



# School Rover

Welcome to Term 3, 2002. As a newcomer to the Djarragun scene, I would like to thank the members of staff who have made me so welcome and, of course, the Principal who offered the position.



The first two weeks of Term kicked off with NAIDOC Week, in which students participated in the March from Fogarty Fountain to Munro-Martin Park where stalls and a programme of singing and dancing entertained them.

Things move at an exciting pace in line with the spurt of growth on the school campus. The completion of the Dormitories and installation of students and new houseparents, Gabriel and Lency Sailor draws strong anticipation to the official Opening.

**BOARD MEMBERS** Recent visit by Mr. Tony Watt and David Cantwell from Brisbane added enthusiasm to the development that is taking place in the school. Tony addressed the staff to inform everyone about the direction and future plans for the school.

**MS. CLAIR BARTLETT** : A note of thanks and best wishes to Miss Clair who has taken on a position at Cairns TAFE. The Year 7 class did erupt with the expected disappointment of losing their dynamic

teacher. Hopefully, some of her proteges will in the future get to meet Miss Clair when they enter her programme at TAFE.

**MS HARRIET** : Ms Harriet also made a timely break from her commitment at the school in order to take up further University studies for herself. We wish her well, although we know that she is still going to be around the place every now and then.

**YEAR 6/7 CLASS** : Kym Kerry received the Award in Year 7 for the best attendance and Jilara Rodgers earned the certificate for Cooperation. Unfortunately, we have had a couple of students who made their impact in a negative direction and those received a suspension and a contract. Hopefully, these will not occur too often.

**THRASS PROGRAMME**: Already, this Term Miss Fay has workshopped the other staff in the Primary with her knowledge of this programme which is directed at Language Arts skills. It means - Teaching Handwriting, Reading and Speaking and Spelling.

**PMP (Perceptual-Motor Programme)** : This popular programme will be underway as soon as all the appropriate equipment has been assembled and the



teachers are familiar with the activities that can be implemented. In a nutshell, the programme engages the students in activities that promotes skills with what they see, how they move, balance themselves and develop coordination in movement.

**ACTIVATE-ATE PROGRAMME** : Miss Fay and her class reaped the results of their vegetable garden at the beginning of the Term. The Year 7 class will also join in on the action by making a plot of its own. Word has it that some of the pawpaw seedlings wasn't able to pass the attention of the local rats - only the stalks survived

**NEWSLETTER** Miss Liz is continuing her task in producing the regular Newsletter that will keep everyone interested in and up to date with the events in the school. We are hoping to extend the newsletter to include the whole school.

**PERFORMING ARTS** : Classes have been conducted by Mr. John Gregg with each of the classes. Together with Barry Cedric, Kenny Thaiday and Clara Tabuai, each group has been trying out a bit of singing and drama sessions.

**STUDENT TEACHERS** : We have been fortunate to have with us for three weeks two student teachers on a practicum from Batchelor College in the Northern Territory. Welcome to Mr. Ses Zaro and Ms Doudai Brown. They're both still smiling - so that means that they must be enjoying their stay. Trina Railton arrived at Djarragun on August 08 and 09



to do the follow-up on the two student teachers. A note of condolence to Ses who had to attend a funeral for one of his cousins in Bowen. Our thoughts go to him and his family during this sad time.

**ATTENDANCE** : Thank the parents who have encouraged their children to attend regularly, tidily dressed in their uniforms. It becomes a true pleasure to work with them on your behalf. Progressively, the classrooms have been slowly filling up with students. Congratulations to those

who have been enthusiastic from the start and not missed too many days on the Roll Book.

**CAIRNS SHOW SUCCESS** : One of the students Kura Dau from Boigu Island entered some of his last Term handiwork in the Cairns Show and was rewarded with a Certificate for Third prize. Kura crafted a coffee table and a pendulum clock. Under the tuition of Roland Reck, he revealed the necessary talent to earn his Award. His achievement was acknowledged by Principal Jean Illingworth at the School Assembly. Congratulations, Kura.

**SCHOOL TRADE WORKSHOP** : The makeover in the Trade Workshop has been spectacular. The yawning space in the large shed has been fitted with an office, two art rooms and a workable array of benches. Storage space above those rooms has been provided in the process. Our artisan in residence, Roland Reck, has impressed us with his particular brand of workmanship. Roland was pleased with the interest that the school has invested in the Workshop area because the students show their enthusiasm by their constant attendance. There is an amazing amount of talent that is waiting ready for the proper exposure. In the making is an covered extension to the Tuckshop that will alleviate the crowded dining facility for the boarders.

**YOU CAN DO IT PROGRAMME** : Tekoa, Joe & Ross : Three of the staff were able to attend his conference held at the Cairns Colonial Club on Thursday, August 08. It had some very thought provoking materials and enthusiastic participants who gleamed over the success they had experienced in their schools.

**HOMEWORK** : Each afternoon the secondary students have been staying back until 4:00 p.m. to do some extra study. Teachers help to supervise and instruct.

**RUGBY UNION JERSEYS** : The new jerseys were paraded on the assembly by some very proud players. Tony Watt sponsored the Under 15 team and the excitement was tangible as the spectacular colours streamed into the undercover area. Thanks to the generosity of Mr. Watts. We hope the jerseys see their share of good play and the occasional wins.

