

# AICS NEWS

Issue 9

Aboriginal Independent Community Schools

November 2007

## JARLMADANGAH CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY

On the evening of October 1, Jarlmadangah Community hosted an event to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the community's incorporation. Anthony Watson awarded certificates of appreciation to everyone who has helped the community and school over the years. Amongst many others, Anthony specifically mentioned Audrey Jackson and John Hill's contributions to the establishment of Nyikina Mangala School and said their help has been of great value to the entire community over the years. Linda Nardea was also awarded a certificate for her continued support and work in the school.

The AICS Support Unit would like to congratulate the community and the school governing body for setting up and maintaining such a fantastic environment for growing up their children and running a high quality school. Congratulations!



## Building, Building, Building ... *(Shayne Power)*

Wongutha is in the grip of building fever. For the past 12 months, several major projects have been started and are nearing completion.

We began with the transformation of the technical trades block. The woodworking / construction area has been extended to accommodate the manufacture of larger projects. In the past, we have made and sold cubby houses to the community. The extra space will allow faster construction in greater quantities.

The main corridor allows access to the Metals, Panel and Construction areas. The Mechanical trades' area, though under the same roof, has its own access.

A multi purpose classroom has been constructed to allow a better learning environment for our students. This classroom will be equipped with up to date equipment including computers and interactive whiteboards.

Whilst all licensed work was contracted out, any construction that could be done in-house was. The students, both male and female were involved and took great pleasure in being part of the team.

The building of the new laundry has taken priority over most of the other projects for much of the year and is now in use though not quite finished.

The brickwork was contracted out to a local bricky and the roof was done by the Wongutha building team consisting of Terry Buckley, Mick Sonneman, Mitchell Buckley and Rocky Schwamm. Along with the laundry, the building also houses the Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) and the school uniform store area.

The next project will be to finish the girl's hostel extensions.

Three buildings were transported down from Coolgardie CAPS and re-assembled against the northern end of the present girls' hostel. The interior was gutted and 4 rooms were built. The entire interior has been gyprocked and is at the painting, trimming out stage.

The re-fit will enable a further 8 female students to be housed there. Combine this with an enormous entertainment area, the girls' hostel will provide 5 star accommodation. A breezeway will join the two buildings.

Stage two of the re-fit will consist of upgrading the ablation area and fitting out a staff flat. Stage 1 should be completed soon.



## Carmel finds the door and we welcome a new Accelerated Literacy Consultant for 2008—Katie Pinchas

Like many long term Kimberley-ites, Carmel is a living pioneer. However, she would not see herself that way and would be embarrassed by the analogy. During the



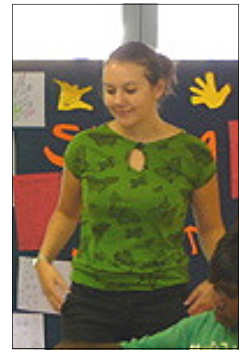
fourteen years spent teaching in AIC Schools she was instrumental in the establishment of the Yakanarra School, living and working alongside the community in conditions that would be hard to imagine these days.

In 2003 Carmel commenced work as an Accelerated Literacy Consultant, bringing to that role her great capacity for work and the single-mindedness of a marathon runner—dedicated to making an enduring and positive difference to the lives and standard of education for the AIC Schools' students.

Carmel has now decided to leave early next year to take a well deserved break. She isn't quite sure where she will end up, but she tells us she wants to use her AL experience to continue teaching or working with literacy, and to this end she is reinventing herself as Spinifex Education.

At present Carmel's only other plan is to go to a yoga course in India. She says, 'I have always dreamed of spending a couple of weeks standing on my head at the bottom of the Himalayas'. We will all miss her and we wish her well in her upcoming adventures.

The AICS Support Unit would like to welcome Carmel's replacement, Katie Pinchas, to the team. Katie will be taking Carmel's position in 2008 as AL Consultant in the Broome office, working in Nyikina Mangala, Purnululu and Yiyili schools. During February, Carmel and Katie will be working together to ensure a smooth hand over. Whilst Carmel is a tough act to follow, Katie is enthusiastic and equipped to take up the challenge.



Katie's teaching background in English Literature has assisted her in her previous work teaching and implementing the AL program in Purnululu and Nyikina Mangala schools. Katie has also had very valuable experience teaching all ages, having worked with Junior, Middle and Upper Primary as well as specialising in Secondary. We all look forward to working with her next year. Welcome aboard Katie!



## Diary Dates for First Semester 2008:

### January:

- First DEST GRG payment (50%)
- IEP First half-yearly (recurrent funding) payment
- Southern Professional Development in Perth (29 - 31 & 1 Feb)
- Northern Professional Development in Fitzroy Crossing (28 - 31)

### February:

- Term 1 commences (4)
- IRL assessments, for any new students not tested at the end of 2007, to be given to consultants, also required as students enter or leave the project
- First payment ONGE State per Capita funding (1)
- ONGE Census—State per Capita funding
- AISWA ATP Financial and Educational Accountability Certificates due (23)
- AISWA ATP ESL ILSS New Arrivals Financial and Educational Accountability Reports due (29)

### March:

- Notification to DEST of changed enrolments due date
- PSPI—Close of Round 1
- AISWA Inclusive Education Equipment applications for 2008 (14)
- Easter Break (21—24)
- CGA—General Element, Investing in our Schools Program Element—closing date for applications (28)
- CGA—Election of Committee Members and President (28)
- AISWA Briefing the Board, Scotch College (29)

### April:

- AICS Conference in Perth (1—3)
- Term 1 finishes (11)
- Schools' Financial Questionnaire to be returned to DEST
- AICS Professional Development in Broome, Cable Beach (28—2 May)
- Term 2 commences (28)

### May:

- CGA visits to applicant schools through to July
- Second payment ONGE State per Capita funding (15)

### June:

- CGA—visits to applicant schools (ongoing)
- Progress Report due for In Class Tuition and Yrs 10,11,12 as per IEA
- Progress Report due for Indigenous Education Programme

### July:

- Term 2 finishes (4)
- Accelerated Literacy Professional Development, Perth (17-18)
- Term 3 commences (21)
- Teaching in Independent School Seminar (TISS) (26)
- Second DEST GRG payment to systemic and non-systemic schools
- ONGE State per Capita Funding School Census
- AISWA TP ESL & ILSS due date for submission of Round 1 data for claim period for students

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- *Southern PD—29 January to 1 February inclusive, in Perth.*
- *Northern PD—28 January to 1 February inclusive, in Fitzroy Crossing.*
- *AICS Conference—week of 1—3 April—Perth*
- *Broome PD—28 April to 2 May at Cable Beach*





