



Student honoured

STMONICA'S College student Isabella Burton-Clark has been awarded a scholarship from McDonald's to exercise her mental muscles at the Scientia Challenge Program in Sydney.

The program is for academically gifted and talented students in Years 7-10 with an IQ of 120 or more and is run by the Gifted Education Research, Resource and Information Centre at the University of New South Wales.

Isabella, 13, said she was thrilled to receive the scholarship, which gave

her a chance to challenge herself and "learn alongside the brightest minds in Australia".

"Going to the Scientia Challenge would not have been possible without financial assistance from McDonald's," Isabella said.

She was one of 17 students from throughout Australia who received the scholarship, which covered program fees and was allocated on the basis of financial hardship or geographical isolation.

The program features a range of workshops from a number of academic

disciplines, developed and presented by academics of the University of New South Wales considered to be leaders in their fields.

The level of difficulty in the courses is aimed at Years 11 and 12, providing a rigorous and challenging program for students, and the opportunity for them to socialise with like-minded children of similar interests.

McDonald's Cairns Central licensee Christine Vincent said she was proud to see the Year 9 student experience such a wonderful opportunity.



RECOGNISED: Isabella Burton-Clarke received a scholarship to attend the Scientia Challenge. **PICTURE:** Romy Siegmann