Today sees the end of yet another school term. This term has been an extremely busy and wonderfully successful one for our young people. It is a very positive environment when every week on Tuesdays at whole school assembly we have students whose achievements we collectively acknowledge and celebrate. There have been a large range of opportunities for students to be involved in curricular and extra-curricular activities, including sport (eg Bundaberg sports and Athletics carnivals), culture (eg the marvellous Cabaret!) and information on life after school (eg Southern Universities’ tertiary trip). In addition, planning for next year has commenced with the Parent Information Evening, school subject selection talks for all Year 08 and 10 students, Year 07 school visits and Year 10 Student Education and Training Plan interviews. These have all been very successfully completed due to the support from staff, students and parents. The good news is that planning for the 2013 school program is progressing well and to schedule. It is actually a worthwhile exercise at the end of the term to revisit the term’s newsletters to gain an idea of the broad scope of activities that are so important in enriching students’ school experience. Thank you to staff for their level of commitment and significant efforts. These efforts, accompanied by the work of students and the strong support for the school by the community, have seen many academic, cultural and sporting achievements by our students.

The school results from the annual National Assessment Plan – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) were released last week and our school community should be very proud of the results achieved. The school has taken a very focussed and strategic approach to ensuring students have every opportunity to perform well on these tests and the results of Year 9 students in this year’s tests are vindication of our approach and the hard work of students and teachers. Of course, our overall approach is to concentrate on improving literacy and numeracy as important foundational skills for life, rather than just preparation for the NAPLAN test. We have seen very significant improvement over the last two years in these tests that now sees our students achieving better scores than the average of other schools in Queensland and comparable to those of Australia. Individual student reports have now been mailed to all families of Year 09 students and the school will now embark on a very detailed analysis of the NAPLAN results to ensure we plan well in supporting students for the 2013 test rounds. A further article appears in this Newsletter.

Our school will celebrate the many successful achievements of our students at the Awards ceremonies. After some consideration, we have had to change the timing of the day and evening ceremony from the scheduled date to Wednesday 31 October. I encourage you to mark this day in your calendar and support our young people in a school highlight not to be missed.

Kind Regards,

Allan Cook – Principal

Deputy Principal (and NAPLAN Coordinator), Michele Kirkland congratulates Year 09 students Thomas, Riley and Joshua as they look over their very high results on NAPLAN reports.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08 Oct</td>
<td>First day of Term 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09 Oct</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting – 7:15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Oct</td>
<td>Nominations close</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- School Captains</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Special Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Oct</td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Oct</td>
<td>Chaplaincy Committee – 3:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 Oct</td>
<td>Student Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 Oct</td>
<td>Biggenden Links</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 Oct</td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 Oct</td>
<td>Awards Day and Evening ceremonies</td>
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</table>
Isis District State High School Year 09 students are feeling justly proud of their results in the annual round of literacy and numeracy tests (NAPLAN) released last week. The tests are administered by the Federal Government in all Australian schools in the five areas of reading, writing, spelling, grammar & punctuation and numeracy.

The 2012 Year 09 students at Isis High have shown very strong improvement on the 2011 scores with better average scores in four of the five areas. Isis High also exceeded the State average in every one of the five areas and was better than the National average in two areas and similar in another two.

Some of the excellent achievement data follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>School Average Score</th>
<th>State Average Score</th>
<th>National Average Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>567</td>
<td>561</td>
<td>580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>556</td>
<td>575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>549</td>
<td>525</td>
<td>553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>567</td>
<td>581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>582</td>
<td>563</td>
<td>577</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>554</td>
<td>555</td>
<td>572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>573</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>564</td>
<td>564</td>
<td>583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>564</td>
<td>584</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As can be seen, these are very promising results and show the clear progress we have made over the last two years on ensuring Isis High students have strong fundamental literacy and numeracy skills through a well-planned strategy and hard work by students and staff. This work continues with students at all year levels so students leave this school with a good preparation for the future. Individual student NAPLAN reports have been mailed to parents.

School is about more than just core skills, such as literacy and numeracy. Of course, the range of subjects available and the extra-curricular experiences all contribute to successful student engagement and development and this Newsletter (like others) recognises some of the experiences available at this fine school.

Allan Cook – Principal

The Bundaberg Combined Secondary School Art Exhibition Emerge is showcasing a diversity of student artwork from Year 08 to 12 at BRAG (Bundaberg Regional Art Gallery). This exhibition is a yearly highlight for Isis High students to display their work in a regional art gallery. Year 12 School Vice-Captain, Kathryn (pictured below with one piece) has two artworks displayed. She has demonstrated a sophisticated approach to visual art, which has been acknowledged by the state-wide selection panel for Creative Generation whom awarded her with a ‘Highly Commended’ award.

Kathryn will also have her work displayed at the Creative Generation exhibition at Gatakers Artspace, Maryborough in October, which opens on Saturday, 06 October at 2:00pm. The Emerge exhibition will continue at BRAG Gallery in Quay Street, Bundaberg until November 04.

Liz Clout – Art Teacher

Earlier this term, 63 of our students across all year levels participated in the Global 2012 English International Competitions and Assessments for Schools. Student results were recently returned and showed that we achieved higher than the state average in all but one of the year levels. Four of our students pictured below achieved Distinctions awards.

English completion Distinction winners included (l-r) Kristie (Yr 11), Laura (Yr 08), Thomas (Yr 09), Ella (Yr 10)

There were a further 22 who received Credit awards and the remaining students received a Certificate of Participation. Many of those who achieved a Credit were only just short of the point score for receiving a Distinction. Well done to all participating students and congratulations to award winners.

Gloria Davey/HOD – English
RACQ Technology Challenge

In what has become an ‘annual pilgrimage’, Isis High Human Powered Vehicle (HPV) teams made their way south last weekend to compete in the 24-hour endurance race held through the streets of Maryborough. Our school had two entries: a junior team who greatly enjoyed the experience of competing and a senior team who participated in the Tandem division. This is the second time this group of boys have entered their unique ‘push me/pull me’ tandem bike and this year they ‘brought home the spoils’ managing to win their division. Well done!

All riders were well tested in this gruelling event and I am proud to say that none of them gave in. Despite getting very little sleep they all displayed good sportsmanship, teamwork and fine manners. Congratulations to all involved in the activity. This has become an arduous, but most enjoyable and significant learning opportunity.

Andrew Cole – Coordinator

Footnote: “Congratulations and many thanks to Mr Cole on the many hours work and significant commitment to this important school activity.” Mr Cook

Free Tutoring offered

Isis District High School is eager to do as much as possible to support strong student achievement. In Term 4, the school will be trialling an ‘after school tutoring program’ for any student that may need additional assistance with their English or Maths subjects.

The tutoring sessions will be conducted in the school Resource Centre every Monday afternoon between 3:15pm and 5:15pm commencing on Monday, 08 October. The sessions will be at no cost to students as they will be funded under the National Partnerships Schools Program. There will be a teacher trained in Maths and in English to help students with any work that they are having problems with including classwork, assignment work, exam preparation or basic literacy and numeracy skills. This help is offered to all students from Year 8 to Year 12 and the tutor teachers are eager to see a strong turnout of motivated students.

For more information please contact (or see) Mr Jones on 4192 1222.

Michele Kirkland – Deputy Principal

Invitation to Awards Ceremonies

The annual presentation of awards for student achievement throughout the year will occur on Wednesday, 31 October. There will be two ceremonies conducted on this day at the Childers Community Stadium in the school grounds. A morning Presentation Ceremony will commence at 10:00am and will acknowledge students receiving awards for meritorious behaviour throughout the year, as well as Music Awards, Sports Merit Awards and Bronze Awards for sporting achievement. In addition, House Trophies from throughout the year will be presented to the winning House Captains.

The evening Awards Ceremony will commence at 7:00pm and recognise achievement in academic, sporting, service and cultural fields, as well as Special Awards. The ceremony will also feature the naming of the School Captains and Vice-Captains for 2013.

Parents and friends are invited to attend these most enjoyable functions where we recognise and celebrate student achievement.

Allan Cook – Principal

Special Awards Nominations

The annual presentation of awards for student achievement throughout the year will occur on Wednesday, 31 October. There will be two ceremonies conducted during the day (10:00am and 7:00pm) at the Childers Community Stadium.

Student nominations for ‘special awards’ are able to be made by collecting and completing a Nominations Form, available from the School Office. Nominations will close at 12:00pm (midday) on the Wednesday of the first week of Term 4 (10 October).

Michele Kirkland – Deputy Principal

Term 4 Starting Date

The first day of school in Term 4 is Monday, 08 October.

There will be a student-free day in Term 4 on Monday, 22 October to allow for district meetings of teachers to verify assessment standards of Year 12 students and involvement in school planning for 2013. Students will not attend on this day.

Ian King – Deputy Principal

Advance Notice - TENDER
School Steers being sold
$6.90 per Kilo
½ or sides through local butchers
Expressions of interest will open in Term 4
Meat will be available week 3 or 4 of next term.

Torbanlea State School
125th Anniversary Celebrations
Torbanlea’s 125th Anniversary Fair
Saturday 13 October 2012 - 10am to 1pm
Classroom displays, school tours, opening of the time capsule (1987)

Torbanlea’s 125th Anniversary Dinner
Saturday 13 October 2012 - 6pm for 6:30pm dinner
$20.00 per head Bar available—No BYO
Bookings Essential - Must be 18 years and over
Contact Sam Dawson 0409 484 101