

# Bwgc Colman Community School Newsletter

## From the Principal

Dear parents, friends and students.

Recently our school underwent a Curriculum, Teaching and Learning Audit. This audit determines how the school is working across 8 identified areas of best practice. The last audit for Bwgc Colman was in 2010.

The results for our school were tremendous with the school demonstrating improvement in all 8 domains.

What that means is, collectively, the staff is providing a better level of education with a sharper and narrower focus on improving

outcomes for children. Our main improvement areas are in attendance and literacy.

The great news about this is that local staff take a lead role in these areas and this means that the improvements will continue as the years go by.

Once again our attendance is strong and in the years pre-Year 8 is above 80%. We would still love to see children at school everyday and have been encouraged by the positive community effort to get our kids here.

Next week will see the nation wide NAPLAN test being held in every school across Aus-

tralia in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

We take these tests seriously and ensure that our students have been well prepared for the way in which the tests are given. It's important that all Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students are here for the tests next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Have a great week

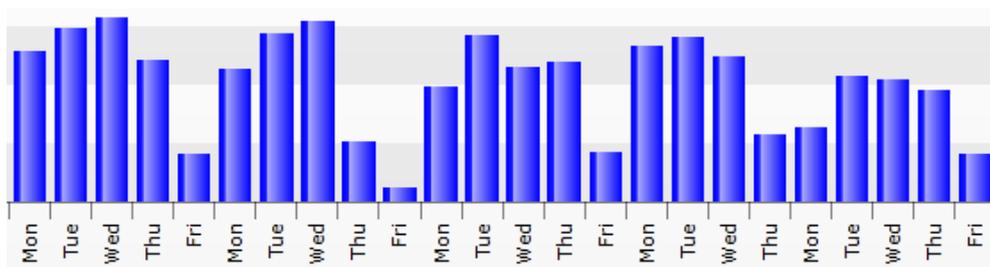
Jeff



Volume 1 Issue 2

### Date Claimer:

- NAPLAN ... 14-16 May
- Domestic Violence Week May 20
- Horizons Trip ... 22-29 May
- 29 & 30 May ... Deadly Ears screening
- Strike '57 ... 3 June
- Bwgc Colman Day ... 10 June



School attendance for the first three weeks of Term 2.

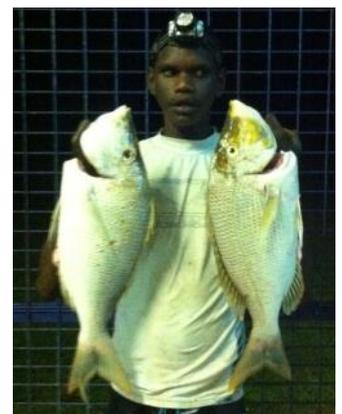
## Can they hunt??

The school fishing program is gearing up in time for the mackerel season on Palm. The step-up boys and the 9/10 boys will be competing for the '2013 Hunter' award of excellence which will crown the deadliest hunter who attends school with a

perpetual trophy and bragging rights.

The fishing program is designed to give students the skills to do the lot from making rigs and tying knots to catching fish, budgeting and keeping spots a secret.

To help fund the program we will be operating a small business and selling our catch on Thursdays up at the mall. All proceeds will be used to fund future trips and educate students on the costs involved.



## Netballers shine in Townsville Comp

On the last day of school last term, Bwgcolman and St Michael's had 3 Netball teams travel to Townsville to play in the Townsville Regional Netball Carnival. All of the girls involved displayed outstanding Netball skills and great sportsmanship. One of our teams was the runners up in the carnival losing to Lourdes from Ingham by 1 point in the final seconds of the Grand Final. Special thanks to Karlean and Samone Pearson for taking the girls on the trip. Also thanks to Jobfind and PCYC for helping with travel arrangements. Well done to all of the girls involved and we look forward more Netball carnivals throughout the year.



## Year 1 & 2 are becoming XO Xperts!

The kids in Year 1/2 B have begun using their new XO Laptops this term. Each child has their own and already, some kids are clever enough to teach others!

These cool little machines are great for use in the classroom, and designed especially for kids. They are waterproof, dust proof, and shock-proof, have internet access and can also take pictures and videos! They have games

and tools to help kids learn to read and write, and are a great way for children to show off their computer skills to friends!

Soon, the Year 1/2s will complete an 'XO Champion' mini-course, which helps them to become more familiar with the machines, and in return, the XO crew send out each student a hat and a USB bracelet! Deadly!



Kids can use their XOs as part of reading, writing, maths and technology.

## Meet the Newbies

**Darryn Jamieson (9/10B)** — Born and raised in New Zealand, I now find myself here on Palm Island with a lot of teaching and life experiences to share with my students. I am a qualified carpenter, worked as a building estimator, managed a pub in England and played professional rugby union in Wales, Ireland, England and South Africa. I taught HPE for over 10 years in New Zealand, five of those were as

HOD. I moved to Australia with my Partner and four children. They live, work and go to school in the Sunshine Coast. My philosophy of teaching is based around strong values, such as respect, responsibility and perseverance. It has been great to get some regular students attending and they have already seen an improvement in their English and Math.

**Natalie Tuffs**— I am a new teacher at Bwgcolman Community School. I have moved from Brisbane and this is my first teaching position since completing university. This year I will be teaching year 9/10 girls maths, 11/12 maths and volunteering and women's business. I am enjoying my time on Palm and look forward to meeting you at school or in the community.

## Cross Country 2013

The Interschool Cross Country Carnival was held at Top Oval on the first day of his term. It was great to see so many students back to school after the holidays and ready to start the term in such a positive way. Congratulations Fantome for winning the carnival and congratulations to everyone who participated in the event, the day really showcased the amazing athletic talent and great school spirit we have at Bwgc Colman. Special thanks to all of the wonderful people who helped make the day happen. Thanks to the school staff, Council, QBuild, PCYC, QAS, CDEP and Bun Lek Solutions.

The next big event on the school sports calendar is the District Cross Country Carnival held in Townsville at Bicentennial Park on May 7. We have 16 students travelling to Townsville to represent Palm Island. Billy Isaacs, Brodie Kerr, Jean Sibley, Waisie Miller, Tina Yasserie, Elijah Miller, Rakeem Lind, Jackson Williamsz, Moaranie Sam, Shauntae Ryan, Hananias Murphy, Trinity Fulford, Levi Baira, Frances Coolburra, Davena Miller and Gail Coolburra. These students have all been training hard in the lead up to this event and we wish them all the best on the big day.



## Men's and Women's Business

Hello everyone! On Fridays, the high school has introduced a wonderful program to provide an alternative curriculum for its boys and girls. Each week we run a variety of activities which include cooperative group challenges, art, bushwalks, quizzes, healthy living education, and kayaking, all with a strong cultural focus. It is directed towards an environment of mutual and shared learning opportunities for both teachers and students. If you like the sound of our program and would like to be involved in some way, please come along on a Friday or contact Gary, Jeremy, Darren, Rosie or Letitia via the office or speak to us directly.



**Mens Business: The boys challenged to show their balance ability while blind folded.**

## From Year 3/4A

This term the Year 3/4 A students are preparing for NAPLAN testing. There assessment for the term is to write a persuasive speech. They have chosen to write about "Why children should listen". We invite parents and carers to join our class on our learning journey at any time.

In science this term we are studying matter. Students are investigating solids, liquids and gases. In the photo I

have attached students were investigating liquids and successfully separated three liquids. There are many simple experiments and discussions you can have at home. For example test if hot water freezes faster than cold water, holding a spoon over the spout of a boiling kettle to see the water vapor turn to liquid and melting chocolate is a class favourite.



**Students engaging in an experiment where they separated liquids.**



Photos



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