7 November, 2014

Principal’s Message

Last week was a very special week with our Annual Awards Ceremonies. What a wonderful celebration it was. Congratulations to all academic, sports, cultural and service award recipients. They demonstrated the high expectations that students at Isis District State High School are well known for. We have received some wonderful feedback from our special guests and it was a very enjoyable evening. Our students were impressive, whether presenting, entertaining or receiving an award. Well done!

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate two of our Special Award recipients – Dux of the School, Stacey and Year 10 Dux, Aleisha. These students are to be congratulated for their outstanding academic achievements.

It was very special having Olympic swimmer Christopher Wright as our Guest of Honour. He conveyed a well-grounded message and words of encouragement for our students.

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Our 2014 School Captains announced the four newly elected 2015 School Captains at last week’s Awards Ceremony. Congratulations to Riley, Phoebe, Coby and Thomas. I know these students will do an outstanding job in leading the student body and representing the school. I wish our outgoing student leaders all the best in their future endeavours.

Our Year 12s have begun their countdown to graduation. Over the last two weeks we have very clearly outlined our expectations to Year 12 students not only with exams and assessment but also with their presence in the school and stressed the importance of maintaining a very positive tone in the school. I would like to ask that parents and carers support the school’s expectations by ensuring Year 12s are at school every day, hand in all assessments and reinforce the importance of staying focused in these final pieces of assessment. They are all very important in securing the best possible results. Students who have not completed their VET requirements are being monitored very closely and will be required to spend additional time at school in order to complete qualifications. Closure with class is always our mantra with Year 12s and I know they will make us very proud.

More information on final week requirements, including graduation ceremony will be conveyed within the coming weeks.

Kind Regards,
Brett Kavanagh – Principal

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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<td>11 Nov</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting 7:15pm</td>
<td>28 Nov</td>
<td>Last Day for Yr 10 &amp; Yr 11</td>
<td>21 Nov</td>
<td>Yr 12 Graduation Ceremony</td>
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<td>Transition Day Yr 07 to Yr 08</td>
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<td>24 Nov</td>
<td>National Young Leaders Day</td>
<td>03-04 Dec</td>
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The 2014 Awards Evening recognised the outstanding achievements and highlighted the extensive range of opportunities available to students at Isis District State High School. Students from Year 8 to Year 12 were awarded subject prizes for Top in the Subject and Outstanding Academic Achievement. Students achievements were also recognised in the areas of School Service, Sport and Cultural. Guest Speaker Christopher Wright was extremely well received by the students and community. He also spoke about his personal experiences in taking up opportunities that have been made available to him over the years and how this aligned to the work we do as a school in Preparing Futures and Honouring Traditions. Below are our special Junior and Senior Award Recipients.

Year 8 Encouragement Award.........................Cooper
Year 8 Encouragement Award.........................Ashleigh
Year 9 Encouragement Award.........................Renee
Mary Helen Byrne Hospitality Award ...............Skye
Year 10 Community Service Award (USQ)............Thomas
Mariane Francey Memorial Shield....................Laura
Vocational Excellence Award (Wide Bay TAFE).......Ashleigh
Caltex All Rounder....................................Phoebe
Rotary Award for Outstanding Service (Alf Madsen Memorial)..............................Hayden
ADF Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork............Aleisha
ADF Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork............Thomas
Mayor’s Medallists....................................Eleisha
Mayor’s Medallists....................................Brooke
Junior Sports Person.................................Caleb
Senior Sports Person.................................Coby
Junior Sports Person Encouragement Award........Aleisha
Senior Sports Person Encouragement Award.........Shay
Senior Sports Person Encouragement Award.........Thomas
Pierre de Coubertin.....................................Coby
Junior Dux...............................................Aleisha
Dux of the School......................................Stacey

Brett Kavanagh – Principal

Visit to Goodwood State School

On Monday of week 3 and week 4, I have had the pleasure of spending a couple of hours with the students in Grades 4 to 7 at Goodwood State School, teaching them the basics of Scratch – a software application aimed at 8 to 15 year olds programming their own animations.

These students have been prepared to experiment with the software and get their sprites (characters) to perform quite complex actions, including random and player-directed movement, changing direction using coordinates, scoring and sound. An example of the coding they have devised is included below.

I have really enjoyed watching these young students grow in confidence, solve their own programming problems and help each other. I look forward to adding some finishing touches to their games next week.

Mrs Kylie Onoprienko – Business Educator

Literacy Tip 5

It is much harder for students to hear the vowel (a, e, i, o and u) sounds than the consonant (the other letters) sounds in words. This is because consonant sounds are usually written with only one letter. Vowel sounds are much trickier than consonants. Students need to know that the same sound can be spelled with different letters, eg no, know, doe, and dough. Similarly the same letter will represent different sounds in different words – such as the letter ‘o’ in no, to, won, women; or the letters ‘ow’ in now and know. This makes the English language
very hard to learn as words such as **tough** and **dough** look very similar but have different sounds. Sometimes this difficulty, combined with a lack of practice leads to frustration for children and to a false belief that they can’t spell.

Encourage your child to hear the sounds in words and to think of different ways of spelling the same sound. If your son or daughter has trouble hearing the sounds in words, looking at the shape of words and the patterns in words may be more helpful. I used to run quick spelling bees around the dinner table or on country drives. It really works!

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**Did you know?**

**Betelgeuse** is the orange star to the left of the saucepan.

- It is about 1000 times wider than the sun, which is about 100 times larger than the earth.
- Its diameter is more than 1200 million kilometres.
- If the sun was replaced with Betelgeuse, it would stretch nearly to the orbit of Jupiter. The earth would be engulfed.
- It is about 125,000 times brighter than our sun.
- Betelgeuse is a supernova and is expected to explode in about 100,000 years. It will be no danger to Earth but will be as bright as the moon when it happens.

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**Student Laptop Hire and Return Schedule**

As a part of our commitment to contemporary teaching and learning Isis High offers a student take home laptop program. This program runs for years 10, 11 and 12 and costs an initial outlay of $150 for the year.

Following returns should be:

Year 12: Laptops handed in on Friday, 14 November.

Year 11/10: Laptops handed during their last week, notices will hold more information closer to the date

If you have any questions about the laptops or the laptop timeline feel free to call the office on 4192 1222

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**End of School Year**

As the end of the school year is drawing to a close, parents/carers are asked to support their students in the successful return of student resources to the school. These include returning Laptops, Blazers and Textbooks to the Textbook room. Parents/carers are also encouraged to support their student by finalising all monies owed to the school before the end of the year.

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**P & C Meeting**

The November P&C meeting will be held in the staff common room in the administration block next Tuesday 11 November at 7:15pm. Look for the lights and follow the path around to the back door. The "mobile phones in schools" policy will be discussed so come along and air your views on this controversial topic.

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**Wearable Art**

Isis District High School Art and Design students have worked hard all term to produce wearable art works that were modelled at the Isis Club Melbourne Cup day function on Tuesday 04 November. (Pictured left are Olivia and Caroline modelling their wears) The works were mainly constructed from recycled materials (Thanks go to the St Vincent De Paul and Salvation Army charity shops) and all were based on the student’s thoughts about racing, gambling and all those things that go with ‘Melbourne Cup’. Student works were of exceptional quality and they provided a very professional display. These students are a credit to the school and the community with their presentation and behaviour. Congratulations.

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**2015 Year 07/08 Enrolment Interviews**

Isis District State High School

Now Open for Interviews

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