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# School Rover

Issue 14 Oct. 28, 2003

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*"If we have as much sense as a goose, we will step into formation with those who are headed where we want to go."*

*Unknown author*

Welcome back, everyone, to the final Term of 2003. The first day of school captured only a moderate number of our enrolment figures but subsequent days saw the appearance of other familiar faces.

Regrettably, the holidays brought tragedy to the families of some of our students and we take note of their sadness and pay our respects and sympathy.

Term Four is only nine weeks in duration and tradition will readily endorse it as a frenetic period when everyone is trying to get things finished, tie up loose ends and celebrate closures. All the best to the students who will be graduating this year. The Senior class will have even less time than the rest of the school to prepare for their departure from School life.

## STATE COMPETITION IN CONSUMERISM

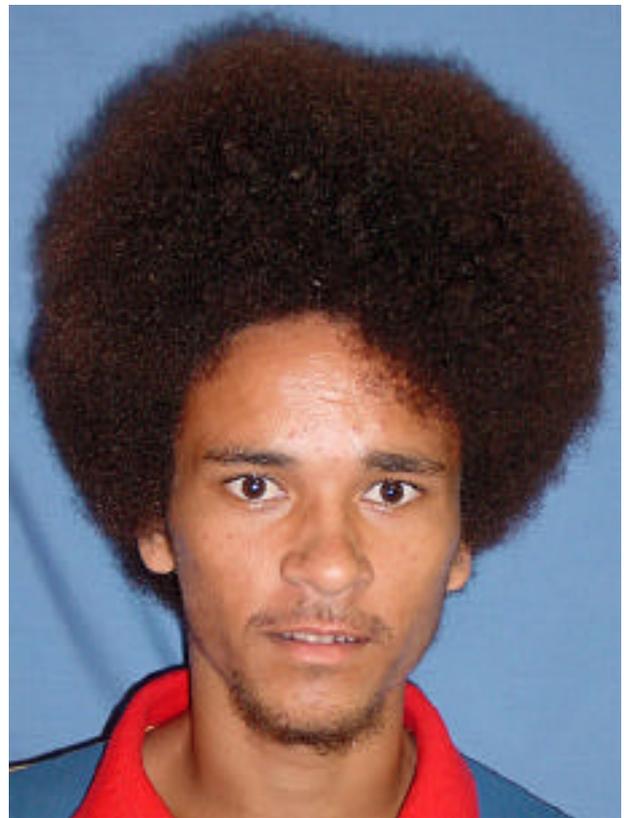
Djarragun Year 12 students won the State Buy-Smart Competition run by the Office of Fair Trading. Their winning entry involved creating a set of postcards with Creole messages on them. They won \$300 for the Class and \$1500 for the school. Although the entire class made the finals, special mention was made of the following entries - **Bablu Day, Koza Passi, Mavis Sipi, Stanley Daniel, Ben Richard.**

Congratulations, one and all.

**Ana Fidow**

## NEW ON CAMPUS

A very warm welcome to **Ethel Sambo** who is seen traipsing the campus and conducting her reading sessions with the students. Ethel is one of the DEST tutors. We trust that she is enjoying her appointment at Djarragun.



## QUEENSLAND STUDENT OF THE YEAR FINALIST

Adding to his burgeoning list of achievements, School Captain **Saggi Epsag**, was added to the illustrious core of finalists in this year's considerations.

Congratulations, to Saggi, for notching up another personal achievement and bringing to the school a share of the kudos. Every best wish for the run into the Final Challenge.

**GEDEM !!** Who was left at the International airport at the end of last term after he had convinced everybody that he was himself outbound for a Samoan holiday ?

# LEARNING OR EARNING

Laws were recently passed by the Queensland Government which has given legislative meaning to the importance of further education and training for our economic and social wellbeing. These are the first major changes to the Queensland education system in nearly 40 years. The major part of the laws will commence in 2006 but some key aspects will take effect in 2004.

## Changes commencing at the start of the 2004 School Year :-

### 1. Flexible Arrangements

A young person is still enrolled with a school but may participate in a program or programs outside the school to suit their individual needs and circumstances, for example, a life skills program.

### 2. New Compliance Regime

To help parents comply with the compulsory requirement that children must attend school - currently to at least 15 years - non-compliance will result in a notice to parents, an invitation to a meeting to discuss strategies, plus, the Director-General Education will need to give consent before a parent can be prosecuted.

**3. Exclusions from All State Educational Institutions** In recognition of the serious nature of this decision, the power to exclude a young person from all state educational institutions will move from Executive Directors Schools to the Director-General Education. Executive Director schools will still be able to exclude students from schools within their district.

## Changes commencing at the start of the 2006 School Year :-

**1. Change to Compulsory Schooling Requirement** Young people will have to stay at school until they finish Year 10 or turn 16, whichever comes first.

**2 Compulsory Participation Phase (Post Yr 10 or 16 years)** A new requirement for young people to participate in education and training options either :

- \* For two years beyond Year 10 or turning 16, or
- \* Until they have gained a Senior Certificate; or
- \* Until they have gained a Certificate III; or
- \* Until they turn 17

**It will be an offence for parents to fail to ensure the young person participates, unless the parent has a 'reasonable excuse'.**

## WRITERS' CRAMP

### TINAROO CAMP (MIDDLE SCHOOL) : TERM 3

To give due credit to the various writers, excerpts of their writings are being published in this Newsletter -

*...On Wednesday after lunch, Mr. Don's group went with Ms Yeshim. Ms Yeshim had a beautiful blue t-shirt and lovely blue shorts. Ms Yeshim said, 'Let's do Rock and Water first.' Ms said, 'All you are working hard' Egana Asked Ms Yeshim if we could play football so we played football until*

*our free time. I quickly had a hot shower; after that, I got ready for a great dinner. After dinner, we watched an amazing movie. It was "Like Mike". After "Like Mike" we had a wonderful sleep.*

**Lila Gibuma**

*...On Thursday, I woke up. I went down to have a nice hot bath. Then I had a healthy breakfast. I had a nice cold drink. We went on a bus to the highest Black Mountain trek. It was too hard for my Group One to climb up. Then I had my lunch. Then my group and were going down and it was too easy for my group. We were going the wrong way so we went back down. Then we went the right way...*

**Edward Nawakie**



### RUGBY WORLD CUP MATCH

Congratulations to two students, **Annalina Richards & Sila Waianga** who won their way into one of the games in the World Cup Rugby Union Contest. The game for which they will be spectators is in Brisbane - Australia versus Romania. A very neat description of their first match as a team of Djarragun girls impressed the judges of the competition enough to earn them a lucky trip for part of this World event.

### CAIRNS TAIPANS BASKETBALL CLINIC

Tuesday, October found some high level basketball talent in the Djarragun undercover area. A selected group of prospective slam-dunkers were served a tidy clinic from Cairns' premier team, the Taipans.

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**GEDEM** : Where do you look for a missing set of common desk calculators at the beginning of the Term ?

Number 5 is Alive !!!

## ‘DO THE RIGHT THING’ AWARD

Duty teacher assistants and teachers can award a raffle ticket to students who display any of the virtues learnt from our Values Education Programme and/or who are noticed voluntarily picking up rubbish and cleaning the school environs.

This is a deliberate campaign within the school to encourage responsible action and to promote civic practice.

Each week on the Friday assembly, two names will be drawn out of the eligible nominations and two students will earn themselves a neat prize package of school stationery. The first winners were Primary students, **Wacada Baker** and **Anna Ganaia**.

### FIGHT AGAINST CANCER CAMPAIGN

Nurse Susan from our local Gordonvale Hospital addressed the School Assembly on October 10 to present a certificate of appreciation to Djarragun College in its contribution towards the Campaign. Notable helpers in the project held at school were students, .... who organized a hair colouring day and raised a considerable amount of funding for their efforts.

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### LIFELINE MULTICULTURAL FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM

## We’ve Moved

Lifeline Multicultural Family Support can help support families with Family Relationships, Parenting Skills, Problems with School Attendance, Counselling, Settling into a New Community, Housing Issues, Managing Your Money, Youth at Risk and Ideas for Healthy Meals. Financial Counselling also available by appointment with a registered Financial Counsellor. We have now moved to our new location - 1 Rambutan Close, Manoora. Please call in to see us any time.

### AT NEW LOCATION NOW !!!

1 RAMBUTAN CLOSE, MANOORA  
P. O. Box 11B, BUNGALOW QLD 4870  
Ph : (07) 4032 5699 Fax : (07) 4032 3945  
Email : multicultural@lifeline Cairns.org.au



# POW!!!

## FIGHT GERMS WITH GERMBUSTERS

### Did you know?

Most common diseases (common cold, chickenpox, diarrhoea and vomiting) are spread by **dirty hands** and the single most effective way to stop germs from spreading is to wash your hands.

### Captain Clean says children should wash their hands :

- when they get to school in the morning
- after they go to the toilet
- before they eat food
- after they wipe their nose
- after they play outside
- after playing with pets
- after school

### How to wash hands

- use running water and liquid soap
- wash palms and backs of hands
- wash between fingers
- wash under nails
- rinse hands well under running water
- dry hands well with paper towels

### All for a count of 10 seconds !!!

**Teaching children correct hygiene  
behaviour helps them to stay healthy  
Positive hygiene practice in childhood  
becomes a habit into adulthood.**

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### GIDEONS INTERNATIONAL

**Alan Cummins** and **Jeff Coop** addressed the School Assembly on Monday, October 20 and outlined the work of distributing bibles around the world by their organization, Gideons International. Our secondary students who wished to could take advantage of the free offer of a personal pocket-size Bible.

Alan and Jeff work within the Cairns ‘Camp’ (as it is called) which extends from Ingham > Torres Strait. The small group of about one dozen men distribute the Bibles to a host of hotels, hospitals, schools (red) any places with accommodation; there is a basic coding of colours of the covers; for nurses (white), police; community service (dark green), prison(brown), defence force (dark green); personal (dark blue); hospital (dark blue).

Gideons International deliver to all the Year 8 students around Australia every year.

Gideons International delivers one million bibles every five days in over seventy languages and 178 countries.

We thank Alan and Jeff for taking the time to visit Djarragun to present Bibles. Alan and Jeff spoke to the Years 7/8 Boys class and outlined some of the features of the Bible and showed where the text was written in other languages. Alan mentioned Gideon who was one of the Bible characters. God directed Gideon to reduce the size of his army of thousands to just 300 men. These men managed to frighten the enemy, causing them to panic and kill each other.

# HELPING YOUR CHILD DEAL WITH BULLYING

Education Queensland's Curriculum Strategy Branch offers the following advice for parents.

## **Signs that your child may be being bullied**

- \* Mood changes (being more quieter, more attention-seeking or tearful than usual)
- \* Temper tantrums
- \* Changes in eating or sleeping habits
- \* Unexplained symptoms or head and stomach aches
- \* Reluctance to go to school
- \* Changes in academic performance

## **What you can do if your child is being bullied**

- \* Talk to your child so you get the main facts. (Remember to ask questions gently.)
- \* Once you have a clear picture of the situation and some idea about how you and your child want to handle it, contact the school. Never try to sort out the bullies yourself.
- \* Ask about the school's policy on bullying.
- \* Make a note of what the school says it will do and arrange to make a follow-up call.

## **What to do if your child is being the bully**

- \* Let your child know that the bullying is a serious problem and that it is inappropriate behaviour
- \* Don't tolerate the response that it was all in fun.
- \* Encourage your child to see the experience from the other person's perspective.
- \* Ensure your child is aware of the consequences of further bullying behaviour.
- \* Work with the school to help your child change his or her behaviour.
- \* Don't make excuses for your child; however, let your child know that he or she is loved and valued.

## **HAPPY RETURNS**

Another day, another month and yet another year  
October has come round again for some of us to cheer  
Our Mr Dowling, affectionately known as Mr D  
The Rock and Water expert here at D.C  
But the number of the candles he blew out, isn't clear.

## **PRIMARY SCHOOL**

As in any flourishing ecosystem, well down below the canopy, the thriving community of little people busily tread their inexorable paths through the forest floor. The constantly bobbing heads signifies that the marble season has not elapsed. Newly erected 'junior size' basketball hoops get their fair share of neophyte slam dunking and although all the national leagues have had their grand finals, the DC footballs enjoy an extended season.

One staff member recanted his experience supervising fearless non-swimmers, making sure that their time in the submarine domain was interrupted often enough to maintain appropriate contact with the oxygen layer. Not only were the children lacking in fear of the inherent danger like drowning, the water (despite the high

temperatures outside) felt considerably arctic.

A more interesting event was taking place when a local artist, **Jenny Glaze**, working with Graft'n'arts, the Council's Community Arts, was snapping shots of the children blowing kisses. Her project is to portray 'celebration' for the Christmas exhibition at the Hilton. A collage will be presented at the entrance of the Hilton Hotel and some of the happy faces will be part of that pictorial display.



**Don't blister, Sister  
Don't Colour, Bala**

*In our campaign against skin  
cancers and heat damage*

**HATS**

*are being sold from the school  
office priced at only \$5.00*