

21 November, 2008

## Principal's Message

This week was a very busy week with a number of celebrations. It commenced with the Year 12 Senior Dinner which was held on Wednesday evening at the Isis Cultural Centre. This marked the completion of twelve years of formal schooling for yet another cohort of students. The evening was well attended by Year 12 graduating students and their parents/carers and as usual it was a wonderful night of memories and celebration. Then today we farewelled our Year 12 students with an official Graduation Ceremony also attended by some parents, Year 08 students and some siblings, in other year levels, of the graduates. The ceremony included presenting each student with their graduation certificate, a photograph of the group and a gift from the school community. A morning tea for the graduates, parents and staff was a delightful finish to their secondary education. Congratulations to all our graduating students and all the very best wishes for a bright, happy and healthy future.

The 2008 School Captains Alara and Joseph and Vice Captains Krystal and Joshua attended their first official function representing the school and laying a wreath at the Remembrance Day Ceremony held in Childers. They took the opportunity to get to know some of the Veterans better and in doing so were also able to promote themselves, as leaders, and the good name of Isis District State High.

Last week Education Queensland released the 2008 School Opinion Survey data. The survey measures the 'satisfaction level' of key groups within the school community and then compares each school with all other like schools throughout the state. The survey measures such topics as: student outcomes, curriculum, pedagogy (teaching methods), learning, climate, school-community relations and resources. There is good news again this year with parents rating Isis District State High equal to or above 'Like Schools' in all the topics with none flagged as below, while students' overall rating for all questions was above 'Like Schools'. This is very good news for the Isis District State High as the results are an outcome of this school community's positive and supportive approach to educating our young people. A copy of the data is available at the school and will also appear on the school's web site in the future.

As we move rapidly towards the end of the 2008 school year it is important that all students remain on task and attend regularly. With a staggered finish to the school year there is often pressure on parents from their younger students to finish early. While subject area exams will continue over the next few weeks, for many of our younger students, my message to parents is that teachers will continue to maintain interesting and worthwhile learning activities until school concludes.

Finally, as this is the last school newsletter for our graduating Year 12 students, on behalf of the school, I would like to wish them and their families a safe and enjoyable festive season.

Kind Regards,

Trevor French – Principal



*2009 School Captains (l-r) Alara, Krystal, Joseph and Joshua lay wreaths at the Childers Remembrance Ceremony*

### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS:**

25 Nov	Year 11 Senior Camp (25-27 Nov)	05 Dec	Year 12, 11 and 10 Reports issued
26 Nov	Year 10 End of Year Excursion	05 Dec	Newsletter
28 Nov	Last Day for Year 11 & 10	08 Dec	Year 08 & 09 Enrichment Program
01 Dec	Year 7/8 Transition (01-02 Dec)	12 Dec	Last Day for Year 08 & 09

## Isis District State High has the 'right formula'

Isis District State High students maintained their strong record of achievement in the recent Australian National Chemistry Quiz.

The competition is conducted by the Royal Australian Chemistry Institute across Australia and in 14 other countries with nearly 130,000 students competing this year. There were twenty nine students from Isis District State High participating and they achieved significant results with three students being awarded High Distinctions, seven awarded Distinctions with another eight students achieving Credits.

Special congratulations go to Year 11 students Hannah and Cain and Year 08 student Dhane who were awarded **High Distinctions** for their results – an outstanding achievement.



*Mr Davey (Acting Head of Science) congratulates outstanding science competition winners (l-r) Dhane (Yr 8), Cain and Hannah (Yr 11)*

**Certificates of Distinction** were achieved by:

Year 12: [Name removed], Brendan and Ashley

Year 11: Jessica and Luke

Year 10: Bradley and Danielle

**Certificates of Credit** were achieved by:

Year 12: Lachlan, Stephanie and Elliot

Year 11: [Name removed], Storme, Trent, Jason and Ryan

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

*Andrew Davey – (Acting) Head of Science*

## 2008 Carcass Competition

A group of Isis District State High Rural Operations and Agriculture students travelled to Kingaroy recently to take part in the Wide Bay Schools Carcass Competition.

This competition involves showing steers that have been fed to supply the local domestic trade. Isis District State High had two animals in the competition. One of the animals did particularly well winning its class and finishing third overall out of 53 animals.

More importantly the students represented themselves and the school with distinction. The three day event consists of two competitions that the students take part in. The first is the Handling Class where students demonstrate their expertise in showing cattle. In this competition three of our students received ribbons. These were:

16 to 18 Years Novice Handler

2<sup>nd</sup> Mark, 4<sup>th</sup> Kate, 6<sup>th</sup> Gemma

The more onerous competition is the Young Judge's Competition where all participants have to publicly speak about the virtues of the cattle while presenting them. Two of

our students were successful with placings in this competition. They were:

16 to 18 Years Novice Judge 4<sup>th</sup> Mark

14 Years Novice Judge 2<sup>nd</sup> Kyle

This is the first time in several years that Isis District State High has competed in this competition and the first time for these students. In this context, our results were very



*Jamie, Kate, Lisa and Mark show off their award winning ribbon*

encouraging and the younger students are already looking forward to next year.

*Brett Martell – Agriculture Teacher*

## Peter Doherty Science Winner

Year 12 student, Stephanie was one of only ten Queensland students to be awarded a prestigious Peter Doherty Award for being an outstanding senior science student. Stephanie was recently presented with her award in Brisbane (pictured) by Ms Bonny Barry, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education and Training & Arts.

Stephanie studies a number of science subjects at school and achieves very highly, as well as participating in a range of science workshops and forums outside of school. Stephanie is hoping to be successful in gaining entry to a pharmacology course at university in 2009.



Stephanie's selection maintains a proud record of achievement in Science for students from Isis District State High. Stephanie is the third student in three years to win this prestigious award. Stephanie also received a \$2000.00 prize for her win. Well done to Stephanie on another excellent achievement.

*Allan Cook – Deputy Principal*

## 2009 School Leaders

Since the last Newsletter, further student leaders have been confirmed in their positions. Senior Leaders are those Year 12 students who by their previous actions demonstrate a capacity to act as good role models for other students and assume a leadership position within the student community. These students nominate for this position and are assessed and interviewed by a panel that includes the Principal, a P&C member, the Year 11 Coordinator and School Captain's. Senior Leaders for 2009 are:



(Back l-r) Mr French (Principal), Raquel, Tarah, [Name removed], Storme, Jenny, Matilda, Nicole, Jessica, Brenda, Jessica, Hannah, Mikaela, Alicia, (Front l-r) Benjamin, Cain, Jordan, Zachary, Krystal (Vice-Captain), Alara (School Captain), Joseph (School Captain) Joshua (Vice Captain), Trent, Pavel, Daniel, Luke, (absent Courtney)

House Captains and House Vice-Captains have a particular responsibility to assist the Sports Coordinator, particularly in organising students for inter-house sporting carnivals. Students nominate for these leadership positions and elections are conducted by each of the Houses. House Captains and Vice-Captains for 2009 are:



(Back l-r House Vice-Captains) Mr Shotton (Sports Coordinator), BADILLA, Cain, Rachael, PINDAR, Kyle, Alice, TROJAN, Natalie, Zac, VESTA, Peter, Rebecca, (Front l-r House Captains) BADILLA, Matthew, Emily, PINDAR, Benjamin, Raquel, TROJAN, Zachary, Matilda, VESTA, Jason, Terri-Lee.

Student Council leadership positions for each of the year levels will be determined in the first three weeks of 2009. Congratulations to all of those students elected to leadership positions thus far and best wishes for a successful 2009.

Allan Cook – Deputy Principal

## Chickens for Tender

Eighteen Layer Chickens are for sale by tender. The chickens are 12-18 months old and all 'in lay'. Tenders to be submitted at the School Office by 4:00pm Friday 28 November. A reserve price has been set and if it is not met, the school reserves the right to refuse the tender.

Brett Martell – Agriculture

## 2009 ... and Beyond!

Isis District High continues to offer many opportunities for students, to assist them to reach their full potential. Our Year 12 students have now graduated and we look forward to reading and hearing of their future achievements. Our students' performances continue to compare more than favourably with students in bigger and (supposedly) more prestigious schools. In addition, several Year 12 students have already obtained employment and apprenticeships to secure their future. No doubt, our departing Year 12's will join the growing group of past students who can proudly say they completed their schooling in 'the Isis' and have gone on to great things.

Students in other year levels should be aware of Queensland's 'learning or earning' laws which mean we expect all students currently in Years 08 to 11 to be back at school next year, apart from those leaving the district or those who may have gained employment

The 2009 school year commences on **Tuesday 27 January for Year 08, 09 and 11 students only**. Students in these year levels will be commencing new courses and there may be some clarification required of their study program.

**Wednesday 28 January will see all students (Years 08 to 12)** in attendance. Both days will commence with a school assembly in the Stadium.

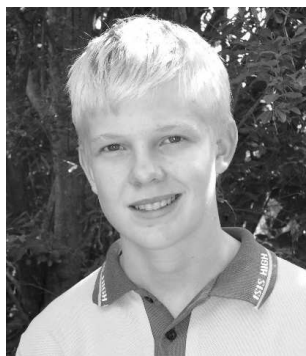
Photos for ID cards will be taken in the first few days of school and **payments for the TAR scheme will be collected later that same week**.

The school office will be open from Monday 19 January and Administration members will be available that week for enrolments and/or enquiries. Uniform sales will be available from 9:00am to 12:00noon on school days from Thursday 22 January to Wednesday 28 January.

Allan Cook – Deputy Principal

## Luke - Science Achiever

Luke (Yr 11) has been selected to attend the National Science Youth Forum in Canberra in January next year. Luke is one of only 300 students throughout Australia selected to attend this prestigious science forum. Luke is supported by the Childers Rotary Club and is the fourth student in four years from Isis High selected to attend the forum. Congratulations!



Allan Cook – Deputy Principal

## Resource Hire Scheme 2008

The school operates a Resource Hire Scheme to contain costs to the parent. Parent/Caregivers are reminded that the school office is currently collecting the balance of fees owed to the Resource Hire Scheme. Your assistance in settling your account before your student concludes his/her studies for the current school year is very much appreciated.

Parents of families experiencing financial difficulties and who are unable to meet their full obligation, should contact the Principal or Business Services Manager to make arrangements for payment. Such arrangements are confidential and handled only by the Principal or Business Services Manager.

Karen Webb – Business Services Manager