

Our Community • Your School

SILKWOOD STATE SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER

22 August 2025 • Term 3 Week 6

Dear Silkwood State School Community,

Silkwood State School has been a safe and respectful place of learning for the children of our district since 1916. Our current priorities are English, Maths and a healthy school environment.

★ A Beautiful School

No doubt you have noticed the improvement in the state of our gardens. This is due to many hours of work put in by several staff and parents to prune, plant, landscape and mulch our green spaces. Also, look out for the decoration of our eating area walls by Lorretta and Cameron at the start of term four. This is part of a P&C initiative and will involve workshoping the designs with our students before their involvement in the actual painting.

An attractive physical environment helps promote the feelings of safety and respect that we require to encourage everyone to do their best learning. What else can we do to promote a safe and respectful learning environment?

★ Firm But Fair

Our Student Code of Conduct has been developed in collaboration with students, parents, staff and regional experts in the field of behaviour management. Through an ongoing consultation process we can be confident and clear about our community's expectations for student behaviour. We promote positive behaviours through rewards, incentives and encouragement (attendance reward, Virtues vouchers, reading nights books, Student of the Week, class rewards, 'kindness jar'...) and rectify inappropriate behaviours through counselling, parent/teacher communication and clearly defined consequences.

Our [Student Code of Conduct](#) is available through our website or by request.

★ Professional Support

It is a credit to many of our staff that they are on hand from 8:15am each morning to engage with students through homework and reading checks as well as physical activity. This is also a time to discuss issues affecting wellbeing so that students are ready for learning at 9am. Apart from our regular teachers and Teacher Aides, several support staff do their best in the limited time they are here to help students in need of social, emotional or academic assistance. These include Chappy Billi, Guidance Officer Wendy Fox, Special Education Teacher Brigid Darveniza, a twice per term visit from a Speech Language Therapist and twice per year visit from Life Education. Specialists in HPE, The Arts and Dance also visit once per week. We also engage regularly with eSafety and Kids Help Line.

★ Bullying Strategies

Disagreement and conflict are a natural and ever-present part of human interaction. In order to give our students the tools to deal with people who annoy them, we speak frequently about being respectful and kind towards others and the 'High 5'



Encourage children to stay persistent when faced with challenges. By refusing to give up, they can overcome difficulties and find solutions to problems.

School website: www.silkwoodss.eq.edu.au • find us on Facebook • SCHOOL WATCH 13 17 88

Our School Details:

Phone: 40651 333

Mobile: 0437 739 058

Principal: Chris Cattarossi

Email: ccatt5@eq.edu.au

Website: www.silkwoodss.eq.edu.au

Follow us on Facebook

Office Hrs: Mon-Fri 8.00am to 3.15pm



School Watch: 13 17 88

P&C Assoc. President: Anja Graeber

Next P&C Meeting: Mon 15th September 3.15pm

DATES TO REMEMBER

P&C Raffles from 5pm

Friday August 22nd - Silkwood Hotel

School Parade

Every Friday 2.30pm- all welcome!

Sugar Mill Tour

Thursday 28th August - Yr 3-6

Year 3-6 camp

Monday 1st - Wednesday 3rd September

League Tag

Friday 12th September - Yr 3-6

ISC Orientation Day

Yr 6's transitioning to Innisfail State College

P&C Colour Fun Run

Friday 19th September - Yr 3-6



Principal's Report continued

strategies – ignore, talk friendly, talk firmly, walk away and report. Fighting back or being nasty doesn't resolve the situation, instead making matters worse and ensuring both parties end up in trouble.

There is a difference between conflict and bullying which is defined as continual harassment with intent to cause emotional or physical harm and often represented by a power imbalance. Despite our best intentions and efforts, sometimes we won't be able to prevent bullying which is considered a 'major' inappropriate behaviour according to our Student Code of Conduct and once identified, will not be tolerated at our school.

In any situation involving physical aggression or bullying, students are directed to report immediately to someone whether at school or home. If you suspect a case of bullying at school, please report this to the teacher or principal.

★ Where the Buck Stops

We are all responsible for the safety and wellbeing of our beautiful kids. When we model kindness to others, do our best in all aspects of our lives and reject physical aggression and abuse our children receive a consistent, positive message and gain confidence in their world. Silkwood State School's success is due in large part to respectful and productive communication between its students, staff and families. If we trust in each other and the processes that we have developed collaboratively almost any problem can be resolved.

Yours in Education, Chris Cattarossi - Principal



"It's not that I'm so smart, it's just that I stay with problems longer." - Albert Einstein



STUDENT FREE DAY - FRIDAY 5th September

Students will not attend school on Friday 5th September. Staff will be at school engaging in professional development learning and planning. Teacher Aide's will also be updating their first aide & CPR.

HONOUR BOARD AWARDS



RECOGNISING OUR STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS!



Term 3 Week 3

Skyla - Being respectful - For always doing her best and being kind by helping others.

Tyken - Being a learner - For getting to school on time every day, being respectful to others and following school routines.

Khalila - Being a learner - Being ready to learn and doing her best.

Alysiah - Being a learner - Being eager to learn new skills and doing her best.

Term 3 Week 4

Hannah - Being a learner - Great effort and enthusiasm with all tasks.

Jayden - Being a learner - For being helpful and polite and making great progress in Maths and English.

Term 3 Week 5

N'Kaiah - Being a learner - Excellent expression and fluency with reading.

Arlen - Being a learner - Always giving 100% effort in every task during lessons.

Leo, Macey, Benji, Ethan - Being a learner - For following school routines and always doing their best in every learning area. Settling in well into Silkwood State School life.



School success starts
with attendance

Student Attendance is one of our top priorities at Silkwood State School. Did you know? Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance at school is associated, on average, with higher student achievement.

Attendance Reward

All students who reached 95% attendance and above for the first 5 weeks of Term 3 were treated to a special morning tea from 'The Butcher's Wife', with dessert supplied by 'JK Rocket Fuel' in Silkwood. What a treat! Mr Cattarossi rewarded students with some fun activities on the back oval. Remember, regular school attendance ensures students learn more, make friends, are happier and have a brighter future.



CLASSROOM NEWS WITH MR CATTAROSS



We are getting excited about our camp at the Tinaroo Environmental Education Centre from **Monday 1st to Wednesday 3rd of September**. That's just over a week away!

Camps are a great experience and a wonderful way to improve personal and social capability which includes self-awareness, self-management, social awareness and social management. Camps give students the opportunity to be independent, responsible for their own belongings and learn how to get along with others.

This term Chappy Billi began a new social/emotional wellbeing program called "You Can Do It". The five keys to success promoted in this program will be reinforced on our camp – **Confidence, Persistence, Organisation, Getting Along and Resilience**.



With the Organisation key in mind, please check your camp list and start to collect and pack what you need to bring. If this list has been misplaced, please ask for another. We will have at least two camp meetings next week so that we are ready to make the most of this great team experience.



Principals Day

On Friday August 1st, we recognised the leadership that builds lifelong foundations by acknowledging the incredible work of Mr Cattarossi on Principal's Day. School leaders addressed parade and presented Mr Cattarossi with a certificate.

Every child deserves the best start to life and learning, and that journey begins at Silkwood State School, under the steady guidance of strong, skilled, and compassionate leadership. Mr Cattarossi is the heart of the school and his leadership and dedication to education enables each student to thrive for life and learning. Thank you!

A BIG  Thank YOU

Canecutter Cluster Band & Orchestra Camp



In Week 5, our students attended the Canecutter Cluster Band and Orchestra Camp, and it was a huge success! Over several days, students took part in a variety of music sessions designed to build their skills, begin learning exciting new pieces, and rehearse repertoire for the end of year performances.

The camp wasn't only about music—students also had the chance to strengthen friendships, develop teamwork through games and challenges, and enjoy plenty of fun activities together. A highlight for many was trying kayaking for the very first time, which was both a challenge and an adventure. We are proud of the way our students engaged so enthusiastically with every part of the camp, and we look forward to seeing their hard work and teamwork shine in the performances ahead.

Please keep an eye on our school social media and newsletter pages throughout Term 4 for updates about upcoming recruitment activities. These will give new students the chance to join our program in 2026 and become part of this exciting musical journey.

We acknowledge and thank the P&C Association for their support by contributing towards each student's bus fare to camp. Additionally, the Instrumental Music team want to share our sincere appreciation of Bec Topp and Tamara Gillard who attended and supported camp this year.

Mrs Allen-Ankins, Instrumental Music Instructor



CLASSROOM NEWS

WITH
MRS MCLEISH

Dear Parents,

The Year 1-2 children have been reading lots of persuasive texts and writing their own trying to convince tuckshop to buy an ice-cream machine, persuading parents to get a new pet and reasons why they should get pocket money. In Maths they have been solving real life problem, working with fractions, 2D and 3D shapes and they are starting to measure classroom objects accurately using informal objects like blocks and paperclips.

The Prep students are participating in the persuasive text unit but are writing about what they like about a book or character and why they like them. In Maths they are exploring shapes and working on number problems to 20.

In the coming weeks we will start assessment tasks and would appreciate your help in making sure that children are at school unless unwell. Parents can support their children by providing a nutritious breakfast and lunch each day along with a bottle of water. These items help to keep energy levels up and ensure that children are best able to participate in lessons. Please keep sweets, chocolates and chips at home.

We are still looking for useful items for our collage table. Please send in clean cling wrap or alfoil rolls, clean onion bags, buttons, milk bottle top lids – all colours, old cards, wrapping paper and ribbons or string. Any clean 1L, 2L or 3L containers with lids would be greatly appreciated as well.

Thanks, Lynette, Alison, Andrea, Amy, Belinda & Tahlia.



Ideas to add more vegetables

It can be tricky to think of new ways to add vegetables to the lunchbox. Here are some of our favourite tips:

- Pack raw vegetables with a dip or some cheese. Why not try tzatziki or tomato salsa?
- Cook extra vegetables the night before and store them in the fridge ready to be added to the lunchbox. Our favourites include homemade sweet potato wedges or corn cobs.
- Use chickpeas, beans or lentils in your child's lunchbox. Why not try these vegetarian koftas?



For more tips to increase vegetables visit: www.swapit.net.au/vegetables



P-2 students enjoyed some peer group reading with year 3-6 students in the library with a book of their choice. Great mentoring!

CLASSROOM NEWS

WITH
MRS TAIFALOS

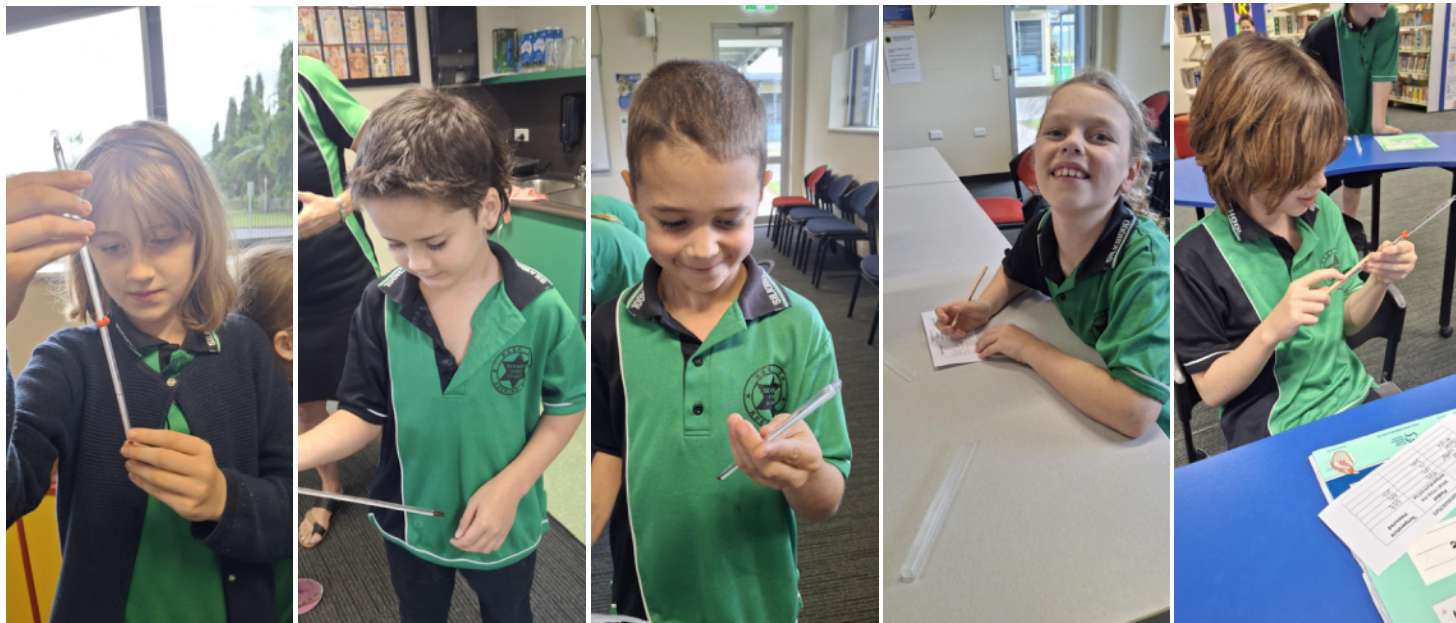


In **Science** students have been learning about the transfer of heat.

They have been investigating conduction which is when heat is transferred between objects which are in contact with each other. Students have also shared examples of how people slow heat moving from one object to another (e.g. keeping drinks cold by putting them in an insulated bottle or using thermos flasks to keep hot drinks hot for longer). They understand that this is called insulation. Discussions were undertaken to determine how this scientific knowledge of heat transfer has helped people in their daily lives e.g. insulating homes.

We have also been learning about how to use a thermometer to measure temperature.

In **HASS**, students have learning collecting information about the geographical aspects of their local community i.e. Location, built landmarks, natural landmarks, food production and tourist attractions and putting them into a PowerPoint.



SILKWOOD STATE SCHOOL
Our community • your school



WHY CHOOSE US?

- ✓ Our values are Safety, Respect and Learning
- ✓ In the top 3 most successful small schools in FNQ
- ✓ Experienced, caring, local staff
- ✓ Champion sporting school
- ✓ We provide:
 - ✓ Equity & Excellence
 - ✓ Free swimming program
 - ✓ The Arts
 - ✓ ICT devices

**ENROLL
NOW**

Parents, students and staff collaborate to make this the best small school ever

40651 333

ccatt5@eq.edu.au

Follow Us

Cassowary Coast North Athletics Carnival

Nominated students from 9-12 years attended the Cassowary Coast North Athletics Carnival at Goondi State School on Thursday 7th and Friday 8th August. Our students represented in 800m, 200m, sprints, high jump, long jump and shot put with a very competitive group of peers from other schools in our region. All students represented our school proudly and performed well in their respective events. Charlotte Dineen qualified for **Peninsula representation** in the 200m and will travel to Cairns to compete. Congratulations!

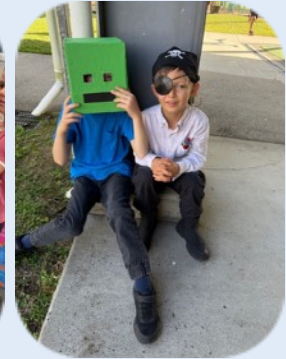
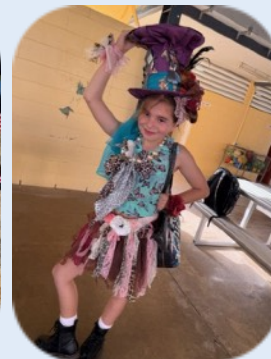
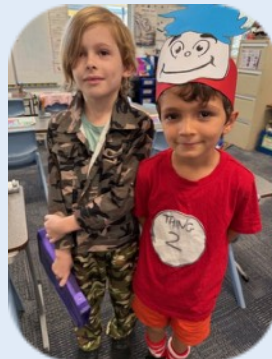


BOOK WEEK 2025

This year, on Thursday 21st August, the students at Silkwood State School celebrated Book Week. This year's theme is **"Book an Adventure"** celebrates the 80th anniversary of Children's Book Week.

The students from Silkwood Kindy joined with our prep students at 10am to listen to a story and participate in some activities together.

At 1.50pm, Years 1-6 gathered in our school library to listen to one of the shortlisted books, "We Live in a Bus" by Dave Petzold and completed an piece of artwork using oil pastels and felt pens.





SCHOOL DISCO

The "Country"-themed school disco, held on Friday, the 1st of August, was a big success. The P&C had a BBQ and provided sausages and burgers. Big thank you to all the volunteers that helped out during the event.

MOVIE NIGHT

Our second movie night took place on Friday, the 15th of August. The kids could choose between three different movies, and "Lilo and Stitch" was the winner. The P&C provided food and drinks. During our last meeting we agreed to have a movie night every year, during the winter period, and open it up to the public, so that other kids that aren't at our school can come to the movies, too.

COLOUR FUN RUN

The P&C has organised a Colour Fun Run for the last day of Term 3, Friday 19th of September. This is a great opportunity to raise more funds, and support our growing school community. More information on the event and the fundraising will be distributed in the coming weeks.

COMBINED LUNCH

After the big success of last term's *Combined Lunch* event, where the kids got to make their own Mexican tacos, we are having another combined lunch. The exact date and menu are yet to be determined, but Crystal from **Reece Plumbing Innisfail** has kindly confirmed a donation. Big thanks to Reece Plumbing.

As we are aiming to have one *Combined Lunch* per term, we are looking for other businesses who would like to donate either food or funds.

SPECIAL MEETING

The P&C is having a *Special Meeting* on Thursday, the 28th of August at 2:30pm at the library. The aim of this meeting is to appoint a *Vice Treasurer* and a new *Secretary* for our executive team. If you are a P&C member and would like to nominate or vote, please come along to this meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Our next General P&C meeting will be held on Monday, 15th of August at 3:15pm in the school library. We would love to see more parents come along and voice their opinion in different school matters.



Thank you to all families who came along for a fun, cosy night with a screening of Lil and Stitch. Much appreciation to our amazing P&C for organising this event!

Long Tan Day

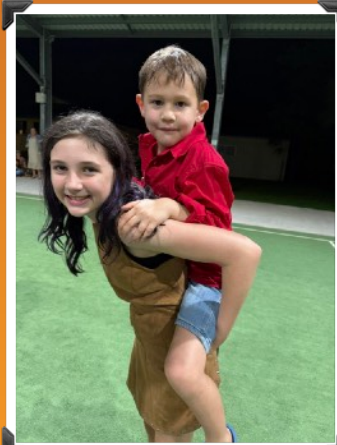
On Monday August 18th, our Year 3-6 students attended a service at the Silkwood Cenotaph paying their respects alongside a Veteran's Motorcycle group, commemorating the courage and sacrifice of our Veterans, as we marked 59 years since the Battle of Long Tan.

Students respectfully laid a wreath on behalf of the school community. Attending was an opportunity to express gratitude for the service of veterans and to foster respect for their experiences and contributions to the nation.

Lest We Forget.

DISCO

Silkwood State School was full to the brim recently with cowboys and cowgirls for our Country themed disco. Complete with country music and themed games like Cowboys, Horses and Hay Bales, it was a fantastic night. Students and staff displayed line dances and encouraged the adults to join in. Thank you to our hard working P & C Association for organising food and drinks. Nate and Leo walked away with the lucky door prizes, both boys receiving a \$50 voucher from Pursehouse Rural Innisfail



Check our Facebook page for all the exciting highlights and camera roll our our 'Most Wanted'.

WELCOME to Giggly Friends

PLAYGROUP AT SILKWOOD STATE SCHOOL

MONDAYS 8.30AM-11.00AM

A GREAT WAY TO MEET & GREET OTHER PARENTS AND SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES!

FROM BIRTH TO PRE-PREP
PH: 40651 333

Please bring along morning tea for your child, a hat and a water bottle. Parent to stay with child. •Tea/coffee provided

FFF FITNESS

FIT, FUN & FAB

Silkwood State School

MONDAY 4.30pm - 5.30pm

WED 4.30pm

Bring a mat and towel **\$12.00**

All ages and abilities welcome
Belinda 0407 146511

PIC-COLLA

SILKWOOD STATE SCHOOL P&C RAFFLES

at the Silkwood Hotel

Friday 22nd AUGUST starts at **5 PM**

Come along to the Silkwood Hotel and support our P&C

MEAT TRAYS, SEAFOOD TRAYS & MORE!

EVERY FAMILY NAVIGATING SCREEN TIME

Topics to Be Covered in This Workshop

- Creating healthy and positive screen time for children
- Addressing challenges and concerns surrounding screen time
- Being a positive role model for our kids in relation to screen time

Wed 21st Aug 9:30am - 11am
Mission Beach Library
\$ FREE

Bookings Preferred
Contact:
kate@vpginc.com.au
0488 321 605

BABES IN ARMS WELCOME
Find us on **@EveryFamilyCassowaryCoast**

VPG An Australian Government funded children and parenting initiative by VPG
www.vpginc.com.au/everfamily

BRINGING UP GREAT KIDS

INNISFAIL - TERM 3 2025

Bringing Up Great Kids (BUGK) supports parents and carers to:

- Learn more about their own parenting style
- Identify important messages they want to tell their children
- Learn about brain development in children and its influence on their thoughts, feelings and behaviour
- Understand the meaning behind children's behaviours, and how to respond to children's underlying feelings and needs

3 WEEK PROGRAM
Thursdays Aug 28th Sept 4th & 18th
9:30-11:30am
11 Flying Fish Point Rd, Innisfail Estate
\$ FREE

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
RSVP by Aug 22nd
Kate@vpginc.com.au
0488 321 605

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED
Find us on **@EveryFamilyCassowaryCoast**

BABES IN ARMS WELCOME
Find us on **@EveryFamilyCassowaryCoast**

VPG An Australian Government funded children and parenting initiative by VPG
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DONATE NOW TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Royal Flying Doctor Service - Team Fraser

Our local Silkwood SS cleaner, Julie Doolan, is getting behind this cause to help her cousin Jessica. Please jump on board, every \$ counts!

Support Jessica & Flynn Noon, Fraser's parents, make a difference for this invaluable service.

HOW TO DONATE:
<https://www.oceanstooutback.org.au/fundraisers/TeamFraser>
and type in Team Fraser

Fraser thrives in the bush. It's where he's most at home. But not long ago, we nearly lost him. When every second counted, the Royal Flying Doctor Service were there. They flew in when no one else could, delivering critical care and giving us hope when the Qld Children's hospital was an 8 hour drive away. This October, our team is taking on a month-long fitness challenge to help more families like ours. To help make sure that when things go wrong in remote, rural, and regional Australia, life-saving help can still arrive in time. Every year, the Royal Flying Doctor Service reaches over 330,000 Australians—one person every two minutes—with 24-hour emergency and primary health care. We're sharing Fraser's story to show exactly where your support goes: to real lives, real moments, and real families in the bush.

FREE Father's Day Family Event

Bunnings Innisfail

Thursday 4th of September
5:00pm - 7:00pm

Activities and fun for the whole family

FREE Sausage Sizzle by Goondi Scouts
 Craft & Games
 Face Painting By Goodstart Early Learning
 FREE Fairy Floss by RAM Recreational Centre
 Information Stall by Innisfail SES
 +Plus MORE

Don't miss out, register now!

BUNNINGS warehouse

INNISFAIL DEFENDERS TOUCH ASSOCIATION

WANGAN SPORTS GROUNDS

JUNIOR SEASON 2

20TH AUGUST TO 12TH NOVEMBER

Register at: touchfootball.com.au/mysideline or scan the QR Codes

REGISTER YOUR CHILD

JUNIORS - 8 TO 11 YEARS

\$25 IDTA FEE + ANNUAL \$52 TFA & OLD TOUCH MEMBERSHIP FEE

For further information regarding new TFA & OLD Touch Fee Structure, visit the OLD Touch website.
 Unfortunately the Fair Play Vouchers cannot be used for the TFA & OLD Touch Fee. The Fair Play Vouchers can be used for the Innisfail Defenders Touch Association Fee \$25 for 6 to 11 year olds.
 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT innisfailtouch@gmail.com

TROPICAL ART DECO FESTIVAL

Proudly sponsored by Cassowary Coast Regional Council

Art Deco High Tea
Murder Mystery Dinner
Vintage Market
Cemetery Walk
Great Gatsby Picnic
Historical Walks, Talks & Tours
Fun, Fashions, Music & More

14-21 SEPT '25
INNISFAIL

Cassowary Coast
INNISFAIL & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY