Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Cooktown P-12 is such an exciting place. This week we had Ms Tanya’s and Mrs Doctor’s classes present their culminating activities from their science assessment - Weather - changes between the day and night skies. Thank you to all the parents and family who attended it was wonderful to have over 70 people attending. The children treated everyone with art activities, dances, movies and a sausage sizzle. They were amazing!

This Friday night 6th November is our annual Art Exhibition – Art Kitchen Rules! Comming at 5:30 pm at the Events Centre foyer. Please come and support our Secondary Artists. There will be refreshments and of course the highlight of the night Certificate presentation and auction. I look forward to seeing you there!

On Thursday 13 November our annual awards night will be held at the Events Centre. All students and parents from Year 4 to Year 12 who are receiving an award should have received their invitations please check your mail. The ceremony commences promptly at 7pm. Our Awards Night is the most prestigious and formal night of our school year. This year we have the expectation that all students being presented with awards be dressed in full school uniform. This negates the chance of any fashion faux pas or unnecessary expense for parents. It also demonstrates to the whole community and dignitaries the pride we have for ourselves and our school.

A P-3 Awards Ceremony will be held in the final week of term so watch this space!

Over the past fortnight, the year 9 students have had the opportunity to peruse subject selection forms for 2015. After negotiation with their families, these students have selected their elective courses of study for their 10th year of schooling and have completed the first section of their SET plans which will be completed in semester 2 of next year. The SET planning process allows students to think about which subjects will most suit the selected career path that they have in mind at this point in time. This process has proved very exciting and I look forward to sharing the students’ progress with you for the remainder of this year and as they progress into their senior years of schooling.

On 21 November we will say a fond farewell to our Year 12 students as they graduate from Cooktown P-12. Our graduation evening is truly spectacular with our Year 12 metamorphosing into the most spectacular adult creatures. This year we will celebrate with a very formal evening at Hillcrest. The night promises to be truly spectacular.

In the meantime all students must remember that every day at school is a precious learning day. While it is easy to think that this is the end of the year let me assure you that the teachers of Cooktown P-12 will be teaching curriculum up until the very last day of the year and all students need to be in class every day to achieve their very best.

Leanne Rayner
Student Art Exhibition Only Weeks Away

Students are getting very excited and working hard on their final works for the upcoming Cooktown State School Annual Art Exhibition ART KITCHEN RULES.

Around 80 works by Secondary students from years 8 – 12 will be showcased for a week (7th to 14th November) in the foyer of PCYC Cooktown Events Centre.

“I have included more works from our Junior Secondary students this year along with Senior Secondary works completed for Authority and Certificate courses,” said Art Teacher Jennifer Hall.

“We have had so many exciting things happening in the Art Department this year. The Senior Secondary Sydney Art Trip was undoubtedly a highlight. We have also been recognised regionally at the Energy Art Exhibition with a work by Lily Keegan (Senior Secondary) and state-wide with Dylan Mitchell’s (Junior Secondary) G20 submission,” Jennifer said, “I am so proud of all my art students and look forward to presenting their work to the Cooktown Community.”

The exhibition opens at 5.30pm on Friday 7th November. Light refreshments will be available and a selection of works will available for purchase.

Uncles and Aunties Hopevale Excursion

As part of the Uncles and Aunties Indigenous program, students in Year 6 were invited to Hopevale for a day of learning about Australia's Indigenous heritage as well as the environment in which we live. The day included a lovely bushwalk through the rainforest where we learnt about the local flora and fauna and how we can use it to survive. It was a fantastic insight into how the local Indigenous population have successfully lived off the land and how we can utilise such knowledge if we are ever lost in the bush. After enjoying a delicious BBQ lunch, we headed into Hopevale to meet with the locals who gave us a warm welcome.

We attended a language class and were taught the fundamentals of the Indigenous language that is commonly spoken in the Hopevale region.

The day culminated in a spear making demonstration using traditional methods and techniques. We were offered an authentic hunting spear which we gratefully accepted. It will be on display in the library for everyone to view.

Thank you so much to Helena and Dotti for organising this day (which was at no cost to the students). Everyone had a great time and is better for the experience. Todays trip was for 6L but 5/6G and 5/6B will enjoy the same (free) excursion next week!

-Mr Lingard
C.A.L.M. Camp

Last week thirteen Conservation and Land Management students participated in a camp at Rinyirru (Lakefield) National Park staying at Kalpowar Crossing. This camp allowed the students to participate in practical activities and demonstrate competencies towards their certificate.

Des Tayley (Community Engagement officer; Cape York Natural Resource Management (CYNRM)) and Victor Steffensen spent time with the students explaining traditional uses of plants and identifying animals. Des also supervised the students fishing and showed a few of the students the art of casting a lure.

Kathleen and Maggie with their artwork which will be displayed in the new CYNRMM offices in Charlotte Street.

We were fortunate to have Tommy George visit us while we were camping. The students had the opportunity to talk to Tommy and listen to his stories about his country at Hann River Crossing. While small groups listened and spoke with Tommy, Peta-Marie Standley (CYNRM Operations Manager) also discussed aspects of fire.

James lighting a fire using a fire stick and bark from a kerosene tree. While testing the healing power of bark on his leg.

Ron Beckett (Queensland Ambulance Service Field Officer) discussed first aid situations students may encounter in remote and isolated situations and the appropriate first aid to apply to ensure the best possible outcome.

Lyndal Scobell (CYNRM: Communications Officer) worked with students on climate change and helped transport students to a variety of locations around the park. This included the Red and White Lily lagoons, Old Breeza Homestead and Hann River Crossing.

Loxley pouring a tea made from bark while James looks on.

Left Tommy George spent Wednesday afternoon and evening with the students.

Above Kaitlin, Taylah, Savannah, Riley and Kathleen listening to Tommy. Tommy told them about his life and traditional stories about the land around the Hann River area.

We had the opportunity to talk to Tommy and listen to his stories about his country at Hann River Crossing.

Ron Beckett demonstrating first aid with Riley, Kathleen and Jake.

Doug Davidson (Lakefield Ranger), conducted an interpretive tour with the students on Tuesday evening. This included spotlighting and reminding students to be croc wise.

The camp would not have been possible without the support of Cape York Natural Resource Management, Cooktown and Lakefield Rangers and Queensland Ambulance service.

Many thanks to Laura rangers who transported the students, their clothing and camping gear to and from the camp site.
The Junior Chess Club is on in full force thanks to 3 amazing Junior Chess enthusiasts - Charlie Scott, Harrison Clarke and Owen Delahunty from Year 3. Their dedication to the continuation of this great mind sport is highly commended. So come along all you Junior Players or those P-5 students who would like to join the chess craze. Meet in the library Thursdays at 1st Lunch.

A keen interest in the Senior Chess Club (Year 6-12) as well has recently been renewed Thursdays 2nd Lunch … see if you remember all rules or want to learn some more tactics to capture your opponent’s King.

**Checkmate Chess Mates**

The Goal of the Game is to checkmate the other king. Checkmate happens when the king is in a position to be captured (in Check) and cannot escape from capture.

3 ways to get out of “Check” (1) Move King out of harm’s way, (2) Move piece to protect the King, (3) Capture the opponents piece capture your King.

**Chess Humour**

In a park people come across a man playing chess against a dog. They are astonished and say: "What a clever dog!"

But the man protests: "No, no, he isn't that clever. I'm leading by 3 games to 1!"

Til next time Checkmate Chess Mates

Miss Kate Chess Club Coordinator

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In Greenland, I loved the most challenging, difficult and amazing experience I have ever had the opportunity to do. I completed both the ½ & full marathon (called the Polar Bear Challenge & I am the first Australian woman to do so!). It was grueling, I had to run on an ice cap, through knee deep snow and temperatures that ranged from -15 to -30.

I beat two navy seal guys in the ½, but they blitzed me in the full! The conditions became so cold towards the end of the full marathon, that my gloves froze (the doc had to run my hands under hot water at the end of the race), my eyeballs and lashes froze, I have all my fingers & toes (although I am going to lose a couple of toe nails!! LOL) !!!!! But I am the first Australian woman to complete both races and it was incredible.

I now want to do the Antarctic!!!! Cherie Hughes
NAIDOC Week Celebrations

NAIDOC stands for National Aborigine and Islander Day Observance Committee. Its origins can be traced to the emergence of Aboriginal groups in the 1920s which sought to increase awareness in the wider community of the status and treatment of Indigenous Australians.

NAIDOC is a celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and an opportunity to recognise the contributions of Indigenous Australians in various fields. Cooktown State School celebrated the event with a special outing to Cooktown wharf where we marched as one to ANZAC park showing our unity and community spirit.

It was fantastic to see both Indigenous and Non-Indigenous students coming together and participating in traditional dances and activities.

- Mr Lingard

Science Happenings

Many people ask why Science is a core subject in High School. In Science, students develop skills essential for life, for example problem solving and working in teams. Practical or labs are an important component of Science. In these sessions, students can make links between the theory and real world applications.

Senior Biology students have commenced their final assessment piece of the year. They will be examining how Australia’s flora and fauna have changed over time and make predictions about the changes in the future.

For many in Year 10, they are about to complete their final assessment in Science. This term, students have been investigating human impacts on climate change. They are writing a persuasive essay arguing whether humans are responsible for climate change a truth or just an inconvenience.

It has been an exciting time in year 9 Science. We have been investigating different types of chemical reactions. Students have been developing their manipulative skills preparing them for their assessment, an extended experiment investigation.

Year 8 Science, are currently examining cells and their function.
Weather with 1J and 1/2E

1/2E and 1J worked on a project together to explore in various mediums their Science Study for this term.

The students were divided into groups and were assigned a weather condition that they portrayed in artworks (painting, collage and etchings), a digital presentation using the ‘Paint’ programme and devised movement and sound sequences to accompany their presentation.

The students’ families came along to school to view their art exhibition and the digital display. After their presentations they enjoyed a sausage sizzle and then a viewing of changes in the sky from day to night.

The students enjoyed sharing their presentation with their families and friends. It was great see so many families supporting their children’s education on the night.

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Franchesca’s gentle breezy day

Chazidi’s sunny day

Cambell’s windy day

Tazman’s cyclonic day

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Cook Shire Council Recycling Competition

Well done to all of your efforts to bring in beverage cans! The next part of the competition has started and you now need to bring in plastic bottles. You have until November 28 (end of week 8) to bring in bottles with the following symbols and letters:

Remember: WASH BOTTLES THOROUGHLY AND REMOVE LIDS.