Semester 1 Reports were mailed to students’ home addresses last week and by now I’m sure parents have taken the time to review their child’s report card. These reports are very important school documents as they report on the progress of students after half a year of learning. The results usually indicate the amount of effort and commitment of the student and the comments from teachers should be carefully read. In conjunction with the distribution of these reports, the second Parent-Teacher Interview Evening for the year is being conducted at the school between 3:30pm and 6:30pm on Tuesday, 30 July. This is an excellent opportunity for parents to speak directly with teachers to clarify concerns and/or seek advice about how improvements can be made. Information for booking interviews was also mailed with their reports. Please note the new and more convenient mechanism for booking interviews through an ‘on-line’ process by visiting the school website at www.isisdistshs.eq.edu.au and following the parent-teacher interview link at the bottom right of the home page. Anyone experiencing difficulties or unable to use this process can still phone the school office on 4192 1222 for assistance with booking interviews. If you have not yet received your child’s report package please also contact the school’s general office.

Isis High is very fortunate to be well supported by our school and local community. That was on clear display at the end of last term with Australian Business Week and Work Experience so strongly supported by the local business community. However, there are also community members, some who have had their children attend our school, who continue to return to Isis High and share their knowledge and experiences for the learning benefit of today’s students. There are many examples of this such as CLiPS reading volunteers, fruit and vegetable growers and the like. The Year 10 History class of Mrs McCulloch has recently enjoyed a number of local people bringing history into the classroom by volunteering their time to share their memories of growing up in the local area as part of the current “Popular Culture” unit. Their experiences have been invaluable and been greatly enjoyed by students. A further article will be included in the next Newsletter.

Great teachers = Great results is a five year action plan introduced by the current LNP State Government which features two key goals of lifting standards of teaching and giving schools more flexibility to get on with the job. The Government claims Great teachers = Great results will define what makes a great teacher and help create more of them by supporting them with mentoring, training and resources, as well as rewarding outstanding performers with career opportunities, scholarships and bonuses. In addition, each school will be allowed to have more say in how it is run. This program will come with an investment of $537 million over five years. For further information, please read the Great Teachers = Great Results handout enclosed with the Newsletter or visit the website www.qld.gov.au/greatteachers

Kind Regards,

Allan Cook – Principal

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

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<td>Parent-Teacher Interview Evening</td>
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Every lesson, Every day .... COUNTS!
During the June/July holidays, I was fortunate enough to attend a five-day camp to the Queensland University of Technology. Based specifically around the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics faculties, the camp provided a generous opportunity to experience university life and meet many like-minded students from around Queensland. For the duration of the week, each camp participant worked on a project of their choice in groups and produced presentations which were conducted on the final day of the camp. My project was modelling aquifer depressurisation as a result of coal seam gas water extraction. I was able to experience state-of-the-art science research facilities and meet many renowned figures. It was an incredible learning experience that I would strongly recommend future Year 11 students apply for.

Allan Cook and Hayden Marvell

Isis High runs a Photography Club of a small group of enthusiastic students. Recently, our photography students had the opportunity to visit BRAG (Bundaberg Regional Art Gallery). We attended an exhibition called "A Life Behind", a collection of black and white photographs. The artist, Sabrina Lauriston gave us a personal tour, a rundown of her pictures and a brief outline on why she chose this form of art. Sabrina shot her film in and around the Bundaberg area and developed all her pictures in her darkroom in the ‘traditional’ way. Our photography students related very well to the processes she described, as they practice using these same methods at school, and know ‘first hand’ what is like to bring life to a photograph from the negative.

Caught behind the lens at BRAG were, Photography Club students Jacob Alexander, Georgia Wiemers, Natasha Anderson and Teigan Oliver

Lorrae Oliver – Science Operations Officer

Accompanying this newsletter is the Student Assessment Planner for Semester Two. It contains the dates of most assessments planned in subject areas across all year levels for Semester Two 2013, as at 25 July. Its purpose is to encourage and assist students to properly plan and manage their study and assignment preparation time. In this way, students should avoid unnecessary ‘last minute’ rushes to have work completed on time. Students should study this document and note the assessment dates for their subjects.

Where changes to the listed assessment dates need to be made, subject teachers will discuss and negotiate these changes with students. I would also draw the attention of parents to the Assessment and Assignment Policy included in the Student Homework Diary on pages 18 & 19.

Students should identify possible concerns and/or problems (eg. a large number of assessments on the one day) and raise them with their teacher, Head of Department or Subject Area Coordinator, for an explanation or resolution. Students may direct any general queries in relation to this document to me.

Dearne Beatson – Deputy Principal

Our Year 10 students, along with a number of other secondary schools in the district, recently attended the Bundaberg District Career Expo at Bundaberg’s Civic Centre. There were many diverse stalls with people providing information about different courses available at TAFE and Universities.

Year 10 students (l-r) Courtney Milne, Phoebe Arbon, Vader-Ann Wegner and Tori Pershouse enjoy getting career information from the Australian Defence Forces at the Bundaberg Career Expo exhibits

Students found this to be a very informative experience and used this opportunity to engage in asking appropriate questions of business and tertiary representatives (competitions and give-aways encouraged this) to gather information about career options and the required subject choices to support them.

Overall, the session provided a platform for students to learn more about interested and viable pathways and to equip them with the necessary information to support their future academic and career choices during our forthcoming senior planning activities. Isis High will be commencing Year 10 Senior Education and Training (SET) Planning activities with students in the week commencing 19 August and the Parent Information Evening for Year 10 to Year 11 is Tuesday 27 August. This program will assist students make good decisions on their future.

Gloria Davey – HOD/ English/Social Science
Independent Public Schools

Independent Public Schools (IPS) is an initiative introduced last year by the new LNP State Government that aims to recognise the best decision-making in schools, for the most part, occurs at a local level through direct response to local community needs and aspirations. It is intended that local decision-making (or greater autonomy) will enable schools at the local level to accept greater responsibility for their planning, development and implementation of programs.

Independent Public Schools operate under a model that includes a School Council supported by the Parents and Citizens’ Association. However, all Independent Public Schools remain part of the state school system and continue to operate within the system enacting the same core values, beliefs and priorities.

The application phase for this year’s selection of 34 Independent Public Schools across Queensland is now open and closes at the end of August. An important part of the process is to gauge the views of the school community. Included in this Newsletter is a brief overview of this initiative and further information is available at the website:


The P&C will discuss the IPS proposal at its next meeting on Tuesday 13 August when parents are welcome to attend. Parents/carers with question and concerns can contact any member of the school Administration or the P&C President, Mrs Sandra Webb through the school office (4192 1222).

Allan Cook – Principal

Smartskills Bar Training

Responsible service of alcohol and basic bar operations have been the focus for some twenty Year 11 and 12 Hospitality students from Isis District State High this week at the Isis Club. Students were put through their paces gaining new skills and knowledge in order to complete competencies for credit towards a Certificate II in Hospitality.

Cooper-Anne Fotheringham and Trent Brown (pictured left) practice the finer points of beer-pouring to gain their bar competencies and Responsible Service of Alcohol qualification at the Isis Club this week.

Isis High gratefully acknowledges the annual support given by the Isis Club in providing this industry-level facility which allows training to be conducted in a real-world setting.

The week culminated in an informal gathering for parents, staff and other regulars at the Isis Club on Thursday evening, where the students demonstrated publicly, their skills gained. Well done to all participants.

Renee Adams – Hospitality Coordinator

Attendance Champions

Educational research consistently demonstrates that students who attend school regularly have the strongest educational outcomes. In short, it has been proven that ‘better attendance = better results’! Isis High has a strong ethos of encouraging and supporting regular school attendance by students and irregular absenteeism is followed up for improvement. In order to recognise those students who show very good student attendance, we congratulate those students with 100% school attendance from the previous term. These are students who have been involved in school activities (in class or on excursion) for every school day of the previous term including:


Those students were presented with certificates at a recent morning tea to recognise their achievement. Congratulations to those students and it happens again in Term 3.

Liz Clout – HOD/Student Services

Energy Drinks Risk

Energy drinks such as Red Bull and V provide users with a boost of energy, alertness and stamina. The active ingredient in most is caffeine, but some also contain Guarana (a South American plant which contains high levels of caffeine), Taurine (an Amino Acid purported to improve athletic performance), vitamins, herbal supplements, sugars, or sweeteners. A 250ml can often contain 80mg of caffeine, which is equivalent to approx. one serve of strong coffee. The recommended maximum intake in Australia (as identified in the packaging) is 500ml or 150mg caffeine. The intake of these drinks needs to be carefully monitored, as high intake can result in negative consequences such as problems with sleep, agitation, increased anxiety and impulsivity. Further readings on the effects of energy drinks are available at www.ofsubstance.org.au

Monique Anderson – Student Nurse

A T C Memorial Hall Dance
Saturday 27 July – 7:30pm
“Trevor Gayton” Band