

15 June, 2007

Principal's Message

The end of Semester One is already upon us and this signals a time for reflection. Already this year, there have been so many wonderful activities, events and achievements in the academic, cultural and sporting areas. While the list is impressive and far too long to detail in my message, the most recent outstanding performances were celebrated today when students received their merit level certificates. The Year Coordinators read out the names of the recipients and I took pleasure in presenting certificates to 162 Year 8 to 12 students. These students have been rewarded for their conduct, hard work and willingness to participate in the life of the school.

Staff members and parents joined in the celebrations and this always helps to develop the teacher, student, parent relationships that form critical partnerships in successfully educating our youth. The reasons for these successes are many including: hardworking and creative teachers, supportive parents, community support and engagement and students who set themselves goals and are prepared to work hard to achieve them. These young achievers are tomorrow's successful adults.

The focus of our school is on each student achieving their best, in particular, in the academic area. I often feel students are reluctant to acknowledge their own academic success for fear of comments from others. The only way to turn this around is to continue to publicly acknowledge and celebrate the outstanding achievements of our academic students. The merit process is helping to achieve this at Isis District State High School.

Once again, I commend all students who received a merit certificate for their Semester One effort and I challenge all students, some who have perhaps just missed out this time, to make it a personal goal to achieve a merit certificate in Semester Two.

About two weeks ago the Student Council held its Term Two dance at the Childers Cultural Centre. Sometimes it is easy to overlook the planning and hard work that ensures a well supervised, well run and enjoyable evening for our students. These dances are organised by the Social Committee which is comprised of senior leaders with the support of a staff member. The dance was another great success thanks to Year 12 students - Bree, Breanna, Tammy, Lauren, Tannika, Nicole, Talisa, Tiffany, Teagan, Robyn, Samantha, Bradley and Year 10 student Luke.



Today we also celebrated 'School Cleaners Day' with a morning tea in the school's common room. It was good to see cleaners from other Isis Cluster schools join with our cleaning staff. The work of our cleaners is of critical importance as they play a significant role in ensuring a healthy learning and work environment for all our students, staff and members of the community who use our schools' facilities. I would particularly like to acknowledge the work of the Isis District State High School cleaning team whose work is always of a high standard.

As this is the last newsletter for Term Two, I would like to take this opportunity to wish the whole school community a safe, relaxing and enjoyable winter vacation.

Kind Regards,

Trevor French – Principal

Vacation Arrangements and Semester Reports

The two week winter vacation commences next Friday 22 June. Despite what some students may say, teachers will be completing productive work up until that day. Consequently, there is an expectation that students will attend school until the Friday. Parents' support with this is appreciated.

The first Monday of next term, 9 July is a Student-Free Day, when staff only report to school. Teachers will be involved in meetings throughout the day that will see them working on a number of educational initiatives to support students.

The first day of Term Three for students will be Tuesday 10 July when all students should be in attendance at school.

With the nearing completion of student assessment for Semester One, teachers are progressively compiling data for completion of student reports.

It is anticipated that Semester Reports will be issued to students at the end of the second week of school next term on Friday 20 July.

Allan Cook – Deputy Principal

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

18 Jun	Work Experience Week (Year 11)
22 Jun	Last Day of Term Two
09 Jul	Student Free Day
10 Jul	P&C Meeting 7:15pm
11 Jul	Motivational Media – <i>VELOCITY</i>
13 Jul	Newsletter
16 Jul	Rock Eisteddfod Community Presentation
19 Jul	Year 12 Tertiary Trip
20 Jul	Semester One reports issued
23 Jul	Nu Path Hospitality Training
26 Jul	Rock Eisteddfod - Brisbane

Merit Certificates

Today our school acknowledged the efforts of those students who have consistently demonstrated a very good approach to school during Semester One. Merit Certificates were presented to those students at a special Morning Tea with staff. These students have contributed to their own learning and promoted the good image of the school through their committed work ethic and cooperative behaviour and deserve the congratulations of our school community. Well done!

Year 12

Bradley, Jayden, Breanna, Jenna, Tammy, Amanda, Louise, Allan, Caitlin, Stacey, Jessica, [Name removed#], Teagan, Harry, Amy, [Name removed#], Carla, Klarissa, Alicia, Natasha, Mikaela, Tiffany, Nicole, Andrea, Danny, Dylan, Alex.

Year 11

Kristian, Sheree, Luke, Myles, Maria, Cameron, Christopher, Marnie, Mark, Joel, Kristen, Emma-Jane, Tess, Ashleigh, Jemma, Kiara, Angela, Brendan, Mellissa, Caitlin, Laura, Lisa, Lucinda, Maryanne, Murphy, Lachlan, Jessica, Kurtis, Hayley, Jessica, Dannielle, Ashley, Stephanie, Holly, [Name removed#], Chad, Elliot.



Deputy Principal (Year 8), Mr Kinna congratulates Year 8 Merit Award recipient, Mark with Year 8 Coordinator, Mr Davey. Other Merit Award students include (l-r), Sarah, Shannon, Terrence and Tom

Year 10

Louise, Jessica, Tamara, Jessica, Tegan, Ashlee, Kate, Natasha, Storme, Cain, Nicole, Jenny, Renae, Luke, Peter, Daniel, Jason, Hannah, Joseph, Brodie, [Name removed#], Jessica, [Name removed#], Alicia, Krystal.

Year 9

Rose-Mary, [Name removed#], Liam, Breanna, Danielle, Bradley, Jayden, Peta, Olivia, Abraham, Lisa, Sandra, Morgan, [Name removed#], Leea, Jason, Sheena, Sarah, Bradley, Carissa, Korey, [Name removed#], Cara, Rachael, Rebecca, Leon, [Name removed#], Alisha, Katelyn, Natalie, Sarah, Amelia, Chloe, Luke, [Name removed#], Benjamin.

Year 8

Terrence, Tiffany, Emma, Travis, Tiffany, Tiffany, Hannah, Kody Dale, Michael, Danielle, Mark, Sarah, Ashleigh, Reilly, Jedd, Tahni, Adelle, Jaak, Rachael, Kellie, Aaron, Cecily, Shannon, Jessica, Janet, Jenna, Tayla-Jane, [Name removed#], Melissa, Emily, Stephen, Bonnie, Tom, Kate, Tessie, Annie, [Name removed#].

This constitutes some 162 students; a magnificent effort for students of this school. A further round of Merit Certificate nominations will be completed during Semester Two and students are encouraged to show themselves worthy of merit through their approach to school.

Allan Cook – Deputy Principal

Rock Eisteddfod – Dreams on a Journey

Isis High has a wonderful reputation for an engagement with the Rock Eisteddfod Challenge program and this year is no different. As many would be aware we will be participating in the Rock Eisteddfod Challenge this year. It is an exciting event which extends our students' talents and gives them an insight into effective team skills, commitment and the fun, thrill and enjoyment of working toward a common goal.

The theme for this year is *Dreams on a Journey*. Life is a journey. It is a time to find oneself. A time where we can all look to the future and dream. Many of us find that the struggles that lie ahead cannot be defeated alone. It is through trusting others that we gain the strength to succeed. Along this journey we may stumble or fall, but one day, we will soar.

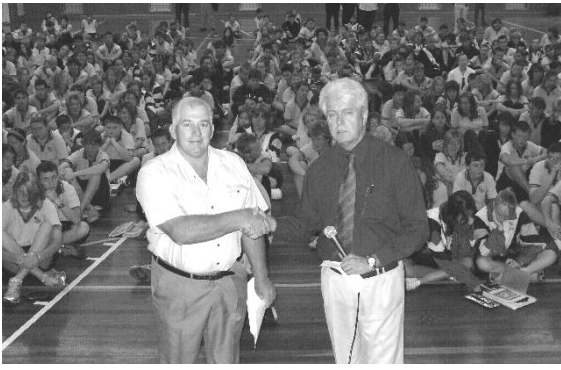
Currently the choreography is complete and students are working hard and polishing their performance. Mr Clearwater and his team are working on completing the sets and the props for the Community Performance and Ms Clout, Mrs Smilas and the Costume Committee are currently designing, sewing and ordering the costumes. Various fundraising initiatives have taken place under the leadership of Mrs Fennell such as the movie night and the trip to Bundaberg to watch the movie *Shrek the Third*.



Some of the cast from the Rock Eisteddfod take a well-earned break at one of the many rehearsals of the last few months

On Monday 16 July we will be hosting a **Community Performance** at the stadium to showcase our Rock Eisteddfod Performance, as well as other items from the school. The evening will be complemented by acts from Childers State School, Booyal State School and others. The evening will be hosted by our English Head of Department, Mr Jones and Mr McCook will be organising a sausage sizzle for everyone's enjoyment. A 'gold coin' donation to assist the large amount of funding required to support our entry would be appreciated.

The participation in the Rock Eisteddfod Challenge by the school, its students, parents and staff is a major undertaking by any school community. The huge amount of resources the project demands is 'accounted' for by the wonderful experiences and learning for our students. The community, as always, is generous in its support of the school. As recently as last week, we were privileged to have the President of the Childers Rotary Club attend our school assembly to present a cheque for \$1000 to the school Principal Mr French to support the Rock Eisteddfod Challenge entry. In response, Mr French presented Mr Anderson and the Club a Certificate of Appreciation to thank them for their wonderful gesture of support, to a strong round of acclamation from students.



Mr French thanks Mr Anderson from the Childers Rotary Club for their generous support

It is imperative that students maintain full attendance at rehearsals at this stage of the production. Thank you for your support. We appreciate the time you allow your child to attend rehearsals. If you have any questions about tickets or any matter relating to the Rock Eisteddfod please call me at the school on 4192 1222.

Michele Kirkland – Production Coordinator

Work Experience

Year 11 students will be participating in work experience in the last week of term (18 to 22 June) in many varied industries and locations. While many young people are now involved in casual work outside of school, work experience offers valuable experience in workplaces that are unfamiliar to the student. As such, this school community activity makes a significant contribution in preparing our young people for their future. The school is indebted to the cooperation of local employers and those further afield who provide such support to the students at Isis District State High School. Some interesting statistics show the extent of the exercise.

Students placed: 67

Placement locations: Childers, Biggenden, Howard, Maryborough, Hervey Bay, Bundaberg, Thangool, Emu Park and Brisbane

Some work types placed: Journalist, Hardware Assistant, Teacher Aide, Mechanic, Hairdresser, Veterinarian, Child Care Assistant, Teacher, Draftsman, Sales Assistant, Hospitality Industry/Chef, Administration Assistant, Carpenter, Legal Assistant, Fitter & Turner, Computer Technician, Scientist, Aged Care Worker, Physiotherapist, Television Reporter and many more.

This activity requires considerable organisation prior to, during and after work placement. The excellent work of Teacher Aide, Mrs Chris Cook, often beyond the call of duty, together with Ms Nimmo, must be acknowledged. Work experience does much to support the education of our young people as well as to promote the reputation of students from our school amongst employers and the community. During Semester Two, students will receive feedback sheets from their 'employers' as well as a Certificate of Participation, which would be suitable for inclusion in a portfolio. Employers will also receive a Certificate as well as a letter of thanks from the school. Best wishes to the Year 11 students for a successful week of learning! Work experience is also available for any student over the age of 14 and can be organised by the school to occur during the school vacation.

Allan Cook – Deputy Principal

Student Motivation - VELOCITY

Isis High recognizes the importance of student motivation as being an important contributing factor towards student success. Motivational Media is an organisation that produces and presents spectacular audio-visual displays that contain powerful messages to motivate young people towards

Names and images removed to comply with Information Privacy Legislation

pursuing their dreams in a healthy, responsible manner. In the past, students have found the presentation very appealing and enjoyable due to the stunning array of video clips on a three screen arrangement and accompanied by popular music.

The 2007 presentation is **VELOCITY**. Life can sometimes be a continual rush to get things done and about movement and action. This can become a problem if individuals are overtaken by the speed of all that is going on around them. At times, we must take the initiative and work of pathways for ourselves and not simply follow the pace of life. *Velocity* works on encouraging young people to realize they also have the power to become a force to initiate change for themselves in a constructive way and to reach their full potential.

This presentation will be screened at the Stadium for students during a school lesson on Wednesday 11 July. All students are able to attend and are asked to make a contribution of \$2.00 towards the cost of the screening. Students will complete some preparatory and follow-up material of the presentation, as well as an evaluation. Hopefully, this school activity will help to motivate and inspire students to achieve at their highest possible capacity.

Allan Cook – Deputy Principal

Annie Get Your Gun



The Childers Choral Society recently presented a very successful production to the Childers district community in *Annie Get Your Gun*. It is a credit to the Society that such a large scale production can be undertaken and carried through with such success, so contributing to the vibrancy of our community. A

number of students from Isis District State High School were involved in supporting various aspects of the production including:-

- Orchestra - Bradley, Jack, Rebecca, Danielle, Shannon, Caitlin and Danny
- Cast – Carla (as Dolly) (pictured above)
- Chorus and dance assistance – *[Name removed#]*
- Lighting – Aaron

The school was also pleased to support the efforts of the Society by the loan of sets and lights to assist in curtailing costs. The efforts of Isis High LOTE teacher, Catherine Horner as Secretary of the Society must also be acknowledged. Congratulations to students for their involvement and to the Society for their outstanding efforts.

Allan Cook – Deputy Principal

APPLE TREE CREEK MEMORIAL HALL DANCE Saturday June 16 at 8:00pm

All proceeds from ATC Memorial Hall go towards the restoration and up keep of this local landmark. Come along, dance till late, enjoy a great supper and support this hard working committee. Enquiries 4126 1224.