeschoools with special recognition going to Cynthia MacDonald who has successfully reintegrated to Ashcroft High. A focus of our school this year reflected in our Strategic Improvement Plan has been a focus on improving our student's literacy skills. The school has been fortunate enough to employ two staff members to focus on this task with each student receiving extensive testing and explicit teaching to demonstrate growth. Furthermore, our school has been able to employ a DP Welfare shared by two staff members who have collaborated with all staff to enhance and promote the wellbeing of our students. We hope that our school community has a good break and we look forward to facing challenges and making positive choices in 2022.

Adam Moore

### Up Coming Events:

Last day of school 2021:  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December

School Returns 2022:  
Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February



4/5 Hollylea Road  
Leaumeah, New South Wales, Australia 2560  
Hours: Monday to Friday 9:30am to 2:00pm

## Team 2

### Highlights

Students in Team 2 returned to classroom learning with great anticipation. Lucas showed maturity through his leadership skills and calmness when adjusting to change. Ben, Charlie, Lucas and Daniel worked together to apply problem-solving strategies to stem activities like a solar robot and classroom radio. Kyle, Chad and Kingston joined in and participated in outdoor learning for Morning Regulation and Morning Learning Routine with great enthusiasm.

## Team 3

### Highlights

In Semester Two, students were provided with challenges that tested their resilience and dedication to learning. Brodie and Connor adapted well to the learning from home period, and Karel has settled in well with the Lomandra School community. The entire school is proud of them. Students have worked through some intensive and interesting learning programs that involve collaborating with a variety of staff members across the school. This has given them the opportunity to demonstrate flexibility and cooperation working with different staff members. The time spent in the wood skills room along with the art room has been a highlight of our weeks. Students have utilized new skills and techniques to create some wonderful pieces of work as a result of this hands-on learning. This term, many phone calls and meetings have taken place to arrange transition for our Year 6 students who will be moving on to high school. We look forward to working with everyone in 2022 and helping them achieve their goals.

## Team 4

### Highlights

It was great to finally welcome Team 4 back to face-to-face learning after the covid lockdown. Watching some of the strong friendships previously established be reinvigorated was an absolute pleasure to be a part of. A major highlight would have to be just how much the students grew during lockdown. Who knew that so many late nights and hours of gaming (and completing work from home packs of course) would lead directly to taller students, deeper voices and fuzzy faces! While working from home, the Team 4 Zoom meetings were well attended, and those that were present (almost) always put in strong efforts with their learning and, just as importantly, were respectful to each other and the staff involved.

Despite the challenges of lockdown, 3 of our students have picked up where they left off with their integration and off-site goals. Ethan is again attending his off-site activity, while Kyan has earned a 3rd- yes you read that right- a 3rd day of integration at his home school with Thomas hot on his heels earning a 2nd whole day at his home school.



Also, 2 of our students have graduated to Year 9 just a bit sooner than others, with both Kyan and Izac getting a taste of the Year 9 curriculum, and the increased levels of self-responsibility, self-management and higher expectations which come with that.

The challenges going forward for Team 4 will largely be around the changes to classes and teachers for next year. However I'm sure if they keep focused on the goals of becoming more responsible for themselves and their education, and apply this attitude to the learning opportunities that will be offered to them next year they will continue to make improvements.

## Team 5

### Highlights

#### CONGRATULATIONS

Team 5 for such a compelling year in education and development. It wasn't easy on anyone during the COVID break - but you all have come back with great attitudes to re-engage with your learning. It's with great pleasure to see you all progress through 2021 being independent, resilient, and confident learners.

A major focus for Team 5 is integration back into mainstream schooling. As of recent, congratulations Charlie Hamilton for obtaining more time at Ingleburn High School, and of course Anthony Eaves earning FULL TIME at Thomas Reddall High School for 2022. Well done on successfully gaining part-time employment also, Anthony. Furthermore, best of luck to Adam and Ava in their (current) journeys of seeking employment. Employers will no doubt find the maturity and strength that you have built within yourselves as a draw.

83/20/2021/28

Thank you to Tahj and Lucas for being so equipped, practically, in our self-regulation classes - particular in cooking and woodwork. Overall, there are so many great moments and memories that Ange and I will really cherish for such a long time. You guys have earned every bit of success that was given to you this year.

Have a GREAT break Team 5, and all the very best to EVERYONE in 2022.

Grant & Angelica.

## Team 7

### Highlights

The boys in Team 7 had a great year in 2021; Highlights would be the surfing program in Term 1 and our great offsite learning days at the Museums and places like Bluescope steel and the Aviation Museum in Albion Park.

Some of the boys produced some excellent songs and clips with Adam from Heaps Decent. They also worked hard on their Science, English and Maths topics. They particularly enjoyed Probability and Genetics this last term.

Woodwork with Josh, Cooking with Donna and Art with Gina have also been highlights, the boys have got in and produced some excellent projects in all 3 classes.



## Team 8

### Highlights

Team 8 this year have been focused on literacy and numeracy in the workplace. The work both in the classroom and outside the classroom have been lifelong learning skills that they will be able to use in their future careers.

There have been many challenges in 2021 but the students have shown resilience in preparing themselves to enter the workforce.

Two of our students have been successful in gaining fulltime employment and starting apprenticeships in concreting and joinery. One of these students is about to complete the first year of his apprenticeship. Another student has been working fulltime 3 days a week and receiving on the job experience

Along with their studies the students have been given lessons on how to prepare themselves to enter the workforce by completing their resumes, looking for various positions on SEEK, submitting their applications to employers, cold calling employers and dropping their resumes to workplaces. This shows that the students have become more confident in approaching people they have not met before.

We congratulate Team 8 for their enthusiasm and commitment to their learning this year.



## Team 9

### Highlights

2021 has been a whirlwind and Team 9 has been extremely busy. As one of the senior classes at Lomandra we have had lots of students working with us. This year we had Shyanne and Bailey complete their year 12. Over the course of this year Shyanne was able to complete her TAFE construction course and the girls can too program at Campbelltown TAFE. This year she has also been able to the opportunity to do some volunteer work on the Lomandra truck. While Bailey received his Cert 2 in Hospitality through the Oz Harvest Nourish Program.

Both students in Term 4 worked with Team 8 to gain work experience opportunities and get assistance with job applications and transition from school to work. We have also had several students complete year 11 and are now year 12. These students included Damien, George and Leila. However Leila has continued her work journey with McDonalds and George is now focusing on his work journey with Team 8. He has completed many applications and has had a couple of positive interviews which hopefully will prove successful. George has also received an offer for a TAFE course in 2022 that is focused on Anime. The opportunity to volunteer at the Lomandra Community Store in Term 2. During Semester 1 we had some great off sites excursions a few which included team building and bike riding in Mount Annan, going to the Powerhouse Museum and Taronga Zoo to learn about business. However we have been unable to do this during Term 4 but have many plans and exciting opportunities for 2022 one of which includes going to Canberra.

Kristen Tomsen



# Sherwood

## Highlights

In the Sherwood program students have been engaging in a novel called Skelling by David Almond. They have been working hard to analyse the text and create character profiles and written responses. In mathematics we have been doing a unit on measurement and students have really enjoyed engaging in hands on measurement activities. On Fridays Gina works with the students to create wonderful craft pieces. Recently students have been learning about the traditional craft of Aboriginal weaving and made bracelets.

The Sherwood students have also really enjoyed engaging in cooking lessons to learn healthy eating habits and cooking skills. This week students created tabbouleh and lamb kofta.

Team 13 have been working very well, completing a great deal of work. Everyone has completed a lot of written work in their workbooks, as well as contributed to decorating our classroom walls with their outstanding work such as reports, Powerpoint Presentations and art pieces. We also have recently received our mobile whiteboard and colourful organisation tubs, so our cupboards look fantastic. Team 13 recently welcomed a new student who has totally enjoyed starting to learn guitar with Ben G. Soon we will get our blinds to cut the glare on the laptop screens too! We love it out at the Farm!! For the last couple of days there have been a pair of chooks in the yard clucking around, our students know them by name and collect the eggs daily. Some students are requesting extra work too, we are all really enjoying our learning time.

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# Team 11

## Highlights

In Team 11 Jess and I worked hard to establish a sense of safety and trust in the classroom environment. Lithgow Street Campus of Lomandra School consist of only one class and this means there can be a disconnect between what happens in a School and how our class actually looks. One great focus is that students can relax a little and not have to navigate the traditional playground during breaks. Our breaks are in line with Lomandra School, but there's food, a bit of chit chat between students and staff, and a little freedom to simply breathe in and out and to walk on the grass. We've just had a new table and benches installed on the deck and it's a great place to debrief and to recalibrate. All students are now storing their phones in their personal lockers during every lesson. All students are entering the classroom ready to participate as well as demonstrating respect for others and are sensitive to the needs of their peers. Jess and I are looking forward to working with these students next year as well as a new cohort of students. Change is always good! For the students in Team 11, they're ready to welcome a few more into the classroom and will now be called Team



# RTSP

## Overview

Students enrolled in the Supported Return to School Program( SRSP)have demonstrated their capacity to engage with the learning tasks and self-regulate their behaviour in a positive manner.

As new students have enrolled in the program and others students have returned to their home school the social dynamics of the student cohort has remained harmonious and cooperative. Our parents and caregivers have provided SRSP staff with encouraging feedback on the positive attributes of the program as they relate to their children and children in care.

## Literacy

Students engaged in topics focusing on world events in history that have shaped the way we live today. Terrorism 9/11 and Remembrance day.We use the online program Mathletics to engage students in their mathematics.Our students have obtained high scores daily and have shown enthusiasm in challenging themselves on topics they struggled with in the past e.g.: algebra, percentages and fractions. Many students were able to reach up to and beyond 1000 points during the one hour session, showing the ability to stay on task.

## Mathematics

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Students showed a high level of respect to not only their peers but also to all staff at the SRSP Lithgow Street Campus.

Deanna Sergeant

Geordie Crawford