In cooperation with ALWS, LEA is promoting the Nepal Appeal and sincerely thanks Jonathan Krause and ALWS for the following Appeal information. All Lutheran schools are strongly encouraged to support this Nepal Appeal.

The worst earthquake in Nepal in 80 years has left more than 4,000 people dead. Many more are injured, missing or homeless.

Your school can give emergency help straightaway through ALWS. Your help will be directed through our Lutheran (World Federation) team based in Kathmandu and the worst-hit areas. High priorities are likely to include food, clean water, clothes, blankets, shelter, medical supplies and psychosocial support.

ALWS has already committed $50,000 for emergency aid. Click here to read more about how ALWS will provide assistance. DONATE NOW

As you know, our Lutheran schools have a close connection with Nepal through ALWS. Just last year 14 teachers and chaplains from Lutheran schools visited Nepal on an ALWS Study Tour. A Student Study Tour to Nepal is scheduled for September this year.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the thousands of people suffering hurt and loss.

As the federal government prepares for the upcoming 2015 Federal Budget, LEA has written to the Hon Christopher Pyne MP (Minister for Education, Shadow Minister for Early Childhood and Federal Member for Adelaide), raising the following matters:

1. Sustainable indexation of school funding beyond 2017
2. Nationally consistent funding for all students
3. Funding for students with disability
4. NAPLAN online
5. Indigenous boarding school funding
6. Capital funding

LEA is also seeking meetings with Mr Pyne and Ms Ellis to discuss the matters mentioned. In this edition of LEA News is the content of the LEA letter in relation to Sustainable indexation of school funding beyond 2017:

Under the current funding model which has different state transition rates, there is inequity in the Commonwealth funds paid. LEA believes that schools with the same profile (including SES) should receive the same funding per student regardless of which state that school is located.

The next edition of LEA News will communicate to principals the additional matters in LEA correspondence (matters 2-5 as listed above)

During 2016 LEA will provide all Lutheran school principals with draft letters for your local federal members of parliament, encouraging each of you to meet with your federal member to discuss these matters.

LEA and LEVNT are pleased to present In the mix, the 2015 National conference for people involved in ministry in Lutheran schools. The LEVNT team in particular has been strongly focussed in putting together an excellent program in a very good venue.

All Lutheran school ministry personnel are encouraged to attend this 26-28 August 2015 conference in Melbourne. This conference follows on from previous National School Pastors and Chaplains Conferences which have occurred as follows:

National School Pastors / Chaplains 2011: Ipswich Qld 2011
National School Pastors / Chaplains 2007: Melbourne Vic Sep-07
National School Pastors / Chaplains 2005: Indooroopilly Qld Sep-05
National School Pastors / Chaplains 2002: Adelaide SA Apr-02
National School Pastors / Chaplains 1998: Toowoomba Qld Jan-98

This is a rare Professional Learning and Networking opportunity for school pastors, congregational based pastors who serve our schools, school chaplains and other ministry and pastoral care staff to attend a highly relevant PD event that will focus on contemporary spirituality and our ministry to young people and families in the complex world of the 21st century. We encourage all schools to plan to have at least one representative attend this conference. This year Christian Studies Leaders are invited to attend the conference

We are now inviting expressions of interest to lead elective sessions. Please contact conference coordinator, Christine Paech (Email: dcpaech@optusnet.com.au)
School surveys

In 2015 two issues of SchooLink will be published. The first issue is based on the theme Ministry in Lutheran schools in a multi faith society and the second issue will focus on pastoral care.

Both issues of SchooLink in 2015 will be distributed as follows:

- to the broader LCA membership as an insertion with the May edition of The Lutheran
- to Lutheran school and early childhood communities in sufficient quantities to ensure all staff (teaching and non-teaching) and all school families receive a copy.

Would principals please distribute SchooLink to your staff and your school families.

Principals Australia Institute

In the month of May PAI are running some excellent webinar events:

- A set of webinars providing training and support sessions for Leaders Personal Health and Wellbeing. For more information, registration and pricing visit http://www.pai.edu.au/What-we-offer/workON-webinars
- Face-to-face workshops are also available. Please visit: http://pai.edu.au/workON for more information about the workON kit and workshops.
- A free Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education webinar series featuring guest presenters from across Australia. For more information and registration details visit http://www.pai.edu.au/What-we-offer/Webinars

If you have any questions or would like more information on these or other products then please feel free to contact: Jason Loke (Email jason.loke@pai.edu.au; Web www.pai.edu.au)

Future Leaders Writing Prize 2015

The Future Leaders Writing Prize is designed to recognise and reward talented young writers. It aims to encourage expressive and creative writing. Year 11 and 12 students in Australian secondary schools are invited to submit a piece of writing (800 to 1,000 words). The writing can be fiction or non-fiction and on any topic.

PRIZE: In 2015, the award winner will receive $1,000. Where there is more than one winner the prize money will be shared. The winners of the Future Leaders Writing Prize will have their work published.

SUBMISSIONS: Please send all submissions electronically in a word document by 1 July 2015 to helen@futureleaders.com.au

Art and Soul
Author: Dr Flossie Pietsch

Well known Australian Lutheran artist, author and educator, Flossie Pietsch, has generously donated several copies of her book Art and Soul which has been donated to Lutheran schools. All Lutheran secondary and larger primary schools will have received a complimentary copy recently. Together with Flossie, Lutheran Education Australia hopes you will be able to use this book creatively to further explore and inspire Visual Arts in your school.

From the LEA Assistant Director: Leadership [Shane Paterson]

The fifth iteration of LDP commenced in Adelaide at the beginning of April, with a conference based around the first ACU unit ‘Perspectives of Leadership’. The conference which ran from Wednesday - Friday was preceded by a training workshop for mentors which was facilitated by Dr Philip Riley. There are 25 participants, from across the three regions, enrolled in this iteration. LDP is a two year journey which has units offered by ALC and ACU. Successful graduates receive a Post Graduate Certificate in Leadership and can gain leadership accreditation (Al) if all requirements set down by the church have been met.

School surveys

As you are aware data collection for Quality Schools will not occur until term 1, 2016. From discussions which have been held since this announcement, it appears that there are a number of schools who were relying on this tool to gather data for 2015. With this in mind negotiations have occurred with the Quality Schools provider PC RADII, to explore the possibility of supplying a survey for schools who had planned to gather data for this year. PC RADII have presented LEA with a survey format and pricing for any schools that may wish to use these services. Questions will be generated from the library of PC RADII. Schools will also have the option to include their own questions. Schools will receive the data from the survey within 24 hours after the close of the survey.

Please be aware that this is an interim measure for schools and is not reflective of the Quality Schools project which will be explained to all principals later in the year. Schools who wish to use this option will negotiate directly with Peter Cuttance of PC RADII and pay him accordingly. If you are interested in contracting the services of PC RADII could you please contact me shane.paterson@lutheran.edu.au / 08 8267 7318 and I will supply you with the information you need to take the next steps.
The three year cycle for VSC will be completed in 2015 with schools being required to provide a ‘refresher’ in 2016. The VSC course is currently under review and will include online ‘refresher’ training, an online component for Level 2 school training for new staff, as well as an online module for volunteers. The new materials will be partially rolled out mid 2015 and all modules will be available by end 2015 to facilitate training early in 2016. VSC trainers may be required to attend a session to introduce them to the new and revamped materials and delivery mode.

**EduTech**

I have two free tickets for the upcoming EduTech conference to give away. These can be used by any staff member who you would like to attend. Please contact me if you would like these (shane.paterson@lutheran.edu.au)

**In the Footsteps of Paul tour**

Details for this tour to be conducted in 2016 have now been finalised and information is available at www.missiontravel.com.au/lutheran2016. You will note that we are using the services of Mission Travel group who are based in Sydney. There are still places available on the tour if you are interested in participating. LEA has organised a tour chaplain who will provide spiritual nourishment as well as commentary on the sites and places visited. Local guides will also be supplied. If you are registering for this tour, booking forms need to be sent to Shane Paterson not Mission Travel group. Booking instructions are detailed on the Mission Travel website. Further information is available from Shane (shane.paterson@lutheran.edu.au)

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### From the LEA Assistant Director: Formation [Anne Dohnt]

**Christian Studies Curriculum Framework [CSCF]**

The Christian Studies Curriculum Framework (CSCF) has been revised and updated. This revision has merged the two previous booklets (Theological notes and Curriculum statements) into one book. Schools will be sent a number of the revised CSCF. The quantity each school will receive has been based on a calculation of the number of Christian Studies teachers in each school together with an allowance for the staff library. The CSCF books will be mailed to each school next week. To ensure that your Christian Studies teachers are using the latest version please recycle the old versions.

**Service learning study tour [1-2 June 2015]**

LEA will be offering a Service learning study tour in Melbourne with the support of the Edmund Rice Centre on the 1st and 2nd of June. The purpose of the study tour is to provide learning opportunities for school leaders and service learning champions in the area of service learning. The study tour will involve sessions with Damien Price of the Edmund Rice Centre, a street retreat conducted by the Edmund Rice Centre ‘Amberley’, a school visit and session with Neville Grieger considering biblical understandings of service. It is hoped that during the study tour school leaders and service learning champions will grow in their understanding of what service learning is and isn’t. Expressions of interest and further information about the study tour can be accessed by emailing Anne Dohnt (anne.dohnt@lutheran.edu.au).

**Christian Studies unit writing project**

Last year LEA seconded a group of twelve Christian Studies teachers from the LSA region to develop Christian Studies units of work. The unit writing process involved theological and pedagogical input and collaborative unit writing. These sessions have been captured with a series of videos and the Christian Studies units can be viewed in the Christian Studies section of the LEA eLibrary and displayed currently as ‘Our top picks’. The videos and units could be used by Christian Studies leaders to stimulate discussion and planning in Christian Studies. We are very thankful to the theological and pedagogical experts and Christian Studies teachers who made this project possible.

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### eLibrary

Have you had a look at the LEA eLibrary? The old LEAdr has been replaced with an eLibrary that provides resources for Christian Studies, worship, staff spirituality and ministry personnel. We have excellent educators in Lutheran schools and we look forward to sharing this expertise. If you have a resources such as a Christian Studies unit, worship or devotional resource, staff retreat plan or pastoral care approach or policy please email a copy to LEA (lea@lutheran.edu.au) so that it can be shared through the eLibrary.

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### From the LEA Business Manager [Stephen Kroker]

**Sick Leave Emergency Fund (SLEF)**

All 2014 claims have now been processed and notifications will be emailed to school Business Managers this week. If you do not receive a notification but believe there was a claim, please contact Stephen Kroker (stephen.kroker@lutheran.edu.au).
<table>
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<th>LEA federal news</th>
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<td><strong>International Student Survey 2014 Overview Report</strong> [20 April 2015]</td>
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<td>The Department of Education and Training has released the <em>International Student Survey 2014 Overview Report</em>, which includes important findings about international school students. The report is available on the department's website at <a href="https://internationaleducation.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx">https://internationaleducation.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx</a></td>
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<td><strong>ACNC announces streamlined financial reporting for non-government schools in 2014-15</strong> [April 2015]</td>
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<td>The Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) has today officially announced that non-government schools will not have to directly provide any financial information to the ACNC for the 2014 and 2015 reporting periods. The ACNC will instead extract the relevant data from Department of Education and Training Financial Questionnaires. ACNC Commissioner Susan Pascoe AM made the announcement at the Association of Independent Schools New South Wales (AISNSW) Governance Symposium and said this arrangement applies to the 2014 and 2015 reporting periods, but the ACNC intends to pursue longer term arrangements. <a href="https://www.acnc.gov.au/media-releases/2015/150409-streamlined-financial-reporting">Read the full media release</a></td>
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<td><strong>Myschool improvements better for parents and schools</strong> [22 March 2015]</td>
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<td>Minister for Education and Training, the Hon Christopher Pyne MP, has announced planned improvements to the My School website that will make it more user friendly for parents, giving them better access to timely and relevant information about schools. The Australian Government has today released the Review of the My School website and the Australian Government's response to the review Making My School better. &quot;The Australian Government is committed to My School as a valuable resource for schools and parents,&quot; Mr Pyne said. <a href="https://www.education.gov.au/myschool/announcements">Read the full media release</a></td>
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<td><strong>AHISA welcomes the appointment of Australia's first Children's e-Safety Commissioner</strong> [20 March 2015]</td>
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<td>The Association of Heads of Independent Schools of Australia (AHISA) has welcomed the appointment of Mr Alastair MacGibbon as Children’s e-Safety Commissioner. AHISA’s National Chair, Mr Phillip Heath, said the depth and breadth of Mr MacGibbon’s experience in online safety and security meant that the Office of the Children’s e-Safety Commissioner would commence its work with the full confidence of the public, the industry and those closely concerned with educating children about good digital citizenship. “Schools are the most important point of delivery of online safety programs to children,” said Mr Heath, who is Head of Barker College, NSW. “We look forward to working with the Commissioner to help young Australians avoid risky online behaviours and to minimise any damage if mistakes occur.” <a href="https://www.ahisaustralia.edu.au/media">Read the full media release</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ACARA Update Extra</strong> [April 2015]</td>
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<td><a href="https://acara.edu.au/timelines">Read the full eNews</a></td>
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