

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them. J.F. Kennedy



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# School Rover

## BACK ON TRACK IS BACK

This term saw the return of Back on Track - a work readiness program. This program is designed to prepare the students for entry into the workforce, create a work ethic, improve social and life skills and promote confidence to take on the challenges that the young men will encounter beyond Djarragun.

The six young men who joined the team this term are **Allen Ambrym, Wade Waters, Tinus David, Titus Tamwoy, Wayne Costello & Jordal Bana.**



These students have been engaged in some yard maintenance and small repair jobs for the Primary School, as well as the restoration of an old Ford

motor vehicle which one of the boys hopes to be able to call his own one day.

The attendance for this team is getting better and is at about 75% at the moment. I'm pleased with the improvement of the group, and the bonding that is starting to develop between them. They still struggle with attitude problems, and the inability to follow instructions but this will change.



So if you are lucky enough to see these young men in high visibility green shirts make sure you say "Hi".



Fluorescent green is the 'cool' look for Djarragun's 'men at work' but it's more alarming when added a renovated armoured vehicle!!

## MECHANICS

The Cert I and II Mechanic students are busy servicing all the cars and buses that are going to Weipa and have a big task ahead, checking brakes, oil and fluid as well as lighting and tyres.

Also, we are proud to see **Alex Namai** is close to achieving his Certificate II and has shown a great attitude towards his work and has ventured another step closer to workplace employment.



Good on you, Alex.

Mr. Mathew Curtis



## hairRythmics

Ms **Estelle Nielsen** is deservedly proud of the progress that continues to take place in the College Salon. Launching off as an enterprise in its own right, hairRhythmic suffers the same ordeals as any other business. The workers need the necessary skills and training and a ready clientele has to be in steady supply.

It seems that 'cutbacks' have hit the staff in the Information Technology faculty but its grooming has taken the literal 'falling out' of hair. As a result, the team has assumed a sleek streamlined appearance to match the new silver computers that glint alluringly in the Mac Lab.

Ms Estelle expressed her gratitude to clients - "Term I saw the Cert III girls cutting away madly on the fantastic Djarragun gentlemen staff. I was proud to see the fabulous IT men sporting great looking *hairRythmics* styles . Even our gardener has been patient and supportive, lured away from his flowers to assist the girls by being a cooperative customer.

Thanks to **Mr. Mike Tupper, Mr. Mirko Brokamp, Mr. Adam Lee, Mr. Frank van Pamelan, Mr. Ludo Kuipers, Mr. John Chan** and **Mr. Nico Drijver**.

"It takes a bit longer for these students to cut the hair and I know it can be frustrating BUT without your generous time and patience, the girls would never get the opportunity to work on live models often enough to gain the hours needed to pass their required competencies. Thanks, guys. You are all CHAMPIONS."

The students were also doing ladies' hair cuts and a BIG THANK YOU goes to **Ms Shandy**. Time was a problem again BUT we thought her hair looked the best ever . Please support the Salon and students by giving them a go. They are under constant supervision and cannot achieve their dreams without your help.

Perming was also a feature of term 1 techniques and wind patterns have been practiced and their skills are really advancing. **Tonya Ludwick** was lucky to have a perm client from Learning Support . This was great and we would like to thank **Ms Felicity** for giving Tonya the chance to complete her first chemical Curl service. Your hair is looking so soft and natural. If you know anyone else who would like a perm please contact us on Ext. 118 at the College.

Four students completed the competency Apply The Principles of Hairdressing Science. They are well into cutting and colouring and term 2 should see a few more competencies completed.

Certificate III students have 4 committed TAVE students and 1 year 12 student (Laura) who was doing fantastic. Unfortunately we lost 2 but they will hopefully return.

## Racks are all the Rage.

This term as part of Certificate I in furnishing, students are required to make a C.D. rack.

They took to this project with great enthusiasm and have completed a few different kinds, adding their own personal touches.

**Tinus David, Patrick Atu & Willy Wosomo** emerged with worthwhile products to add to their list of creations. **Patrick Atu** also branched off on his own initiative and produced a coffee table for future home brews.

## CONSTRUCTION

The V.E.T. Students involved in Certificate I in Construction have been completing the last few steps in assembling the 2 door cupboards they have been making. This has been a huge task as they have made all the components from scratch. The end product has been very pleasing and they have produced some good quality cupboards for the school.



These students are also about to sit for assessment on one of their competencies that requires them to read and interpret plans. The theory lessons leading up

to this look promising and the students have shown good a understanding of the topic.

Congratulations to **Willy Wosomo, James Wosomo, Dannah Auda and Mark Akiba** for coming out with the woodwork.



Welcome to Mr. **Tony Burt**, creative artist of various multi-media kinds who was visiting Djarragun this week. He worked with some special music students on sequencing and recording. Taking advantage of his expertise, our up and coming stars in the band industry, **Fredson Akiba** and **Jason Akiba** absorb a few tips to hone their skills.



## CERTIFICATE 1 - IT

(Students to complete Certificate 1 in IT)

Over the next two weeks Senior students are involved in catch-up VET IT days to complete any outstanding units in Certificate 1 in IT. At present, 13 students have already completed their Cert 1 which adds 2 points towards their QCE.

Year 12 students spent Tuesday in the Mac Lab finishing assessments while Year 11 students will spend next Thursday for their catch-up day.

Well done to those students who have now completed the Cert 1 and are working towards Certificate 2.

<b>Vivian Baker</b>	<b>Sibara Baragud</b>	<b>Branxton Dick</b>
<b>Grayson Hart</b>	<b>Melody Kabai</b>	<b>Carmille Pearson</b>
<b>Edie Peter</b>	<b>Craig Waldon</b>	<b>Daniella Ware</b>
<b>Judith Carney</b>	<b>Tiaella Nona</b>	<b>Natalie Morseu</b>

by Mr. **Tony Mogan**



Some of the health fanatics (above) who don't look like they've had a sick day in their whole lives.

## HEALTH CENTRE

**Dr Andrew Korinihona** and Nurse **Lyndell** came to the school from Gordonvale Family Medical Centre and vaccinated 40 boarding students for Influenza/Swine Flu.

**Queensland Health** came to deliver the 2<sup>nd</sup> Dose of HPV and caught up on students who were absent on the first round of immunizations - 28 students were vaccinated.

**Sr. Margie Allen**

## ASTEROIDS STRIKE THE PYRAMID

Mr. **Gio Douven** challenged his class to tackle the slopes of the Gordonvale Pyramid. The Asteroids class took a couple of hours to reach the summit during the full day excursion which was an initiative to build group cohesion and peer support.

Aptly named for their flashing display of latent energy, the Asteroids had ready supply of testosterone to energize and adrenalin packs for calming down. **Mr. Gio** confessed that the leaders of the pack could travel with light year odometers whilst those still hampered by gravity and muscle fatigue had to pace progress with an eye more to conservation of energy and the will to survive.

The day endowed an eeriness of cloud cover which descended upon and swirled around the contours of the mountain. Picnic at Hanging Rock was here to be re-enacted except it wasn't Valentine's Day - and the children all came back, as well as the teacher!!

Traces of an ANZAC legend filtered through as **Eric Whap**, humbled by an ankle injury, was tenderly cradled down the slope by a ready team of makeshift llamas comprised of classmates with alpaca dispositions.



(above) **Eric Whap** suffered the effects of karma after blessing water fit for a Saint to drink.

**Wayne Stafford** was on the spot to report -

“**Eric Whap** decided to sit on a rock with water still running down. He was going to drink the water and **Saint Sagigi** wanted some as well. Saint said that the water was poisoned and slapped Eric on the head because of the ‘poisoned’ water. It was so funny.

When we got to the top it was cold and foggy but we could see some vehicles on the highway below. **Jack Morrisson** found an army box and thought it was a treasure chest from the World Treasure Hunt. In the box were toys. We left it there. It has an instruction manual for the players in the game for what they had to do next.

This was my first time climbing up the Pyramid. Next year, I might go again. I learned that we had to work as a team and help each other as we were going up the hill.”



**Jack Morrison** was captured on one instance, stepping out onto Cloud 9 in an impromptu demonstration of the mystical journey that was being undertaken up the shrouded mountain side. If the epic was to unfold in Biblical parallel, a set of rules will have condensed from the fog -what we might call the ‘Gio-logue’.

## WRITER'S CRAMP

**Congratulations to these two boys who have been given credit by their teacher for showing appreciable improvement in their writing efforts.**

I have a pet dog. His name is Max. Where-ever I go, Max follows me. When I run around, Max chases me around the house.

He loves to play all day long with anyone who comes around my house. One of my other dogs is named Tiger. Someone killed it. He was a playing dog and we found him in the bush dead.

Then I got a puppy. I teach him tricks and anything. When my brother comes home from school, the puppy plays with my brother all day long.  
**Jamie Benjamin**

I have two dogs and their names are Chucky and Tom. They are the best dogs ever because I like them. Chucky almost died because he ate a toad in the pond and my Dad fixed him with milk medicine. **David Tafili**

**A few students in the Senior School have impressed their teacher, Ms Georgie Drijver with their efforts in poecy.**

12B are buzzing in anticipation of the Senior Conference. Since finding out the topic for this year's conference is HOPE, the ideas have been flying around about what type of Multimedia presentation to do. To get in the mood and fully understand what the term HOPE means to each student, we wrote poems about what HOPE means to us as individuals. Below are some samples of 12B HOPE POETRY.....

By **Delita Aruba** 12B

### **If hope could be a colour**

It would be blue  
as beautiful as the sky  
If hope could be a taste  
It would taste just like sugar candy  
If hope could be a smell  
It would be Kup Mari Turtle – Traditional way  
If hope could be a sound  
It would be Cousin and Brothers singing Island songs  
If hope could be a feeling  
It would be happy all the time  
If hope could be an animal  
It would be a flying fox flying in the noontime heading North

This year I hope all year 12 students will graduate successfully from Djarragun College

For the future I hope that everything in my life will be good!

What a week it has been! The 11B students completed work on Metaphors, Personification, Rhyme, Rhythm and Alliteration. The classes were packed with writing, reading and fun games. Below are some poems for your enjoyment.

### **THE FLOWER**

It looks  
As pretty as a rainbow  
Alone  
Just sitting in a beautiful vase  
The flower sings a romantic song  
At the dinner table

By **Arron Miller**

### **THE FOOTBALL**

The football flies fast  
Like a running river  
Its smile floats across  
The blue sky  
It dances through the air  
Like a bird  
"You can catch it,  
GO FOR IT!"

By **Arthur Dau**

### **THE RIVER**

The river runs alone  
It dies slowly  
Wishing people around  
Swimming in it to  
Help make it happy  
To bring back the memories  
It had in the past  
As it dies alone  
Unhappy without memories for the future

By **Ronjamin Mosby**

It's an exciting term ahead for 12B. The students are working hard preparing a Multimedia Presentation about the Challenges and Opportunities senior students have at Djarragun College. They look forward to sharing the finished products with the senior school.

11B students are exploring different types of poems and songs. This week we worked with similes. Below are samples of Simile Poems written by students.

### **Emu and Shark**

The emu runs fast  
Like a steam train in a desert place  
The shark swims as fast  
As a rocket to the moon  
The emu's feet are like GIANT'S hands  
Banging on the table in an angry way  
The shark slides on the bottom of the floor  
Like a snake looking for food

By **Carmen Noah**

### **The Butterfly and the Bird**

The butterfly is as beautiful  
As a rose  
The bird is as colourful as  
A rainbow  
The butterfly's wings flutter  
Like a feather in the wind  
The bird looks for food like a hunter in the forest  
The butterfly comes out of its cocoon  
It looks like a wet tissue in the rain  
After its wings dry  
It will fly away  
Looking for flowers in someone's  
Garden

By **Kayleen Yeatman**

### **The Turtle and the Kangaroo**

The turtle is graceful like  
A dancer on the stage  
The kangaroo is jumpy like  
A jumping spider  
The turtle's shell is hard like concrete under the ground  
The kangaroo's skin is soft like sweet fairy floss

The turtle lives in a warm ocean  
It swims like a gliding plane in a bright blue sky  
Looking for jellyfish to eat in a quiet place  
The turtle is very sleepy like a bear after  
Hibernation

by **Roselyn Billy**



### CEO VISITORS

Thursday provided us with one of the most amazing experiences of our trip. Remote Housing and Djarragun Enterprises introduced us to an incredible group of young men. Our photographers went off the scale and Mick came into his own here with his kind of people!!!

BUT nothing could prepare us for almost 600 kids singing the National Anthem at Djarragun College. Met by Jean and the school prefects, all dressed in red, we were escorted to the stadium. Tears flowed everywhere. Then these turned to smiles as we enjoyed dance group after dance group. Leigh summed it up beautifully and left the kids with a great message. The tour of the school just continued to amaze - agriculture, engineering, carpentry, hospitality and hairdressing complemented the academic stream in the school. Jean and the prefects joined us at the Wilderness Centre to meet potential Indigenous Navy recruits.

Inspiration, success, hope and opportunity dominated our last day. I can say no more!!!

Thank you all for the contribution you made as individuals and ultimately as a small community of like minded leaders.

Regards  
Karyn

Karyn Baylis  
Chief Executive  
Indigenous Enterprise Partnerships

The letter of appreciation above was sent by Ms **Karyn Baylis** who was one of the visiting VIPs for the day. The others included **Geoff Dixon** (Tourism Australia), Ms **Narelle Hooper** & Ms **Jessica Hromas** (Australian Financial Review), Mr. **Tony Berg**, Mr. **Nick Power** (BMD Constructions) and the Chairman of QANTAS Mr. **Leigh Clifford** and his wife, Ms **Sue Clifford**.

Congratulations to students who rose to the occasion yet again accommodating special visitors and treating them to an experience of candour and charm.



There was nowhere near 600 voices but one could be well justified in thinking that the volume suggested it.

As ever, the frontline Asteroids screamed to the heavens and raised a hell of their own.



A tidy cohort of Preschoolers settled neatly on square of carpet added innocence to the assembly. The delight of each was immediately evident and fortunately also captured on film. None would have been even remotely aware that an august committee was being entertained. The panoply was a feast for their eyes alone.



The Aboriginal Dance troupe really fired on all pistons and the Mosquito Dance intimidated the repulse of the dengue variety because it ventured into nothing less than fever pitch. **Israel Sales** was at his didgeridoo best and the comfortable follow-up by **Edward Cooktown** gives ready proof of the depth of talent to the didg factor.



The Wangetti Dance group made its debut and stamped currency to further talent and showmanship. Hula girls hu-la-la-ed almost enough for the flowers to fall off the printed skirts. Unabashedly, the transfer of body shudders was taken on by the Hip Hopsters who frustrated their bodies with episodic convulsion. **Wayne Stafford** doesn't seem to spend too much time on the ground. His shoes appear to be installed with the air cushion of a hovercraft.



The Paddle Dance from Boigu Island released the talents of the up and coming brigade - the likes of **Demetrious Whap** and **Zachariah Gibuma**. Zachariah displayed a distinct energy and precision in his movements. Both boys are champions of style.



Uncle Coppel Gibuma & Aunty Stella Mara strike up the music for the dancers

It's in for young and old - girls' team - Destiny under the wing of **Vanessa Auda**

Mixed Island boys team - ready for anything - dance Eastern & Central

**Aunty Stella & Destiny Bubner** (left)

Competent speaker with or without the microphone, **Naomi Cooktown** greets the visitors to Djarragun

Wangetti didgeridoo player (below) **Simeon Oui** from Palm Island

The range of acts incorporated a cultural carousel. Boys and girls threw themselves into the spirit of the event with magnificent ease and composure. It is hardly any surprise that onlookers would be impressed by a feast to taunt the senses. It was magnified by the compact programme and the exquisite variety of movement, colour and vigour.

It almost goes without saying that the Djarragun students have excelled yet again in a manner that words do not adequately satisfy description. It's just as well that the pictures give a better glimpse of what a spectacular show that the visitors were given to crowd their memories.



**CONGRATULATIONS, STUDENTS !**

## NAPLAN TESTS

(National Assessment Programme Literacy and Numeracy)  
Students in Years 3,5,7 & 9 had a busy schedule spread across three days for the National Assessment scheme.



Djarragun students have been poised and ready for the tests and hopefully, the efforts to upbeat their abilities with reading, writing and arithmetic will be evident in the overall results.



Because it is almost entirely an indigenous school, it automatically draws close scrutiny from many sectors of society. Indigenous education is a target area. Both sides of the political fence is eager to exorcize the dilemma which finds the indigenous status in education and employment a sorry indictment upon prior and current managements.



Irrespective of the forms, styles and strategies with which schools and departments are dispensing education, engagement, or the lack of it, is the telltale sign to failure.

It is always going to be a sad disclosure that such national tests are likely to indicate what students don't know rather than what they do know. Selectivity creates 'killing fields' and the casualties subsequently proliferate queues on the unemployment and social security lines.



Djarragun students, hopefully, are being directed away from the perceived indolence of marginalized groups and communities. The vibrance of the school attracts a range of talented students who, despite their difficulties with mainstream English language, engage in cultural pursuits as a natural progression. At the exit end of their education, each can aspire to meaningful employment and apprenticeship options.



Hospitality students (above) host recent guests at the Coffee shop

The lower school sectors really target the literacy and numeracy skills in a defiant move against any current malaise. In fact, right throughout the College, classes are specifically designed to raise the levels of participation and competency in the two main educational disciplines.

One of the factors which hinders the road to recovery for our students is a hapless nonchalance. The indulgence in automation and high technology in the field of virtual reality has reduced personal



integrity in the basics to a non-essential. Students are largely removed from physical hands-on control because many of their experiences are dependent upon, and the result of remote control engagement. Students should be pitied for undertaking an arduous examination which presupposes a peculiar world view and a stringent set of life experiences calamitously foreign to them. Such students are not being tested but more to the point, de-tested.

A cursory glance at the Year 9 reading material reveals a staggering compendium of English text that would beggar an entrant to University. The problems are better defined as those of translation rather than interpretation. It becomes as deceptive as changing the power base in arithmetic.

It is a sad reflection by the students when 'hard and stressful', 'nervous', 'lost', 'hard and difficult', 'slack and bored' are predominant opinions expressed in the aftermath of a test programme which, for all intents and purposes, was geared to gauge levels of competency.

The discriminatory aspects of text include references to 'Cagney-style middle parting'. What indigenous student in Year 9 will have any notion of the character or his peculiar hair style? A list of European names amputates the rest of the body, of society. It is ironical that the author of 'The Photo' specifies 'a joke with a time fuse' and the same can be observed about the article within the framework of this test instrument.

Congratulations, Djarragun students, for 'having a go' against the greatest of odds even though the final analysis will indicate that it was never a 'fair' one.