

07 November, 2008

## Principal's Message

Following our very successful 'Awards Day' and 'Awards Evening', it is once again time to reflect on some outstanding achievements. There are a considerable number of students who have performed at very high levels in the academic, cultural and sporting areas. A list of these young people is enclosed to remind us all of the rich talent of our youth at Isis District State High School.

The 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards were celebrated in an atmosphere of exceptional student behaviour and commendable personal presentation, high community spirit and pride and excited and relieved award winners. For many of our students it has been another long year of hard work, sweat and sometimes tears. The reward however, of their commitment to their goals, is that they have conditioned themselves to a program of success. This conditioning to hard work and the success they have experienced will in no small way better prepare and motivate them for more success in the future.

One of the highlights of the Awards Evening was the announcement of the School Captains and Vice Captains for 2009. I would like to congratulate Joseph and Alara (Captains) and Joshua and Krystal (Vice Captains) and wish them all the best for the important tasks ahead.



2009 School Captains with Principal Mr French are (l-r) Joshua, Joseph, Alara and Krystal

Throughout the year the media has made much of the student truancy problems confronting some school communities particularly in the south east corner. While we are fortunate at Isis High in that we are a medium size school and have developed, over the years, very good tracking mechanisms, there is always room for improvement in the area of attendance. I'm sure you'll agree that the gift of a good education is the most precious gift that a parent can provide their child. Education is without question a key enabler for our future generations, for the young people of the Isis community and Isis High has the responsibility, in this community, to deliver this gift, "a good education". Parents/carers must be prepared to strongly encourage their children to attend school every day unless there is a very good reason why they are unable to attend. Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance is associated, on average, with higher student achievement.

Congratulations to our families who have made school attendance a priority for their children. With you promoting the values of responsible, regular attendance in partnership with the school's commitment to delivering a 'good education', each of your children should look forward to a positive and bright future. In conclusion, I would like to thank those parents as well as the large number of other community members who took the time to attend our 48<sup>th</sup> Awards Evening. Your encouragement of the school and acknowledge of our students' exceptional 2008 achievements, is greatly appreciated and valued.

Kind Regards,

Trevor French – Principal

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

11 Nov	Announce Senior Leaders	25 Nov	Year 11 Senior Camp (25-27 Nov)
11 Nov	Announce House Captains	26 Nov	Year 10 End of Year Excursion
21 Nov	Newsletter	28 Nov	Last Day for Year 11 & 10
19 Nov	Senior Dinner	01 Dec	Year 7/8 Transition (01-02 Dec)
21 Nov	Year 12 Graduation Ceremony (10:15am)	05 Dec	Year 12, 11 and 10 Reports issued
21 Nov	Last day for Year 12 students	05 Dec	Newsletter

## Awards Evening 2008

Last Tuesday 28 October, the school community celebrated a day of spectacular student achievement, of which we should all be justifiably proud. Some of the more significant academic awards include:

Dux of the School ..... Lachlan  
 Junior Dux of the School..... Rachael  
 Student of the Year ..... Brendan  
 Rotary Award for Outstanding Service ..... Stephanie  
 Vocational Excellence Award ..... Mark  
 Year 11 Caltex Best All Rounder ..... Luke  
 Year 10 Achiever ..... Bradley  
 Year 09 Citizenship Award ..... Wilson  
 Year 08 Encouragement Award..... Kathryn



*School duxes, Lachlan (Year 12) and Rachael (Year 10).*



*Special year level awards were won by (back l-r) Bradley (Yr 10), Wilson (Yr 09) Kathryn (Yr 08) and (front) Brendan (Yr 12) and Luke (Yr 11)*

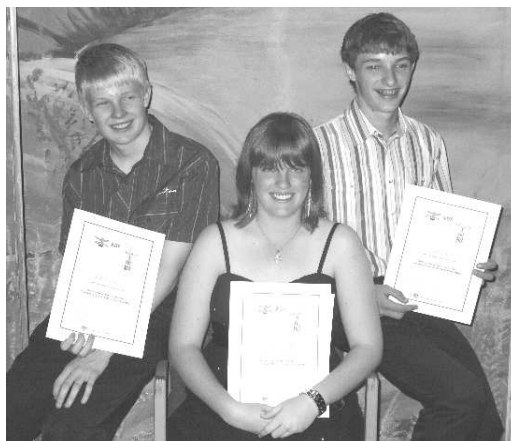
In addition to these special awards, students received Academic Achievement Awards, as follows:

- YEAR 12:** Marnie, Brendan, Caitlin, Lachlan, Stephanie, Elliot
- YEAR 11:** Jessica, Alara, Hannah, Krystal
- YEAR 10:** Bradley, Danielle, Timothy, Kyle. Abraham, Lisa, Morgan, [Name removed], Cara, Rachael, Katelyn, Natalie
- YEAR 9:** Mark, Sarah, Jaak, Kellie, Shannon, Tom

**YEAR 8:** Ashley, Kate, Sian, Jack, Kathryn, Emily-Rose, [Name removed] Warrick, Taylah, Dhane, Mitchell, Emma, Cameron, Grace, Kali, Emily, [Name removed], Isaac, Rachel, Alanna

In addition to the Academic Awards, a number of special sporting awards were presented:

Pierre De Coubertin Award ..... Hayley  
 Junior Encouragement ..... Bradley  
 Senior Encouragement ..... Jake  
 Junior Sportsperson ..... [Name removed]  
 Senior Sportsperson ..... Alara



*The Australian Defence Force Long Tan Leadership Awards were presented to (l-r) Luke (Yr 11), Stephanie (Yr 12) and Bradley (Year 10).*



*Sports winners (l-r) Hayley (Pierre de Coubertin Award), Jake (Senior Sports Encouragement), Bradley (Junior Sports Encouragement), Alara (Senior Sportsperson)  
 Absent: [Name removed] (Junior Sportsperson)*

During his Principal's Report, Mr French mentioned that visitors to the school often comment that, 'the school has such a lovely feel'. He also emphasised that education is without question a key enabler for our future generations, for the young people of the Isis community.

The evening provided the school community with a wonderful night including a review of the year's highlights, enjoyable entertainment by some of the school's talented performers and a showcasing of excellent student achievement. Year 12 student [Name removed] delivered a sincere Valedictory Address on behalf of Year 12 students. As Principal, Mr French indicated, 2008 has been another outstanding year of success for Isis High.

*Allan Cook – Deputy Principal*

## BP Awards Grant Presented

A group of students from the school's Learning Enhancement Centre were recently successful in winning a \$2000.00 BP Education Grant for a project known as *The Woodgate Experience*. This initiative saw the students team with National Parks and Wildlife Officers to adopt an endangered RAMSAR site and so contribute to the preservation of a pristine part of our world.

Students studied this local environment from the perspectives of Science, Literacy, Numeracy, ICT, Health/PE, The Arts, and SOSE. It also provided functional, life skills programs which take student learning outside of the regular classroom setting. This assists in the development of skills for successful interaction with peers and adults across a wide spectrum of settings.



*Ms Bonny Barry and Kathy Hirschfeld (BP Business Unit Leader) present John and Mrs Martell with a BP Grant*

The award was recently presented to student John Gethings and teacher Mrs Martell in Brisbane by Ms Bonny Barry, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education and Training and the Arts. John delivered a speech about his experiences participating in the programme. This was an excellent learning experience to assist students to be confident participating members of the community.

*Debi Stone – Head of Special Education Services*

## End of School Dates and Reporting

The last day of school for each year level is:

Year 12	Friday 21 November 2008
Year 10 & 11	Friday 28 November 2008
Year 08 & 09	Friday 12 December 2008

Students in Year 10 and Year 12 must be in attendance at school up to and including, the last day to be eligible for their Year 10 or Senior Statement. Students who leave school before these days may forfeit their entitlement to a Certificate.

Reporting dates are as follows:

Year 12	Exit Statement/VET Certificates/References <i>Available from the office on Friday, 5 December, 8:45am to 10:00am only If not collected, mailed that afternoon</i>
Year 10 & 11	Semester Report & Year 10 Certificate <i>Available from the office on Friday, 5 December, 8:45am to 10:00am only</i>
Year 08 & 09	Semester Report <i>Issued to students Wednesday, 10 December</i>

Anyone with queries should contact me on 4192 1222.

*Allan Cook – Deputy Principal*

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

## Emerge Exhibition Opening

Last Wednesday evening, Year 12 student Marnie Edmiston (*pictured*) officially opened *Emerge*, the annual Bundaberg Combined Secondary Schools Exhibition at the Bundaberg Arts Centre.



The exhibition showcased outstanding artworks from eight secondary schools in the Bundaberg Region. The night displayed great artistic talent from local “emerging” artists, as the title of the exhibition *Emerge* suggests.

Congratulations to Marnie, who has also acquired attention from ABC Radio Wide Bay due to her role in opening the exhibition. The transcript from the interview is online at: <http://www.abc.net.au/local/stories/2008/10/27/2401886.htm>

*Emerge* continues at the Bundaberg Arts Centre until 7 December 2008 and is well worth a viewing.

*Liz Clout – Art Coordinator*

## 'Be safe and watch your mates' Schoolies 2008 Information Booklet

The Queensland Government has developed the 'Be safe and watch your mates' Schoolies 2008 Information Booklet for Queensland Year 12 students. The free booklet contains important information that graduating students should be aware of before attending any Schoolies occasion, to help keep themselves and their friends safe.

Focusing on health and safety, alcohol and drug awareness, personal responsibility, and young people's rights as consumers, the booklet is a useful tool for teachers and parents to engage in conversation with Year 12 students and encourage healthy behaviour. Year 12 students should receive a copy of the booklet from their school, or alternatively a copy can be ordered by calling 131304 by on the Queensland Government's official Schoolies website: [www.schoolies.qld.gov.au](http://www.schoolies.qld.gov.au)

More useful information is available for parents and students on the Schoolies website, including this year's top safety tips, key contact numbers, and important topics for parents to discuss with their teenager before they finish school so they have an enjoyable and safe experience.

Spending time reading this information now and talking with your teenager about how to safe stay can help to ensure that Schoolies is a time to remember for all the right reasons.

*Trevor French – Principal*