

At a recent School assembly, Ms Fidow gave credit to Benjamin for attempting the test earlier during the year and despite being unsuccessful on that occasion, applied himself throughout the rest of the year and achieved a very deserved successful result.

GEDEM

1. I've heard of people 'biting the dust' but recently someone bit the ice at skating and lost a tooth.
2. Two staff members harvesting coconut leaves were reported recently being harassed by cattle.

LITERACY AND NUMERACY

What Parents can do

Parents' and carers' support and encouragement are vital to their child's education. There are everyday ways that parents can help their children improve their literacy and numeracy skills. Parents can

- * draw attention to the literacy and numeracy that happens in daily life
- * be positive about learning mathematics
- * read with their child - from books and magazines to maps and timetables
- * encourage their child to talk about their experiences
- * value books and learning
- * encourage their child to use the library for pleasure as well as to find information
- * stay in touch with their child's school and school activities - at both primary and secondary school
- * focus on literacy and numeracy development in talks with classroom teachers
- * be positive about school and learning.

SKATING ON ICE : For two Monday afternoons, the students from the Middle School have slid across the rink at Skate World. While inelegance might have been the governing term, there were signs and promises of a few swans on the frozen lake. Maybe their skateboarding skills were able to spill over to the ice rink.

YARRABAH EXCURSION : The Upper Primary classes spent the day over the range at Yarrabah on Friday, November 21.

MARINE STINGERS : November 24 - The students had the opportunity to have a presentation by **Glenda Seymour**, a representative from James Cook University about the dangers of Australian marine stingers. Now that the season is upon us, swimming can be a hazardous activity if the necessary care isn't taken. Glenda advised about the small jellyfish which can still get through the stinger nets. One person had died this year from suffering stings across the body and going into shock.

ROCK AND WATER PROGRAMME : A pupil-free day was observed on Friday, November 14 and the staff settled into a neat 'reviver' session with the originator of the Rock and Water programme, Freerk Ykema. If the name stuns you - it's all the way from the Netherlands. It is always an experience to gather thoughts and words

from the Master's voice. 'Thank you' to Freerk for adding us to his list for a one day visit during his busy schedule. Staff members were able to recogitate upon events and provide anecdotes of successes and perceived failures. Probably most invigorating is the enthusiasm which Freerk generates as an obvious extension of himself.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PICNIC DAY : For the end of Term, the Middle School changed plans to visit Mullyden on the Mulgrave River because of the massive pall of smoke that has smothered the region in the past few days. Djarragun hill had been smouldering for two days and this spread to the contingent hills and ranges. The picnic day was then spent at Lake Placid.



AASPA COMMITTEE : Last week, Mrs. **Hahine McCaskill** visited the school to meet the ASSPA Committee. Hahine outlined the ways for proper administration for the ASSPA funds. Our thanks for the assistance during the year and the friendly negotiations over this important area of funding.

WELCOME : Recently, Ms **Gladys Atkins** revisited Djarragun where she had been working until the end of last year. Gladys is now living and working in Sydney and was very happy to inform us that another little 'Atkins' (albeit a New South Welshperson) is presently on the way. Congratulations and thanks for the kind visit.

END OF TERM PREPARATIONS : Almost without saying, the tempo around the school has reached fever pitch. Practices for the Presentation Day have been notched into the programme and busy hands and

fingers have been seen moulding, sewing, shaping, hammering, attaching, printing, advising and directing. Dress rehearsals were safely negotiated and order plied into a neat programme for the Presentation Day. The Kup Mari pit was prepared and the decorations hauled into place. A festive look pervades the property with the feeling of anticipation hanging in the air.

SENIOR GRADUATION Djarragun College at Brothers League Club on Friday, November 28



SEASON'S GREETINGS

*Warmest regards and best
wishes for a happy and safe
Christmas
and a
prosperous New Year.*

From all of us at Djarragun
