9 December, 2013

Principal’s Message

Last week we farewelled our Year 10 and 11 students for the year. Our Year 11 students had an enriching 3 days up at Chaverim Outdoor & Environment Centre on Leadership Camp and we are looking forward to seeing the outcomes of this camp when they return as the Seniors of 2014. Thank you to Mr Felstead and Miss Marsh for running and supervising the students at camp and Mr Felstead for his organisation in the weeks and months leading up to the camp.

Our Year 10 students last week demonstrated their future leadership capacity as they ran a number of activities with Year 5 students from all of our local primary schools in our first Super Challenge day. These Year 5 students will be the first Year 7s we welcome into high school in 2015. Our Year 10 students will be the seniors and school leaders of 2015. The Year 5 students had an extremely enjoyable day at the Anexe Campus and discovered that being at high school is a very rewarding experience. The Super Challenge day is the first of a number of experiences to ensure the transition into High School for our Year 7 and Year 8 students in 2015 is successful for all.

Our first Junior Secondary Newsletter was published last week and distributed to our Year 5 students and families. It is also available from our school webpage. The Junior Secondary team will continue publish regular Junior Secondary newsletters to keep parents up-to-date with upcoming key dates, events and developments in our program.

Three of the Junior Secondary Mentors getting ready to play a lunchtime activity with some of the Year 7 students.

Our Junior Secondary preparations continued this week with Year 7 into Year 8 transition days. Students were introduced to our key Junior Secondary teachers and support staff on Monday and Tuesday. The Year 11 student leaders were outstanding role models and assisted the students moving around the school and ensured they were at their classes on time. The year 7 students were exposed to a wide variety of subjects in the school.

Report Cards for Years 8 - 11 will be progressively mailed home to parents from next week. If you have not received your child’s report card by Friday 13 December please contact the school administration office.

Year 12 end of year report card results from the school are submitted to the Queensland Studies Authority and they issue Year 12 students with a Senior Education Profile. This information is based on their final exit results in Year 12 – the culmination of Years 11 and 12 programs. The statements that they are issued with will include the students Overall Position (OP) and Queensland Certificate of Education – if they are eligible, along with final subject results. This is mailed to every individual student and is expected to arrive in the mail from Friday, 13 December, 2013. Students are also able to access their OP information online on:


In conclusion, I would like to wish all students and families a restful and safe holiday break and look forward to meeting up again in 2014.

Merry Christmas,

Brett Kavanagh
Principal

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 Dec</td>
<td>Yr 08 &amp; Yr 09 EOY Excursion</td>
<td>20 Jan</td>
<td>School office reopens</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Dec</td>
<td>Yr 08 &amp; 09 Report Cards posted</td>
<td>28 Jan</td>
<td>School resumes for Yr 08, 09 &amp; 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 Dec</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 4</td>
<td>29 Jan</td>
<td>School resumes for all students</td>
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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
A message from Mr Cook

This last Isis District State High School Newsletter for 2013 brings to an end another year of rewarding learning and strong outcomes for students. My year has been interrupted through illness, but in this last Newsletter I wanted to let families and friends know that while healing can be a slow process, I have made good progress on recuperating from surgery. I will be having further surgery in the new year to enable me a voice for verbal communication. As a result, I will be extending my leave until toward the end of Term 1. I’m very appreciative that Mr Kavanagh has agreed to continue as Principal of Isis High to provide for continuing stability of school leadership. I look forward to resuming duties at school next Easter. I’d like to also congratulate students on their efforts and outcomes this year, thank all staff for their ongoing dedication and commitment and extend my best wishes to all for a safe and happy Christmas vacation.

Allan Cook – (Principal)

From the Deputy Principal

As we close another year, I would like to wish our leaving staff all the best and thank you for the contribution you have made to our school. Thank you for all of your dedicated and hard work here, and I wish you all the best in your future. To our students and families, congratulations on the achievements of this year, hope you have all achieved your goals.

Finally, as we approach the end of the year, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the staff, students and school community who have welcomed and supported me throughout my first year at Isis District State High School. In particular I would like to thank our staff for all their hard work, dedication and effective leadership to this fantastic school. I look forward to working with staff, students and families again next year.

Have a safe and happy holiday!

Dearnne Beatson – Deputy Principal

Australia Day

Planning is well underway for the Childers Australia Day celebrations on Sunday, 26 January 2014. A free community breakfast at the Childers Cultural Centre will kick start the day from 7:00am. A gold coin donation will be gratefully accepted towards breakfast. Entertainment, activities and the announcement of the local Australia Day awards will occur from 9:00am. From this week’s edition of the Town and Country there will be further information and nomination forms for the Citizen of the Year awards.

Brett Kavanagh – Principal

Cyber safety – What is sexting? Approved

Sexting is the exchange of sexually suggestive messages or images between minors via cell phone. For example, a girl might take a nude picture of herself and send it to her boyfriend. Her boyfriend may forward the picture to one or two friends, who then decide to forward the picture to others. In this way, the girl’s picture could travel all over the Web, amassing countless viewers in a very short period of time. Please note that sexting does not include situations in which young people are coerced or blackmailed into sending sexually explicit images of themselves to adults. These adults are predators and the incident should be reported to law enforcement immediately.

The majority of teens are actually not sexting: according to a study from the Pew American Life & Internet Project, only 4% of cell-owning teens (12-17) say they have sent nude or partially nude images [1]. Teens that are sexting often do so within the context of a relationship. A teen may send a sexual image to someone to indicate his or her interest in starting a romantic relationship. Or teens already in romantic relationships may sext each other as a prelude to or as part of a sexual relationship. Teens may also use sexting as a way of exploring their sexuality [2].

When teens sext, they may not think about the consequences of their images becoming public. If an image surfaces at school, its creator and anyone caught distributing or possessing it may face removal from athletic teams or student groups and suspension. If a sexting incident involves harassment, coercion, or images passed around without the creator’s permission, law enforcement may become involved.

[2] Ibid.

Melbourne Cup at Isis Club

Year 10 Art and Design students spent third term designing and producing wearable art for a fashion parade that was held on Melbourne Cup day at the Isis Club.

This event was highly successful and we have a letter of commendation from the Isis Club commenting on the high quality of the work and how well received with the patrons and how much these community partnerships are valued. Congratulations to the students of Year 10 Art and Design, their models and to Mrs Kidd for their wonderful work.
Keep a watch on our school these holidays

Parents and students can help take care of our school by reporting any suspicious after-hours activity to School Watch on 13 17 88. By keeping an eye out we can work together to create a safer school community and help to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in our school.

If you see something suspicious, please don’t intervene. Call the School Watch number and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter.

Year 11 Leadership Camp

Year 11 students had an enjoyable end to their school year on Leadership Camp at the Chaverim Outdoor Education and Environment Centre. The aim of the camps activities are to develop the mutual respect and team spirit of the students to better prepare them for the leadership role that they will fulfil in 2014.

This year I was particularly impressed with the enthusiasm of individual students in tackling activities such as the Mohawk, hoop pine climb, high ropes, canoeing, rock climbing and the leap of faith. The activities are designed to be challenging and to have elements that are perceived as very risky, usually heights.

Students need to rely on team work and place trust in one another to succeed at each activity, consequently many relationships were strengthened and students gained a new appreciation for each other.

I wish all students a happy and safe Christmas break and look forward to being their Year Level Coordinator in 2014.

David Felstead – Year 11 Coordinator

Both days will commence with a school assembly in the Stadium. Photos for ID cards will be taken on these first few days of school.

Payments for the Student Resource Scheme will be collected on Thursday, 30 January (Year 12, 11, 10) and Friday, 31 January (Year 09 and 08). Further information regarding the Student Resource Scheme has been included in the Report Card mail out.

Monday, 27 January is a public holiday for Australia Day.

The school office will be open from Monday, 20 January and Administration members will be available that week for enrolments, Student Resource payments and/or enquiries.

The Uniform Convenor will be available for uniform sales at times listed in this Newsletter.

Brett Kavanagh – Principal

Uniform Shop

The P & C Uniform Shop opening times for the beginning of 2014 are as follows:

- Thu 23 January – 8:00am to 12:00noon
- Fri 24 January – 8:00am to 12:00noon
- Tue 28 January – 8:00am to 12:00noon
- Wed 29 January – 8:00am to 12:00noon

Due to circumstances beyond our control, the Senior Girls Blouses that are on order will not be available until the end of January 2014. We apologise for any inconvenience.

As the shop is run by the P & C Association, it is operated by voluntary helpers and we are always looking for assistance. Please contact the school if you wish to offer your assistance in any form which would be greatly appreciated.

Jaki Graver – Uniform Convenor

Transition Day

The beginning of Week 9, a handful of Year 11 students volunteered to come back to school on their first week of holidays and peer mentor the Year 7 students on their two day Transition into high school. With behind the scenes help from the Year 08 Ambassadors, the Junior-Secondary Mentors supported the program in many ways, such as, guiding the students throughout the school showing them all of the different buildings and helping them with their class work.

The Mentors and Ambassadors spent the two days making new friendships so the soon-to-be Year 08s will have someone to guide them in their first year of high school.

With a free lunch provided by the Chaplaincy and help from the Year 11s and 08s, and a photo hunt to finish the Transition, the two days were a blast and everyone had loads of fun.

We now hope the Year 7s are no longer nervous about coming to our school, and will remember their Transition for a long time.

Many thanks go to the Year 08, Year 11 Students and many teachers involved, without them; a successful Transition Program isn’t possible.

Anneka Lloyd – Year 08 Coordinator

2014 School Starting Arrangements

The 2014 school year commences on Tuesday, 28 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.

All students (Years 08 to 12) should attend school on Wednesday, 29 January.

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