

Term 1 Volume 1 : 11th February 2021

# THE BUSH TELE

Longreach School of Distance Education  
Excellence in Education for Isolated Families

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## Welcome to 2021

Welcome to 2021! I would like to thank the school community for the warm welcome that I have received this year. I will be acting in this position for the remainder of 2021. A little about me ...

My teaching career has taken me from Sarina to Hughenden, down to Clermont and finally out west to Barcaldine. I have not only been a teacher, I have been a Learning Support teacher in Clermont for the Primary School and the High School. I received my first post as a principal at Jericho State School, where I learnt to truly love the west. I then experienced many principal roles as an Acting Principal in Thangool and Ambrose and then a permanent Principal at Depot Hill, Cawarral and Alpha.

I am looking forward to the challenges that distance education presents, but I am also looking forward to the wonderful western culture that is so clear within the school environment: care, courtesy and consideration.

We welcome new staff to our school: Ruth Charles (Year 2 and LRT), Julie Bailey-Pratt (Year 1), Sara Rees (Prep) and Simon Nelson (Secondary). We wish them all the best in settling into this new learning environment.

**Enrolments:** We started the year with 155 students, (90 families). We have 11 families very new to Distance Education (16 students) and another eight families (12 students) new to our school. We welcome you with open arms. I know that when you come to Home Tutor Workshop + Class Cluster Week (February 15th to February 19th) that you will meet each other and find connections with other families.

Thank you so much to those students and families who have sent through their pictures and replies to my request to get to know everyone.

Kind Regards

*Fiona Clein*



*Principal - Fiona Clein*

### What's new in this issue:

- \*Meet our new Principal
- \*Deputy Principal's Report
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  - \*Head Of Department Western Alliance Report
- \*Meet our New Teachers
- \*Getting to Know You
- \*First day of School 2021 photos
- \*School & Sports Captains
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# Rachelle Moore - Deputy Principal

Are you buckled in and holding on tight? The LSOE rollercoaster has left the station and is gaining momentum very quickly. On-air lessons and reading lessons are underway and it's been wonderful to hear the students interacting with each other and their teachers in exciting and engaging ways.

On-air lessons are very valuable for the teachers and students. They allow the teacher to see firsthand what their students can and cannot do. While we still ask that the Home Tutor of a Prep student is present for the entire lesson, to assist their student to navigate around a completely new web conferencing program and class structure, we ask that Home Tutors of all other year levels allow their students to be on-air independently with the teacher. The importance of a teacher interacting, assisting and teaching their students independently provides the teacher with honest feedback about their students' capabilities. This enables the teacher to provide accurate feedback to the Home Tutor about where they can assist at home and also enables the teacher to teach to their students' needs.

*"It is not what you do for your children,  
But what you have taught them to do for themselves  
That will make them successful human beings." (Ann Landers)*

*Rachelle Moore*



Next week, there will be wonderful opportunities for our teachers and students to get to know one another and foster their learning and form relationships at our 2021 Home Tutor Workshop and Class Clusters. We are all getting ready and looking forward to it; one of our biggest annual events on the school calendar.

Travel safe, see you next week,

Kind Regards *Rachelle*

## Dane McDonald - Head of Department

For those new to our school, my role is Head of Department P-10 for Teaching and Learning. I am responsible for supporting Teachers and Home Tutors with what to teach and how to teach it. I am very excited to be working with you all at our Home Tutor Workshop in Week 4. Part of our work together will be around Curriculum and the 'Know and Do' component of the teacher unit planning. We will be looking at how this information is useful to you in the home schoolroom and how the Australian Curriculum, teaching and learning and assessment all align.

This has been a big space for teachers over the past few weeks as they have completed their unit planning for Term 1. Teachers spend time unpacking the Assessment Tasks and units of work to ensure they are teaching and assessing all aspects of the year level/band achievement standard.

They make sure that Assessment Tasks give students the opportunity to achieve a C, B or A standard and they make sure they understand exactly what students need to be able to 'Know and Do' to be successful. Armed with this information, Teachers and Home Tutors can better understand how to support students.

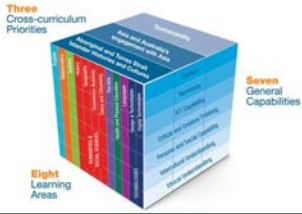
All learning and assessment are formed around the Australian Curriculum. Keeping you informed of changes to our curriculum and helping you understand its demands is important. This year, all Queensland Schools need to be delivering current Australian Curriculum in its entirety. We have worked hard to develop our paper materials over the past two years and will continue to do so this year in order to stay ahead of the units being provided to families each term. This has meant changes to papers and changes to how our digital resources and materials are housed. It has meant changes to what teachers are delivering online. In a nutshell, we need to ensure that we are delivering all eight Learning Areas while addressing the three Cross Curricular Priorities and seven General Capabilities. More specifically we must teach and assess the Achievement Standard for each Year Level or Band Plan. Content descriptions give teachers even more information about what is to be taught and what students are expected to learn.

The structure of the Australian Curriculum is explained well by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority at the following web address:

<https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/f-10-curriculum/structure/>

*Dane McDonald*





We are endeavouring to ensure that children in the bush get the same opportunities to learn and be successful as children all over the state. I look forward to working with you all throughout the course of the year.

Yours in education, *Peta*

## Peta Bates - Head of Department - WA

Hello to our students, Home Tutors and Govies, both new and returning. I am looking forward to 2021 and continuing the great work of our staff, students and families of the Western Alliance. As Head of Department, I work across our Secondary department that comprises of Longreach School of Distance Education, Charleville School of Distance Education and Mount Isa School of the Air. This year I will continue to work closely across the three schools to ensure that we continue our history of collegiality to ensure our secondary students receive an education that is second to none.

Our Western Alliance Calendar is looking very exciting this year. We have our Multischool 1 in the first week of Term 2, Camp to Rocky Caves in Week 5, Term 3 and Multischool 2 Week 2 of Term 4. At the end of last year, our students thoroughly enjoyed catching up at Multischool in Term 4 and I have no doubt that this year's events will also be well attended. Face to face events are always a highlight on our calendar.

As partners in your students' education and working together each and every day, I welcome calls at any time if you have questions. Please don't hesitate to pop in and see me, call on 4658 4249 or email [prbat0@eq.edu.au](mailto:prbat0@eq.edu.au)

Best wishes with on-air lessons next week and have a great 2021!  
Kind regards

*Peta*

*Peta Bates*



## New Staff

### Julie Bailey-Pratt - Year 1

I grew up on a dairy outside Gympie and love spending time with my family and friends. I also enjoy running, reading and bushwalking/mountain climbing. I have worked in Gympie for the last eight years on Years 1 and 2 and Maryborough/Tiaro for eight years prior to that.

I have also worked in Brisbane and directed two Child Care Centres. My Career expands over 20 years in education, in the lower school. I am so excited to be working at Longreach School of Distance Education. I have always had a desire to work out west and had a fascination with the School of Distance Education.

My son went to Longreach School Of Distance Education in Year 1 in 2009 and I was really impressed with how efficient it was at getting materials to us all around Australia. I also have family outside Longreach on a property at Neenah Park. I am looking forward to a rewarding year at LSOE and can't wait to explore Longreach and its surrounds.

### Sarah Rees - Year Prep

Hello! My name is Sarah Rees and I am the Prep A teacher at LSOE in 2021. My husband and I grew up in Dalby and have lived in Longreach for the last two years with our two children, Logan (Year 2) and Ada (Prep). Since becoming a teacher I have taught Kindy in Dalby, Prep at Dalby State School, a Prep - Year 6 class at Ilfracombe State School, and a variety of relief teaching positions in Longreach in 2020.

I am very much looking forward to teaching at LSOE this year and am already loving my time planning and organising alongside my teaching partner, Trudy Bruggemann, for the year ahead. I can't wait to officially meet the Preppies in my class for 2021 and I look forward to getting to know them and their families throughout the year.



*Julie Bailey-Pratt*



*Sarah Rees*

# Ruth Charles - Year 2 & LRT

*Ruth Charles*



I was born in Brisbane but moved to Townsville when I was three years of age. I completed all of my schooling and initial University training in Townsville, where my teaching career also began. Over the years, I have lived, studied further and taught in most states and territories of Australia, as well as overseas. Most recently, before relocating to LSOE, I worked in Perth, WA and on the Sunshine Coast.

I have three adult daughters, two of whom live and work overseas and one is at university in Perth. I am a grandmother of one little boy who I am yet to meet, thanks to our crazy COVID world. Being a cat lover, of course I had to bring my two beautiful rescue cat companions to live with me in Longreach. They have coped with the extreme change of climate surprisingly well ... with the help of plenty of air-conditioning!

My new life in outback Queensland, is proving to be very enjoyable and I have spent time exploring the region already - but I realise there is a great deal more to see and experience. Working with students in so many remote locations is interesting, exciting and an absolute privilege. This year, I am teaching Maths and the 'You can Do It' course to Year 2, along with relieving other LSOE teachers, across all year levels and subject areas, as the need arises. I am looking forward to meeting many of our school families as the year progresses and opportunities allow.

*Simon Nelson*



## Simon Nelson - Secondary

Hi, I am beginning my sixth year teaching, four of those with the Department, beforehand 10 years in the RTO world, three years in law, six weeks in accounting (didn't enjoy it all). Prior to that I ran my Construction, IT & Education business for seven years, previously - bank manager, hotel manager, sales person. Graduated in 1994, since then I have achieved three half degrees - Science (1/2), Commerce, Law, Education - obtained a Diploma in Law, Christian Ministry, and a Certificate IV in Business and Training and Assessment. Married with three children and pets. I love to scuba dive and snow ski, not much chance of doing any of that in Longreach though - LOL.

## Getting to Know You

Thank-you so much to those students and families who have sent through their pictures and replies to my request to get to know everyone. Keep your emails coming in, I have received 31 emails so far...lots to go. I love reading them!

*Fiona*

**Prep** - Spencer loves dinosaurs! Oliver is a fast runner! Bendeguz loves to snow ski! Olivia wants to see a talking unicorn! William loves catching insects and caterpillars!

**Year 1** - Jacinta wishes Dad had a bus! Jack loves Maths! Jayna loves arts and craft, swimming and being a princess! Lincoln (Boobola) wants to help the homeless!

**Year 2** - Andy loves his chihuahua Johnny! Harriet would like to be an artist! Eva loves to ride her motorbike!

**Year 3** - Hayley loves animals! Torah loves her baby goats! Quincy wants a fast, gold car one day! Sierra loves to dance!

**Year 4** - Tom will be a Lego Master builder one day! Hunter loves to ride his motorbike on his track!

**Year 5** - Travis is awesome at riding mini bulls! Amelia loves to dance! Murdoch wants to have a super cool car one day! Aiden loves his trampoline!

**Year 6** - Lincoln wants to own a sheep property one day! Lucy would like to be a professional ballerina!

**Year 8** - Breeanna loves her dog, Bondi! Faith wants to be a marine biologist! Lily-Rose loves netball! Jade loves looking for gems and stones!

**Year 9** - Dominic loves creating things around the place!

**Year 10** - Alicia wants to own her own dance studio one day!

## First Day of School 2021

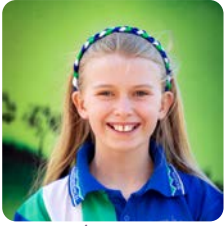


# School & Sports Captains 2021

Congratulations go out to our new School and Sports Captains: We wish you well this year as leaders in our school. I look forward to working with you to ensure that we have a student voice in all that we do at LSOE.

*Fiona*

## School Captains



*Lucy*



*Ruby*

## Coolibah Captains



*Loudy*



*Jaimee*

## Boree Captains



*Lincoln*



*Tyler*

## Secondary Captain



*Dom*

## Central West Swimming

Central West Swimming was amazing. I think it was great because my team was great, the carnival was great and the swimmers were great. My team swam their hardest and went for the blue ribbon, and some people got it. It was a blast! Jacy, from LSOE swim team, won 13 years girls age champion and swam her best.

I would like to thank all the teachers and parents who time kept, and brought their children to Winton so they could participate. It was amazing and everyone was included and had a great time. I hope we can do it again next year!



13 Years Girls  
Age Champion  
*Jacy*



Back Row: Lincoln, Loudy, Tyler,  
Jacy & Jackarra  
Front Row: Ruby, Georgie & Cooper

*Loudy*