principal's message

Semester 1 Reports were mailed to students’ home addresses last Friday 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 31 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 issued to students at the same time as they received their reports. If you have not received this information please contact the school’s general office, on 4192 1222 where staff can assist you with organising interviews. Included in the mailing of reports was a School Mid-Year Report which reports on progress the school has made in a number of areas during the first half of the year. Feedback from parents on the information provided and the great work being done by staff and students has been very positive.

On School Assembly this week, I was very pleased to present a $3000 cheque and certificate to Hayden Wagner as the successful recipient of an Australian Defence Technical Scholarship. Hayden (pictured being congratulated by Mr Cook) was selected by the Australian Defence Force after he and the school submitted his nomination. The scholarship is to encourage his successful completion of senior schooling. This Newsletter also contains a story on 2011 Senior graduate Brydie Bauer who has also won a prestigious national award. The school regularly works with students on nominating for scholarships and awards and it is wonderful to hear of their selections in being recognised in this way. I emphasised to all students the importance of having the initiative to be aware of opportunities. Congratulations to Hayden and Brydie on their awards.

The school’s annual cultural presentation for 2012 is the entertainment revue of singing and dancing Cabaret! The show will be presented at the Isis Cultural Centre on Friday evening the 24 August with doors opening at 6.00pm and show commencing at 7.00pm. Tickets will be available for sale at the school office from Monday 6 August and tickets will by way of allocated seating. Prices are Adults $15, Students $10, Families $45 and includes some hospitality. Students have been rehearsing long and hard in Semester 1 under the dedicated instruction of Ms Lloyd and Ms Robinson and the show promises to be a very exciting and spectacular presentation of Isis High talent. We look forward to the support of the school community for what promises to be a wonderful evening of entertainment.

Kind Regards,

Allan Cook – Principal

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>31 Jul</td>
<td>Yr 12 QCS Practice Test (and 01/08)</td>
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<td>31 Jul</td>
<td>Parent -Teacher Interview Evening</td>
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<td>02 Aug</td>
<td>Track and Field Carnival (pm)</td>
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<td>03 Aug</td>
<td>Track and Field Carnival (Showgrounds)</td>
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<td>08 Aug</td>
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<td>10 Aug</td>
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<td>P&amp;C Meeting – 7:15pm</td>
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<td>North Burnett Track and Field Carnival</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(Childers Showgrounds)</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 Aug</td>
<td>Cabaret! (Isis Cultural Centre)</td>
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PARENT INFORMATION EVENING
Tuesday 21 August

Information Sessions commence in the Drama Room
6:00PM   Year 07 to Year 08
7:00PM   Year 08 to Year 09
7:30PM   Year 10 to Year 11

Parents can also view subject area displays in the Resource Centre and meet with teachers.
Parents of Year 07 students can bring Enrolment Forms for interviews.
School uniforms can also be ordered.

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NAIDOC Week

NAIDOC week is celebrated throughout Australia as an importance acknowledgement and celebration of indigenous culture and heritage. This year our school celebrated NAIDOC week as a whole school starting on Tuesday 10 July with the Butchulla dance group presentation on school assembly.

This was followed up later when the dancers, led by Mr Justin Parsons returned to complete a whole day workshop with indigenous students. The workshop also included traditional painting taught to students by his wife Mrs Lisa Parsons (pictured left).

Our NAIDOC activities concluded with local Elder Mr Ardy Muckan coordinating the Pit Stop Queensland Health program. This activity involved a number of external health based agencies coming to the school to present information and work with our indigenous students (pictured below).

The recognition of NAIDOC this year was strongly supported by our school indigenous worker Cheryl Butler and local Elder Nancy Cook.

Mathletics is coming!

Mathletics (www.mathletics.com.au) is an internet-based mathematics learning package that is the next generation in maths learning. It is widely used in Australian schools and helps students engage and enjoy their numeracy learning. It covers all aspects of mathematics and as students move through learning individually, it covers each student’s individual strengths and weaknesses.

As part of our school strategy for improving student numeracy, we are purchasing registration for this leading online mathematics resource. Mathletics will initially be introduced by teachers over the next few weeks to Year 8 classes and some Year 9 classes. Apart from completing classwork and tutorials in an engaging online format, Mathletics also allows students to gain support at home, complete homework and participate in the online competitions. Mathletics also provides teachers with a range of tools through which they can teach and assess students.

We anticipate enthusiastic student engagement with Mathletics and envisage the program being rolled out to the whole school in 2013.

Isis High places great importance on all students in Years 11 and 12 developing and following a pathway that will lead to some viable future when leaving school. This may involve further study at a university, further training at a TAFE or private training organisation and employment, including apprenticeships and traineeships. Consequently, the ‘vocational strand’ of our senior programs is just as important as our ‘academic’ strand and, in reality, most students take a combination. The effort of the school in this regard often sees students winning state and national awards.

The late student to win a prestigious national award is a Year 12 graduate from 2011, Brydie Bauer. Brydie has been awarded an Australian Vocational Student Prize for her achievements in the vocational area while undertaking senior studies in the school.

While at school Brydie demonstrated a strong enthusiasm for achievement in the hospitality industry. Brydie was able to complete both a Certificate III & IV in Hospitality Operations while at school and in completing a school-based traineeship with the Woodgate Club. The completion of such a high level qualification while at school is a very significant achievement. Brydie also completed a Certificate II in Rural Operations at school. Brydie was a committed student in her area of interest and is very deserving of this award. She will receive a Certificate and a $2000 award.

Brydie is the fifth Isis High student who has won an Australian Vocational Student Prize in the last seven years.

Year 10 Careers Expo & Tertiary Trip

Year 10 students 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. A number of other schools in the region were also involved. Students found this to be an enjoyable and rewarding experience.

After the Expo visit, half of our students travelled to Bundaberg’s Central Queensland University campus, where they received information on offered courses and listened to current students’ perspectives on life as a uni student before undertaking a tour of the campus. Three current students and their lecturer presented a talk on Aviation giving our students a chance to dress in different air force uniforms. Furthermore, a few students were engaged in an animated aviation activity which was very entertaining giving everyone a laugh.

Meanwhile, the other half of year 10’s visited Bundaberg TAFE, where they also received information on offered courses and undertook a campus tour. Overall, the day provided students with a great deal of information that will help them decide what they want to do as a future career and assist during our forthcoming senior planning activities.

Gloria Davey/HOD - English/Social Science

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Responsponsible 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.

Chantelle Gould, Rocquel Woodings, Kate Bauer and Catherine Bauer practice their spirit pouring techniques as a part of their hospitality bar training.

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 Ratcliffe – Teacher

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Students involved in the Year 8 Peer Skills program included (l-r): Hannah Blee, Aleisha Nugent, Emily Clatworthy, Siobhan Katt, Elyse Wallace, Caleb Spark, Lleyton Ritchie, Jacob Wiemers, and Liam Leverett (Absent from photo) Aleisha Thomas, Samantha Vella, Dean Haack, Nerida Smyth, Tom Cole, Jesse Blee Supervisors (back l-r) Monique Anderson (School-based Youth Nurse), James (Youth Support Coordinator) and Ralph Thurlow (School Chaplain)

Ralph Thurlow - School Chaplain

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It is important that parents/carers report any student absences to the school for inclusion on student records. The school’s telephone system includes a mailbox system for the reporting of student absences. If your child is absent you are now able to phone the school at any time and leave a message by leaving your name and student name, date, duration and reason for your child’s absence. The number to call is 4192 1260.

FOR TENDER

Tenders are invited for four (4) school ex-grandstands

The grandstands must be disassembled before removal from site. Tenders will be accepted individually or for all four as a group.

Inspection can be organised by phoning the School Office between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:00 pm. All tenders are to be written on the appropriate school form and submitted before 4pm on the date of closing.

Tenders close Friday 3rd August 2012.