



ACN 063 049 669

Maher Road, P.O. Box 771, Gordonvale, North Queensland 4865

tel. (07) 4056 3555 fax: (07)4056 6111

admin@djarragun.qld.edu.au

School Rover

Issue 06 June 11, 2004

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"If you are thinking a year ahead, sew a seed.

If you are thinking 10 years ahead, plant a tree

If you are thinking 100 years ahead, educate the people

Chinese poet Kuan Tsu, 500BC

QUEENS' BIRTHDAY HONOURS

Congratulations to Bishop Arthur Malcolm



(Chairperson of the Djarragun Board of Directors) who in the Queen's Birthday Honours was bestowed the title of Officer of the Order of Australia.

DAVID CANTWELL

Thank you for the visit and presentation, by Mr **David Cantwell** (Djarragun Board of Directors), of the new Football jerseys. This issue is as colorful as the previous set but with the added feature of the ANFIN logo. We thank our official sponsor for the generous provision of this important feature of the sporting paraphernalia.

HAIRCUTS

Students were given the opportunity to take home Permission Forms to be signed by parents or guardians.



This would allow them free haircuts from our School Salon.

MABO DAY

The whole school attended the celebrations in Cairns on Thursday, June 03. As well as taking part in the march, the school dancers performed for the assembled crowd. Thanks to those who took time to practise during the past couple of weeks for this event.

Two elements to the celebrations eventuated at some stages simultaneously. Next year, some of our student representatives will benefit from attending the forum such as the one convened at Rydges Hotel.

UNITED STATES STUDENT TEACHERS

The Senior classes from Djarragun hosted a busload of visitors from the United States on Tuesday, June 08.

These budding teachers were treated to a dance and song ensemble by Djarragun performers and a brief tour of the campus.

The 19 student teachers came from various parts of the USA and were in Australia on a group cultural exchange tour. In particular, they chose Djarragun College as part of their agenda in order to see an element of indigenous education practised in Australia. It was reported that the Tour Operator is keen to have other similar groups taking in a visit to Djarragun as part of their itinerary.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMPS

24.05.'04 Today was interesting because I learnt that trust is very important. I asked my friend Warren Dau if he was scared of heights. Today, we left Djarragun College at 10:00 a.m. and got here at 11:15 a.m. I hung out with Michael today at Tinaroo Dam. First up we did the 'flying-fox' and it was really fun gliding through that fast. After that, we did wall climbing. It was scary because we had to trust the people that are supporting us. The best thing about today was the 'flying fox' because you go really fast and it is a very long way until the end.

It was a lot of experience to get up that high and swing from the top. The thing I didn't like about today was the climbing.

25.05.'04 We got up very early and went canoeing. I learnt today that balance is very important in a canoe otherwise you will flip the boat. Today, I found out that I like canoeing. I got a lot of skills in a canoe now that I learnt. I met George Mara and asked a bit about him and when he came. When we did canoeing, we first went and played a 'pirate game' and went for a journey across the dam and raced all the way back to where we started from. The best thing about today was the canoeing because we could go for a swim after the canoes and practise getting the water out of the boat.

After lunch, we did the High ropes. It was fun because the second activity was a building game. The third one was the Sugar Glider.

William Thresher

YEAR 10 CAMP TINAROO

As the true test to courage, patience and possibly all of the other virtues, the Year 10 students have taken on ten days in the open air of the Atherton Tablelands getting to know Lake Tinaroo very intimately especially in the canoes which tested the regatta skills of the 'paddle-worn', the 'water weary' and the 'weather-beater'.



Staff were rostered on brief spells (if that's the right word for it) to join the camp for supervision and the possible chance of rejuvenation. Definitely a note of appreciation to such staff who ply their mettle in unpredictable waters. Congratulations, also, students who participated with honesty and positive endeavour. It is from such that our future leaders will ultimately emerge.

MISSING PERSONS MISSING SCHOOL ABSENTEEISM

As a further means towards encouraging students to attend school on a regular basis, teachers have been placing focus upon those who show inconsistency. Letters will be sent home to the parents and guardians of children who do not register a healthy attendance record.

COMPUTER WORKSHOPS FOR THE ASSISTANT TEACHERS

Each morning at 8:00 o'clock, Mr. Ludo or Mr. Frank conduct sessions until 8:45 a.m to hone the skills of the Assistant teachers and all others on the staff who are keen to upgrade themselves in IT.

NOEL PEARSON : The school was treated to a special visit by **Noel Pearson**, Director of Cape York Partnerships. Mr. Pearson addressed the whole school at an assembly where he acknowledged his amazement in entering Djarragun to find the 'unexpected'.

Mr. Pearson stated that he had never been in a more friendly place where students smiled and greeted the visitors and showed interest in the school itself. It was not the ghetto school that he had anticipated.



Djarragun College has earned a welcomed and valuable supporter in Mr. Pearson and hopefully, subsequent collusion will promulgate greater success and increased interest from the wider community in Indigenous education, lifestyle and cultures.

BOYS FROM THE BUSH CITY MALL STALL

Congratulations to the boys who have manned the marquee in the City Mall during the past couple of Thursdays and Fridays. **Johnathan Thompson, Kirri Blarrey, Ben Akiba, Andrew Murr ungun Godfrey Kerry and Murphy Tabuai** have felt (and given) the soft touch of commerce to total strangers wandering into their field of aromatics.

Rumour has it that Kirri has applied his massage skills to an appreciative customer albeit under the close scrutiny of his compatriots. Johnathan was mildly perplexed by a young man who asked if the TeaTree oil was drinkable. This fellow bought the 10ml phial, sculled it and, happily was witnessed to recover in the middle distance after a few moments of minor instability on his feet. The lesson probably dictates that the exercise is not recommended unless one has the DNA of a koala.

Products on market currently include a number of TeaTree Oil extracts, a medicated soap made from teatree and coconut oils, sprays, ointment rubs and deodorants and air fresheners.

One of the prime objectives for the sale of the products by the boys is the development of work ethics, social and entrepreneurial skills and the first tastes of business acumen.

The products are formulated and assembled entirely by members of the Boys from the Bush programme. This includes harvesting of the leaves, distillation of oils, the

production of coconut oil and the saponification of soap, bottling, labelling and giving detail to presentation.

Obviously, all of this is not an overnight exercise and all the students deserve well the compliments that are occasionally thrown their way.

Later towards the end of this month (June 22 - 24), **Kirri Blarrey & Godfrey Kerry** are making their first visit to Sydney to participate in another exercise in Enterprise Education.

Initiator of the Boys from the Bush programme, **Milton James**, conducts regular meetings with the participants every Monday morning immediately after the School Assembly.

Mr. James raised particular attention to the youngest member of the set who has taken to the stall handling with certain aplomb. **Murphy Tabuai** (photo above) is only nine years of age but operated with the smoothness and confidence of a veteran. He approached strangers enthusiastically and seemed to be spurred on by the small adventure and the chance to be successful in salesmanship.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Infotech Cairns (June 10 - 11) - Frank Van Pamelan
You Can Do It Workshop (June 05) - Michelle Foxhall, Larina Lee, Saraima Aisack, Barry Weare, Dean Garside
Families Matter (June 11) - Ross Walters

NEW MEMBER OF STAFF : **Allan Kalloo** is working as a Student Guidance officer. Originally, from Trinidad in the West Indies, Allan came to Australia in 1989 and worked with Department of Family Services, ATSI Family Counsellor at Lotus Glen Correctional Centre and Home and Community Care (HACC) Coordinator in Kuranda.

He was also the Justice Coordinator in Aurukun.

Allan likes to work with people, assisting indigenous communities towards a better lifestyle.

Interests include cricket, table tennis, soccer and volleyball. He has represented his school in cricket and table tennis. Allan will be working in every area of the school, day and boarding school sectors.

We welcome Allan to the Djarragun campus.

MISSION AUSTRALIA WORKERS

A bevy of helpers has operated on campus assisting in a variety of places and functioning independently in accord with their skills. Welcome and thanks to **Natalie** who has graced our gardens with meticulous attention. Though she does not want attention drawn to her, it is appropriate that due regard is paid to her efforts.

HEALTH OFFICER UPDATE

Owing to the increasing prevalence of sexually transmitted Diseases, Diabetes and Hepatitis C in our communities these days, WuChopperen Health officers have been visiting schools to scan the students.

In the past few weeks, they have visited Djarragun (years 11, 12, 13) hence you will probably noticed your children coming home with a little bandaid on their arm

following the blood tests.

The students are to be commended on their willing (though needle shy) cooperation throughout this procedure. Thank you, students.

We also had Ross Jaconia (WuChopperen) doing the eye testing with mostly very favourable results.

Before that Gillon from Edmonton carried out Hearing Tests on many students and we will be continuing on with these after the holiday break.

The Doll's House staff, Cherie and Morgan are continually and diligently educating our students on Sexual Health, STIs, the importance of contraception, self-respect and respect for others sexually. If these matters can be supported in their homelife, it would be a great advantage to our students.

I recently attended an Inter-Agency meeting at ATODS on Drug, Alcohol, Smoking and Sniffing. There are many agencies willing to assist so if parents/guardians have any concerns on these matters, please contact me on 0417 162 140 or call the college on (07) 4056 3555.

Help is at hand.

Ms **Elwyn Cameron**

"It's not what we've got; it's what we do in life that makes a difference. Keep Doing Kind Deeds."

NEWS FROM THE BLACK BEAUTIES OF DJARRAGUN INDIGENOUS HAIR SALON

We got a good response from the letter concerning 'free hair cuts'. The Primary School loves the salon and are very excited - leaving very happy after receiving their deadly haircuts from the Black Beauties of Djarragun.

The Black Beauties are waiting on the Middle School students to give us a try. The first five students to get a haircut will receive a stripe of blonde piece for free.

(Be quick; miss some classes and come and get your hair style cut). The word is spreading fast about us Black Beauty Hairdressers.

We now work at Mooroolool Community Centre every Thursday from 9:30 a.m. - 4:00p.m. We offer haircuts for \$5.00; eyebrow waxing, bleaching, hair colouring, hair straightening, streaking perms, children's hair trims and hair braiding.

All these services we offer at cheap prices for the very best result.

The customer response from Mooroolool and Manoora has been overwhelming. We are very busy in our new business. Thanks from the **Black Beauties of Djarragun Indigenous Hair Salon.**

INTRASCHOOL SPORT UPDATE

After the first round of intra school sports, the results are mixed as well as unpredictable each week.

Currently, we have mixed touch football on a Thursday and both girls' and boys' basketball teams contesting each Tuesday. As it stands, Touch football is being lead by Knights on 10 points, with Warriors on 7 points and Vikings on 5 points.

Girls' basketball is being dominated by Vikings sitting on 12 points with the Knights following on a close 7 points

and the Warriors sitting on 2, waiting to make their mark. The boys' basketball is a draw with each team having a win and all sitting on 7 points.

Participation has been great and the students have been supporting their houses with enthusiasm and dedication. Thank you to the Seniors who have refereed and set up fields for me. Good luck for the rest of the rounds. **Kendall Green (Sports Coordinator)**

FOOTBALL UPDATE : June 09, 2004

Djarragun versus St. Augustine's College

Under 13 team : Once again, we were entertained by the set of 'plucky players'. Only very recently, the Under 13 players posted their very first win for the season against Cairns High. Although a little too early to describe as a developing rampage, this motley crew earned its way towards a tight finish against St. Augustine's. **Warren Dau** was regularly seen burrowing his headgear through the opposition line; **Sabai Elisala** galloped confidently drawing up to six players necessary to smother him into the turf. Despite his high enthusiasm, **Desmond Billy** was relegated to the sideline to nurse his bleeding nose. Congratulations to the team which posted their second win for the season with an impressive 28 - 4 outcome.

Open team : As the season grinds towards the final berths, Djarragun Open players were given a serious reality check in playing against a very well drilled unit from Saints. Whilst the efforts of our usual player-makers were not substandard, the eventual 30 - 4 result clearly indicated some of the flaws to our normal style of game. The free-spirited ploy that many of our players enjoy will find it difficult to contest the highly disciplined, tactical and assertive display by any opposition.

A couple of soft tries were simply surrendered from those lapses of concentration that competitors revel in. There was any amount of determination showed by both teams. Brute force applied by each side accrued the expected ratio of injury factors and when such tactics were spent forces, the winning feature was decided by strategic form and calculated dispatch.

Johnathan Thompson worked himself gallantly against a constant battering and a few unfavourable calls; our only try scorer, **Joey Gibuma**, was simply denied the free rein that he ordinarily enjoys. **Kirri Blarrey** applied some bone-crunching collisions against equally defiant juggernauts while **Vincent Wosomo & Trevor Wosomo** produced their intermittent steamrolls through the pack.

It's worth mentioning that the spirit of endeavour perdured throughout the duration of the game time and it is as much inspiring to witness the perseverance of our players against the overwhelming force presented by the Saints pack. Congratulations to both sides.

PAINTING CONTRACT

Vincent Wosomo, Joey Gibuma, Greg Asse & Iveno Elia are involved in a painting contract at the Cairns College of TAFE for the Institute for Cape York Partnerships. We are thankful to the wider community which has thrust this opportunity for some of our students to gain useful experience and practice with real life work skills. This added dimension to the school

Vocational Education path gives credit to attempts to make the curriculum meaningful and effective.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Stepping into Mr. Ludo's shoes which (at time of writing) are presently in Thailand, Ms **Ana Fidow & Ms Sharon Cooney** fired the camera shots and flashes to install the assembled groups into another part of the school archives.

Whilst we mention him, a kind thought to Mr. Ludo for a speedy recovery from his operation performed in Bangkok. We envisage that he may be now posing for a photo with the Lucky Buddha statue.

School photos can be ordered by filling out one of the envelopes that were earlier distributed to students.

BBM98.7 BUMMA BIPPERA MEDIA

Congratulations to **Michael Billy** who got his first opportunity to legally take over some of the air-waves around the Cairns district. June 04 marked the occasion when he was able to springboard his entry into one of the radio frequencies. Each week, Michael will present some items of news and also inform the audience of prominent events occurring at the school.

COLD WEATHER IS HERE

LOOK EVEN COOLER

IN THE RED SCHOOL JUMPERS

**Students are encouraged to purchase the red
School Jumper**

priced at only \$25.00 - (cold cash)

Don't FREEZE in the lower DEGREES