2015 ICAS Maths Competition

by Mr Kerry Flynn, HOD - Science & Maths

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

Awards:

Distinction  Westley Darwen (8), Aimee Matthews (9)

Credits  Sarah McDonnell (7), Kelly Meinicke (7), Alexander Timm (8), Hayden Doyle (8), Keagan Flynn (8), Matthew Schifilliti (8), Jaydenn Pavone (9), Theresa Hawkins (9), Lyam Loring (10), Emma Lyons (11), René Le Feuvre (12), Luke Sockhill (12), Liam Shannon (12)

Canberra Trip 2015

by Hayden Menso, Year 11 Student

During the school holidays, eleven senior humanities students from the 11 Legal Studies, 11 Modern History and 12 Legal Studies classes embarked on a learning experience like no other - to the nation's capital.

The group toured the historical and monumental sights of Canberra including Parliament House, the Royal Mint, the National Library, Floriade, the National Archives, High Court of Australia, National Art Gallery and the Australian War Memorial. The trip included participation in educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy. The students even got the chance to enrol on the Electoral Roll, enabling them to be ready to place their votes when they turn eighteen.

Unfortunately, the group didn’t get the chance to meet any politicians during their visit, but did however experience the Canberra temperatures.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of $120 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs.

The trip would not have been possible without the organisation by Mrs Vollema-Creek, and we also thank Mr Pickersgill for coming with us. This Canberra Trip will be something we’ll never forget.

CONTIKI DEALS

“Drop what you’re doing and start packing! Save some serious dough with these great specials from Contiki!”. Contact the girls at helloworld.Ayr to confirm your booking!

SAVE 10% on Asia Trips
SAVE 10% on European Summer Trips
SAVE 7.5% on USA & Canada

*Terms & Conditions Apply*

'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. 13 16/10/15

Term 4 is here again and I am looking forward to the celebrations to come but also mindful of the amount of work that has to be completed between now and the end of the year, not only for myself and the staff but also the students. The big events for this term are always uplifting with the Cultural, Sports and Academic Awards nights all showcasing the considerable talents of our students at Ayr State High. We also have our celebrations for our Year 12 students with their Graduation dinner and Graduation assembly. These two events are the culmination of 12 years of schooling which will see those students entering into a new and exciting phase of their lives as young adults.

I have been speaking with our students and reminding them to stay focused on the task at hand, achieving their best in final units and assessment for 2015. I have also reminded them that all expectations around behaviour and 95% attendance remain right up to the last day - 20 November.

Last week we had international education speaker Mr Dan Haesler once again come and work with our school. He also did a presentation for our whole school community on the Thursday evening at the Burdekin theatre. This presentation was attended by over 80 people that included teachers, parents and students from across the Burdekin. Mr Haesler spoke about Growth Mindsets and appropriate feedback and rewards that help develop the growth mindset in ourselves and our students/children. This presentation was very well received by all.

I am happy to announce that we have received additional $250 000 in funding for school facilities upgrades that will happen over the coming months. These upgrades will modernise our teaching spaces, and help provide better all-weather access to key areas around our school.

Finally, I encourage all parents to talk with their children about what they are learning this term and plan ahead for key dates in this hectic time of the year to allow students the best opportunity to achieve to their highest potential in the final term of the year.

Yours in education
Craig Whittred
Principal

Awards Evenings Abound in Term 4
Cultural Awards
Thursday 22 October 2015
A Block Gardens
5.00 pm

Sports Awards
Thursday 29 October 2015
Ayr Showgrounds Hall
7.30 pm

Academic Awards
Thursday 5 November 2015
Burdekin Theatre
7.30 pm

A wonderful showcase of the depth and breadth of talent in Ayr State High School.

BYOx – Get Connected!

We are excited to be able to announce that our BYOx system is ready for use. A range of testing was carried out in Term 3 to ensure that student devices could be successfully utilised. These results confirmed that we are ready to connect, and allow students to utilise this exciting new development in the way we support access to technology. This system will allow students to connect to the school network via their own personal devices, and aims to maximise opportunity for success in school and beyond. Enhanced access to ICT devices through the BYOx system will help to build skills for the 21st century, promote responsible digital citizenship, and will become one of the platforms for ICT use at Ayr State High School.

An information session will be held on Wednesday 28 October to commence at 7.30 pm in the school’s auditorium. The aim of this session is to provide information about the requirements for connection to the system, and to complete the documentation required to enable this to occur. Our system technician will be on hand to answer any additional questions you may have at this time. Please come along and join our BYOx revolution!

Pupil Free Day
Monday 19 October 2015

Formal Uniform Hire & Sizing
Fittings will be done by appointment only. Appointments must be made at the Canteen.
Before School
Monday to Friday 8.00 - 8.40 am
After School
By appointment

P&C Meeting
Monday 2 November 2015
7.30 pm, Resource Centre
All welcome
Mental Health Week Community Presentation

by Mr Bruce Johnson, Guidance Officer

Ayr State High School is holding a parent information session at 7.30 pm on Tuesday October 27 on “Understanding Suicide and How to Support Your Young Person”. The information will be presented by Steven Brooke who is the State Coordinator for headspace School Support and who worked as a psychologist in the Burdekin from 2002 - 2010. The information session will be held in the Ayr State High School Resource Centre. Please note that this information session is aimed at adults supporting young people therefore, we would prefer that young people do not attend the session. We will make arrangements to provide supervision for young people should any parent/guardians not be able to organise alternative arrangements.

Please ring the school office on 4790 4333 to RSVP by Friday 23 October.

Senior School News

by Mrs Lesley Olsen, Deputy Principal

Year 10

Year 10 students have enjoyed a busy week out in the work force exploring career options. Subject selections, intentions about TAFE courses for 2016 can now be finalised based on this work experience. In mathematics and science students are engaging, this term, in preparation studies for their SET plan. Achievement and engagement in these subjects may affect choices for mathematics and science in 2016.

Year 11

Students have spent some time this term recording and reflecting on their current achievement to identify students at risk of not meeting requirements for the Queensland Certificate of Education. Those students who are on a pathway to university have begun preparation for the Queensland Core Skills test (QCS test) working with myself and Mrs Gemellaro who are trained and experienced QCS test markers. This term the focus will be on the writing task; students will sit for a practice QCS writing task during the Assessment Block in November.

Year 11 students have been invited to assist at the Year 12 Graduation dinner, serving tables and cleaning up after-the event. Best wishes for all students involved in interviews for student leadership positions on Monday 19 November.

Year 12

Great excitement is in the air as graduation preparations begin, in earnest! The realisation of how little time is left in the safe supportive environment of Ayr State High School begins to sink in as our latest crop of responsible, informed and valued students emerge into the world beyond school. There is still school work to complete; many students are relying on performance on these final assessments to secure their QCE; staying focussed is critical.

### Upcoming Events

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<td>19 Oct</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 Oct</td>
<td>Senior Secondary Council Meeting (1.10 pm)</td>
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<td>Yr 8 into 9 Subject Selection Info Session (SMD-Resource Centre, 5.30 - 6.30 pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 Oct</td>
<td>Cultural Awards Night (A Block gardens, 5 pm)</td>
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<td>28 Oct</td>
<td>Junior Secondary Council Meeting (1.10 pm)</td>
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<td>29 Oct</td>
<td>Sports Awards Rehearsal (S4)</td>
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<td>30 Oct</td>
<td>Sports Awards (Ayr Showgrounds Hall, 7.30 pm)</td>
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<td>4 Nov</td>
<td>Academic Awards Rehearsal (S4)</td>
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<td>5 Nov</td>
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<td>Yr 7/8 World of Maths Show</td>
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<td>11-13 Nov</td>
<td>Yr 12 Assessment Period</td>
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<td>12 Nov</td>
<td>Yr 9, 10, 11 LIP Leader Training Day</td>
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<td>13 Nov</td>
<td>Yr 12 Laptops returned</td>
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<td>17-20 Nov</td>
<td>Yr 12 Alternative Programme</td>
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<td>20 Nov</td>
<td>Yr 12 Graduation Dinner</td>
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<td>23-26 Nov</td>
<td>Yr 11 Assessment Period</td>
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<td>27 Nov</td>
<td>Yr 10, 11 Laptops returned</td>
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<td>30 Nov</td>
<td>Big Day Out Rewards Day (S3/4)</td>
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<td>3-4 Dec</td>
<td>Yr 7 Orientation Programme</td>
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<td>25 Jan</td>
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<td>26 Jan</td>
<td>Australia Day Public Holiday</td>
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Academic Awards Night
by Mrs Lesley Olsen, Deputy Principal

Early next week students will be advised of eligibility for an Academic Award. Academic achievement awards are presented to students who meet the criteria; 2As and 4Bs or better for Years 7 - 10; 5Bs or better in Year 11 - 12. Awards are also made to students whose work represents the highest achievement in each subject in each year level, the subject dux awards. A number of Special Awards are also presented.

The evening which is compered by the 2015 student leaders takes place at the Burdekin Theatre. Students are required to wear the formal school uniform. Information about the hire of a formal school uniform is available in this newsletter.

Sports Awards
Thursday 29 October
Showgrounds Hall
7.30 pm