

20 June, 2014

### Principal's Message

Another successful term has flown by here at Isis High and there constantly seems to be so many exciting activities and opportunities for our students.

Next week our Year 10 students will be engaged in a full week of Work Experience. This is an important component of their Career Education studies leading up to their SET-Plan (Senior Education and Training Plan) interview where important pathways decisions are made and senior Year 11 & Year 12 subjects are selected. It has been wonderful to see the enthusiasm our Year 10 students have demonstrated in approaching their Work Experience. Students and parents are reminded that they must attend their designated work place each day and uphold the schools values of Learning Respect and Responsibility in all activities and duties required of them. If they are unable to attend their work place they must notify the employer and school of the absence. I look forward to sharing a selection of photographs and stories from these experiences early next term. Thank you to the many businesses in our community that have supported the school and our students with this program.

Year 11 students next week will experience a unique Leadership program '*Leaders for Life*' delivered by YLead. YLead partner with schools across Australian to delivery extraordinary student leadership training. All year 11 students are required to be in attendance for the whole week and wear full school uniform. They will also start work on a Microsoft IT Academy course which when completed will gain each student 1 QCE Point. This program not only offers opportunities to gain QCE credit but assists students in enhancing resumes, employability skills and transitioning to the workforce or tertiary study.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our school community for your ongoing support for the many and varied activities we undertake with our students. Our school community plays an important role in helping us educate our amazing young people – whom we are very proud of!

The revised Code of Conduct for School Students Travelling on Buses comes into effect on Monday 14 July (Day 1, Term 3). The Code outlines expected standards for school students while travelling on buses so that bus travel can be safe and enjoyable for everyone. The Code provides clear process for dealing with misconduct and outlines consequences for students who misbehave. The Code encourages all students to be safe and responsible passengers. The school will issue a copy of the revised Code to parents in the near future once they are received by the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

#### Students' Responsibilities

To act safely and responsibly by:

- Following driver instructions.
- Following the bus rules and the Code.
- Respecting self and others.
- Respecting own property and the property of others.
- Communicating respectfully with others.
- Accepting consequences for bus misconduct.

#### Parents' and carers' responsibilities

- To ensure their children have an understanding of the Code and bus rules.
- To communicate respectfully with the bus operator, school and transport staff.
- To teach their children about bus travel behaviour.
- To demonstrate appropriate bus travel behaviours to their children.
- To be available for discussions about the behaviour of their children.

The Department of Education Training and Employment has confirmed with me that I will remain at Isis District State High School as Principal for Term 3, 2014. 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. Congratulations on a fantastic term Isis High!

Brett Kavanagh  
Principal

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

|        |                                  |        |                                   |
|--------|----------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------|
| 23 Jun | Work Experience Yr 10 (23 to 27) | 27 Jun | Last Day Term 2                   |
| 23 Jun | QCS Practice Test Yr 12          | 14 Jul | First Day Term 3                  |
| 24 Jun | Roadcraft Excursion (24 & 25)    | 22 Jul | CQ Uni & Tafe Exp Yr 10 (22 & 23) |
| 27 Jun | Yr 08 & 09 Merit Trip            | 24 Jul | Tertiary Trip Bne Yr 12 (24 & 25) |

## Pleasing results

### Pleasing Results Evident in School Behaviour Data Truancy Rates Down!

Staff at Isis District State High School meet regularly to analyse and act upon data that teachers and support staff compile on student behaviour.

The data is collected from a number of sources; including information compiled by Mrs Nimmo our Student Services Officer. She does a great job number crunching the statistics from our rolls, thus ensuring that student attendance is very closely monitored.

Last week's School Wide Positive Behaviour Meeting, revealed some very positive data around two key issues that limit student learning - truancy and student non-compliance with teacher instructions.

When comparing data from 2013 with that of 2014, over a six-week block at the beginning of Term 2, incidents of students truanting classes and student non-compliance with teacher instructions have shown a marked decline.

The incidence of truancy in particular has fallen dramatically - down to approximately one - fifth the number of violations over the six-week block under review.



*(l-r) Mr Cole engaging with Ethan, James and Dylan*

Great news for our school community - more students in class engaging with learning!

## Grin and Tonic Theatre



Grin and Tonic Theatre group (*pictured above*) enthralled Year 10 students and staff with their performance of Romeo and Juliet presented at the school recently. The troupe's quirky and engaging representation of Shakespeare's famous play supported student learning

for the English unit they have been studying for the last few weeks.



*Students participating in roleplay*

*Karen Chambers – HOD/English*

## Maths Team Challenge

I would like to congratulate all students and teachers who helped out and competed in the Maths Teams' Challenge held in Bundaberg 3 June. There were many students from surrounding schools who competed from years 08 to 12. Representing our school we had the following:

Year 08 team: Candy, Madelyn, Max, Michael and Ashleigh.

Junior Secondary team 1: Ethan, Shay, Aleisha, Aleisha and Samantha.

Team 2: Lleyton, Caleb, Thomas, Victor and Billy

Senior: Thomas, Felicity, Phoebe, Rhia and Hannah.

It was a wonderful day and all of our 4 teams' results were a great success, especially with our Junior Secondary team 1, who took out second place in their division. Congratulations to all and we look forward to seeing you all there next year!



*Isis High Students (l-r) Ethan, Aleisha, Aleisha, Shay and Samantha.*

*Danielle Ney – Mathematics Teacher*

## No Limits

**Year 08 'No-Limits' Group Conquers Mount Woowoonga**

Tuesday 10 June, saw our 'No Limits' group go bushwalking up Mt Woowoonga. Tackling this steep grade four climb was a culminating activity for this term's 'No Limits' activities. A total of eight boys made it to the top of the mountain. The hikers were rewarded for their effort with a delicious lunch in Biggenden.

Many thanks go to teacher, Mr Gary Munks, for encouraging the students to keep going. Also thanks to community volunteers, Mr Neil Grumley and Mr Graeme Truscott, who supported by driving the bus and with general assistance during the climb.

'No Limits' is a program aimed at developing leadership and building resilience in young people.



(from Left) Connor, Callum, Cameron, Coby, Brodie, Tyrone and Adrian at the top of Mount Woowonga.

Ralph Thurlow – School Chaplain

### Positive Psychology

Three reasons as to Why Positive Psychology is of Benefit

1. It helps people identify and engage their strengths

The backbone of positive psychology is built around character strengths. The basic concept is that we all have 4 or 5 strengths that are more prominent than others. To identify, understand and use these strengths – particularly in the service of others, has been shown to enhance an individual's sense of wellbeing.

2. It empowers individuals to discover meaning in their lives

By using our strengths in the service of others, we create meaning in our lives. As opposed to fretting about the meaning of life, individuals can get out there and make a difference, with the added bonus of their actions speaking to their authentic self

3. It puts a new lens on engagement and success



Engaged adolescences have higher levels of wellbeing and as a consequence tend to do better, eg Engaging in the learning for the sake of learning – not grades alone

It is called The Virtuous Cycle

The *Virtuous Cycle* relies on having positive *relationships* at its heart or hub.

Think of your own experience at school. It's likely your favourite teacher taught one of your favourite subjects. It's likely you engaged with the subject matter *because of the teacher*, rather than vice versa.

As well as interpersonal relationships, the relationships between achievement and purpose, the past, present and future student goals and the relationship between school and the wider world are all crucially important to establishing the *Virtuous Cycle*.

Monique Anderson – School Nurse

### Park to Point Fun Run

Following the success of last years 'Park to Point Fun Run' the Isis High P&C have announced that this year's event will be held at the Woodgate Beach on Sunday 17 August starting at 8:00am. The Fun Run is being organised by our school's P & C Association and is a fantastic opportunity to get family and friends together to run, jog, walk or even crawl!! There are 2km, 5km and 10km options to support all performance and interest levels.

Registration will open at 7:15am on the day or why not register and pay online before the event. The secure 'trybooking.com' link can be accessed from the school's website and will enable you to avoid the queues on the day. The Isis High community look forward to seeing everyone support this great school and community event. Don't forget to purchase your Egg and Bacon roll from the P & C's breakfast stand and enjoy the entertainment that will follow the event.



Brett Kavanagh – Principal

Learn more about Year 8 in 2015

5:30- Tuesday 12 August

Register Your Interest in Attending by Calling

 4192 1222

Email: [the.principal@isisdistshs.eq.edu.au](mailto:the.principal@isisdistshs.eq.edu.au)

Isis District State High School

