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School Rover

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HOPE (Hands of Peace) : All students committed prints of one of their hands onto a giant scroll of butcher paper which will traverse the globe in an initiative to promote peace on earth.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING : The Board members convened its monthly meeting at the School on Wednesday, March 19. Current members of the Board are :-

Right Reverend Bishop Arthur Malcolm
Bishop James Leftwich
Reverend Langston Nai
Mr. Tony Watt
Mr. Mark Cantwell
Mr. Sean Walsh
Mr. Darryl Martin
Lorene Noble

ESPLANADE SWIMMING POOL : Students joined in the local hype to celebrate the completion of the new Cairns Lagoon. Students from the Djarragun Middle School were able to besport themselves in the multi-million dollar feature built by the Cairns City Council.

NEW CONSTRUCTION : Advertized recently in the Cairns Post is the Tender for Proposed Buildings that will house the Senior School classes and Artroom at Djarragun. **Lonnie Anau** (Year 8) came across the advertisement in Saturday's paper. "I read about the Senior School Block. I noticed it because I saw the Djarragun symbol first so I started reading about it and then I mentioned it to my teacher at school."

The first sign of action (apart from the planning stage) was the arrival of dumpy levels and surveyors who promptly did the mandatory pegging of the proposed site.

Coincidental to the scene were two slightly disconsolate souls on disciplinary contracts showing obvious relief that their harvest territory for the notorious prickly sensitive weeds was being seriously reduced. One could feel almost sorry for the 'sensitive weeds'.

WOODCARVING : A current project on the Workshop bench is a woodcarved sign for the 'Administration' Block. A piece of silky oak that was just 'lying about' has been transformed into an impressive.

Already installed at the front of the school in front of the offices and near the soon to be operative ornamental rock pool and fountain. These have been the results of a group of the Senior Secondary boys who well deserve a giant sense of pride.



Over in the Workshop, other boys have helped in the construction and spraypainting of a huge mobile stage. By the end of the Term, it is envisaged that the juggernaut will roll out of the workshop into the light of day for the first time.

Ben Richard has been seen woodcarving another of the signs which will eventually grace one of the areas of the school.

INTERNATIONAL VISITOR : Erika Kuroshima : My name is Erika and I am from Japan. I am a Musashino music university student. I major in playing the piano. I am 22 years old. This is first time in the Cairns. I am having a good time in Cairns. I go back to Japan on March 19

Thursday. I don't want to go back to Japan because I like Cairns. Someday I want to live in Cairns. Thank you so much for a wonderful day. **Erika Kuroshima** (Mar. 18)

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF MILLIE DAU :

Yesterday afternoon, after school Lila and I went to Festival Fair to do shopping. We bought two whole chickens and one rice bag and we bought some junk food to eat. Then we walked to the taxi rank and caught a taxi home. When we got there at home, paid the taxi driver, and carried the shopping things inside to our house and then we sat down and watched television. Then we helped Lila's mum to cook supper it took a while to cook. After, when the food was cooked, we had our bath and our supper then we went into Lila's bedroom and tidied our beds and lay down and we were yarning ghost stories. While I was yarning the story Lila fell asleep. I went outside to have a drink of water and went back to bed. I woke up at 6 o'clock. I went outside I looked up to the sky. The sky was full of cloud and it was colourful and I saw the sun rise. Then I went inside. I had my bath and I had my breakfast. Then I went to the bus stop and waited for the bus and went to school I had fun at school I enjoyed making my work at school I had fun with my friends, we were listening to music. Then when the bell rang I came to Mr Ross classroom I like Mr Ross and Miss Lorraine how they teach me. Today was the great day for me...



AFTER-SCHOOL SUPERVISOR : James Buchanan has taken over the role previously held by Henry Adidi who has finished his employment at Djarragun last week. We thank Henry for his efforts at the school during his time here. James has some boxing history and is keen to introduce some elements of that discipline to the students.



PAUL PEARSON : Forming a notable reputation for himself in the Under 18 Kangaroo team during the weekends is one of our Prefects, **Paul Pearson**. Paul has attended Djarragun from Hopevale for the past two years.

SOCIAL JUSTICE PEACE BUILDING IN THE CLASSROOM : Monday, March 19, the Year 12 Class attended a one day youth forum exploring the nation of 'harmony' and 'peace-building' in our communities. There were students from Woree(6), TAS(4) but the biggest contingent came from Djarragun (21).

In mixed groups students brainstormed ideas to help build social justice and peace in the classroom and the community. Group[s] were then put to a test using their ideas. They were to present it in a creative and innovative way. There were some Oscar nomination performances from Nazie Lowah and "Edith Tom. Representatives from Cairns City Council and Youth Affairs were also on hand to take away suggestions back to their headquarters.

There were also session speakers from Cape York, NAISDA, Graft & Arts and Multicultural Affairs QLD (MAQ).

A fun day was had by all and Kura managed to munch his way through 12 sammies on the bus drive home.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON ASSEMBLY : One of the new initiatives at the school is the School Assembly just prior to the close of school for each week. This assembly will be conducted by the School Seniors and will feature Awards for the Week and also possible items by other students. This is a way of acknowledging the positive things that have been done and achieved by students and to finish off the week on a happy note.

SKI-ING ON LAKE TINAROO : For the very first time, our boarders enjoyed the opportunity to ski up on Lake Tinaroo on Saturday, March 22. Added to this was a nice barbecue which extended the long day's venture.

SCHOOL MENINGOCOCCAL C VACCINATION CLINIC

In the near future, some students in the school will be selected by the Department of Environmental Health which will be running a free meningococcal C vaccination clinic.

Meningococcal disease is a severe but uncommon infection that can cause blood poisoning and inflammation of a lining of the brain. On average, 100 cases are reported in Queensland each year.

The National Meningococcal C Vaccination Program aims to : (1) reduce the morbidity and mortality in the population at highest risk of this disease, and (2) induce long term immunity in those who are immunised.

The vaccinations will be conducted by a vaccination team, which consists of specially trained registered nurses and/or a medical practitioner. The meningococcal C vaccine is a small injection given to the child in the upper arm. A separate sterile syringe and needle is used for each child.

Information about the disease and a vaccination consent form will be sent home with your child. Please could you sign the consent form and return it back to the school. Please also return the consent form if you do not wish for your child to be vaccinated.

If a student presents to be vaccinated without a signed consent form, every attempt will be made to contact the parent/guardian. In the event that a parent/guardian is not available, the service provider will consider whether the student is capable of giving consent and understands the nature of the treatment. The student may then be vaccinated at the service provider's discretion.

Please note that vaccination for secondary school students is being offered as a school-based program in 2003. If your child is not vaccinated at school they can be vaccinated in 2005 at their general practitioner or other immunisation service.

For more information about the disease, vaccine or the national vaccination program you can visit the Queensland Health website at www.health.qld.gov.au and click on immunisation - information for the Public.

Zonal Coordinator : Nth Qld : Carmel Bannon

TODAY'S DANGERS : Yesterday I went football training at the Kangaroos Club and as I was training I noticed a syringe on the field about to get stepped on by a strange looking man who wasn't going to stand on it he was about to pick it up until he got distracted by his son and got his finger poked. Afterwards he went to the hospital and got medication for his swollen finger. Afterwards I heard he was a groundsman but now he's away every day because he's sick. **Peter Willmot**

FRIDAY NIGHT FEVER : For the not so faint of heart, the Seniors organized a disco at the Brother's Club Behan Street Clubhouse. By 8:00 o'clock, the beats were really swinging and about 130 bodies cavorted around the room.

After a little while, it was obvious that the overhead fans

had met their match and the heat inside became a little bit unbearable. The word 'sauna' was bandied about quite regularly and a steady flow of perspiring dancers escaped into the open air, realizing that they did need oxygen after all.

Mr. Brian Dowling drove one of the buses to Yarrabah to make a pickup for a contingent of students. Later, he made the return journey around the midnight hours.

It was an adequately organized function and those who attended maintained a sensible social atmosphere. Quite a few staff supervised a hassle-free event and commendations should go to the students who attended and supported the disco which was held to raise funds for the Senior Shirts at the end of the year. Congratulations also to the Seniors who then proceeded to do the required clean-up after the echoes of the last dance had faded out.



Featured recently in the Cairns Post was a photo of one of our students who added her handprint to a project that will extend around the world. Students will add the imprints of their hands on butcher paper to raise awareness of peace and unity. This is an initiative by a local artist from Stratford. **Brenda Stafford** is the student who got the attention of the local media.

CHURCH SERVICE : Boarders have the opportunity to attend services at the nearby Gordonvale Anglican Church. As a rule, all boarders attend unless sick or injured.

DE-NITTING PROGRAMME : One of the perennial problems in schools is attended to at Djarragun. If not, at least, catchy -sounding, 'Fried Lice' is the latest product to raise a few heads.

FOOTBALL (Rugby League) : Sore shoulders and sore legs are the usual signs that the Football season has begun. Last week, some of our 'warriors' threw themselves into a carnival out at Smithfield at the Ivanhoes Club grounds. **Nelson Dotoi** eventually had to retire as a result of a twisted ankle and **Vincent Wosomo** appears to have assumed the shoulder injuries of Brad Fidler. It is encouraging to watch the younger ones pit their strength against other worthy opponents. **Jack David** was not a wasted force on the field and enthusiastically tackled anything standing.

VISUAL ARTS

Year 8/9 Girls and Year 8/9 Boys in Middle School are studying printmaking this term, in particular screen printing. Students have completed exercises in shape, colour and proportion. They have made stencils from acetate and printed them, and have studied examples of silk-screen printing. Everyone had a giggle at an old print Mapa had made when he was in Year 12 at the old Emmanuel College. This has truly inspired the students as they are determined to produce a print equal to or better than Mapa's. They have all been preparing stencils and are ready to print with the silkscreens. The boys have very capably and enthusiastically assisted Miss Linda and Mapa to put new silk on the wooden frames. We are looking forward to seeing the students' finished products and the boys are especially keen to show off their finished products on T-shirts.

Linda McKeown

SOSE (Study of Society and Environment)

Miss Linda's and Miss Yeshim's Red and Purple Literacy groups in Middle School are presently joining together four lessons each week to study education past and present. They are making comparisons of education on the Islands about 70 years ago with their schooling in 2003. All students are presently writing their own illustrated book. Their stories are written from the point of view that they are now seventy years old and reminiscing about their school days here at Djarragun College. Various aspects of schooling that they are including in their book include: buildings, construction materials, uniform, computers, sport, timetabling, behaviour management and subjects studied. By all accounts the work is progressing well and should be completed by the end of term.

Linda McKeown

THE RETURN OF AUNTY HARRIET : Like all good (or bad) movies these days, we can always look forward to the sequels. Welcome back to the campus to **Aunty Harriet** who is again helping out in school and readjusting her adrenalin boosters once more.

DISCO : On Friday, there was a disco at Brothers League Club. After that Andrew Adidi rap danced for us. He told us that whoever did the best rap dance, he or she would win \$20. After that, when Jack and I went home we had to clean up the house because our little brother and sister had made a mess. **John Wigness**

PARENTAL NOTES : It is good to see that some parents have sent notes with their children explaining why uniforms have not been worn on a particular day.

We are encouraging ALL students to comply with the wearing of uniforms and we appreciate the support.

INTERNATIONAL VISITOR : **Takako Ishida** from Tokyo, visited the school for a day on Friday, March 28. She has been studying English for three weeks during her stay in Australia. I'm a student of Ferris University in Tokyo. I study Spanish and International Relations. There is a lot of nature in Cairns. It's a beautiful city. I want to stay here.

I wish I could come again. I had a great day!! **Takako**

DIRECTOR OF NON-STATE SCHOOLS : **Laurie Volger** visited Djarragun on Thursday, March 27 in his capacity of Director of the Department for Non-State Schools in Queensland. In our search for funds and continual support our school necessarily has to undergo scrutiny to assess our entitlements. We thank Mr. Volger for affording us his valuable time.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE -

The school is once again participating in the "Green & Healthy Schools" program run by the Keep Australia Beautiful Council. To help keep the school looking good, students will be assisting with tree planting, recycling and other tasks. Students and families are encouraged to extend these environmentally friendly activities into their homes and communities. We all have a part to play in looking after planet earth.

Middle school environmental science students will also be participating in a range of extra activities as part of the "Go Totally Wild with WWF" national schools conservation competition. The class is required to "help conserve biodiversity in the local environment" or "educate the community about biodiversity conservation". The school newsletter will keep everyone up to date on their progress.

Environmentally Friendly tip for the month - The local council recycles all glass, metal and plastic. It only takes a few moments to separate recyclable items from other rubbish. Give them a quick clean to remove any food scraps and place in the recycling bin for collection.

Mr Mark Crawford

COMPUTER ROOM : It's all systems go once again and Ludo Kuipers has probably more reasons to develop a smile rather than the accustomed grimace. Not without a massive amount of patience, Internet angst and technical dualities, has Ludo been able to restore normalcy to his important domain.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS : Thanks to all who contribute to our Newsletter. Of high importance is the contribution from the students themselves. This should be an increasing factor and it is encouraging that some budding writers could be flexing their journalistic predilections. Noone's complained of writers cramp yet.

**REMINDER : SCHOOL BREAKS FOR THE EASTER HOLIDAYS FOR STUDENTS ON WED. APRIL 09
TERM 2 RESUMES : TUESDAY, APRIL 29**