Dear School Community.

Thank you for your collaboration to make 2018 a productive year. Each time I write a highlights article, it is clear to see that we have an amazing school community to be proud of.

We have a number of staff members leaving us in 2019, some permanently and some temporarily. First, we have our Head Teacher John Levingston retiring. He has been a dedicated educator for a long time and we have been happy to have him positively influencing our Math faculty over the last couple of years. James McCue our Math Teacher who has been with us for 8 years, is moving permanently to the Blackwattle Bay Campus, we will miss his humour and creativity in the classroom.

Andy Calvert, will also be moving to the Blackwattle Bay Campus, into the English faculty. I want to thank Andy for his contributions to the broader school over the years, we will miss your efforts with Leichhardt TV.

I want to congratulate Caitlyn McIntosh on gaining a permanent position at Dapto High School as a Visual Arts Teacher and Ian Bright on gaining permanency at Condell Park High School as a Science Teacher. We also have Samuel Park (SLSO) who has moved into a permanent SLSO role at Canterbury Boys. The respective schools are lucky to have them.

Emily Sinclair, our Special Education teacher will be taking leave in 2019, as will Liane Ferreira our school administrations officer, we hope to see them back in 2020. Bryn Morgan (Math) and Christine Georges (HSIE) who have temporarily filled roles this year, will be continuing as casual teachers in 2019.

We also have the following staff leaving in a temporary capacity to our Blackwattle Bay Campus, Anna Letsios as a Careers Adviser and Lawrence Furlong as a PDHPE teacher, we hope to see them back in 2020!

Recently, we have had important events such as our Orientation Day which occurred on Tuesday December 4th, the event was used to officially welcome our Year 7 2019 students and parents. Thanks to all involved. We also had our Year 10 recognition ceremony on the evening of December 10th and the Years 7-9 recognition ceremony on Wednesday December 12th. I want to particularly thank Voula Georgelos for her organisation of these two events.

We also had our Year 7 Learning Fair which produced impressive products, well done. Our much loved Market Day and Talent Quest occurred last Friday. All the student performers were impressive and the staff act of ‘I want to break free’ by Queen was highly enjoyable and a great way to end the week.
All parents should already have an electronic copy of student’s reports through the parent portal. The last day of the term for students was December 19th and only a small number of staff will be at school on Thursday the 20th of December, due to completing extended professional learning evenings throughout the year. Therefore, we will not have any staff available to respond to requests from Friday the 20th of December onwards, they will be enjoying a well earned break.

Lastly, we welcome back Melinda Bright as our substantive Principal in 2019. Thanks for everyone support whilst I have had the honour of relieving as Principal.

Year 7 and 10 student’s return on Wednesday 30th of January 2019 and Year 8 and 9 return on Thursday 31st of January 2019.

Please ensure that you have a Merry Christmas and safe holiday break.

Vince O’Donnell (Relieving Principal)

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**Year 10 Fundraiser**

Congratulations to all the year 10 students involved last Thursday the 13 December who held a sausage sizzle and cake sale to raise funds to support Randwick Children’s Hospital. A total of $2,209.80 was raised. A great achievement. Special thanks to Ben Searle the Chief organiser.

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**10/10 for our students**

Please read the email below from a member of the public.

Hello,
It’s a little out of the blue but I wanted to drop a quick message to mention how lovely your students are. Every day my sister and I notice them giving up their seats for anyone and everyone on the light rail, when they notice members of the public without a seat. We’re very impressed and remember our school headmaster encouraging the same when we were at school.

It’s a lovely way to start a morning!
Kind regards

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**Support Class C - Life size Self Portraits.**
Performances galore, skills developed and new goals set for next year. Good luck year 10 elective music in stage 6.

Great work year 9 elective music setting the bar high for the incoming year 9.

The talent quest is over for another year uncovering more talent coming through than ever before.

The music department is buzzing with Karaoke stars stretching their vocal chords for the holidays......

Thank you to students and staff for their hard work throughout the year.

Mrs Salerno
Merry Christmas and happy holidays from the Staff at Sydney Secondary College Leichhardt.