Indigenous Update
by Bakoi Bero and Jemima Sutherland

In July a group of Indigenous students went to Townsville for FOGS Career Expo. They spent the day finding out about careers they were interested in. They also had the opportunity to mix with other schools and some of Rugby League’s best players. August saw five teams participate in the Vibe 3 on 3 Challenge where we participated in activities such as basketball, a rap challenge, dancing, other sports, health and painting. It was a successful day as Keon Noah took out the rap challenge, Majella Monday won the dance off with Tamika Murdock in second place and our Junior boys and girls teams took out first place in the basketball 3 on 3 competition.

On 29 and 30 August we had a team of Indigenous students compete in ATSIAP (Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islanders Aspiration Programme). The team consisted of Bakoi Bero, Diamond Heron, Tia Henaway and Jemima Sutherland. They came second in long term problem solving earning Ayr High another trophy. Well done!

Monday saw the start of the Cowboy’s Learn Earn Legend Program with our Year 12 students. The Year 12’s were signed up to the mentoring program and received a cowboys shirt and cowboys supporters bag. The program encourages the students to stay at school and helps them with work experience and career guidance.

Ayr High Naidoc Day
by Mrs Mirella Buffa, Teacher

Our annual Naidoc Day celebrations will be held at the school on Wednesday 18 September. This year we will be hosting a whole school half day event. The day will involve a traditional Kup Murri, dancers from Ayr State Primary School and special guest Aboriginal comedian, Kevin Kropinyeri, who has recently performed at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival. The day will begin at 10.00 am and finish at 1 pm, so students will be out for sessions 2 and 3. During first break we will share a traditional Kup Murri feed of chicken, pork and kangaroo.

Kevin Kropinyeri, will share with the whole school his life’s journey, his struggles and his successes. He will then entertain us with his unique take on Indigenous culture and hilariously educate us through his comedy routine.

Naidac polo shirts ($10) and wristbands ($2) are currently on sale for all at the school and can be worn on the day.

P&O next year's memories now on SALE!
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Welcome to Ayr State High School
Our school acknowledges the Bindal and Juru community as the first owners of this country. 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.

Year 10 Subject Selections
by Ms Lesley Olsen, Deputy Principal

Almost all Year 10 students have now completed their subject selection for 2014 on One School. Some subjects, at this time, are over-subscribed. For example, the Certificate I in Construction Course has more students indicating they would like to do this subject than there are places available. Some students will be asked to choose a different course or subject. Students whose SET plan clearly links to their chosen subjects will be given preference for a place in a subject whilst those whose SET plan indicates a different pathway will be asked to re-select.

Naidoc Day
18 September 2013
Merchandise on Sale
T-shirts $10
Wristbands $2
On sale at the Resource Centre

Music Support Group Meeting
Monday 21 October 2013
7.30 pm, A12. All welcome.

Do you have a child on the Autism Spectrum?
There are now regular meetings held in the Burdekin. If you are interested and would like more information please phone Jade on 0414 741 740 or email aspie.aut@live.com.au.

Ayr High on ‘Skaky Ground’

Last week, Dr Natalie Balfour from the Australian National University visited Ayr High to install our Seismometer. This machine is of research class quality and can detect subtle vibrations from air conditioners to detonations from mines to earthquakes in Japan. Ayr High was fortunate enough to be one of 40 schools around the country to be connected to the Australian network of seismometers. These machines will mean that Australia now has approximately 80 seismometers continuously collecting data. Shortly our seismometer will be connected to a website and access will be able to be made by anyone. Details about this will be forthcoming.

The seismometer will allow students to access real-time data when they are studying their Year 9 Science unit on Earthquakes as well as in Year 11/12 Physics. This will make the learning of science more engaging and allow our more able students to do some high quality ‘real life’ work. Dr Natalie Balfour visited our Year 9 classes and some Year 8 and 11 classes to explain the program and talk about her journey from school to being one of Australia’s leading researchers in earthquakes. Students asked some insightful questions and Natalie was impressed by both the quality of our students’ behaviour and their knowledge.

A special thanks needs to go to Brent Pickup for his invaluable expertise in IT to allow the system to work. As well Mr Jensen and Mr Prideaux and their Year 11 and 12 Construction classes produced a vault that impressed Dr Balfour so much it will be used as as ‘best practice’ for schools here in Australia and for other similar programs around the world. Well Done.
Northern Selections
by Ms Courtney Carrigan, Sports Co-ordinator

Congratulations to Karina Thompson (Year 9), Liam Vitale (Year 9) and Jamahl White (Year 12) who were successful in gaining selection in the Northern squad for Track and Field. The trials were held last Friday in Townsville, with 16 Ayr High students making up part of the Burdekin squad.

All three students performed exceptionally well in field events. Karina was selected for Long Jump and Liam qualified in an astonishing five events – Triple Jump, Javelin, High Jump, Shot Put and Discus. Jamahl was selected for High Jump, Long Jump and Triple Jump. They will compete at the State Championships which will run from 24-27 October in Brisbane. Well done.

Karina Thompson
Liam Vitale
Jamahl White

Jarrod Langford’s Impressive Tenpin Bowling Achievement
by Ms Lesley Olsen, Deputy Principal

Jarrod is completing his senior studies over three years rather than two to allow him to not only qualify for tertiary entrance but also to provide the opportunity for Jarrod to follow his dream, capitalising on his talent as a tenpin bowler of some repute.

In July this year Jarrod participated in the Queensland Youth Rolloff which was held in Townsville. His performance was outstanding. Jarrod averaged 199.6 for 18 games to be the top qualifier for the Queensland U21 team.

Jarrod will travel to Melbourne with the Queensland team in January next year where he will have the opportunity to qualify for the U18 Australian Youth Challenge team. If he is successful he will be travelling to Kuwait to participate in the Asian Schools Challenge.

Jarrod is a formidable talent in his chosen field. His hard work and dedication have coupled with his amazing talent to take him to this State Representative level. Congratulations, Jarrod.

HPE WEEK 2-6 September 2013
by Ms Courtney Carrigan, Sports Co-ordinator

Last week Ayr High students celebrated HPE Week by participating in a range of activities at lunch times. The Frisbee throwing was extremely popular and tennis rallying and basketball shooting were well supported by a smaller enthusiastic bunch. Many students converted a goal from 20 metres out in the Frisbee with Jack Vacher, Matt Wight, Blake Hollywood and Liam Shannon winning the Frisbee rally. Kurt Boxall and Meg Andrews and Jacob Pyott and Lucas Brady partnered to win the longest tennis rally and Matt Wight landed a shot from halfway in the basketball shootouts. The burpee challenge turned into tyre relays with not many willing to join Mr Baxter in the challenge. A number of prizes were handed out for winners of the many challenges and fun was had by those who participated. Thank you to those students and staff who supported HPE Week.

Donation to School Library

The Ayr High community wishes to thank the Home Hill RSL Sub Branch, in particular Mr Allan Petersen, for their donation of the book ‘Home Hill Remembers’ to add to our Library collection. The book details the military history of the Boer War and World War I personnel from the Home Hill district.

Labour Day Holiday
Monday 7 October 2013

Student Free Day
Monday 21 October 2013
Maths Camp
by Tayla Heuir, Year 10 Student

On 18 August, seven Year 10 students were selected to attend Maths Camp, held at Paluma. These seven students, along with 41 other students from selected Townsville schools, participated in a number of mathematically involved activities to build on their knowledge and understanding of functions and math related problems, as well as working in teams. On the first day we were divided into ten teams, where the seven of us were split up, which gave us the opportunity to interact with other people from different schools.

Over the course of the two and a half days, we were involved in a number of activities such as the Sand Castle Activity, Orienteering and the Straw Bridge Challenge. These tasks saw us designing very cheesy looking ‘Pi’ sandcastles, not very architecturally sound straw bridges and Orienteering courses for other groups. Combined with that we also completed the Amazing Race (throughout the whole of Paluma), the Swiss Competition and the Math Quiz which saw us all competing in groups against each other to see which team would win the Camp’s mini competition.

This camp was a great opportunity for us to engage in mathematical activities, and was an amazing experience for us all. We would like to thank Mr Milne for being an awesome teacher on this camp.

Year 11 Mock Job Interviews
by Mrs Mirella Buffa, Teacher

Tuesday this week saw the Year 11 English Communication students put their resumé writing and interview skills to the test. The students wrote a letter of application and a resumé which were sent out to local employers. The follow up was a mock job interview, which simulated the real life experience of going for a job interview. Both tasks were for assessment in the Kick-Start Your Career unit, the students had been studying. The feedback from the employers was very positive. They were impressed with the quality and structure of the letters and resumés and the responses given by the students during the interview process. A big thank you goes out to all our employers: Mr Glenn Brock from Wilmar Sugar, Mr John Barbagallo from JB Automotive, Ms Susan Johnson from MAX Employment, Mrs Linda Scott from East Ayr State School, Mrs Rachel Jerkic from Ayr Childcare & Education Centre, Ms Carmela Vasta from Dolce Capelli and Mr James Lewty from CD Lewty and Sons, for making the day such as success.

Upcoming Events

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<td>NAIDOC Day activities (S2&amp;S3)</td>
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<td>21-29 Sep</td>
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<td>Yr 11 Interviews for School &amp; Vice Captains</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 Oct</td>
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