Deidre Dargan  
Community Education Counsellor

Welcome to the 2015 Indigee Newsletter. 2015 has been a great year for Indigenous students at Centenary Heights. We are happy to celebrate the achievements of many students this year in a variety of areas. This year we welcomed our first Year 7 Indigenous students to the school. We look forward to watching them achieve their potential as they progress through their high school education.

I would like to wish all our students a safe and happy Christmas and New Year and look forward to a challenging and exciting 2016.

Jim Brennan  
Deputy Principal

I commend this issue of the Indigee News to you as 2015 draws to a close. 2015 has been a year of firsts, especially the appointment of our first Indigenous Leaders. Congratulations not only to Shekita and Lidia, but to all students who have been active in promoting Indigenous culture.

School Leaders  
Shekita Huet and Lidia Kelly

In 2015 Centenary Heights saw the appointment of the inaugural Indigenous Captain and Vice Captain.

Congratulations to Shekita Huet (Captain) and Lidia Kelly (Vice Captain) who have been appointed for 2016. Both Shekita and Lidia undertook an exhaustive process of nomination, speech delivery and interview to secure their respective positions.

Both students have demonstrated a strong desire to promote Indigenous Culture in the Centenary Heights School Community. In 2016 as part of their role they will be involved in the Queensland University of Technology’s Indigenous Student Ambassador Network.

This program aims to connect Indigenous student leaders in schools across the state to work on ways to engage, retain and transition students in education, training and employment.

Congratulations  
Year 12 Graduates - 2015

Our congratulations go to the Year 12 Graduates for 2015.

Abby Chapman
Shannon Huet
Isobelle Ritchie
Maddison Chapman
Ashley Melville
Julia Spackman

Latiesha Orcher  
Jeff Morrish  
Yasmine Loffel  
Jesse Penhaligan

As you enter the next part of your journey in life we hope that you will continue to strive for excellence in all you do.

Isobelle Ritchie - Bond University Collegiate Recipient

Year 12 student, Isobelle Ritchie has been awarded a prestigious Bond Collegiate Scholarship for 2016, worth $75,000, to study law – an exceptional achievement!

The scholarship is available to students completing Year 12 at a secondary school like Centenary Heights State High School that is part of the Bond University Collegiate Partner Program. The scholarship is awarded to students who perform not only to a high academic standard, but also demonstrate exceptional personal talent and contribute significantly to their communities.

Throughout her time at Centenary Heights, Isobelle has demonstrated commitment and diligence in her studies, as well as involvement in a range of extra-curricular activities. Well done, Isobelle – the Centenary Heights community is proud of your efforts!
The 2015 Our Ways camp was a blast! It was a fun-packed experience whilst also teaching us different communication and leadership skills. The camp was held at the Maranatha Recreation Camp on the Sunshine Coast from 19 – 21 October. Friendships had already started to build on our bus trip to the camp and that was just the start of our reconnection with each other.

The three days of camp were filled with many activities for us to do. We reconnected with our culture, made new friends, had fun and enjoyed ourselves. We participated in activities such as mid-ropes, the tower of trembling, the leap of faith, art and relation, men’s and women’s business and traditional dancing.

The first day after we arrived we had lunch and were allocated our groups and got straight into the activities which were all about team building and co-operation. That night we had Trivia and Aunty Tracey started off the connection by playing a game called ‘Kinship’. This showed us who we could and couldn’t marry within the culture.

The second day we learned a part of the Corroboree and two other dances and at night we had men’s and women’s business, splitting up into male and female groups and each group sat around a warm campfire. The last day we had breakfast, packed our bags and then versed each group in a competitive game. The game didn’t have a specific name but it was a very involving and co-operative game. It required a ball, a lot of running, jumping and communication.

Overall, everyone thought the camp was a great experience. We all enjoyed ourselves, had a go at something, met new people and created many friendships from a range of different schools. It did the deed in learning and embracing our culture. I recommend everyone grasp this opportunity as it will be a fun and memorable experience.

Lidia Kelly
Monday 2 November was the Our Ways Awards night for 2015 for our Year 10s who completed the Dare program and camp, Year 11s for taking a leadership role on the Year 10 Dare camp and our Year 12s who are graduating in just a few weeks’ time.

Firstly congratulations to both our Year 10s on completing the Dare program and camp, Year 11s for taking a leadership role on the Year 10 Dare camp and our Year 12s who will graduate this year. It was a great night with a lot of inspirational speakers and fine company to spend a special night with.

Now to the awards, Lidia Kelly and Lane Anderson both received Academic awards for their studies in 2015. Congratulations also to Jayken Vaughan and Hayley Francisco for both receiving school attendance awards. Emilee Smith was also thanked and received an award for being our only leader from Centenary Heights State High School to go on the Dare camp.

To our Year 12s who received awards for graduating in 2015, Ashley Melville, Jesse Pengilly, Shannon Huet and Julia Spackman, congratulations on finishing high school and I hope we helped equip you for the challenging and exciting times to come in your future.

Costa Charalambous
QATSIF, Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation, is an independent public foundation established by the Queensland State Government in November 2008 to provide a secure funding source for improved educational outcomes for Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people. The Public Trustee of Queensland is the Trustee of the Foundation.

QATSIF’s initial capital was created through the toil of previous generations of Indigenous Queenslanders. This capital has been invested by QATSIF’s Trustee, the Public Trustee of Queensland, and the annual interest provides an income stream for scholarships and bursaries.

Under the QCE Scholarship Program, QATSIF provides two-year scholarship funding to support students undertaking senior studies in pursuit of a QCE. QATSIF funds successful schools which then provide scholarships to individual students. The intention of the funding is to increase Indigenous student retention in Years 11 and 12 and assist students to achieve their QCE.

Our school has been the fortunate recipient of QATSIF funding since 2013.

Our current QATSIF scholarship holders are:

**Year 11:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harry Albeck</th>
<th>Chloe Cooper</th>
<th>Zac Querro</th>
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<tr>
<td>Khadijah Anderson</td>
<td>Samuel Edwards</td>
<td>Emilee Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kalen Barrs</td>
<td>Shekita Huet</td>
<td>Kaniesha Woodbridge</td>
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<td>Ella Compagne</td>
<td>Xavier McGrane</td>
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**Year 12**

<table>
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<th>Abby Chapman</th>
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**QATSIF Testimonial**

The QATSIF scholarship has had a beneficial impact on my senior schooling. It has provided me with financial support and I have been given opportunities to embrace, explore and enhance my career as a student.

QATSIF has enabled me to experience educational excursions, which has furthered my knowledge and enjoyment of school. The scholarship aided me in my endeavour to learn the cello in 2014, which has enabled me to learn and enjoy the skills I acquired. By helping with uniform and other school expenses I have been able to focus on my studies and successfully complete Year 12.

QATSIF has also presented me with opportunities to further my skills in areas including public speaking by asking and encouraging me to speak at regional events about my experiences with QATSIF and the Indigenous school community.

It has also pushed me to learn about and become more involved in my culture, heritage and the Indigenous community. In summary the QATSIF scholarship has enabled me to achieve my best in my senior years.

**Isobelle Ritchie**

**Year 12**
Year 12 Students - 2015

- Shannon Huet
  QCE
  Gold Level Award

- Ashley Melville
  QCE

- Jeff Morrish
  QCE
  Gold Level Award

- Jesse Penhaligan
  QCE

- Isobelle Ritchie
  QCE
  Gold Level Award

- Julia Spackman
  QCE
  Gold Level Award

Year 11 Students - 2015 Gold Awards

- Kalen Barrs
- Ella Compagne
- Xavier McGrane
- Emilee Smith
- Kaniesha Woodbridge

Year 12 Flexi Students - 2015

- Abby Chapman
- Maddison Chapman
- Latiesha Orcher
- Yasmine Loffel
This year we celebrated our second Annual NAIDOC Week celebration. The participation from our students was higher as they knew what was involved.

As the week started mysterious footprints representing the past were found around the school, it was a great conversation starter and a reminder to the students of the people who were the original custodians of the land on which Centenary Heights now stands. During Monday’s break our students formed a touch team to take on the staff. We all looked very professional in our new Indigenous jerseys sponsored by Carbal Medical Centre. These jerseys will be used for various events in the PE department and for our NAIDOC students vs staff game each year.

Due to the success of the staff morning tea ‘Taste Our Tucker’ provided by Miss MacNellies’ Senior Hospitality class, they again designed an eye-catching menu inspired by Australian Native ingredients. Lemon myrtle biscuits with native jams and Bush Tomato and Dukkah dip were served. Our Indigenous Students hand delivered and explained the menus to our 30 staffrooms. The staff enjoyed the morning tea so much that we had to publish the recipes on the staff notices for staff to replicate at home. On top of this they also catered for the whole school morning tea and made 100 damper loaves that Indigenous students served to 1600 students with native jams. I am always impressed with how our school community is willing to try new things and to support their fellow classmates.

We were spoilt on the whole school parade to have Damon Anderson and his group Wakamilaroi Aboriginal Arts perform and tell stories. The hall was absolutely silent as they absorbed what the group had to present and teach. Many staff also commented on how they could use what they saw on parade to support the various Indigenous perspective units that were being taught around the school for the remainder of the year.

Some of our senior students took on coordinating roles this year. Lidia Kelly conducted a contemporary dance workshop, which demonstrated her new confidence and leadership skills. Shannon and Shakita Huet, Julia Spackman and Isobelle Ritchie lead the whole school parade sharpening their public speaking skills.

We included our Year 7 cohort by visiting their home at W Block and providing face painting and art activities. Again a group of our creative Indigenous students connected with the Year 7s and encouraged them to get involved.

Mrs Bartlett again ran games on the oval for the whole school to participate in and to add variety to the usual lunchtime sports of soccer and touch. We are very lucky to have such a diverse and supportive staff who volunteer to celebrate Indigenous culture in our school and to give our students opportunities to lead.

Jodi Robinson