Principal's Report - 2013 AGM

As principal of Borroloola and Gulf Group Schools I am proud of our very productive schools. I wish to table the Annual Report. Copies will be available in front office for public review.

This year Borroloola School participated in the Whole School Review. (every 4 years)
The official Report was very positive with most comments in the HIGH range in all 9 Domains. Commendations included: “The school has made solid progress over the past 2 years in developing and making explicit an agenda for school improvement.”

The NAPLAN results were generally good. In 2012, improvements were demonstrated by higher numbers of students achieving at or above Benchmark expectations, in many areas, particularly in years 5 & 7.

Enrolment & attendance
Borroloola School average enrolment was 275 (peaking at 283) students.
Average attendance was 58.2%, (above 56% in 2011)

Meaningful pathways and training provision continued, particularly through our significant 3 year partnership with McArthur River Mine under the Strong Start, Bright Future: Borroloola School Pathways to Employment Project. From 2011 to 2014 this funds a VET trainer, Theo Zweers who provides accredited Cert. 1 & 2 training. The funding also supports our Frequent Attenders Rewards Program.

As part of our early childhood focus, The Families as First Teachers team, led by Maria Pyro, enhanced programs in all town camps and outstations, working in cooperation with Mobile playgroup and Crèche. By compiling a comprehensive data base all eligible children were enrolled in preschool prior to day one 2013.

Borroloola School continued to provide opportunities for community involvement through our “Breakfast with a Mentor” and “Big Breakfast”.

The staff highlights included Kelly Green winning N.T. Primary Teacher of the Year, Daphne Mawson named Barkly Support Staff member of the Year.
3 Assistant Teachers from Borroloola - Adie, Allan & Daphne also successfully completed Certificate 4 in Education Support through BIITE.

Our Assistant Teachers in their Language and Culture Curriculum team, continued to use the outstanding induction DVD and community tour, as mandatory orientation for new staff.

My Principal’s Performance Review was conducted this year. Ratings received in each of the 5 professional practice areas were all in the top 2 brackets of Highly Accomplished or Excellent. I am pleased to announce that I have accepted the offer of a new 4 year contract.

Graeme Matthews—Principal
Swim Team beats nerves and wins Remote Trophy

Our Team!

Shikyah Daniels
Rosella Miller
Raeisha Baker
Shazade Hayward
Meshack Charlie
Roderick Korrabubba
(Blackboy)
Blake Dirdi

Tristan Raggett
Auryn Russell – won the 13 year-boy’s trophy
Kari Russell
Mani Cai Russell – won the 10 year old girl’s trophy
Tjalurri Rusell – (was not part of school group, under duty-of-care of his father) present in photo

We won the regional remote trophy.!!!
It was a very scary experience but everyone got over the attack of the nerves and did their best.

VET STUDENTS PUT THEIR SKILLS TO WORK

Senior VET students Bryce, Scott, Jitendra and Joel where asked to make 2 sets of steps for the new drinking fountains. They made these from scratch by taking a sheet of checker plate steel and set out the steps, then cut them to shape and welded them together. They then had grind all the edges smooth and finished them with a coat of paint. So next time you primary students see them why don’t you say thanks guys for good job making it easier to get a drink.
Mr Paul receives Award

Mr Paul Thebus is one of the class tutors at the Primary School. He has taken the role of Quick Smart tutor for the students in upper primary. Paul has been the QuickSmart tutor for the last two years.

In recognition of his work in this, while performing his many other duties within the school, he was presented with the Principals Award at Assembly.

MOBILE PHONE POLICY CHANGE

It was stated in our last newsletter that the decision to ban mobile phones would be ratified at the next School Council Meeting. This motion was agreed upon by all present at the meeting and it is now officially School Council Policy that Student Mobile Phones are banned on the school grounds.

Phones will be confiscated from the student and only released to a parent.

Students with phones in their possession, may be suspended.

“Student mobile phones are banned on the school grounds.”

Borroloola staff participate in online computer training session

You may have noticed that the newsletter you are reading has changed format. This is a direct result of 11 staff members participating in a group session, learning how to use Microsoft Publisher from an instructor based in Darwin. We viewed the tutorial that the instructor presented on the Smartboard in the conference Room and through out the interactive session, he led us through the steps to create unique banners, posters, flyers, cards, certificates and ........Newsletters.

I hope you enjoy this new look presentation.
At the Assembly on the 22 February, our own Daphne Mawson was presented with the framed Certificate naming her as the Barkly Teaching Support Member of the Year.

Daphne has been an invaluable part of the Borroloola AT team, assisting in the classroom, not only with the regular curriculum, but also teaching students about culture, local history and bush tucker.

Daphne has spent the last two years working with Miss Kelly’s class and is this year working with Miss Bec’s Year 5/6A.

What are they doing in 5/6A?

Junk food advertising on television is bad.
Firstly, kids might see junk food on television and cry to their mum for it.
Secondly, people might go out and buy lots of junk food and get fat.
Thirdly, if McDonalds is a long way for you to go you might run out of fuel and you might get wild with your mother.

Junk food advertising on television is bad.

By Trisharnee Mawson

Dogs are the best pet in the world.
Firstly, dogs will protect you and your house.
Secondly dogs are cute.
Thirdly dogs can be trained to do lots of things.
Dogs are the best pet in the world.  

By Shellisa Barnes

Similes
The dingo was as scary as a thunderstorm.
The horse was as beautiful as a butterfly.
The tree was as green as watered every day grass.
The grass was as itchy as an insect bite.  

By Antonia

First of all we had a big drink of water and we were filling up our water bottles and a big, colourful snake came into our classroom. Then we went running into the classroom after him. He chomped up our work and Miss Bec got mad as a bull.

“Reading With Babies”

This is a book created by Maria Pyro featuring members of the community. The book tells how important reading with your children is and not just for mums, but for dads and grandparents too.
Copies have been donated to the library and community organizations around the town.

The photos are beautiful and show happy children learning and being with family.

Well done Maria!
Primary Teaching Staff

Preschool—Annabel Tink
Tansition— Tri Mei Turnip
1/2A - Cheryl Caulfield
1/2B-Emma Weir
1/2C-Lauren English
3/4A– Pauline Coop
3/4B– Dawn Thebus
4/5 -Melanie Hall
5/6A– Rebecca Martin
5/6B - Craig Starke

Special Needs
—Danielle Schmidt
IT support
—Maria Schafler
ILSS/Release
–Kathleen Middleton
Senior Teacher 1
- Marissa Murphy
FAFT - Maria Pyro

Principal
Graeme Matthews
Assistant Principal
Ken Duncan

Secondary Teaching Staff

Assistant Principal
David Parish

Senior Teacher 1
Rex McLean

VET Trainer
Theo Zweers

Year 7— Jillian Hall
Work Ready
Phillip Hall

Special Ed Female
-Courtney Hooper

Support Staff

Tutors
Paul Thebus
Jasmin Charlie
Michelle Ellis
Shelly Te Hatu
Ben Bayliss
Denise Ryan
Noelene Dixon

Assistant Teachers
Adie Miller
Patsy Shadforth
Daphne Mawson
Alan Baker
Jeanette Charlie
Tasha O’Keefe

Other Valuable Employees
Noela Anderson (HLO)
Leanne Wallman (AO2)
Annette Bradford (AO2)
Darren Caulfield (Cleaner)
Scott Caulfield (Cleaner)
Brian Roden (Driver)
Alexia Thompson (Trainee)
Paul Taylor (Groundsman)
Serdonia Charlie (FAFT)
Please do not send more than $10 per child for canteen purchases.

**HEALTHY FOOD IN SCHOOLS**
- NO SOFTDRINKS
- NO LOLLIES
- NO JUNK FOOD

**EAT WELL, BE ACTIVE AND BECOME STRONG**

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

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<tr>
<th>March</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>October</th>
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<td>29</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>07</td>
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<tr>
<td>Good Friday</td>
<td>Katherine Show Holiday</td>
<td>Students return to school for Term 4</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>05</td>
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<td>KAB Fishing Comp</td>
<td>Staff Only – Student Free Day</td>
<td>Melbourne Cup Day</td>
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<td><strong>APRIL</strong></td>
<td>23</td>
<td><strong>NOVEMBER</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
<td>Tuesday – Students return to school for Term 3</td>
<td><strong>DECEMBER</strong></td>
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<td>05</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Day at school Term 1</td>
<td>Darwin Show Holiday</td>
<td>Last Day at school Term 4</td>
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<td>05</td>
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<td>Students return to school for Term 2</td>
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<td>Melbourne Cup Day</td>
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<td><strong>DECEMBER</strong></td>
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<td>Anzac Day</td>
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<th>August</th>
<th>November</th>
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<tr>
<td>14-17</td>
<td>05</td>
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<tr>
<td>Naplan Testing</td>
<td>Picnic Day Holiday</td>
<td><strong>MELBOURNE CUP DAY</strong></td>
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<td>15-18</td>
<td><strong>DECEMBER</strong></td>
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<td>Borroloola Show Holiday</td>
<td>Last Day at school Term 4</td>
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<td>Queens Birth Day</td>
<td>Last Day at school Term 3</td>
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<td>Borroloola Show Holiday</td>
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