Greetings everybody and welcome to the final edition of our newsletter for 2018. As this edition goes to print Tropical Cyclone Owen has reformed in the Gulf of Carpentaria and is expected to return to the Queensland coast and cross sometime Friday. We hope that all of our families and partner schools in the region are not adversely affected by this system. The remnants of the system are then expected to travel down through Queensland and deliver large amounts of rainfall throughout the state. You can keep track of this system via the following links:


Thanks to our entire school community for your contribution to our school this year. It is such an amazing and inspirational organisation to be a part of. This supportive and caring culture is underpinned by our amazing students, their parents and our staff. Integral to this relationship is our P&C Association and I take this opportunity to thank our Executive Judith, Juanita, Andrea and Jana as well as our active members who give so much of their time and energy to our school. I encourage all of our parents to consider what they can do to support our school community in 2019.

This year’s final newsletter is fuller than Santa’s sack on Christmas Eve with student work and celebrations. I urge you to check out the fantastic pieces of writing our students have published. We also have some updates from our staff and news from our Italian team. Images from our Celebration Week activities are also a must see.

Anticipation and excitement is mounting as we make preparations for the 22nd Cairns to Karumba Bike Ride in 2019. We aim to make this fundraiser the biggest and best yet. Registrations for the ride are open now so keep your eye out for this. You can check out our past rides and the details of next year’s ride by logging on to the
As we look to 2019 there are a number of changes that will impact upon the way we organise our school. A new system for senior schooling will commence and this has necessitated some changes to our practices and the timing and nature of our events. You can check out all the latest updates from the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority via this link [https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/new-snr-assessment-ten](https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/new-snr-assessment-ten). We look forward to delivering an exciting new program for our Year 11 students next year.

Finally I take this opportunity to thank all of our staff for their professionalism and commitment this year. We have a brilliant team here who are focussed on ensuring the best possible education for our students. I hope that you have a safe and relaxing summer vacation with those you love and care about most. (And for those of you who believe in the fat man in the red suit, I hope that he visits you with all the things that you have asked for.😊)

Please take care and I look forward to making 2019 an even better year for our school.

Regards
Andrew Oliver
Principal

Staff News

Corey Edwards
Hello, and thanks for welcoming me into the CSDE community; let me take a moment to introduce myself. My name is Corey Edwards and I am the new HOD English and Year 10 Care HOD. I’m joining you from Cairns High, where I taught QCAA English, EAL/D and Japanese. I am passionate about ePlatform teaching, and Flipped and Blended Learning, so I am excited to join you here at CSDE, which is a school committed to best practice in this area.

In regards to my teaching philosophy, I take a strongly student centred approach to learning; I think the most important aspect of the teacher-student dynamic is the relationships we form. I firmly believe that when students feel respected and valued is when they are most productive. As part of this philosophy, I am committed to personal growth and capacity development in young people, which is one of the reasons I am so excited to be the Year 10 Care HOD.

I want to thank everyone who has made me welcome here so far; I am genuinely excited to be part of this learning community and look forward to celebrating success with the students I have the privilege to work with.

Mr Phil Laycock, Regional Liaison Officer for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA).

Phil gave a presentation to our Year 9 Geography students and teachers on the work of GBRMPA, and the impact of humans on biomes like the Reef.

Megan Hastie
Teacher

Prince Albert of Monaco

Ngati had a busy week travelling back to the Torres Straits to help his family cater for Prince Albert of Monaco’s visit. Ngati had an exciting time (slaving away!) to ensure the Prince and his team were well fed for the occasion. Below is a happy snap of Ngati and the Prince.

Student News

Below are stories we share about our students’ work and achievement across our diverse school community.

Italian State Champion

The inaugural Italian Language Queensland State Championship was held in Brisbane at the Italian Language Centre on Sunday 21 October. Niccolino, CSDE Year 11 student of Italian won 1st Place in the Year 11 section. The judges were looking for fluency, accurate pronunciation, good expression, range of vocabulary and grammar, voice projection and eye
contact. The theme that each student was asked to base their speech on was 'Italian and the web; social networks for the Italian language.' Congratulations Niccolino on your fantastic speech and achievement.

Mary Lantman
Teacher

This is a photo collage Fynn entered into the SBS National Languages Competition with the caption:

Indonesian has allowed me to fall in love with the people, beauty, diversity and endless adventure possibilities.

‘Belajar Bahasa Indonesia memungkinkan saya jatuh cinta dengan orang-orangnya, keindahan, variasi dan kemungkinan petualangan.’

Cooking on a boat

I live on a boat in the Mentawai islands, which is a group of islands off the coast of Sumatra in Indonesia. It is a surf charter boat, and we take guests around the Mentawai islands to go surfing. Completing home economics was kind of challenging on the boat. We don’t exactly have a normal kitchen on the boat - it isn’t even called a kitchen! That be landlubber talk, matey! On a boat, a kitchen is called a galley. Our galley is about 2m by 2m square, with an oven, sink, bench, microwave, bread maker, 6 cabinets and a stovetop squeezed into it. AND a chef that gets all protective of his area so it was a mission to pry him out. Also, the Mentawai islands is a third world country, so there is not much variety in ingredients. But I had to give it a go. So, armed with only my knowledge (and tiny galley) I set forth to get an A (hopefully).

A big concern was an apron. We didn’t have one. So, when I was cooking with hot oil or something messy, I would put on a shirt. And yes, I don’t normally wear a shirt, I live in board shorts. So, somehow, despite the tiny galley and me having to wear landlubber clothes, I made it through the semester, to my final assessment. Really there weren’t too many negatives.

I was particularly excited about the final assessment, where I had to cook a proper meal for my family (4 people including me). What should I cook? That is the question. Should I cook a traditional Indonesian meal, like Rendang (super rich and spicy buffalo curry) or Mie Goreng (fried noodles with mixed vegetables)? I decided not to, because I had grown up eating those meals. They may sound exotic to you, but to me they sounded totally normal, like a sandwich.

I decided to do a western meal - Tacos. I had made them before with mum, so it wasn’t too challenging except the normal ingredients you would think of to use had to be slightly altered. The whole family ate it. I used fresh fish and topped it with a fruity salsa and limey coleslaw. Altogether, I think I did pretty well (and my family wanted more). Now, if you will excuse me, I have to go and eat lunch. It’s fish head soup. Sigh. Again. If I’m quick, I might just be able to get the eyeball before anyone else does.

Fynn
Year 8

Food for my Thoughts

Personally, I really enjoyed Home Economics this semester and it was really fun. I found the videos on the elearn course were practical and enjoyable.

I loved when I was able to make recipes in the kitchen and this is why I found home-economics really enjoyable - because I already love to cook.

I made many dishes such as:

• Potato, egg and tuna salad
• Amazing pancakes with strawberries and vanilla ice-cream drizzled with maple syrup
• Frozen banana whiz with cinnamon
• Quiche with roasted potatoes (my family really enjoyed it)

The best dish I made was the amazing and delicious and most enjoyable nutella scones (picture below). They were so fun to make and tasted soooo good because I already a little bit of a sweet tooth (but I also like savoury too). I am definitely making them again, just wish there were more hehehe.

Every recipe I made was so delicious and I loved taking the pictures of my final result. They made me feel proud of my dish.

Paris
Year 8

Cairns Future Leaders Eco Challenge 2018

Cairns School of Distance Education participated in the Cairns Future Leaders Eco Challenge 2018 in Term 3 with two enthusiastic student representatives. Julian (Yr. 6) and Maxwell (Yr. 4) participated in activities that
promote the conservation of the Great Barrier Reef. Julian and Maxwell were required to apply for this unique opportunity and have provided their valuable thoughts on the day.

Julian’s application:

My name is Julian and I am in year 6 at Cairns School of Distance Education. This is why I would like to be a Reef Superhero:

I want to be a reef superhero because I do not want the world’s biggest living organism to die, otherwise people will think of Australia as an environment that is polluted and ruined. Superheroes save and protect anything in need and the Great Barrier Reef is under threat and needs us to do something about it. I would like to get together with other students and experts to come up with actions and ideas that we can all do to help save and protect our reef.

Julian’s experience:

I had the wonderful opportunity to participate in the Future Leaders Eco Challenge earlier this year and I learnt so much about our Great Barrier Reef and how important it is to protect this natural wonder. One of the day’s activities involved Max and I worked together on an invention made from recycled materials that could help preserve the fragile state of the reef. After learning about the damaging effects of global warming we came up with the idea of a large floating structure that provides shelter to different parts of the reef and helps reduce the temperature of the water below. It could be easily moved around the reef to reduce further damage to vulnerable coral.

Maxwell’s application:

Hello Mrs Watters and Mrs M, I would like to express my interest in participating in the FLEC.

I want to be a Reef Superhero because I want to stop poisons from landfill, fertilizers and pesticides going into the reef. And I want to stop plastic going there too and killing animals like fish and turtles.

I also want to stop global warming because it is killing the reef environment.

The way I would stop these things is by telling kids and adults what is happening and showing them how they can help.

Maxwell
Year 4

Maxwell’s experience:

Future Leaders Eco Challenge we went to the aquarium. One thing we learned was that creatures don’t like bright colours that stand out because they think the creatures with bright colours are predators. We also learned that the only place Rainbow fish live is in Lake Eacham and we learned where Marine Protected Areas are.

We also invented a model to stop coral bleaching. The purpose of our model is to shade the reef where coral bleaching is bad. The shade device would be made out of metal and painted in bright colours and have spikey bits around to prevent birds and other creatures sitting on it or eating it.

It was a pleasure to work with these enthusiastic and inventive students in exploring ways to help protect the coral reef. They were wonderful representatives of our school and came up with a great model in fighting against climate change.

Renata M Medeiros & Emma Hopkirk
Teachers

Not a Poem

This is not a poem
it’s a poem about a poem
but it is not a poem at all,
it does not rhyme
it is not in time
so why call it a poem at all?

Annika
Year 7

Grand Prix Robotics

When we came to robotics we spent some time playing with spheros. We practised racing them. We had to go slow and steady. We had lots of fun. At the end we did a competition and Dakota and I got a medal.

Belle
Prep

In Week 9 of Term 3, my family came to school to do the robotics workshop. All I know is that it is all about fun. For the first two days we learnt about robotics. On Saturday we had a competition. We had lots of fun.

Dakota
Year 2
**Maths Teaser XXX**

Jody bought a length of rope. She cut it in half and used one half to tie up her boat. Her son Harry cut off one third of the other half to tether his pony. If the remaining piece of rope measured 10m, what length of rope did Jody buy?

The answer is hidden in the title.

*Mick Mendel*

*Head of Department*

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**Serving Up Skills**

Let me just say that the Cairns SDE Serving Up Skills wasn’t a piece of cake. We encountered many rules and restrictions and plenty of slip-ups and confusions, but thanks to the endless patience and superb guidance of our TAFE instructor, we learned from our mistakes and were able to find our strengths and weaknesses and deal with them accordingly.

Through three long days of training and preparation, we evolved from a group of clueless teens to a team of (somewhat) skilled waiters and waitresses. We learned the definition of etiquette, how to perform like professionals and the sheer art of serving. So when the Graduation night loomed overhead, we were ready.

That night’s serving went like a well-oiled machine, if a little rusty in some places. Sure, a wine bottle was dropped, Coke was spilt, the odd plate of food was misplaced. But no one is perfect, and for students ranging from ages 14 – 17, I think we did pretty well. Our instructor had complete faith in us, and I believe that’s what made everything possible.

So next time you visit a restaurant, try placing yourself in your waiter/waitresses’ shoes. Try to understand and forgive their little mistakes and give them time to deal with the pressure. The last thing you want to do is upset your waiter. After all, they are the ones in control of your meal...

*Jacob*

*Year 10*

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**Lulu Awarded Scholarship for Saitama Stem Program by Det International**

Lulu is a Year 11 student at Babinda SS. She studies Year 11 Japanese through CSDE with Mrs Dunn-Balzer. Lulu was awarded one of three DET International scholarships offered to students across Queensland for the SAIITAMA STEM Program to study science and Japanese in Japan over the September holidays. Lulu homestayed with a Japanese family immersing herself in Japanese culture and language daily. She was able to experience the hospitality and kindness of the Japanese people first hand. Lulu attended Fudooka Saitama Prefectural High School, a super science high school, focused on the teaching of science and maths. She undertook all classes in Japanese. She was able to make many friends. Lulu says she is highly motivated to keep studying Japanese. She would like to explore opportunities to study both science and Japanese at university in the future. Lulu encourages all students with a passion for science and Japanese to apply for this Program.

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**NQ Rodeo Entertainment Series**

Throughout 2018 Emma, Justene, and myself have had the pleasure of being part of the NQ Rodeo Entertainment Series. We have been lucky to travel to Charters Towers, Mareeba, Mossman and then Cairns for the finals of the Bull Riding Series and having fun.

Emma and her family have a big role in this series, because without the Bulls for the bull riders there would be no entertainment. Lamont’s Bulls are big gentle...
giants until they have their kick straps tightened. If you blink you will miss them. They are very fast, active and defiantly not shy to kick a leg or two.

I am the lucky one who opens the show by singing the Australian National Anthem, Advance Australia Fair and I am so proud to have this role. Once I finish this I head out the back to pull gates and get up close to the bulls. Justene well, she just scoots around helping out wherever from painting the clown’s face to attracting the bulls out the back gate after they have performed for the bull riders and crowd. Then once the show is all over, we all get in and help by pulling panels down and clearing the grounds and packing it away.

It has been great catching up with another family from CSDE’ (The Lamonts) throughout the year at each series. Emma and Justene had fun playing before the action all starts, half time, and once it’s all over. They make the most of their time together. At the Cairns finals in September, Miss Kathy was kind enough to attend the show and see her student/s before it started. Then at half time entertainment she was even up dancing with Emma and Justene in the dance competition. They had so much fun.

A big thank you to NQ Rodeo Entertainment for letting us be involved with your show.

Jolene
Year 8

Bush Fires

Burning high and low
A Red and Golden glow
The night sky all dark
With colourful sparks
Making firework marks

Hot sweat running in a race
Down our black ash face
Trying to keep it under control
Thick black smoke, tears in our eyes
Water carts, blowers, back burning fires

People who light the grass for fun
Do not think of us in the hot sun
The cattle wondering scared
What a long night it has been
We hope this one we can win!

Kate
Year 4

Not so Invincible

You know when you’re a kid, and you think that you’re invincible? That nothing can hurt you and that the laws of physics don’t apply? Like, what even is physics? Well, that was me when I was a kid. I was probably the most accident-prone child you would ever meet. I’ve always liked motorbikes, in fact I have one now, but my first one was a tiny green quad. You would think that because it’s for a child it would be safe, but nope. I’m no mechanic, but here goes: near the engine there was some metal ‘guard’ which was supposed to prevent children from being burnt from the heat of the engine. Well at least that part worked. I was never burnt by the engine, however just to be me, I spliced my heel on the metal guard because, you know, of course it was extremely sharp. The guard went into my heel about an inch. So, at that age I did the only manly thing. I screamed for my mummy and was rushed to hospital. That done, what injuries could I inflict on myself now?

You know how I was talking about the whole “I’m invincible, physics doesn’t apply to me!” thing? Well, one time in my very sensible youthful mind I decided I wanted to ride my scooter, but I also wanted to play on the trampoline. What a predicament. So, in all my smartness, I decided to do just that. I grabbed my scooter, which just so happened to be metal, dragged it onto the trampoline and started riding around the black tarp. This went on for about three seconds, then I decided to start bouncing. In my defence it seemed sensible at the time. I even had the whole smart-person thought process. I figured that since I would be bouncing up and down, and holding the scooter at the same time,
it should technically go up and down with me. Well… I soon found out that “For every action there is an equal and opposite or contrary, reaction” - Isaac Newton. Cuz I’m smart and all that. Anyway… after the very first jump I found out that my extremely educated guess was wrong. The metal handlebar smashed into my chin, cutting it open which obviously required stitching to fix. Now I have a small scar on my chin as well as one somewhere inside my mouth, so I’ve been told.

What else have I done? Seriously, I actually can’t remember. Heel, check. Chin, check. Broken arm before National Championships (whole other story), check. Ah, right! Once again, “I'M INVINCIBLE!”. You know the popular game that every child plays at least once during their childhood on the trampoline? Ring any bells? It’s a CRACK of a game? No…? Fine, Crack the Egg. I was playing Crack the Egg, cuz who doesn’t want to be food? It was my turn to be the Egg, so I assumed the position: Monkey Grip with locked knees. The strongest position known to man. So much for that, it was broken in one bounce… I went up in the air, arms flailing around and then I landed back on the trampoline. We – me and my sibling – became bored so we went to go inside. Now you’re obviously thinking, “Where's the injury?” right? Who said this story was about injuries? Nah, just kidding. I was already injured in case you didn’t know. I never felt a thing, just a quick SNAP! I started walking up the steep incline and noticed my right thumb was sticking out at a weird angle.

“Hannah… My thumb's bent,” I said casually. I'm serious, I wasn't screaming or anything. It was just like asking for the tv remote.

You can imagine what happens next right? You ever seen Pokémon? One of the creatures has a really slow pain reception rate. It was like that. Once I noticed it, all the pain came flooding in. I screamed at the top of my tiny lungs. I was rushed to hospital (bit of a pattern here), and it turns out it wasn’t dislocated or even broken. I had torn the ligaments, those little stringy things that hold your bones together. Bah! Like those are important.

**Z Club of Cairns SDE**

Z Club of Cairns SDE is excited as we have been formally recognised as a member of ZONTA International. We are in fact Queensland’s first Z Club that meets electronically. We have a President - Luke, Vice President - Piper, Treasurer - Sheree and Secretary - Tara. Student members from Year 7 through to Year 12 have been meeting twice each term progressing through the requirements of being a member of this world organisation. We have discussed topics, service projects and celebrated our connections with United Nations, Amelia Earhart and Emma L. Conlon Award. The purpose of the Z Club is to develop future leaders who will actively participate in school, community and international service and advocacy while having a positive influence on the world around them. Our sponsor club, Zonta Club of Cairns, supported our ‘Cupcakes for Donation’ activity in Celebration Week. With the money raised we will see our first project funded. This project will assist Rural and Remote students who will leave their homes in 2019 to attend QLD Boarding Schools. The RFDS Nurses are helping us with this project.

I, along with the Zonta Club of Cairns Inc. members, are very excited to offer this opportunity to and join with Cairns SDE teachers, students and community. Thank you to Dr. Karen D’Aietti for being the teacher connection at Cairns SDE, and Lorraine Lawson and Mandy Girgenti for assisting with the Z Club development. If you are interested in knowing more about Z Club or have questions contact Mrs Ros Scott. Phone 40809107 or email: rscot50@eq.edu.au.

**Book Week Dress Ups**

Amber as Alice in Wonderland.

Crystal as Hermione.

Kasey as Leif from Deltora Quest.

**Graduation**

Farewell and good luck to our Graduands
On Wednesday November 14, TAFE Queensland North hosted the annual Cairns SDE Graduation ceremony. Eleven of our graduands were in attendance. Students travelled from Humpty Doo in the Northern Territory, Bamaga, Pormpuraaw and the Atherton Tablelands to celebrate this very important milestone.

They looked absolutely amazing and were treated to a delicious meal prepared by the TAFE Certificate IV Chefs and served by Cairns SDE students completing their Serving up Skills. Family and friends were regaled with stories of mini schools, camps, challenging times and unforgettable experiences as Shayla and Gracelyn reflected on their years of schooling with Cairns SDE. There were feelings of pride, sadness and relief as our Year 12s and their families celebrated the end of school and the beginning of new chapter in life’s adventure. We wish all of our graduating students every success and happiness in the years ahead.

Ann Leeson
Teacher

Shayla’s Speech

Good evening fellow classmates, families, teachers and administrative staff. Thank you all for coming! I would personally like to congratulate everyone, who is here tonight and those who could not make it, on completing your Year 12 studies! Well done.

For those you who don’t know me, my name is Shayla and I live in Regional Darwin. I am very passionate about horses and competing. I chose to study with Cairns Distance Ed for Years 10, 11 and 12 to have the ability to fulfil my equestrian dream. This has become a reality!

As many of you know, DE has its challenges, however, I believe the sense of achievement gained when completing our final year of school was worth it. Looking back on the year it has been one hell of a ride. The assignments, exams and long lessons that felt like torture have brought us to where we are now.

Each one of us comes from a different place and background. We all grew up differently and have separate lifestyles, that others would not dream of, however, through Distance Ed we have been brought together here tonight to share the last of our schooling years with each other. The long nights and early mornings have paid off. Our dedication to our school work and other activities has allowed us to all achieve our goals. Although these goals may have been different, some of you might have wanted to get the perfect uni score or others might have just been happy to get through their final years of schooling, it doesn’t matter! What matters is that we are here, now, and we are at last achieving one goal in life, finishing school.

However, this would not have been possible without the guidance, support and dedication from our wonderful teachers throughout the years. They were always approachable, available and positive in their feedback. We would like to thank them all for their time and effort spent this year, for making our academic years so rewarding and successful. So, we thank you!

I would also like to thank our parents and tutors, including exam supervisors, who made all of this hard work and organisation possible. To our parents, thank you for allowing us to follow our dreams and do our schooling through DE. To the tutors, thank you for the long hours of help, reading through assignments and working out problems. And to the exam supervisors, thank you for organising the exams and your flexibility in finding time for all them! There were a lot!

Lastly, I would like to thank the staff of Cairns School of Distance Education. Your passion and organisation that keeps this school striving is unbelievable. Your ability to organise Work Rate calendars and text books being sent out is amazing, so we all thank you!

I think we would like to say that we are also very thankful for handing back all our textbooks!

Before I finish, I ask you, 2018 Graduating class, to be happy, enjoy tonight and look forward to your bright futures, for who knows what your future may hold? Remember the fun times we have had online and in that chat box that none of the teachers liked! Remember where it all started, keeping this major milestone at heart and find happiness in whatever you decide to do.

So, enjoy your night!

Thank you!
On Thursday, 6th December 2018, the Cairns School of Distance Education community acknowledged White Ribbon Day. This day formally took place nationally on Friday 23rd November 2018.

Gordonvale Police officer, Sgt Adrian Geary gave a short presentation about the White Ribbon message and an acronym ‘STOP’ to help us act when we can to help end violence against women and people [See, Talk, Observe and Prevent]. He then led the pledge, inviting participation from Cairns SDE staff and students. It was impressive to see so many people participate in this event. Some staff further assisted to support the campaign wearing their ‘White Ribbon Schools’ shirts.

White Ribbons and badges were available for a donation with all proceeds going towards the White Ribbon School’s program.

Zonta Club of Cairns attended to support the White Ribbon Awareness message as silent campaigners. They assisted in the preparation of morning tea.

The Cairns SDE White Ribbon Team are looking forward to reinforcing the messages, awareness and strategies further into 2019.

For further information about the purpose and vision of White Ribbon, please visit: www.whiteribbon.org.au

For confidential help and information contact:

Kids Helpline
1800 55 18 www.kidshelp.com.au

Relationships Australia
1300 364 277 www.relationships.org.au

Lifeline
13 11 14 www.lifeline.org.au

STEAM Activities

During Celebration Week, students were provided the opportunity to participate in STEAM activity afternoon sessions. These activities consisted of exploring drone technology, robotics building and construction, creating models with 3D printing, investigating anatomy and body organs, exploring forces with balloon helicopters, testing chemical reactions with fizz rockets and classifying animals and insects. These activities allowed students to collaboratively work on projects and tasks that were hands-on and fostered problem solving, teamwork, and creative thinking skills.

Assisted by the STEM Club Grant from Inspiring Australia, Queensland Museum to assist with purchasing resources, students actively enjoyed these afternoon sessions and demonstrated a large interest in participating in future STEAM Club activities in 2019.
The A2B Senior Girls Group at OLC this term has focused on various life-skill topics such as understanding emotions, personalities, on-line identity, support networks, teamwork and friendships. Our rock climbing activity taught us the benefits of challenging ourselves beyond our normal experiences and facing fears in order to achieve our goals. All our girls rose to the challenge!
Sugarworld Activity Day

When you’re writing about one of the best school outings of the year, it’s hard not to sound corny. But to be honest, it’s difficult to find a way to describe the entire, energizing experience without the whole thing sounding painfully cliché. But I’ll do my best.

So, what can I say? Sugarworld was – as always – a gigantic, chaotic, inspiring, joyous event. There is something about seeing all your friends turn up at the same place which makes it impossible to stop smiling. Parents, home tutors, teachers and students were all able to discard their coat of formality which had lingered since Presentation Night the previous evening. The time had come to leave the strain of work and school far, far behind as we plunged headfirst into the world of, well...Sugarworld.

The activities were endless: you could join an intense volleyball game of Students vs Teachers (minimal injuries sustained), go rafting down the twists and turns of the yellow slide (safe, unless you tried to flip the raft mid-slide, like me), or challenge the unbeatable Mr Renfree in a mat-race (the only thing that suffered here was your pride). Graduates and home tutors alike were seen shamelessly lining up to sit on Santa’s knee as he handed out sweets.

So it was certainly the best way to round off the school year, although everyone dreaded the time when we had to say our goodbyes. It will be six months before some of us see each other again. Distance has its ups and downs, but because of it, we make the most of the moments we all spend together. And that’s what counts.

Jacob
Year 10

Parents and Citizens

To Our CSDE Community,

What a great Term 4 it was and what a fantastic Celebration Week. Thank you to everyone involved for the absolutely incredible effort with this year’s end of year event. I have heard so much positive feedback from parents, home tutors and students of what a terrific week it was to end 2018.

Thankfully, the weather was kind to us as Cairns is inundated this week, with more wet weather to come as Cyclone Owen reforms ready to cross Cape York and return to the east coast. Everyone, please stay safe. Presentation Night was such a special event with our students being acknowledged for their great work and achievements throughout the year. I’ve heard comments that awardees loved their books. The presentation of books and book vouchers to awardees is an initiative of the P&C and is a tradition that we will continue every year with your support.

Congratulations to the winners of the P&C Christmas Hamper Raffle which was drawn at Sugarworld. Good to see first prize going to one of our GI families – I am sure the hamper will come in handy when you are cut off from the shops this wet season. Thank you to everyone for your donations and for purchasing tickets.

Our P&C Executive work tirelessly to keep our association running smoothly. Thank you to our Vice-President Juanita Saal, Treasurer Jana Mueller and Secretary Andrea Pumpa, for your hard work and dedication throughout the year. Thanks also to our cluster reps Andrea, Mel, Taryn and Sharon.

Please join us at our P&C AGM which is scheduled to be held at 2.30pm on the 11th March 2019. If you would like to renew your membership or join the P&C and/or you would like to nominate or nominate someone for an office bearer position or cluster representative you will find the relevant forms on the school website at https://cairnssde.eq.edu.au/Ourcommunity/P&C/Pages/P&C.aspx.

Until then, have a safe and wonderful holiday break and talk to you in 2019.

Judith Eriksen
P&C President

Miscellaneous

Meningococcal Acwv Available For Year 10 - 12 Students until the End Of 2018

It was brought to our attention that the Meningococcal vaccine, which QLD Health currently only offers to year ten students, has not been taken up well by the 2018 grade 12 cohort. Since the introduction of this vaccine for the year ten students, in 2017, it has also been available free of charge for 15-19 year olds at their local Health Care Provider.

Please be aware the Meningococcal C vaccine, children received when younger, is not to be confused with this new Meningococcal ACWY, which covers recipients for 3 further strains of Meningococcal....A,W, and Y.

Unfortunately, this message was not adequately relayed to parents and carers.

Adolescents and young adults are typically at increased risk of contracting the disease due to closely mixing and living with many different people.

Given that many students will be leaving school and moving into a tertiary study environment +/-accommodation sharing situations, we would strongly recommend students aged 15 – 19yrs visit their Health
Care Provider for the Meningococcal ACWY vaccine (while it remains funded until the end of 2018).


**Vigoro Recruitment**

Attention students,

Cairns Vigoro Association is recruiting students to play representative Vigoro at the Junior State Titles. If you like playing outdoors, enjoy meeting new people. Can hit a ball, catch a ball and run, then here is a perfect opportunity to play at a state run carnival.

Cairns Vigoro Association is looking for Girls aged 9 - 13 or Boys 9 -12. Yes girls and boys play together. If you are interested in the game or just curious check out Cairns Vigoro Association's Facebook, drop them a line or contact Nadine Pinto: 0424 252 944

*Ms.S.*

*Head of Community Engagement*