

18 July, 2008

Principal's Message

Welcome to Term 3 which promises to be an extremely busy one for staff, students and parents. A significant number of our Year 12 students have travelled to Brisbane this week to obtain a greater insight into Tertiary Education, the school's Theatre Restaurant is in week three, our award winning Year 11 Australian Business Week program is in full preparation and is scheduled for the last week of this term and the very important annual 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, knowledge and curriculum programs. Last Monday, Isis High teachers were involved in professional development which focused on the Queensland Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting (QCAR) Framework which outlines the 'Essential Learnings' that students need to be able to function effectively in our contemporary society. Throughout the remainder of 2008 teachers will continue to review their current curriculum plans and add any 'Essential Learnings' that are missing and just as importantly remove 'Learnings' that are no longer relevant and take time away from mastering those that are considered to be of more importance. From 2009, these new programs will be implemented across all the subject areas in Years 8 and 9.

In the last week of Term 2, all Year 11 students had the opportunity to participate in a work experience program which once again proved to be extremely successful. One of our students, Matilda, completed her work experience at the *Isis Town and Country* and was given the responsibility for tracking down some of her peers and taking photographs of them engaged in on-the-job work experience. I hope that parents had the opportunity to view Page 18 in the Thursday 3 July edition of the *Isis Town and Country*. Matilda's photographs which were used in the Work Experience article are an excellent example of a real life learning experience offered to all Year 11 students enrolled at Isis High.

Finally, I would like to welcome teaching staff who have been appointed to Isis High for Semester 2, 2008. Meredith Murray will be teaching in the Home Economics area and Rebecca Nicol will be teaching Studies of Society and Environment (SOSE). I also extend a warm welcome to families new to our school in Semester 2.

Kind Regards,

Trevor French – Principal

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

21 Jul	SmartSkill Training (21-25)	05 Aug	Parent Teacher Interviews
24 Jul	CUQ Liaison Visit (Yr 11/12)	06 Aug	School Social
25 Jul	Semester Reports issued	07 Aug	School Track/Field Carnival
01 Aug	School Newsletter	08 Aug	School Track/Field Carnival



Theatre Restaurant tickets for

The Fearsome Pirate Frank

1 & 2 August

Variety acts, Dinner, Licensed bar, Great entertainment
Bookings at the School Office (4192 1222) - \$25

Theatre Restaurant

Our school would like to invite the Isis community to attend the exciting *'The Fearsome Pirate Frank'* Theatre Restaurant. Staff, students and community members have been working tirelessly to provide two nights of entertainment and gastronomic delights. Entertainment from the school production will include the string quartet, dancing groups, a treasure hunt and lucky door prizes. An audience costume contest will add to what will be a great night of entertainment and fun. Your interest in and support for our students, who are excited by the opportunity to showcase their talents to the local community, will be much appreciated and valued. We look forward to seeing you on one of the evenings and are confident that you will enjoy this cultural experience.



Tyrone (Pirate) and Steven (Spiderman) will be appearing in the Theatre Restaurant production

The production will take place on Friday 1 and Saturday 2 August from 7:00pm - 9:30pm at the Isis Cultural Centre. Tickets for table bookings are on sale at the school office until 25 July and a cost of \$25.00 for a great meal, licensed bar and entertainment is tremendous value.

Sunday afternoon rehearsals have been scheduled at the Stadium between 11:30am - 5:00pm for the following dates: 20 July and 27 July (includes sausage sizzle). A Thursday afternoon rehearsal is also taking place at the Drama Room from 3:15pm to 5:00pm on 24 July. Not all students need to attend each rehearsal. Your child will be notified closer to the dates. We thank parents for their support with these arrangements.

The Theatre Restaurant is another significant school project that provides another great learning opportunity for students (as well as hard work, fun and enjoyment). We look forward to your continuing support.

Liz Clout – Theatre Restaurant Director

Student Reporting

Student Semester Reports are now being compiled by staff to report on student progress. Student achievement will be reported on a 5 point scale from A to E. 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 for the previous semester. The significance of teacher comments is also critical as it provides greater detail on what the student has achieved and how performance might be improved.

(#Names and images removed to comply with Information Privacy Legislation)

At the same time, as reports are distributed, students will receive information on booking appointments for the Parent-Teacher Interview Evening (05 August).

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 and 12 can expect to have their reports monitored to ensure they are making satisfactory progress on their senior learning options, particularly if this concerns an 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

Students busy learning in vacation

Stephanie (Yr 12) and Luke (Yr 11) had a busy but very enjoyable range of learning opportunities in the winter vacation when they spent a week at the University of Queensland to participate in a *Biofutures Forum*. Stephanie and Luke were among just 30 Queensland and 14 New Zealand students selected to attend this important activity. During the week, they considered the huge role that engineering and technology now play in the health and medical field. Stephanie and Luke participated in activities at each of the three major universities in Brisbane. This exposed them to differing specialties such as engineering, medicine, pharmacy, therapy, forensic medicine and business, related to each other in a biological context. An exciting experience!



Luke and Stephanie catch up back in the science laboratory after a busy week exploring biofutures options in Brisbane

Luke had a particularly busy vacation having also been involved with some 70 other young Queenslanders in the 2008 Queensland Youth Parliament. Luke attended as the Member for Maryborough and was on the 'Government side of the treasury benches'. During the four day activity at Parliament in Brisbane, Luke and other students were involved in a variety of policy discussions to formulate Bills and then moving and debating them. Luke was a member of the Government Sustainability and Climate Change Committee which proposed that mining companies in Queensland be levied a small percentage of their profits which are then used to combat greenhouse gasses emitted by them in their

operations. This Bill was successfully argued and ultimately carried. All propositions that were carried will be sent to the (real) Premier and Leader of the Opposition for their consideration in future policy. This was another wonderful opportunity for Luke to continue his previous experiences in the democratic citizenship processes and we know he did himself, family, school and community proud. Well done.

Allan Cook – Deputy Principal

The Power of Every One

Students were given the opportunity to attend “The Power of Every One” motivational media presentation. 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 attended to the presentation very well, intently listening to positive messages from young people like Bethany Hamilton, a surfer who lost an arm to a shark attack but who has overcome this adversity with a powerful determination to succeed. It is hoped that each student will take away one positive message to put into effect, as well as increased motivation for their Term 3 studies.



Students view The Power of Every One presentation

Allan Cook – Deputy Principal

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 deciding on their options for next year, including subject choices for senior study. The School expects 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 in order to remain eligible to receive the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE). The other significant events for Year 12 students include the Queensland Core Skills test (02 and 03 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 Certificate or senior QCE. Those dates are:

- **Year 12 – Friday 21 November 2008**
- **Year 10 – Friday 28 November 2008**

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

Allan Cook – Deputy Principal

Late News – Sporting Success

In late news, Year 10 student Simon Cutler has been selected in the Queensland Under 15 Hockey team after competing in club representative trials over the winter vacation. He will contest the National Hockey trials in Canberra later in the year. Well done to Simon on his selection and good luck for the nationals in September.

Allan Cook – Deputy Principal

QTU Peace Awards

Queensland state school students are invited to enter the Queensland Teachers’ Union Peace Awards. The theme for the awards is *Sorry: from simple words big things grow*. The competition is open to students from Prep to Year 12 and Special Education.

Entries must take the form of a postcard design based on the theme. Digital entries should be stored as a JPG file. The winner of each category wins a prize to the value of \$50.00. Special awards (to the value of \$25.00) may also be presented in each category. Entries close on 03 September.

For more information, visit the Union website www.qtu.asn.au or contact Ms Fiona McNamara on 07 3512 9000 or email qtu@qtu.asn.au

For Tender

Plain paper Ricoh Fax 3310L – Four years old.
Tenders are to be addressed to the Business Services Manager and are to include: Tender value, name and contact details.
Tenders close 25 July 4:00pm. Late tenders will not be accepted.

Karen Webb – Business Services Manager

Apple Tree Creek Dance

Saturday 26 July 7:30pm

"Revelaires" Band

Enquiries - 4126 1224

Tennis Queensland Presents

Mal Anderson Exhibition Tour 2008

Coaching 19-25 July 3:00pm - 4.30pm

Contact Tennis Queensland on 4126 3772

Cost is free