



NEWSLETTER

End of Term 2—May Edition 2021

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FROM OUR EXECUTIVE SCHOOL DIRECTOR

CYNTHIA PASSIONATE ABOUT IMPROVING HIGHER EDUCATION OUTCOMES FOR INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS

Mackay-based Cynthia Simpson has a passion for improving higher education outcomes for Indigenous Australians.

The CQUniversity Campus Coordinator is also a General Board Member of Kutta Mulla Gorinna (KMG) Special Assistance School and a member of the sub-committee of the KMG Future Outlook Committee.

“Since starting at CQUni five years ago, I have always known the University as one to strive to improve higher education outcomes for Indigenous Australians,” Cynthia said.

“For me personally - without being a teacher or lecturer – I want to have a small hand in assisting Indigenous students to not only achieve but also just believe more.

“When you see that happening, the feeling is second to none,” she said.

The Kutta Mulla Gorinna Special Assistance School has been successful in supporting vulnerable and disengaged youth with an influx of students enrolled in further education and training programs.

Since opening at CQUniversity's Mackay City campus almost two years ago, KMG has provided secondary schooling opportunities to young people who are disconnected and alienated from the conventional school system.

The School, led by Executive School Director Justin Giblett, has over 50 students currently enrolled.

“Working with Justin and seeing his, his staff and the school's indigenous Elders' passion for helping their students is very much inspirational.”

In her role on the Board, Cynthia said she has been fortunate to see KMG students start as “disengaged, shy, never say hello unless specifically addressed” to within a short period of time “knocking on my office door, confident to ask questions and to say hello first when walking past.”

“To top it off, to hear someone say they want to go to uni and become a teacher and go back to KMG and teach - well there is no better endorsement as to the importance of Indigenous Engagement.”

Justin Giblett said Cynthia was one of those community members that understood ‘true reconciliation’.

“Because it happens where we live, where we work and where we learn,” Mr Giblett said.

“This is the second year on reconciliation with KMG and CQU and Cynthia has been the driver of the annual Reconciliation week event that happens between both organisations.

Mr Giblett said this year, the School would continue on with its KMG and CQU perpetual shield in Tug A War.

“It's an all-inclusive round of sports where CQU students and staff come together to share the afternoon with KMG staff and students. This is just one way of Cynthia's journey to reconciliation. Cynthia is not one to sit back, she is willing to ask the hard questions.

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Cynthia has recently been tasked with setting up and creating a platform for KMG Alumni students.

“I am very much looking forward to the school being able to showcase their success stories, which are already happening,” she said.

“My favourite part is being able to provide opportunities for CQUni to connect or assist KMG in any way. I have seen the school go through its ups and down to eventually become an accredited independent school, who are not just ticking all the boxes operationally, but who are providing a safe, respectful, cultural educational facility for disadvantaged/disengaged students along with also now being recognised as a first-choice school for some families.”

Today was a fantastic coming together. Below are pictures highlighting the great relationship we have with CQUniversity. Thank you aunty Cynthia and uncle Bill for having us over to share a meal together and for inviting the wider CQUni staff (Sport and Rec, and other lecturers) as well as current students along to have our friendly game of Volleyball and annual ‘Tug of War’ challenge. Well done to our KMG students for bringing home the shield for 2021!



Left, Melitta Hankin, Shorai Hankin-James and Raedan Hankin enjoying a delicious steak burger for lunch.

Right: KMG staff and students enjoying a ‘Friendly’ match of volleyball. There are a few undercover professional volleyball athletes in the making!



From left to right:

Aunty Cynthia Simpson, Selwyn Burkhardt, Raedan Hankin and Tawera Sakalia-Waikato accepting the trophy on behalf of KMG for 2021 Reconciliation Day. Thank you to all who came and participated.



YEAR 7/8 NEWS

The Year 7/8 class has continued their investigations into Coding and Robotics.

We once again thank Mrs Sandra Bayliss from Mercy College Mackay for sharing her expertise with us each week.

The students are all working well on their projects and are developing a better understanding of design components and problem solving.

I can't wait to see their finished robots in action!!

Mel Wright.



YEAR 7/8 NEWS—Robotics continued



YEAR 9/10 NEWS

This term our students have been working very hard in all subjects. A recent standout for this term has been their science assessment. The students have had to create a Diorama of an Ecosystem. Not only did the students have to create a diorama but they also had to give an oral presentation about the ecosystem they choose. All students worked well within their groups and have all done such a fantastic job. Well done you should be very proud of your achievements so far. I can't wait to see what you have in store for your next assessment.

Kristi Giblett (YLC)



YEAR 11 NEWS

This month the Year 11 students have been busy working well in their different subjects.

Below are pictures of the students and their plants they have been growing for the past 3 weeks for Applied Sciences. In the last newsletter they had to do some research on what plants were able to grow at this time of year here in Mackay.

Some students chose herbs such as Basil, Parsley and Rosemary. Others chose Pawpaw, strawberries and quite a few chose different varieties of chillies! All students are have also planted Sweet Potatoes, lets see if they are a success.

Last week students set up their classroom worm farm, they did a bit of research and learnt what needed to be done to prepare. Some students shredded paper, some cut up and blended food scraps, and others ran away from the worms as soon as the box was opened!

Frances Rewharewha



YEAR 11 NEWS

Worm Farm prep continued—Below are some more pics of the students preparing their worm farm.

On a Wednesday the students get to do a class circuit. They really embraced the new gym session, well done lads! I'm pretty sure all of the complaining about aches and pains the next day meant that the students discovered muscles in places they had never worked before.

One student even made a comment *"Been to the gym twice and I got a 6 Pack"* (L Willis)



Ceah and Ramon, getting their Cardio fix!



Jacob and Ramon, perfecting their back squat technique.

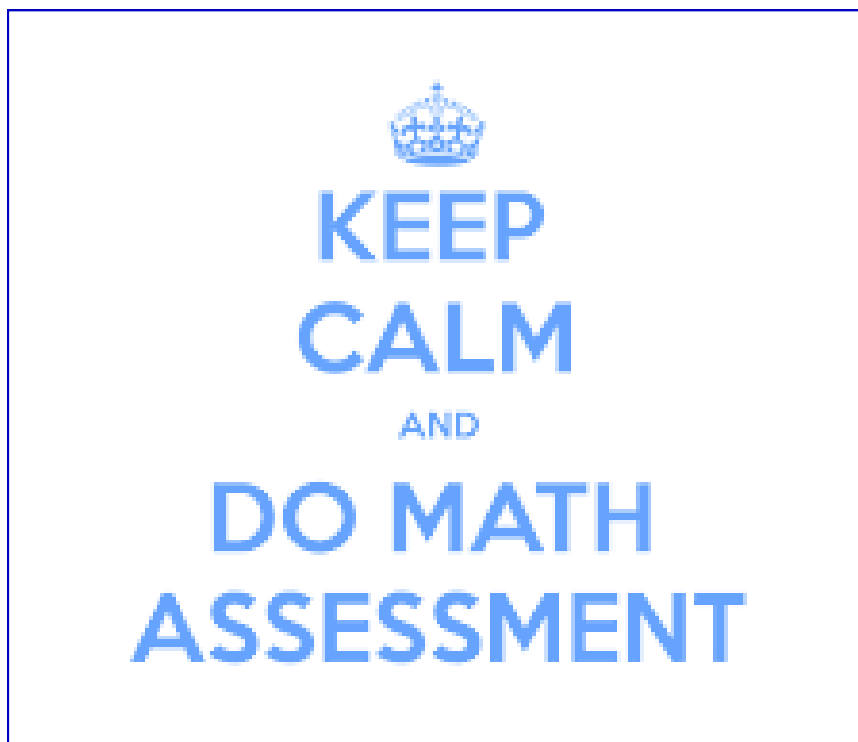
YEAR 12 NEWS

This month the seniors have been working steadily. There is a lot of work for students to complete. Students have been doing well with CQUniversity Sport and Rec classes, Business classes and also those students who are in Tafe courses.

Over the past week students have had to really start working harder to prepare for their upcoming assessments for Math with Aunty Marg Dorante and English with Bianca Fewquandie in week 9 (2 weeks time)

All the best to all of the seniors in Year 12 for their continued dedication to a successful educational pathway.

Aisha Barba (Year 12 Year Level Coordinator)



Life Skills—Cooking Program

Cooking Program

This term the students have been very industrious and having been extending their culinary repertoire by cooking a variety of food every Thursday afternoon. The students are really great at working together in small groups and learning from the best 'Nanny D' (Donna Leigh) who is on the school Board. So far this month they have cooked:

Chicken & Bacon Carbonara (Chicken + Pork clash of the taste buds)

Pikelets (KMG way, with lashings of sweet goodness and freshly whipped cream)

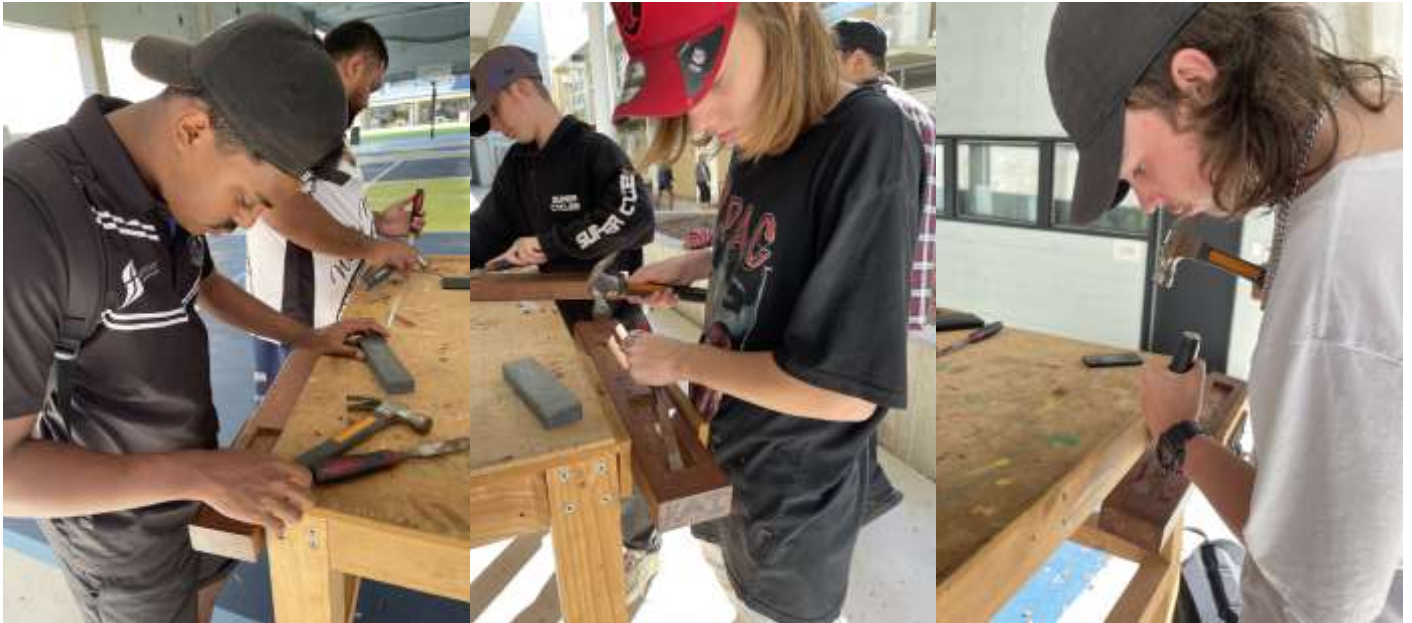
Rocky Road (Nothing Rocky about this favourite, one of Nanny D's specialties)

Mince Taco's (Students loved making this family night favourite!) - Check out the pic below!



LIFE SKILLS—Strength Program

Students have been busy working on their sandstone boxes. All students have measured up their pieces of wood and have now started to chisel out their wood for their sandstone to fit. Well done students, keep going!



Ramon, Kai and Gavin showing us how its done.



Joel and Seth don't like to work apart from each other



Kai and Joel, taking a break and building a hut!

Other News

Administration of medication

The Department of Education and Training has provided advice to the School regarding the administration of medication to students.

All medications, including over-the-counter medications, e.g. paracetamol or alternative medicines, are identified as drugs or poisons that may cause side effects.

As such, the School is required to receive medical authorisation from a prescribing health practitioner e.g. doctor, dentist, optometrist, but not a pharmacist, to administer any medication to students, including those bought over-the-counter.

Unlike parents/guardians, School employees are unaware of a child's complete medical history, and are unable to provide ongoing, direct supervision of the child for the course of their illness and are therefore unlikely to recognise if a child is having adverse effects to any medications administered.

Health practitioners also have knowledge of medical history in order to determine which over-the-counter medications are appropriate, dosage amounts and potential side effects or interactions with other medications.

Parents/guardians who currently have over-the-counter medication stored at the School for their child are required to provide medical authorisation from a prescribing health practitioner (not a pharmacist), in order for the School to be able to continue to administer that medication to their child.

If parents/guardians do not wish to obtain medical authorisation for the use of over-the-counter medications for their child, they are able to attend the School and administer the medication to their child as required.

This term we have visiting theatre company 'Shake and Stir' coming to visit the school. They will be presenting 'Revolting Rhymes' to the Year 7/8 class and 'Macbeth' to the Year 9/10 students which will assist them with their assessment in English this term.

They will also be performing a 'Prankster' performance on Monday 7th at 1.30 pm during the school life skills program. This session is aimed at all students at KMG. Any parent, guardian or carer is welcome to join us for this session.

SHAKE & STIR



Other News

This year KMG is selling raffle tickets for the annual 'Great Community Fundraiser'

Prize: new 2021 Nissan Qashqai ST Auto – donated by North Jacklin Motor Group (prize is not redeemable for cash)

We only have a few books left as they have sold like ...Chicken Vermicelli and Rice! We saw this parked up outside our school doors and see it as a sign, The next winner could be from the tickets that KMG sell and it could be you!

\$2 per ticket, 10 tickets per book = \$20 per book

Raffle Sales End: 6th August

Raffle Drawn: 16th August



Winner will be notified by phone and published on The Daily Mercury website, Wednesday 18th August 2021.

If you or anyone you know is interested in purchasing tickets or books, please contact our school administrator when you are in next or call the school office to find out more details.

Alternatively contact Lisa Johnston on 07 4829 4302.

Please note that no ticket will be given without payment up front.

All proceeds from the sale of tickets will go to KMG.

See below our Local MP Julianne Gilbert getting behind the KMG and endorsing our ticket sales.



MR & MISS NAIDOC PAGEANT 2021



Categories

AGES: 13 - 17

- * GENERAL CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE
- * BEST DRESSED (FORMAL WEAR)
- * HEALING COUNTRY - NAIDOC 2021 THEME.
WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU?

Formal Event

*FREE ENTRY includes 3 COURSE MEAL
(Limited Seats - Bookings/Registration Essential)*

DATE: WEDNESDAY 23 JUNE 2021

TIME: 6:30PM - 10:00PM

VENUE: OCEAN INTERNATIONAL

To book seats or register for pageant call:
Jessica Ah-Wang on 0492 151 937
or visit 9 River St, Mackay



Download application form: atsichsmackay.org/Yuwiyumba

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