Innisfail State College acknowledges the Mamu People, Traditional Custodians of the country in which this College is located, and pays respect to their Elders past and present.

FOUR present and past Innisfail State College students were honoured in the Cassowary Coast Regional Council Australia Day Awards this year. 2014 College Captain and Dux Tamasyn Carman was named Cassowary Coast Junior Citizen of the Year. This same honour was bestowed upon 2013 College Captain Jason Strano last year. This year Jason was recognised as the region’s Senior Sportsperson of the Year. 2014 graduate Zoe Coubrough was awarded the Junior Cultural Award this year and Hayley Strano, 2015 College Vice Captain, was presented with an Excellence Award in recognition of her academic and sporting achievements and citizenship.

Coming events

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>16 Feb - 20 Feb</td>
<td>Year 7 Plans with parents</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 Feb</td>
<td>Year 8 Geography excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 Feb</td>
<td>A&amp;T/S Constitutional Convention</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 Feb</td>
<td>FNQ Constitutional Convention</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 Feb</td>
<td>Instrumental Music Repertoire Camp</td>
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<td>25 Feb</td>
<td>Year 11 Marine snorkelling</td>
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Uniforms

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<tr>
<th>Uniform</th>
<th>Shop</th>
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<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Tue, Wed &amp; Thu before &amp; after school.</td>
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P&C AGM Monday 9 February

All parents and carers are invited to join the Innisfail State College Parents & Citizens Association. A small, friendly group of interested parents, the P&C meets generally on the second Monday of each month at 7pm in the College office. The meetings are noted on the P&C-sponsored fridge magnet calendar to be posted home soon to each family. Next week’s meeting, on Monday 9 February, is the AGM. Whether you are interested in joining the executive or just coming along to learn more about our great school you are very welcome.

Grant to upgrade auditorium lighting for school musical

An application by P&C President Mr Les Moule to the Queensland Government Gambling Community Benefit Fund in August 2014 has secured $20,683.18 for an upgrade to the auditorium lighting. This will result in the best possible lighting effects being used to highlight this year’s school musical “Back to the 80s”. Auditions are almost complete for the musical, which features some great 80s music and dance moves. Rehearsals will take place throughout semester one, with performances scheduled in term three. See Mr Crear in C block for more information.

2015 student leaders

In a special ceremony at school last Friday, the College Captains and Vice Captains, Student Leaders from years 11 and 12, House Captains and Peer Mentors officially took up their responsibilities. In the presence of special guests Mr Curtis Pitt, Member for Mulgrave, Mr Bill Shannon, Mayor Cassowary Regional Council and Mr Les Moule, President ISC P&C, the 2015 Seniors and Leaders took their oaths and received their badges. We wish these students all the best in their various roles this year. Our college student leadership structure also includes four student leaders from each year level. The year 7, 8, 9 and 10 student leaders will be elected in coming weeks and we look forward to these students joining the leadership team.

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Years 7 & 8 students learn about being successful at ISC

In the most significant change to secondary schooling in Queensland since year 8 moved from primary to secondary school in 1964, this year sees year 7 students participating in high school throughout Queensland. ISC is very excited to have welcomed 154 year 7s and 105 year 8s last week. Following a very thorough transition program last year, our newest students participated in four orientation lessons last week. These focused on: classroom routines and participation strategies, standards of classroom and playground behaviours, how to set and achieve aspirational learning goals, and how to effectively manage time to improve study and grades. Parents and carers were invited to also attend the lessons and it was wonderful to see them in our classrooms. Lessons were led by the principal, deputy principal and heads of departments.

By the end of the week, all students had settled into classes and were focused on learning the new work. Parents and carers of years 7, 8 and 10 are reminded that if they have any questions at all, the mentors can be contacted as follows:

Students with surnames A—G Mr Sharrock mshar36@eq.edu.au

Students with surnames H—Q Mr Whatling swhat5@eq.edu.au

Students with surnames R—Z Mr Graham rgrah16@eq.edu.au

The junior secondary contact in the college office is Mrs Roselyn Cecchi. Mrs Cecchi can be contacted on 4078 0222.

ISC swimming carnival

Friday 6 February will see all ISC staff and students at the Innisfail town pool for the annual swimming carnival. Our day begins and ends at the pool, with Transnorth buses dropping off and picking up at the pool. Students who travel by car, bicycle or who walk to school, should make their way to the pool, also, as there is no transport from ISC to the pool or back. Entry to the pool on the day is paid by the College. Students may bring their own lunch or purchase it from the pool canteen. It is a red food day.

Students should wear a hat, sunscreen, togs and a sunshirt. Shoes and socks are not required. Sunscreen is available throughout the day free of charge. In fact, house points are allocated to students each time they "slop" on some sunscreen!

Themes for the day are:

Hinchinbrook Hippies (green) Oceanic Orpheus (purple) Fitzroy Firefighters (orange) Boxing Bedarra (blue)

Textbooks and study planners

Students in years 7 to 12 have been issued with textbooks and study planners. Year 7 and 8 students also received a write-on, wipe-off wall planner, to assist them to organise their school work and free time. We are still seeking the return of some textbooks hired last year. Please search for these at home and return them as soon as possible as they are required by other students this year. It is very important that students clearly write their names in the table printed inside each textbook, so that ownership can be tracked. Please ask to see your children’s text books and check that they are labelled.

Diverse learning

The Diverse Learning Centre welcomes three new students this year—Ellie Golding, Cody Hansen and Alicia Solien. We have an enrolment for 23 students from 7 yrs—17 yrs. In addition, we welcome an additional teacher, Kathy Lizzio who is responsible for mathematics across all students. An emphasis in the early days of the year has been to remind students of being safe, being responsible and being respectful and practising what this means.

Being a Learner is the most important and all students have begun their studies in English, [Mrs Page], mathematics, history [Mrs Lait]. This year, we have a special subject for communication taught by Mrs Marturia who will be working with the students to develop appropriate communication skills in all settings—at school, in the community and at home with families. Several of our students use devices to aid their communication and we will develop their skills further with these. Scientific opportunities will be investigated in Terms 2 and 3 with geography in Term 4.

Swimming/hydrotherapy has begun with the first group starting last week with Mrs Page, Val and Debra with the assistance of our physiotherapist, Lorraine Robson. All students will have the opportunity to participate in this programme across Terms 1, 2 and 4.

As a major funded project, we are developing teachers’ and teacher aides’ skills in the area of Intensive Interaction for our early communicators under the guidance of visiting specialist, Janee William and who is training Debbie Blennerhassett and Speech Pathologist, Leanne Herbert to mentor our teachers. This will provide an opportunity for our students who do not communicate independently to further develop their ability to have their say. We will be visiting three larger Special Schools in Brisbane this week as part of the programme and to attend workshops by an expert from the UK.

ISC graduates gain traineeships

Congratulations to 2014 graduates Jonah Barley, Flora Gambia, Joshua Mooka, and Alana Purcell (left to right), who have been selected to take up full-time health worker certificate III traineeships with Mamu Health this year. More excellent results for Innisfail State College’s great graduates!