A magical scene as dirt riders make their way through a cattle station raising funds for the Cairns School of Distance Education P&C Association. Photograph taken by ex CSDE student Jacinta Littler

### Term 4 Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>October</th>
<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
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<tr>
<td>06 Labour Day Holiday</td>
<td>3-7 Year 12 Block Exams</td>
<td>1-2 Instrumental Band Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>07 Term 4 commences</td>
<td>6-7 SODEA Meeting, Bne</td>
<td>3-4 Bush Kids 'r Water Smart Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 P&amp;C Meeting – 7.30pm Phone 1800 141 220 Rm 1149 273 350</td>
<td>10 P&amp;C Meeting – 7.30pm Phone 1800 141 220 Rm 1149 273 350</td>
<td>3 Biannual Forum</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 School Eisteddfod</td>
<td>17-21 Year 11 Block Exams</td>
<td>4 Art Exhibition</td>
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<td>20 Student Free Day</td>
<td>19 Year 12 Graduation</td>
<td>4 Presentation Evening</td>
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<td>28 Last Day for On Air</td>
<td>5 End of Year Activity Day at Sugarworld</td>
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Wow, term three has drawn to a close already! A prodigious number of events have occurred throughout this term and this edition of Bushwhacked highlights these. Our mini/mega schools incorporating the P&C PEDALS program were the major events conducted.

Our team of dedicated staff and home tutors have been working together to ensure that our students have the best possible educational opportunities in this unique learning environment. My thanks are extended to Mr Jim Buzacott and Mrs Radhika Wagh for their contributions this term. Mr Mick Mendel and Ms Maryann Sullivan both return from leave at the start of next term.

As always our P&C has been working tirelessly to support our students, parents and home tutors. I urge you to check out the P&C page and in particular support the ART Auction for the painting donated to us by Ross Franzi. There is a link to this page that you can share with your friends and family to spread the word. You can also ‘like’ us on Facebook.

Bridie Cowe’s poem ‘We’re in the Countryside’ features in this edition and gives an excellent insight to what it’s like living in the bush from a young woman’s point of view.

The 17th Cairns to Karumba bike ride was conducted over the winter vacation. It was another amazing success and my thanks are extended to all of the people involved in this awesome ride. The full report is included in the midsection of this newsletter. I look forward with great anticipation to the 2015 ride and I hope to make it all the way without falling off (I only fell off once this year, but it was a cracker!)

The Lutton Family is our Family in Focus this term. Check out what life is like for them in the Lockhart River region. It makes for interesting reading and it also gives you an appreciation of life in the Far North.

There are an array of images and student work that concludes our newsletter. These pictures and samples epitomise the amazing opportunities and results of the work that we all do to support our wonderful students. Please enjoy this edition of Bushwhacked.

I look forward to a relaxing holiday and the resumption of school on Tuesday 7 October. Have a safe and happy holiday with those you love.

Kind regards
Andrew Oliver
Principal
Pictures Speak Louder Than Words

Home Tutors engaged in a wonderful Mini School program this term. They’ll now have many more strategies in their toolkits to help them dig deeper into reading and writing. Plus a few effective Explicit Teaching tips like using gestures to ‘check for understanding’.

Some mums learnt about formative and summative assessment through Jody’s bag making from recycled boxes. Others enjoyed the camaraderie of bead making or indulging in a round of golf. And who could pass up the ICT goodies, especially the uses of OneNote in organising information. All set for success.

There was lots of sharing and discussion on how to develop the Independent Learner. Nice to see they remembered my mind map summing up what it takes – in a snail shell. It is all about those Self-Managing /Monitoring and Modifying HOM and Mastery skills. Enjoy!
Parents’ & Citizens’

Here’s to all volunteers, those dedicated people who believe in all work and no pay. ~ Robert Orben

Thank you to all those active P&C members who have participated in meetings this year and contributed in many ways to our school for Term 3 – bike ride involvement (supporting, catering, fundraising, riding and more), meetings, correspondence, administration and reporting, catering for camps, fundraising, feedback, Representative roles and spreading the word about how to be involved. Well done to Students, Teachers, School Staff, Home Tutors and Families who have worked hard and achieved such success in Term 3.

After an incredibly successful Cairns to Karumba Bike Ride for 2014 raising funds for ‘Kids in the Bush’, your P&C has received a very generous cheque for $80,000. We acknowledge the tireless efforts of the MILBOE Board, Riders, Volunteers, Caterers and the many people who are involved to make this ride a success. From CSDE P&C Families, the Kids of the Bush and all those isolated students who benefit from your generosity – we say Thank You!

ART AUCTION

The ever-enthusiastic Kachena Cullen has been busy getting everything in order for our major Art Auction. Some of you may know that the P&C has been gifted with a beautiful painting from Ross Franzi to auction off this year. For those who may not know, Ross completed the Cairns to Karumba Bike Ride in 2012. He also donated a painting to the bike ride which was raffled during the 2013 Bike Ride and raised nearly $3000. Ross was also part of the first roll out of PEDALS teaching art.

For Ross’ enthusiasm and passion for helping kids in the bush - we say Thank You!

We are seeking the assistance of all P&C members to share around the following:

I am helping to raise funds for the kids of Cairns School of Distance Education.
Artist: Ross Franzi
You can visit our auction page and register to bid at:
http://www.biddingOwl.com/CSDE
Your help is greatly appreciated.

This can be used as signature in your emails just like we did on the bike ride. By attaching this as a signature you are helping in a big way. Share with friends via email or Facebook. Every bit we do helps in many ways.

The painting, above, of the mother wallaby and her babies are like the ones Ross and his family looked after where he lives. They also represent family and like another Home Tutor has said, "Love how the painting depicts a feeling of warmth between mother and joeys. Great symbolism of our relationship with our kids as home tutors and how our kids still look to us. It also has a great feeling of peacefulness."

Our next P&C meeting will be:

Monday, 13th October 2014
Teleconference - Dial in on 1800 141 220
Conference Code 1149 273 350
We hope you have enjoyed the **PEDALS Program** at the various mini schools which we proudly brought to you with C2K Funds. You will soon see new playground equipment, and we will be moving to engage a project manager for the feasibility study of dormitory accommodation for remote students and their families.

We have been working hard as your parent voice within the school as always, for various student, tutor and school initiatives. In co-operation with the school we have worked to improve our consistency with Best Practices, communication, WRC and unit planning, printing and delivery. This can only be achieved through the combined efforts of your voluntary P&C members and our fundraising and community initiatives for 2014.

Enjoy your well-earned break and looking forward to the pointy end of the year.

Rachael Wynberg  
President

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**We’re in the Countryside**  
*A School Anthem by Bridie Cowe*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>We’re in the countryside</th>
<th>We’re in the countryside</th>
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<tr>
<td>Co-operation is the key</td>
<td>There is no need to hide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Respect the teacher, tutor and me</td>
<td>We’re in the countryside</td>
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<tr>
<td>We all can’t wait to get involved</td>
<td>On the C2K bike ride</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With lots of fun for young and old</td>
<td>We’re in the countryside</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini school is always lots of fun</td>
<td>Families come from far and wide</td>
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<tr>
<td>To catch up with old friends and new</td>
<td>We’re in the countryside</td>
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<td>There are no children playing here</td>
<td>For we’re spread far and wide</td>
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<tr>
<td>But do not worry, have no fear</td>
<td>And sometimes 4 or 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>We’re in the countryside</td>
<td>Students number 1 or 2</td>
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<td>There’s always a lot of work to do</td>
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<td>We’re in the countryside</td>
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<td>We first began in 72</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Radio stretched far and wide</td>
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<td>But now we’re using something new</td>
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There are no children playing here  
For we’re spread far and wide  
But do not worry, have no fear  
We’re in the countryside

Students number 1 or 2  
And sometimes 4 or 5  
There’s always a lot of work to do  
We’re in the countryside

We first began in 72  
Radio stretched far and wide  
But now we’re using something new  
We’re in the countryside
Wrap Up by Steve Corrie, C2K Bike Ride Co-ordinator

Seventeen years in and the Cairns to Karumba Bike Ride is still kicking goals. In late June this year, 262 participants (riders, volunteers and supporters) set off on another 780km adventure across the Cape, all to help school students across Far North Queensland.

With a Dirty Boys Ride (mountain bikers) filled to capacity and over 100 ‘Rugged Roadies’ hitting the bitumen, the scene was set for seven days of great riding and the odd celebratory drink each evening.

But this year’s event also included a challenge of a different type. The challenge was taken up by Dean O’Mara who elected to run and ride the full distance. As Dean is currently preparing for an ‘around the world’ run he thought the extra kilometres would serve as ideal training. Over the course of the 2014 C2K, Dean ran over 500kms and rode the rest. Yep, we agree, that’s incredible!

Other event highlights included:
- Being back in the township of Mt Surprise.
  Nothing beats doing the ‘No Talent Quest’ at the Pub!
- Taking a ride on the Gulflander in Normanton
- Almost breaking the decking at the Albion Hotel as our riders danced the night away en masse
- Raising $90 000 throughout the event with a total of $80 000 going directly back to the Cairns School of Distance Education P&C

So where to from here? In 2015 we are starting the ride on a Saturday to allow more people to take part in the three day ride option. This allows people to be part of the action without the need to take the full week off to do it.

In 2015 we are also keen to include a staff and student team from CSDE. If this sounds like you, best you get some training in now and get prepared for another brilliant ride from Cairns to Karumba.

For more details about the Cairns to Karumba Bike Ride, go to www.ridefnq.com or email steve.corrie@active8change.com.au
Hi, we’re the Luttons and this is our 9th year being a part of CSDE. There are 4 of us in all – Chris, Nicole, Tempest and Jacob and we are based near Lockhart River.

Chris helps out with mechanical work among other things and being retired, it gives us more flexibility. We have a ‘home base’ for the wetter months when it is more difficult to get out and about. There we enjoy the luxury of internet access (when it works) and the joys of using a washing machine as these are the things most missed when unavailable.

A few permanent resident frogs spend their time with us and are likely to turn up just about anywhere, but during daylight hours they have chosen a few favourite resting spots. This is always handy to keep in mind when working in the kitchen. Having frogs (and geckos) around can also attract snakes, as many of you will already know, but most are (thankfully) just passing through and once they realise they have made a mistake entering into unfamiliar territory, will almost always make a hasty getaway.

Being the mother of two avid bookworms has its benefits such as making spare time extremely peaceful and English just that little bit easier, though surprisingly it does have drawbacks when I am challenged to come up with a logical reason why cleaning teeth and reading a book do NOT get the job done quicker and better and could you PLEASE put that book down so we can start doing some Maths!!!

When things get a bit drier, we spend longer periods in isolation which usually means no mobile service so the satellite phone is always a welcome back-up safety measure. A lot of life’s valuable lessons are learned in this way such as the importance of water conservation, which usually means - if you don’t want to make multiple trips to the creek for water, take care of the water you collect and use it wisely! The mother of invention – necessity, also plays a major role in finding resourceful solutions to problems with only limited tools available.

Most schooldays go from 8am – 3pm with quite a few scheduled sanity breaks. It can be hard to ‘get a life’ outside the schoolroom but we try to make time for our own individual pursuits whenever possible. I greatly admire tutors who manage to plough through the curriculum with more than two kids at a time!

Well that’s about it from us, thanks for reading!
Nicole Lutton
Above: Chloe Macgregor, Year 12, was the first to try out our new Library furniture.

New Furniture to New Books!

The Gobbledygook is Eating a Book
Something is coming. Can you see?
It snuffles and gruffles. What can it be?
Look! Look! It's a Gobbledygook!
It's ripping up pages and eating a book!
A rollicking tale, full of irresistible rhyme and song-like rhythm, of a little girl who takes on the task of introducing a slightly out-of-control monster to the joys of reading.

Fortunately, The Milk ...
You know what it's like when your mum goes away on a business trip and Dad's in charge. She leaves a really, really long list of what he's got to do. And the most important thing is DON'T FORGET TO GET THE MILK. Unfortunately, Dad forgets. So the next morning, before breakfast, he has to go to the corner shop, and this is the story of why it takes him a very, very long time to get back. Featuring: Professor Steg (a time-travelling dinosaur), some green globby things, the Queen of the Pirates, the famed jewel that is the Eye of Splod, some wumpires, and a perfectly normal but very important carton of milk.
I'm a Dirty Dinosaur
Stomp
Splash
Slide,
Dive
,"", This little dinosaur just loves mud!!!

The Eyes
Our eyes help us make sense of the world around us. They are an extraordinary part of the human body. The different ways animals see the world are just as amazing. They can see in ways that we cannot. Welcome to the world of eyes.

Flea Free Feast
In the beginning, Mad Dog the Chef created recipes for purely selfish reasons – to get a decent feed. But his new-fashioned cuisine didn’t stay a secret for long. The news travelled the telephone poles like wildfire. Soon every dog in the neighbourhood had picked up the scent and sampled one of his culinary delights. Includes recipes.

Jacqueline Harvey the Creator of the Alice-Miranda Highton-Smith-Kennington-Jones and Clementine Rose books has kindly signed and donated four of her books for our Library.
A wonderful display of musicianship was demonstrated by the members of the Cairns School of Distance Education Concert Band. The Band participated in a two day camp, culminating in a performance at Balaclava State Primary School and a second performance back at Cairns School of Distance Education.

Congratulations to all and thank you to our accompanying parents and our chauffeur Mr Kim Coleman.

Any parents with questions about joining the Instrumental Music program can contact me at any time at kperg1@eq.edu.au

Sheree Pumpa
with her assignment on Artists Throughout History
Vincent van Gogh 1853-1890
Year 7 to 9 students were invited to attend Mega School in Week 2, Term 3 at Cairns School of Distance Education. It was an opportunity for them to catch up with classmates, family friends and staff while participating in educational activities.

On Monday morning students gathered outside L Block and took part in **Getting to Know You** activities. Over the next couple of days there were group rotations between green screen work, microscope work where students practised making their own slides to look for stomata on leaves, and clay mask construction.

Students were entertained in an informative session by the Surfing Scientist at Trinity Bay State High School. They returned to school to participate in a Maths orienteering challenge.

The highly successful PEDALS program ran on Thursday and Friday. Sessions on offer included bike riding, ukulele playing and face painting.

The 2014 week-long Mega School and PEDALS Program was enjoyed by all involved. We look forward to working with students and their families again next year.
Greetings from Cairns Minischool

Hi Everyone!

We’re having a blast here at minischool. We’ve done so much…

- face painting
- making mosaics and
t- bike riding.

We had to get into teams for these amazing challenges of strength and endurance. The Home Tutors are hard to shake but I think we’ll get them in the end!

Miss you
Us xxxxxx

PS Mum, don’t worry. We’re doing heaps of schoolwork too.

Everyone
Cairns School of Distance Education
Hoare Street
Manunda QLD 2870
Peninsula Mini School, Laura 2014 by Nevis Todd

We danced ...

and we danced ...

We read with our buddies.

We played tennis.

We played with friends.

We wrote.
We sang.
We wrote some more.
We sang karaoke.
We played karaoke.
We lined up.
We created mosaics.
We rode on bikes.
We played ukuleles.
We painted.
We painted faces.
We talked and talked.
At the end of the day we walked back to camp.
Did we have a good time?
AN ODE TO MT GARNET MINI SCHOOL

M: Garnet Mini School was quite a success
The students attending were set to impress

T: Talented people performed on the stage
Clever and confident, no matter their age

G: Groovy moves around the dance floor
Had the audience cheering and screaming for more

A: Artists used colours to show how they feel
We learnt to paint faces so that they look real.

R: Reading with buddies outside in the sun
Was a great way of learning, and so much fun!

N: New experiences were offered by the PEDALS crew
Poems, bikes, face paint, and ukuleles too!

E: Everything is awesome – when you work as a team!
Became the motto that we all loved to scream.

T: To those who joined us, from far and from near,
Many thanks, best wishes and see you next year!
For the **Savannah mini-school**, we joined in with families from the Mt Isa’s School of the Air for their Normanton mini-school. 15 children along with their mums, siblings and governesses, camped out in camper trailers, horse floats, tents and trucks [yes, we even practised our musical instruments in them!] at the Normanton rodeo grounds. Even the teachers camped out! Activities were around a science theme with amazing experiments completed and viewing of the night sky through a powerful telescope and iPads using a nifty app. Night activities also included: camp-fire marshmallows, camp-fire singing and a movie night. The Pedals programme was hugely successful and the Mt Isa families were thrilled to be involved. They look forward to again one day being a part of this successful program.

Many years ago, the mothers from this group formed a **Remote Parent Group** to raise funds for each year’s mini-school. These funds then help with the week’s menu and provide additional activities for the students at each mini-school to enhance their camp eg. local excursions; special meals; mini-school polo shirts; and gifts for graduating students who usually move onto boarding school. This year, the Remote Parent Group funded an excursion to the Barra Farm in Karumba; a fish and chip lunch at Ash’s; a pizza and prawns night and a graduation cake and gifts for 3 boys finishing their primary school years. We wish Hugh Smith, Darcy Wockner and Matthew Hinrichsen all the best in their secondary education and always - may they achieve their best and have fun along the way!
PEDALS Gets Off to a Flying Start in Cairns

With three very successful PEDALS Programs having operated in Cairns, Laura and Normanton already in 2014 we only have one more location to visit on September 11 and 12 – Mt Garnet here we come! Check out some of the great photos from PEDALS this year.

In only its second year the 2014 PEDALS Program had much to live up to after the wonderful feedback received in 2013. On 24/25 July, a total of 47 students and home tutors took part in two days of wonderful workshops in Cairns. These included bike education, body art, mosaics and learning to play the ukulele.

Steve Corrie, Event Co-ordinator –
Article submitted August 2014.
POEM by Marco Gliori, Tammy and Jody
Home Tutors’ Poetry Session
Cairns SODE, Mareeba and Tableland families, Mt Surprise SS
Mt Garnet Mini School – 11/12 September 2014

MT GARNET 2014

We arrived at the Race Track and set up camp,
Relieved it was cool and not too damp.
The Tutors were teaching, with mums on the run,
Cooking and cleaning and joining the fun.

When kids get together from places afar,
Everyone’s welcome, each child is a star,
Displaying their talents in challenging games,
and trying their best remembering names.

The parents played golf and quenched their thirsts
They sang and they danced in excitable bursts.
They welcomed the children from Mt Surprise
And then from Mt Garnet, with big friendly eyes!

Then once all together, we jumped on our bikes,
Acted out poems, slept tight at nights.
We played Ukulele and painted each face,
and tried keeping up with the blistering pace.

Then we packed up camp in the blink of an eye,
It was time for farewells and a sad goodbye,
Content in the knowledge, our friendships remain
And next year thanks to PEDALS we shall all meet again!
Do you want to see the world? Are you keen to push your boundaries and grow as a person? Could you see yourself living overseas as an exchange student in 2015? With over 20 different English and non-English speaking countries to choose from, the hardest part is choosing where you want to go!

Olivia (16) in France – "France is amazing in summer time. Honestly, indescribable. I'm extremely close with my current host family and it will be sad to leave. My host sister is my best friend and sister, and I can't imagine a life in France without her around. But we've already made plans to see each other after I leave."

Take The First Step!
In just a few easy steps, you could be on your way to participating in an opportunity of a lifetime. Visit [www.wep.org.au](http://www.wep.org.au) and request a FREE information pack for you and your parents. Our brochure contains everything you need to know about WEP's not-for-profit student exchange programs to help you and your parents make this important decision.