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School Rover

Issue 11, June 26 , 2009

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"He who is being carried does not realize how far the town is." *African Proverb*



GONDWANA INDIGENOUS CHOIR

The following communication introduced students from Djarragun into the arena of a National choir -

"I am very pleased to invite Seiji to be a part of the Gondwana National Indigenous Children's Choir (GNICC). As a member of the GNICC we would like to offer Seiji the opportunity to perform at The Dreaming Festival from 31 May- 7June, 2009.

As a part of this project, 35 Gondwana National Indigenous Children's Choir (GNICC) choristers and 35 choristers from our senior Sydney Children's Choir will travel to Alexandra Headland from 31 May to 5 June 2009 to prepare and rehearse for a performance at the Opening Ceremony of the Dreaming Festival in Woodford on 5 June. The choirs will also perform at the BlakTracks Stage on Sunday 7 June before returning home."

Congratulations to **Seiji Gabey** and **Lauren Tabuai** who earned membership to the Gondwana National Choir. A little bit of jetsetting around the country, singing at a festival and being immortalized on a recording is already a prominent feature each to their young career achievement page.

Loren Tabuai records some of her experiences during her visit to Brisbane with the choir with **Seiji Gabey** and **Edmond Nawakie**.

"We went down to Brisbane and we sang for the Dreaming Festival. It was near Woodford where the Folk Festival is held.

We tried out for an audition at the school Auditorium with Susan who is the manager of the Sydney Children's Choir. Mr. Grace showed us a letter later which told us that we would be going down to join the choir.

We sang a welcoming song andwe trained for five days. We were there for seven days. For the last two days, we sang in **Black Duck theatre in Woodford.** " **Loren Tabuai**



Edmund Nawakie, Loren Tabuai & Seiji Gabey

ENGLISH COMMUNICATION

Congratulations to **Ms Jade Allgood** who submitted the programme for consideration for approval by the Moderation Division of Education Queensland.

We are pleased to advise that your school's Study Plan

Djarragun College - English Communication - 6125

has been approved.

The form Advice to Schools document (Form R10) completed by a designated representative of the QSA can be accessed from the Work Programs Online application at the QSA's Secure website

<https://www.qsa.qld.edu.au/wponline/login.qsa>

CISSA FINALS

CISSA (Cairns Inter-School Sports Association) June 17 saw the completion of the finals for this year and the presentation of medals and trophies to the respective winners.

Djarragun fielded two teams, both boys' and girls' s squads who made history for themselves by taking out the local honours. Our Under 18 Boys' Touch team defeated the St. Augustine's side in a thriller 'golden point' decider in extra time. **James Wosomo** was part of that victorious crew and, despite the battle fatigue, threw together in the classroom a brief report about the conquest.



"Yesterday, I was playing touch against the Saints team at Barlow Park and we won the game by 9 - 8. We were 8 - all at fulltime and so we had to play extra time for golden point.

It took a few minutes until Arthur Dau scored a try in the righthand corner.

We are the first Djarragun team to win the Grand final in Touch Football. Mr. Shankaran was very happy.

The boys names are Jackson Wosomo, Alex Namai, James Gaidan, David Wuruki, Ali Dau, Chris Lee, Paul Walit, Charlie David, Edward Daniel, Fred Faid, Darren Banu and Lewis

On the school assembly, Mr. Gareth gave us a medal each. We also keep the trophy until next year. Jackson Wosomo won the Man of the Match."

James Wosomo Yr. 10



(left)- Jackson Wosomo & Roselyn Asai receive their 'Best Player' trophies (left below) - "The Touch Team"; (above) "The Volleyball Side"

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

What an amazing display of concentrated energy shown by the Girls' team. In such a confined space, the pace could only be described as ballistic. Both sides had highly competitive dispositions and it finally showed that brute force became the deciding factor.

Serves were pummelled down with incredible speed and accuracy and the ball had such a brief time to re-assemble its designed shape before being cudgled into another amorphous globule. Even the spectators needed to be on guard lest one of them fell victim to a pinballing missile.

The team was obviously well drilled by **Mr. Aisea Pulini** and **Mr. Warren Eyre**. Whomever this team practised against possibly deserves a medal of honour of some sort or at least, recognition on the cast of Survivors.

Congratulations, girls, on your display of combination, focus, determination and, unfortunately for the opposition, clinical demolition. Coach Mr. Warren Eyre reminisces the season - "Volleyball reflection 2009 Semester 1

It was great to see the Senior Girl's Volleyball squad return with some familiar faces and a few notable imports to defend their title. Fortunately for us, the nucleus of the championship team returned to DC this year. The power hitting Asai sisters, the ruthless service game of **Roselyn Billy** and the athletic prowess of **Julia Thaiday** ensured the squad would make it hard for all other schools to challenge for the title. This year a number of imports joined us, notably Cairns High super server **Angela Ware** and utility court prowler **Latoya Kebisu**. The squad was filled with strength in all areas, **Juniko Kepa**, **April Mosby** and **Laurianna Baira** all played pivotal roles this season.

The girls went on to dominate the CISSA grand final against Trinity Bay and won by 2 sets to nil, Captain - **Roselyn Asai** was the stand out athlete of the finals and was named most valuable player for the series - all in all another brilliant season from the team that sets the standards in Far Northern Girls Volleyball - Well done ladies. A special thank you to **Laurianna**, **Esther** and **Juniko** for the leadership and maturity in guiding the team this season"

Coach **Warren Eyre**.





SCHOOL PHOTOS - June 10

We once used to glibly coagulate into a presentable forum to be captured on celluloid for posterity. The groups were manageably small, comfortable and intimate. The background invariably was the rising form of 'The Pyramid'.

In the past couple of years, the number on staff has required an intricate employ of scaffolding and the Pyramid has been easily eclipsed by a rising human tide appearing like a Roman phalanx executing an attack upon an unsuspecting castle wall.

Mr. Mike Thorpe

This is a new staff member who will be coordinating VET across the school - just in time to help Linda get things in order for the audit in August!!

His name is Mike Thorpe - some of you may know him from JCU. His first day of work is Monday 15th June so he will be at the TAA course and available to support and help those of you through the course if you need support



MS RACHEL BAILETTI



My role here within the school is to provide and promote social and emotional wellbeing services to students and staff. This includes facilitation of therapeutic group work, mediation and outreach support and counselling to families. I am also available after hours for emergencies. I hope to be getting involved with some classes next term so students (and staff) become more familiar with me.

HARDWARE UPGRADE - Frank Van Pamelan

We are planning a hardware up-grade for both our School servers (IP addresses: 192.168.1.2 and 192.168.1.4). This will include installing more Memory (RAM) and connecting the servers to a UPS (uninterruptible power supply). This upgrade is essential in order to provide a more reliable service to staff and students and will not affect the office staff unless they need to access the Denbigh database. This up-grade will take place during the June Holidays to minimise interruptions and has been scheduled for Monday, 6th of July 2009 at 10:00 a.m. and will take up to two hours.

FLU VACCINES at school for staff

Dr Stuart will be in on Tuesday, June 23 at 9.00 a.m. to administer flu shots for people who missed out last time.

QSA Administration Officer - Moderation Services

The current world concern for another infectious disease is creating panic in some quarters and perhaps a dose of indifference by the unwary. Some schools in Cairns have been closed for brief spates to avoid further infection and the School Nurse at Djarragun is vigilant on the side of caution so that the best options available have been explored and deployed. Any boarding school falls under close threat of contagion and we need to access the necessary and available services.

Djarragun students have been made aware of the dangers that surround this illness and much of the following information gives a clear indication of who falls within the list of people susceptible to contracting it.

Everyone should be warned that it is considered a disease which can have a fatal consequence.

SWINE INFLUENZA

Sullivan Nicoladed pathology has agreed to come on site Tuesday 16th June to conduct Swine Influenza [H1N1] testing tomorrow, 10:00 -11:00 a.m.

If they identify a child who has any of the following:

* Recent history [within the last week] of runny nose or sore throat or cough or a good history of fever can they please present to the BACK of the Medical centre, where there will be seating arranged. The testing will only be conducted for 1 hour. All others who meet the algorithm will need to be transported to the Cairns Base Flu Clinic for assessment.

With thanks, Sue Rayner (Djarragun Nurse)

SWINE FLU UPDATE

A decision was made by the Australian Government to move to a new Australian phase called PROTECT based on the advice of the Australian Chief Medical Officer and the Australian Health Protection Committee, which includes all state and territory Chief Health Officers. This advice is based on national and international scientific and medical evidence on the outbreak.

The PROTECT phase recognises that the Human Swine Influenza virus is not as severe for the general population as originally envisaged. The overwhelming majority of people are making a quick and full recovery.

The new phase focuses on protecting those people who are most at risk of developing severe illness from Human Swine Influenza. The people include:

- o Pregnant women
- o People with respiratory disease (eg. asthma)
- o People with chronic diseases (eg. Diabetes, heart disease, renal disease, morbid obesity or immunosuppressed)
- o **Indigenous people**
- o There will no longer be a school exclusion policy for students returning from areas of concern (for example -USA, Canada, Japan, Mexico, Panama and the state of Victoria). This will commence at the end of the current school term on Friday, 26 June.

Queensland Health prevention and hygiene messages remain as relevant as ever. These include:

- o stay home when you are sick;
- o **wash your hands frequently with soap and water** or use an alcohol based hand gel;
- o wash your hands prior to touching your eyes, nose and mouth;
- o **when coughing or sneezing, cover your mouth** and nose with disposable tissues which should be disposed of immediately;
- o don't share items such as cigarettes, glasses or cups, lipstick, toys or anything which could be contaminated with respiratory secretions;
- o maintain at least one metre distance from people who have flu-like symptoms such as coughing or sneezing;
- o consult your doctor if you have a cough and fever and follow their instructions, including taking medicine as prescribed;
- o if attending a medical practice or hospital Emergency Department, telephone beforehand so that they can arrange for you to be seen away from other people.

AUNTY SHIRLEY COOKTOWN

Building up into cavalcade proportions on the stage is a team of performers amongst the Aboriginal Dance group. Aunty **Shirley Cooktown** is patiently grooming a growing huddle of girls that is fast eliminating the previous male dominated scenario. She is loyally banded with teacher, Ms Jade Allgood who helps manage and organize the weekly 'corroboree' practice.

The brilliant flash of colour in the fitted garments (below) peddles fashion, style and sophistication to highlight the ochre and white painted body designs.

'**Nana Shirl**' is a long-time behind-the-scenes character at Djarragun. She is seen at the school each week and even at distant venues where she supported her charges in Laura, Townsville and Cardwell. She has

filtered a string of her grandchildren through the school over several years. **Nana Shirl** (above right) pulled up her sleeves and threw in her outdoor cooking skills over the hotplate at the Laura Dance Festival earlier this year. Tagging along with that cluster is a swirl of other satellite figures of varying shapes, ages and sizes. One up and coming dance prospect (right) brandishes the didgeridoo as if he was a competitor in the Scottish Highland Caber tossing Carnival.

