

25 October, 2013

Principal's Message

The last two weeks have been very busy with student successes coming from all corners of the school. Students continue to take up opportunities that assist in *Preparing Futures*.

On Tuesday 15 October I had the pleasure of taking three of our senior leaders Bernadette Steinmann, Troy Stark and Brandon Thomas to Bundaberg for the annual Bundaberg Rotary Quiz Night. The students represented themselves and the school in a highly professional manner. We finished the night as the best placed state school in the Bundaberg region. This was an excellent achievement from these fine young people. A full report and photo is inside.

Congratulations to all of the student performers at last week's Arts Gala evening. The Cultural Centre was filled to capacity with standing room only. Special thanks must go to Miss Lloyd and Miss Robinson for the time they put into the preparation and rehearsals for the evening. The confidence that our young people acquire through these performance activities assists in future leadership and school assessment presentations, not to mention, self-confidence.

Students from the Learning Enhancement Centre last week further developed their skills of team work, communication and patience at the annual Bribie Island Fishing Competition. Following our success as the 2012 winners the trophy had to head back down to Bribie Island. I am pleased to say it has returned for 2013! Our basket didn't only contain the trophy for the best school team. We also took out best male and female student along with runner-up male and female.

This week's cyber safety article focuses on social media and lists the top 5 sites that students commonly use at Isis District State High School. The article provides tips and conversation starters to assist parents and carers to keep our young people safer while navigating online. Through my research into sites the top social media sites, I was astounded to find that there were hundreds of different sites available on the internet. Many of which I have never heard of. Keeping up with these constant changes is a challenge for us all. Maintaining an open communication with your children and students is important.

Thank you to the students and families who gave so generously during our Free Dress day last week to support Year 10 student Joshua Ruane. I had the pleasure of meeting Joshua and his mother last weekend at Brisbane's Royal Children's Hospital and handed over \$800. This is double what previous Free Dress days have raised. Joshua and his mother have asked me to pass on their sincere appreciation to everyone for their ongoing support. Joshua's leukaemia treatments are going well at this stage. He hopes to be back at school to start Year 11 next year.

Our annual Awards Evening is being held on Tuesday 29 October in the school Stadium. I look forward to seeing many of our Isis District families in attendance to celebrate the achievement of our student's pursuits. Guest speaker Michael Jeh has just returned to Australia from a recent African Safari. I am sure he will have many great stories to share and inspire our young people as they look to preparing their futures.

Michael Jeh will also be working with all Year 10, Year 11 and Year 12 students on Wednesday 30 October. In specially designed sessions he led discussions on such topics as risk-taking behaviour, drugs and alcohol, social media, sexting, inappropriate (illegal) use of technology to name but a few. Michael works with a number of schools around Australia delivering similar sessions. I have been present during Michael's sessions and the students have always found them very engaging and informative. There will be no cost to families for these sessions.

Kind Regards,
Brett Kavanagh – Principal

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

24 Oct	State Track 7 field Carnival (to 27 Oct)	29 Oct	School Captains announced
25 Oct	World Teacher's Day	30 Nov	Michael Jeh Presentation
29 Oct	Awards Evening & Day Ceremonies	02 Nov	Bundaberg Secondary Combined School Exhibition

Every lesson, Every day ... COUNTS!

Cyber Safety

Help children use social networking sites safely

Social networking sites can have many benefits for children, such as allowing them to explore new interests. Help your children use them more safely by going over the following tips and discussion starters.

- Check your child's friend lists to see who has access to his or her profile. Make sure your child knows all friends in person.
- Teach your child to set profiles to private – but be aware that privacy settings do not guarantee complete privacy.
- Have your child remove any inappropriate content and photos and delete any personal information.
- Check the profiles of your child's friends to see if there is revealing information or photos about your child.
- Report inappropriate or criminal behaviour to the appropriate authority. Most sites have a reporting mechanism for non-criminal behaviour.

Start a discussion with your child

Use these discussion starters to get an Internet safety conversation going with your children. The more often you talk to them about online safety, the easier it will get, so don't get discouraged if they don't respond immediately!

- Could you show me your online profile(s)?
- Do you use your real name or age when communicating with others online?
- What kinds of things do you post on your page?
- How do you decide who to add as a friend?
- Would you feel comfortable if I checked your profile?

Top five Social Media sites we encounter students using at Isis District State High School:

1. Facebook
2. Instagram
3. Kik
4. Ask.fm
5. Snapchat

Brett Kavanagh – Principal

Rotary Quiz

Do you know how many people have ever walked on the moon?

This question was just one of 80 questions that three of our students answered at the Annual Rotary High School Quiz Challenge on Tuesday night. Bernadette Steinmann, Troy Stark and Brandon Thomas were challenged by questions in six categories, including Arts & Literature, Mathematics, Australian and General Knowledge. In its twenty-sixth year, the quiz gives students from secondary schools throughout the Bundaberg region a chance to compete as both teams and individuals, to win prize money, and have their school's name engraved on the perpetual trophy.

This year, Isis District State High performed extremely well. We placed third in the team event, the only State High School to do so. In the individual section, Brandon Thomas won \$100 by coming second, the only State High school student in the top three. This is a wonderful achievement for our 'small' school considering the other schools in the competition are much larger. Congratulations to our three intelligent participants who

conducted themselves with maturity and were excellent ambassadors of Isis High. (Answer: 12!)



Pictured is (l-r) Troy Stark, Brandon Thomas and Bernadette Steinmann receiving their certificates.

Thank you to Mrs Gloria Davey for her organisation and to Mr Brett Kavanagh for transporting the students and providing support.

Meryl McCulloch – A/HOD English

Arts Gala Performance

Last Friday night the Childers Cultural centre came alive with talent as Isis District State High held its 2013 Arts Gala. After many rehearsals and hard work by students and staff, the night was a roaring success with an almost sold out crowd including the Mayor Mr Forman and Councillor Tony Ricciardi. The hospitality crew and Miss Adams provided some wonderful food and the P&C ran the bar like experts. From a rough start during rehearsals and an injured star to exciting dances, mesmerising music performances, hilarious drama acts and breathtaking vocals, the Arts Gala was a night to remember. Solo performances by Kyminah Murphy, Aleisha Thomas, Aidan Rowlingson and Tom Cole were



individually remarkable, as were all of the performers. From clowns, to puppets, to robots and hogwarts there was something for everyone and a very entertaining night. Thank you to everyone who came to support

the Performing and Visual Arts departments and all of the students who went above and beyond to amaze us with their performances. To quote Mayor Forman "You have some incredibly talented students at Isis High"... yes, yes we do!



Sjaak Balk and Hendrikus Balk performing.

Jessica Robinson – Arts/Drama Teacher

Bribie Island Fishing Trip

11 students from IDSHS recently attended the Bribie Island Fishing Competition on Bribie Island. The students and 3 staff had a wonderful time fishing on the east coast of the island. Every student on the trip caught at least 7 fish.

The students were proud to be sponsored by Paul, Nicole, Jamie and Branden Dimmock from East Coast Live Baits. They guided the students to the best areas and helped them with baiting their hooks and for some, how to fish. Tackle Shop Carseldine also sponsored the students and provided them with shirts.



Peter Jenner pictured with sponsor Paul Dimmock.

Overall the students did very well and managed to win the Best Team Award again but this time by Cayne Pearson and his team of Brighton Baker, Joshua Facey, Cherrykie More, Hannah Broughton and Lydia Rieck.

Leah Budgen won the Best Female with 20 fish kept and 6 released; Hannah Broughton won the runner-up Prize with 11 fish kept and 4 released; Cayne Pearson won the Best Male with 11 fish kept and 6 released and Cherrykie More won the runner-up Prize with 10 fish kept and 4 released.

Thanks to Barry from Redcliff Special School and all the volunteers who helped so many students at the competition. Thanks to Mr Vellacott and Mr Cole and Mrs Arnold who assisted on the trip and to Mrs Robertshaw for her organisation beforehand.



Back(l-r) Brighton Baker, Joshua Facey, Lydia Rieck, Cherykie More, Hannah Broughton. Front Cayne Pearson, Byron Brown, Peter Jenner, Jessica Vaughan, Lachlan Philips and Leah Budgen

Pamela McHardy – Head of Special Education

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

Visual Arts Workshop

On Thursday 10 September two visual artists presented a “Zine” workshop as part of the Bundaberg Regional Crush Festival. As part of the Crush Festival, Jeremy Staples and Elouise Quinlivan visited and assisted numerous people make their own zines within the Bundaberg Region.



Students enjoying the workshop

The Year 11 students made miniature zines (a small handmade booklet with a short narrative mixed with text). The workshop was “fun”, according to students and they were able to create something unique, different and special which is what zines are all about. The “Make Your Own Zine” workshop was possible thanks to the Regional Arts Fund which funds events in regional and remote communities. The concept of the workshop was about keeping creative people staying in rural areas such as Childers.



Workshop activities

Liz Clout – HOD/Student Services

STUDENT ADSENCES

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Please give a valid reason for your child’s absence.

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