Our students and staff are having a great time on Magnetic Island as they work through a program that includes subject studies, leadership and personal development activities.

The students return on the train this Thursday the 20th of September. No doubt they will be excited to be home, while exhausted by this non-stop program.

I would like to particularly thank Ms Kristen Curd, Mr Matt Ward and the staff who are leading the camp this year.

These staff members spend many hours prior to camp preparing, and are on-call 24/7 during camp, but they do so because they are committed to providing our students with this challenging and rewarding experience.
The Update

The Year 7 Scholars class have produced the second installment of The Update, a newsletter for students, created by students. This project is an interactive and hands on part of the journalism program.

I am so impressed with the Term 3 edition. It contains a lot of engaging materials and school relevant articles. I trust that you will enjoy reading this publication that captures the interests of our students.

Congratulations to 7S and Ms Sarah Yates for producing an engaging and well-structured newsletter. The Update has been attached toward the end of this newsletter for your reading. We hope you enjoy.

Taipans Touch Team

Spinifex State College's Taipans Touch team competed in the touch finals last week. Teachers, Ms Tara O'Brien and Mrs Jody Lobergeiger have been the driving force behind the mighty Taipans. Our Junior Campus students have competed throughout the season, demonstrating dedication and fair play.

The team did not come away victorious in the finals, but should be commended for their training and teamwork. Spinifex State College entered five teams into the formal competitions this year. The students improved their skills and game play throughout the season to be highly competitive. Their team spirit and sportsmanship was a real highlight. Well done to all involved.

Sport 4 Life

On Monday and Tuesday of this week, the Sport 4 Life group visited our Junior Campus and brought along with them sport stars Darryl White, a 3 time AFL premiership winner and Debra George, an elite level basketballer. These sporting role models attended the Year 7 and 8 HPE lessons, where they shared stories about their sporting careers and life experiences, and also spoke about the importance of physical activity, setting goals and overcoming challenges. Thank you to Ms Tara O’Brien and the HPE Team for organising this worthwhile program for our students.
Students Perform in Community Concert

The Junior Extension Ensemble students featured alongside Musica Viva in Schools Ensemble, The Air I Breathe for a performance last Friday night at the Community Concert which took place at the Salvation Army Hall.

The Air I Breathe consisted of a woodwind trio that included a flautist, bassoonist and clarinetist.

We are very proud that our musical students were given yet another opportunity to showcase their wonderful talent for the Mount Isa community.

Year 7 Immunisations

A reminder to all parents that the second round of Year 7 Immunisations will take place next term on Wednesday the 10th of October. No further paperwork is required for this as parents will have completed permission forms during the first round.

School Holidays

School holidays commence for all students this Saturday the 22nd of September. It is expected that all students will attend school every day this week. Classes who have finished assessment will begin their studies for Term 4.

School will recommence on Monday the 8th of October.
Remember, Every Day Counts!

P&C Meeting

The next meeting of our P&C will be held tonight, Wednesday the 19th of September, commencing in the Junior Campus library at 7pm. All parents, guardians and community members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Visit our school website

Find us on Facebook

Regards,
Mr Philip Sweeney
Principal
In and Around Our School

Residential Students Making Many Positive Contributions to the Local Community

Spinifex State College – Residential Campus students have had a busy term this term undertaking a range of activities, from exploring the Granite Rocks site to participating in community events.

Students participated in Res Has Talent this week, and every boarder put on a show. We had dancers, magicians, singers, judges and even the Baby Shark Dance. There was something for everybody. Whilst all students were winners for participating, the overall winner of the evening was Amanda Hamilton.

As usual, the students also undertook some volunteering in the local community. Bronti Vinson and Miss Dianne collected donations for the Salvation Army. Students also got up at 5.30am to help the Mount Isa Special School cook and serve breakfast for the Tennant Creek to Townsville Variety Bash rally.

Our Basketball team has returned to the court in preparation for a short summer competition in Term 4, coached by “The Man”, Anton. The fun never ends!

Our residential students got up very early last Sunday morning to participate in the Pink Ta Ta Fun Run out at Lake Moondarra. Students took out the prize for the Best Dressed Team, a number of individual raffles, and Millie Accoom won Junior Run Award and Clement Hills came in 4th overall in his run.

Congratulations to our students for getting involved and assisting within the Mount Isa community events.

Mrs Cath Jeffery
Head of Residential Campus
Spinifex State College Students Visit Primary Schools

Junior Campus students visited primary schools Barkly, Healy, Central, Townview and Happy Valley as part of our Year 6 Transition Program. Our students did an exceptional job at showcasing our school by providing Year 6 students with real life experiences.

Students from each school asked a range of questions including topics such as: bullying, fridges for lunches, scary teachers, homework, extra-curricular activities and where to go if you get lost.

All of our students really enjoyed the experience, and didn’t stop talking about it on the way back to school with some students saying they would like to do another visit next term. I am sure all primary students enjoyed the presentations and interaction with the Spinifex State College students.

Ms Vickie Reed  
Head of Department – Junior Schooling

School Leavers’ Pathways Program

Applications for the 2019 School Leavers’ Pathway Program is now open. The Glencore run program is an exciting opportunity for local Year 12 students to explore a career in mining.

At 8:30am on Monday the 8th of October, an information session for the School Leavers’ Pathways Program will be held in the Senior Campus Library. If you have any further queries, please contact Careers Education.

The closing date for applications has been extended to 9:00am on Friday the 12th of October, 2018.

A flyer containing more information can be found later in this newsletter.

TAFE Block

Engineering and Automotive TAFE blocks recommence during week one of Term 4 (8th – 12th of October). This will be the final TAFE block, and all students are expected to attend every day in order to complete their respective certificate.

Mrs Tina Sweeney  
Career Education Co-ordinator
New Senior Assessment and Tertiary Education (SATE)

At this stage, we have discussed the changes to subjects – they are now categorised as General and Applied subjects; we have determined that assessment will be internal and external (General course) or all internal (Applied courses); all subjects are broken into four (4) units of study, and that the ATAR is a tertiary entrance score based on students results in their subjects.

The final piece of the new SATE regime is the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE). Whilst the QCE is certainly not new, some of the rules surrounding how students achieve the QCE have changed. Students will still need to achieve 20 credits of learning, credits are still only awarded when a student achieves a pass, a satisfactory or completes a certificate, students still need 12 credits of completed core and they must pass a unit of a Maths and an English subject.

The biggest change is that student achievement in Unit 1 and 2 will now be reported to the QCAA as Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory. Any student who is unsatisfactory in either of these units will lose a QCE credit. In a best case scenario, students in Year 11 in 2019 will study 6 school subjects and complete Units 1 and 2 in each subject and therefore could have 12 credits toward their QCE banked by the end of Year 11. Now more than ever, it is vitally important for students to choose the right subjects for the start of Year 11 so that they do not lose QCE credits.

The other significant change is about how Completed Core Credits are awarded. To be eligible for completed core credits, students must study all 4 Units of a subject (again choosing the right subject is important so that students are not changing subjects and therefore can study all 4 Units) and they must pass Unit 3 and 4 at a C or better. Students who are Unsatisfactory in Unit 1 but then pass the remaining three units will receive 3 credits and those credits will count toward the 12 credits of completed core that students need.

More details on the rules of QCE attainment will be provided to parents and students during the SET plans completed by all Year 10 students.

For more information, please feel free to contact the school. Parents can also visit the QCAA website at https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/new-snr-assessment-te.

Mr Chris Pocock
Head of Senior Campus
Welcome to the second edition of The Update—the Spinifex newsletter written for students, by students. Class 7S listened to student and staff feedback from the last newsletter and have been working hard this term in LEP lessons to put together Issue 2 of the newsletter, representing the students of Spinifex.

Do you have ideas for the newsletter? Would you like to see your work in the next edition? Email a member of 7S or Ms Yates at sey-at0@eq.edu.au with your work or your suggestions. As always, we’d love to hear from you.

Ms Yates

Burrito Princess

The inspiration behind my art was my love for Adventure Time. It was originally an oc (own creation) that I started on paint but moved on to paint.net as it gave me better features to draw with. And yes I drew it with a mouse. No fancy drawing equipment. A mouse. It was painfully slow. I called it Burrito Princess as it was my idea for another food based kingdom in the land of ooh.

By Claire Dowling

NAIDOC Week

This term we had NAIDOC week, celebrating our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures. We had many lively activities but some of the most popular ones were karaoke and face painting. The karaoke was held in the hall and was an extremely fun and humorous activity; plenty of students from Spinifex State College Junior Campus participated. We also had face painting, where many students got involved and got their face painted with vibrant colours such as red, blue, yellow, green and more.

Tarlee Slatter
Science Week

Science is a common subject at Spinifex and it is well looked after. This term we spent a whole week celebrating science (week 5 13th of August till 17th). Ms Lott kindly demonstrated amazing science experiments in first break with the students. We also had some visitors come over from JCU (James Cook University) to do awesome experiments too. The experiments they did were bicarb soda rockets, elephant toothpaste, invisible ink, exploding volcanoes and more. They were so amazing! We learnt a lot of names for the chemicals too and how our solar system works. Science Week helps children who like to create new stuff and take risks, and it helps create new scientists for the future. If you are fascinated by amazing experiments, come to Science Week next year.

By Amanda Hammond & Simon Richter

Opti-Minds

Opti-Minds is an amazing opportunity for students to test their brains while having fun! They have the challenging task of creating a performance based around the given topic. This year the topic is about the Topi-Topi Tribe and their 30th year anniversary of something. You have to uncover and identify 3 significant milestones that have happened in the 30 years of the Topi-Topi Tribe. You form a group of up to 6 people and must write a script based around the chosen subject. You also have to create costumes and props! The winners are flown to Brisbane after the event held at St Joseph’s Catholic School where they perform their presentation in front of the other competitors, parents and judges. This will help improve your quick thinking skills, as well as your presentation and performing skills. It is an extremely fun activity that everyone should try next year!

This year Spinifex had three groups participating in the regional event that was held here in Mount Isa at St Josephs. There were 3 different subjects, however Spinifex only participated in Social Sciences. Spinifex was lucky enough to win two Spirit Awards and a 1st place award. Both groups 1 and 3 won the Spirit awards and were given certificates. Group 3 also won the first place award in Division 2 and received an Opti-Minds trophy and the option to go to Brisbane for the national event.

By Kelly Belford & Charlotte Johnson
School Musical

Twenty-one brilliant minded Spinifex students put on outstanding performances on Friday 27th and Saturday 28th of July to the majority of the city. After six months of hard work from all the teachers and students that contributed, the audience had many laughs and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Each Sunday, from 9am till 3pm, we were rehearsing in the Senior campus multi-media centre and the drama room in D block to create the musical. During each scene that didn’t involve some students, they would be in D block with Miss O’Callaghan learning the songs that were in the musical.

Each Monday after school since term 1 the whole cast met up in the drama room to practise for the performance. Like the Sunday rehearsals, members not included in the scene would go downstairs to the music room and practise the songs that we didn’t know or songs we had to practise again. After an hour of working separately, we would meet up back in the drama room (most of the time) and rehearse dances that included everyone.

On Thursday the 26th of July there was a full dress rehearsal at the Civic Centre to manage all of the lights and microphones. We ran through almost every scene twice to get the right lighting and sound coming from each person. On the Friday we had our first performance in front of an audience at around 12pm that day. There were only five people in the crowd and it turns out two of them were Ms Hoffman’s’ parents. Her mother gave us some feedback and said that “This was very entertaining and the students were very enthusiastic. They looked like they were enjoying themselves.”

That night we had the first proper performance. This time there were about 150 people watching us in the audience. All of us were really nervous whilst we waited at the back of the room before we went on.

On the Saturday most of us were less nervous to go on stage, the microphones and lighting were sorted out and there were about 400 people watching! Saturday night was clearly the night everyone wanted to come. It was an amazing experience.

By Tia Peel and Amanda Hammond
Staff Shout Out—Miss Karen

What is it like to be a member of staff at Spinifex? Read to find out!

We interviewed Miss Karen, a much loved staff member at Spinifex, who recently won an award at the recognition assembly.

ME: How long have you been working at Spinifex?
MISS KAREN: I have been working at Spinifex for almost 3 years now.
ME: Do you enjoy working at Spinifex and why?
MISS KAREN: I love working at Spinifex, everyone is so nice and polite and it is great fun.
ME: Why did you choose to work at Spinifex?
MISS KAREN: I wanted to work at Spinifex because I have always worked at schools and I love working with kids.
ME: Have you worked at any other schools or is this the only one?
MISS KAREN: I have worked at Townview and also at Central.
ME: What made you feel like you wanted to do what you do?
MISS KAREN: I love how everyone and every day are different. It’s always exciting.
ME: What do you like about working here?
MISS KAREN: Well, what isn’t to like?
ME: If you could listen to music at work, what would it be?
MISS KAREN: I would love to listen to country music.
ME: If you could fix anything at Spinifex, what would it be and why?
MISS KAREN: I wouldn’t fix anything because I like it just the way it is.
ME: What is your favourite book and why?
MISS KAREN: I love ‘There was an old lady that swallowed a fly’; it’s such a cool book.
ME: What is your favourite animal and why?
MISS KAREN: I love dolphins because they are excellent swimmers and I can’t swim.
ME: What plans do you have for the future?
MISS KAREN: I don’t know, I live in the moment, day by day
ME: What was your reaction to winning an award at the parade?
MISS KAREN: I was so excited and felt proud that you all like me.
ME: Did you think you would win?
MISS KAREN: No, I didn’t. There are so many other awesome people.
ME: How many students do you talk to every day?
MISS KAREN: It feels like I talk to everyone at school each day, buts its actually only about 20-60.
ME: What were you like at school?
MISS KAREN: I was very shy at school until I got my first job, then I was very talkative.
ME: Did you like high school?
MISS KAREN: Yes, I went to Spinifex but it was then called Mount Isa State High School.
ME: What was your favourite thing to do at lunch when you were at school?
MISS KAREN: I liked to hang out with my friends.

Thanks Miss Karen for being part of our newsletter!

By Hannah Osinski
Staff Shout Out—Mr Los

The Most Loved Drama Teacher

Mr Los has been awarded the High Five award over the past two recognition parades and is one of the most loved teachers around this school. He has only been here for the past year and has captured every student's attention with his loving, caring personality. Want to know more about him? Read on to find out:

Q. What brought you to Mount Isa?
A. This job, so I grew up in a town called Gympie and then I went to Brisbane for uni. I worked in Brisbane for a while and I got a job offer up here so I decided to move here to work for Spinifex.

Q. What do you find interesting about Spinifex?
A. I think it can be a crazy school because there is a lot of energy here. Every day you come to school, there is never a boring day and I think that is the thing that I find most interesting is that there is so many different types of people at a school in such a remote place in the world.

Q. Tell us about your life back home in Gympie.
A. I grew up on a dairy farm, so we milked 200 cows twice a day and produced milk for dairy farmers for the brand you buy at Coles. Yeah it was great because I grew up on 800 acres!

Q. What got you into teaching the performing arts?
A. I did a drama degree and I always loved performing throughout school and I have written a few plays. I performed at uni for hundreds of people and I have just kind of loved it and I thought it seems like a great job to do because I get to act every day and I also get to help young artists become interested in the arts and see that they can succeed.

Q. You were recently in the Rock of Ages School musical, did you perform in any other musical performances when you were younger?
A. Yes! I have been in Phantom of the Opera, I have been in Wicked, Annie “ha-ha”, yeah I have been in a few others and I was in two really big choirs when I was in Brisbane.

Q. How do you interact so well with your students?
A. Aww, well it’s so nice that you think I interact so well with my students. I think that if you just see that if it is the way I see it that students and teachers, we are all just people and we all need to get along in this environment. So if I can create a light environment full of fun where they can be involved, they are going to get the best out of their day and they are going to have the best experience that they can possibly have. So I always try and walk into a class and think how can I make this fun and how can I allow people to have a good time in the class.

By Hannah Smith 7S
**Sport: Field Hockey**

Field hockey is a lot of fun but it can get really competitive near the end of the year. Every year four teams verse each other to try and win the champion finals; Aces, Tbirds, Pirates and Hornets. Sadly this year, due to the circumstance of not enough players, Hornets had to forfeit meaning only 3 teams stood. The Grand Finals was a wonderful day. The under 7’s got to play against parents, it was a lot of fun especially since I got to join in. Then we did a long and boring walk through the field with all the teams to show and appreciate everyone who had joined in. Then finally the real competition began. Who was going to win? Aces or Pirates? The game was great and everyone gave it their all but at the end only one team comes out alive. And this year it was Pirates! After everybody was finally finished we all came and sat around in the hot sun to listen to who got the awards. Under 7’s got a participation award. I’m really happy about that because my younger brother got one. Every player in Pirates got a medal for winning. The day was long and exhausting but there were many things for us to do. There was a water slide, a jumping castle as well as delicious free snow cones and fairy floss. The day was fantastic and very long but I would definitely love to do it again.

By Danielle Sebaly

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**Hobbies: How origami is useful!**

Origami helps develop hand-eye coordination, fine motor skills and mental concentration. The use of the hands directly stimulates areas of the brain. Paper folding challenges us at the cognitive level as we follow instructions, learning new skills and activities; physically our hands become active. Origami is also known to relieve stress and can be relaxing to do. You could also play games with the origami you have made and if you really like doing it, it can be useful in everyday life. Like you could make a Chinese dragon and use it as a decoration for a party. The uses for origami are limitless and you should try making some!

By Jacob Juillerat
**Paper Football !!!**

This is how you play paper football!  

By Jacob Juillerat

1) Get a piece of paper and fold it into a triangle, and keep folding it until it gets smaller. Keep folding it until it’s the right size for you. This is the ball!  
2) Now you can start playing! To get a touchdown, or try, you need to get the ‘ball’ over the edge of the table, but still hanging on, like this!

![Touchdown!](image)

3) If you get a touchdown, you get a chance to punt.  
4) You punt like this!

This is how you play paper football!

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**Origami: Rabbit**

If you are very bored and have nothing interesting to do, you could make origami! It is a very fun activity and really easy to make things. Origami can help you relax and forget all the things that are stressing you! This image shows you how to make an origami rabbit!

![Origami Rabbit Diagram](image)
Games

Games are a big part of this world. There are educational games, board games online, multiplayer games, story mode games and arcade games.

Currently, online multiplayer games are a huge trend. Games such as Fortnite, Mario, Forza and other games are earning billions. They’ve become an addiction for millions. People are playing these games every day and it’s become a part of their lives.

On the other hand, educational and board games are also great things. Teachers around the world use websites such as Study Ladder, Prodigy, Code.org and Mathletics to teach and consolidate students’ understanding of what they are learning about. Students enjoy the games while learning.

I play Prodigy once every week in my maths class. It is an awesome, adventurous game, in which you complete a vast variety of maps by making your way through each destination. The way you progress is by answering math equations (e.g. 12y+ 8y). It is so engaging because every time you get a victory you are rewarded with gold coins and other goods. From these goods you can purchase amazing outfits and show them off to your friends. This encouraged me to keep playing the game. Want to find out who is better, your friend or you? You can have friendly 1 VS 1 competitions where you can challenge your friends and try to defeat them. There are also levels in this game and after every win you get some stars which help you level up. I am just below level 50 but some of my friends are in the high 50’s and mid 60’s. Overall, this game is fantastic and extremely fun to play for any age group. It has an online multiplayer game kind of feeling to it while also giving you the feeling of an educational game, like you are having a math lesson on computer.

By Zain Khokhar
New Game Release: Assassin’s Creed Odyssey

On the 5th of October, a new game called Assassin’s Creed Odyssey is going to be released. The game is set in the year 431BCE. The plot tells a fictional history of the Peloponnesian War. Players choose between controlling a mercenary for either Athens and the Delian League or the Peloponnesian League, led by Sparta.

Gameplay
Assassin’s Creed Odyssey is a role-playing/fighting videogame. The game will contain dialogue options, branching quests and multiple endings. The player will be able to choose the gender of the main character, adopting the role of Alexios or Kassandra. The game features a notoriety system in which mercenaries will chase after the player if they commit crimes like killing or stealing from non-playable characters. They inherit his broken spear which is forged into a blade to become a weapon that grants the player special abilities in combat.

Both Alexios and Kassandra start the game as a mercenary and a descendant of the Spartan King Leonidas. Assassin's Creed Odyssey also features the return of naval combat, with the player having access to Hellenistic-era warships to explore the Aegean Sea. The conflict between Athens and Sparta is represented through a "War System" which enables players to take contracts from mercenaries and participate in different large-scale battles against hostile factions. The war system can change a faction’s influence over a region, which will alter both the gameplay and story.

Compiled by Kurt Cautlon

Riddles
1. What gets wetter the more it dries?
2. What starts with P and ends with E but contains millions of letters?
3. How many letters are there in the English alphabet?
4. Bobby throws a ball as hard as he can, and it comes back to him, even though no one and nothing touches it. How?
5. What disappears the moment you say its name?
6. What occurs once in a minute, twice in a moment, and never in one thousand years?
7. They come out at night without being called, and are lost in the day without being stolen. What are they?
8. If you threw a white rock in the red sea, what would it become?
9. Supercalafragalisticexpealadocios—spell it
   What belongs to you but others use it more than you?

Currency Quiz
1) What are the 7 continents on Earth?
2) How many countries use “Euro” as their currency?
3) Is there something similar between the countries who use “Euros”?
4) Which country were you born in? What currency does your country use?
5) How many countries have two words in their names?

Compiled by Emi Hills
Game Review: WarioWare Gold

All right stooges it is time to review some stuff mainly WarioWare Gold. Wario is back again to show us what the 3DS can do in 2018, when it’s almost dead, we have the megamix formula where we have lots of retuning micro games from WarioWare Inc. twisted and touched with a little bit of game and Wario thrown in.

Who remembers smooth moves right? Any anger aside, let’s see what Wario and his flunkies have in store for us.

The story is the usual WarioWare stick. Wario steals a treasure from Luxe Ville that’s new and goes home, however some how he is broke and no the game doesn’t explain how he’s broke so don’t ask. After seeing a commercial about a game selling Cha-Ching! he gets the idea to make his own game with the help of his friends and hosts them in the Wario Bowl Games. However there’s this mysterious girl who is angry at Wario (sure that’s not going to come up later!). Anyway, it’s up to us the players to complete micro games in the mash, twist, touch and ultra leagues and that’s about it. Sure, each character has their own story that are each ridiculous but if I explained them all we would be here all day so let’s move on to the presentation.

For being a late 3DS Game WarioWare Gold is expected to have good quality graphics and it certainly lives up to expectation. Game and cut scene graphics are good, the music that plays is perfect in my opinion and even the voices for being the first time in the series that they did this, are good, if you said Wario never looked better you would be right. But now let’s squeeze out the gameplay.

Ever wondered what the 3DS could do? Well you can mash, twist and touch your way through a selection of 300 new and returning micro games. Now some might be wondering what is a micro game, well it a quick almost 5 second micro game that get faster and faster as you go on and you need to figure out how to mash, twist or touch through them in a short time. It’s pretty stressful and if that’s not enough, after you beat a stage you can try for a high score. After you beat the boss, instead of ending the stage, you will continue but the catch is that the microgames will level up and become harder so good luck.

So, let’s get the bad out of the way first of all. While the micro games are fun, it’s kind of sad that only a select few are new, those being the mike and pop up games and some of the bosses but honestly that’s about it. The overall game is still fun and exciting any time you pick it up, the micro games are just as fun as everywhere you look is Classic Wario Ware and the bonus games that you unlock are as fun as ever. So if you were to ask me if you should get this game, my answer would be yes. It’s Wario Ware at it’s finest at the only way to relive a classic joke character on the big top, just be ready for case loads of déjà vu. So now go home, click off the review, there’s nothing else to see here, that’s it, bye bye. No seriously, there’s nothing else, just GO!

By Quintin Bawden

Riddles—Answers

1. A towel
2. Post office
3. 18 (the=3 English=7 alphabet=8)
4. He threw it towards the sky
5. Silence
6. The letter m
7. Stars
8. Wet
9. I-t

Compiled by Hannah Osinski from https://icebreakerideas.com/riddles-for-kids/
Introduction to the Book:
The Lost Hero is a Fantasy, Action, Adventure, Mythology, Mystery, and Greek and Roman genre. The Book starts off focusing on three teenagers, Jason Grace, Piper McLean and Leo Valdez. The book follows Jason (Roman, Son of Jupiter) who can’t remember anything in his past. He is joined by Piper, his girlfriend (Greek, Daughter of Aphrodite) and Leo, his best friend (Greek, Son of Hephaestus) to save Hera, queen of gods, from the filthy hands of Gaia.

Plot Summary:
Jason Grace wakes on a bus with no memories of his past or this girl who is holding his hand. Piper McLean claims that she is his girlfriend and Leo Valdez claims to be his best friend. All three are a part of a school field trip to a museum in the middle of nowhere with Coach Gleeson Hedge who has no idea who Jason is or where he’s come from. After they arrive, Dylan, one of their classmates, turns into a Venti or Anemoi and kidnaps Coach Hedge who has already saved Leo’s butt twice. Right after, Annabeth Chase and a guy named butch arrive searching for Percy Jackson but instead find the trio. Annabeth tells them they are demigods and they are taken back to camp Half-Blood where they are claimed by their parents.

Characters:
Jason Grace – demigod son of Jupiter. The younger brother of Thalia Grace, Jason suffers from amnesia and is inclined to call the gods by their Roman names. He harbors feelings for Piper McLean.

Piper McLean – daughter of Aphrodite and Tristan McLean, a Cherokee film actor. She is Jason Grace’s girlfriend and has a dagger named Katoptris, previously wielded by Helen of Troy. She also has the rare gift of charm speak.

Leo Valdez – son of Hephaestus and Esperanza Valdez. He has a magical tool belt that will produce any tool that can be found in an average mechanical shop. He can also create fire from nothing, a rare ability sometimes found in Hephaestus’ children.

Annabeth Chase – demigod daughter of Athena. She rescues Jason, Piper, and Leo while on the search for Percy Jackson, her missing boyfriend.

Coach Gleeson Hedge – a satyr who was assigned to watch over two demigods, Piper and Leo, until they could be safely brought to Camp Half-Blood, and suddenly has to guard a third, Jason. He is taken captive after saving Leo’s life twice.

Opinion:
Overall I think the book is pretty well written, it has the right amount of fighting, drama, and romance. If you’re into fantasy and non-realistic stuff then I highly recommend this book.

By Montana McCormick

Book Review: The Lost Hero by Rick Riordan

Useless Facts

Do you want to know things hardly anyone knows? Read this:
⇒ To turn skin yellow, rather than orange, you would have to eat 10 carrots a day for a period of at least 2 weeks. (What?!) ⇒ The average person spends 6 months of their lifetime waiting on a red light to turn green (that’s a lot) ⇒ The average person walks the equivalent of three times around the world in a lifetime (lots of walking) ⇒ In 2006 someone tried to sell New Zealand on eBay. The price got up to $3,000 before eBay shut it down. (Wow!)
⇒ The chance of you dying on the way to getting lottery tickets is actually greater than your chance of you winning the lottery. (Don’t bother getting lottery tickets you will not win)

By Emily Rayner & Hannah Osinski
The Update

The echo of my soft footsteps made everything seem dead. The halls were normally alive with the chatter of friend groups but now it was dead. Walking faster I tried to find someone but still it was dead, the dining hall, bathrooms, dorms, kitchen, everywhere but still no one was found. With worry I started to run round the halls making my footsteps sounded like thunder. As I went to the front door, a sound other than mine rang out. I opened the door…

The wet, dark, emerald green grass was trampled by everyone I was looking for but I swore I looked out here before and found nothing. I scanned the area to find something. I walked over to the edge of the crowd, “Hey, um… excuse me, but do you know why everyone is just standing out here?” I asked at the edge.

One turned around and stated “What are you doing? They haven’t called you so I can’t talk to you and if I’m seen talking to you both of us mightn’t get to go.” She turned back around. My mind was clouded by thoughts that I wanted to ask her. Go where? Why can’t she been seen talking to me? What’s going on here? Stress came over me; it felt like it was a blanket, that was wrapped around me. I stumbled around trying to clear my thoughts, something was weird. Since when do us orphans care about the rules? Frantically running around trying to find one of the leaders and yet they weren’t there. I slowly looked up and closed my eyes; a few seconds later I opened them back up and looked at the sky. As I slowly put my head back down I was shocked to find that there was no one there again, even though they had been there just a few seconds ago. I spun around to find one standing there. “You want answers don’t you? Then come with me.” He turned the opposite way then started to walk off without caring if I followed.

Thoughts started to fill my head again. What should I do? What is happening to everyone? What is he going to do to me if I follow him? What happens if I walk the other way? I walked the opposite way from the male stranger and started to run away into the bush. They didn’t realise that I ran away or they just don’t care.

DING! DING! DING! DING!

I bolted up to the sound of the orphanage’s bell, the sunlight piercing through the curtains. My nightmare was over. Why couldn’t I wake up during it?

By A Person in 7S…
Trinity Eussen

Mystery

More Riddles

11. A dad and his son were riding their bikes and crashed. Two ambulances came and took them to different hospitals. The man’s son was in the operating room and the doctor said, “I can’t operate on you. You’re my son.” How is that possible?

12. The Smith family is a very wealthy family that lives in a big, circular home. One morning, Mr. Smith woke up and saw a strawberry jam stain on his new carpet. He figured out that everyone who was there that morning had a jam sandwich. By reading the following excuses, figure out who spilled the jam. Billy Smith: “I was outside playing basketball.” The Maid: “I was dusting the corners of the house.” Chef: “I was starting to make lunch for later.” Who is lying?

13. I have keys but no locks. I have space but no room. You can enter but can’t go outside. What am I?

14. What has a head but never weeps, has a bed but never sleeps, can run but never walks, and has a bank but no money?

15. What goes up the chimney when down, but cannot go down the chimney when up?
America’s True Horror Story

I was in America for holiday, admiring the culture, food and views. It was incredible, nothing was going wrong, it was the greatest - or at least I thought it was.

I had popped into the local coffee shop to get a warm, frothy cappuccino to warm me up. I ordered my drink and sat down at a table, pulled out a book and began to read. "37!" yelled the server. I hopped up, grabbed my drink and walked out of the shop; I wanted to admire America’s beauty. As I slowly walked down the crowded street, I glanced to my right only to see an even bigger crowd. Wondering what was going on, I crossed the street and politely barged through the groups of people.

At first, I couldn't believe my eyes. I stood like a surprised little goldfish. It was Taylor Swift! Yes, that's right Taylor Swift! I shoved my hand into my handbag and reached for my phone – I needed this photo. I unlocked the phone and went into the camera; now I just had to get close enough for a picture. It was a struggle getting past all the paparazzi and their flashing cameras but, eventually, I was face to face with my idol. My life was about to be complete, my dreams turned to reality, this was the moment I would have a reason to live. I lifted my phone into the air ready to take the picture of our smiling faces. This was the moment, just a button away! I was 2 seconds away from taking the photo when hell greeted me, a nightmare coming to haunt me. Beep, Beep, Beep. My phone had died, right before I was able to take the photo!

By Tarlee Slatter

BOOK WEEK!

Above: Students grade 7-9 dressing up as their favourite book character for Book week.

Book week was on throughout week 6. Dress up day was held on 20 th of August on Monday. There were many students dressed up as popular book characters such as Princess Bubble Gum, Lilo and Stitch, Harry Potter, Cat in the Hat and both DC and Marvel super-heroes. All of the costumes were well put together and had a stunning result.

By Willow Ngatai
I have recently read a great book called Diary of a Wimpy Kid. There are many books in the series but my favourite would have to be the very first book, “Diary of a Wimpy Kid.”

Diary of a Wimpy Kid is a relatable fiction comedy novel for children and teenagers, written and illustrated by Jeff Kinney. It is the first book in the Diary of a Wimpy Kid series. The book is about a boy named Greg Heffley who struggles to fit in as he begins middle school.

When Greg Heffley is getting ready for his first day of middle school, he is teased by his teenage brother Rodrick because his mum bought him his supplies for school. He has a little brother, a toddler named Manny, who is "spoiled rotten" because he gets everything he wants and gets away with everything he does wrong. His father, Frank Heffley, does not encourage Greg's way of life - playing video games all day - rather than going outside and playing sports.

During the first day of school, Greg is immediately rejected and is forced to sit with another outcast named Fregeley, from whom Greg tries to keep "a safe distance."

He is initially unsure whether his best friend Rowley Jefferson will be able to fit in, as he considers Rowley to be immature, however, Greg strongly believes that he can become popular. They try their hardest to become popular but the outcome is not what they expected.

To find out what happens next, I strongly encourage you to read the book and enjoy some hilarious comedy.

If you love cartoons, comedy and sibling rivalry, this amazing, award winning book by Jeff Kinney would definitely be for you. If you don't enjoy reading books I definitely recommend the film, Diary of a Wimpy kid. It is a hilarious comedy movie for all ages.

By Josh Dyer
I would describe our strings rehearsal as a sufficient way of learning our instruments better. Although it is during lunch, it is the only time we have. For now, I like playing the cello because it was an instrument I wanted to learn for a while and finally got the chance. Also your mouth never hurts from blowing it …

Rachel Toohey – Cellist

The instrumental practice constants of cellos, violas, 1st and 2nd violins practising during first break on Tuesdays, run by the strings teacher Ms Taggart who covers most of the school strings lessons. The strings students have been practising very hard, missing out on their lunch time to practise and have fun while the story of a girl skipping in the woods is told on strings, ‘Marionette Matinee’.

The contraband rehearsals are fun but I think they should go longer so everyone can get a chance to play. Ms Pattison is mostly focussing on us, the woodwind and brass instruments, at the moment. My instrument is fun to play and my mouth doesn’t hurt when I play the flute.

DANIELLE SEBALLY – FLUTIST

The band rehearsals are every Thursday afternoons from 3:30 to 4:30. We set up in the music room straight after the bell has gone, then wait until it is 3:30 giving us plenty of time to go to the tutoring in the library.

I personally believe the practices are very exciting and are great times to meet up with the Catholic school students that go to the contraband rehearsal and see where everyone is at. They also are a great opportunity to learn new tricks on our instruments.

Furthermore our rehearsals are a great extension of our 35 minute long instrumental lessons.

By Trinity Eussen
Recipe: No Bake Brownies

What You'll Need
1 14 oz. can sweetened condensed milk
2 oz. unsweetened chocolate
2½ cups Graham Cracker crumbs
1 cup chopped walnuts

How to Make It
1-Spray a 9-inch baking dish with non-stick cooking spray.
2-Heat the sweetened condensed milk and unsweetened chocolate in a medium saucepan over medium-low heat, until chocolate is melted and mixture thickens, about 10 minutes.
3-Remove the pan from the heat and stir in the Graham Cracker crumbs and half of the chopped walnuts.
4-Spread in the prepared pan. Top with the remaining walnuts.
5-Chill until firm, 3-4 hours.

The easiest way to get Graham Cracker crumbs is to put the crackers into a food processor and pulse them until they are a fine crumb. You could also crumble them with your hands, or put them in a Ziploc bag and crush them with a rolling pin.

-Sarah Toohey

There are so many beautiful reasons to be happy

-Sarah Toohey

More Riddles—Answers

11. The doctor was his mum
12. It was the maid, the house is circular, and it has no corners.
13. A keyboard
14. A river
15. An umbrella

Compiled by Hannah Osinski from https://icebreakerideas.com/riddles-for-kids/
Fun Facts About Dogs

1. 40 million years ago, dogs looked like a weasel-like animal called the Miacis which dwelled in trees and dens.

2. Dogs have sweat glands inbetween their paws.

3. The shape of a dog’s face provides how long it will live. Dogs with sharp, pointed faces like border collies typically live longer. Dogs with short, flat faces, such as pugs, often have shorter lives.

Fun Facts About Cats

1. Cats can make up to 100 different sounds whereas dogs make only about ten.

2. The hearing of a cat is better than a dog’s because cats can hear high-frequency sounds up to two octaves higher than a human.

3. The first cat in space was a French cat named Felicette or ‘Astrocat.’ In 1963, France blasted the cat into outer space. She survived the trip.

By Rachel Toohey
Spinifex Artists

Monster
By Justice Toth
Clay

Behind the Mask
By Grace Julian
Photograph
**Answer?!**
By Jade King

Acrylic on Canvas
Responding to the Pop Art Movement

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**Dragon**
By Layla Jackson

Clay, wire, assemblage
Steampunk inspired
sculpture
Animal Art

By Sarah Toohey

By Rachel Toohey
Photography

By Remy McGrigor

The first photo came to me when I was walking up the Healy Heights Hill with a friend and we managed to catch a sunset photo.

The second is inspired by a mirror's image. I created it by pouring water on concrete and flipping my camera to catch almost an 'alternate world'.
Rock on Spinifex students!
**School Leavers’ Pathways Program**

*Our School Leavers’ Pathway Programs are an exciting opportunity for local Year 12 students to explore a career in mining. If you are bright and motivated, confident, hardworking and keen to grow with us, you are exactly who we want.*

**Requirements**

To be eligible for these Programs you will need to graduate Grade 12 in 2018 and be living residentially in Mount Isa. You will need to provide a reference from your school principal, and have a pass mark in the majority of your school subjects. For underground roles, you should have minimum Learners driver’s license, with the ability to obtain your Provisional license by the end of the program, and may be required to satisfy a Police Check.

**What does the program involve?**

The school leavers’ pathway programs provides opportunities in a variety of roles: hands on as Operator, work in an Administration role or rotate through mining and maintenance roles as part of the Technical Services Internship program. Program opportunities can vary in duration from 3 to 12 months and are designed to provide an entry-level platform to develop your skills into a career. You will be fully inducted and undertake on-the-job training to ensure you are getting the most out of your experience, safely.

**Where will this lead me?**

On completion of your Program, you would have received mining industry experience at the entry level leaving you well equipped to apply for continued employment or explore other career opportunities. This is the first step towards a career with Glencore North Queensland Copper Operations, and the potential for future Company supported study.

Any queries, please contact Amy Knight on (07) 4744 2656. If you have applied for a Glencore apprenticeship and are still waiting to hear back from us, we recommend you apply for this program too!

Apply online now at [www.glencore.com/careers](http://www.glencore.com/careers)

**APPLICATIONS CLOSE:** Wednesday, 9.00am 10th October 2018
DINNER IN THE ROUND YARD

OCTOBER 6TH 2018, 7PM

TICKETS $100 EACH OR TABLE OF 10 $980
CALL KAREN ON 0477 535 919 (PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE) INCLUDES WELCOME DRINK, 2 COURSE DINNER AND LIVE