

## Year 11 Camp

On Wednesday 19 August over one hundred Year 11 students arrived at school ready for the Year 11 Leadership Camp at Barrabadeen, Lake Tinaroo. The excitement for the upcoming three days could be seen on everyone's faces. As everyone started arriving with eskies with enough food to feed an army, mattresses, pillows, bags and almost the 'kitchen sink' it was clear the first teamwork activity of the camp was going to be a game of Tetris, trying to put all the gear on the bus.

After an hour delay, the arrival of a trailer and under the watchful eye of the masterful organizer Mr Jarman the gear finally left the sidewalk and made its way onto the buses. When the buses arrived all of the students managed to find their gear and instruction manuals on how to set up their tents. Some groups struggled with the orientation of the tents however with much pain, sweat and tears tents were spread out all over Barrabadeen.

The camp was a jammed packed blur from that moment. The activities organized by our fantastic teachers were extremely enjoyable whilst at the same time they built our teamwork and leadership qualities. Activities included Canoeing with Mr Kurth, Orienteering with Mr Hancock, Leadership skills with Carla, hiking with Mr Jarman and other crazy obstacle courses such as Slumdog Gladiator.

Many of our exchange students were on the lookout for 'The Far Northern Drop Bears' and other dangerous creatures such as killer Barramundi! A few people saw me screaming and running through the bush on the orienteering course as I swear I stood on a killer Python... Luckily though the only injuries sustained throughout the three days were massive cuts, bruises and the odd sore ankle.

The night activities organised were highly enjoyable with dancing on the first night and a highly energetic auction on the second night. The auction involved spending Metzlar money for building materials to replicate the Eiffel tower. After much shouting and bidding the materials were bought from the honourable auctioneer Mr Hancock and the students set to work on their masterpieces. The towers produced ranged from interesting with coat hangers and sticky tape... to extravagant artworks produced by the masterful engineers in Group D!

Some of the highlights of the camp included swimming at 6am in Lake Tinaroo, eating all the fried noodles left in the supermarkets, late nights spent talking to our exchange students and just enjoying each other's

company. Caleb Day the masterful entertainer was my highlight as everyone was in tears with his comedy acts.

The leadership and teamwork shown throughout the camp by the students was extremely impressive. The camp helped many students learn a lot about themselves and their fellow classmates. It was extremely evident that the leadership was of a high class when two students Kody and Aimee cleaned the girl's bathroom, this was a fantastic sign of initiative.

The trip home was just as eventful with the buses experiencing 'technical difficulties' which delayed our return back to school. The tired students were faced with problem solving again by fitting all the gear back on the bus. When all seemed safe the bus then experienced further 'technical difficulties' on the Kuranda Range. Everyone was happy just to arrive home safely to be greeted by the loving smile of Mrs Metzlar, parents and carers.

The camp was extremely successful and was a fantastic insight into how different people handled leadership roles. This article however cannot be finished without thanking the greatest year coordinator ever, Mrs Metzlar. This wonderful teacher did an amazing job successfully organizing and running a camp with over one hundred students involved. Her efforts as a Year Co-ordinator and teacher are second to none and all of Year 11 are extremely lucky to have her as our co-ordinator.

Thank you to all of the teachers involved with the camp. The students of Smithfield State High School are extremely fortunate to have such enthusiastic and wonderful teachers. Thank you also to all of the students who attended the camp, you are the people who made it extremely enjoyable and I look forward to entering Year 12 with all of you.

Paul Hanlon, Year 11



## ROCK n Roll

Year 11 SPE class "ROCKED" the morning away recently when they performed their Rock n Roll routines for their performance exam.



Apart from traditional sports such as Touch football and volleyball, the subject studies an "aesthetic" physical activity. This years group have learnt moves such as the "honeymoon" and the "neck breaker" in their Rock n Roll routines and have put together some hot performances worthy of "So You Think You Can Dance Smithfield?"

Mary-Ellen Cox  
Senior Physical Education Teacher

## DANCE NIGHT

Dance night was another great success for the Performing Arts Department! Many talented dance and non-dance students wowed their audience on 27 August, some, proving that you do not need any dance training to produce remarkable skill. Dance night is an evening, which allows all students the opportunity to showcase their talents across all genres of dance. Smithfield High was fortunate to have some Guest Star appearances from '365' crew member, and ex student, James Elmer and 'Amarj', an all girl hip hop crew making their mark on the local dance scene. A huge applause to everyone involved in the night, and many thanks to those who came to support us!



Julie Scott  
Dance Teacher

## Be Chooser Not a Loser Campaign

For the 2009 Year 11 Senior Health campaign, the students advocated to reduce binge drinking and risky behaviours amongst their peers. They named it "Be a Chooser, Not a Loser", adopted from the previous year 11s' campaign.

The aim was:

- ◆ To raise awareness about the extent to which youths are participating in risky behaviours whilst under the influence of alcohol; and
- ◆ To encourage their peers to drink in moderation and consider the consequences to themselves, their friends and family before participating in heavy drinking.
- ◆ Throughout the course of the campaign an activities day was held at lunchtime, guest speakers were brought into PSS class while students could get their hand print painted onto a mural, a broadcast was aired on the school radio (101.9 Coast FM) interviewing some Senior Health students, and a Post-Ed article was written for the Cairns Post.

The activities day was held at first lunch at the stairs behind P Block on Friday 4 September. The events included a quiz and free giveaways, and a photo opportunity where friend groups could get their photo taken as a keepsake, and to make a pledge to take care of one another.

During PSS class on Tuesday 8 September the students

had the opportunity to have their hand prints painted onto a mural, representing their commitment to the pledge to help their friends in risky situations. After, guest speaker Craig Kingsley (former school chaplain at SSHS) came in to tell the Year 11's about what the Red Frogs group do at schoolies week, and why.

The Year 11 Senior Health class chose to do their campaign this year on binge drinking and risky behaviours amongst their peers because of the widely socially accepted culture of drinking at a younger age (even though it is not legal). A survey was conducted in class time near the start of term, which revealed alarming information indicating the risks that some of our students take.

Reflecting on the campaign, it appeared successful in raising awareness amongst students at Smithfield State High School. The fact that the campaign was run by students rather than teachers increased its significance and the students appeared interested and accepting as they could relate to their peers.

Thanks to Alana Krzemien, Carla Pappas, Sam O'Connor, Riley Dwyer, Bec Selsby and Sharon Jones for their help with the campaign.

By Julie Raymer and Perryn Rademaker  
Senior Health Year 11

### Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Local Area Study 2009

*The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander studies class would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land upon which Smithfield State High School lies and pay our respects to the Elders both past, present and future for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of Indigenous Australia.*

On Friday 31 July 2009 the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies class visited Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Park. The purpose of the excursion was for students to learn about the resilience of the Djabugay clan, the traditional owners of the land upon which Smithfield State High School is located. They collected information and photos to help with their assessment of the local area that is based around the themes: origin, change, survival, revival.

The class would like to thank Maureen Sweeney our Community Education Councillor for accompanying us and the staff at Tjapukai who made us very welcome.

