



ACN 063 049 669
Maher Road, P.O. Box 771, Gordonvale, North Queensland 4865
tel. (07) 4056 3555 fax: (07)4056 6111
admin@djarragun.qld.edu.au

School Rover

Issue 7 May 30 2003

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY
Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
FOR TEACHERS, COUNSELLORS,
YOUTH WORKERS**

3 day course
A\$675 + GST

JUNE 25, 26, 27

DJARRAGUN COLLEGE

presents

THE ROCK AND WATER SEMINAR
in conjunction with Freerk Ykema
(teacher and trainer from the Netherlands)
representing the
GADAKU INSTITUTE



INDIGENOUS SPORTS PROGRAMME - SPORT & RECREATION, QUEENSLAND : HOCKEY

Wes Ferns (based in Cairns) operates in an area that includes Thursday Island and Doomadgee : Wes visited the school again this year for a clinic with the students. He is involved in a programme which focusses on taking sports to students in remote areas.

Wes enjoys his job especially because it takes him to Cape York, Savannah and Cooktown areas as well as places like ours in the city. He has met students at Djarragun when he has worked in the remote areas. Students participated very well in his clinic conducted last Tuesday. Wes will be conducting other sessions for the next three weeks, promoting the sport amongst our youth, some of whom are showing natural ability .

During the first week of the holidays there will be a Carnival of Hockey at the North Cairns Hockey field (9 - 5, Monday > Friday) Morning Tea and Lunches will be provided and a farewell barbecue will be held on the last day. There will be general art and dancing included in the programme.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING (May 20) A meeting of the Board of Directors was held at the school. The next issue will feature our Board members **Bishop Arthur Malcolm, Bishop Jim Leftwich, Darryl Martin, David Cantwell, Jean Illingworth, Lorene Noble, Brent Kelly, Steve Pardey.**

YEAR 10 TINAROO CAMP : Year 10 went on a ten day camp at Tinaroo last week (May 13 - 22).

We left Tuesday , the 13th of May,. When we got to camp the first thing we did was to learn the rules and safety of the dam. Then the girls put their bag in the dorms and the boys as well but their dorm was on the other side to us. Then after that, we went outside to play some game. It was fun. After the game, we had lunch. The food was yummy. After lunch, we played a game getting to know others then another game. After that, we went outside to do the low rope. Oh boy! the weather was bad for us. It was raining. Yeah, we did a rope game (what we had to do is try and get everyone standing on the rope but one person kept

falling off. Then we had to start again. When we did it the second time, another person fell off so we started again. The third time, someone came up with an idea. Try girl, boy, girl ... and so on and when we did it, everyone got to the end and we made it. Then we did another rope but I forgot what it was called. The first person on was me and Molly but we didn't make it. The two persons who nearly made it to the end was Martara and Thynisa. The boys could not make it. Then we headed back to the dorm.

We had free time. We went for a bath to get ready for dinner. After dinner, we sat to talk about what we will need for the next day.

Wednesday, May 14 : we got up then had a shower, then breakfast. We packed everything we needed; we headed down to the lake where all the canoes were. We had a practice how to use the canoes. John showed how we went off course to Barrabadean. It took us so long to get to the other side but when we got there, we had lunch. We did a rescue like when the other person's boat got tipped over. The second boat had to lift the boat up but poor me, I missed out a day of camp because I got hurt so I had to come back. Poor me, I did not want to miss camp but I hope, next year, I won't hurt myself. **Karlas Baira**

AUDIOLOGIST : An expert from Australian Hearing, **Jana Fogarty**, addressed the staff last week and will be assisting the school in implementing a programme that will address the problems of hearing loss suffered by many of our indigenous students.

The school has already been aware of the difficulties which some students were experiencing and it has been something of a godsend to have experts in the field to identify the problems and offer some guidance towards possible solutions and future care.

Parents and guardians might be surprised to learn that the percentage of indigenous youth affected by hearing deficit reaches up towards the 80% mark. Clearly, something needs to be done to remove an ailment that can severely handicap the students' ability to learn.

ACCELERATED READING PROGRAMME : Books for this programme are now available for use and our School Computer technician, **Ludo Kuipers**, will have installed the programmes into the computers in the classrooms. This means that the students will be able to apply themselves fully to the system.

COMPUTER ROOM : What a spectacular array of iMacs that **Ludo Kuipers** has eventually installed in the Computer Room. Not without some teething problems (perhaps symptomatic of the Macs)- [only joking, of course], Ludo seems to have put our students at the cutting edge of the computer world. A note of thanks is not out of place for Ludo's perseverance and IT patience.

XPATA PROGRAMME : Whitfield State School hosted a seminar on this programme which a number of the Djarragun staff attended last Saturday, May 24. XPATA - The Lesson Planner promotes itself as an on-line planning tool. It facilitates best practice planning for the teaching profession, providing a clear process for the planning and delivery of the prescribed curriculum.

WRITERS' CRAMP

This section will feature any works of literary value which students have produced. Some work deserves wider exposure and maybe this is the prompt from which students can take advantage.

Mr. Paul Saves the Day by **Kymerley Noble**

One day, the Yarrabah Scouts went on a camp. When they went for a row down the river they didn't notice the big waterfall up ahead and they went right into it; but luckily, Mr. Paul came in his chopper and threw a rope to them so they could climb up.

After they all climbed into the chopper, they went back to the camp and had a small barbecue with Mr. Paul because he saved the day for the little Yarrabah Scouts.

Working for God by **Roseline Day**

Some men went canoeing one day and they were really good men. God loved them so much that He just couldn't wait for them to go to Heaven. So He asked them if they wanted to work for Him and they said, "Yes."

He told them to go canoeing. While they were canoeing, the leader pointed at the big waterfall and said, O K, everyone, let's pray before we go down the waterfall."

After they prayed, they went down the waterfall, never to be seen again. They were having a happy life in Heaven working for God.

Yesterday, Reuben Russell and Preston went to the football field for training. Our coach went to the Mission for something and Reuben went too and I waited at the field with the Under 14s for a little while until Uncle Darren comes back from the Mission. They were too long so I just went home after the training and played with my shanghai. I went up the creek for birds but there was nothing so I went up to the High School. **Guy Aden**

RIGBY BOOKS : (Monday, May 26) **Pamela Kirk** visited the school to conduct a workshop on the use of Rigby materials. The school already has a sizable supply of readers and related resources which will be put to good use in the future.

THE JOYS OF ADOLESCENCE **An article from Principals' Digests** **Volume 9 Number 10**

Researchers have found that parents who are firm but fair in the way they control their teenagers are more likely to keep them away from the dangers of drugs and crime. Teenagers who are closely supervised but allowed some say also tended to argue less with their parents. Overbearing or neglectful parents were more likely to have children who got into trouble. The least effective parents were those who made lots of threats but didn't carry them through, were inconsistent with punishments, and made arbitrary decisions about rules. Effective parents laid down clear ground rules about issues like going out and what time teenagers had to be home. They were also prepared to negotiate and discuss sanctions calmly.

Phases of adolescence

- * **Separation** - breaking away emotionally and physically from parents
- * **Rebellion** - finding their own style of dress and appearance, values and behaviour
- * **Friendships** - making close friendships with own gender and the n beginning romantic relationships
- * **Identity** - the next step after separation when teenagers assert themselves as individuals

Advice for parents of adolescents

- * Be yourself; stick to values that are important to you
- * Avoid blaming, shaming and name-calling
- * Try to find solutions rather than banging on about who's to blame
- * Admit you are wrong or sorry when you are
- * Hugs can help when you can't find the words
- * Don't allow fear and anxiety to dominate reactions
- * Be consistent when you can
- * Say no when you mean no
- * Seek understanding rather than go on the attack
- * Keep communications open
- * Take time out to calm down
- * Suggest another adult who can talk things through with a difficult teenager
- * Avoid punishments that go on forever
- * Love them and show your love



MS LINDA BIANCOTTI : After a couple of years service to the school, Ms Linda has decided to retire from the rigours of the Tuckshop routine. We thank her for all the effort put into a demanding and sometimes thankless duty placating the gastronomic whims. Linda wrote a brief note dated 19/05/03 :

To Teachers, Aides & Groundcrew,
It is with a sad and heavy heart that I have to say, "Goodbye" to you all.

Thank you for the memories I have of you guys in my almost two and a half years with Djarragun College. These I will cherish.

May god bless you all. You will be thought of often.

Love and regards. **Linda Biancotti**

DORMITORY GOSSIP

Ray Noah reports on a visit from local parishioners :
Last night, the people from All Saints come to us and we had dinner together at the undercover area. After that, we has a singsong and then the people wanted us to sing our Island songs. Mr. Keneti sang his song from Auckland. When Mr. Keneti was finished, we closed our prayer then all the boys stacked all the chairs and stools back where they came from. Then we went back to the Boarding House.



FROZEN CUPS : Congratulations on the efforts of **Ms Fay Sangster's** class which have been enterprising enough to try its luck fundraising towards their School Camp in June. Frozen Cups have hit the market (and a few tummies) during the Lunch Break each day. Sellers and buyers negotiate a keen trade (albeit guarded from the finger of GST)

SCHOOL DISCO : (Friday, May 23) On Friday, our school made a disco at Graft'n Arts. It was fun to see all of my friends who were there. Anyway, I enjoyed dancing with my cousin. Her name is **Mona Gibas**. While we were dancing, **Ms Yeshim** came up to us and started dancing with us. That was the wonderful time I ever had. Then after the disco, we went back home. We caught a taxi to Anderson Street. At Flora's house I had a sleepover.
Millie Dau

SOFTBALL The Years 7, 8 and 9 girls with **Ms Yeshim, Ms Lorraine and Ms Gloria** enjoyed a great afternoon of softball when they divided into three teams on Wednesday, May 28. A couple of the girls scored home runs. They played against each other down at Johnson Park in Gordonvale. It was a lot of fun and laughs. It was a very good opportunity for the girls to discover skills in hitting and catching that they didn't know that they had. It was a super time when the girls really participated and cooperated with each other in friendly sportsmanship. We shall do it all over again in a couple of weeks time.

Congratulations to **Helen Billy** who showed great leadership. The 'Big Hit' Award goes to **Karen Noah**. The two **Daisies (Noah & Dau)** popped up all over the field. **Peah Tabuai** made a terrific home run - the first one; **Simone Wilson** (who was still nursing a sore foot from Cross Country in the morning) made a magnificent effort in participation by recording the scores. **Jilara Rodgers & Maureen Cedric** participated really well in the field while **Claudette Barlow** did the pitching in the first game for her first time.

HOT PRESS !!!

The secret has reached Home Security at Djarragun from one of the CHAOS agents that Ms Gloria's name is recorded in some upper level Softball arenas, some are suggesting status such as District and State League
Ms Lorraine



MUSIC IN THE AIR

It's difficult not to notice the lunch break session filled heavily with musical notes. Something is happening to draw the human beehive together outside of Mr. Grace's room where bodies can cram along the wall two or three

deep like an overgrown fungus clinging to the latticework.

Well-secrated in the makeshift music chamber, our future rockers or rapsters are in the process of fine-tuning the first songs of their repertoire. **Maia Akiba** emerges every now and then to wallow in the esteem from a ready-made audience. Other notable potentials are **Isaiah Tom, George Mara & Geoffrey Luke Jack**. These are our Young Guns in the Music Arena and a couple of months has already shown appreciable progress with their coordination. Full credit to Mr. **John Grace** who dedicates much of his lunch hours towards the band.

We haven't heard any name for the band just yet but like all well-kept secrets, it's bound to leak out eventually.

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Students in the Middle School have the opportunity to attend this production -

FRIDAY, JUNE 06, 2003
ST. MARY'S COLLEGE
STUDENTS PERFORM

'THE WORLD'

COST : \$1.50
CAIRNS CIVIC THEATRE

PARENT/TEACHER MEETINGS
 will be conducted at Raintrees Tavern on
Sunday, June 01 from 2:00 - 5:30 p.m.
PLEASE FEEL WELCOME TO ATTEND

Mr. Tekoa and a band of helpers are taking the mowing a bit seriously:
 later, someone discovered it was a rotary hoe

