National Reconciliation Week
by Student Support Team

National Reconciliation Week is celebrated across Australia each year. It commemorates two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey—the anniversaries of the successful 1967 Referendum and the High Court Mabo decision. The week is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements and to explore how each of us can join the national reconciliation.

How did we celebrate?
On Tuesday 4 June Dejanee Lampton, Indigenous Vice Captain started our school parade by informing students of the significance of Reconciliation Week and outlining the program for the week.

Wednesday morning a group of students, staff and community members gathered at Gudjuda Reference Group (near Plantation Park) to lay a wreath to acknowledge The Stolen Generation. The group walked back to school where breakfast was shared.

New students and staff added their handprints to the Harmony Wall to show that everyone belongs. We celebrate diversity, and learn and understand from each others stories. Also adding their handprints were Cowboys players who came to the school to talk to students and conduct a Football clinic.

On Thursday students were given a Recognition Postcard (Designed by Jemima Lee Sutherland). The students wrote a postcard to a teacher or staff member whom they recognise and appreciate as being a support person for them.

Throughout the week a display created by Jemima Lee Sutherland was on show in the library showcasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders who have contributed and made a difference in Australia, the diversity of their talents is inspiring to the next generation.

“When you are recognised for who you are and what you contribute, it encourages you to recognise the best in others”.

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From the Principal
by Mr Craig Whittred, Principal
Editorial - Newsletter No. 7 14/06/13

As Semester One comes to an end it is a good time to reflect over the successes we have had so far this year. Ayr State High School has had students excelling in the areas of Science, Information Technologies, Mathematics, Drama, Music and Sport. We have had students engage with employers and showcased their talents which have led to them securing School-Based Traineeships and Apprenticeships and employment into the future. Students have put their talents together to support many charity organisations and local organisations to help raise funds or supply infrastructure. All in all the students and staff of Ayr State High School are doing an outstanding job!

As we look ahead into Semester Two we will be looking at a number of transitions. The Year 12s will be working towards their final six months of school and transitioning into further studies at university or into employment. The Year 10s will be working on developing career plans to support their transition into Years 11 and 12 and we will be working with the Year 7s from across the district as they prepare for their transition into high school. At all of these transitions we are focused on developing the students of Ayr State High School into responsible, valued and informed citizens of the future.

I wish everyone a safe and happy holidays and I am looking forward to returning next semester to continue on with the outstanding work that already has begun.

Yours in Education
Craig Whittred
Principal

Bachelor of Business Opens Many Doors
by Mrs Vicki Toohey, HOD - Business, IT & Humanities

The accounting and finance careers day sent a clear message to those students who attended last Friday – “A Bachelor of Business from JCU opens many doors - both in Australia and overseas”. The careers day was hosted by JCU’s School of Business. A number of speakers from the business community were invited to address the students, identifying the enormous range of options that are open to graduates in the business field and the high regard in which JCU graduates are held in the business community. Job prospects are excellent given the shortage of qualified accountants and financial planners in Australia with the salaries on offer certainly impressing the students. And the good news is that it isn’t all about tax! There are careers in sport, mining, health, defence forces, entertainment, retail, banking, media – the list goes on. Students studying accounting in Years 11 and 12 are well prepared for the dynamic world of business.

School Jumpers in 2013
- Be prepared for cooler days
In 2010 the P&C Association endorsed an official school jumper. This is the only jumper acceptable. It is a dark green jumper, available from the school office for $30.
If your child needs to wear a jumper for warmth please make it the official school jumper.

P&C Meeting
Monday 8 July 2013
7.30 pm, Resource Centre

Year 11/12 Assessment Block
13 - 19 June 2013

Today, Ayr. Tomorrow, Melbourne!
by Miss Maree Longworth, Performing Arts Teacher

Forty lucky, extra curricula music and drama students have decided to take the trip down to Melbourne with the help of the Performing Arts Teachers and Music Support Group. The trip is scheduled for the weekend of 26-28 July where the 40 students will travel down to Melbourne for three nights to see the amazing musicals; King Kong and Legally Blonde. Legally Blonde the Musical is sweeping the nation with its tour, delighting audiences in Brisbane and Sydney and featuring an all star cast including Ericka Heynatz and Rob Mills. King Kong the musical is the highlight of the trip, as this is a one of a kind musical, only for Melbourne audiences and features a six metre, one tonne puppet gorilla as the lead character!

As well as this amazing opportunity to see the musicals, the students will also take tours of the city and visit the culture the CBD has to offer. They will also visit attractions such as; Old Melbourne Gaol, Eureka Skydeck, The Hollywood Costume Exhibition and of course, Luna Park. The Performing Arts Department would like to thank Music Support Group for making this opportunity possible.

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Northern (NQ) Selections
by Ms Courtney Carrigan, Sports Co-ordinator

Congratulations to Jordan Zabel (Year 10) and Sam Spelta (Year 8) who have been selected in U15 Northern sport squads recently and will participate at their respective Queensland Championships. Jordan has been selected for Football and will travel to Brisbane in August. Sam has been selected for Golf and will travel to Wynnum in July.

Special mention to the following students who were selected as shadow players for the U15 Boys and Girls Basketball squads: Tayla Heuir (Year 10), Sharni Wight (Year 8), Tyler Northwood (Year 9) and Adam Barbagallo (Year 9).

Well done to all students. We wish them well.

yLead Conference
by Erin Saroglia, Year 9 Form Representative

On Monday 27 May, Year 9 form representatives travelled to Rydges Hotel, Townsville to attend the yLead presentation. We were accompanied by both Miss Longworth and Miss Battis who were able to transport us to the venue. This event was for Year 9 students around the North Queensland region, to gain leadership experience and to have confidence in themselves. We participated in various activities with the other school students and listened to three special speakers. All these speakers had their own story to tell. They showed that no matter who you are and what you do, you can make a difference, whether it’s in school, the community or maybe even the world. The speakers spoke about how they overcame many teenage issues. Their words were truly inspirational. This was a definite eye-opener to us. We are very grateful to have been able to attend this event and to have met some wonderful people.

Biology Camp 2013
by Zoe Muir, Year 11 Student

Amazing weather, fantastic students and awesome teachers where the highlights of the annual Biology pilgrimage to Cape Hillsborough National Park during the month of May.

Whilst tent construction and camp cooking skills were nothing to skite about, the work ethic and enthusiasm shown by the Biology classes of 2013 were impressive.

Long walks and hikes tired us all out however every student still managed to accomplish the tasks at hand. Despite exhaustion we were made to stay up extremely late to go trekking to the bat caves and have a campfire for hours on end. The night hike also allowed us to seek out phone reception!

One of the most sickly-sweet treats for all of us was to go to the waste treatment plant and watch our waste turn into water. Some students had enough courage to go up and look into the tanks full of poo, but many students were way too squeamish. Incredible to think we were bathing in recycled water!!!!

On the last day students were furiously finishing their work- books and packing away all the gear. Squeezing tents back into bags was mostly unsuccessful but the speed of packing the bus broke all records with everyone ready for departure and almost asleep by 10 am.

Returning home was disappointing as overall we had a great ecological and social experience. The only task on hand now is to tune in our biological brains and finish our assignment.

Term 2 Disco
by Jai Blakey & Hannah McIntosh, School Vice Captains

The term 2 disco, themed “Remember when...” was a major success with a fantastic turn out. There were costumes ranging from Winnie the Pooh to Dragon Ball 2 and all managed to impress. After some very hard decision making it was finally decided that “best dressed “would go to a group of Year 10 boys dressed as the Wiggles and three Year 12 girls dressed as the Three Little Pigs, congratulations! Thank you to everyone who attended. We look forward to seeing you at the Term 3 disco for another enjoyable night.

Correction - Chappy’s Brekkie Club

The All Saints Anglican Church from Ayr are the sponsors of the Pancake Breakfast at our Chappy’s Brekkie Club not the St Helens Anglican Church from Home Hill as was indicated in a recent Ayring article.
On 9 May, Year 10 students attended the Smart Futures for North Queensland (SF4NQ) Careers Day. The event is held each year for schools throughout the district. This year students had the opportunity to talk to many training groups and organizations such as Australian Defence, Queensland ambulance and Queensland police about different career options.

Some organizations were involved in displays where students could ‘try a trade’. These activities were things students would do as part of a particular job, for example, they could try removing tyres using air compressor equipment. Some of our students tried out the beautician and hairdressing options with some interesting results.

Overall, it was a great day with students exploring their options for the future by talking to other professionals or by trying aspects of jobs on display.

Certificate II in Workplace Practices for Year 11 Students

Students in Year 11 who are not OP eligible have been engaged in activities that are part of modules from Certificate II in Workplace Practices. These activities have included tasks to prepare students for the workforce, such as completing a resume and writing a letter of application for employment.

Some students will continue with these modules with a view to completing the certificate. The completion of the certificate will result in four credit points towards the twenty points required for the Queensland Certificate of Education.

Students who are already studying six subjects will not be enrolled in the certificate course. These students will use the time to consolidate progress in their other subjects or certificates.

Students and parents will be advised in writing whether they will be enrolled in Certificate II in Workplace Practices. Concerns should be addressed to Lesley Olsen, Deputy Principal, Senior Schooling.

End of Semester Reports and Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews

Assessment for all students will occur up to and including the final days of this semester. This ensures maximum time for learning to be completed.

End of Semester Reports will be issued to students at the beginning of next term Wednesday 17 July with parent/student/teacher interviews to follow on Tuesday 23 July.

Music Support Group Meeting

Monday 17 June 2013
7.30 pm, A12
All welcome.

Ayr State High School Music Support Group

Bingo

Saturday 2.00 pm
Anglican Church Hall
Jackpots $400, $300, $200

Tutoring at Ayr High

English
Room: A04
Tuesday 8.00 - 8.30 am (Yr 11 & 12 only)
Tuesday 3.15 - 4.15 pm (All year levels)

Maths & Science
Room: D01 Lab
Wednesday 3.15 - 4.15 pm
Thursday 3.15 - 4.15 pm

Upcoming Events

13-19 June Yr 11/12 Assessment Block
17 June Music Support Meeting (7.30 pm, A12)
19 June Music Night
24 June - 5 July School Holidays
8 July P&C Meeting (7.30 pm, Resource Centre)
15 July Cultural Week
16 July Interschool Touch Football (3.30 pm)
18 July Athletics Carnival Whole School
17 July Reports Issued
15 July Yr 11 Engineering Camp
23 July Parent/Teacher Interviews (I Block 5-8 pm)
24 July Christmas in July (Hospitality)
22-25 July Interschool Rugby 7’s (Yr 12)
27-29 July Performing Arts Excursion (Melbourne)

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