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# School Rover

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## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"When you want to be honoured by others, you learn to honour them first." Sathya Sai Baba



Senior student, Alan Tranby, lead in his little cohorts

Isaiah Cooktown, Jessie Neal, Mundi Neal & Gail Ambrym

## Boston University students - June 05

Hospitality students again had the opportunity to display their skills to international clients. Almost 40 students from Boston University visited Djarragun as a part of their studies towards teaching degrees.



(above) Ms Stella Mara & Christina Baluz dish out the finger food appetizers

All of them had had no contact with Australian Indigenous people and their first impressions will be firmly established in their memories thanks to the Djarragun experience.

**Nikita Nikkelson** welcomed the group to the evening three course meal which was provided in the College undercover area.. Young Aboriginal dancers performed the welcome dances and added a characteristic mystique to a neatly tailored programme.

(left) Ms Peggy Chigeza conducts a 'Boston Pops' of her own

(below) Nikita Nikkelson welcomes Bostonians.





## !!FREAKY CAREERS EXPO!!

On Friday 29th of May, the Wangetti girls went on a field trip to the Careers Expo at the showgrounds. The girls were interested in hairdressing, Myers, Tjapukai, health and weaving and visited all kinds of displays and asked all kinds of questions.

I told the careers advisors that I was doing a health course and they said lots of places need workers. After the Expo we all jumped in the bus and went to the Botanical Gardens to have lunch. We all had a great time taking photos, laughing and dancing. We went and had a walk around and Anna and I made **Ms Gill** and **Ms Marilyn** laugh. **Ms Gill** was bitten by mosquitoes and she asked the man for some mosquito spray. We took **Natalia** to the Red Cross to visit her family but they hadn't arrived yet. Next we went to the Cairns Regional Art Gallery. The lady took us to see Lisa Michl Ko-manggen's art and it was fantastic.

She told us about the fairy tale and how if you're really quiet you might see a fairy in the water. Then we went into another exhibition by Stefan Cools who invited us to draw some art for him. Servanna thanked the lady for showing us around the gallery. Finally, we went to Whiterock and Anna, Servanna and I were dropped at home. What a fantastic day! **Enid David**

### GONDWANA INDIGENOUS CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Making recent status in a national choir are a couple more students from Djarragun. **Edmund Nawakie** has been winging around the country advertising QANTAS. **Loren Tabuai** and **Seiji Gabey** have now joined voices to the Gondwana Children's Choir.



### Senior : Mentoring Groups

Senior students have been taking advantage of hourly sessions after school catching up on assignments. Teachers have made themselves available for one-on-one tuition on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. so that work can be completed.

Many of the students have been committed to heavy sporting and extra-curricular activities so this is an opportunity to fill in the gaps.

Congratulations to those students who have attended.

### ROSEMARY TABUAI

Spending almost a month with us, former school captain **Rosemary Tabuai** is sharing hours of quality time working amongst a selection of students. Rosemary is continuing her studies in Sydney and is waiting for the start of the second Semester. It goes almost without saying that we welcome Rosemary for a brief spell on her previous stomping grounds.



(above) Rosemary plays Baywatch at Trinity Beach

### Ron Eason (ATSI Legal Service)

Introducing himself at a school assembly recently was Mr. **Ron Eason** who now works with the Legal Service for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in Cairns.

Mr. Ron previously had been attached to the North Qld Department of Correctional Services where many of his clients were prisoners in Lotus Glen.

Despite a very obvious disadvantage with ill-formed hands, Mr. Ron related that one of his ambitions was to join the Air Force but the recruiting officers didn't consider that he would be able to obtain a Pilot's licence.

Mr. Ron defied all odds and currently holds a Pilot's licence.

He uses his own example to young people to follow their dreams and, in his case, literally reach for the skies.

Mr. Ron specified the high rate of imprisonment of indigenous people in the Australian gaols and encouraged Djarragun students to consider changing the flow of indigenous youth through that stream of society.

# TEAM BOTTLEBRUSH STORMS TRINITY BEACH



Prep and Year 1 students spent a special day last month on Trinity Beach. Teacher, Ms Louise Camden teamed up with Ms Rosemary Tabuai, Ms Sophie Siegers-Phillips & Mr. Virgil Gill on a small excursion for 'small people'.

Just like natural amphibians, the little bodies relished the sand and splashed vigorously in the inviting saltwater. Causing due alarm at one stage, an errant 'crocodile' stalked in the shallows but closer inspection (after the panic had subsided) revealed the ever friendly face of Mr. Virgil, who, for all his troubles was pummelled with affection. He wasn't to know that so many proteges of Steve Irwin roamed the coastline.

Ms Louise Camden comments :-

"Friendships were cemented in Team Bottlebrush with a wonderful day at Trinity Beach as the culminating activity for our unit of work about The Sea. We have been learning about the animals that live in the sea and on the beach and how they are dependent on clean water and a clean environment."

Ms Louise, Ms Sophie, Mr Virgil, Rosemary Tabuai and all of Team Bottlebrush had such a fantastic day; playing in the sea, exploring the rocks, building sandcastles, eating sausages, salad and fruit, that no one wanted to leave when it came time to go back to school. We took only photographs (thanks to Ms Sophie) and left only footprints - making sure that we picked up all the rubbish before we left."



John Gebadi, Robyn Swain-Kynuna, Wejun Neal & Beyonce Matthew - all salty, wet and sandy



Zachary Tabuai & Josiah Kyle make a snack attack

Mr. Virgil thought he'd stepped into a local turtle hatchery but the exposed 'flippers' belonged to Josiah Kyle & Afeni Tabuai



## NEW STAFF MEMBER

Welcome Ms Silvia (**Thelma**) Faud as a part time boarding supervisor at the Mt Peter Road student residence.

Ms Silvia is mother to Frederick & Philemona (Yr. 12) and will manage the house during the weekends to give Uncle **Paul Garong** his much needed break.



Weekdays provide many watchful eyes over the fish tanks

## GONE FISHING

Thanks to **Mr. Rob McBride**, **Mr. Shane Cockerell** and **Mr. Rudra Singh** for your extra attention and time in looking after the Aquaculture Centre after school and during the weekends.



It's not all plain sailing at the Djarragun Fishtank and quite a few of the fingerlings have been lost this year as a result of a mystery algae attack and the torrid process of maintaining the whole system to the standard that Mother Nature provides.



Matilda Gibas & Aunty Harriet Tapim

## STUDENTS HEADING SOUTH

Yawo for now - **Matilda Gibas** and **Flora Charlie**

We wish these two all the best with their studies at ICMS in Sydney. It was good to see so many people to see these girls off at the airport.



(above) Matilda with her grandmother and aunt

## DJARRAGUN - THE INSIDE STORY (WHO CARES?)

Like a hybrid high tech machine that it increasingly resembles, the Djarragun craft has many occasions to implement after-burners. Almost as a secret service facility of its own, a volunteer agency steps into play to support students in a variety of ways that each will remember gratefully.



Many thanks to the individual officers of patrol reconnaissance units that scout and implement rescue missions to accommodate students who occasionally find themselves in need of special assistance.

Non-commissioned officers to this covert operation include Flight Lieutenant **Jade Allgood**, Warrant Officer **Peggy Chigeza**, Field Marshall **Stella Mara**, General **Paul Garong**, Major **Estelle Nielsen** and

Commodore '**SJ**' **Stephen Daniel** who are always willing to take home student/s in crisis and are available at all times in supporting them. They also spend a lot of their personal time after school and during the weekends to give these students whatever it takes to succeed in their aspirations.

(above) '**S.J.**' **Stephen Daniel**, Ms **Peggy Chigeza** &

**Ms Jade Allgood**

