With our Principal, John Stone on leave, it is my pleasure to outline the range of activities and events in which our students and staff have recently been involved. Having the task of writing this article means I can look back and appreciate how many activities and events occur on such a regular basis. We really are fortunate to have staff so committed to provide amazing opportunities for our students.

Given the recent storms we were lucky to have fine weather for our Interhouse Athletics Carnival. The high level of student participation in track and field events continues to highlight our student commitment to all aspects of school life. Congratulations to Year Champions and runners up and the ‘Mighty Wallis’, recognised as the winning faction. The Year 12s are a fantastic group of young people who looked great and participated in every event! They are an asset to our school!

Throughout the term we have hosted Year 6 students from our feeder Primary Schools in weekly maths and science enrichment lessons and activities. Many thanks to Mr Bowden, Ms Nicoletto, Mr Scata and Mrs Bell for the time and effort you put in to promote high order thinking skills to our prospective students.

Our recent Senior School Dance and Drama Night provided the opportunity for our students to showcase their practical performances to parents and friends. In the coming weeks Music students will showcase their talents in exciting performances in our Performing Arts Theatre – we wish them every success.

Craig Bowden, Head of Science, has recently returned from Karratha Senior High School where he mentored staff and conducted revision sessions for their Senior School Science students.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the effort of the Mental Health Committee who organised a week of activities for our whole school community. Mental Health Week helped us all focus on looking after ourselves and those around us. A range of lunchtime events, rappers, guest speakers and an Expo raised our awareness. I encourage you to always take ‘time out’ to relax and reflect.

This is a very busy and intense time for our Year 12 students. During the coming holidays, ATAR students will undertake their formal WACE practical exams and school Semester Two examinations. Prior to the holidays we will formally celebrate their 13 years of schooling at Graduation Dinner at Fraser’s Restaurant. In Week 2 of Term 4, the Student Body and Staff will formally farewell our Year 12s at our whole school assembly. Presentation Night will be held on Friday 5 December, and ticket purchases now available. Thank you to Ms Joiner for her commitment to the planning of these many memorable events.

Congratulations to our YOHfest students who have progressed to the finals to be held in Mandurah the second week of Term 4. Good luck!

As this is the last Newsletter for Term 3, I wish all staff and students a safe holiday. Best wishes to our Year 12’s!

Kim Lloyd, Acting Principal
The following is a letter from Linda Graham, Chair of the Lesmurdie Senior High School Board, to State Government Ministers John Day and Peter Collier, Director General of Education, Sharyn O’Neill, and to the South Metropolitan Regional Office. It express the concern of the School Board at the magnitude and timing of the education funding cuts.

Re: State Government cuts to Education spending

The School Board of Lesmurdie Senior High School has met following the announcements from State Government and Department of Education officials concerning cuts to funding for all public schools. We strongly believe that the scope and magnitude of these cuts and the timing of their implementation will cause serious issues for our school in addressing the needs of our students.

Students will suffer from our school having less staff. Under the cuts, we will have a reduction of 2.2 Teacher FTE meaning that a number of courses will need to be removed from the selection grid at very late notice and a range of other classes will be forced to absolute maximum student numbers thus not allowing us to cater for student ability levels. Education Assistant time with our needy students will be reduced thus seriously affecting these students’ emotional, social and intellectual growth.

Additionally, we will have a reduction of 2.0 School Support Staff FTE. The negative impact on our school’s front line services that this cut will cause is directly at odds with the findings in our recently-completed IPS Review Report. The reviewers commented positively on our school providing an atmosphere that fosters a high level of care and wellbeing and that support staff are deployed efficiently in the school and their expertise is utilised for the benefits of the school and its students. [p3]

These planned adjustments will lead to a major funding reduction to our school. All students in our school will suffer directly from this excessive loss of funds. Vital programs addressing literacy improvement, attendance improvement, student leadership, student engagement and differentiated curriculum will have to be curtailed. All of these programs rely on dedicated staff to coordinate procedures, oversee implementation and keep actions on track. These will be seriously affected by the cuts.

Students will suffer from the cuts to resourcing. The Leave Liability Surcharge of $44,000 for Lesmurdie defies logic. It is a cash grab by the government to prop up a leave liability management issue that is not schools’ responsibility. This and other cuts will result in less money being available for texts, computing, teaching aids and other vital resources necessary for effective teaching and learning.

The implementation of new methodology for assessment and allocation of school funding should not be used in conjunction with a need by the government to cover poor budgetary management, or use it as an excuse to reduce spending in the education sector. Implementation of the new methodology should be taken with an increase in funding to maintain existing levels and to bring up areas outlined that are currently short of funds.

The timing of the reform agenda and budget cuts is unacceptable. Most of the major planning for 2014 has already been completed by Lesmurdie staff making the late August announcements very difficult to implement.

Yours sincerely

Linda Graham
Chair
Lesmurdie Senior High School Board
4 September 2013

UPCOMING DATES

SEPTEMBER

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 26</td>
<td>Year 12 Dinner</td>
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<td>September 27</td>
<td>Last Day of Term</td>
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<td>September 28</td>
<td>WACE Practical Exams begin</td>
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OCTOBER

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<td>October 7</td>
<td>Year 12 Exams begin</td>
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<td>October 14</td>
<td>School Development Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 15</td>
<td>Students Return</td>
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<td>October 21</td>
<td>Interschool Athletics Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 22</td>
<td>School Teams and catch up Photos</td>
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<td>October 24</td>
<td>Farewell Assembly</td>
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<td>October 25</td>
<td>YOHFest Final</td>
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<td>Last day for Year 12's</td>
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CONCERT DATES

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<tr>
<th>Year 8 Mon 23</th>
<th>Year 9 Tues 24</th>
<th>Year 10 Wed 25</th>
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<td>5.00-6.00pm</td>
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<td>Performing Arts</td>
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Primary Stirk Festival

Thursday 26 Sept
Classical Guitar am
Jazz Band pm
UN CRISIS POINT SIMULATION EXERCISE

I attended a simulation exercise of a possible U.S. government’s response to an international crisis (North Korea and South Korea conflict). My role was in the Department of Defence - I was Secretary to the Department and my task was to veto decisions and talk to the National Security Council.

I now understand why governments have difficulty responding to crisis situations and why diplomatic manoeuvres are preferable to rushing into reactions, and are the best response.

I learned that it is important to compromise and work to consensus when working in groups. I learned that it is possible to overreact to events especially when we do not know all the facts and that this can lead to undesirable results for us all. I really enjoyed the experience and would recommend this exercise for anyone who is thinking of a career working with groups of people, and anyone who is interested in major world events and their impact on society.

Ethan Glossop Year 10

YOHFest

Students and teachers have been working tirelessly over the last few months to get our 2013 entries ready for YOHfest; the Youth on Health festival - a state wide competition that allows students to promote a physically and mentally healthy lifestyle through the Arts medium. Lesmurdie students performed their dance and drama entries at the YOHfest heats at Mandurah Performing Arts Centre on Wednesday 28 August. Our dance entry - 'Run from it or learn from it', a take on this year’s theme 'lifestyles', looked at two contrasting young lives and how their upbringing and family life could ultimately determine their future. The judges were extremely impressed with our vibrant performance and we came away with the award for ‘exquisite delivery of a storyline through dance’. Our drama entry, titled ‘Is this the life for you?’, looked at key elements of ‘lifestyle’ and which is the ‘right’ one to choose. Credit should go to the drama students and Mr Randall for a clever and humorous take on the topic that had the audience highly engaged the whole way through! YOHfest provides students with the opportunity to improve confidence and skills in performance, team building, leadership skills and time management with study and other commitments. We have since found out that we made the Grand Final.

Congratulations to all involved

Lauren Nisbett, Dance Teacher

STAWA YOUNG TALENT SEARCH

Year 8 LEAP students Chloe Thiel and Sarah Howard have been successful in reaching the finals of the STAWA (Science Teachers Association of WA) Young Talent Search in the Inventions Division.

The girls were given the task of researching how the lifestyle of a person with a disability is affected by that condition. They were then asked to design a device that would contribute positively to improving the lifestyle of such a person, and build a working model using physics theory they had learned in class.

Chloe and Sarah chose achondroplasia (dwarfism) and successfully designed and built a retractable step system to enable people of short stature to climb into a four wheel drive vehicle.

Sarah Howard and Chloe Thiel at work on their design
MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

Mental Health Week was a huge success with students enjoying the various lunch time activities, food, music, sports, guest speakers and more. The feedback received from staff, students and presenters was extremely positive and suggested that this annual event is a proactive strategy for mental health promotion, prevention and early intervention at a whole school level.

Congratulations to the following students who received great prizes for their participation:
Brianna Beugels, Rhys Cushing, Rickelle Eggerton, Jordan Grech, Maddison Hornby, Emily Meldrum, Jemma Nelson and Zack Rotondo.

On behalf of the Mental Health Committee, we thank the many staff, students and agencies who helped make this week a fun, engaging and meaningful event. We look forward to hosting next year’s Mental Health Week with even more enthusiasm!

Remember that the more we do things in the community for our own mental health, the stronger the community becomes. The stronger the community we live in, the better for our mental health.

Tenille Wright, School Psychologist
Last month we engaged professional photographer Jodie Grieve to start work on building a bank of photos for use in our publications and new website. Here are some of the pictures.

**ARTISTIC SUCCESS**

Last month’s newsletter wrongly named students whose work had been selected for two prestigious student exhibitions.

**Congratulations** to Alaura Evans, Amy Wilman and Rachael Graham for selection in Young Originals Exhibition and to Rachael who was also selected for inclusion in the *Metamorphoses* exhibition.

**NEW LOOK WEBSITE**

Last month we engaged professional photographer Jodie Grieve to start work on building a bank of photos for use in our publications and new website. Here are some of the pictures.

**CONFERENCE**

The ACER Research Conference 2013, on the theme, ‘How the Brain Learns: What lessons are there for teaching’ brought together researchers in neuroscience, psychology and education to explore effective teaching and learning practices in light of current knowledge about basic learning processes and factors that influence successful learning.

Connecting neuroscience to educational practice will better inform our educational policies and school systems.

*Jan Archer, Maths Teacher*
The Technology and Enterprise learning area is using the latest technology to enhance the learning experience of students in the world of 3D.

Design and development work by students has for many years relied on 2D and 3D CAD type software, where the final design produced would exist on a flat computer screen or a paper hardcopy. Using the final design to produce a prototype from a 2D source would involve workshop time, materials and working by hand to realize the 3D model – which might or might not meet the design specification.

By using a 3D printer, students can now design and realise their CAD produced 3D drawings into 3D physical prototypes in the one operation, quickly and accurately.

A 3D printer works much like the old style dot matrix printers where a print head would move under instructions from a computer program, building up the letters in ink on paper a bit at a time.

A 3D printer also has a print head but instead of placing ink on paper it heats a filament of plastic and deposits it in layers, gradually building the 3D model in plastic.

A 3D scanning camera will be used to capture physical objects and render them as 3D digital models. Once in the computer, the 3D images can be manipulated, enhanced and used in animation software, or sent to a 3D printer.

PLAYGROUP

My Year 10 Childcare and Year 11/12 Children, Family and Community classes have been running playgroup during Term 2 and Term 3 respectively this year. Playgroup has been extremely popular with students, parents and children alike. Students organised the playgroup around themes that include the Zoo, Carnival and Magic theme.

The most popular activities were marble painting, magic potions and 'around the world with a passport'. I would like to thank my students for their passion and dedication to playgroup and for the parents and wonderful children who supported us by attending.

I would also like to thank Jenny Jay, an Early Childhood professor from Curtin University, for talking to our playgroup mums about how to encourage children’s oral language.

Danni Hocken, TIC, Home Economics

WAYBRA

The West Australian Young Readers Book Award (WAYRBA) voting is over for 2013.

WAYRBA is a statewide readers' choice award for young people where young readers are invited to nominate, through their libraries, books that they have enjoyed. These nominations are then considered by the WAYRBA committee and the three lists are drawn up for three levels; Younger Readers, Picture Books and Older Readers.

Young people are asked to read titles on the lists and evaluate them as ‘terrific’, ‘good’, ‘okay’ or ‘awful’. These votes are collated by the WAYRBA committee and the award winning book announced at a ceremony on 21 November. In addition Lesmurdie Community Library readers taking part in WAYRBA have the chance to decide the book voted most popular here at Lesmurdie Senior High School. All participants also have a chance to win a book voucher.

Congratulations to Siena Edmonds of Year 8 and Keegan Burke of Year 12 who read and evaluated books for this year’s awards. They each won a book voucher from Dymocks. The book voted best read by Lesmurdie students is Percy Jackson: Son of Neptune by Rick Riordan.

Thank you to all students who read and voted for books and contributed to the success of WAYRBA.
A select few of the Year 6 students from our local primary schools have been participating in Mathematics and Science enrichment classes at Lesmurdie Senior High School throughout Term 3. In Mathematics, the students have made a scale model of the solar system on the school oval, bungee jumped a Barbie doll off the school balcony and solved a murder mystery from a footprint. In all these activities the students demonstrated and applied problem solving techniques and team work whilst using their mathematical skills in practical contexts.

STUDENT SERVICES

Have you ever found it difficult to say the words ‘I love you’? If so, then please read the following story from Ian Brayshaw - former West Australian champion cricketer, footballer and sports media commentator with the ABC and Channel 10.

“It’s important to tell your kids that you love them. I had difficulty doing that until one day. After Jamie’s wedding he came out of the church and we embraced and he said to me, ‘I love you, old man.’ I found the tears poured out of my eyes. My Dad never said that to me and I wouldn’t have been able to say it to my kids except for that experience – it empowered me. Now I find it much easier to say ‘love you’, and to express other feelings to my kids.”

Saying the words ‘I love you’ can be difficult. It takes practice to become comfortable expressing that emotion. However, saying ‘I love you’ at least once every day perhaps when you leave for work, or when you put your children to bed can make all the difference.

The more you say those three little words, the easier they will flow and the closer you will become with your loved ones – both young and old.

Grant Collins, Chaplain

STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTION

Student Council Elections for Years 9 to 12 will be held on Wednesday 6th November. Nomination forms are available from Student Services and must be returned by Friday 18th October.

Please see Mrs Bretnall in Student Services for more information.

STAFF UPDATE

Our Principal, John Stone, is on leave from 12 September to 18 October. Deputy Kim Lloyd is Acting Principal this term and Deputy Carol Doohan will be Acting Principal in Week 1 Term 4.

GITA A FREMANTLE

Year 10 students went on an excursion to the Fremantle Maritime Museum where we looked at the Welcome Walls and Immigration Display. The display provided us with rich information about Italian immigration in particular. For example, many Italian families started to immigrate together to Fremantle in WA during the 1930’s.

To better understand the lifestyle of Italians, we went on a very Italian walk to Sandrino’s Pizzeria where we were presented with a range of traditional Italian wood fired pizzas. Later we had delicious gelatos at La Dolce Vita. We also visited Princi’s at Romano which is a small Italian style shop owned by traditional Italians. Many students purchased Italian products while others learnt the history and heritage of the Princi family.

Jade Altinier, Year 10
Lesmurdie Senior High School is always happy to promote the successes of our students. Please contact Katharine Harrington on 9291 1245 or by email at katharine.harrington@education.wa.edu.au with information and photographs.

Last day of Term 3:  
Friday 27 September  
School resumes:  
Tuesday 15th October

CARNIVAL TIME

Congratulations to Wallis for their magnificent win at the Interhouse Athletics Carnival. Special thanks must go to Nick Neates and our great Phys Ed team for their amazing organisation.

Two records were broken this year, Jasmine Long set a new record for the 14yo girls 400m and Izzy Valuri in the 16yo girls 400m. Congratulations to both.

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<th>Champion Athletes and Runner Ups</th>
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<td><strong>Champion</strong></td>
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<td>Year 8 Boys</td>
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<td>Year 10 Boys</td>
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<td>Year 10 Girls</td>
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<td>Year 11 and Over Boys</td>
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<td>Year 11 and Over Girls</td>
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YEAR 9 LIGHTNING CARNIVAL

Lesmurdie Senior High School fielded seven teams to compete in the SE Zone Year 9 One Day Lightning Carnival.

After many sessions of training at lunchtime, all teams represented the school in outstanding fashion. It is a credit to all students and staff that they competed with a high level of sportsmanship and teamwork to produce the wonderful results that were achieved. Special mention and big thanks to our fantastic teachers/coaches: Ms White, Mrs Thompson-Bowness, Ms Nisbett, Ms Ryan, Mr Collins, Mr Oliver, Mr Fusco.

Final Placings:
1st-Girls Basketball (undefeated)  
3rd-Boys Soccer & Girls A Netball  
4th-Boys AFL & Girls Soccer  
5th- Netball B

When considering that there were up to eight teams competing in most of these sports and that we were one of the smaller schools, then the results are even more meritorious.

Congratulations to all students who participated, irrespective of your team’s final finishing position. It was a very successful and enjoyable day.

Mr Neates, Head of HPE