

10 June 2016

Principal's Message

Next week, our school tries to minimise student interruption as there will be a school-wide focus on **student assessment**. Students were issued with a Student Assessment Planner early in the semester that provided a schedule of assessments. It is terribly important that students are now putting in significantly extra study effort necessary to maximise the results they are able to achieve from their assessments. Your support and encouragement of your children during this important assessment period will no doubt benefit student achievement and is appreciated.

With the end of Semester One fast approaching, we begin to reflect on the many activities, events and positive achievements by our students in the academic, cultural and sporting areas. Next Friday (17/06/2016), during Recess 1 at the Stadium, a significant number of students will be presented with **Semester Merit Award** certificates to recognise their positive approach to schooling throughout the semester. Parents/carers will be most welcome to attend.

I should also remind all parents and carers that **Term 2 finishes on Friday 24 June**. The last week of school is as important as any other and students in all year levels (apart from Year 10 on Work Experience) should be in attendance at school up until that day. Teachers will be continuing with assessment reviews and new work in classes and student absence simply leads to their disadvantage. **Your support in ensuring student attendance remains high is anticipated and appreciated.**

Schools are comprised of teachers whose job it is to positively affect the learning outcomes of studentsand schools often find within their midst a 'champion' who takes this challenge forward in an enthusiastic, passionate and committed way. For the last ten years, Isis High has had such a 'champion' in **Michele Kirkland**. Michele joined our school as a teacher in 2007 and has progressed through to Head of Department (Humanities/Middle Schooling) and for the last five years as Deputy Principal with a particular focus on the Junior School. Michele has led a number of very successful school initiatives, perhaps none more important than the very successful integration of our Year 7 students into secondary school. While Michele's curriculum and educational leadership have been obvious, her capacity to build strong relationships with all members of the school community is an aspect which is amongst her strongest qualities.



Michele indicated to me some time ago that she was ready for a **new challenge** in a different school setting. She has been successful in gaining a Deputy Principal position at a much larger Sunshine Coast secondary school and will be **finishing at Isis High at the end of this semester**. In my many years in the Department, I have worked alongside many fine school leaders, but my work with Michele has been the most rewarding in my experience and engendered an enormous respect for her excellent work. On behalf of our school community, I know we will at first be saddened at Michele's leaving, but know that we have all benefitted from her outstanding service to the school and that **she leaves with our great thanks and very best wishes.**

A selection process for a new Deputy Principal is currently being completed and an announcement will be made in the next Newsletter.

Kind Regards,

Allan Cook, Principal

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

14 Jun	P&C Association Meeting - 7:15pm	20 Jun	Yr 10 Work Experience commences
16 Jun	<i>Verbal Combat</i> presentation	24 Jun	School Newsletter
17 Jun	Semester Merit Certificates presented- Recess 1	24 Jun	Final day for Semester 1
17 Jun	North Burnett Girls Rugby League	11 Jul	First day of Term 3

Every lesson, of every day, of every week ... COUNTS!!

Bundaberg Maths Team Challenge

The Isis District State High School **Team Mathematics** performed magnificently at the Bundaberg Mathematics Team Challenge last Tuesday 31 May. As outstanding ambassadors for our school, all 24 students (*pictured below*) participated in the competition to the best of their ability. It was a **wonderful experience for students** to challenge their problem solving skills in a team of five and as a working pair in the relay event.



The **Year 12 Team** consisting of Caleb, Billy, Ethan, Thomas and Victor (*pictured below l-r*) scored a very high result in the relay event to come home strongly and achieve a top 3 finish. Their **third place in the Senior Division** was terrific!



The Year 7, 8 and 10 Teams all competed solidly, and are to be proud of their efforts producing many solutions for very difficult problems under time constraints. Mathematics teachers and teacher-aides have done a great job in preparing students for the competition.

Ollie Orr – Head of Department (Maths)

Verbal Combat Presentation

During Period 4 on **Thursday 16 June**, students in Years 7 to 9 will be attending a production of the play **Verbal Combat**.

Brainstorm
Productions

The play will be performed by Brainstorm Productions and is designed to combat the scourge of cyber bullying. This is a very significant topic amongst young people, so this presentation will provide valuable information for students. As parents can imagine, getting a Theatre Troupe to perform at our school is not without significant expense and to help us with the cost of production we are asking **students to donate a gold coin upon entry** to the stadium. Parental support in this matter would be much appreciated.

Gary Munks – Head of Department (Student Support)

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

Cattle Show Team Success

The Isis High **Cattle Show Team** has competed in an action-packed five agricultural shows in the last 15 days and have made me very proud to be from Isis District SHS. Students have shown more resilience than ever before, having dealt with very early mornings and freezing nights camping, broken bones, bruised legs and naughty cows and **we have loved (nearly) every minute** of it. We have had new members and returning veterans working together to hone their skills in public speaking, cattle handling and show preparation.



Jessica and Connor lead our cattle

There were too many ribbons to list them all but special mention must go to **Zak** winning second place in his first ever show, **Alexandra** winning first place in her second show and **Connor** winning second in his second show. Zak also came away with the *Presidents Encouragement Award* for a young cattleman at Fraser Coast Show. All our new members did an amazing job and I look forward to seeing them progress from here. After seasons of hard work senior member **Chelsea** represented the Biggenden Show at the Sub Chamber competition for Junior Judging. She did an amazing job suppressing her nerves and came away with a win, meaning she will now compete at the Brisbane Ekka in August. Well done!



Mrs Schouten with some of our ribbon-winners Brodie, Chelsea, Maddison, Zak

Our next major competition for the year is in October when our school is hosting the Gympie Beef Liaison Group's **Hoof and Hook Competition** at the Childers Showgrounds. Students and steers will spend three days competing against 15 other schools in Led Steer, Junior Handling and Junior Judging. With schools 'camping out' at the Showgrounds, this will be a big event for Childers.

Cath Schouten – Agriculture Coordinator

Rugby League

On Friday 27 May, a group of students attended the **Small Schools Rugby League Gala Day** in Bundaberg. Isis High took four teams, though unfortunately not all teams were full. However, the boys still played well, with students from other schools filling in to help out or teams joining together. Some students played six games across the day. In the heat of the day, all players were exhausted but continued to 'step up' to play for their team, even those who suffered minor injuries. Matches throughout the day were played in good spirit, with games not being scored and based on all players having involvement and fun. At the end of the day, each team was given two awards to hand out. The awards were awarded to **Most Valuable Player (MVP)** and **Best and Fairest (B&F)**.

Open: MVP Billy, B&F Jymi-Dean

U15: Isis 1 – MVP Samuel, B&F Wade

U15: Isis 2 – MVP Callum, B&F Brent

U13: MVP Chad, B&F Tejay



Some of our rugby league award winners (l-r) Chad, Callum, Jymi-Dean, Samuel, Brent and Tejay (front) with Ms Liesegang.

Thanks to our 'teacher coaches' and well done to the boys on their sportsmanlike participation!

Emma Liesegang – Coordinator (School Sport)

Under 8s Day

Our school maintains very strong partnerships with all of our feeder primary schools and the community generally. When asked if we could support recent **Under 8s Day** activities we jumped at the opportunity. Such activities not only support our very young school students, but they provide valuable learning opportunities for our Isis High students and I thank our staff for making these activities happen. Our students were engaged in two Under 8s day activities; one at Childers State School (*reported below*) and one organised by the Childers Neighbourhood Centre at St Joseph's Primary School (*reported next Newsletter*).

Allan Cook – Principal

Congratulations to seven of our **Year 11 Visual Art** students from Isis High who were invited down to the primary school to do face painting for the under 8's activity day. It was an **exciting day** both for the little children at Childers primary school and the talented artists that participated, with some very creative and unusual designs painted on the little faces.

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



The students involved were Olivia, Jessica, Julia, Samantha, Tahlia and Nicole who did the most amazing job of organizing the equipment and directing the young excitable students before negotiating designs and painting the faces. The Childers State School teachers organising the event were very impressed with the activity, commenting how our students were "**kind, patient and generous towards the children not to mention talented and self-reliant**". Well done girls!

Kerry Hetherington – Art Coordinator

Staff Volleyball

There is always much to be gained in schools, when students see **staff involved in activities** in which we encourage students. Staff have been conducting an inter-faculty volleyball competition under the excellent coordination of our Social Club and Wellness Coordinator, Ms Lorrae Oliver. Over several Friday recesses, we have enjoyed **friendly volleyball rivalry**.



The winners were Mr Cook and Mr Gill ...with some of our 'student helpers', Thomas, Caleb, Victor and Aleisha.

NOTE: Ms Kirkland helped us get to the finals playing in earlier rounds!

Last Friday, the finals were held and unsurprisingly **'Admin' were triumphant**though perhaps it should be said with some 'slight assistance' from conscripted students (thanks!). It was enjoyable and relationship-building fun!

Allan Cook – Principal

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