



ATSI FNQ Constitutional Convention

This year's convention dealt with the question of Indigenous recognition in the Australian Constitution, an issue that will be settled, according to the Prime Minister, with a national referendum in 2017. Eleven secondary schools participated in this year's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander FNQ Constitutional Convention held at the Cairns Mayoral Reception Chambers, and all agreed that this was a national priority.

Guest speakers, audience viewpoints and referenda took their place and our team members—Jacob Williams, Janaeh Appleby, Merwez Whaleboat and Lachlan Biondi Odo volunteered in the staging of a typical parliamentary sub-committee meeting. Speeches followed and Jacob provided a passionate condemnation of the racist sections contained in the Constitution using a conversational approach totally reliant on eye contact. He charmed his audience and consequently was selected to be the voice of FNQ youth at the National Convention in Canberra in March. A great effort! Thank you Ms Casey for all your assistance.

Mr Kym Marchant



Local disaster coordinator visit

Students in Yr 11 geography were fortunate to have Cassowary Coast Regional Council Local Disaster Coordinator Mr Andrew Portelli visit their class on Wednesday 25 February. Andrew presented an in-depth powerpoint display on Disaster Management Planning to students to encourage them to be aware and prepared in the event of a natural disaster. The visit coincided with the semester topic, *Responding to Natural Hazards* and students were happy to receive their 'get ready' sample bags which will allow them to spread the message.

Mrs Liz Provians



Parent—Teacher—Student interviews

Student report cards will be issued this year at the end of semester one and again at the end of semester two. There will be enhanced opportunity for face-to-face reporting, or parent-teacher interviews this term. Teachers will be available for two evenings, on Tuesday 17 and Wednesday 18 March, from 3pm to 7pm to have structured and frank discussions with parents/carers and students about progress to date. This is a tremendous donation of out-of-hour time by our dedicated teachers, who value highly the opportunity to develop and strengthen those very important relationships between home and school to ensure our students have every chance to achieve the best possible results.

Appointments are 10 minutes long. They can be arranged from Thursday 5 March through our on-line booking system, which can be reached through the link on our school website, or directly at: <http://sobs.com.au/pt/parent.php?schoolid=720> If you are unable to access the on-line booking system, please contact the school office and we will make appointments for you.

Please make only ONE appointment with each teacher, even if your son/daughter studies multiple subjects with the teacher. There simply are not enough appointments for you to double up. If, at the end of your 10-minute appointment, you require a longer period of time, an appointment will be made for you on another day. Please consider including the student in the meeting. When all three stakeholders (parent, teacher *and* student) share a common understanding of the current true state of student learning, the areas requiring focus and effort, and all are working towards a common goal or target, we are much more likely to see real gains in achievement and learning satisfaction.

Tuesday 17 March 3pm to 7pm at Innisfail State College library
Wednesday 18 March 3pm to 7pm at Innisfail State College library

Please note that school fees (the Student Resource Scheme participation fees) are now due.
A \$20 per student discount will be applied to all fees paid by Friday 6 March.

Congratulations Coen

Yr 11 student Coen Bianchin recently signed up as a school based apprentice with Gaia Farms. Coen will work every Wednesday on his engineering fabrication apprenticeship and will do his training with Training Assessment Mentors. The College thanks Mike & Rene Gaia for supporting Coen to achieve his career goal.

Here at Innisfail State College we work closely with local businesses and are grateful for the assistance they give to our students in both work experience and school based apprenticeships.

(Pictured right are Mike Gaia and Coen at the sign up at Innisfail State College)



ATSI FNQ Constitutional Convention

The theme for 2015 considered 'Australian Federation: State Rights versus National Priorities. The case for and against the Commonwealth assuming full powers over water and health.' Fourteen far northern schools sent teams to the Cairns City Council Mayoral Reception room and the prepared speeches were of an exceptionally high standard.

Maddison Bradtke was our representative in the Constitutional Challenge, and while unsuccessful in her bid to gain selection for Canberra, spoke with great passion and commitment. It should be noted that Maddison had to back up on the following day with more public speaking through Lion's Youth of the Year.

Shawnee Barbera, Rochelle Farnsworth and Matilda Smith engaged with other members of the various states and territories, through referenda and the opportunity to use a roving microphone to deliver their viewpoints. Opened by Mayor Bob Manning and attended by the Hon. Warren Entsch and assorted lawyers and university lecturers, the day was an undoubted success.

Mr Kym Marchant



Hat creations

Feast of the Senses is fast approaching and students at Innisfail State College are getting in on the creative action, participating in hat making workshops with renowned local hat designer, Mrs Karen Edgerton. Students are meeting regularly in the Art room with Mrs Edgerton and Mrs Provians to create their hats for the Carmen Miranda Hat Competition which will involve modelling their tropical creations at the Food Fair and finally on Market Day, March 29, 2015.

Pictured below is Ramneek Kaur with her lovely creation.



Coming events

2 Mar—6 Mar	Year 8 JET Plans with parents
Tuesday 3 March	Regional Rugby League
Wednesday 4 Mar	Year 11 Marine snorkelling periods 1&2
Friday 6 Mar	Last day for school fee discount
	Regional netball
Tuesday 10 Mar	GenR8 site visits
Wednesday 11 Mar	Year 11 Marine snorkelling per 1&2
	Small primary schools netball, soccer @ ISC
Monday 16 Mar	P & C Meeting 7pm
Tuesday 17 Mar	Parent Teacher interviews
Wednesday 18 Mar	Parent Teacher interviews
Friday 20 Mar	Harmony Day celebrations at DLC & ISC
	National Day of Action Against Bullying & Violence
	School disco 6:30 to 10:00pm
Sunday 22 Mar	Midday to 4pm school musical rehearsal

After hours, on-line, free, safe tutoring

There is a free tutoring service available to all members of Cassowary Coast libraries. All students need is a library card to enable them to log on. The link is : <http://www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/libraries3> and go from there.

Mrs Gough (at the ISC library)

Events & assessment calendars

All families should receive in the mail this week a copy of the college events calendar for semester one. Together with this, was a personalised assessment calendar for each student. If you don't have yours, please see your junior or senior student services officer.

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.