Congratulations to Naomi Spitzner-Lewis on receiving the 2019 Young Woman of Achievement Award at the Annual International Women’s Day Dinner. Naomi is our School Captain. She is a very dedicated student and deserved winner of this prestigious award.

Spinifex State College is fostering the female leaders of tomorrow. For the past four consecutive years, students from our College have received this award.

- 2016 – Tara Cherian
- 2017 – Gabby Wakefield
- 2018 – Vidhusha Lakshman
- 2019 – Naomi Spitzner- Lewis

Well done to all student nominees. Special thanks extend to Ms Kristen Curd and Mrs Prue Pocock for accompanying and supporting our nominees on the night. Ms Curd reported that all students represented our College with pride. Spinifex State College would like to thank the Zonta Club of Mount Isa for a fabulous night. All who attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves.
International Women’s Day on Campus

The Senior Campus celebrated International Women’s Day with purple mini cupcakes packaged with the theme “balance for better”. Cupcakes were distributed to staff and students to enjoy.

The Junior Campus also celebrated with purple cupcakes and guest speaker Ms Belinda Keillor. Belinda is assisting with the preservation and teaching of the Kalkutungu (Kalkadoon) language and has recently completed an international trip to South America on push bike.

Belinda shared with the students how she overcomes safety issues faced by women travelling alone or in small numbers. Leaving students with the overall message to never let fear hold you back from the things you are passionate about.

State Honours Ensemble Program

James Baxter, Lachlan Fietz, Jessica Lewis, Jack Muller, Victoria Narawa and Tia Peel participated in the State Honours Ensemble Program in Cairns recently. During their three day stay students were given the opportunity work alongside Australia’s finest conductors and on the last day participate in a grand finale concert. Congratulations students on this amazing opportunity to work with and learn from the best in the business.

School Photos

Our students recently had their individual photos taken. Students who have paid their Resources and Materials Scheme will receive their ID cards in the very near future. Families who have ordered photos will receive them next term. If you still wish to order a photo, you will now need to contact the photographer directly.
Bullying No Way!

We recognised the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence in the Junior Hall during first break on Friday. Students wrote down their ideas for bullying prevention on a piece of paper. The papers were used to make a paper chain to represent ideas linking together to combat bullying. Headspace representatives and School Based Police Officer Aimee Sewell showed support and let students know they are here to help.

The ‘#endcyberbulling Campaign’ was launched on the same day to create behavior change and empower students to act if they witness cyberbullying. The message given to students from this campaign is to Report it and Block it.

Indigenous Art Project

It was tremendous to have award winning author and illustrator Gregg Dreise and the team from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art project in the school last week. The goal was to create a wearable art piece. The aim of the project is to engage students in the conversations about culture, identity and purpose. In doing so, we hope that students will achieve a greater sense of purpose and motivation to engage in school and their community.

Year 7 / 12 Day

The Year 7 / 12 day is one of the best days in our school calendar. All Year 7 and 12 students will meet at the Basketball Stadium on Friday the 22nd of March at 8:15am. Students are encouraged to attend in house colours. The senior students have organised the activities for the day and will also lead the activities. The day finishes at 2:20pm. Year 7/12 day will conclude at 2:20pm, and students will be dismissed from the Basketball Stadium.
New School Winter Uniforms

I thank parents for supporting our school uniform policy. As we enter the cooler months, parents are reminded that new school jackets ($55ea) and tracksuit pants ($65ea) are available for purchase from the tuckshops on both campuses.

It is not acceptable for students to attend school with multi-coloured jumpers. Research tells us that students who dress in uniform each day are more likely to be in a frame of mind to engage effectively in the learning program of the school.

Everyday Counts

As we get closer to the school holidays, we remind parents that school attendance is critical to maximise student success. Students who start holidays early and/or return late from holidays will miss out on vital instruction time.

I ask parents to ensure that students are attending school up until the last day of this term Friday the 5th of April, and make sure they return to school on the first day of Term 2 - Tuesday 23rd of April.

P&C AGM and General Meeting

Parents and Citizen Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month. The meetings are a great way to make a positive contribution to the life of our school. The next P&C meeting will be held tonight, Wednesday the 20th of March in the Junior Campus Library, starting at 7pm. The evening will begin with the P&C AGM, to be followed by a General P&C Meeting. I look forward to meeting you at the P&C meeting.

Regards,
Mr Philip Sweeney
Principal
In and Around School

Rugby League Trials

What a great turn out for the first round of Rugby League trials! Nearly 50 students braved the heat and sweated it out to show off their skills. All players are trialing to be selected in one of three Spinifex teams consisting of 14-15yrs boys, open boys (16-18yrs) and open girls (16-18yrs) to compete in the interschool carnival in Term 2. Reminder our final trial is on next Friday the 22nd March at Alec Inch Oval from 3 - 4.30pm.

Miss Emily Carven
HPE Teacher - Senior Campus

International Woman’s Day Breakfast

Allisa Sidnell, Antonia Connelly and Brie Montano along with Mrs Sweeney attended the 2019 International Woman’s day Breakfast hosted by Glencore’s Mount Isa Mines at the Buffs Club on Friday morning. Special guest speaker, Senior Sergeant Renee Hannahan, Officer in Charge of the Mount Isa Police Station shared her inspirational story as a woman working in the Queensland Police Service, following on from Renee we crossed live to WIMARQ (Woman in Mining and Resources Queensland) International Woman’s Day event in Brisbane. It was agreed that the morning was very inspirational for our students who were also treated to a very hearty breakfast.

Mrs Tina Sweeney
Career Education Co-ordinator
World’s Greatest Shave

Senior Campus celebrated World’s Greatest Shave, we had seven people shave their heads for this worthy cause, five students and two teachers, they included:

- Hayden Mood
- Jack Muller
- Riley Williams
- Coen Barry
- Bailey Hunter-Robinson
- Miss Peta Guijarro
- Mr Chris Pocock

Thank you to Marnie’s Hair for helping out with shaving. It was really great to see so much support from all our students, very good turnout. A job well done to the Moondarra house captains raising a whopping $1066 smashing their fundraising goal of $600.

Mr Pocock grew his hair and raffled it off for students to shave. Riley Bishop won and did a wonderful job! See for yourselves 😊
Ngawa - Indigenous Leadership Group

Ngawa is the name of our new Indigenous leadership group at the Junior Campus. We had our first meeting on Wednesday (8th March) where students were introduced to the program and then asked whether or not they could commit to the leadership expectations – as a result we had the following students make a full commitment and we welcome them whole heartedly to our team!

From Year 7: Halle Donovan, Akira King, Cooper Wyld-Hill, Emily Luff, Kathleen Coggan, Kael Burns.
From Year 8: Charlotte Restall, Cooper Duffy.
From Year 9: Natasha Connelly, Olive Bird, Max Brennan, Ebonee Hearne, Amarah Body, Ashea Nona, Alysha Blackley, Tremayne Gammell, Jae Byrne, Sam Kumsing.

Following are the main outcomes of this meeting:

- Students chose a name for the program, this is Ngawa which is a Kalkatungu (Kalkadoon) word meaning STRONG. This is a perfect name for a program that is aimed at building strength in culture, community and leadership qualities.
- Students have been given a community project to help raise funds and awareness for Mount Isa Indigenous organisations – parents may want to talk to them about this sometime and share your thoughts and ideas with them (images of project examples are attached – student work will be on auction later in the year with proceeds going to community organisations).
- Students have been taught a traditional greeting – parents may want to practice this greeting with them

Students were asked to make a comment on the new program, following are a few responses:

It's pretty good so far; young adults will be able to connect with their culture a lot more and we are being taught the importance of being proud of our Aboriginal ancestry. I am taking the role of being the next Indigenous leaders of our community very seriously.

**Samuel Kumsing** (pictured left)

I think the new program will be culturally enriching. I already know more about Mt Isa and Kalkadoon culture than I did before. I didn’t realise that Kabalulumana was the name of the Kalkadoon man that helped John Campbell Miles find mineral in Mt Isa. That’s the name of the hostel my mum used to work at.

**Maxwell Brennan** (pictured middle)

It is going to be amazing as I feel that it will positively inform the younger Indigenous generation of Mount Isa about the importance of taking care of our Aboriginal identity.

**Tremayne Gammell** (pictured right)

Mrs Jody Lobegeiger

Teacher – Junior Campus
Creating Impact

An opportunity to practice the craft of writing through an advanced online writing course is extending the literacy skills of Spinifex’s 7S class. This is the second year that Spinifex has teamed up with the IMPACT writing program. Students enrolled in the program work on constructing sentences and passages that convey subject matter, mode and tenor.

Online facilitator Gary Sandstrom has been pleased with the work to date saying he was very impressed by the quality of the students’ work. “Their writing is imaginative with ideas expressed clearly and interestingly” he said. Students in the class have also been enthusiastic about the program saying they are enjoying the opportunity to study the online course to improve their writing skills.

At the completion of the 12 week IMPACT program, students will utilise their learning to produce a school newsletter.

Parents wishing to support their child should ask them about their weekly progress and encourage them to complete the weekly website activities found at www.elearn.eq.edu.au. These activities should take approximately 30 minutes per week.

Kaitlyn Dyer has shared one of her first writing pieces recounting a time when she had to face her fears.

Facing My Fear - My First Gymnastics Lesson

BANG! the door slammed behind mum and I. I walked towards the car dreading to go. The condensation on my water bottle made my hand slippery and hard to hold onto the bottle, it reminded me of when I badly broke my wrist one year ago. That year I was showing my walkovers to my old friend when my hand slipped on the muddy earth surface. The trip to gymnastics was a blur as I rethought that moment over and over again. What if I slip again? What if I embarrass myself? Soon my thoughts disappeared, and I went totally blank. The car had stopped, and my mum flicked her hands (oblivious to the fact that I am terrified) telling me to go across the car park to the big white building. The gymnastics building. I opened my door with one hand and holding my water bottle in the other. I jumped out onto the gravel ground. I took three steps. And with each step my stomach told me to turn around. So without hesitating I did. It was too late, mum had already started the car and soon was back on the main road. I turned on my heels and made my way to the white building. The gravel crunched under my feet reminding of the sound my wrist made when I had broken it. I was soon by the door, I pulled it open and to my amazement, I saw many of my friends there too. None of them had ever done gymnastics before and all my worries washed away knowing was not alone and no one was perfect either.

Ms Melissa Lutton
Teacher – Junior Campus
Calling all singers! Join our Mass Choir for The Mount Isa Blast

Development is well underway for The Mount Isa Blast - a large scale community theatre spectacular to be held at Buchanan Park on 25, 26 and 27 July. We are so excited for you to see what we’ve been working on, and would love for you to be a part of this incredible event!

Would you like to get involved?

We are looking for choirs and individual singers of all levels and abilities to join our mass choir, which will perform in The Mount Isa Blast.

All are welcome - we want to get the whole community involved in this massive production, so share this information with anyone and everyone who may want to be a part.

Details

Rehearsals will be held monthly in the lead up to the event, kicking off Monday 25 March.

- Mount Isa Civic Centre
- 6pm - 7:30pm

The choir will be involved in each performance, so make sure you're free from 25-27 July!

You will also be required to attend rehearsals, in the lead up to the event - on 20, 22, 23, and 24 July - so keep those dates free in your calendar.

There’ll be more information to come but if you have any questions in the meantime, send us an email at mountisa@qmf.org.au

Register below to get involved and be a part of this monumental performance!
THE MOUNT ISA BLAST

STORY TREATMENT & OUTLINE OF EVENTS | OCTOBER, 2018
AN EXPLOSIVE SPECTACULAR

This document’s been prepared by writer and director David Burton for Queensland Music Festival, in partnership with Music Consultant Shenton (Shenzo) Gregory, Creative Producer Kate Wilson, and Production Designer Josh McIntosh.

Twice a day, everyday, for as long as any of the locals can remember, Mount Isa explodes. It’s scheduled for 8am and 8pm. Sometimes, the blast is so insignificant that no one registers it. Other times it’s large enough for buildings to shake.

The calculated blast comes courtesy of the giant mine that lies at the geographic and industrial heart of the place. The explosions loosen the earth so that the miners can then remove the waste, hunt for valuable material, and plunge deeper.

There’s a vehement pride that emanates from the dozens of locals we’ve made contact with. Mount Isa is a good place. There’s a lot here. Queensland Music Festival knows this from their long history with the town. From Bob Cat Dancing (2003), Red Cap (2007), Swingin’ Utes (2013) and Mount Isa Celebrates (2015). What better way to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of QMF, then return to Mount Isa for a large, outdoor, spectacular.

Held at Kalkadoon Arena in Buchanan Park over three nights, the free event will involve a cast of hundreds, a full symphonic orchestra, amazing soloists, machinery, live animals and massive vehicles.

For the QMF creatives, these productions come about through a dialogue with the community. All the musical and performance talent is sourced locally. It is a show for, with and by the Mount Isa Community. It is a show that will celebrate its beauty, its originality, and reflect on its history and future.

From a creative stand point, the purpose of these productions is to re-frame how Mount Isa views itself. Something as ordinary as bob cats, for example, when thrown under theatrical lights and given permission to show off, become gigantic, dancing robots. Cattle painted in the colours of the rainbow. Unique creative talent that has previously not been given opportunities to shine so bright: a nationally acclaimed actor and singer, a powerful up and coming rapper, a highly trained classical pianist, a visual artist who’s work is shown across the country. In this, an audience (and participants) are given a chance to renew their relationship with Mount Isa. To build community and pride. It is not only a massive leap of theatrical imagination, but civic imagination. It is a collective reimaging of Mount Isa.

It’ll be a blast.
THE SHOW

The show is still developing in structure and arc. These moments have also been configured within the context of our chosen venue: The Mount Isa Rodeo (photo above, and initial concept set design attached).

THE NARRATIVE

Megan (played by Megan Sarmardin) is a fighter. She’s a proud indigenous woman who’s lived in Mount Isa for yonks, but she’s fed up with a town that doesn’t seem to want to give back to her. She’s wants to get in a car and go far, far away.

But a blast triggers a magic slip in space, and she is thrust into a neon-bright, musical and beautiful version of Mount Isa. Throughout the show, she meets and converses with locals of this foreign land, and learns to see her town in a new light. When she is thrust back to reality with a second blast, she decides she will stay in Mount Isa. There’s too much good here to leave.

BOBCATS DANCING

Mount Isa Blast will reference some QMF productions of the past. Using songs from the 2003 and 2005 productions, a number of bobcats will take to the stage and dance, accompanied by other machinery. A call back to the original, beloved productions that so many in the community still remember.
A PARADE OF LIVESTOCK

A cattle drive walks through the space, but not in a way the rodeo has ever seen before. Accompanied by a live folk band and painted in neon colours, this is a display of livestock unlike any other.

ACKNOWLEDGING HISTORY

In 1878, a fight over cattle led to vicious violence between white settlers and the Kalkatungu people. A string of fights and murders on both sides led to the attempted genocide of the Kalkatungu. Less than thirty of their number eventually remained.

At least part of this story will be told with Kalkatungu story-tellers, who will develop musical possibilities through workshops.

WORLD-CLASS MUSICIANS

Despite the blasts and spectacle, the show will achieve quiet moments, like a classical piano solo from a pianist at the top of their game, accompanied by aerial gymnasts flying over the set.

VROOM-VROOM

Working with Mt Isa’s extensive moto-cross and trial bike community, the show’s final spectacle will likely involve dozens of motorbike riders zooming around the set, while a full symphonic orchestra plays a rock anthem. The set has been designed especially for these riders to do what they do best in a safe way: have fun and show off.

A CELEBRATION OF MOUNT ISA’S MULTICULTURALISM

Working with Mount Isa’s Multicultural network, the Mount Isa Blast will involve moments of opportunity to celebrate the diversity of its citizens. Moments may include acknowledgments of the Finnish, Indian, Middle Eastern and South American cultures. In the shows final moments, a mass choir of several hundred people will sing a song in multiple languages as the ultimate unifying finale to this spectacular production.
Colours for kids colour Festival

29th March
From 6pm - 10pm
At Buffs Club Carpark

With DJ Jepzen
$2 per ticket

Food, drinks and merchandise available

The Buffs Squad Colours for Kids Colour Festival brought you by Hit 102.5
Supporting ISA Rodeo Queen Quest entrant Aimee Sewell raising funds for Mount Isa PCYC

Sponsored by:
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Colours for Kids
Mount Isa Theatrical Society
Proudly presents...

THE GREEK MYTHOLOGY OLYMPIAGANZA

By Don Zolidis

8 March to 30 March 2019
Fridays and Saturdays
Mits Theatre - Transmission Street
7pm door for 7:30pm dinner

Tickets $40 ($35 for group 8+) *cash only
Tickets @ Impulse Boutique - West St (0411 256 135)