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School Rover

STAND AND DELIVER

The weeks in Term 3 are flashing by and almost history. Students in the 10 Trade class have been busily piecing together a major project which involves planning a round-the-world trip visiting three different countries. The analogy isn't a far cry from our Djarragun scene where even a cursory visit to the various niches reveals significantly different activities and esoteric subcultures in the educational spectrum.



At a recent assembly, an armoured vehicle took pride of place in the undercover area. This vehicle was brought back from the clutches of war service history into a useful resurrection as a weapon against drug and alcohol abuse. It made a grand entry across in Yarrabah and will be making itself heard on Palm Island as part of its role in raising the message about good health and lifestyles.

Congratulations to Mr. **Rudra Singh** and his mechanic cohorts over in the shed who have helped to restore this mechanical beast and give it another term of office in protecting the world though from a slightly different perspective.

Contrary to some speculation, the sudden appearance of this harbinger to battle is not part of the current Djarragun 'tough love' campaign. However, it is a timely reminder for both students and staff that the martial call to arms accentuates a worthwhile subtlety.

TALA MORSEU FONT



When he's not busy walking into the odd tree on the school property, **Tala Morseu** is still putting his hands to good use, working on some of his fabulous artwork. Because his mind is choc-a-bloc with visionary depictions of traditional mythology, it's probably understandable that his floundering on the mortal plane will seem clumsy. Be prepared to simply hold your breath. Look and be astounded.

The detail in his printed products is superb and the impressionistic impact belies his adolescent years. This quietly spoken artist delivers a knockout punch on paper, wood and stone.



MR. MIKE TUPPER

Off to the wiles of the Northern Territory, Mr. Mike was farewelled at a morning tea recently. As quietly as he settled into the Djarragun scene, Mr. Mike slid down the sliprails en voyage to his new adventure at Nhulunbuy on the Gove Peninsula.

As one of the major arteries of the IT

department in the school since his arrival some 18 months ago, Mr. Mike contributed his vast skills with new programmes that were swamping the computer world within the college. In addition to the introduction of Keynotes to the Middle School sector, Mr. Mike subsequently transferred into the Business Studies arena with the Senior and VET grades.



Clothing Production News

Philemona Faud in TAVE has produced a magnificent short overall in denim fabric. She deliberately matched it

with yellow embroidery thread giving it a sharp contrast. She is one person who always pays attention to detail. She applies a high level of quality standard to all her production. She is willing to take orders of a similar production from her peers. Well done Mona!

Lane Ingui has shown professional skills by making a fabulous red and white overall.

It suits her perfectly. She cannot wait to wear it for shopping or to the beaches. Her next project is to make her graduation gown. Keep it up Lane!



Ms. **Mbongeleni Chigeza**



ATHLETICS RUNNING RIOT

This year saw Djarragun host to the Trinity Coast South Athletics Carnival held at Barlow Park. Students had the opportunity to act as time keepers, events marshalls and paper couriers for the results machine comprised of Mr. **Frank van Pamelan**, Ms **Felicity Hoffman** and his little bevy of points tally accountants drawn from some other participating schools.

Head of Operation, Mr. **Virgil Gill** reconnoitred the oval and precincts with the vigilance of a stealth aircraft. If there were flaws to his system, they were well hidden and, by the close of the day's programme, he well deserved to carry home a smile for his efforts.

In addition to Ms **Atalica Bin Doraho**, Ms **Tegan Beckham**, Ms **Johanna Furse**, Mr. **David Lierich** was a prominent figure at the finishing line and he gave ready credit to the Djarragun students who helped through the whole day to the sole task of operating the stop watches - **John Gabey**, **Lane Ingui**, **Naomi Cooktown**.

So many events were interwoven through the programme that it was physically impossible to get to witness everything. The shotput and triple jump events were running simultaneously with the 1500 metre races. Javelins were airborne on an adjacent oval across the creek and the flashes of sprint fixtures rifled down the runway with the despatch of seasoned artillery.

Competition was fairly intense and nothing fell into Djarragun laps. It was uplifting to watch the likes of **Preston Burley** lead the field in the 1500 metres race for most of the distance and end up with the red ribbon in the final stage.



Ada Davidson (r) embellished the 'loneliness of the long distance runner' in her persistence over an obvious endurance. No winner's ribbon for her but she triumphed across the finishing line.

Josh Kyle (Under 13) seemed to pop up in every event for which he was eligible in the Under 13 tussle. Lean and lithe, the spidery figure of

Frank Charlie earned him the blue ribbon in the Under 16 High Jump. Keeping him company for most of the way was **Willie Wosomo**.



Solomon Fauid

broke a 20 year record in the Long Jump. Unfortunately, someone else also decided to do the same thing that day by an extra few centimetres.

Some of the exciting finishes were spared for the relay races where **Ralph Daniel** showed that he had progressed from Unleaded to something to the order of butane or high octane. **Solomon Fauid** covered his 100 metre distance with the prowess of Phar Lap in human form. For pure energy and a passage of sustained throttle, the Under 17 quarto blitzed the oval in shoes with firestone treads developing something like a slipstream to drag rivals in their wake. **Andrew Akiba, Mark Akiba, James Wosomo** and **Kieran Johnson** aligned to create a formidable combination in the relay campaign. 'Energy to burn' is an understatement.



One of the many competitors who can easily be lost and forgotten from the limelight and the winners' circle recorded a few of his thoughts about the event in which he participated.



"For my experience in the TCS trials, I was put down for the shot put. As I was standing with the other boys, I felt scared and I thought, 'OK. Well, I'm not gonna win but I'll still have a go and put my best effort into it.' But I stood back at the appearance of the boys - (like, they were my age but they had more build and they were taller than me). When they were throwing the shot put, they were throwing much further but I didn't care because I was out there representing my school. When I looked up at the grandstand, there was hardly anyone participating in the event. I didn't win but I put my best effort into having a go." **Moses Tabuai**



Ian Dick exhibits his layback style which still earned him the Under 15 Age champion winner for the College this year. His casual manner and quiet disposition are more than compensated by his action on the field, or, in this case, up in the air. (**Andrew Oui** below fires the javelin)



TOWNSVILLE CULTURAL FESTIVAL



The highly anticipated trip to Townsville produced another stepping stone to stardom for our Djarragun troubadours. Despite the intention of cutting back the roll call, the final draft still mustered over a hundred. Some of the veterans were now being covered on the flanks by the Primary Choir, the concussive Batucada percussionists, the haunting traditional tempo of both the Aboriginal and Torres Strait dancers and singers. The Hula girls joined the parade and the Hip Hop effected its usual campaign to upstage anyone with legs.

(left) Jessica Mauboy with Wejun Neal



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Clockwise : Top - 1. Israel Graham in a pensive mood; 2. Josh Kyle with his clapstick salute; 3. Breanna Cooktown depicting 'a cassowary with attitude'; 4. Thuraka Sammons 'the eye-catcher' - finds fun everywhere; 5. Mr. Warren Eyre striking it for the cowbell cantata; 6. George Dorante belts out his tattoo between fellow-drummers Isis Geas and Patricia Tom; 7. Maluka David is working on a job that just keeps coming back;

8. Uncle Sam Pau resting between a rock and a hard place; 9. Andrew Oui & Fury Salee getting tuned up; 10. Lena de Jersey - putting it up or letting her hair down; 11. breakfast in (the garden) bed.



RIPPED VAN WRINKLE

Called to mind from the Townsville campaign during the Cultural Festival recently was a story about a popular member of staff who is well known to have an uncanny, yet quite healthy, association with his van.

Possibly a vestige of his surfer past was still hankering to be lived out but time and anchorage may have intercepted the desired completion with his VW.

Townsville Police were drawn into the equation when the bedraggled makeshift wheeled quarters was spotted in a zone mostly frequented by itinerant backpackers. Money never being an issue, the proud and resilient owner of the Grand Old Lady of the macadamized surface surrendered to the sting of the mandatory fine.

However, as they say, 'Every cloud has a silver lining'- and Mr. 'Van Damned' will be even more careful when he is next counting up his loose shekels. That aside, the next episode to this intriguing saga was the appearance from Stage Left of none other than the Fairy Van Mother alias **Mbongeleni Chigeza**. (Fairyland is so ridden with these proverbial 'do-gooders' that they even choose such polyphonic names that no self-respecting human would ever use).

Anyway, with an eye for intricate detail, Fairy Van Mother just happened to have her thimbles at her finger-tips and presto! Before you could say, 'Rip Van Winkle' three times, it was literally curtains for mobile misery.

The tattered remnants were allowed to retire gracefully after countless kilometres of road haulage and years of devoted secret service and possibly veiled humour, to boot. Dignity was being served a severe blow to Grand Duchess V-Dub and the intermittent spluttering from the exhaust pipe could have only been a sign of inward embarrassment. The last remaining protection to her modesty was the registration sticker and the occasional film of surface dust that only fortune might have helped to evade the chamois.

Come what may, the Grand Duchess is now restored with more than the required Seven Veils security, and, believe it or not, no longer suffers that cough nor attracts police scrutiny.

To add punch to the tale, it was noted that Mr. **John Grace** (real name, I think) woke up the next morning and found out that it was not all just a dream after all.



MORE THAN JUST THE CUTTING EDGE

On Wednesday 26th August **Karyn Westbury** from L'Oreal delivered a colour school at the Djarragun College Hairdressing Salon featuring the new colour sensation - Inoa. This is new technology for hair colours as it is ammonia free and environmental friendly. The students enjoyed it, especially the lucky models. The mixing, application and removal are all different techniques from the usual L'Oreal colour products making even the mixing a challenge.



The air of satisfaction is immediately obvious

L'Oreal kindly donated a sample pack of Inoa to the hairdressing department for the students' use and for them to gain experience with the new product. Even Karyn had a few first experiences, as she had never used the product on tight curly hair such as that of our Torres Strait Islander students.

Ms Estelle Nielsen

FATHER DAVID COLES

A very warm welcome to **Father David** who has been working through the College with students this Term.

Father David provides another avenue for support and spiritual guidance to the students as College Chaplain.

The Middle School students have taken advantage of his prayer sessions and gentle call to composure and self-assurance. Father David will have his work cut out because he needs to spread his attention to both the boarders, as well as, the day student contingent that floods into the campus each morning.



SCIENCE STATIONS



Students from the Middle School put together a fun session for Science. Displays and demonstrations were presented for visitors to the College and for other students to ponder their way through the forces that Nature can throw out to mystify us.

Suspicious concoctions waylaid tentative spectators and some students had great delight in catching offguard those who were curious enough to venture into their capture zones. Bubbling, effervescent liquids appeared alarming and dissected organs easily dissolved appetites.



Crystals formed before your eyes despite the cacophony being sustained by the straw klaxons that made the undercover area sound like a replica World Soccer contest held in South Africa. Vuvuzelas lived again.



A small display on refraction made a coin seem to disappear at the bottom of a dish. Plastic bottles popped their caps with gusto in one area while liquids changed colour at the acid and alkali testing base where **Mr. David Lierich** and his Year 10 group provided a 'magic trick' to keep many minds guessing.



More to point to the exercise was the manner in which the station managers (all students) built up on their confidence by explaining the mechanics to the experiments in their stalls. Some definitely showed that they knew what they were talking about. Some probably sucked a few others along into their confusion but with the lightness and humour that it deserved.



Mr. David Lierich awarded full honours to **Telita Steward-Sandy 'TJ'** who was the closest correct in estimating the time crystals would take to form.

CAREERS TRACKING

Ms Cate Robins treads a sometimes lonely pathway in the difficult assignment of matching students with their possible career paths. Most are unsure of what they really want to do but there has been a relay of opportunities presented to them from various employment and study skills agencies. Fortunately, there are some splashes of success and that helps to make the programme worth while. Congratulations to the students who often achieve quietly under the radar. **Ms Cate** reports :-

Year 8/9 Career Program

Ms Caitlin and I took the Year 8/9 girls on a trip to JCU as part of their Careers program. The girls had a great time and it was wonderful to see them asking many questions of our guides for the day. It was also fantastic to see so many hands go up when the guide asked who was going to go to Uni when they finished school! We have also been on excursions to Coles and Interventions Early Learning Centre. The girls are interviewing an indigenous female worker at every place of visit. The plan is to make a DVD of the interviews that can be used as a resource for other indigenous students around the country. Thanks very much to Ms. Liz who is helping with the technology side of things and assisting with interviews. We have one more visit left which is to Apunipima Health Centre and Legal Aid. Thanks also to Ms. Caitlin for organizing the girls and being committed to the career program.

Tertiary Access Course

Early this term, several students went to JCU to take the tertiary access course, which if passed, guarantees entry into university. It is a 6 month course that eases students into Uni life and teaches them skills such as essay writing, note taking and also increases their confidence. Congratulations to John Gabey who passed his test and now has a University option available to him! The other students have the opportunity to re-sit the test in January and now have an advantage as they know what to expect. Thanks to **Uncle Sam Pau** who took these students on the day.

ADF Tour

In July, **Arron Hay Miller (right)** was successful in his application to join the Defence tour. This tour takes students to Sydney and Canberra to see military bases and give them a taste of what life is like in the Defence Force.

Arron had a fantastic time and behaved in a manner we expect from all our students when they are representing our college. He is a motivated and disciplined student and will make an excellent rifleman in the army!

Airport Smash Repairs

On Wednesday, the 1st of September, I went to the shipyard for a Year 10 Careers Day. It was a good experience for me because I never knew that there was so much to do when you work at that place.

I saw so many things that I've never seen before but it was very cool for me. I had fun asking the people questions. I also had a job and that job was to thank the people that were showing us around.

Solomon Faid

