Welcome to our final community newsletter for 2012. We sincerely hope you too have witnessed and enjoyed watching your children grow in spirit, pride and identity as they continue their journey at Southern Cross Catholic College. The College prides itself on supporting, developing and nurturing the whole child, including providing academic, personal, pastoral and cultural support for each and every student. A true sense of spirit continues to grow at Southern Cross community where a strong focus lies upon the provision of a pathway for each and every student that honours and affirms positive cultural identity and encourages students to work to their capacity to reach goals and aspirations. A strong focus remains upon developing rich pride in culture, identity and a real sense of belonging. Cultural identity and connectedness has been heightened through a number of initiatives including, but not limited to, the commencement of the Indigenous Community Partnership Committee (ICPC), continuation of the Early Junior Years Culture Club program, planning and creation of Cultural Reflection spaces and College nomination and participation in the National Next Steps Initiative. We look forward to continuing our journey together towards excelling educational outcomes for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and growing our whole college community in the true spirit of Reconciliation and both acknowledging and celebrating our Unity in Diversity. See you in 2013!

This year we are proud to see three graduates come to end of their journey at Southern Cross and begin on a new pathway of growth and discovery. Congratulations to Tori, Fraser and Courtney for their commitment and determination to complete their senior studies. We pray for your continued successes and guidance as each of you now continue on to tertiary studies and beyond. Be proud, stand tall and live Jesus in your hearts forever.

Congratulations...
Indigenous Graduates 2012

Tori Large  Fraser Johnson  Courtney Hagen
Personal Reflection on My Journey at SCCC...

My name is Courtney Hagen and I have recently graduated from Southern Cross Catholic College. During my senior year of school I was honoured to be named as a College leader and take on the role of Vice Captain, Environment. I am Aboriginal and from the Budjula (or Butchulla) Tribe from Fraser Island and surrounding wide bay area.

Throughout my schooling history I have attended a number of schools including St. Mary’s in Bundaberg, St. Joseph’s Primary School, Murgon and Holy Spirit School at Bray Park. I have been at Southern Cross Catholic College since year 8. My career aspiration is to work in the medical field and study to become a Doctor.

During my time at SCCC I have really focussed upon my studies and sport. Some of my best experiences at SCCC include sport, camping at Northwest and becoming a College Leader for my senior year.

The best part about being Aboriginal at SCCC is that you become a part of a group of students who are just like you. SCCC is a place where you feel very supported and valued and more importantly you feel like you are in a place where you truly belong.

My Journey at Southern Cross started in year 5 where I attended Mackillop Campus for 1 semester and then I attended another school for years 6 and 7 as I was following my mother around to the schools where she had been teaching. I had made many friends, who even now, I still hold close to my heart.

The main and most significant part of my journey at Southern Cross took place during my high school years (8 -12) where I obtained and learned many lessons, both academic and other. My journey at Southern Cross has been one that I would not substitute for anything. My schooling years, particularly the last 2 years, have majorly contributed to my personal growth where I have discovered exactly what it is that I wish to do once I leave the security blanket of school.

Throughout the past 5 years I have attended camps, excursions, liturgies and assemblies. Each of these events making a small contribution to my personal growth. However, I did not think I could have made it through without the full support of the staff, in particular Ms. McMurtrie who sacrificed her time to make sure I wasn’t too stressed out and had control over my time management in order to complete and achieve good results in my assessment pieces.

Although sometimes the assessment was challenging and my senior year was particularly difficult the atmosphere at Southern Cross seemed to make it all better.

During my time at Southern Cross I have been given multiple opportunities where I could represent the college in a variety of sports where I grew closer to my peers and the members who coached me. The memories, achievements and even the losses - I would never change for anything. Playing sport at SCCC played a large role in building character.

In conclusion, it can be seen that there have been many aspects of the College which have contributed and impacted upon me personally, however my favourite part of high school was the opportunity to represent and embrace my identity and my culture with one particular highlight being a part of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Graduation Mass in at St. Stephen’s Cathedral.

I would never have grown, experienced or developed into the person I am today without the journey I have undertaken at SCCC!

Courtney Hagen
We are pleased to advise Southern Cross Catholic College has recently applied for and subsequently received confirmation regarding our successful application for QATSIF (Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation) Scholarship Funding 2013-2014. These financial scholarships are provided by QATSIF to assist with covering some of the high costs associated with completing the senior years of education.

Congratulations

To

Ally Gardiner and Jasmine Maynard

We congratulate our QATSIF Scholarship recipients and encourage you to continue to honour the legacy of your traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ancestors.

We wish you every success whilst striving to reach your goals at Southern Cross Catholic College and beyond.

This semester we have welcomed Lyndon Davis (Gubbi Gubbi) and Gwenda Stanley (Gomeroi) to our College to further support our Culture Club program.

An overwhelming response has been received from our Indigenous Families across the College supporting the initiative to continue the Culture Club program at Southern Cross. The Culture Club program provides Indigenous students the valuable opportunity to engage with, embrace and learn more about their culture.

In Semester 2, the Culture Club has provided opportunity for students from Prep to Year 12 to actively participate in a range of cultural activities including Traditional Storytelling of the local areas, Dance Workshops, Language, Learning about Environment, making and painting up with ochre as well as Craft activities such as beading.
BOOK REVIEW by Karen ALLEN
Librarian, Middle Senior Years Campus Library SCCC...

The book “Listening to country” has to be one of the best journeys into contemporary Murri life that I have ever read. From insights into the search for connection by a man who is part of the Stolen generation to the heartfelt struggles by the grandmothers to pass on culture to their grandchildren, this book has made a lasting impact on me.

If you know all about indigenous matters or very little, it’s one to read. It’s a treasure!

Copies of Listening to Country is now available in all Campus Libraries.

Once again our Annual Hearing Health Checks for our Early Junior Years students have been completed by Delma Dorman, Community Hearing Health Nurse.

This year, 12 of our students travelled by College Bus to the Redcliffe Community Health Centre to have their Hearing Health Screening Checks.

If any problems are detected during these Hearing Checks, it is important to remember to follow up with advice received from Delma regarding good hearing health. This may require further investigation with your G.P. or specialist. Remember: DEADLY EARS = DEADLY LEARNING at School!

Indigenous Playgroups for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children aged 0-5 years old

A FREE program happening now at Undurba State School

Wednesday 9.30–11.30

Contact: Elisha Fraser
3480 9111
News Release
1 November 2012

Stories from the first Australians available to all
Australians from 12-12-12

In a historic day for Australia, a dedicated Indigenous television service will be available for all Australians free-to-air for the first time, when National Indigenous Television (NITV) begins broadcasting on SBS4 digital spectrum from 12 December 2012.

SBS Managing Director, Michael Ebeid, said: “The 12th of December marks an important milestone in Australian broadcasting, and in our nation’s history. SBS is incredibly proud to be playing a role in delivering content about Indigenous Australians, produced by Indigenous Australians, to every Australian household. With NITV part of the SBS family, we will reflect Australia’s diversity in a way no other broadcaster has before.”

NITV Channel Manager, Tanya Donning, said: “NITV has been creating and delivering innovative content representing the many voices of the country’s first Australians. We remain dedicated to having our unique languages and culture reflected within the media landscape, and we’re excited to invite Australians of all backgrounds to tune in, and join us in celebrating our rich and unique culture.”

To celebrate the free-to-air launch, NITV will broadcast a day of special programming starting with a two-hour outdoor broadcast, live from the iconic Uluru in the Northern Territory. From the Heart of Our Nation will be a special television event marking the official ‘switch on’ of NITV free-to-air at 12pm (AEDT). Hosted by Indigenous broadcasters Stan Grant and Rhoda Roberts, the Pitjanjatjara and Yankunytjatjara traditional owners of the area will welcome audiences from around the nation.

From the Heart of Our Nation will be followed by a one hour Living Black special (from 2pm AEDT) from SBS studios in Sydney. Hosted by Karla Grant, SBS’s award-winning Indigenous current affairs program will examine the development of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander media in Australia throughout history.

The broadcast will return to Uluru for a special edition of NITV News with Natalie Atmat before the party really gets underway and some of Australia’s best Indigenous talent - including Jessica Mauboy, Christine Anu, Casey Donovan and Troy Cassar Daley - take to the stage to perform as the sun sets for a two hour concert hosted by the much loved Ernie Dingo (from 8pm AEDT).

The launch of NITV free-to-air follows the Federal Government’s 2012 budget announcement to transfer funding from NITV to SBS to develop a new, national digital free-to-air channel dedicated to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander content. The new NITV channel will maintain editorial responsibility over delivery of the channel, and will continue to utilise the talents of Indigenous writers, directors and journalists to produce content covering a variety of genres, from music to health, sport, news, current affairs, culture and children’s programs.

NITV will begin broadcasting free-to-air from 12pm (AEDT) on 12 December 2012, on SBS4.

Seven Billion Stories and counting...
VOLUNTARY MENTORING TRAINING

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Murrinjaibre Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Association in partnership with Buranga Widjung Justice Group, Caloundra and Kurbingui Youth Development, Zillmere is offering a short course in Volunteer Community Adult Literacy Tutoring. Volunteer Tutors do not have to be qualified, they just need to be able to read and write competently and have a willingness to undertake training and be keen to help others.

The course covers the following topics:
- Develop Adult Literacy Resources
- Evaluate the Effectiveness of Adult Literacy Tutoring
- Develop Tutor Strategies in Listening and Speaking
- Produce a Community Adult Literacy Needs Analysis
- Develop Tutor Strategies in Numeracy
- Develop Tutor Strategies in Reading
- Develop Tutor Strategies in Writing
- Be an Effective Volunteer
- Mentor in the Workplace

Location: to be determined
Dates: to be determined
Duration: 4 Days Training
Eligibility:
- Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people
- Non-Indigenous people specifically who work with ATM people within the community
- 17 yrs and over

If anyone is interested in becoming a Volunteer Literacy Tutor, please contact Deanne Law:
- 07 3290 1539 or 0401 089 617.
- Email address: Deanne@murrinjaibre.com.au

This project has been funded by the Dept. of Education, Training & Employment.

KURBINGUI YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
425 Zillmere Road
Zillmere Qld 4034

FUN!

PHOTOGRAPHY CLASSES

FREE

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Seeking 10 participants that are interested learning about Photography.

Open to all Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people

Eligibility: 17 yrs & over

- 13 week course
- Every Thursday from 10am to 12pm

Venue: Kurbingui Youth Development
425 Zillmere Road
Zillmere Qld 4034

RSVP:
- Deanne on 3290 1539 or email: deanne.murrinjaibre.com.au
- Zillmere Office on 3605 1402 or email: admin@kurbingui.org.au

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

Participants will learn how to take professional photos and develop the different techniques used to produce quality photos.

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

Participants will learn to download - Photos; Produce; Edit. Selected photos will be used in conjunction with an art exhibition.

Funded by Department of Education, Training and Employment
Thank you for your support during 2012!

May this Christmas fill your hearts with warmth, peace and joy!

See you in 2013!