FROM THE PRINCIPAL -
Since commencing my role as Principal of Loxton High School, I have been warmly welcomed by the school community. I would now like to extend my own welcome to students who are new to the school, especially the Year 8s and their families. Staff who are new to the school include:

- Mr Ron Prasad, Science and Biology teacher
- Ms Jacinta Puckey, classroom support SSO
- Ms Vikkie Taylor, Aboriginal Community Education Officer

Returning to Loxton High School for 2018:
- Ms Christie Burt (Maths/PE)
- Ms Claire Dalzell (English/Arts/Wellbeing)
- Ms Mel Maczkowiack (Classroom support)
- Ms Tracy Pont (Classroom support)
- Ms Sarah Pritchard (Independent Living/German)
- Mr Brendan Rowe (SSO3 IT)
- Ms Leah Uren (Maths)
- Ms Sam Wall (Classroom support)

Students Achievement
We have joined a school with a proud tradition of successfully developing young people who are equipped with the values and skills to face the challenge of living and working in the adult world. This is borne out by a snapshot of some of 2017’s results:

- Bridgette Walmesley-Cotham achieved an ATAR of 98.10 with 2 Merits
- 12 students achieved ATARs in the 90s (13% of the cohort)
- 99% of our Year 12s completed the SACE (above state average)
- 71.92% of our Stage 2 students achieved As and Bs (above state average)
- 8 students achieved Merits (including 3 in Essential Maths – 15 were issued across the state)
- 52.81% of 2017’s cohort included VET within their SACE. (State 41.63%)

Teacher, Leah Uren attended the Merit Presentation Ceremony with Merit winners and their families on Tuesday 6 February 2018 at Government House.

School Values
Since arriving in the school, I have made a point of listening to staff and talking to many students and parents. I have heard that this is a school that lives by its values: optimism, support, respect and commitment. Everyone has talked about the school’s strong culture and expectations, the way it supports students to be successful and the enormous range of opportunities that students access.
PRINCIPAL REPORT CONT..

Prefect Elections
I had the pleasure of attending the first Prefect meeting and listening to the speeches of the fine young people who nominated to be Head and Deputy Prefects. It was heartening to see young aspiring leaders with the courage to step out of their comfort zones, look their peers in the eye, talk about their qualities and why they wish to take the responsibility of leadership. There is more about this later in the newsletter. I would like to commend Mr Fisher and Ms Spehr for their willingness to provide the support that enabled this to happen.

2017 Riverland Vocational Education & Training Awards
At the 2017 Riverland Vocational Education and Training Awards I saw a different group of our students, present and past, demonstrate similar courage last Friday evening when, Ms Gillett, and I attended the 2017 Riverland and Mallee Vocational Education and Training Awards. Numerous students and past students reached the finals after progressing through a rigorous judging process that commenced after they decided to put themselves forward. Again, this only happens when committed teachers such as our Vocational Education and Training Coordinator Ms Gillett, put in a little bit extra to support students to apply. Read about these students later in the newsletter.

Swimming Carnival
Another opportunity is to extend ourselves by participating in sport, with the Swimming Carnival providing the first whole school opportunity for 2018. Students and teachers participated by swimming a lap. It does not matter whether we are a strong, or struggling swimmer. We all took the plunge, gave it a go and earned a point for our house. Thank you to the PE team who gave up their break times through Week 2 to organise this. This was followed by the annual Swimming Carnival. I would also like to point out the strong connection between taking part in organised physical activity and academic success. Beginning the year by challenging ourselves physically, focusing on working as a team and pushing ourselves is a great way to get our bodies and minds ready for the challenges ahead.

Maintaining consistency between our values and behaviour
A strong sense of pride and ownership permeates this school, along with a knowledge that success is earned and maintained through hard work. Our culture is on display through the way actions and behaviours that we do day in and day out reflect the values that we talk about. Many people have talked to me about how we consistently maintain our expectations. Examples include our uniform and mobile phone policies which are obvious expressions of respect and commitment. We show pride, respect and commitment to belonging to Loxton High School by proudly wearing the uniform.

PRINCIPAL REPORT CONT..

We show respect for and commitment to learning by not bringing mobile phones to school. Teachers model these expectations by following our own dress code and ensuring that mobiles do not intrude into the classroom. It is heartening to speak to many parents who fully support this and reinforce it with their children and young people.

School Improvement
While the school is proud of what we achieve and student success, I have a strong sense that we want to keep improving. I was impressed by the school’s response to the 2017 External Review which pointed to ways that we can improve. Our draft Site Improvement Plan centres on the four review recommendations:
1. Develop and implement whole-school strategies that encourage all students to take greater responsibility for their learning and become independent learners.

2. Focus future Professional Learning programs on building the capacity of all teachers to embed the capabilities of critical and creative thinking into their teaching so that all students are being effectively supported and challenged.

3. Consolidate a whole-school approach to the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to monitor student achievement and provide ready access of staff to data that is shared and analysed, to support the use of contemporary pedagogies by all teachers.

4. Build a cohesive Leadership Team that collaborates in determining major school priorities, and strategically plans the alignment of resources, professional learning opportunities and Performance Development.

WHITE ELEPHANT/VINTAGE FASHION STALL DONATIONS
If you have household items or clothing that you would like to donate for the White Elephant/Fashion stall at Continental, please drop it in to the Front Office before Thursday March 1st. Donations of coat hangers would also be appreciated. All items must be in good condition! Thank you

MISS HAYLEY RAMSAY
8D HOME GROUP TEACHER
16 FEBRUARY 2018

LOXTON HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

TERM 1 WEEK 3

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

On Tuesday 13 February in warm conditions our annual swimming carnival was held. All of our House Captains have been busy encouraging students to complete their lap for points and finalising teams for the championship and novelty events. Our very organised and efficient PE staff had the pool ready to go by 8.00am, just in time for the House Captains to decorate their areas for the day.

Championship events commenced at 9.05am with the two open 100m events, followed by the 50m backstroke events and freestyle. Then at around 10.00am we took out the lane ropes and readied for the exciting novelty events which our students enjoyed. The opening event of water polo was always a tightly contested competition with the tactics getting a little more aggressive as we moved up through the age groups. After some excellent team work and three and half hours later our novelty events were completed. The day finished with the final championship events including; breaststroke, butterfly and the exciting relays.

Congratulations to all students who participated positively on the day, with many students filling in for others at the last minute. Our House Leaders did a fantastic job to get teams organised and to the side of the pool ready to go on time. A big thank you to all of our staff who made the day run smoothly by going about their work calmly and professionally.

GRANT FISHER
SPORTS COORDINATOR

RESULTS:

CHAMPIONSHIP SHIELD - ALPHA

NOVELTY SHIELD - GAMMA

CUP WINNERS 2018

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<td>U14 Girls</td>
<td>Tia Dahlitz</td>
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<td>U14 Boys</td>
<td>Renzo Catalano</td>
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<td>Lauren Reichelt</td>
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SACE VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITION 2018

"Reaching"
60 x 80cm
Acrylic Paint on Canvas

We are thrilled to announce that Nathan Werner, Visual Arts Student from 2017, has been selected to represent our school at the SACE Visual Arts Exhibition being held in Adelaide during March and April this year. (Stay tuned, more details to come in future newsletter items). The state-wide exhibition showcases the variety of work that students created for their practical tasks with associated folios of supporting ideation also on show.

Nathan’s work, titled ‘Reaching’, is not only technically excellent but also touches on the theme of “God reaching to us, offering salvation and healing – not waiting for us to come to him” which extends beyond the common themes normally seen at Year 12. We are most proud of Nathan and his work and would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate all Year 12 Visual Art and Design students for achieving such outstanding results last year.

PENNY GILL
ART/DESIGN TEACHER

"Reaching"
60 x 80cm
Acrylic Paint on Canvas

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PENNY GILL
ART/DESIGN TEACHER

"Reaching"
60 x 80cm
Acrylic Paint on Canvas
Sadly, following illness, Billie-Jean Sumner passed away peacefully on 16th January 2018. Following her funeral service at the Raukkan Church she was laid to rest in the Raukkan Cemetery. Billie-Jean was our highly respected Aboriginal Community Education Officer. She will be missed by our school community.

Lorraine Dambergs has kindly given permission to reproduce a tribute that she read at Billie-Jean’s funeral.

Billie-Jean, or B-J as we often affectionately called her, had very close links with Loxton High School, firstly as a student, then as a parent and as a valued staff member.

In her student days she embodied the school value of commitment, long before the values had been formulated. B-J would have a go at everything. She represented the saying that Loxton is a school of champions, not individual heroes. She made the most of every opportunity and, as is the job of teenagers, tested the boundaries from time to time. How else was she to learn where they were? Her deep commitment to the school remained with her.

Billie-Jean was a great mum. Juanita, Larissa and Jason all completed Year 12, knowing they were empowered to go wherever they desire in life. They upheld the school’s values, worked hard and treated others with respect, qualities clearly instilled in them by Billie-Jean. They also learned those boundaries. We share the pain of their loss knowing that their mother prepared them well for their futures and gave them to the world as her greatest achievement.

As a staff member, B-J brought a vibrant personality and a friendly, caring disposition to the school, positioning students at the heart. She easily established rapport with people. Students respected her and readily sought her advice. She acted as mediator if things went awry. She ‘tapped into’ community connections, focussing on positive outcomes for all, and provided special support for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. We will miss her call of ‘Go Gamma’ as she cheered for her sporting house.

We began each staff meeting with the ‘Welcome to Country’. Billie-Jean brought purpose and meaning to the welcome, explaining its importance to her people and ensuring everyone felt included. She taught staff and students pronunciations in her first language. We can all now say Ngaiawang, Ngawait, Ngaralte, Ngarkat, Ngangkuruke, Ngintait and Erawirung! But Billie-Jean taught more than this; she connected us with our own spirituality, encouraging us to feel happiness in ourselves and a deep connection to the place in which we live. She taught us to consult the people who had lived in the place the longest, the Aboriginal people. She gave the key to open the door to the treasures of ourselves and of the land.

Billie-Jean ensured we respectfully celebrated Reconciliation and NAIDOC weeks. On Harmony Day she brought together aboriginal students and parents and the staff to recognise the great work being achieved. Her pride in her heritage and respect for her ancestors shone through as she took us on the journey. The connections she formed highlighted the importance of attendance and communication and thus improved educational outcomes. She supported initiatives and scholarships to develop young leaders and transported parents to and from school for interviews. She was a truly great ambassador for her people.

Billie-Jean had so much to offer society. She wanted to become a teacher but had postponed her studies to help others. When Billie-Jean became gravely ill she battled bravely, conducting herself with dignity and courage, and privately facing her greatest challenge with stoicism, determination and unwavering love for her children.

We are deeply saddened by the loss of Billie-Jean. Our love for her is eternal. Nukkan (until we meet again), Billie-Jean.

Lorraine Dambergs, 29/01/18
Thank you Lorraine

GRANT LAWRENCE
DIRECTOR OF WELLBEING

(photo included with permission from Billie-Jean’s family)
WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

PATHWAY OPTIONS

Name: Eleanor Garrard
Year Graduated: 2012

Senior subjects:
Business & Enterprise, English Studies, Modern History and Physical Education

How did studying/participating within the Arts, at LHS, influence your pathway?
All of the aforementioned subjects are heavily reliant on communication and analytical skills; particularly with regard to interpreting complex ideas and producing high quality written work. Developing these skills in Year 12 gave me the confidence to pursue a degree in psychology and held me in good stead when I was required to produce a 20,000 word thesis in my final year of tertiary study. The communication and analytical skills I developed at Loxton High School are also immensely relevant to the tasks I’m expected to perform in my current job.

Further study undertaken:
After completing Year 12 at Loxton High School I enrolled in a Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) at the University of Adelaide. I graduated in October 2016.

Biggest wake-up call:
I think my biggest wake-up call occurred in the final year of my degree, when I realised that I didn’t want to be a psychologist after all. Fortunately, psychology is a fairly versatile degree, which enabled me to explore other career pathways. I liked the idea of going into a policy development/implementation area, so I started to apply for graduate jobs in federal public service departments halfway through my Honours year. This turned out to be one of the best decisions I’ve ever made.

Greatest Achievement:
Being awarded a First Class Honours from the University of Adelaide (largely due to my thesis, which sought to understand how rural families are impacted on a psychosocial level by a parental cancer diagnosis).

Currently doing …
In July 2016 I received a job offer from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet in Canberra. It was an amazing career opportunity, so I accepted and relocated to the ACT in December 2016. I’m currently working as an Advisor in the Department’s Public Health & Sport team. My team is responsible for providing high quality advice to the Prime Minister and other members of Cabinet on health/sport related policy. I’ve been fortunate enough to work on some extremely interesting topics, including: vaccination, medical research and mental health policies. However, the highlight of my career thus far has involved providing briefs to the Prime Minister on AFL issues (particularly those related to Port Adelaide).

What is next?
I currently have a 2 year contract with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. However, my partner and I would be keen to move back to Adelaide one day to be closer to family and friends. I think it is likely that I will want to stay in the public service, so a future possibility may involve working for the South Australian Government. I also have not ruled out the possibility of undertaking a postgraduate degree in Public Policy or Communications.

Advice to students:
In my mind, I could not have attained a better education than the one I received from Loxton High School. My advice to students is to never underestimate how much you can achieve. Make the most of the opportunities Loxton High School provides and dream big.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

COMMUNITY NOTICES

CLEANERS REQUIRED
For Loxton High School
Contact: Angelique Foulis
Millenium
Ph: 0434 606 244

DRIVETIME DRIVER TRAINING
David Leigh
National Certificate IV Driving Instructor
Mob - 0402 089 497
Ph - 08 8583 9231
ABN: 41708099
YRMS LITTLE MERMAID JR CAST 2018

Young Riverland Musical Society held a very full day on auditions on Sunday. It takes incredible courage to sing and perform in front of a panel of five strangers and try to convince the panel as to why they were best for the role. Some had to sing 2-3 songs and perform a dialogue in character in front of the panel and should be congratulated for their success.

Loxton High students have excelled again and won a staggering amount of the lead roles available.

Chloe Oldman - Lead Role Ariel
Jacob Siviour - Lead Role Prince Eric
Joey Haenen - Lead Role Sebastian
Ethan Grose - Lead Role King Triton
Kealey Grace Harkins - Lead Role Ursula
Peta Nicholson - Lead Role Scuttle
Aimee Gladigau - Lead Role Mersister
Brittney Kaesler - Lead Role Mersister
Rebekah Thomson - Lead Role Mersister
Olivia Vivian - Lead Role Grimsby
Jamie Heuzenroeder - Lead Role Pilot
Charlotte Lawrence - Princess/Ensemble
Jasper Harding - Ensemble
Oscar Harding - Ensemble
Tahlia Arnold - Ensemble

The students will now rehearse 4 hours every Sunday afternoon throughout term one before the performances at Bonney Theatre Barmera on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd April. If history repeats they will be performing to four near full house audiences.

We congratulate these students and wish them success in their roles.

2017 RIVERLAND MALLEE AND VOCATIONAL AWARDS FINALISTS

Nadene Gillett and I attended the 2017 Riverland Mallee and Vocational Awards event, and I felt very proud of our students and past students who reached the finalist stage. All of them needed the courage to nominate themselves, then progress through a rigorous judging process.

Vocational Education and Training Award finalists
- Cody Hammerstein – Cert III Fitness
- Amy Griffiths – Cert II Hairdressing
- 2017 student Zac Wagenknecht Cert III Carpentry

Zac took out the 2017 Riverland Mallee and Vocational Student of the Year Award. Well done Zac. When I spoke to him at the end of the evening he showed me photos of his work, and I can see why he won the award. What a craftsman!

Australian School Based Trainee Award Finalist
- Courtney Tschirpig – Cert III Early Childhood

Past student Emily Ramos was the runner up for the 2017 Riverland Mallee and Vocational Trainee Award. Emily was employed with Tim Whetstone MP.

Other past students were finalists for the 2017 Riverland Mallee and Vocational Award Apprentice of the Year Award.
- Cody Heinrich, employed by Water Engineering Technologies and completing a Cert III Engineering, was the eventual runner up and the winner of an Industry Award.
- Ben Pilgrim, employed by Sunnraysia & Murray Group Training and hosted by Centafanti Design and Construction, won the Building and Construction Industry Award. Ben is completing a Cert III in Carpentry.
- Nathan Thompson was a finalist. Nathan is completing a Cert III in Painting and is employed by Sunnraysia & Murray Group, hosted by PK and RA Reynolds

DAVID GARRETT
PRINCIPAL
SACE MERIT CEREMONY 2018

Emily Zdanowicz - Research Project B
Brook Durdin - Essential Mathematics
Niesha Hampel - Essential Mathematics
Allysha Hargreaves - Essential Mathematics
Bridgette Walmesley-Cotham - Modern History & Research Project B
Maria Ppiros - Research Project B

Absent:
Georgia Elliott - English

On Tuesday 6th February 2018, some of the most outstanding Stage 2 students of 2017, were recognised at the SACE Merit Ceremony. The event was held at Government house and the highest achieving students of 2017 were presented with Excellence awards by Governor Hieu Van Le.

Merit certificates were presented to students within their subject areas. Loxton High School students, earned 8 merits in 2017.

Congratulations to the following the students on their Merit achievements: Bridgette Walmesley-Cotham: Research Project and Modern History, Brooke Durdin, Niesha Hampel and Allysha Hargreaves: Essential Mathematics, Emily Zdanowicz and Maria Ppiros: Research Project and Georgia Elliot: English.

It was fantastic to witness and celebrate the achievements of these students and we wish them all the very best with their future endeavours.

LEAH UREN
MATHS TEACHER

SWIMMING CARNIVAL PHOTOS

CONTINENTAL 2018

Come along and support Loxton High School’s annual fundraiser
COMMUNITY NEWS

Family Friendly Film
Rotunda, East Tce, Loxton.
Fri 23rd Feb. 5:30 pm Games, BBQ and then 7:00pm – Toy Story. Hosted by Scouts SA

2018 Karoonda Farm Fair Photography Competition entry details

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY:
► All photographs must be taken within the Murraylands region.
► Photographers may enter no more than six photographs in total.
► Photographers must have the permission of any people that appear in the photographs.
► Photographs may be used for promotional purposes by the Karoonda Farm Fair Incorporated.
► Images can be collected from the Farm Fair after 4pm on Saturday the 7th of April 2018 or can be returned in a supplied envelope provided by the entrant. Uncollected images will remain property of the Karoonda Farm Fair.

PHOTOGRAPHS CAN BE PRINTED AND POSTED OR EMAILED TO THE FOLLOWING:

POST:
*Photographs are to be no larger than A4 in size. *
Karoonda Farm Fair Photography Competition
PO Box 173
Karoonda
SA 5307

EMAIL:
shaneandsonmarch@hotmail.com

Each photograph must be accompanied with the following information:

► Photographer’s name
► Photograph name
► Phone number
► Category (one per photograph):
  - People
  - Landmarks
  - Plants and animals
  - Weather
  - Way of life
► This year there will be one prize per category for students. If you are a student (up to year 12), please pass this information on with your entry.

ENTRIES CLOSE 23rd MARCH 2018

A presentation of the winners will occur at 11am on Friday the 6th of April.

For further information, please contact Sonja Marchant by emailing the address above or on 0400 284 468.

Embark on one of the most exciting and rewarding experiences of your life

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED
✓ Experience a new culture
✓ Learn a language at home
✓ Rediscover and share the beauty of South Australia

French students arrive in early June and stay for 12 weeks. All students have a wide range of interests and hobbies.

If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, please contact Jenny Hanson today: 08 8323 0973 / 0409 890 184
info@studentplacement.com.au

Loxton Netball Club

COACHES

Expressions of interest are invited for

SEASON 2018

All junior and senior grades
Please include: previous coaching experience, coaching qualifications and grades you are interested in coaching.

For further information please contact the club’s president Meegan Frost

Applications by email meegan.frost@bigpond.com or post PO Box 8192, Loxton SA 5333.
Meegan Phone 0438 553 545
Loxton High School is located in a low-risk bushfire area.

While we have a have an emergency and bushfire response plan for our site it is important that we are all prepared for a bushfire emergency.

Parent and family checklist
We all need to be ready for the fire danger season and to keep your children as safe as possible please ensure you:
- download a copy of the *Bushfire and Your Child’s School or Preschool* brochure from the DECD Bushfire and Emergency Management website
- read all of the bushfire information provided to you
- talk with your children about what will happen if a bushfire occurs when they are at school or preschool
- update your emergency contact details with us before the start of the fire danger season
- make a personal Bushfire Survival Plan for your family and let us know if this will affect your child’s attendance
- download the AlertSA app if you use a smart phone or bookmark the website on your computer.

‘Catastrophic’ fire danger days
‘Catastrophic’ fire danger days occur when conditions are the worst for a bush or grass fire. If a fire starts and takes hold on a ‘catastrophic’ day it will be extremely difficult to control.

Find out about site closures
Emergency school closures will soon appear on the governments Alerts SA website and mobile app. By downloading the Alert SA app to your mobile device you will be able to obtain real-time information and warnings.

If a bushfire approaches us
The safety of children in our care is our highest priority if a bushfire approaches our site. We have a designated building or area, which has been identified as the safest or most suitable place for staff and students to be in this situation. Evacuation is our last option unless advised otherwise by emergency services.

When we move to our safe place we:
- move everybody inside, close windows, doors, and turn off the air conditioning
- fill available containers with water
- turn on any sprinklers and irrigation systems if it is safe and time permits
- remain inside with the children until the main firefront passes
- listen to local radio or monitor the CFS or AlertSA website for bushfire updates and information
- liaise with DECD Security and Emergency Management team and the CFS to stay informed about changing conditions.
Further information

Department for Education and Child Development

DECD Emergency Information Hotline
1800 000 279

The DECD Emergency Information Hotline operates during business hours, with an out-of-hours messaging service at other times.

The hotline is the best source of current and up-to-date information on bushfire emergencies.

Bushfire and Emergency Management website

Country Fire Service

Bushfire Information Hotline
1300 362 361

Website www.cfs.sa.gov.au

Alert SA

www.alert.sa.gov.au

Loxton High School has a ‘low risk’ bushfire rating.

This means on days of forecast catastrophic fire danger rating, our site will remain open.

School buses and taxies will not operate within the Fire Ban District.

Our phone number is 85847339
If this number is engaged during an emergency, contact;