**Principal’s Message**

The school’s student leaders were presented with their badges at last Tuesday’s annual Investiture Ceremony. The four School Captains, Student Council representatives from Year 08 to Year 12, Music Captains, Sporting House Leaders, Senior Leaders and all Year 12 Seniors were announced and presented with their badges. The School Captains led the reading of their leadership pledge committing to lead the student body and represent the school throughout 2014. A number of parents attended this special occasion acknowledging the importance of student leadership. Our four School Captains for 2014 (pictured below l-r) are Hayden, Thomas, Courtney and Eleisha. I wish this team every success this year and look forward to working with them and seeing their growth in these positions.

Our students are busy with mid-term assessment at the moment. The serious work is well and truly underway and it is important that our students are well organised and well prepared for upcoming assessments. Parents can support this by ensuring the assessment calendar is placed in a prominent place in the household so that encouragement and support can be put in place as they approach these busy times. It is important that our students plan their time wisely and ensure that they leave themselves sufficient time for completion of assignments before the due date.

This year we are focusing on developing our students’ reading comprehension skills. This is occurring in all classes every week. All students will be undertaking some simple reading comprehension activities each week in their classes to assist them with their literacy skills.

It has been wonderful to see so many students attending our after-school English and Maths tutoring sessions over the last two weeks. Junior Maths and English tutoring occurs on a Monday afternoon and Senior Maths on a Thursday afternoon. All sessions occur in the Resource Centre from 3:15pm to 5:15pm. Students are regularly commenting on how helpful this is with not only classwork, homework plus assignments and exam preparation. We are also investigating expanding our tutoring program into other towns to support our students that travel by bus each day and are unable to stay after school. More information will be available soon.

There is a real buzz around the school at the moment with our School Wide Positive Behaviour program. Part of our focus is about acknowledging the positive behaviours of our students. Students being acknowledged for their positive behaviour by demonstrating Learning, Respect and Responsibility and are being awarded ‘Merit Points’ by staff and go into the draw for rewards and prizes. Some students might even receive a postcard mailed home to inform parents of the positive behaviour. It’s great to see the staff and students embracing this and really getting on board.

Brett Kavanagh  
Principal

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>03 Mar</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<td>06 Mar</td>
<td>Immunisation Day Yr 08 &amp; 10</td>
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<td>10 Mar</td>
<td>Yr 11 &amp; 12 Art Ex GOMA Bne</td>
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<td>10 Mar</td>
<td>BDSSS Winter Sport Trials</td>
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<td>11 Mar</td>
<td>P &amp; C AGM 7:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Mar</td>
<td>N B Winter Trials</td>
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<td>12 Mar</td>
<td>School Social</td>
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**P & C AGM Tuesday 11 March 7:00pm**
Study Tips for Students – Part II

In the previous newsletter I identified a number of study tips for students. This week we round out our ‘Top Ten’. Remember that if your student is experiencing difficulty with their study and feeling stressed, that there is a number of support staff at the school for students to access.

6. **Have variety in your study program**
   Study different subjects each day and do different types of work and revision in each study session.

7. **Avoid interrupting your concentration**
   Have all the appropriate materials with you before you start a session of study to minimise distractions – this should include minimising the distractions of social media during this time as well.

8. **Test yourself on what you have studied**
   Ask your parents or family members to quiz you on what you have learnt, use draft questions from books, past assessments or questions provided in class.

9. **Don’t panic at exam time**
   If you have followed a study routine and have been revising your class work, there should be no need to worry. Try to keep yourself calm, positive and confident.

10. **Reward yourself for studying**
    Watch your favourite television program, spend time with your friends, walk to the park and play sport throughout the week. This ‘down time’ is very important to your mental health and wellbeing.

Remember that the school provides free afterschool tutoring for students in English and Maths from 3.15pm-5.15pm. English tutoring is held Monday afternoons, while Maths tutoring is held Monday and Thursday afternoons. Please take advantage of this extra support that is provided for students.

Josh Neumann – HOD Student Services

Focus Day Year 08

Focus Day in week 3 saw a day of action-packed excited adventure for the new Junior Secondary cohort. Over 100 new Year 08 students experienced the thrills of making new friends whilst working together as a team to solve a problem. This year Riverside Retreat hosted a whole day of problem solving activities which involved getting dirty in the river, lifting each other up, and climbing a 15foot wall. The year 08s represented our school in a polite and positive way and I’m sure it’ll be an experience they won’t quickly forget.

Miss Anneka Lloyd – Year 08 Coordinator

Year 08 Access Classes Kick Off

Like other Year Levels in our school, Year Eight have commenced Access. Each week, one period is devoted to increasing the social skills of our Year Eight students.

This Term, students have been engaging with a wide range of learning experiences in Access. These fun and interesting activities are aimed at introducing students to their classmates, giving them the skills needed to work in teams, developing a sense of belonging and connectedness and engaging in collaborative decision making, conflict resolution and problem-solving.

In addition to this work, students have also been exposed to our School Policy on Bullying and will in the coming weeks be creating an anti-bullying poster themed around the slogan Bystander to Ally.

Gary Munks –HOD/Junior Secondary

Important Reminders

School photos are on Monday 03 March. Photo envelopes with payment should be handed directly to the photographer on the day.

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School based immunisation day is Wednesday 06 March for year 08 and year 10 students. All consent forms should have been returned by now to allow allocated vaccines to be ordered.

Dearne Beatson – Deputy Principal

2014 Alternate Learning Program

This year we have eight students participating in the Alternate Learning program, designed for students who benefit from working in a more “hands-on” environment. This term, the students have been working on their woodworking skills in their Junior Construction class with Mr Anderson. Pictured below is Tyrone in Year 09 who has constructed an intricate jewellery box using a variety of woods.

Michele Kirkland – Deputy Principal

University Showcase

Year 11 and 12 Students at Isis District State High School attended an information morning with representatives from universities throughout Queensland, as part of the University Showcase. Universities such as CQU, USQ, ACU, Griffith and QUT presented to the group of 82 students who plan on continuing with tertiary education at the conclusion of their senior schooling.

Miss Anneka Lloyd – Year 08 Coordinator
Isis District was also fortunate enough to have representatives from the Defence Forces highlight to our year 12 students about the vast opportunities available to them, should they decide to pursue further study at the Australian Defence Force Academy upon leaving year 12.

Students left the showcase feeling empowered after receiving the information and being able to talk to each university about the variety of disciplines and course offerings provided. Armed with this new information, our year 12 students will be able to identify some of the requirements needed to help get accepted in to their desired courses and achieve success this year and in the coming years. Our year 11 students also benefited from the morning as they were provided with valuable information around course prerequisites and lines of study, allowing them to make informed decisions about their education.

**Chaplaincy News**

Senior leaders honour our breakfast donors

The Thursday school breakfast is an established weekly event at Isis, where students gather to eat and to socialise before lessons start. Of course many students enjoy the toasted sandwiches, pancakes and drinks, but also, several students show great character by consistently getting in and helping the chaplaincy volunteers prepare the food.

Local businesses play an essential role in this breakfast by donating food. 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:

**Uniform Shop**

Please note the change in the uniform shop schedule for the last week of term:

**OPEN – MONDAY 31 MARCH – 8:00am to 12:00pm**

**CLOSED – TUESDAY 01 APRIL**

From term 2 onwards, the uniform shop will return to the normal schedule of Tuesday mornings from 8:00am to 12:00pm.

*Margie Zea – Uniform Shop*

**Youth support Co-ordinator**

My name is Leigh-Anne McManus

I am the new Youth Support Co-ordinator at Isis District State High School.

I will be at Isis every week on a Monday, Tuesday, and alternate Fridays.

I am very much looking forward to working with students at Isis High to create positive outcomes and enhance school life.

I can be found in student services where the guidance officer is and the school nurse or you can call. 4192-1223.

*Leigh-Anne McManus – Youth Support Co-ordinator*

**Year 11/12 Parents/Guardians & Students**

Your son/daughter has been invited to be part of some local University of Southern Queensland research of which there are strictly limited positions.

**Benefits for them: first to get**

1. Impressive study skills recommendations to improve academic results
2. High quality current careers information for tertiary, industry, apprenticeship, traineeships...
3. Where the jobs will be in the next 5 years
4. Information on scholarships and
5. Financial assistance

**All they have to do:**

6. Survey (March) plus entire project chance to win iTunes/mobile credit prizes or cash!
7. Survey (August) plus entire project chance to win iTunes/mobile credit prizes or cash!

**What to do next: sign Consent form with your son/daughter**

8. Ask your son/daughter for the forms they were recently given, or
9. Get a USQ Research document from the school office, or
10. Look for the USQ Research document on the school website, or
11. If this is an electronic newsletter there may be a document attached.

**Then: Return Consent form to the office by the end of the week.**

**P & C AGM**

All parents/caregivers and interested community members are invited to the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Isis District State High School Parents' & Citizens'(P&C) Association -

Wednesday 11 March at 7:00pm in the newly air conditioned Resource Centre.