



DJARRAGUN COLLEGE

ACN 063 049 669

Maher Road, P.O. Box 771, Gordonvale, North Queensland 4865
tel. (07) 4043 3777 fax (07) 4056 6111 email admin@djarragun.qld.edu.au

website: <http://www.djarraguncollege.qld.edu.au>

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School Rover

Issue 07, June 09, 2006

"He who helps early, helps twice."

Tadeusz Mazowiecki

James Cook University

Maths and Science Excellence Program

The group attending the program is expanding every term. This term our college has twenty participants who will be doing investigations with chemistry, explosions, dissections, robots and high tech fun that will take the subjects to a new level of excitement. Years 6 and 7 group attends Wednesday sessions with **Mr Garside** and years 7 and 9 group attends Thursday sessions with **Mr Daniel Hollis**. A big thank you to the two members of staff for taking our students.

Year 6 & 7 students are: **Shane Mimi, Comrie Tabuai, Vivian Baker, Tara Rockett, Helen Walit, Flora Walit, Patricia Tom and Marella Baker.**

Year 8 & 9 students are: **Kennedy Chan Foon, Renartha Bounghi, Lane Ingui, Wacada Baker, Lucinda Sever, Zelma Kynuna, Michelle Kynuna, Maluka David, Monica Sever, Rhiannon Hill, Juniko Sebasio and Amy Livingstone.**

Have lots of fun.

Mr Philemon.

COMPUTER MOUSETRAPS

The human brain has a lot to contend with when confronted with the wiles of the microchip off the proverbial 'old block'. Psycho-analysis of the perturbed virtual brain might muster up a prolonged episode of virtual angst. Neurones versus optic fibre terminals makes Star Wars a crass formality. How does one

recognize, or better still, treat a computer coma? On a week by week basis, Computerland issues forth in exponential propagation its latest discoveries, its most recent expositions. Who are the midwives to the birthing of these? Who officiates at these 'baptisms' of soulless apparati?

How frightening it is that 'spare parts' supercede the chassis. The support modem actually overrides the host. Luckily for some of us, there are actual beings who can fathom the flaws and save us from cerebral relapse.

Thanks, **Mr. Ludo**

OUTDOORS COOKING : This programme has dodged the rain and managed to stave the hunger pangs of a few. The boys, in particular, keep a running tote on the number of meals that they can notch up during any given day and some almost gloat over that extra chance to settle the ivories into another morsel. Generally, the boys approach the exercise with more a businesslike demeanour and then perch in the wooden frameworks like brooding vultures knowing that they need to conserve energy to delight more ravenously on whatever coughs out of the cauldron or the griddle.

On the other hand, the girls consider all the fiddlesome tedium as a nuisance intrusion into 'gossip time' which can have more sparks to it than the fireplace. The fact that there are no chairs to support their mouths also detracts from the "Did you know...." intense episode.

The boys are around the fire most of the time like Indians before a Sioux attack. They like to play with the fire or show someone else the burning end of a firebrand. Coals can mysteriously fall ten metres from the source and the wisp of smoke that feathers upwards initiates a fireman's small work detail that uses up all the available water we have left.

The girls had the chance to use a 'steamboat' for the first time. This they achieved with mouth-watering success. The boys were less enthusiastic about the actual process and would probably have been more impressed if the steamboat spewed out molten lava and fireballs. Their litmus test is always about the eating.



SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL

Stephen Schultz : Percussionist

Ever wondered what uses you could put to the humble toilet brush. Not yet discovered by the heavy metal bands nor any Symphony Orchestra, we witnessed the public performance by the S-bend scrubber over an array of percussion instruments. The sounds, let alone the thought, was enough to send shivers down the spine.

An extremely engaging, prolonged session of percussive hype was conducted by a master of musical hype, **Stephen Schultz**. For skill, technical acumen and entertainment aplomb, here is an artist with finesse.

Many hands took to the drumsticks, cowbells, clapsticks, shakers, tambourines and drums. The local talents really revved up the campus and emerging from the cacophony was an organized blend of triumphant reverberation. Students' faces etched with concentration gloated over their mastery of the impromptu opus. Happy hands, happy faces all !!



CAREERS EXPO

On Friday, May 19, 2006, Senior students from Years 11 to 13 attended a Careers Expo which was held at the PCYC in Cairns. Other schools attended the Expo from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. the purpose for the excursion was for us to get an idea of what career path we would like to take. There were representatives from JCU, Defence Forces, Ergon Energy, CRGT, TAFE and many other representatives.

Here are some of the comments from the students :

Benjamin : "It was exciting."

Kara : "some of the careers gave me an idea of what path I would like to take."

Emily : "Way better than last year and it gave me more information."

Chloe : "Now that I'm in Year 12, the information is more useful to me."

Ahboo : "It gave me an idea of what career path I would like to take when I finish school."

Maia : "It was fun and it makes life easier by showing us the pathways of jobs you would like to have."

Clevanna : " Thought it was better than the last. It wasn't as crowded. It also gave me an idea of what I'd like to do when I finish school."

by **Seba Bourne Yr 11A**

WRITER'S CRAMP

CYCLONE

When Cyclone Larry passed through Cairns,
The clouds were as dark as black paint.
The rain was as hard as falling rocks;
The wind strength could pull a caravan out
The thunder was as loud as 20 street machine cars
the whistle of the wind whips through the cane
The wind could carry a tree through the air
Like a matchstick.
The power was so strong, it could lift a human being.
I was as scared as a mouse;
I freaked out like a white-tail rat.
My body was shaking like a new-born horse
But inside, I was as strong as a gorilla.

by **George Mara**

RUGBY

The boots are on.
The water is ready.
The colourful jerseys are in the box.
The bus is full of excited players.

The players warm up like puppets.
The players line up like birds on a branch.
The players run out with fire in their eyes.
The players tackle like rocks and score a try.

The players are as tired as old men.
The players are panting like dogs.
The whistle blows full time.
We shake hands, smile and walk slowly to the bus -
Happy the game is over.

by **Adam McGreen Yr. 11**

Miriam Torzillo

I was born in Sydney, but I have spent just as much of my life outside it, in Papua New Guinea, overseas and in recent years, in Innisfail and Cairns. I am married with two children and while they were growing up, we



lived on our farm in Mena Ck growing exotic tropical crops, such as monkey bananas, plantains, and taro. While I was there, I taught in the Innisfail district, and directed and organised community arts projects with young people for local festivals and events.

Meanwhile, back in my Year 12 English classes, group projects to plan, implement and evaluate fund raising ventures for the Year 12 graduation are happening alongside the revision of the elements of grammar and the writing of persuasive texts.

The environment at Djarragun creates an instant impression; it is certainly the neatest and best kept campus I have been to in the North. Its students are welcoming and engaged and its teachers dedicated and supportive.

There's always plenty going on at the college and definitely never a dull moment.

DRUG ACTION WEEK JUNE 18 - 24, 2006

www.drugactionweek.org.au

The website above provides the information regarding this year's projected programmes available around the country.

The impact is aimed at community awareness of the problems associated with antisocial drug use and positive ways of prevention and rehabilitation.



PRIMARY SCHOOL BAND

Thumping its way into the College curriculum is the newly formed Primary School band. Its members recently performed its debut to the School assembly defeating shyness, shame and shudders.

Two vocalists chewed around the microphones and the audience lent ears to a sterling effort by an up and coming group.

Congratulations to Mr. 'Gracey' who is, without a doubt, priming up the next generation of "Wipeout" agents. (PICTURED ABOVE)

Isaac Tabo, Frank Charlie, Shane Mimi, Alissa Mara & Comrie Tabuai

YEAR 9 TESTING

Congratulations to the intrepid band of Year 9 students who applied themselves honestly to the two days of testing conducted as a pilot study for National application next year.

Djarragun was selected as one of only a few schools to test-run the procedure.

Ms **Evie DeVries** from AISQ visited Djarragun to oversee part of the testing and to gauge how students were responding to the material and identify any problems with the test materials and processes.

GORDONVALE COMMUNITY MEETING

Connecting to the Community Expo & Street Talk
Face Painting and Play area for children
Free Sausage Sizzle for Lunch
 Free entertainment will be provided
Displays from a variety of interesting services

There will also be an opportunity to talk to Cairns City Council's Community & Cultural Development Team about finding solutions to the issues in your community

All Welcome

When: Tuesday, 20th June 2006

Time: 12.00 noon – 4.00 p.m.

Where: Gordonvale Community Centre

For further information, please contact
 Joy Wii (Community Planning & Development Officer)
Cairns City Council on 4044 3351 There will be an opportunity
for the Community to meet at
Gordonvale Community Centre and attend Gordonvale's first:

**DJARRAGUN COLLEGE
 OPEN DAY
 THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2006
 11:00 a. m. - 2:00 p. m.**