Welcome to Term 3, particularly to a number of families new to our school community.

This term promises to be another extremely busy one for staff, students and parents. Term 2 concluded in a frenetic, but rewarding manner with successfully completed school activities involving Australian Business Week, Work Experience and presentation of Semester 1 Merit Awards. It was a fitting end to a great semester in which we saw some 200 Merit Awards presented to students for their continuing good behaviour and the introduction of ‘incentive award packages’ for students to recognise positive school engagement and regular attendance. Students participated very successfully in Bundaberg and representative sporting competitions and the school is well advanced in rehearsals to present the annual cultural production *Cabaret!* 24 August. Despite all of this valuable activity supporting the development of our young people, it remains the priority of all teaching staff at Isis High to work tirelessly to ensure enhanced learning outcomes for all students.

 Semester One student reports are currently being compiled and will be mailed to families in Week 2.

While a two week winter vacation has been enjoyed by all, the all-important opportunities for student learning have already commenced from Day 1 of this week and will continue for the remainder of the term. Term 3 sees the commencement of processes for students deciding on the next phase of their schooling, particularly those currently in Year 8, 10 and 12. Next week, a number of our Year 12 students will travel to Brisbane to obtain a greater insight into tertiary education opportunities and the week after will see Year 10 students attending the Bundaberg Careers Expo (see advertisement later in Newsletter) and the very important Parent Information Evening supporting subject selection (Year 8 to 9, Year 10 to 11) and enrolment (Year 7 to 8) for students and parents is scheduled for 21 August.

This week on School Assembly we celebrated the rich diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture through acknowledging NAIDOC Week. We were fortunate to have an indigenous dance group who performed a number of traditional dances for our students and explained their place within indigenous culture. In addition, students had a brief ‘lesson’ on the didgeridoo and a ‘fantastic’ performance. The school is pleased to be able to support indigenous students in the school through staff (Ms Clout, Mrs Butler) and an enthusiastic group led by local indigenous elder, Mrs Nancy Cook. These activities and support also do much to progress the understanding of indigenous issues that assist the national reconciliation process.

I also took the opportunity on School Assembly to acknowledge those students who had worked hard at their studies throughout Semester 1 and challenged students who could have done better, to work harder throughout Semester 2. Research shows that young people who successfully complete twelve years of formal education will generally go on to achieve, what the experts call, a ‘comfortable lifestyle’. It is important that our young people attend school regularly, genuinely engage in the learning activities that our teachers spend long hours preparing and receive regular encouragement and support from parents and carers. Working together we are more likely to achieve positive outcomes that will result in a bright future for all.

Kind Regards,

Allan Cook – Principal

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS:**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>19 Jul</td>
<td>Semester Reports mailed</td>
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<td>19 Jul</td>
<td>Parent-Teacher Interview info. mailed</td>
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<td>19 Jul</td>
<td>Yr 12 Tertiary Trip to Brisbane (&amp; 20)</td>
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<td>23 Jul</td>
<td>Hospitality Bar &amp; RSA Training (all week)</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 Jul</td>
<td>Bundaberg Careers Expo (Year 10 and 12)</td>
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<td>27 Jul</td>
<td>School Newsletter</td>
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<td>31 Jul</td>
<td>Parent-Teacher Interview Evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>02 Aug</td>
<td>School Track &amp; Field Carnival (&amp; 03)</td>
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Australian Business Week 2012

Year 11 students from Isis District State High School had the opportunity to put their entrepreneurial skills to the test during the recent Australian Business Week. This exciting event, coordinated by Mrs Rhonda Chantler and Ms Meryl McCulloch took place in the last week of Term 2 from June 18-22.

Australian Business Week (ABW) is an intensive one week program where students participate as team members in a simulated business experience. The teams or ‘companies’ competed with each other in the ‘market place’ and were required to make decisions on all operational, financial, and marketing aspects of their enterprise. Companies also created a thirty second television commercial, developed an ‘eye-catching’ trade display and compiled a written report for their shareholders. The trade displays and commercials were displayed during a wonderful ‘trade expo’ on the last day of ABW when judging also took place. The program allowed students to develop creativity, initiative and problem-solving skills while working in a team environment. By participating in this program, students not only develop business skills, they also refine their team and leadership skills, cultivate enterprising attitudes and make links between the school curriculum and career options. Australian Business Week also strengthens the links between the school and the community with many local businesses sponsoring teams and community members acting as team mentors, presenters and judges during the event.

This year’s wonderful sponsors for ABW were:

**Major Sponsor** Isis Pharmacy

**Team Sponsors** Apex Childers, Childers Chamber of Commerce, Coles Engineering, Isis Central Sugar Mill, Isis Club, Rotary Childers, Snakes Downunder, Subway and Vintner’s Secret Vineyard.

**Program Sponsors**: ANZ Bank Childers, Australian Cane Farmers Association, Biggenden Engineering Works, Childers Concrete & Haulage, CQ University, Faini’s Farms, Figtree Treasures, Gateway Motor Inn, Grand Hotel Childers, Hansson Refrigeration, HBW Foodservices, KDR Excavations, Matt’s Mining and Mechanical, Shorten, Parcell & McGregor and Woodgate Club Inc.

The all important awards ceremony was held on the last day of ABW on Friday afternoon. The award winners were:

**Grand Champion Team and Best Oral Report**
Perfect Purple Aroma (sponsored by Vintner’s Secret Vineyard) *(pictured below)*

**Best Computer Simulation**
Ooh La Boogle (sponsored by Isis Pharmacy and Snakes Downunder)

**Best Written Report**
Aussie Workers Cafe (sponsored by Coles Engineering)

**Best Video Commercial**
Pink Delight (sponsored by Rotary Childers and Isis Central Sugar Mill)

**Best Trade Display**
Chew Choo Cafe (sponsored by Isis Club Inc)

**Best Team Commitment**
Tropicana (sponsored by Subway and Apex Childers)

Encouragement Awards for best businessperson were awarded to Madison and Kristie, while Best Businessperson for ABW was Troy

ABW 2012 proved another very successful school activity that provided a wonderful learning opportunity for students. The school wishes to thank all businesses and mentors for their generous support of our district youth. ABW is a significant school project and all staff members who assisted are to be congratulated, particularly ABW Coordinators, Mrs Chantler and Ms McCulloch.

Allan Cook – Principal

Student Semester Reporting

Student Semester Reports are now being compiled by staff to report on student progress during Semester One. Student achievement, effort and behaviour will each be reported on a 5 point scale from A to E. The significance of teacher comments is also critical as they provide greater detail on what the student has achieved and how performance might be improved. Student Semester Reports provide valuable information for students and parents about performance and achievement from the previous semester. Student Semester Reports will this year be mailed to families to arrive next Friday 20 July.

Also included in the mailing, will be information on booking appointments for the Parent-Teacher Interview Evening (Tuesday 31 July).

Finally, students can expect to have their reports monitored to ensure they are making satisfactory progress on their study program. Where there are progress concerns, discussions will be initiated with students (and maybe supported by parents).

Any questions or comments on the above information may be directed to Mr King on 4192 1222.

Liz Clout – Deputy Principal
Music Program Boost

The school is fortunate to have two very passionate music instructors in Mr Peter Pagett (band) and Mrs Kerryn Haaksma (strings). Their enthusiasm and commitment has seen an increase in interest and skill in this very important part of the school curriculum.

This program is about to receive a significant boost by recently being awarded a $16500 grant from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund for the purchase of additional percussion instruments. The application for this grant was made under the auspices of the Isis District State High School Parents and Citizens’ Association, but full credit is due to Mrs Sandra Webb who compiled the submission, assisted by Mr Pagett.

School Band Leader (Name removed) and percussion music students Billy and Lleyton look over the school drum kit about to be added to through a recent grant

Many thanks to Mrs Webb and Mr Pagett for the opportunity to acquire additional instruments which will advantage our music students.

Michele Kirkland – Deputy Principal

Facilities Improvement

The school continues to make a huge effort to ensure students are able to enjoy a pleasant school environment with good facilities. Over the recent winter vacation further improvements were made to the school to support students enjoying a positive school environment including:

• Refurbishment of the boys and girls Annexe toilets
• Replacement of Stadium verandah balustrading
• Replacement of improved shade sail structure between A & E blocks
• New paving and landscaping in the area outside science block (see pictured below)

Bundaberg Careers Expo

Each year Education Queensland conducts a ‘touring’ Careers Expo along the coast of Queensland. It includes information booths on careers, as well as universities, TAFE, agricultural colleges, defence forces and employment agencies. The 2011 Careers Expo will be held at the Bundaberg Civic Centre next Wednesday, 25 July.

Isis High will be taking Year 10 students to the Careers Expo, during the day, to enhance their understanding of their SOSE Careers Unit of study and the development, later this term, of their Senior Education and Training Plans. However, there is also an opportunity for families to attend a public session from 4:00pm to 6:00pm in the evening on that same Wednesday. It is free of charge to students and their parents and is an ideal opportunity for young people to obtain more information.

Gloria Davey – Head of Department (Social Science)