



*Lyneham High School is built on the traditional lands of the Ngunnawal people.
We acknowledge the traditional owners of this land and pay our respects
to their elders, past, present and future.*



Principal's Message



Welcome to the 2020 school year, particularly our families who are new to our school!

The beginning of any school year is a busy time and this year we have faced many additional challenges as a result of the bushfires, smoke, hailstorm and coronavirus. Many people in our community have either been directly impacted by these events or know family and friends who have endured loss and hardship over this extraordinary summer. We also recognise that many in our community are still managing these events and that recovery will still take some time. I invite you to contact us if you think that we can help - our school community stands ready to support and care for students, families and our broader community.

Staff returned in week 0 and engaged in two days of Professional Learning and finalised preparations to learning programs and spaces. Staff have recognised the importance of establishing good routines in the classroom that help our students to feel settled and connected to their learning.

Over the holidays we have seen several school facilities completed or upgraded. The new transportable building has been finished on time, ready for the start of the 2020 school year and adds two additional teaching spaces. We have renovated both the boys and girls changerooms in the gym and our annual painting program has refreshed the common spaces throughout the school. A number of other projects should be finalised during first term including the new secure bike compound.

We are quickly at the end of week two and already we have lots happening! We have welcomed our new and returning students and their families, rolled out Chromebooks to our Year 7 and new students, taken school photographs (follow-up sessions to come in case your child was away) and enjoyed an awesome swimming carnival yesterday at the Dickson Pool.



Week 3: 17– 21 February

Tuesday 18th:

- P&C Meeting

Wednesday 19th:

- Star Camp

Thursday 20th:

- Star Camp
- School Photos Catchup
- Year 7 Parent Mini Timetable Evening

Friday 21st:

- Star Camp

Week 4: 24– 28 February

Monday 24th:

- Year 8 Leap Camp

Tuesday 25th:

- Year 8 Leap Camp

Wednesday 26th:

- Year 9 & 10 Dare Camp
- Game Masters Excursion

Thursday 27th:

- Year 9 & 10 Dare Camp

Friday 28th:

- Year 9 & 10 Dare Camp



Staffing News – Welcome to our new staff

There have been a few changes in the LHS Executive Teacher team. We welcome Tim Bowyer who continues as Acting Executive Teacher of The Arts, Prue Davies who is Acting Executive Teacher of Professional Practice, Tegan Keogh who is Acting Executive Teacher of Languages and Heather McDonald who is Acting Executive Teacher of Mathematics.

Each year we welcome new staff members to LHS and I would like to introduce them to our community. They each bring their experience, fresh ideas, new perspectives and innovative approaches. A big welcome to:

Health and PE:	Sally Ward	LSU:	Deanna Lee
Languages:	Lauren Eager	Mathematics:	Claire Hirschfeld
	Kirsty Miller		Robert Morris
	Esther Packard Hill		Andrew Stuart
	Alicia Polman		Nazrul Islam
	Alison Simmons	Science:	Thomas Arbaut Zaalen
			Jennifer Jenkins

Smoke / Extreme Weather Days / Novel Coronavirus

You will have received a number of emails from me regarding updated information and advice from the ACT Education Directorate regarding plans to address Air Quality / Extreme Weather conditions and the Novel Coronavirus outbreak.

In January, we have been busy developing more detailed plans on how we will monitor local air quality and climate conditions, and where necessary, what actions we can take to ensure the safety of students and staff at school. Our plans include identifying students and staff who may experience an increased risk or health impact from poor air quality or extreme heat due to a medical condition, identifying areas/rooms in the school that are available to support them when conditions are poor, restricting activities as necessary and minimising time outside as appropriate.

At the end of 2019 we were already monitoring and making adjustments to protect the wellbeing of our staff and students and will continue to do so this year.

Safety and Respect in our community

I have reminded all students in daily announcements and at the full school assembly that they are expected to respect our neighbours, particularly their private property. Students that walk or ride between Dickson and Lyneham High must not be trespassing on the private property of local residents. This means not entering the driveways, carparks, gardens and private paths of residential complexes. Students are asked to use the public footpaths along Northbourne Avenue, Murdoch Street, Oliver Street and Goodwin Street. Your assistance in reinforcing this expectation with a discussion at home would be appreciated.

With almost 1100 students attending LHS, it is important to have some clearly outlined expectations around dropping off and picking up students at school. We ask that parents and carers:

- Observe the 40km/h speed restriction during the period from 8am to 4pm
- Do not drive into the carparks to use them as drop off points in the morning. This causes unnecessary congestion and can be very dangerous for the students and adults who are arriving in the school.
- Where possible drop off students further along Goodwin Street or even in one of the surrounding streets and have students safely walk the short distance to school.

Take care at the pedestrian crossing, particularly looking out for cyclists

School Events

We also have a few upcoming events that you might like to add to your calendar – the P&C Meeting will be held next Tuesday and our annual Mini Timetable Evening for Year 7 families next Thursday. More information is available in this newsletter and I am looking forward to meeting many of you at them.

Finally, it is really important that we all understand that students, parents and staff are partners in supporting our students and working towards the best possible outcomes for them – academically, personally and socially. Lyneham High is a school with strong traditions and, combined with our energetic and vibrant environment, I am looking forward to working in partnership with all members of our community to make sure that every child is valued, cared for, engaged and can experience success in their learning. If you have any concerns, I invite you to contact our Front Office on 6142 1176 and we will work with you to resolve any issues that may arise.

Warm Regards

Rob Emanuel



On their first day of school, Year 7 students Matthew and Abbey along with our school captains (Dan, Irene and Josh) host a visit from ACT Chief Minister Andrew Barr, Education Minister Yvette Berry and Education Director General Katy Haire (not pictured).

Music Notes



Welcome to the Band Program for 2020! This year promises to be an exciting and busy year for music and Lyneham High School, and we are really looking forward to the time ahead. All Band Program families should by now have received the term 1 band newsletter via email from their child's band teacher. This is an important communication tool and will be published at the start of each term. This is a link to the newsletter:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/16m6pskrCiyecFCsCmj06d7TcKqituwZh/view?usp=sharing>

Home instruments: The Google form for students requesting a second band instrument will be closed this Friday, 14 February 2020. This opportunity is ideal for students with larger instruments who would like to keep an instrument at home to use for practice. We offer these instruments free of charge to families who have already hired and paid for their band instrument. Unfortunately, there are a limited number of second instruments available, so it is vital to submit this form on time. The link to the second instrument hire form is:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfsEzDR68OSG-PSWhT5KTv5m92bcSIArQ2nE4fuy3idAZXpxw/viewform>

Google Classroom: Please help your child to be organised through their use of Google Classroom. Newsletters, classwork and other notes will be posted there, so it is a great source of information for them.

Band Uniforms: Students joining the band program will need to acquire the band uniform for performances and tours. The band uniform consists of black trousers, shoes and socks (no coloured stripes or logos) and blue band embroidered polo tops, hoodies and band caps. The polo top, hoodie and cap are available to purchase from the uniform shop, located near the canteen.

Band Administrative Support Officer: We welcome Heather Coulson in our newly developed admin position. Heather is an ex-student of the Lyneham High School Band Program and will complete her teaching degree this year. Heather will have many roles, including writing these newsletter articles, but her predominant role will be working with instruments. Should you or your child have any queries about band instruments then please contact Heather.



Visual and Performing Arts News

We would like to welcome our students who have commenced their Visual Art and Ceramic classes. The beginning of the semester is the start of many exciting opportunities and achievements, and it is also a time to ensure that good working practices are put into place. We would like to remind students to take some time to ensure that they have all the necessary equipment for both Visual Art and Ceramic classes. Although students will be supplied with various equipment and materials throughout the course, students are required to maintain their own supply of basic art materials in order to complete set classroom tasks

successfully. Aprons are provided in the classroom to protect clothing. All classes were issued letters to parents in Week 1 and students have been reminded that they need to ensure that all listed materials are ready to use in class by the beginning of Week 3. Parents are advised that Art Book Packs are currently available through the front office. Please do not hesitate to contact one of us on 6142 1169 or the front office on 6142 1176 if there are any concerns regarding this matter.

“Ensure that you provide a note or send an email to the school if your child is absent for any period of time”



School Uniform / Colour Code

A reminder to all parents and carers that students are required to wear correct school uniform or colour code to school every day. If there are issues regarding purchase of school uniform please make contact with your child's Home Group teacher or year team. The uniform order form can be found on [this page](#) of the school website.

Following feedback from students and parents last winter, we have purchased heavy duty LHS jackets. These jackets are waterproof, fleece lined, have a hood and lots of internal and external pockets. Adult sizes are available for \$80 and children sizes are \$60. They can be ordered through the front office now, ready for winter.

CYBER SAFETY

Term 1 at Lyneham High School this year will have a focus on cyber safety. This is a big issue for today's students who are so well connected online in so many different ways.

Major issues are:

- Cyber-bullying
- Online protection and privacy
- Sexting and nudity

Some brief tips for teens are:

Cyber bullying;

Report it to the platform: bullying is usually against policy.

Report it to the police: Ongoing bullying is illegal.

Block it: you can block people who are bullying or being unkind. You don't deserve it.

Call it out: If you are confident and safe, speak to the person and let them know their behaviour is bullying.

Online protection and privacy;

Passwords: Use high strength passwords and change them regularly. Do not give your passwords to anyone!

Strangers: Do not give strangers online your personal details such as address or date of birth. NEVER agree to meet someone you've met online without adult supervision.

Personal details: Never post your personal details online.

Sexting and nudity;

Illegal: Under Australian law, sexting involving a child under 18 years old is a criminal offence even when it's consensual, and even when the photographer is also a child. Even when you are sharing something someone else has sent you. Under the Crimes, Legislation Amendment Act (No.2) 2014, it can be seen as either child pornography or as an indecent act. Your child could face jail and be listed on the sexual offenders register.

Useful links:

[ESafety Commissioner website](#)

[Bullying No Way! Online Safety page](#)

[ThinkUKnow](#)

[Stay Smart Online](#)

[Australian Cybercrime Online Reporting Network](#)



DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

D&D club has been very strong at Lyneham High since 2018, with over 55 members, and at least 5 D&D games operating simultaneously. We welcome new members at any time of the year and can find a game group for you to fit into. All you need to do is visit Trevor and grab a permission note and you can have access to D&D club all year.

So when is it? After school from 3.05pm until 4.45pm in the Youth Worker's office. All students are welcome. Students play Dungeons and Dragons (D&D) but are also welcome to play other tabletop role playing games. The group is supervised by the Youth Worker at all times. Students are welcome to bring snacks. Students are required to sign in and out so there is a record of who attends, and when they leave.

What is D&D anyway? For those who are completely unfamiliar with D&D, it is a tabletop game that involves roleplaying, storytelling, and imagination. Studies have shown participation in D&D and other roleplaying games increase social skills, encourages teamwork and cooperation, and teaches problem solving skills. The stories told in the groups are very varied, one group from last year explored a jungle, one group escaped slavery from underground captors, and one was busy solving a seaside mystery. No materials are needed, however, it is easier for students if they have their own pencil, dice and players handbook. D&D products can be purchased at Games Capital in Civic, Jolt Games in Mitchell, and Zing stores (there's one in Belconnen mall.)

To read more about the benefits of role playing games follow this [link](#).

For more about what D&D is, follow this [link](#).

If you have any questions please contact phone 6142 1167 or email Trevor.Preston@ed.act.edu.au.

Psychologists

This summer season has been filled with challenges for many in our community. It is likely that many Lyneham High School students and their families have been touched in some way by the events of the last couple of months.

A number of resources to support students and parents when coping with the impact of traumatic events such as natural disasters have been added to Lenni, which can be found [here](#).

There are resources specific to both students and parents and these can be accessed by clicking on the following links:

[Students](#)

[Parents](#)

If your family has been affected by the recent bushfires, I encourage you to explore these and/or read the tip sheet attached to the newsletter. The Emerging Minds Community Tool kit is an excellent and comprehensive resource and can also be accessed [here](#).

Over the coming weeks, if you become worried about any changes in your child's behaviour or think they may benefit from extra support, please contact the relevant year co-ordinator who will be able to facilitate a referral to the school psychologist if appropriate.

There are also additional supports available within the broader community with increased mental health support available for people affected by the recent bushfires including changes to requirements for Medicare rebates. People affected by the bushfires can self-refer to an eligible allied health provider alleviating the need for a GP mental health treatment plan. More information about this can be accessed [here](#).

We can assist when accessing external supports for students as needed. We are here to support so please feel free to make contact.

Kind regards, Jo and Liz

Academic Competitions

The note for 2020 Academic Competitions is now available. Please refer to the [Notes Home](#) page of our website. Paper copies are also available from the front office and faculty staffrooms.

Liability for the Loss, Damage or Theft of Students' Personal Property at School

Parents and students are advised that Lyneham High School staff will take all reasonable steps to keep personal property safe. However, Lyneham High School does not provide insurance cover to automatically compensate for the loss, damage or theft of bicycles or any other personal property nor will they be legally liable for their loss.

Parents and students are advised:

- to avoid bringing valuable property to school,
- to take steps to insure all valuable items for loss, theft or damage,
- to use a good quality chain or bar lock to secure bicycles when left at school,
- that valuable items are brought to school at the personal risk of the owner and that schools decline any responsibility for the damage, loss or theft of students' personal property, and
- to report any suspicious activity to school staff.

Late to school

Please ensure your children are arriving at school for a prompt 8.53am start. Students who arrive after this time will be required to sign in at the front office and an email will be sent to parents at the end of the week asking for parents to provide a reason for this lateness.

Muslim Community

Lyneham High is proud to have many Muslim students as valued members of our multicultural school and we have several supports available for Muslim students.

Muslim Group: This group is run on Wednesdays at lunchtime in the Youth Worker's rooms (first corridor) and provides a social space and support when needed.

Prayer Room: A prayer room is available for Muslim students at lunch time with prayer mats provided (kindly donated by Canberra Islamic Centre). See Trevor in the Youth Worker's room if you wish to know more about accessing the prayer room. Washing facilities can also be arranged.

Halal sausages: At Athletics Carnival and Running Festival halal sausages are offered.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact our Youth Support Officer at trevor.preston@ed.act.edu.au, or for students, speak to Trevor in the Youth Worker's Office before or after school, recess or lunch.

Year 7 Parent/Carer Mini Timetable Evening Thursday 20 February

All parents/carers of **current** year 7 students are invited to attend an evening to meet the teachers of their child and learn about the subjects they will be experiencing.

Start times:

5.15pm: Parents of students in year 7 Concert Band, Beginner Band and Music (Line 1) in LPAC

5.30pm: All other parents in the Hall

Come along and experience a 'mini school day'. Parents/carers will visit each of their child's classrooms where teachers will talk about that subject. The evening will conclude at about 7.20pm.

This is your opportunity to meet with Lyneham High School staff and tour around the school, visiting the classrooms and specialist areas your child studies. This evening is not for seeking feedback on individual students. We encourage you to contact the school if you have any concerns.

Please bring your Lyneham High School year 7 student with you – they will be your guide for the evening.

Kudos For Our Cyclists

On the day of the swimming carnival, our school received a fantastic email from Pedal Power's (www.pedalpower.org.au) Advocacy Manager, Kate Mokrij. She congratulated our community for the vast numbers of our students who had cycled to the pool. She was delighted with a "wonderful example of what success looks like for Canberra cycling."

Her message went on to say "Well done to all the teachers and students who are making the most of our bike-friendly city."

She provided this great photo showing the vast numbers of bicycles (the detail won't be clear in this newsletter, but trust us, there are a LOT of bikes).



Disclaimer

Information provided by outside entities is not endorsed or recommended and is not guaranteed correct, by the school, its staff or the ACT Government