



DJARRAGUN COLLEGE

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School Rover

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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"If you can read this, thank a teacher."

Anonymous teacher

LORETO COLLEGE NORMANHURST

Two 80-strong contingents of Year 9 girls from Sydney visited Djarragun to participate in a programme of shared cultural and social interaction. This is the second time that both colleges have entered into this crafted initiative towards cultural exchange. The Loreto College girls undertook a busy

schedule while they were up here in the North. Their trips included Undara Caves, the Atherton Tableland, Frankland Islands visit and the Cairns and environs. On the two trips with the respective groups, some Djarragun teachers and students were invited as guests.



A very full programme at Djarragun engaged the Loreto girls with the local students in a round robin series of activities which included spear-throwing, weaving, art, music, sports, billy tea and damper, Multi Media, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander dancing and hairdressing.



Above : Selma Woosup; Rittia Tapim; Larissa Pollard; Oliphanu Elisala get a head start in the salon



Sophie Billy (second from right) gives out the certificates to winners of the different activities
(Right top: Damper and Billy Tea emerge from the smoke and haze: Nadia Anau, Pamela Aruba; Laurianna Baira, Ruby Atu)



(Above) "You raise me Up" harmonize two songbirds from Loreto College)

(Left : Weaving their own small web of intrigue, this scrum sets about fashioning coconut leaves into traditional artefacts.



ABORIGINAL DANCE TROUPE

In our latest performance, we introduced our girls dance group. **Ms Jade** and I were moved as we watched our girls perform with such grace, elegance and pride. We are now extending our repertoire to dances that the students themselves have created. The boys are polishing their 'Tracker Dance' while the girls are putting their final touches on the 'Rain Dance'.



A thank you in advance to the team in the Shed whom we will be asking to turn their hands to spear, boomerang and clapstick making and thank you to **Ms Mbongeleni Chigeza** who has already bought the material to make many more laplaps.

Francesca Shankaran

The Aboriginal Dance Group has grown from a group of about 6 dedicated and talented Middle School and Senior students to approximately 20 students within a month. We welcomed 5 young Primary boys who stole the show with their shake-a-leg. The combination of our older boys leading our younger performers was received with gusto. The overall enthusiasm of the dancers was reflected in the number of broken clap sticks and boomerangs. The dance group agrees that this is a definite sign of a good performance.





MR. JOHN CHAN

While the Amazon is suffering the toll of substantial portions of its magnificent jungle, Djarragun is reversing the process. Another pair of green thumbs has been progressively establishing the groundwork for our future canopy.

Welcome to Mr. John who presents as a Peter Pan of our campus nursery.

On any given day, he is apt to materialize with an armful of plants or coils of garden hose slung across the shoulder. Moments later he appears from a different direction extending the spoils of a perfumed magnolia to those who know enough to be amazed. Obviously, embedded in a passion for horticulture, he has our plants poised and ready for the invocation of Spring. Deep layers of mulch mattress the beds and cropped shrubs brood provocatively pointing accusatory stubs devoid of the slightest dignity of the odd fig leaf or two.

Not to forget in our ambling is one of our other perennials, **Mr. Laupisi**, who many times has been seen transporting enough foliage to urge Macbeth to take a second look.

Many are heard who praise the order of the gardens and environs. Let's hope that those words reach the deserving ears.

JACK RUSSELL :

Welcome to our newly appointed Business Manager who has been thrown headlong into the frenetic arena of the Administration Block.

The Djarragun College Certified Agreement is one of the first tasks that will occupy his waking hours. A thumbnail sketch in his own words reveals some of his background from which we are bound to benefit -

"I'm a past student of All Souls and St Gabriel's School, in the days when socks were pulled high and ties were straight.

I worked as an electrician in the Northern Territory for a number of years; Underground in the mines around Tennant Creek (5:30 am to 5:30pm 6 days a week) on Groote Eylandt (mostly fishing and golf really) and in Darwin - while attending University (well, you have to eat).

After University, I established my own business manufacturing artist's paints. I sold the business in 2003 and got a job working for the Commonwealth Government, establishing Centrelink offices and systems in remote communities in the first instance but from there I moved onto business analysis, strategic cost management and performance improvement (based in Sydney).

Outside of work I like to create, so it's anything like painting and drawing, woodwork, gardening, etc. If only I had the time!"



SEWING : Congratulations to the girls in **Ms Mbongeleni Chigeza's** sewing group who did so well with their creations in the All Saints Show held by the Anglican Church, Gordonvale. This is the first time that Djarragun has put entries into this section and, so to speak, had it all sewn up. Cushion covers, aprons, pillow slips and pencil case, not to mention a pair of French knickers !!

Congratulations to all girls who submitted an entry - **Lena De Jersey, Francesca Daphney, Breanna Yeatman, Flora Walit, Daisy Namai, Tanesha Noble, Kyra Sammons & Michelle Kynuna.**

RESULTS

Flora Walit	1st prize	pillow slip
Daisy Namai	2nd prize	pillow slip
Breanna Yeatman	1st prize	apron
Lena De Jersey	Highly Commended	for her pencil case
Tanesha Noble	Highly Commended	for her cushion cover

DC DOG

Making the first public appearance recently is the school mascot for the Sport Academy, DC DOG

This colourful canine will grace the paddock to egg on our sporting heroes of the future.



PRIMARY MATHS FEST

Students in Upper Primary attended another session of Maths Fest which is held at the Cairns College of TAFE. Student teachers have the opportunity to prepare activities and put themselves to the test in front of small groups. This is the fourth year that the programme has been conducted. Students enjoyed the experience and the chance to get a peek at a larger educational facility in the city.