Principal’s Message

One of the great strengths of Isis District State High School is the wonderful diversity of school activities in which students have the opportunity to engage. No two students are the same and so the more varied opportunities to appeal to students for them to be involved and motivated, the more likely they are to be similarly engaged in learning successfully. A look over the stories in the School Newsletters of just this term is strong evidence of the many forms of learning such as Cattle Club, Coffee Club, subject competitions, guest speakers, lunchtime activities, excursions, cultural presentations, development days and the like, on offer at Isis High.

Sport is one of those activities that continues to play a very significant role in the school experiences of students. This has been particularly so in Term 1 with a heavy schedule of school and district carnivals, representative trials and inter-school Wednesday afternoon sport. The Wide Bay trials were held this week in Maryborough and Gympie and students from Isis High again ‘punched well above their weight’ in having the following students selected in Wide Bay sporting teams: Jade Johnson (AFL), Ashleigh McLennan (Football – Soccer), Coby Gibbs (Rugby League), Matthew Maroney and Tyler Golchert (Rugby Union) and Rhia Blair (Basketball). Congratulations to all students who participated, and particularly those students mentioned, on their selection. The efforts of Caleb Spark at the recent Queensland swimming titles must also be acknowledged and his achievements are recognised elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Thanks must go to the teachers involved in supporting students at these events by acting as coaches and managers. I particularly must acknowledge the outstanding contribution of our Sports Coordinator Ms Analee Clewes who has truly done a magnificent effort in supporting our students involved in sport through a hectic Term 1. Term 2 will see our continuing involvement in the Wednesday afternoon Bundaberg Sporting Competition.

The school has now reached the end of a very busy and successful term. The teaching and support staff have worked hard once again to provide our students with a whole range of interesting activities and exciting and challenging learning opportunities. We are appreciative of the co-operation of parents who continue to support their children in participating in school programs and activities, so valuable to ensure learning remains relevant and engaging. Most students have embraced these opportunities and enjoyed a very positive start to the 2013 school year.

The Easter vacation presents an opportunity for many to reflect on sacrifice and to celebrate renewal. I hope the vacation also presents a welcome opportunity for students and families to enjoy each other’s company as they rest, recharge and rejuvenate. Best wishes for a safe and happy Easter break.

Kind Regards,

Allan Cook – Principal

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

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<td>15 Apr</td>
<td>First school day for Term 2</td>
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<td>16 Apr</td>
<td>Verbal Combat production (Yr 08-10)</td>
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<td>16 Apr</td>
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The Easter vacation commences from today 28 March and extends for two weeks until Sunday 14 April. There will be some significant construction occurring in the school during that time and students are advised to stay away and out of the school grounds.

The first day of Term 2 for students will be Monday, 15 April when all students should be in attendance at school.

That first day (Monday) will commence with a School Assembly in the Stadium.

Dearne Beatson – Deputy Principal

Students have now completed the first Term’s work and assessment and Interim Reports are presently being compiled by teachers. Interim Reports describe student performance during Term 1 and so provide parents with information on student progress after the first term of school. These Reports will be distributed on the first Friday of Term 2 (19 April). A Parent-Teacher Interview Evening will be held between 3:30pm and 6:30pm on Tuesday, 30 April.

Dearne Beatson – Deputy Principal

On Friday, 15 March the Student Council held a crazy hair and non-uniform day to raise funds for the Leukaemia Foundation. The day was well supported by students and members of the Student Council were active during recess conducting hair spraying and collecting donations. Sound and lighting students provided music for the event and Ms Adams and the hospitality students conducted a coffee shop during the recess. This meant that a magnificent amount of $420.00 was collected during the day for cancer research.

Andrew Cole – Student Council Coordinator

On Friday, 15 March most of the school’s Senior Leaders attended a Student Leadership Conference at the University of Southern Queensland, Hervey Bay campus. The sessions included topics such as leadership skills, how to move from being a leader with a badge to being a leader with genuine impact, handling conflict, using leadership styles, balancing responsibilities, leading events and public speaking skills.

Catherine Christensen – Year 12 Coordinator

Isis High students showing crazy, coloured hair were (l-r) Hayden Webb, Thomas Green, Zara Eborall being sprayed by Mitchell Parsons.

While the colours of student hair after Recess One would not normally comply with the school’s ‘dress code’, a good time was had by all and students learnt in an enjoyable way the importance of contributing to worthy community causes.

Thank you to all students who participated and supported this fundraising activity.

Andrew Cole – Student Council Coordinator

On Friday, 15 March our school participated in the National Day of Action Against Bullying. A whole school lesson was conducted for all students prior to the day giving strategies and discussion to prevent bullying in schools. On the day itself, all Year 08 and 09 students participated in a group activity (see below) demonstrating their collective commitment in saying “No Way to Bullying”.

Isis High adopts a very strong approach to combat bullying whenever we are aware of it and conduct various programs to ensure students are well educated about its dangers. Students are encouraged to behave responsibly and safely every day and there are clear corrective consequences for those students who offend. The Bullying No way! website has information for parents and students of all ages about how we can all work to ensure students are not subjected to bullying from others and how to support those students who are involved in bullying others. The website can be found at: http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au/
Uniform Matters

The manner in which the uniform is worn by students of Isis District State High demonstrates their pride and respect for our school and our school culture. The school uniform is also an important part of ensuring students safety at school. For these reasons, it is important to remind students and parents of our uniform policy and expectations.

Students who are not able to wear the correct uniform need to report to Mrs Nimmo at the start of the school day with their parent note of explanation. It should be understood that the note provides information to the Principal for a reasoned decision to be made. It does not provide automatic permission for not adhering to school procedures/rules. Student not in the correct uniform are able to be provided with a change to the correct uniform clothing for the day.

Isis High students proudly wearing the Isis High regular and senior uniform include (l-r) Nicholas Katt, Jesse Hart, Abbey Madders and Courtney Sinnett

Our uniform policy, as outlined in the Student Diary (page 12,13) states that students are not permitted to wear jewellery to school, with the exception of small studs or sleepers and a single signet ring. Nail polish is not to be worn. Additionally, if students have facial piercings, these must be clear plastic or taped. As we move into winter, dark green or black jumpers are appropriate winter uniform.

Finally, a matter still causing much concern are students wearing shoes that place the school in breach of workplace, health and safety legislation. Regrettably, next term will necessarily see an increase in students having to be excluded from participating in subjects due to unsafe shoes (eg: canvas and inadequate uppers). During the vacation, it would be very helpful if families could work towards ensuring students footwear is appropriate. Thank you.

Have a great Easter!

Dearne Beatson & Michele Kirkland – Deputy Principals

Expressions of interest are now being called for anyone interested in acting as Chief Community Representatives for the Queensland Core Skills (QCS) test to be held for Year 12 students on Tuesday 3 and Wednesday 4 September 2013. An Information Package including position description, payment details and application form is available from the school office. Applications close at the school office Friday, 10 May.

RYPEN Camp

Year 11 students Thomas Green and Justin Lewis (pictured l-r) will be having no quiet end to their Easter vacation. Both students have been successful in applying to participate in the Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN) two-day camp at Yeppoon on the last weekend of the vacation.

RYPEN is an intensive residential camp designed to enrich the education of young people with ideas, information and experiences which will assist them in forming their own opinions and values, as well as broadening their cultural horizons. The camp will include sessions on issues such as goal setting, motivation, personal management, life skills, physical activities and many more. Of course, the camp will aim to also strengthen Thomas and Justin’s leadership skills as responsible and contributing young adults.

It is often reinforced to students that they should grasp opportunities such as this to develop themselves best for the future. Congratulations to Thomas and Justin and we wish them well for what will be an exciting opportunity. Our school also thanks the Childers Rotary Club through their Youth Services Director, Mr Richie Webb, for their continued support of young people at this school.

Allan Cook – Principal

Positive School Behaviour Winners

Our School-wide Positive Behaviour Support program continually acknowledges students demonstrating behaviour that meets the school expectations (see page 4 and 14 of the Student Homework Diary). The most recent round of award winners were drawn at last Friday’s year Assembly and have received their pack of gift vouchers. They are:

Year 08 - John Veitch, Sophie Fox
Year 09 - Laura Fredriksen, Simone Manski
Year 10 - Kandace La Rocca, Louise Collier
Year 11 - Stacey Lindsay, Ellen Lindsay
Year 12 - Maddison Kneebone, Tara-Lee Wayne

Further awards rounds will occur in Term 2.

Liz Clout – HOD Student Services

Caleb Spark – Swim Achiever

Champion swimmer, Caleb Spark (Yr 09) recently represented the school with distinction at the Queensland Swimming Championships in Brisbane. Caleb swam several ‘personal bests’ and is the tenth best 200 metre breaststroke swimmer in his age group for all of Queensland. Caleb was ‘over the moon’ with his performance and he should be congratulated on his strong showing.

Caleb now enjoys a six week break before early morning training re-commences. Well done!

BUNDABERG TENNIS ACADEMY
Coaches, Murray Whitbread & Kevin Banner
Rotary Park Tennis complex, 69b George Street, B’berg.
Enquiries: Murray 0407 639824 or Kevin 0409 520753.