



Issue 6 - 6 May 2014

From the principal



Congratulations to the ISC P&C on their success in gaining a Community Benefit Gambling Fund Grant in the order of \$34 000

to be used to purchase and construct playground equipment especially suited to our junior secondary students. With the introduction of Year 7 into the college from 2015, the P&C believe we need to identify and provide specialised lunchtime resources for these newest college students. Pictured left are Member for Mulgrave, Mr Curtis Pitt, who supported our application, P&C President Mr Les Moule, who was the submission organiser and



myself on behalf of the college, looking over plans for the new playground (see plans above right).

Every student should have brought home a Term 1 Interim Report Card. An interim report is intended to be a brief report, providing preliminary feedback to students and parents/carers about how the student is progressing, based on classwork and formative assessment in the early stages of the year. The comments, which have been carefully tailored by teachers, are designed to give explicit direction on how the student can improve their results for the all-important summative assessment and Semester Report Cards, which will be sent home at the end of semester one (for years 8 and 9) and the beginning of semester two (for years 10-12). Please take the time to read and discuss the interim report and consider how the teachers' recommendations can be implemented to improve results.

Of growing concern amongst teaching staff is the unsatisfactory rate of **submission of student draft and assignment work** within the set timeframes. I urge parents and students to return to their assessment calendars, email or talk to class teachers about deadlines and write these onto the student poster-sized study planner which every student should have hanging in the space where they study at home. The advantage to be gained by submitting drafts and receiving teacher feedback on how to improve the assessment product cannot be overestimated. Students who fail to do this are disadvantaging themselves tremendously. Even more distressing is the thought that students may overlook final due dates. Please work with students of all year levels to develop planning skills and to grow personal accountability for improving outcomes (grades!).

In closing, thank you for your continued support in reference to **student attendance**. We are thoroughly impressed with student attendance improvements and it is making a difference to learning in our school. We did not reach our goal of 95% average attendance in term 1, and this remains our target in term 2.

K McDonald

Coming events

- Tue 6 May Maths tutorial XG02
- Wed 7 May Whole day QCS practice
11 MRN MQC (marine) boating
- Thu 8 May English tutorial CG15
- Fri 9 May Peninsula U15 basketball
- Mon 12 May Gov. Gen. Sir Peter Cosgrove visits ISC
P&C Meeting 7pm
- Tue 13 May BLA Careers expo Cns - all Yr 10 attending
Maths tutorial XG02
NAPLAN for Yr 9 - Language Conventions (grammar and punctuation) & Writing
- Wed 14 May NAPLAN for Yr 9—Reading
- Thu 15 May NAPLAN for Yr 9—Numeracy (both with calculator and without calculator)
English tutorial CG15
- Fri 16 May Catch-up NAPLAN tests for absent students
- Wed 21 May 12 Geography excursion
11 Physical Education canoeing
- Wed 28 May 10 Geography Excursion

Lunchtime career talks — JCU (health) & Griffith Uni (aviation)

Six students from JCU Townsville visited the college on Tuesday to talk about their experience at University in the health field. College students heard not only about the various courses but also what life at uni is like. Students also received hands on experience on learning how to apply plaster, take blood pressure and pulse rates and performing CPR. Thanks to the JCU students, especially **Miss Louise Stout, 2012 ISC graduate, who last year completed 1st year dentistry at JCU Cairns.**



This followed another informative talk by past student **Miss Veronica Graham (class of 2010), who is studying Aviation at Griffith Uni in Brisbane.** Miss Graham's course is an alternative method of gaining a pilot licence for students considering a career with a major airline.

English homework

Ideally all students should be reading every evening. Indeed, set homework for English subjects often involves reading. For example - **students in Year 8** are currently studying a full-length novel and teachers will set regular reading homework, sometimes with written questions or language activities.

We encourage parents to monitor their child's homework – there *is* regular homework and it *is* checked by English teachers. Students who keep up with homework are better-organised and are better-equipped to meet assessment deadlines.

Mrs Deborah Thomas—Head of Department, English

ANZAC Ceremony

Mr Curtis Pitt, Mayor Bill Shannon, P&C President Mr Les Moule and Mrs Tracy O'Farrell (right) were special guests at our ANZAC Ceremony held on Monday. The ceremony honoured nurses who have been a vital part of various conflicts, as well as remembering the ANZAC Spirit. Mrs O'Farrell (right) delivered an informative talk highlighting some of our famous nurses who cared for our diggers.



Pictured left is Ethan Limpus, placing a wreath on behalf of the Diverse Learning Centre. Student representatives of each year level also placed poppies as tokens of remembrance. Pictured below right is Aiva Williams, placing a poppy on behalf of year 8 students.



Senior leaders also laid a wreath at the Innisfail Cenotaph at the Dawn Service on Anzac Day and addressed the RSL breakfast. Many ISC students participated in district marches, as representatives of cadets, sports clubs, our college and of course in memory of family members who have served. Pictured left with our school leaders is Michael Accatino who completed Yr 12 at ISC in 2012 and is now serving in the Royal Australian Navy.



Our sincere thanks to Mrs O'Farrell for her address. Also to Mr Marchant for his organisation and support and Mr Crear together with our Instrumental Music students for their contributions, especially Chloe Tsakissiris.



Changes to behaviour consequences

Recently there has been a focus by the State Government on physical altercations between people especially adults. The report "Safe Night Out" highlights the need for schools to also take an active approach to any physical interactions at school. The "Strengthening School Discipline" report supports school principals in taking firm action against this type of behaviour. The College has taken the proactive stance of introducing a 10 day suspension for students involved in a physical altercation. While this will only affect a very small number of our students, it supports the approach taken in both of the reports. It should also be noted that the College has a myriad of consequences and support programs that it uses in the vast majority of other behaviour issues.

New automotive course for year 10 and 11 students

ISC and TAFE are jointly offering an Automotive Servicing Cert 2 course for year 10 and 11 students commencing semester two this year. The program runs for 18 months with completion in December 2015 and costs roughly \$400. Successful completion will contribute to a trade certificate in automotive as a diesel fitter or light vehicle mechanic. The Qualification also stands alone and can lead to a job as a service technician in many workshops with no further study required. Register your interest with Mr Devaney or Ms Martin in Student Services as soon as possible.