

"Speech is often repented,
silence never." - Danish Proverb



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School Rover



HAIRDRESSING HEADY STARTS

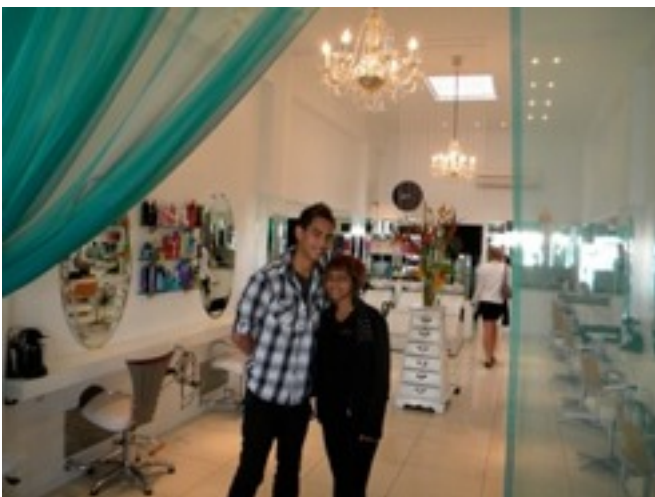
Tonya Ludwick and Jamie Patterson are happily applying their skills under the twinkling chandeliers of a salon in operation. Glamour and glitz are part and parcel of each day and when the curtains are drawn apart, it's easy to see why their smiles could last throughout the whole day. Congratulations to both for persisting with their career choices - and doing so well in their progress.



YOU CAN'T STOP THE MUSIC

Four students received certificates acknowledging completion of Cert I in music. As this is a VET subject they do over and above their regular VET subject. They have had to spend time outside school hours to complete the competencies. Well done, **Tim China, Eliza Jackonia, Jordal Bana & Fredson Akiba**.

As **Fredson Akiba** and **Tim China** are in Year 11, they have now moved on to Certificate II in Music, which they should achieve by the end of 2011. **Tim** and **Fredson** recently performed at a Cape York Partnerships function as a paid gig.



SPORTS SCENE

To refer to any member of the Sports Team as 'Star of the week' does not adequately encapsulate the hard work that goes into making the Djarragun HPE & Sports Dept one of the most fulfilling places to work in the school.

Firstly, as most athletes would know, being part of what makes a successful team is what drives each individual in HPE/Sports to succeed. This success is part of a collective whole!

Secondly, sports people are used to working hard at achieving their goals and this is expected from those they work with. The Sports Staff demand the best from our students and persevere to accomplish it.

Within the HPE office, students are often found relaxing and engaging with members of staff about any number of topical issues. Students feel comfortable coming for advice, assistance or just to yarn.

On the field, MPA students compete with staff who not only role model good performance but good sportsmanship. All students are encouraged to partake in healthy habits and are educated about healthy lifestyles.

HPE/ Sports meeting have an atmosphere of can-do with sound suggestions and ways to implement. If there is a necessity to pick out a few individuals, then a special mention must go to Ms **Monika Duggan** and Mr. **Frank van Pamelan** who work behind the scenes tirelessly, without seeking reward or recognition. They drive Primary Sport, The Health and Fitness Mag, CISSA and every other area of Sport. They are enthusiastic, optimistic, encouraging, professional. Above all, they love working with the students and seeing them succeed. They have few discipline problems; know each student by name and adopt a caring approach in their lessons.

More could be said but this is sufficient for now. Suffice it to say that I have great pleasure in working with these staff members and give tribute to them as the Sports Team as true 'STARS'!

Mr. **Dave Maddock-Jones**



AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

Henjo Mareko was selected to participate in the Indigenous Future Stars development camp in Sydney during August. He was one of 40 of the most exciting indigenous prospects

from all over Australia to attend the camp culminating in playing an exhibition match at the SCG as a curtain raiser to the Sydney Swans v Western Bulldogs AFL match. Congratulations Henry!!

U/13 COOK CLUSTER CRUSADER CARNIVAL

On Tuesday, August 10, sixteen Years 5, 6, 7 and 8 students travelled with Mrs. M-J and myself to Cooktown to participate in the sixth U/13 Cook Cluster Crusader Carnival. We arrived late Tuesday afternoon - after I took a wrong turn !!

In the afternoon, we had orientation activities, dinner and then watched the "AFL's Greatest Marks" and the sportsmanship comedy, "The Sandpit".

On Wednesday morning, we were up early, packing up our sleeping gear, tidying the Cooktown school library where we had slept and eating our breakfast. We then walked to the oval for the Opening Ceremony.

Djarragun v Yarrabah was the first game. Yarrabah was very confident but the teamwork and determination of the DC team saw us win easily kicking 8 goals to 1. The games following against Cooktown and Bloomfield were also one-sided on the scoreboard.

All of our players contributed very well throughout the three games. I was very pleased with the attitude of our older, stronger players who willingly spent a lot of time on the bench to enable our less experienced and younger players to play the majority of the final two games.

Malachi Songoro

won our Coaches Award for showing very good leadership both on and off the field.

We had a record number of players selected in the U/11 development squad and the U/13 Cook Cluster Crusader team.



Special congratulations to the following students who will be travelling to Weipa for the Crusaders Championships in the first week of September.

U/13 - **Josh Kyle, Adrian Dau, Thuraka Sammons, Eric Whap, Andrew Oui, Tamina Bassini, Malachi Songoro, Steven Auda** (shadow) **Noel Baker** (shadow)

U/11 - **Phillip Solomon, Justin Hill, Laru Jackonia & Andre Akiba.**

Well done to **Sharume Geesu, Emmy Charlie & George Dorante** who were also determined contributors.

I was really pleased with the attitude and behaviour of our students. They were a pleasure to work with. A big thank you to Marc and Dwayne of AFL Cape York for coordinating the Carnival.

Mr. **Dave Maddock-Jones**
AFL Manager D C

INDIGENOUS CUP

The U/17 School team participated in the Finals Carnival of the Indigenous Cup. Our boys tried hard, losing narrowly in the last minute of the game against the eventual winner, Trinity Bay High. We lost comprehensively against Abergowrie and won well against Tagai College. Winner of our most valuable player was **Andrew Akiba**. A special mention must go to **Henry Mareko and Zengrey Nona** who are U/14 players. They filled in, and did a terrific job, for boys who were barred from playing due to poor attitude. Mr. **Dave MJ**



HONEST APPLICATION => TRAINEESHIP

Congratulations to **Robert Amber** who has been selected to do a school based traineeship in Picture Framing.

Arguably, more recognized for his prowess on the football field, Robert has shown application and steady progress in the workshop under the

guidance of **Mr. Reece and Uncle Tony Epseg**.

Robbie has been excelling with his recent work in the workshop and has earned his opportunity.

Robbie also excels at Rugby League where he shows fabulous expertise and skill. Good luck with your traineeship and if your progress is anything like your football, you will be a star recruit!

LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME



The Leadership course with Ms **Annalise Jennings** and Mr. **Dave** finished this week with the vast majority of students completing the course. Students completed a three day workshop, a series of online surveys and some one-on-one personalised interviews to establish their career paths and projected occupations.

Students from year 10, 11 & 12 had a great time participating in the activities and can now go on to show, both in and out of school, what they learnt. We wish all students well and look forward to seeing their skills in action at Djarragun this year.

MS ROBYN KEATING R.N.

Welcome to the Health Centre to **Ms Robyn** who has taken on the task to keep the stethoscope as a permanent listening post at Djarragun.

The neat little unit near the front entrance to the college draws a constant stream of traffic which is something that could present a headache in itself. However, the fact that the clientele is growing and the 'business' is thriving, is satisfying because students are more aware of medical issues that they have and are willing to address them rather than fail to bother at all.



'LA DONNA E MOBILE'

Proponents of the notions of yin and yang, followers to the culture of karmic justice or even the prosaic adherents to the principle of 'what goes around, comes around' would each be astounded by the play of forces that maintain the hum to the Djarragun engine.

Luck, kismet or the felicitous evolution of inevitables deal the cards to a stacked deck. Supposedly, when the cards are on the table, it takes the science of a tarot reader to suggest an interpretation to the fateful fall.

However the laws of probability hedged its influence, the Djarragun staff manages still to contain that inevitable composition of opposites – the sporting and the sedate, the noisy and the restrained, the impetuous and the reserved. It's seemly that any one is best defined by its complete opposite.

One of the not-so-hidden gems to the staff is a person of seemingly boundless energy. There is something of the automaton circuitry cast into a human frame that allows this creature to replicate and demonstrate perpetual motion on a daily basis – 'la donna e mobile'.



The reference is distinctly classic from Verdi's famous opera 'Rigoletto'. The character to the moment is a buoyant figure moulded from a foundry in Glasgow who trills out an unmistakeable Scottish brogue with a vague lilt of Italic to upset the strictly tartan finish. "Mama S" (as she is affectionately termed by her protegees) further extends her cryptology by assuming the nomenclature, Shankaran. First name, 'Francesca' (pronounced with that pedantic lilt mentioned earlier) does little to uncloud the anomaly.



Ms **Francesca Shankaran** served a spate of time teaching across The Ditch in Maoriland and her loss of essential vowel sounds blended with the distinct vocal cadences (meant only to be accompanied with a bagpipe swirl) will have listeners hearing her introduce herself as 'Hud of the Muddle Skule'.

Highly demonstrative, wickedly effusive and unabashedly histrionic, Mama 'S' can make a subdued assembly totally erupt. Her show-womanship is addictive, persuasive and somewhere steep along the spectrum of vivacity.

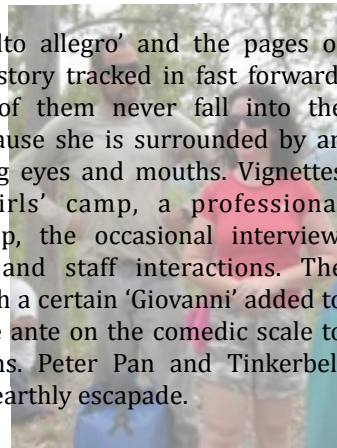
"CLAP CLAP, clap, clap, clap!
Clap, clap, clap, clap, clap, CLAP!!" -perdures, even after several years' vintage, to resonate an almost military tattoo to silence. Perhaps, the lingering percussions of the Edinburgh annual event are receiving a subliminal encore in the Antipodes.

Verdi may well have been inspired by a similar high-spirited will-o'-the-wisp in his day and we simply have a subsequent re-incarnation. In any case, whenever our 'la donna' descends, one can expect frivolity, fun and incandescent mischief.

A day can be filled with unexpected histrionics caused by the most mundane event or by outright truculent drama. This is the face that can conjure the expressions that respond to abominations, distaste, outrage and horror. This face also has the ability to broadcast as wide as an interactive board the extremes in exuberance, festivity and corporeal exhibitions.

The Scottish and Italian blend is obviously a combination that results in constant flux. One can only imagine that the magnetic field created by such a personality is a natural attraction to all the pixies, sprites and poltergeists of the supernatural realm. There may not always follow mischief but one can be assured of fun. The song acclaim she is - 'qual piuma al vento' - like a feather in the wind. Who could argue? After a full day's work at school, 'Mama S' tops it all off pedalling down the highway just to get the corpuscles to wind down for the evening respite.

Tempo is forever 'molto allegro' and the pages of stories cascade like history tracked in fast forward. (Unfortunately, most of them never fall into the 'Secrets basket') - because she is surrounded by an army of those with big eyes and mouths. Vignettes emerge from the girls' camp, a professional development workshop, the occasional interview, classroom dynamics and staff interactions. The uncanny symbiosis with a certain 'Giovanni' added to the equation raises the ante on the comedic scale to cataclysmic proportions. Peter Pan and Tinkerbell embarge on a current earthly escapade.



For someone with a stomach that heaves readily at the mention of a soiled handkerchief, 'Ramba' flung herself headlong into a Survival camp

amidst the denizens of a tropical rainforest, not to mention the whimsical troupe of Year 10 students going cold turkey from overnight ipod deprivation.

Such personalities are likely to elevate the spirits of those around them. Human catalysts that they are, they transpose any given situation to a theatrical double entendre. Almost characteristically poised, with her cup of hot water, 'Mama S' traipses a course that Matthew Flinders would be proud to claim. Early morning takes in the reading programme in the Library for the boarders, overseeing of the daytime meals distribution, the occasional academic challenge and the persistent libations for meetings, disciplinary matters, parental communication and staff dynamics. She can appear about the campus with more bounce than the proverbial Indian rubber ball.

The reserve of human endeavour and indomitable spirit ally themselves in our 'la bella e mobile' and her dispensing of those God-given powers is an intriguing, life-giving act of service. We all gain from the shared vision, her episodic journey and the words of encouragement that incite. We can be

thankful for someone endowed with both effervescence and the gregarious nature that draw associates to personal insight. Verdi established his 'la donna e mobile' and we, at Djarragun, have ours.

A further irony strikes a chord. In the midst of a sea of clients who readily claim 'shame' as a benchmark to restraint, 'Mama S' sallies forth something like Wonder Woman without her cape - (mind you, 'Cape Crusader' would be the operative notion if we were to mix our metaphors to serve the purpose). Her thoughtfulness is the most salient feature to how she operates. No-one, neither staff nor students, can feel left out because each is swept by her enthusiasm and sense of purpose. It's just a matter of being caught up in the slipstream. Whenever 'Mama S' is around, one needs to have the landing gears activated. One may land on the Sea of Calmness, the odd Science Expo or a come-what-may version to the X Factor. Seatbelts will always be wisely recommended.

It is uncanny to draw comparisons to classics with relative ease when the sentiments are identical. Verdi was relating a tragic story. Ours is far from that. A tribute to "Mama S" (Head of the Middle School). Her demonstrative voice, in practice, details her empathy - and the song still insists tantalizingly, 'Muta d'accento e di pensier, e di pensier, e di pensier'.

ATHLETICS SPECIAL

Primary Report

The Primary Carnival was extremely well attended by both parents and students. There were lots of competitive Spirit from war cries to the actual events. Participation and enthusiasm was high and the event passed incident free. Congratulations go to all the students who really made the day fun.

Senior Report

The Athletics Carnival for 2010 was a success thanks to the dedication of both staff and students alike. The highlight as always, was the 100m, which saw some notable performances from **Josh Kyle** and **Mark and Andrew Akiba**. This is the first year we have run 4 houses and hopefully this will continue to encourage a healthy competitive atmosphere for future events.

Djarragun Age Champions 2010

BOYS

- U13 - **Josh Kyle** - 76points
- U14 - **Ralph Daniel** - 35points
- U15 - **Ian Dick** - 70points
- U16 - **Patrick Atu** - 63points
- OPEN - **Mark Akiba** - 57points

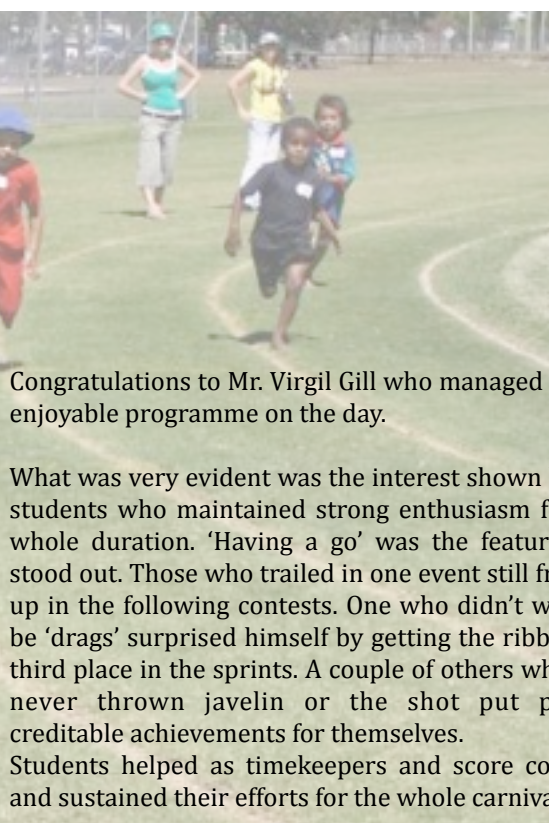
GIRLS

- U13 - **Vanessa Anau** - 32points
- U14 - **Tamina Bassani** - 32points
- U15 - **Enid Jackonia** - 36points
- U16 - **Elisa Mara** - 48points
- OPEN - **Ida Sam** - 32points



OVERALL HOUSE POINTS

- 1st - Knights - 853
- 2nd - Vikings - 485
- 3rd - Spartans - 385
- 4th - Titans - 315



Congratulations to Mr. Virgil Gill who managed a very enjoyable programme on the day.

What was very evident was the interest shown by the students who maintained strong enthusiasm for the whole duration. 'Having a go' was the feature that stood out. Those who trailed in one event still fronted up in the following contests. One who didn't want to be 'drags' surprised himself by getting the ribbon for third place in the sprints. A couple of others who had never thrown javelin or the shot put posted creditable achievements for themselves. Students helped as timekeepers and score couriers and sustained their efforts for the whole carnival.

ALL SAINTS COLLEGE, GOLD COAST &



LORETO COLLEGE, NORMANHURST, SYDNEY

When it rains, it pours. This time of year saw the influx of bodies onto the campus with the arrival of annual visitors from two colleges from the south.

Three boys from All Saints College on the Gold Coast took a high dive into the boarding school life at Djarragun. Congratulations to the boys, eventually acknowledged as Dan, Dan and Tom for challenging themselves with a cultural immersion that meant a real step into the 'unknown'. Their teacher, Mr. David, took them away again after the week and all were smiling from the good time that they enjoyed. Later in the year, four of the Djarragun Year 9 boys will reciprocate and enter the world of the Gold Coast.



Girls from Sydney lifted the body count considerably. There were over 150 of them and they spent a series of enjoyable sessions with the Djarragun students who hosted them for their time here. The range of activities was geared to allow students to mingle and gain self confidence and personal, social skills. Mr. Matt Curtis filed the following report -

Loreto Review

In brief, the visit from Loreto Normanhurst proved to be an exciting and encouraging day for everyone concerned. From the minute the Loreto students arrived and were led in by the 12B chaperones, the day was off to a good start.



While the 12B chaperones were doing this as an exercise in English that counted towards their QCE, they were chuffed about being the chosen school leaders on the day. Students like **Alton Matthew** and **Delita Aruba** were standing tall and many of the students involved puffed their chests out and were pleased to fulfill that role.





Further to recent discussions in the Senior Leadership Team, the chaperones are proof that different groups can run and act as the school leaders and not always fall back on the chosen or trusted few.



The music was pumping and eventually the students were trying to match each other in the dance off – suddenly everyone was not so shy.



The Loreto students arrived with smiling faces and, once divided up into groups, were open and willing contributors to the day's events - they did not hold back. The head teacher, **Ms Meagan** told me later that night the girl I had shaken hands with and said "*You had the most fun of anyone today*" because she smiled so much, was initially reluctant to participate with our students in her group. However as the Academic Challenge got into full swing, the high fives, dancing, interviews and questions must have made everyone feel at home.



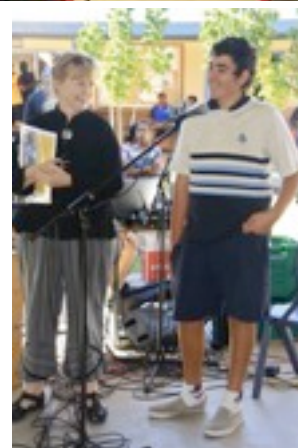
Some of our students like **Louisa Joe** and **Titus Tamwoy** stood out and shone because the one thing they do better than anyone else (dance) was suddenly worth points and a great deal of notoriety – in fact, Louisa's group ended up winning the challenge. The seating arrangement of facing the 8 groups towards each other worked a treat and ended up creating a natural amphitheatre for the dance off.



After the Academic Challenge the students were well fed and had a reprieve while Ms **Peggy Chigeza** provided an excellent morning tea for teachers at the café. The 8 groups then went on to a series of directed activities and, despite two not running, we managed to account for everyone

and give them an interactive experience. Music, rapping and sports were particularly effective.

After having a healthy lunch provided by the kitchen and a sit in the sunshine (that came out at exactly the right time) everyone went to the undercover area for the cultural performances and presentations. This was another excellent example of cross cultural exchange where the Loreto students got to see another view of the world, and our students got to witness a song and dance from the visitors.



All in all it was a wonderful day with the best weather and outcomes. The 147 Loreto students had not been together as a group until that day and many described it as the highlight of their trip. For our students it is a super day when they get to show off, have fun and shine. I say WAH! [YES]

Days such as these often go in a hazy flurry and we can only be grateful for the reliable lens of Mr. Ludo Kuipers which capture the significant moments. By and large, the students provide the essential ingredients for a full day of fun but the support services of the Hip Hop Emperor Mr. **Aaron Agius** (above right) (All Hands on Deck) and Music Maestro, Mr. **John Grace** (Gracey) are not to be left unnoticed. And where was the 'ice-breaker' when the Titanic needed one? - let's not forget our own Uncle **Paul Garong** whose act re-surfaces along with global warming.



- Above 1 - Mr. Aaron Aegis (Hands on Deck)
- 2 - Uncle Paul (Who can Garong?)
- 3 - Ms. Jean Illingworth & Gold Coast student
- 4 - Shake-a-leg (Gold Coast style)
- 5 - Loreto girls - after a long, busy schedule.