

14 March, 2014

Principal's Message

Last Friday, 7 March, I had the pleasure of attending the annual Childers International Women's Day celebrations. I was accompanied by the School Captains, Senior Leaders and staff representatives for breakfast at the Palace Motel. The Isis District High School String Ensemble also entertained during the pre-breakfast celebrations. Our two female School Captains Courtney Sinnett and Eleisha Furlonger presented a speech on their role as leaders and young women in our community. The 2014 theme for International Women's day is 'Inspiring Change' and guest speaker, Elaine Turner, captivated the audience with her personal stories from aide work completed in Uganda.



Later on Friday 7 March, two Senior Leaders, Guy Cole and Zeppelyn Wegner joined me at the Childers State School for their student Leader's Ceremony. This was a wonderful celebration where their elected student leaders were announced and presented them with their badges. Both Guy and Zeppelyn played an important role in presenting a number of badges to the young leaders at Childers State School. It was wonderful to meet so many of the parents and community members during the morning tea that followed.

At the start of 2014, Isis District State High School adopted a new Assessment Policy. This can be viewed in full from the schools website. The school's Senior Leadership team worked across Term 4, 2013 to review, develop and adopt the new policy. The policy supports high expectations for student assessment while also providing support when extensions and 'special considerations' need to be applied. The key components of the policy include:

- A draft assignment must be submitted by the 'checked-date' for all assignment work
- All assignments / tests must be completed on or by the due date
- Parents / Carers will be notified immediately if a draft or final piece of assessment is not submitted by the 'Checked-date' and /or 'Due date'
- A 'Request for Extension' to the due date or 'Special Consideration' must be submitted before the due date.
- All assessment items (assignments, test and practicals) must be completed
- Teachers will provide individualised feedback for all assessment items
- If a student is absent on the due date, the student is still required to submit assessment on the due-date. They can have family or friends submit to the school or email teacher by due date.
- Non submission by due date (hard copy / electronic copy) will mean that result will be based on the draft / notes / evidence submitted up until this due date (QSA and school policy). If no draft, evidence or final assignment is submitted a NR (Not Rated) will be awarded.

Teachers will notify parents when students have failed to submitted their draft assessment by the 'checked-date' and final assessment by the 'Due-date'. Parents and students can download 'Request for Extension' and 'Special Consideration' forms from the schools website. Alternatively these can be collected from the schools Administration Office. Requests for an extension are required to be signed off by the students class teacher and submitted to the Head Of Department for the relevant subject while requests for 'Special Consideration' are required to be completed by the schools Guidance officer, Ms Bust.

This schools new Assessment Policy supersedes the version printed in the students 2014 Study Diary. The new policy is available on the schools website or copies can be collected from the Administration Office. Questions or concerns should be directed to your student's individual class teacher or Head of Department.

Kind Regards,
Brett Kavanagh – Principal

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

19 Mar	BDSSSA Summer Sport	04 Apr	Summer Sport Finals Day
24 Mar	Wide Bay Winter Trials	04 Apr	Last Day of Term 1
26 Mar	BDSSSA Summer Sport	22 Apr	First Day of Term 2



21 MARCH
HARMONY DAY **EVERYONE BELONGS**

2014 Next Step Survey

The Queensland Government is conducting its annual statewide survey of all students who completed Year 12 in 2013. The *Next Step* survey is a brief, confidential survey that gains a comprehensive picture of the employment, study and life choices made by Queensland school completers in the year after they finish Year 12.

Between March and June, all our students who completed Year 12 last year can expect to receive instructions to complete a web-based survey or a telephone call from the Queensland Government Statistician's Office to complete the survey. Please encourage them to take part. If their contact details have changed, please assist the interviewer with their updated details or forward the survey to their new address so they can participate. Thank you for your support of the *Next Step* survey in 2014.

For more information visit

www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep/

or telephone toll free on 1800 068 587.

Tips for using Facebook

Most young people are frequently communicating using some form of social media; Facebook is one of the most popular. As a parent it is imperative that you 'friend' your child on Facebook and keep a close eye on what's being posted. Here are some tips for using Facebook safely. Please encourage your child to follow these suggestions.

1. Do not put your personal information on your Facebook profile. You should not put your address, birthday, phone number etc. You do not want others to know your personal information.
2. Be careful when placing photos on Facebook. Remember put all your privacy settings to maximum so others cannot share your photos.
3. Your Facebook page is not private. If you Google search your name your Facebook page will come up. Always remember that your future employee, girlfriend/boyfriend may look for your Facebook profile.
4. Do not accept all friend requests. Remember not every friend request is legitimate. There have been reported instances of private investigators, police officers, sex offenders and the like creating fake accounts to gain access to you online. If you do not know the person, then do not add them to your accepted friends. Again, as soon as they gain access, they will be searching your personal information, your postings, and viewing all of your photos.
5. Do not leave your computer on with your Facebook account open. Leaving access to your Facebook account is the equivalent of leaving your wallet or cell phone in public on the picnic table. Anyone can sit down and start making posts to your Wall, redesigning your site, or even entice friends to play the greatest prank on you in your life. Be sure to sign out.

Brett Kavanagh – Principal

Chaplaincy News

Senior leaders honour our breakfast donors

Local businesses play an essential role in our school by donating food to our Thursday Breakfast. It is fitting therefore that some of our Senior Leaders put their hand up to thank our business donors through the presentation of Certificates of Appreciation:



Senior Leader, Sarah and Chaplaincy Committee Chairman, Mr Neil Grumley, (right) present a Certificate of Appreciation to Childers IGA storeowners, Debbie and Bruce.

Free Dress and Crazy Hair Day

The student council will once again be holding a fund raiser for the Leukaemia Foundation on Friday 21st March. The day will be a free dress and crazy hair day with a gold coin donation being collected at year level parade in the morning. Recess 1 activities will include hair colouring for \$5.00. Student Lachlan and staff member Mrs Nimmo have registered with Shave For A Cure and will have their heads shaved on the day. Students are reminded that dress should be of an acceptable standard and singlets, open shoes and offensive slogans will not be accepted.

At this time we also remember one of our own, Joshua who is in Brisbane undergoing treatment for leukaemia. All the best Josh.

Donations can also be made online at <http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/isisdistrictshs>.

Mr Cole - Coordinator

Cattle Show Team

The school Cattle Show Team has begun the year on a high note. A small number of the team attended the Brahmousin Cattle Handling School in Wondai a couple of weekends ago. Here we collected our new steers for the year that have been named 'Robyn', 'Batman' and 'Joker'. Two of our newest members Vader-Ann and Chelsea represented the school admirably. They were both green horns when it came to showing cattle and were bombarded with information on all sorts of cattle topics over the three days. To top off the time Chelsea came home with two fifth's in handling and judging respectively and took out the overall Encouragement Award. Congratulations to both girls and I look forward to the year ahead.

Catherine Christsen – SAC/Agriculture

Youth Music Expo to Showcase Local Talent

The Youth Music Expo planned for the evening on 29 April will showcase the talent of students from grades 5 to 12.

This Isis District State High School event is also supported by the Bundaberg Regional Council as part of their Youth Month activities.

Different styles and categories of music are catered for in the event. Students who are gaining experience with an instrument or as a vocalist should enter. Even students who are great at 'singing in the shower' (so to speak) could consider entering. Groups or bands may also enter.

Local and regional businesses are encouraging students to 'have a go' by sponsoring prizes. There will be first, second and third in each category, but sponsors have been very generous, and every performer on the night will win a prize!

As an added bonus, each performer will receive, at minimum, a certificate congratulating them for their effort in performing at 'Youth Music Expo 2014'.

Entry forms are available at the school office, or phone Ralph on 4192 1246 for more information.

Ralph Thurlow – School Chaplain

Harmony Day 2014

Beginning in 1999, Harmony Day is held on March 21 every year with schools across the country organising events that celebrate the cohesive and inclusive nature of Australians. Harmony Day encourages people to celebrate their background and revel in the fact that the country can bring together people from all over the world to form thriving, inclusive communities. This is a great opportunity for students to learn that not only do they share common ground with other cultures, but also that our differences make Australia a very special place to live.

The overriding theme of Harmony Day is that 'everyone belongs' and this year is no exception. 2014 highlights that everyone has their own story and that every story is important. On March 21, students will be invited to write their own story and share messages of acceptance in the school's Resource Centre as part of celebrating this special day, during Morning Tea.

To start hearing some of the stories that make up Australia, download the Harmony Day app today from the AppStore or on Google Play. Remember to come and share your story on March 21.

Josh Neumann – HOD/Student Services

Blood Ambassadors

Senior students of Isis High School have something to be very proud of. Our school has a long-standing community service record for participating in Red Cross blood donations. We have been a part of the School Blood Donations Challenge for over 6 years now and have won the small schools division for three of those years. This has rewarded us with beautiful glass engraved trophies that grace our school foyer.

These efforts cannot be managed and accomplished without the dedicated team work of our school Blood Ambassadors. Our four new Ambassadors for this year

were officially inducted last Tuesday and took the pledge towards their commitment to their positions.

Our Ambassadors recently participated in an exclusive training day at the Bundaberg Red Cross Centre to prepare them for the duties ahead. Blood Ambassadors have the important role of providing information to students and teachers about donating blood. They also help to promote and organise each group of students who make the trip to the Bundaberg Red Cross Service each term to give. Giving blood takes only 1 hour of time and each donation helps save the lives of three people. All students must be over 16 years of age to give and give once per 12 months.

We always manage to round-up a very enthusiastic group of donors who not only enjoy the realisation of how brave they were to do it but also the feeling they get from knowing that they have given so generously to something so important. Equally generous and thanks must also go to our school's P&C Committee who sponsor the school bus for our transportation making these trips possible.



Our blood Ambassadors (l-r) Jasmine, Hannah, Ashleigh, Brooke

Renee Adams and Emily Murphy - Coordinators

Visual Arts

Year 11 and 12 art students boarded the tilt train early Monday morning to travel to Brisbane on Monday 10 March to see the exhibitions at the Queensland Art Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art. It was a huge day, walking to the galleries. The art work was very varied and world class quality with one artist who makes huge installations with animals made life size. We also visited the science museum to explore options to develop ideas in art from a scientific perspective. Students arrived home exhausted around nine o'clock.



Dana (left) and Taylar (right) pictured inside the installation called 'Wolves'

Kerry Hetherington – SAC/Art

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