

13 July, 2007

Principal's Message

Welcome to Term three which promises to be an extremely busy one for staff, students and parents. A significant number of our Year 12 students will travel to Brisbane next Thursday and Friday to obtain greater insight into tertiary education, the Rock Eisteddfod performance in Brisbane is in week three, our award winning Year 11 Australian Business Week program is gearing up for the last week of this term and the very important Subject Selection Expo Evening, for students and parents, is scheduled for late August.

In spite of all this it is the priority of all teaching staff, at Isis High, to work tirelessly to ensure enhanced learning outcomes for all of our students. Our continuing success in achieving quality student learning outcomes is being achieved through the dedication of our teachers and their willingness to continually upgrade their skills and knowledge.



Teacher-librarian and 'ICT Mentor' Trish Heap assists English teacher, James Hamlyn and Art teacher, Liz Clout refine their computer skills

Last Monday Isis High teachers were involved in professional development which focused on enhancing their computer skills. All our teachers are committed to achieving a new qualification called the ICT Certificate which they will work on, in their own time, throughout the remainder of 2007. One of the key benefits of using information and communications technology (ICT) in teaching and learning is its ability to put students in the driver's seat, thereby providing students with the opportunity to continue their learning outside the timetabled lessons. The enhanced computer skills and knowledge of our teachers will support students to achieve this goal.

As you would be aware the school's facilities have been greatly enhanced over recent years with major refurbishment to classrooms, workshops, computer laboratories, gym, grounds, shade and leisure areas, improvements in technology infrastructure, external painting and replacement of asbestos roofs. Most of this has been made possible due to the support of the local community, the writing of successful applications to attract government monies as well as special projects grants. In excess of \$1,000,000 has been spent to enhance the safe learning environment for our students, staff and visitors who use the school's facilities. To add to this success a new partnership with the Isis Shire Council will result in the upgrade of the school's oval. The long term goal is for the provision of a sustainable sprinkler system, lighting and enhanced seating and this enhanced sporting facility will be good for our students and for the community at large. Our sincere thanks to Mayor Bill Trevor and council for this latest initiative.

As you may be aware NAIDOC Week was held this week throughout Australia celebrating the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) people. I would like to acknowledge the work of the school's Liaison Officer, Mrs Nancy Cook, for her ongoing support of ATSI students in this school and for her tireless efforts to bring youth support programs to this community.

Kind Regards,

Trevor French – Principal

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

18 Jul	Year 12 Biology – USQ Hervey Bay
19 Jul	Year 12 Tertiary Trip
20 Jul	Semester One reports issued
23 Jul	Nu Path Hospitality Training
23 Jul	Rock Eisteddfod Community Performance
26 Jul	Rock Eisteddfod – Brisbane
31 Jul	Parent-Teacher Interview Evening
10 Aug	School Track & Field Carnival

Come along to the
COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE of the
2007 Rock Eisteddfod Challenge entry

Dreams on a journey

Venue: Childers Community Stadium

Date: Monday 23 July

Time: 6:00pm

Cost: Gold coin donation to support students

supported by performances from
Childers (Wakakirri) and Booyal State Schools

A Sausage Sizzle will operate outside the
Stadium from 5:00pm to 6:00pm.

Please note the date change from the last Newsletter

Student Reporting

Student Semester Reports are now being compiled by staff to report on student progress. Due to Federal Government funding requirements, Education Queensland has directed all state schools that they must report in a consistent manner throughout Queensland.

For Isis High, the changes will be minimal. Instead of reporting student achievement in subjects on a 5-point scale from Very High Achievement (VHA) to Very Limited Achievement (VLA), they will be reported on a 5-point scale from A (VHA) to E (VLA). In addition, teachers will report on student effort and behaviour in classes, again on a 5-point A to E scale.

Student Semester reports provide valuable information for students and parents about performance and achievement through the previous semester. The addition of "Behaviour" and "Effort" codes should greatly enhance the value of this information. Finally, the significance of teacher comments is critical as it provides greater detail on what the student has achieved and how performance might be improved.

At the same time, as reports are distributed, students will receive information on booking appointments for the Parent-Teacher Interview Evening (31 July).

Students who are contemplating a change of subject need to initiate this as soon as possible by collecting a blue Subject Change Form from one of the Deputy Principals. Subject changes will only be completed where there are genuine reasons for doing so.

Finally, students in Year 11 can expect to have their Senior Education and Training Plans monitored to ensure they are making satisfactory progress on their senior learning options, particularly if it is the achievement of a Queensland Certificate of Education.

Any questions or comments on the above information may be directed to me on 4192 1222.

Allan Cook – Deputy Principal

schools + parents magazine

The first issue of *schools + parents* magazine for 2007 has been provided to all students this afternoon with the Newsletter. This magazine is produced by the Queensland Government and features stories in direct response to feedback from parents. It includes articles on topics ranging from the new reporting system for students (discussed earlier in this Newsletter) to the influence of ICTs (computer resources) on student learning.

The magazine contains informative and factual information about education in Queensland and ways parents can help their children benefit most from their school years. For further information on any of the articles please contact me at the school on 4192 1222.

Allan Cook – Deputy Principal

Strong Science Achievement Continues

Isis High students maintained their strong involvement in a recent international science competition conducted by the University of New South Wales International Competitions and Assessments for Schools.

The competition is conducted by the University of New South Wales across Australia and in 12 other countries and over 1.5 million students worldwide compete. There were seventy-five students from Isis High participating and they achieved

significant results with 21 students being in the top 10 percent of the state for their respective year level.

Special congratulations to Year 10 student Tamara who was the highest achieving Isis High student being placed in the top 1% of Queensland Year 10 students in this competition and so earning a **High Distinction** for her efforts.



Acting Head of Science Department, Mr Davey congratulates Tamara (Yr 10) placed in the top 1% of Queensland students in the International Science Competition. Others placed in the top 5% (l-r) include Jessica, Shamon, Kurtis, [Name removed#], Lachlan, Hannah and Storme.

Certificates of Distinction were achieved by:

Year 12: Allan and Danny

Year 11: [Name removed#], Brendan Maryanne, Murphy, Lachlan, Kurtis, Stephanie and Elliot.

Year 10: Jessica, Storme, Cain and Hannah

Year 9: Bradley

Year 8: Terrence, Adrian, Shannon, Christopher, Tom

Certificates of Credit were achieved by:

Year 12: Amy, Harry and Mikaela

Year 11: Maria, Cameron, Caitlin, Ashley

Year 10: Luke, [Name removed#]

Year 9: Danielle, Sandra, [Name removed#], Stefanie, [Name removed#]

Year 8: Sarah, Tahni, Cecily

Congratulations to all students who participated. You should be proud of your achievement.

Andy Davey – Head of Science (Acting)

Year 10 and 12 – Semester Two

With the beginning of Semester Two, Year 10 and 12 students have commenced an extremely important semester of their schooling.

Year 10 students enter the final semester prior to commencing senior schooling or employment. The effort and subsequent achievement of students this semester will largely determine final Levels of Achievement that will appear on their Year 10 Certificates received at the end of the year. As such, students should be focussed on engaging in class work, completing set work and cooperating with teachers so as to maximise their final results. In addition, Year 10 students will this term commence a process of exploring possible career options in a unit of work in Studies of Society and Environment. This will be complemented by a process that informs students of their options (eg. subject choices) for senior study. The School would expect all Year 10 students to continue into Year 11, unless they have definite employment or are commencing alternative education. Major information sessions will be conducted for parents of Year 10 students later this term.

Year 12 students have similarly commenced their last semester of secondary education. This is a most significant achievement and will no doubt be celebrated with gusto at the end of the year. Prior to that, however, there is much

important work to be completed. While there is sometimes a trend for Year 12 students to become 'distracted' by other events at this time of the year, it is most important for their final achievement levels that they remain focussed on their school work. The other significant events for Year 12 students include the Queensland Core Skills test (5 and 6 September) and the process of application for tertiary study (QTAC) which includes university and TAFE study.

It is a mandatory requirement of Education Queensland (Year 10) and the Queensland Studies Authority (Year 12) that students are present at school up to and including the last day of their course to be eligible to receive a Year 10 or Senior (Year 12) Certificate. Those dates are:

- **Year 12 – Friday 16 November 2007**
- **Year 10 – Friday 30 November 2007**

Please contact me should there be any query in relation to this information.

Allan Cook – Deputy Principal

Basketball Success

A number of our students have enjoyed basketball success at recent Wide Bay Selection Trials. The '[Name removed#]' boys' are becoming well-known for the quality of their basketball skills that it has seen all three selected for Wide Bay teams. Older brother [Name removed#] (Yr 11) has been selected for the Wide Bay Open Boys team, while twins [Name removed#] (Yr 9) were both selected for the Wide Bay Under 14 team.

Not to be out done by the boys, Kristen (Yr11) made the Open Girls Wide Bay team with a great performance at the trials.

These students now move to the next level of competition



Wide Bay Basketball representatives [Name removed#], Kristen, [Names removed#].

with [Name removed#] and Kristen competing in the State trials in Cairns from Wednesday and [Names removed#] in Brisbane in August.

Kristen, [Names removed#] are congratulated on their performances so far and we wish them the best at their forthcoming trials.

Allan Cook – Deputy Principal

Velocity

Students were given the opportunity to motivate themselves, for their Term three studies, on Wednesday with a presentation from the Motivational Media organisation. The presentation encouraged students to take responsibility for the direction in their life by making thoughtful decisions and sensible choices, by showing commitment and persistence in their work and studies, by having strong, positive peer relationships and continually working towards short and long term goals.



Students view the Velocity presentation

Allan Cook – Deputy Principal

ISIS DISTRICT STATE HIGH SCHOOL EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Teacher Aide

Expression of interest exists for two temporary positions:

- **Teacher Aide (Special Needs Area) 10 hours per week, Tuesdays and Wednesdays**
- **Teacher Aide (School Area) 10 hours per week, Tuesdays and Thursdays**

Suitable applicants will be recorded for consideration for future relief positions.

These positions are subject to school funding and continuity of positions is not guaranteed. Enquiries can be made at the school office or by contacting the Registrar on 07 41 921222.

Applications will remain current for 12 months. Application packages are available at the office of Isis District State High School.

Applications close 4.00 pm 27 July 2007.

ROCK EISTEDDFOD TICKETS

Tickets went on sale 11/07/07 and are available through
Ticketek (Phone 132849)

**Brisbane Entertainment Centre
Thursday 26 July**

from 7:00pm Cost : \$28.25

FOOD AND BEHAVIOUR

The simplified Elimination Diet Free

A workshop for families and children living with ASD, ADHD and ODD, will be held on Thursday 19 July at 10:00 til 12:00 at the Isis Childcare and Family Support Service 14 Hinkler St Childers. For bookings call Rechelle 4126 2464.

EXPO TO KICK-START STUDENTS' ICT CAREERS

Years 9 and 10 students who are interested in information and communications technology (ICT) are invited to attend ICT: Start here, go anywhere, a free ICT careers expo.

Training providers and industry organisations will be on hand so students can learn more about ICT career pathways.

While the event will be held at the Gold Coast Convention Centre, it will be video streamed live through the internet so students from all areas of Queensland can participate.

To find out more and to register, log onto:

www.learningplace.com.au/ea/licsunshinecoast/starthere