Principal’s Message….

Term 3 is always a very busy time for students and staff. We began with NAIDOC Week activities that involved our students in a variety of cultural activities. This is always a great celebration of our local Kuku Yalanji culture and a wonderful sharing experience.

It is always exciting to see our students work displayed at the Mossman & District Show along with the work of all students in the Douglas Cluster of Schools. Well done to all students in our local schools.

A number of our students have also been involved in a range of activities including TCN Athletics, Vicki Wilson Netball, Interschool Cricket, Japanese Language Competition, Creative Generation, Drama performances and State Honours Band over the first four weeks of this term. They have performed at very high levels and are to be congratulated on their achievements and the very positive way they have represented our school community.

Stephen Guthrie (Deputy Principal) and Tracy Butland (HOD Junior Secondary) and some of our Year 8 & 9 students have been very busy visiting our primary schools as part of our Transition Program for Year 6 and Year 7 students who will be part of our Junior Secondary School in 2015. We are holding a Year 6 Parent Evening on Thursday 28th August and a Year 7 Parent Evening on Thursday 4th September as part of this Transition Program. We are looking forward to welcoming parents and students to our school.

Other Parent Evening being held this term include: Year 10 to 11 Subject Selection & Senior Schooling Evening on Wednesday 13th August and a Year 9 to 10 Senior Schooling Evening on Wednesday 20th August.

Our Year 12 students who are OP (Overall Position for Tertiary Entrance) eligible are very busy completing QCS (Queensland Core Skills) Test practice sessions in preparation for the QCS Test that will be held on Tuesday 2nd & Wednesday 3rd September. We wish them all every success in their preparation and in the tests.

We have been updating our Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students during Term 2 and Term 3 and the updated version will be up on our website this week. Please email us on info@mossmanshs.eq.edu.au if you wish to provide any feedback.

I have included a copy of the Code of School Behaviour and associated fact sheets with this newsletter to help inform you of current behaviour standards outlined by Education Queensland.

Thank you to all parents and caregivers who completed our recent School Opinion Survey. This was the first year that Education Queensland has provided all parents with the opportunity to complete the survey. We look forward to receiving the results of the survey later this year.

Our school is involved in a Discipline Audit on Wednesday 13th August. This audit will assist us to benchmark our progress in strengthening discipline and provide an independent view highlighting where there is room for improvement.

Please contact us if you need to discuss an issue or have information to share. We are committed to continually improving all aspects of our school and we achieve this when we all work together to achieve our vision of

**Everyone**  **Achieving their best**  **Striving to improve**  **Everyday**

and upholding our values

**Be Safe**  **Be Respectful**  **Be a Learner**

Kind regards,

Deborah Kachel
Principal
It has been encouraging to see the involvement of the year 8’s in our sporting competitions and representative sport. There were so many were 8’s at Athletics Carnival that some students only had one attempt at some events (it just took too long to get through all of the competitors). They are also attending District trials, and representing the school in Cricket and Netball. These are fantastic opportunities for the students, and they should make full use of them. These events help to engage students back in the classroom by creating a sense of pride in the school. I hope this level of involvement continues into the future.

Your child is going to be asked in the near future to select which elective subjects they want to study in year 9. They have had a taste of the available subjects, so now would be an opportune time to start having those discussions with your child. They may not have any idea of what they want to do, which is not the end of the world. They can choose their subject, and if they decide later next year that the want to try something else, they will have the ability to do so. They just need to wait for the end of semester to do so.

I know some assessment has already been handed out and is due in the next week or so. Please help your child to manage their time so they can get their assessment completed on time or their relevant study done for their exam. To help this, your child should have a course outline for each subject. If your child does not have one or can’t find it, then you can view them, download and print them from the Mossman SHS website. Having these readily available to your child should help them to manage their time a little better.

Ben Vikionkorpi - Year 8 Coordinator
bviki2@eq.edu.au or 07 4084 1333

Senior science students were treated to a stimulating lecture on “Smart Polymers” as part of the 2014 O’Donnell School Lecture Series, sponsored by QUT, the Business Liaison Association and the Royal Australian Chemical Institute.

Dr Timothy Dargaville peaked student interests in chemistry by showing students some of the current work he has been involved in – from designing gossamer-thin mirrors for space telescopes to 3d printing of body tissues – a very interesting topic, enjoyed by all.
Old Time to Modern Day Dance

Where: Indoor Sports Centre
When: Friday 29th August
Time: 6:30pm—11:00pm
Tickets: $25 Adults, $15 Children/Pensioners

Available at the door or pre purchase if you wish to reserve a table or seats.

Finger Food provided. Bar with basic beer, wine, soft drinks, tea & coffee.

Professional Photographers Available

for their efforts in organising the new uniform and the community for their survey responses. As a result of the review process, a few minor changes have been made to the original survey design in an effort to address some concerns from members of the community. The final designs are below – there has been a slight change in the collars to differentiate the two shirts more and “SHS” has been added to the side “Mossman” panel to represent the school more effectively. The fabric of the shorts has been changed from the original survey shorts to use a more hardy material that will hopefully wear better. “MSHS” has also been added to the house name to distinguish the shorts as school shorts. The uniform will be available from local retailers next year and we look forward to the new school look.

Years 7 & 8 in 2015 will be expected to purchase the new uniforms while the remainder of the students will have until the beginning of 2016 to be in the new uniform.

Kind regards,
Sharon Case - P&C Secretary

On Monday the 21st of July the Concert and Jazz Band braved the cold to play at the Mossman Show before the fireworks. We played a number of pieces most of which were all popular songs that the crowd knew. The jazz band played ‘You Keep Me Hanging On’ which we got second place for at the Cairns Eisteddfod. On behalf of the entire concert band I would like to thank Jenny Guyatt, our amazing music teacher, who has put so much time and effort into getting the concert band together and getting us ready and giving us the chance to go and perform.

Music

Mr and Miss Mossman High
School Dental Van

The School dental van is now distributing dental forms to Grade 10 students, offering check-ups and dental treatment, if required. These forms should be distributed by 25/7/14. If parents would like school dental van service, and if they do not receive a dental form from their child by this date, please phone the dental van directly to make enquiries. Following Gr 10 rollout, we will then commence Gr 9 and Gr 8. However, if parents have several children in the lower school, we can arrange additional appointment time so they can bring all children at the same time, for their convenience.

Parents should complete both sides of the dental form and return this to the school office, from where dental staff will collect forms and phone parents to make an appointment.

School Dental Staff.

Early School Leavers survey

The Queensland Government is conducting its annual statewide survey of students who left school in Years 10, 11 and prior to completing Year 12 in 2013. The Early School Leavers survey is a brief, confidential survey that provides a picture of the employment, study and life choices made by Queensland school leavers in the year after they left school to understand why young people leave school early and to help early school leavers make positive career choices.

Between July and August, our students who left school in Years 10, 11 and prior to completing Year 12 last year can expect to receive instructions to complete a web-based survey or a telephone call from the Queensland Government Statistician’s Office to complete the survey. Please encourage them to take part. If their contact details have changed, please assist the interviewer with their updated details or forward the survey to their new address so they can participate. Thank you for your support of the Early School Leavers survey in 2014.

For more information visit www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep/ or telephone toll free on 1800 068 587

Date Claimer

Yr 10 into 11 Subject Selection
Wednesday 13th August

Yr 9 into 10 Subject Selection
Wednesday 20th August

Yr 6 into 7 Parent Evening
Thursday 28th August

Mr & Miss Mossman High
Friday 29th August

QCS Test
Tuesday 2nd – Wednesday 3rd September

Yr 7 into 8 Parent Evening
Thursday 4th September

School Disco
Wednesday 17th September

Bangarra Dance Theatre Rekindling Program

Congratulations to Year 11 student; Kyeisha Pitt who was selected by audition to perform with 21 other successful dancers from across the Cairns region. Bangarra Dance Theatre is a highly acclaimed Indigenous performing arts company based in Sydney that fuse contemporary dance with Indigenous values and beliefs.

The Rekindling Program is a state wide initiative and commenced in Cairns at the beginning of Term 2, involving many gatherings at both Trinity Bay SHS and the PCYC. These rehearsals had a specific focus on Indigenous influenced contemporary dance technique and the company’s repertoire. Two performances were held; a community gathering at Trinity Bay SHS on Thursday 24th July and a Cairns Indigenous Art Fair (CIAF) performance on Friday 25th July.

Written by, Alisha Matthews.
Congratulations to Year 12 students: Jesse Perrin and Charlotte Rinaldi, Year 11 students: Kyeisha Pitt, Ellie Williams and Taylor Killeen and Year 9 students: Tiah McLean, Ginger Hind, Anndria Santa Cruz, Cloe Price and Chloe Whyte. These 10 talented dancers performed at the inaugural Creative Generation - State Schools Onstage event at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre. The show consisted of four performances over Friday 19th and Saturday 20th of July. This year was extra special; being the 10th Year anniversary, highlights from past years were celebrated. One of these included the performance of ‘Our Spirit’ that was originally performed by the FNQ group in 2010. A physically demanding piece that included many lifts and challenging partner work. Most rehearsals in Brisbane were spent adapting the choreography to include students from other schools and although stressful at times, it was certainly a valuable learning experience that required the students to show a strong sense of professionalism and maturity.

The two other performances the students participated in were called ‘All Things’ and ‘Shout’. Each were finale items and involved many canons and arm movements with over 600 dancers on the stage.

A variety of activities were enjoyed, including visits to the Gallery of Modern Art (GOMA) and the Queensland Art Museum. A highlight included the Hip Hop dance class attended at Mad Dance House in the city. The students were in awe of the design of the studios and enjoyed experiencing the culture of dance in the city.

A highly edited version of C Gen 2014 will air on Channel Ten on the 6th December, 2014 (time TBC). A full copy of the performance will be available mid-way through next year and can be accessed through a hire system at the Mossman State High School Resource Centre.

Written by, Alisha Matthews.
A select number of senior art students were very lucky this year to get the opportunity to attend the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair (CIAF) exhibitions at the Cairns Regional Gallery and Kickarts Gallery. These exhibits were stunning shows that celebrated Indigenous Arts and artists in our region. The students were able to closely study and discuss a range of artworks that included sculpture, pottery, painting, etching, lino printing, assemblage and drawing and illustration. At the CRG we were given a tour of the gallery by Carley Clarke-Rushton who was able to explain the ideas, influences and stories behind each artwork in four exhibitions. The use of current technologies was a surprise with some artworks even incorporating 3D printing in their construction. The variety and scope of work on display was stunning, with something of interest for everyone. Students discussed meaning, style, cultural diversity, technique, media and size. After a short and fun lunch break at the Esplanade we then saw three exhibits at the Kickarts Gallery, where the range of work again gave students food for thought. At a senior level, our students are expected to look beyond the obvious, and consider the background, influences and development of the works as a major part of the art making process. This excursion provides our students with the chance to see artworks in person, and to experience the Art Gallery setting as a venue for arts display, where curating as a career and art making go hand in hand.

My thanks go to Ilonka Pitt for her invaluable assistance, and to all of these students who had a great pleasure to work with.

Mrs Fiona Cairns

Year 11 student Juniper Hind is one of 34 students taking part of the REACH program supporting young artists. The ‘Receive Respond’ exhibition is now showing Friday 1st August through to Sunday 3rd of August @ 33 Lake Street Cairns open from 9am-4pm daily. This is a great opportunity for the students participating, for most this is their first real exhibition open to the public. The students relinquish their own art work and receive another’s art work in which they then must respond. The art is shown together along with the artist’s statement explaining the piece. The students are able to meet each other and discuss their thoughts about the pieces they have created.

Congratulations Juniper.
Written by Ms Carol Bennett
This year has been a big year for the Art Department as once again we work in partnership with community groups to develop a range of Public Arts projects our students could be involved with. This partnership teaches students that the arts are part of everyday life, and working with other organisations and people instils an understanding of the high standards and expectations of art in society. The Sugar Industry in Mossman has had a long history and most of us are either related to, involved with or know cane farmers, harvesters or mill workers. This industry built our town, and developed our region, and the people in our community value the hard work and time involved. The year 10 Creative Art students have been asked by the Mossman Community Centre to create a series of 25 calico hanging wall banners each 1150 x 450mm, and 28 laminated paper table runners – each 1200 x 300mm. These artworks are to be the major decorations at this year’s Sugar Harvest Fundraising Gala Ball to be held in October, to celebrate the end of the crushing season. This Ball is being reintroduced into our community after more than 20 years, and we hope it will be the first of many to come, with a festival to go with it in future. Our students are a very talented and hardworking lot, who have taken on this task as part of their painting assessment for the term. The challenge has been to create tight and interesting designs based on small segments of views of the sugar industry over the history of our region. Some of the ideas painted by our students include farmers, cane cutters, cane fires, sugar cane stalks, cane toads, trains, harvesters, tractors, horses, historical buildings, mill views and old maps. The history of the sugar industry in our region is visually recorded with some stunning results. Each student is required to select, design and complete three artworks, and may work alone or with a partner.

Congratulations to the year 10 students for their participation, skill and willingness to be involved in a major community event from the very start.

Mrs Nada Petrasevic.
The year 10s in the drama department have been set a task and are already working hard at it. Some students are completing scripts and some are deep into their videoing and preparations. The task that everyone was given was to present a performance that tells a story about important messages and issues. Some groups are showing issues through a sock puppet show, some are showing issues through a remake of a family movie called “Frozen” and another group is doing a remake of “Abduction” to show important messages. One of the groups are still brainstorming and writing scripts for their performance. Everyone is doing a fantastic job and we are all looking forward to the final productions.

Written by: Molly Cook

Year 10 Drama

On Friday 25th July Senior Drama students presented an evening of devised theatre for a packed house of family, staff and friends. There were four short plays, the result of three months group work for our Year 12 students. The plays explored mature themes, such as addiction, abuse, jealousy and betrayal. We spent the entire day of the performance in The Clink Theatre. For most students it was the first time they had ever spent this amount of time in a “proper” theatre space, with a stage, lights, costume and dressing rooms. From 8:30am until the commencement of the show at 7:30, each group spent time onstage preparing their items. The experience of simply being in this wonderful local theatre gave each of the actors and their items a significant “bounce”.

It was great to see how each member of our team conducted themselves on the day, and it was impressive to see the number of their family and friends, and their Teachers who were there to support them. It gave the night a wonderfully supportive mood. Particular highlights were the gritty performances of Henry Lo, Genna Mathers, Claire Sciacca, and Kate Harris and Stephanie Byrne, who had the audience in stitches with their depiction of a pair of self-absorbed “bogans”. Ben Halstead and Michael Bayron helped organise and operate the sound and film effects.

A Big Thank you to Michael Kerr, President of The Clink Theatre, for his support of our project.

We are excited to have extra space in our Costume Room with the installation of new, custom-made costume racks. A big Thank you goes to Ian Hatfield for this.

Year 9 Drama are currently finalising casting for their stage production of the Disney Musical Frozen.

Year 10 Drama are creating small group projects in their unit on Epic Theatre.

Andrew Paterson - Drama Department

New School Chaplain

Hello,

My name is Ben Gaydon and I am the new Chaplain at Mossman State High School.

My wife and two year old daughter have just moved to the local area from Cairns, where we have been living for the past 6 months. Before that we were living on the Gold Coast and in Brisbane. We have been taken back by the welcome we have received from community members, staff and students and can not wait to become part of this amazing place.

This is the first time I have worked as a Chaplain and I am really looking forward to the challenges and opportunities it brings.

If I am ever able to assist you in any way please do not hesitate to contact me, my direct line at school is 07 4084 1347.

I look forward to meeting with you.

Regards,

Ben

Year 12 Drama

On Friday 25th July Senior Drama students presented an evening of devised theatre for a packed house of family, staff and friends. There were four short plays, the result of three months group work for our Year 12 students. The plays explored mature themes, such as addiction, abuse, jealousy and betrayal. We spent the entire day of the performance in The Clink Theatre. For most students it was the first time they had ever spent this amount of time in a “proper” theatre space, with a stage, lights, costume and dressing rooms. From 8:30am until the commencement of the show at 7:30, each group spent time onstage preparing their items. The experience of simply being in this wonderful local theatre gave each of the actors and their items a significant “bounce”.

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Andrew Paterson - Drama Department

From the Sports Desk

Welcome to the August edition of ‘From the SportsDesk’. As per usual, it has been a busy start to the term. We finished last term with our Inter-House Athletics Carnival. This term has started with the Trinity Coast North Athletics Carnival; our Netballers have played in the Vicki Wilson and Fowlers Group Cups; our junior Cricketers have played against St Augustine’s; students have been selected in the TCN Athletics team and have been training for the Peninsula trials; students have represented Peninsula at the State Cross Country Championships, and at the State Golf Championships; and students training to participate in the North Queensland Touch Championships in Townsville.

Cross Country and Swimming:

Now, recently reviewing my previous ‘From the Sports Desk’ articles, I realized that I have failed to mention the winning houses for our Swimming and Cross Country Carnivals. The age champions were mentioned, and a report on the day was included, but not winning houses. So here they are:

The 2014 Swimming Carnival Champion House: Jalbil

The 2014 Cross Country Carnival Champion House: Kurranji

Athletics: We managed to find a dry day in the middle of all the wet to run our Athletics Carnival. It was a keenly contested carnival, with many close finishes in multiple events, and also in the Age Championships. There was a good turn-out for the day, but it still could have been better supported. Unfortunately,
there were 260 students that were missing for some part or all of the day. This is a large proportion of the school, and considering that the sports carnivals are still a compulsory day at school, and the amount of effort that goes in to organising these events for the students, it is a little disappointing to see. We would really like to see many more students come and support these carnivals and their fellow students who are competing.

This year, we had one existing record broken (well, destroyed) by Henry Miller. Henry surpassed Mark Bayron’s 2010 Under 15 Discus record, previously 30.14 meters, with a throw of 34.95m. Well done Henry.

This year Age Champions competitions were tight, with only one point separating 1st and 2nd place in the Under 13 boys and Under 15 boy’s categories. Most other divisions had less than 10 points separating 1st and 2nd, apart from Daniel Plumbe, who blitzed his nearest competitor by 34 points. This year Age Champions are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Nathan Deuble</td>
<td>Jasmine Blain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Daniel Plumbe</td>
<td>Krystal Schulz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>D’Rel Smith</td>
<td>Casilda Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Michael Schulz</td>
<td>Emily Callander</td>
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<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Josh Plumbe</td>
<td>Marina Reedy</td>
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It was a close competition for the overall 2014 Athletics Champion House. Bilingkumu and Kurranji tied for 2nd place, but the dominant house on the day was Yawu. Congratulations to all the Yawu team.

A big thank you must go to all staff for their work on the day. Without you, this day could not run.

Trinity Coast North Athletics: Week 1 this term saw the TCN Athletics Carnival being held at Barlow Park, Cairns. We changed our process this year for selection in the Mossman SHS Athletics team. Standards were set which were based upon TCN results from the previous year, and the students had to achieve these minimum standards, or attend after school training to practice to achieve these standards. They then had to complete the relevant paperwork with HPE to show their interest in attending the trials.

We had 35 students initially achieve these standards and complete the paperwork requirements, but through natural attrition, only 22 students in the end attended the carnival in Cairns. This was by far and away the smallest group of students we have taken away, and it was also the most competitive.

These 22 students managed to compete to such a high level, that Mossman SHS finished 5th out of 9 schools. 22 students amassed 772 points; this is an average of 35 points per person. That is the equivalent of each person having two 1st place finishes throughout the day. This is simply an astonishing effort! We also had 14 of the 22 students qualify for the TCN Athletics team to compete at the Peninsula Trials on the 17th and 18th August, again at Barlow Park.

Having 2/3 of our team make the next level has to be the most outstanding effort I have ever been associated with in my time here.

We had two stand-out performers on the day, in Emily Callander and Eleisha Mealing, finishing 3rd and 2nd respectively in the Under 16 Girls division. Eleisha has qualified for 5 events at the Peninsula Championships; Jessica Eagle-Rowe, Daniel Plumbe and Emily Callander have each qualified for three events at the Peninsula Championships. These are all outstanding efforts, and all students should be congratulated.

State Cross Country: Hayden D’Addona and Shaynee Filmer represented Peninsula at the State Cross Country Championships in Toowoomba back in July. Running in 4C temperature, Hayden and Shaynee both ran personal best times to finish only a couple of minutes each outside of 1st place. Hayden said “it was the toughest cross country course that I’ve run”. “There were lots of bends and hills which made it hard to get any rhythm”. With this is mind, it is an even greater effort for both to run a P.B. Top effort Shaynee and Hayden.

Open Age Cricket: Our Mossman State High School 1st XI Cricket team travelled to Trinity Bay SHS to play two T20 games; one against St Augustine’s, and the other against T’ Bay. Playing St Augustine’s in the first game of the year, after Saints had already had a game under their belt, was always going to be a tough task. Our boys started exceptionally well, restricting Saints to just 86 runs from their first 14 over. However, the Saints opening batsmen had been in long enough and now decided it was time to get going. He single-handedly put on 100 runs in the last 6 overs, and in the process, passed his 100 and 150. This was also against our top line attack, including Peninsula and Australian bowlers. They were powerless to stop his attack, taking Saints to 186 of their 20 overs. It was great to watch but also very painful.

Our batsmen definitely knew they were capable of making this score; they just need to show patience display a bit of smart batting. They were able to do this fairly comfortably for the first part of the game, being continually ahead of the required run rate. However, s steady loss of wickets saw this slow-up and the pressure build. Reaching 4 – 126, we were still in with a chance, but the next 6 wickets fell for 9 runs, to be all out for 135.

The next game against Trinity Bay saw the tables turn. This game allowed our new year 8 recruits to get some game time, and they didn’t disappoint. Trinity Bay was restricted to 95 off their 20 over allocation. Ethan McCullough and Hayden D’Addona opened out batting, and looked extremely comfortable. Ethan was the only wicket lost for the game, after we had already passed their score, and he had amassed an 80 + total. Hayden also chimed in hitting his first ever six.

Coming away with 1 win and 1 loss is not bad, but they’ll have to do better next time order to progress through to the next stage of the competition.

Sport Representatives: A number of students will be representing Peninsula in the next few weeks for their chosen sports. Good luck to each and everyone one of at your respective state titles.

That’s all folks!

Ben Vikionkorpi - Sports Coordinator
24 students from Hitachi Ota City in Japan journeyed to Mossman to engage in a five day language and culture study tour. The students enjoyed the hospitality of volunteer families from our school community, allowing them to gain insights into the Australian way of life as well as improve their English. Mossman students acted as Buddies during the time, orientating the students to facilities, introducing them to new friends and helping them feel welcome. The Japanese students and their Mossman Buddies enjoyed an art workshop, a guided tour of Mossman Gorge and attended regular classes to experience the Australian learning environment. It was a wonderful time of cross-cultural learning and language exchange. Firm friendships were made and many tears were shed on both sides when it was time to say goodbye. A sincere thank-you must be offered to our 12 host families for their generosity and wonderful way in which they cared for the students.

Written by
Stephanie Dunn-Balzer
On 25 July, our Year 9 Japanese class enjoyed deepening their knowledge and understanding of Japanese language and culture through a number of activities in Cairns. First, in small teams students applied their reading skills to identify answers from clues posed in Japanese for an information treasure hunt centred on the Cairns CBD. We then visited ‘Ocha cha’, an authentic Japanese restaurant, where we conversed with the Japanese staff and sat at low tables to sample delicious traditional cuisine. The Cairns Kendo Club was our next stop. Here kendo master Kuramochi sensei demonstrated kendo techniques and explained the history of the sport. Kuramochi sensei spared with Alex Pulkovits, currently in training for the Australian Women’s kendo team. Our students then took up shinai (bamboo swords) to experience Kendo for themselves.

Stephanie Dunn-Balzer

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12 students took on the challenge of representing Mossman State High School in the Japanese Division at the Cairns Multi-Lingual Speech Contest on 28 July. Year 8 Division participants were required to recite a set speech and answer questions posed by the judges. Against a highly competitive field, Jasmine Kirk was awarded a gold medal, Kael Preston, a silver and Jye Hauser, a bronze. Raine Ward and Tiah Lovell also did an outstanding job of representing our school in this Division.

Year 9 and 10 Division entrants were required to prepare their own speeches that would last for two minutes in Japanese from set topics and deliver this fluently to native speaking judges and a room full of onlookers. In the Year 10 Division, Leah Nash and Brodey Taylor, both Year 9 students, were awarded a gold and silver medal respectively. Harry Weyand also admirably represented our school in this Division. Piper Adams, Bonnie Francis, Sophie O’Gorman-Petrack and Raini-Eve Webber did a great job of representing our school in the Year 9 Division against very fierce competition.

Well done all for your dedication, courage and determination!

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Thursday the 31st July saw 20 girls from all grades participate in the annual Vicki Wilson cup down in Cairns. This carnival includes over 35 teams from around the FNQ region. With an early start (again!) and another bus trip down to Cairns, both the Junior and Senior teams had 7 games to play throughout the day. The senior girls did well with a tough draw, winning 4 out of their 7 games, with narrow defeats against some tough teams.

The junior team was outstanding, with the majority of the girls being from year 9. They were playing older and more experienced girls. They won all but one of their games, losing only to the eventual winners of the junior division Good Council College. They ended up finishing runners up of their pool, which is a great effort.

Congratulations to all of the participants on their sportsmanship, enthusiasm, conduct and behaviour on a great day of netball. Thanks to Nichelle Pitt who came down as a volunteer umpire for the day, and the small but vocal group of mums that came down as our cheer squad!

Anita Harrold and Sara McBride
Teens are under enormous pressure to dress, talk, and look a certain way. "...all you need to wear a hat is attitude. And you got that. You think I'd tell you you looked good if you didn't? You look real sharp. You don't believe me?"

Neil Gaiman, Anansi Boys

Appealing to a teen's vanity may be the answer.

Today’s teens are more aware of the harms of UV than their predecessors, but they are less likely to protect themselves than any other age groups, especially when they graduate to high school.

Research has shown adolescence is a critical time that is vital to protect skin. During adolescence, teens receive the most sun exposure than at any other time of their lives. On an average weekend it's estimated that one in four Aussie teens will get sunburn. Just a couple of severe sunburns in childhood or adolescence greatly increases the risk of skin cancer in adult life.

How does Mossman High create a culture of hat wearing? Go onto our Facebook page and leave some comments.

Hats are given to all students in year 8 and any new students on arrival into MSHS. If you need to purchase a new hat they are available for only $5 at MSHS office.

Being exposed to the sun is prematurely aging. The World Health Organisation data shows Australia and New Zealand continue to have the world’s highest rates of melanoma. Melanoma is the most common cancer in 12 to 24 year-old Australians.

Australian adolescents have by far the highest incidence of malignant melanoma in the world.