11 September, 2014

Principal’s Message

What a busy couple of weeks we have had.

Last week our Year 12 students undertook their QCS testing over two days. I am very confident that they were well and truly prepared for this and I am looking forward to seeing their results at the end of the Year. We have very high aspirations for this cohort, and they have responded so impressively to the preparation program we provided this year.

Last week we celebrated Teacher Aide Day around the state. This recognises the outstanding work our teacher aides and support staff provide in supporting our students and teachers. The assistance they offer, adds value in each and every classroom or specialist area providing the extra personalised attention some students need to get the most out of a lesson while also supporting our teachers to organise engaging and educational activities each day. Last Friday we held a special morning tea to say thank you to our wonderful teacher aides and support staff on behalf of our whole school community. I also asked our students on Assembly this week to take the time and thank the many Teacher Aides and support staff that help them on a daily basis.

Assignments, in-class testing and assessment will continue every day throughout next week for all year levels. Attendance up to and including the last day of Term 3 is vital for students learning. When teachers have a full class of students they can continue with new learning experiences and consolidate and review previous experiences. Thank you for your support in ensuring your student is at school every day including the last day of Term 3.

I do hope you all have an enjoyable and restful break, ready for yet another full term of exciting learning opportunities here at Isis High. Term 4 commences on Tuesday 7 October, following the Public Holiday on Monday 6 October. Congratulations on a fantastic term Isis High!

Year 10 Work Experience Profile

Name: Aleisha

Work Experience Location: Childers State School

Work Role: Teacher

Feedback from Employer: “Aleisha’s bright and bubbly personality ensured a positive rapport with all students. She showed excellent initiative throughout the week demonstrating confidence in handling many different aspects of education including teaching small groups, assisting one-on-one and managing student behaviours. Teaching would be a fantastic career choice for Aleisha as she already demonstrates many of the required skills.” On behalf of Robyn Philpott, Principal Childers State School

Name: Scott

Work Experience Location: Camdombrow Electrical Services

Work Role: Electrician

Feedback from Employer: “Both myself and our employee found Scott to be well-mannered and communicative to not only ourselves but to other trades persons and customers. He showed willingness to carry out tasks that were set for him and asked questions when he wasn’t aware of particular procedures. We found Scott a pleasure to work with and are sure he will succeed in whatever endeavours he pursues.” Cameron Dombrow, Camdombrow Electrical Services

Kind Regards,

Brett Kavanagh
Principal

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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Isis District celebrated National Literacy and Numeracy Week in style between 25 and 31 August with students across the school participating in numerous games, activities, challenges and excursions.

One such event saw 14 of our talented Year 10 English and Mathematics students visit St Joseph's Primary Year 6/7 class. The trip was a great success and our incredible students had the opportunity to share their love of literacy and numeracy and build relationships that could ultimately aid in smoother transitions for these young students as they enter into high school next Year. This fantastic opportunity saw students engaging in problem solving strategies, working in teams to overcome challenges and delving into the world of children stories to explore their creativity and analytical skills. Overall, both groups of students (and their teachers!) enjoyed an afternoon of celebrating the journey of learning.

**National Literacy and Numeracy Week Celebratory Success**

**Literacy Tip**

Whilst some people are naturally accurate spellers, good spelling doesn’t just happen. It needs work, thought and knowledge about words and patterns within words. Practice makes perfect.

If your child is having trouble with spelling you can help them to improve!

- Blutac words (around the house) that cause problems.
- Write the words in different coloured pens or fonts.
- Highlight the part of the word that is tricky eg separate (students often write separate).

Discourage students from relying totally on spellcheckers. Many students believe that spellcheckers will correct ALL the mistakes. But they don’t, as the example below shows:

> “They’re no miss steaks in this newsletter cause we used special soft wear with cheques you’re spelling. It is mower or lass a weigh to verify. How ever it can knot correct arrows witch are misused butt spelled rite. Four example; a paragraph cud half mini flaws but wood bee past by the spill checker. And it won’t catch the sent tense fragment which you. Their fore, the message is that proof reading is knot eliminated; it is still berry much reek wired.”

The spellchecker reveals, ‘How ever’ should be one word and ‘Four example; a paragraph cud half many flaws but wood bee past by the spill checker’ shows up as a fragment, not a sentence. All the other mistakes (and there are many) do not show up when using the spellchecker.

Spellcheckers are a useful aid to double check spelling, but are not by themselves a solution for poor spelling. Students should always read their work thoroughly before handing it in.

As a parent you can help your children to develop their literacy skills by offering to “proof read” their assignments and look for spelling mistakes. Glorla Davey – Student Services

**Traineeship Student Profile**

**Name:** Daniel  
**Traineeship Course Title:** Certificate II in Retail  
**Employer:** McDonalds  
**What are your work days and Hours?**  
‘Every Thursday 1:30pm to 3:00pm.’  
**What are your work duties?**  
‘Cooking, Cleaning, Front Counter Opening & Closing of Store.’  
**What do you enjoy most about your traineeship?**  
‘All aspects of working life and gaining further knowledge and expertise in retail’  
**What do you consider to be the main benefits of your traineeship?**  
‘The main benefits are that I actively gain experience and communication skills and work experience as well as interacting with customers.’

Gloria Davey – Student Services

**Maryborough Town Cryer visit to Year 08 History Students**

Last Monday a town crier from Maryborough came to Isis High and taught the Year 8 History classes about the Black Death in medieval times and more recently in Maryborough in the early 1900’s. He gave the Year 8 students a demonstration about what Town Criers do and how they used to inform the towns people of important events. He gave six students a try at Town Crying including myself, Tracey, Alexandria, Callum, Jack and Daniel. The experience was great and on behalf of Year 8 we say thank you because he was a very good role model. We should have him back for every history lesson. Thank you Ms Chambers for organising this for the Year 8 cohort.

Written by Claudelia – Year 08 Student

**Our students interacting with students at St Joseph’s School**

Congratulations to all students who took part in activities during the week, the fun and experiences of learning should always extend beyond the classroom, and remember, “Without Geometry, life is pointless!”

Kymberly Webb – HOD/Mathematics

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Written by Claudelia – Year 08 Student
Students in 10A History entered the National History Competition with great results.

Congratulations 10A on great results and representing our school.

Karen Chambers – HOD/History

Year 08 English

This term, our class has been concentrating on understanding Aboriginal Australian and Torres Strait Islander perspectives. Our focus has been to deconstruct the values, attitudes and beliefs written in poetry by Aboriginal Australian authors. Further, to enhance our understanding we have been exploring the various representations, cultural habits and traditions by analysing various texts, historical documents and artefacts in preparedness for our assessment task. Our class was exceptionally fortunate to be a part of this Year’s NAIDOC week celebrations by creating a dot painting (Nicole pictured above) and writing a legend after reading “The Rainbow Serpent”. The class has also just this week received a special package whereby we used our senses to investigate artefacts from Torres Strait Islander culture, provided by The Bundaberg Regional Arts Gallery.

“Back in the Year of the Dreamtime, before people were here, animals roamed the Earth. The animals of the land fell into chaos after a snake stole fruit from their sacred apple tree. The snake denied everything but the other animals didn’t believe him. For his punishment they decided to throw him into an active volcano. As they reached the summit of the volcano a loud bang rung out. The Earth shook and lava spurted out. All the animals of that forest died, but amongst their deaths a new creature arose from their ashes – man.”

By Cooper – Year 08 Student
Amber Holland-Chalmers – English Teacher
and Lauren Samuels – Pre-Service Teachers

Meanwhile the week before the school equestrian team competed at the Wide Bay Interschool Equestrian Competition. Eight students competed over two days and the students quickly racked up prizes left and right. Fiona, Jordan-lee, Brooke, Sophie and Laura all did exceptionally well, placing in numerous events. Congratulations to all members of both teams, you represented yourselves and the school very well.

Catherine Christensen – Agricultural Coordinator

Free Dress Day

Student Council has arranged to hold a free dress day on the last Friday of the term 19 September. As usual there will be a gold coin donation collected at assembly and forwarded to a charity. Students are reminded that they need to dress appropriately and wear covered shoes. The funds raised will go to Canteen, an organisation that assists young people with cancer.

Andrew Cole – Student Council Coordinator

For Sale - Beef

Orders are now open for a ¼ or side of highly ethical (happy), low carbon footprint beef. The ¼’s are made up of both fore and hind meat so everyone gets the same quality. They will be $7.50 /kg and each ¼ will be approximately 75kg each. Final weights will be determined in week 3 next term. You are able to choose how the meat is cut up and in what size portions. There are 12 ¼’s on offer so please leave your name and a $50 deposit at the school office. Why not go halves with a friend or neighbour?

See Cathy Christensen for more details.

Cows and Horses

The school cattle show team attended the Wide Bay Dexter Spring Show earlier this month. All students performed exceptionally well, including our newest members of just a few weeks who handled and judged the cattle like pros! Extra congratulations to Vader-Ann, Chelsea, Brodie and Kaylan on finishing in the top three places in numerous events.

Andrew Cole – Student Council Coordinator

FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY!

Childers Cultural Centre

Friday 17 October 2014

Doors open at 5:30pm
Show begins at 6:00pm

Drinks and supper available

Come along for a fantastic night showcasing the best of the Arts at Isis High.