



NEWSLETTER

TERM: 1

WEEK: 6

YEAR: 2021

Building 005, Central Queensland University, Mackay, QLD 4740

Phone: 07 4829 4302

Email: office@kmg.qld.edu.au

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE SCHOOL DIRECTOR

The past 2 weeks flew by. Our students have been very productive which warms my heart and really solidifies why we do the things we do here at Kutta Mulla Gorinna for our future generations here in Mackay and beyond.

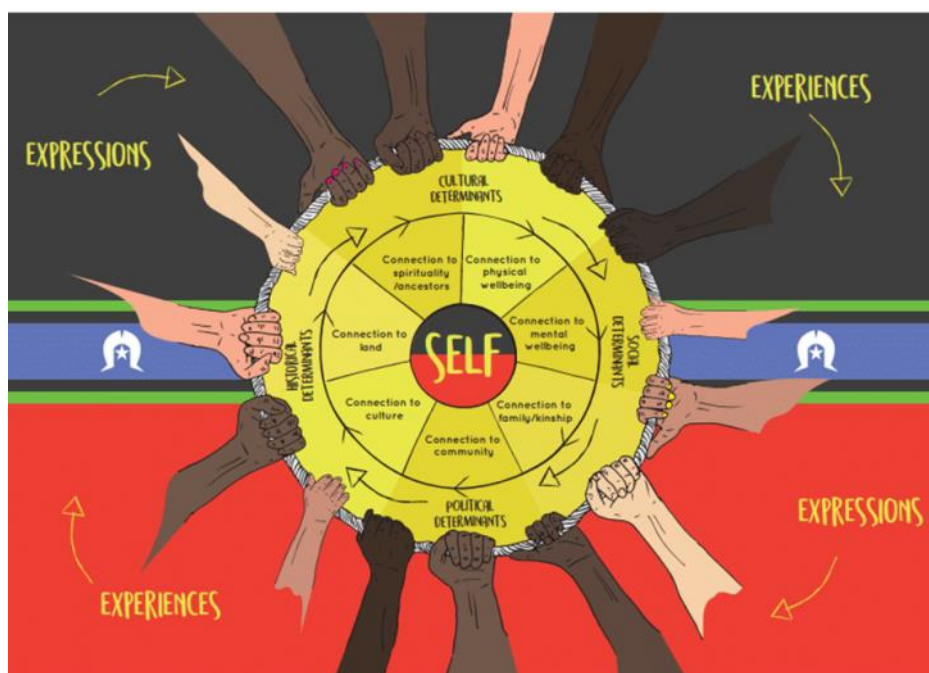
Students and teachers have been busy preparing for assessments and school excursions and with so much going on around the school means that there is also added stress.

Wellbeing and Stress intertwine with each other and people are affected in different ways. Our Staff and students really are like a family because KMG is more than a 'School' we work very hard to provide a safe family environment. Like all families there are a few ups and downs, but one thing that is very special about what we do and what we stand for is our combined strength of resilience and like family we really do care and look after each other.

I took a bit of time away in week 5 as I too needed to check in with myself and my own wellbeing. I can not lead a school if I am not right with myself. I saw signs that in the past shrugged off and pushed through in order to get things done. We have all been there at least once in our lives to overlook our own personal wellbeing because we were too busy or performing daily acts of selflessness for others.

The picture below is from a KYC project 'Ngaga-dji: - Hear me: Young voices creating change'.

It is a simple reminder to check in with yourself, your mob and all of the people you care about. Always remember what keeps us healthy and grounded in mind body and soul.



Reference: Gee, Dudgeon, Schutz, Hart & Kelly, 2013 on behalf of the Australian Indigenous Psychologists Association.
Adapted by Jacob Komesaroff from original art by Tristan Schultz, RelativeCreative

What is Naplan? –

This is a test for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 throughout Australia who are assessed in:

reading,
writing,
conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and
numeracy.

These tests help to let schools and parents know how their children are performing in these learning areas.

What will this look like at KMG?

Year 9 students will be involved with some practice testing in Week 9 this term and then will complete these tests in May (Term Two) . Students who normally get additional help with school assessment will have some adjustments made to help them with this online course.

Further information

If you want further information about Naplan the following link can be helpful: nap.edu.au . If your daughter or son is in Year 9 and you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at the school. This is not a test to prepare for, its simply an activity that helps us to know how and what your child is learning at school

Teresa Hackney (Naplan Coordinator)



Check out Jacob Barba, Braden Poli, Jack Evans and Kiah Giddings with their classmates at the Trades Centre at Ooralea Campus. They are currently studying for a Certificate II in Engineering Pathways.



Well done to Courtney Pitcher who was the star of her course by getting the top mark for her current TAFE course, Certificate II Salon Assistant. She got 9/10 in her revision test 'Maintaining tools and equipment. Courtney got a prize for her efforts. A mixing bowl, *Schwarzkopf* BLONDME Tone Enhancing Shampoo and Conditioner, a colouring brush and a styling comb as seen pictured below.



Courtney attends her course every Tuesday with a couple of other year 12 students. Her tutor Annette Turner is really passionate about everything Salon related. Courtney really enjoys her studies because Annette has a way of breaking things down and explains in a manner that she understands. She is also very patient with all students.

Courtney's sister-in-law did her studies in the same place and has often styled her Mum's hair and done eyebrow and lash tinting too. Courtney has always had an interest in Salon work but didn't think she would enjoy it. She is really glad she overcame her fears and enjoys working with new clients and the various hands on experiences she gains from working alongside more senior students and apprentices who have all been in Courtney's position not long ago.

The only question Courtney got wrong was "Name 3 types of PPE you would use in a hair salon" Courtney answered Gloves (v) Apron (v) and Cape/Gown (x) - she did go on to say she should have written Face mask as legally you should wear one and also safety glasses, especially when mixing hair colour or anything really with peroxide!

YEAR 7/8 NEWS

The Year 7/8 class have been very busy and for HASS learnt some interesting facts about the history of Ancient India.

Some things the students learnt was about India's society, their cultural beliefs, religions and achievements.

The students also learnt lots of new vocabulary like, monsoon, bureaucracy, caste and karma!

Ms Mel and Mr Selwyn are very proud of the effort the students put into this tricky topic.



The pictures below show the students tuning in to their creative side and unleashing artistic abilities by exploring different artistic techniques. The students looked at Texture and space. They found lots of examples of man-made and natural textures to copy in their classroom!

Below you can see Mrs Dalassa Hankin encouraging and assisting students and the Year 7/8 YLC Selwyn Burghardt enjoying an opportunity to dabble in the arts too. Here the students are competing their Spooky Trees artwork that were started in week 5

This was an exercise in shading with watercolours and then creating a 'perspective' by drawing in trees.

The looks of concentration say it all and a great effort from everyone.



YEAR 9/10 NEWS



It is Week 6 and the English and the Year 9/10 students are pictured 'In the zone' and working hard towards a 600-800 word submission for English.

Their English teacher Bianca Fewquandie encourages independent learning and has given students the task to research a movie of their choice. They will also choose the audience they are writing their persuasive text for.



This is a multi-modal assessment where aspects will include Receptive (listening, reading and viewing) and Productive (speaking, writing and creating) modes.

These modes tie in very nicely to our KMG Way and aligns to our 8-Ways pedagogy of Deconstruct-Reconstruct where the students "Watch then do" and work towards completing their assessment to the best of their abilities. Ms Bianca is really proud of her students for taking responsibility for times used in the classroom and making positive choices.



The students were introduced to a new unit that will run until week 10. The unit is Pythagoras Theorem & Trigonometry.

Mrs Elise Kertesz the year 9/10 Maths teacher introduced this unit by encouraging the students to experience a more hands on approach to fully understand and grasp the new concept.

Mrs Kertesz explained how triangles were the strongest shape and that's why structures using triangles don't break even during hurricanes and cyclones!



The students tested the theory by constructing and building chairs using the humble "Rolled up newspaper" and masking tape.

As you can see from the pictures the students were engaged in the practical experiments and were able to create sturdy chairs that actually held their weight much to the disbelief of some surprised students.

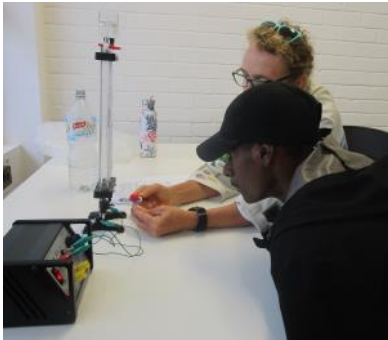
By the end of the class students were able to confirm that by using triangles many things can be built and be structurally sound.

One student said at first he couldn't pronounce the name properly but he said that it was ok because 'Strong Triangles' was his KMG Way of saying it and he understood what it meant anyway.



YEAR 11 NEWS

The students have been keeping themselves busy with Math, English, Science and VETiS courses. Being mid term, students have also had to manage their time so that they can prepare for assessments. Below you can see a few students with Mrs H and their testing that was done in Week 5.



Week 6 the Year 11 class had a guest speaker Keeley Porter from Mackay City Council which was followed by a class excursion to the Water Treatment Plant on Lagoon Street.





Year 12 students spend their Friday's experiencing Sport and Recreation with CQUni Staff.

Above you can see a couple of students Courtney and Melitta engaging in a game of Badminton with Russell and Andrew.

29th Annual Mocktail Event 2021

Established in 1991, Mocktail is an alcohol and drug free party for the youth of Mackay. The Mocktail as it has been known for 28 years is a one of a kind event.

Mocktail 2021 will be held on **Friday 12th March from 7:00pm-11:00pm at the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre (MECC)**. Please note, this is for **currently enrolled Year 12 students only**.

Mocktail tickets are limited this year due to social distancing rules enforced by the local council and state government.

Students can only buy tickets from their own school and can only purchase **one ticket** each. Tickets are **\$30 each**.

This is a fantastic opportunity for our Year 12 students to celebrate being in their final year at school. It may be an ideal opportunity for them to potentially re-connect with students from their previous schools.

It may also be a chance for those students doing Hair and Beauty Courses in particular 'Certificate II Salon Assistant' to put into practice the new skills they have been learning on a Tuesday.

For further details, please contact our Year 12 YLC Aisha Barba before the end of Monday 8th March.

Life skills session—Cooking

Every week students get to experience something different during afternoon Life Skills sessions. This week the cooking students made a Christmas favourite 'Apricot balls' hopefully they followed Ms Donna Leigh's recipe. They tasted delicious!



Crush biscuits, add chopped apricots, add sweetened condensed milk, mix altogether, you can either turn it out to a board if it is easier to roll, or not, up to you.



Get the desired amount for your ball, roll in coconut, working in a group is so much easier, and the final result—Delicious!

Life skills session—STEM with Mrs Kertesz



Students also experienced making home made ice cream from one of KMG's STEM teachers Mrs Elise Kertesz.

One of our year 9 students Joel McHughes sharing some of his delicious homemade ice cream with fellow year 9 student Kai Walker who was all smiles about the kind gesture.

Well done everyone!



YOUTH SUPPORT SERVICES NEWS

This week was another enjoyable week. The students have been getting into a really good routine with their studies both on site here at KMG and on their various VETiS and Tafe courses.

Monday (Week 6) some of the senior students participated in the Footy trials. They were unaware of the calibre and age group they were trialing for and in my opinion did really well and gave it a good crack. Unfortunately none of the students were successful in making it through but we are all very proud of their efforts, a job well done lads.

Again lunches have been a real treat for some of the students with the cooler weather of late, we have been having meals that are a bit more wholesome especially when reheated, from the usual toasties to cooked meals. Every lunch, students have also been able to indulge in home made slices.

We are now well into our first term and I would like to encourage all parents to check in with their family members who are here at KMG. It can be a bit of a stressful time for some of them as they begin their mid term assessments. If you become aware of any behavioural issues can I ask that you please make contact with our school office and ask for myself or leave a message so that I can make a time to have a chat with the student and see if they might need to talk with someone from ATSICHS. We have a very close relationship with the counsellors there and they are always willing to come and have a chat. A member of their staff is on site here at KMG once a week and we can book in a 10 minute (or longer if needed) session with them.

One more reminder for this newsletter is with the cooler weather, please ensure that your children are attending school with appropriate uniform Monday, Wednesday and Friday. If they attend TAFE courses that require a certain dress code or PPE please do ensure they are wearing the correct attire. Also for students who remain at KMG please encourage them to wear enclosed shoes (and socks) and on cooler days bring something warm or a light jacket or coat.

8 Ways—Deconstruct, Reconstruct



The ESD Justin took time out of his busy day to visit the Year 9/10 Cultural class and gave an example of I do, You do, We do. At first it seemed like a good idea to do a simple tricep dip, but it proved to be a bit more involved than initially expected. Both Justin and Raedan Hankin had Big laughs about the exercise but both gave it a go.

It is so refreshing to see that both staff and students can re-connect for a yarn, a bit of knowledge sharing from teacher to student and from the look of these pictures vice versa. What

good is knowledge that is not shared?

The KMG Way is much more than a pedagogy its normalized in the school, there is mutual understanding which then leads to mutual respect.



Other News

This Newsletter we wanted to introduce our Youth Support Coordinator Andrew Malayta, doing what he does best, ensuring that the students have what they need and on a daily basis that includes a delicious lunch!

Name	Andrew Malayta
Role	Youth Support Coordinator (YSC)
Favourite Quote	"Don't count the days, make the days count" <i>Muhammed Ali</i>
What do you do at KMG?	Student transport, student wellbeing, appointments, sports, lunch packs, and lunch-time activities.
What are your quals for the role?	Parent, sporting coach, and mentor.
What do you like about KMG?	<p>Every day is different you never know what to expect.</p> <p>Being at KMG allows me to understand what this younger generation is going through in our community, and hopefully give them a bit of advice into how they can approach the challenges in their lives.</p> <p>It allows me to become a better parent from the knowledge I learn from students and staff at KMG.</p> <p>I think the culture at KMG is getting better every year and the students know its their safe place and even though they sometimes they do not have to come that day, you can bet your next weeks pay they will be there.</p>
What is your background?	I am a proud South Sea, Aboriginal, and Torres Strait Islander from Sarina. I went to school in Sarina and vacationed in Habana in the 80s and 90s.
What are the values that drive you?	Respect, loyalty and being real.

A'Keeyleyz 'Pups' James-Hankin pictured here with his signature 'Smile' as Andrew offers him a home made Bacon and egg pie and Ms Donna Leigh's famous chocolate slice.



Other News

The Junior classroom has taken possession of some laptops that were sourced and acquired through a team-effort and a very generous donation from St. John's Catholic Primary School – Walkerston.

A big shout-out and thank you to Nathaniel Rice (Principal of St. John's) and Di Blines (IT person extraordinaire) for helping KMG achieve this technological goal.

The class cannot wait to get onto them and start their assignment work. They have already had a chance to do some practising!

This donation now means that all year levels at KMG have a full class-set of Laptops.

Thank you once again to all who made this happen.



If you or anyone you know would like to share something with Kutta Mulla Gorinna and our wider family, please let us know by contacting our school office:

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