



Edition 13—2 September 2014

Daradgee excursion teaches the benefits of teamwork

All year 8 students recently attended a day visit to Daradgee Environmental Education Centre to participate in a range of challenging activities that tested their resilience, teamwork and goal setting skills. These are tremendously important skills to build in all young people.

The biggest challenge of the day was the Faulty Towers activity, where students compete against each other working in teams, to build the tallest tower for their climbers to climb. Many students had to show resilience to overcome their fear of heights, while scaling the towers built from milk crates as they swayed from side to side. Students learnt quickly that implementing the skills of teamwork ensured a successful, tall and stable tower was built in the available time. This is an important lesson to apply in many life situations.

The day also served as an important opportunity for our students and teachers to develop strong working relationships. The strengthening of these relationships is a key goal of the college to improve success within the classroom. The year 8 students would like to thank Mr Sugars, Ms Forsyth, Mr Brunetto, Ms Poland, Mr Marchant, Mr Glover, Mrs Ott, Mrs Hayball, Mr Whatling and Mr Sharrock for joining them on these days.



Instrumental Music Group visits Brisbane

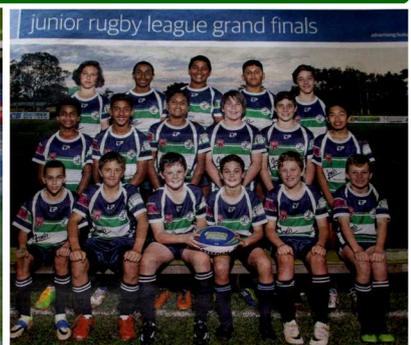
In week five, 21 students in the instrumental music program at ISC toured Brisbane for their biannual tour. Students from Years 6 to 12 enjoyed many of the big city experiences, including visiting and playing at Southbank, the Brisbane Jazz Club, Queensland Conservatorium of Music, Queen Street Mall and the Ekka – as well as catching the train, the bus and the ferry to get around the city. Both our String Orchestra and Concert Band performed 3 concerts, one in conjunction with Kelvin Grove State College (student population 3200!!), another on Riverside Green at Southbank (see picture right) and a final pop-up concert at Roma Street train station in peak hour commuter traffic! All students performed exceptionally well and many listeners commented on the quality of the group.

Our visit to the Queensland Conservatorium exposed our students to some of the career pathways available to students who decide to study creative and performing arts at a tertiary level. A whole day was devoted to visiting the Ekka (Brisbane Show) and students had a lot of fun on the rides and enjoyed some of the entertainment on offer – and ate way too much sugar. Students were also very lucky to catch up with former ISC instrumental music teacher Mr Johansen at the Brisbane Jazz Club. Many thanks go to Ms Berry and Mr Graham who organised the trip and to our wonderful students who were exceptional in their behaviour throughout the week.



Mr Crear
Instrumental Music Teacher

WINNERS every day of every week



Congratulations to all ISC boys who participated in last weekend's junior rugby league grand finals and minor semis. ISC is proud of your efforts: you played to the best of your abilities, you wore your uniforms with pride, you exhibited respect for your teammates, coaches and referees, you respected the fair and safe rules of the game, you respected the opposition players. You excel at all these things, because you practise these things at ISC, too. We share the same high expectations. At ISC you are winners every day of every week.

From the principal

This is the final newsletter for Term 3, 2014, which signals that we are in “assessment mode” for all students in all subjects. Assignment drafts should have been submitted and valuable teacher feedback provided. Practical assessments should be almost completed, and serious study should be taking place most evenings and weekends. It is crucial that students understand that some work must take place beyond school hours for the most successful results to be achieved. Please make contact with your child’s teachers if you are unsure what work should be undertaken at home in these very important final weeks of term.



The college seeks your continued support also in two other respects: uniform and electronic devices.

Students this week are being reminded of college expectations in respect of student uniform. Every student is expected to wear full college uniform every school day. The simplest version of this is the college polo shirt and shorts, white socks and sneakers/joggers. It is not these simple items that cause the college most difficulty, but rather the added extras. Please ask your children to wear the correct uniform to school each day. Necklaces, dangly earrings and make-up are not uniform and students will be asked to remove them. Socks and jumpers must be the correct colour: white socks and black jumpers.

Whilst the college discourages electronic devices at school, it remains each family’s decision whether to permit students to bring electronic devices to the college or not. This includes mobile phones and mp3 players. Should students be in possession of these during the school day, it is a requirement of the college that all devices are switched off during class time. Phone calls and text messages are at best distractions to learning and at their worst, create dangerous distractions in our workshops. For the wellbeing of our students and with a focus plainly on teaching and learning, such distractions cannot be tolerated. Parent support is greatly appreciated.

Thank you also to our college families for your continued encouragement of students around daily attendance. I am very proud to report that our college attendance is presently at 91%, which is the best secondary school attendance in the region. It goes without saying that students must be at school to achieve the best possible results.

Congratulations to our year 9 students for their excellent NAPLAN test results. Each family should have received an individualised NAPLAN report last week, showing student position in comparison with state and national averages. I am very proud to report that our school results are the best we have achieved in the history of NAPLAN testing at the college. One example of our results: the percentage of students achieving the national minimum standard in spelling and numeracy at ISC exceeded the percentage of Australian students achieving the same goal. There will be a more comprehensive report on NAPLAN results at the P&C meeting on Monday 8 September at 7pm.

As you read this newsletter, our year 12 students who aspire to study at university next year are completing two full days of Core Skills Testing, in the form of the QCS Tests. These tests provide additional information and together with students’ school results determine eligibility for various university courses. Our students have participated in a very rigorous test-readiness program throughout the year and are in the best possible position to do well. Our year 11 students have already commenced their test preparations for 2015.

In closing, I wish all college families a safe and relaxing school holiday period. The demands the college places on students to work very hard and perform at their best during each and every school lesson undoubtedly cause some tiredness and we hope that each student can take some time in the holidays to refresh. We look forward to again pushing the boundaries of learning and achieving with you in term four.

Kindest regards,

K MacDonald

Coming events

Mon 1 September	12 REC camp departs <i>Mon–Wed inclusive</i> DLC pop-up tuckshop
Tue 2 September	QCS Test Day 1
Wed 3 September	QCS Test Day 2
Thu 4 September	English tutorial 3-4pm
Fri 5 September	School Disco 6—8:30pm \$3 entry
Mon 8 September	Repeat Yr 6 & 7 parent info meeting 6-7pm P & C Meeting 7pm DLC pop-up tuckshop
Tue 9 September	Maths tutorial 3-4pm
Wed 10 September	Yrs 9 & 10 Art Excursion to Cairns Repeat Yr 6 & 7 parent tour 5:30pm
Thu 11 September	Yr 12 exam block No English tutorial today
Fri 12 September	Yr 12 exam block
Mon 15 September	Yr 12 exam block DLC end of term excursion this week Yr 6 & 7 Hotshots—English
Tue 16 September	Yr 6 & 7 Hotshots—Maths No Maths tutorial today
Wed 17 September	Yr 6 & 7 Hotshots—Science Yr 6 & 7 Hotshots—Music
Thu 18 September	Yr 6 & 7 Hotshots—HPE No English tutorial today
Fri 19 September	Yr 6 & 7 orientation half-days Final day of Term 3 for all students
Tuesday 7 October	Term 4 commences for all students Work experience Group 2 Year 10s Maths tutorial 3-4pm

VACANCY—paid position at new uniform shop

A paid role working in the school uniform shop opening in term 4 is offered to parents of the school. Retail experience is preferred and training will be provided. Please email your resume to info@pcuniforms.com.au Interviews are planned for 22nd – 30th September.

Special awards nominations

Parents, community members, students and staff are invited to nominate students for the special awards and bursaries available annually to the most outstanding Innisfail State College students.

Nomination forms are available at the college office and at student services. They can also be emailed to you if you phone the office on 4078 0222 and request them.

YEAR 12 STUDENTS
4KZ/KOOL FM BURSARY 2014
CITIZENSHIP AWARD 2014
D’URSO BURSARY 2014
COLLEGE ALL ROUNDER AWARD 2014
YEAR 11 STUDENTS
WEBB MEMORIAL BUSARY 2014
NORTH COAST MACHINERY BURSARY 2014
YEAR 9 STUDENTS
NORTH COAST MACHINERY BURSARY 2014

Completed nominations must be submitted by 19 September.

Special date claimer—Awards Night

Please set aside the evening of Wednesday 29 October to attend the Innisfail State College Showcase Awards Night. This is the premier event in our school year, when we acknowledge and celebrate the excellent academic achievements of our students. The ceremony is held at the Shire Hall from 7:00pm to 9:00pm.

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.