



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 03 Oct. 07, 2005

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"The food that enters the mind must be watched as closely as food that enters the body." **Patrick Buchanan**

Term 4 at Djarragun kicked off in rather subdued fashion. The numbers were decidedly lacking and it was evident that three extra days holidays than the rest of the city was not enough for some of our students.

Those who did turn up for Day 1, still enjoyed two days of gentle nudging into routine. Those are the ones who should be commended for their sincerity and honesty towards their education.

The Principal, Ms Jean Illingworth emphasized the urgency for productive work in this last term for the year, particularly for those who hope to graduate in Year 12. For them, the days are numbered!! In seven weeks, they will have concluded a significant milestone in their lives. Their schooldays will spill onto the pages of memories.

The Primary school students were clearly the best in attendance for the first day of term. The usually very voluminous Middle School must have taken on a very rigid diet during the holiday break. The Senior sector number was more than mildly anorexic. However, congratulations to the honest ones who fronted up and satisfied expectations.

To all, staff, students and parents, happy days !! We are all charging forward towards the culmination of another very successful School Year.

EPSEG FAMILY

To Aunty Harriet, Uncle Phillip, Uncle Tony, Uncle Mapa and families, we pass on condolences at the passing of your mother in Townsville recently. Be assured of our thoughts for you at this time of very personal grief. God bless.

INFORMATION DAY FOR ABC

A very exciting event that was enjoyed by quite a few local schools was held on the Djarragun campus. To promote indigenous employment in media and communication, a very lively series of stations was set up in the College undercover area. Six areas were manned by ABC indigenous employees who outlined their particular skills and expertise in the system. Students were encouraged to consider careers in Media and Communication. Highlighted were various aspects of media production ranging from programming, camera work, radio and reporting.





Despite the late start, groups progressed through the stations at ten minute intervals. The presence of students from other schools like Mossman High, Trinity Bay, Innisfail and St. Monica's drew in a tangible social aspect. Senior students did the honours by providing a guided tour through the school which included the Hair Dressing salon, an artefacts and cultural display, the production of craft and handiworks in 'The Shed', the watercraft line-up of the school and our state of the art Computer Room.



(ABOVE) Primary boys and girls give the stage the once over - threatening the monopoly of the Senior dancers : there's a new force in town !!

(ABOVE) 1. Jean Paul Wobotai drives home the 'Chest percussionists' and voice harmonics with his brave support group.
2. Manu, Latoya & George strike again !!
3. Drystan likes what he sees !! Is it YOU !!!

Our very accomplished 'kup mari team' delivered the goods yet again. Mr. Joe's all-weather marquee was filled with all the delights from the kitchen as well as the newly exhumed pork and vegetables. The programme was stirringly cast into action with a selection of traditional dances by both the Primary and Secondary School troupes.

ROLL CALL

Day 1 at school this Term saw only a fraction of the total Roll in attendance. In an effort to energize the 'missing troops', staff members (accompanied by suitably selected Senior School cohorts) combed the various regions of Cairns at residences and popular haunts of Djarragun students.

A few were found safe and sound at home albeit slightly shell-shocked by an unexpected visitation; others were located on the streets tending to other matters of their own personal business. The shopping centres provided cool sanctuary for many more who could not catapult themselves out of holiday mode when everyone else did.

This was not an exercise just to menace students back to school. It was a real effort to encourage good, responsible attendance by students and a practical manner of reinforcement to a very important prime essential to the learning process. Some basic instincts were set in motion when one particular student was spotted near the Shell Station on Sheridan Street. At the fear of certain cross-examination, she assumed the starting skills of Marion Jones and dematerialized from the spot in a fraction of a second.

Some seemed to have spent a good proportion of their absenteeism footing across the suburbs. One walked from Whiterock to Woree; others were spotted by two of our scouting bands firstly near Woree and later at Westcourt. They may possibly have their sights set on the Pizza courier trade. It was a worthwhile initiative considering that the next school assembly was considerably bulked up with solid numbers and resumed its former respectability.



August 31 : Navy Day at Tobruk Pool
Ned Ingui receives his trophy.



Ned Ingui, David Kerry, Sepa Wosomo, Gloria Ganaia & Anai Ganaia toting their medals.



Ms Kendall (l) with the smile of satisfaction after a very successful day with the Djarragun team.



Time to dice the lifeboat for the cool dip



TRANSITION CLASS



Mr. Liam took a small group through the dynamics of improved behaviour and better learning practices. Ideally, students are immersed in this strategy to develop sustained focus in learning situations.

Essentially, the boys will recognize their own tactics of disguised misbehaviour. In order to escape work

assignments or to evade directions, distractions are thrown into the equation. A student will throw a tantrum, make himself obnoxious or sulk. Students are challenged to face their very practised cop-out, hopefully eliminate the causes and re-programme their attitudes towards better options.

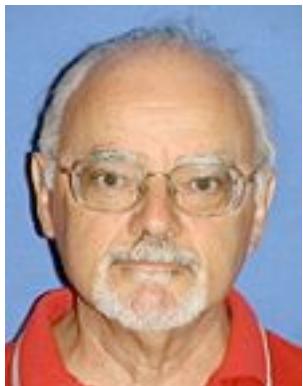
The Transition Class operates only when there is a suitable number (around 8) so that group dynamics can be employed as a fundamental instrument.

Almost as a natural progression from this group, the Boys in Education programme for the Years 7/8 is providing the educational 'carrot' by way of a special session for all those in Years 7 and 8.

The BMX bikes are being brandished as veritable incentives to incite in these youngsters passions ranging from thrill through to mild avarice.

It also removes the condition of misbehaviour as the criterion for access to their availability and use.

Above : Michael Kerry and Allan Harry were two amongst the first contingent of this illustrious group.



SPECIAL THOUGHTS

Taking leave for rest this term is Mr. Roland Reck, one of our industrious workhorses from the infamous 'Shed'. We all wish Mr. Roland a speedy recovery and a deserved period of

recuperation from his present debility.

Mr. Roland's instant claim to fame has been the exploding production of artefacts and craft that he has orchestrated from the workshop.

His more than ordinary skills landed him with work in "The Shed" as well as some liaison with the architects and builders on the school campus projects.

OPERATION CLEAN-UP

On Friday, September 30, Middle School students went to Giangarra and went to the beach to conduct a litter survey to identify and categorize the types of rubbish that people leave around the place. It took three hours to collect seven wheelie bins of rubbish and half an hour to complete the survey. The survey was used as a mathematics project to produce statistics. A series of graphs was produced. Many photos were also taken to highlight the exercise as a successful campaign towards the Clean-up Australia policy against litter.

A Council team stopped during the clean-up and were pleased (and noticeably surprised) that students were doing them a favour.

Best workers were **David Kerry, Oliphanu Elisala and Eddy Nawakie**.

The rubbish was deposited at the bins in the Park.

Our intrepid rainforest environmentalist from the Daintree, Mr. Daniel, was the instigator for the whole scheme.



Plastic bags were, by far, the most numerous items that littered the natural environment.

