2015 ICAS Science Competition
by Mr Kerry Flynn, Science & Maths - HOD

Congratulations to all the students who participated this year. It was encouraging to see the good representations from Year 7 and 8 - their first year at doing the competition. There were some pleasing results and all students participated well.

Distinction: Allan Linton (7), Westley Darwen (8)
Credits: Jack Shaw (7), Kelly Meinicke (7), Alexander Timm (8), Hayden Doyle (8), Keagan Flynn (8), Caitlin Holmes (9), Zack Stockwell (9), Lyam Loring (10), Chris Ordonica (11), René Le Feuvre (12), Luke Sockhill (12)

More NYSF Success
by Mr Kerry Flynn, Maths & Science HOD

The tradition at Ayr High continues again this year. One of our top Year 11 students, Liam Vitale, has been successful in gaining selection to the prestigious National Youth Science Forum in Canberra. Liam will attend a two week science experience with other students from across the country in January 2016. Serious work with leading scientists from across a range of disciplines will occur through lectures, seminars, field trips and laboratory investigations. There will also be plenty of time for social events in order to get to know the other participants.

Over the last 19 years, Ayr High has had a very high reputation of gaining selection to this Forum. This is testimony to the quality of our students, the parental support and guidance from teachers. Liam follows on from the following more recent participants - Ben Brandon (2008), Rohan Watt (2009), Monica Saunders (2010), Genevieve Fahey (2011), Josh Great (2012), Matt Wight (2013) and Liam Shannon (2014). The Ayr Rotary Club once again has been very supportive in this venture and we thank them for their continued commitment to the young people of the Burdekin.

MATILDA The Musical in Sydney

“A magical story about an extraordinary girl who, armed with a vivid imagination and a sharp mind, dares to take a stand and change her own destiny.”

Helloworld Ayr are selling packages to see Matilda The Musical in Sydney. Package includes 1 Night Hotel Accommodation and an A Reserve Ticket. From $225 per person twin share. For a stress free holiday we can take care of your airfares and travel insurance as well! Contact the girls at helloworld to make your booking today. HURRY! Offer ends 8 November 2015, unless sold out prior. Availability is limited.

Helloworld” awarded 2014 Best Travel Agency Group at AFTA’s National Travel Industry Awards.
From the Principal
by Mr Craig Whittred, Principal
Editorial - Newsletter No. 10 14/08/15

Our Year 11s returned very tired but excited after last week’s Year 11 camp to Kinchant Dam. From all reports they did a great job at all the challenges and worked well as a team. The skills that they have learnt on camp can be put into practice in everyday lives and for some students they will be able to use these skills as they enter into leadership positions in 2016.

On Monday this week our instrumental music students participated in a musical transition program with students from East Ayr State School and Brandon State School. This initiative was resurrected by William Webber, Cultural Vice-Captain. This program saw our students tutoring the younger students as well as showcasing the talent and expectations of our Concert and Jazz bands. This is part of a rebuilding strategy for our musical program to encourage the students in primary school to continue on with their musical learning journey once they transition to secondary school.

A reminder to all families the Ayr State High School P&C Association is selling tickets in this year’s Rotary community raffle. Each ticket bought through the P&C gives you a chance to win $10 000 and give the P&C $5. So far with the hard work of a few families we have already raised over $1000. We would like every student in the school to buy only one ticket for $5 which would raise almost $3000 for the school and give all of our students a chance of winning $10 000! So bring your money to the office and you will be issued with your tickets!

I have had a chance to review our student achievement data from Semester 1. We have seen a positive increase compared to Semester 1 in 2014. Our attendance is still sitting at a high level and this is showing positively in students’ results.

We have been working with students on setting targets for achievements. This is done by documenting the feedback that they are receiving from their teachers which is focusing on what they have had success on and where they could improve from each assessment piece. Most importantly we are then asking students to identify two actions they will do to help them make these improvements. This is documented in the students’ planners. At home you should be able to have discussion with your sons and daughters about their plans for improvement in each of their subjects.

All the best to the Ayr High Hawks who are representing our school at the Interschool Athletics Carnival next Friday. I’m sure you will do us proud.

GO HAWKS!

Yours in education

Craig Whittred
Principal

P&C Meeting
Monday 7 September 2015
7.30 pm, Resource Centre
All welcome

Music Support Group Meeting
Thursday 20 August
5.00 pm, A12

Welcome to Ayr State High School
Our school acknowledges the Traditional Owners of this land. Today, they are still the custodians of the cultural heritage of this land. Further to this, our school acknowledges there are other Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and South Sea Island people who have lived, worked and contributed to the cultural heritage of our community.

School Disco
27 August 2015
Ayr Showgrounds Hall
7.00 - 10.00 pm
**adidas School Fun Run - Fundraising**  
*by Ms Courtney Carrigan, Sports Co-ordinator*

Once again the students of Ayr High put on their running shoes to raise money to boost sporting facilities through sponsorship of the adidas School Fun Run. The event was held earlier this year in Term 2 but we have only just received confirmation of money raised. The students put in a fantastic effort to raise $1723.50. Students sought sponsorship from family, friends and members of the community. Fast money raised has helped finance or subsidise such things as sports uniforms, sports team bus costs and various pieces of sports equipment. The highest fundraiser was Kahli Anderson (8A) who raised $108 - a fantastic effort. Prizes have been distributed to eager students through year level assemblies this week. The sports department would like to thank all the staff, parents and students that were involved in making the adidas School Fun Run such a huge success and a big thank you to all the sponsors who supported our athletes.

![Year 7s receive their adidas School Fun Run prizes](image)

**Interhouse Athletics Carnival Omission**

In the last edition of Ayring it was noted that seven records were broken at our Carnival, when in fact eight records were broken. Declan Dowson broke the U13 Boys 1500m record with a time of 5:10.78 (5:17.77), along with the 3000m. Apologies to Declan.

**Igniting Our Minds**  
*by Sarah McDonnell, Year 7 Student*

Simply unforgettable, unique, inspiring. These are a few words to describe the experience of participating in this year’s inaugural ‘Ignite your Minds - Burdekin Readers and Writers Festival. The experience involved attending a one hour session with two acclaimed and extremely talented authors, Nick Earls and David Hunt. Nick, a former doctor, is renowned for his many publications aimed at adolescents and young adults, while David has so far published one book, ‘Girt’, which features many facts about Australia’s History, albeit told with hilarious twists. This is where his passion lies and he assured us that this would not be his last book. For those students who were looking to enhance their writing skills or even pursue a career in writing, their advice was invaluable. The camaraderie of these ‘Two Funny Guys’ and their entertaining tales left everyone, including the adults, in stitches. On behalf of those who participated, I would like to sincerely thank Mrs Attard and Mrs Buffa for organising this experience, which will be one not soon forgotten.

“Being an author is like anything, if you love it, you will succeed. Yes, you will have those days when you feel like giving up, but so does everyone and so I encourage you to believe and persevere.” Quoted by David Hunt.
On Friday 31 July, the Year 11 and 12 Visual Art classes headed to the Townsville Strand to experience the 2015 Strand Ephemera. The 20 students as well as Mrs Hoey, Ms Parison and Miss Casswell, saw an insight into the incredible sculptures and installations created by artists from all around Australia. The experience sought to inspire the senior art students through their studies and to allow them to experience the wonders of conceptual artwork in the contemporary environment. Artworks consisted of installations, sculptures, sand sculptures and 3D pavement art. These students were also able to take part in a sand sculpting activity, with the guidance of well renowned sand sculptor Jino Van Bruinessen, where they built ‘structurally sound’ sandcastles in efforts to recreate the three masterpieces on the beach.

Applications have opened for Scartwater and Cunningham Scholarships for 2016 and are awarded to children or grandchildren of eligible Returned Servicemen or Women who:

i. have seen overseas active service within the Australian Defence forces in all theatres;
ii. enlisted from or resided in the Scartwater Area prior to enlisting or
iii. now permanently resides in the Scartwater Area and have done so for no less than 15 years.

The Scartwater Area, broadly defined, runs from Proserpine to Innisfail and back to the Western border. The Scartwater Scholarships are currently $1000 per annum and will be awarded upon the results obtained in Year 10. They are designed to assist a student to continue full time studies through Years 11 & 12.

The Cunningham Scholarships are currently $2000.00 per annum and will be awarded upon the results obtained in Years 11 and 12. They are designed to enable a student to undertake full time studies in an approved Tertiary course at an approved university.

Further information and application forms are available at the school office and must be forwarded to the Scartwater Secretary by 30 November.