It is hard to believe that we are nearly midway through Term 3 and that so much has happened during this time, with many deliberations and decisions having to be made, the major one being the cancellation of the much looked forward to ‘School Musical’. I must say that it has left many staff, students and parents rather emotionally deflated. This is where a very special young man comes into the picture. Mrs Moore received an email from this young man asking permission from her to write something to share with our school community. I have read what he has written and it has made me think that a person is never too old to learn. This young man taught and reminded me that no matter how bleak things seem, there is always a positive take on the situation. Thank you Jack Chalk. With this in mind, I would like to focus and highlight the positive things that have transpired in our school this year. Not only did we have a wonderful start to the year with most of Term 1 taking place; such as:

- Home Tutor Workshop and Class Cluster
- A wonderful Swimming Carnival
- Year 5&6 Camp to Tallebudgera
- Partners in Learning Workshop

Over and above that we have been well placed to continue delivering our on-air lessons, teaching and learning for our students when many schools were very distracted during the COVID-19 lockdown. This has meant that our students were well placed to complete units of work and assessments.

Further to that the following has also been worked towards:

- Version 8 alignment of the curriculum
- Version 8 alignment process for Independent Learning Materials (ILMs) is progressing. It is a very large undertaking and will take the best part of the year to complete the first stage. Currently LSODE is completing alignment to version 8 of the Australian Curriculum for Year 1 and Year 2 Maths, Year 1 English and Science. This process was started for Maths and English last year, though the process has evolved and many changes have been made in order to create better alignment to V8. Year 1 and 2 teachers are now doing final proofing of desktop published units for Maths, English and Science.

While this is occurring at LSODE, Charleville SDE is working on Year 3 and Year 4 Maths, English and Science and Mount Isa SDE is working on Year 5 and Year 6 Maths, English and Science. They are also completing the remaining English, History, Maths and Science units for Secondary.

It is important to note that all Prep materials are being aligned at Brisbane School of Distance Education and supported financially by the other SDEs. It is now confirmed that Capricornia SDE is creating V8 ILM materials for technology, the Arts and HPE.

- Pedagogical Framework Development
  Our Pedagogical Framework is still under redevelopment. We have been working to develop the supporting documentation and processes, which will form different branches of the framework. We have adopted our previous model and are developing the framework around the four pillars of LSODE with students at its centre (see next page of report).
  - Quality teachers
  - Quality instruction
  - Individualised learning
  - Strong partnerships between home and school

We are ensuring that through these pillars we develop a research-based model that addresses the State School Improvement Strategy 2020-2024.

Going forward the aim is to have this framework developed by the end of Term 3. As you can see, a very productive year to date and hopefully we can continue with a full field service delivery next term. I would like to end by thanking you all for your understanding and support of our school and staff during these difficult times. We will continue to be the flourishing flower we are as LSODE.
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

This term has seen the introduction of Collaborate Ultra. I must commend all teachers and students for your perseverance and dedication to accepting the challenges faced in adopting the new web conferencing platform. I have enjoyed walking through the teachers' lessons and seeing the highly effective ability to move between the webcams, document cameras and whiteboard screens. The document cameras have certainly been an extremely valuable addition to the lower school on-air lessons. They have allowed the teachers to see very clearly, first-hand exactly what the students are doing from pencil grip, to writing and manipulating.

To say I am bitterly disappointed the School Musical has been cancelled is an understatement. However, I want to thank the whole school community for their thoughts, ideas, discussions and most importantly understanding and support via email, text and online while making this tough decision. Fortunately, we have been able to continue with our Class Cluster and are really looking forward to seeing all your faces again soon.

Stay healthy and safe,

Kind regards, Rachelle

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
Rachelle Moore
Head of Department – Teaching and Learning

I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the progress of some aspects of teaching and learning which I addressed in the last Bush Telegraph. In particular, Independent Learning Material (ILM) updates, data tracking and student goals and continued literacy workshops this term.

Our third round of workshops with Heidi Begg from SPOT are fast approaching. In Week 5, Heidi will address handwriting with the lower school and ‘Supporting Spelling in Older Children’ with our upper school. Please feel free to attend either or both of these sessions. Our teaching staff will be looking at Supporting Oral Language, having already looked at Spelling Correction and Red Flags for Literacy Impairment and Intervention.

At the end of last term, I met with each Primary teacher and discussed A-E data and diagnostic data. Teachers used their judgement and student data to identify focus goals for each student in their class. These may have been identified for improvement or extension. Teachers also identified strategies for on- and off-air to support completion of these goals. Goals have been made available in each student section in OneNote and your teacher should have talked to you about them by now. If you have not had a conversation yet, please feel free to give your teacher a call to see what you can be doing at home to support your students more in these identified areas.

Recently, the Heads of Program from Longreach, Charleville and Mount Isa SDEs met in Brisbane to continue to develop and quality assure the ILMs for 2021. We are making progress and are confident we can have Maths, English, Science and HASS units completed by the end of the year. Brisbane SDE is on track to complete Prep, as is Capricornia SDE with Technologies, the Arts and HPE units. The aim is to have a paper product that is aligned to the current version of the Australian Curriculum.

We have now also started the arduous task of developing USBs that contain all digital resources for each year level. To say there have been hurdles along the way would be an understatement, but, we are making progress and hope to start printing, producing USBs and organising curriculum packs at the beginning of Term 4.

Until next time, Kind regards, Dane

The time has come! Next week sees Western Alliance’s first ever Virtual Camp! The RSVPs are coming in thick and fast, with some very excited students … and teachers. Our students will have the opportunity to put down the curriculum for two days to engage in some hands on fun activities with their peers and teachers. Students have been given lots of choices including Our Kitchen Rules (with Jaq and Shaz from 2015 MKR as guest judges), a recycled fashion challenge, physical challenges, cultural activities, COVID-19 time capsule, art, trivia, games and discussions with a dog trapper, to name a few.

This is an opportunity not to be missed. COVID may have taken our field services, but it won't stop us from getting together virtually and having fun, making memories. If you are yet to send your forms in, please send them to me ASAP.

On another note, the Head of Departments from Charleville, Mount Isa and Longreach met last week in Brisbane to work together on curriculum, creation of USBs and continue working on our Independent Learning Materials. I am very proud to be part of a team that collaborates well to ensure that we are able to provide a product that meets the needs of our students and families.

I look forward to seeing you all at our Virtual Camp next week. Keep an eye on your inboxes for more information.

Warm regards, Peta Bates
10-12 YEARS CENTRAL WEST NETBALL TRIALS

On Friday the 29th July, four fortunate LSODE students travelled out from their properties to Longreach to meet at the school and take off like a rocket on the bus to the netball courts. The 10-12 year olds - Loudy, Dakota, Catriona and myself - were ready to shoot hoops for the day. To kick off the morning, we started with netball skills, and before we knew it, it was finally time to play netball.

The games were great. It was fantastic fun. We had teamed up with some Barcaldine girls as we needed to extend the fearless four. We all had our positions and it was great to be out and about with some friends. After the games were finished, we all went over to the tents to sit down and have a break. The teachers came over to announce who were in the Probables and Possibles teams. The LSODE girls then played a fun game. The day was full of laughter and smiles all round. Thanks to the teachers and parents for making it possible!

By Jennifer

VISIT FROM MINISTER, DI FARMER

This week members of the Premiers Regional Community Forum toured our school. The forum is made up of business leaders, community and service organisations, political leaders and residents. The forum works on building strong and resilient regional economies and communities. Amongst our guests were Minister Di Farmer - Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Women and Minister for the prevention of domestic and family violence. Minister Farmer enjoyed the opportunity of interacting on-air with some of our students.