



MORLEY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



NAIDOC 2008



On the 4th July, Morley SHS celebrated 'National Aboriginal and Islander Day of Culture' (NAIDOC Day).

At the Whole School Assembly, Morley SHS hosted an Aboriginal cultural group called "Common Ground". This group performed with an educational, warm, and comical feel, to be interrupted only by the rain. We believe Pop Peter actually did a rain dance then!

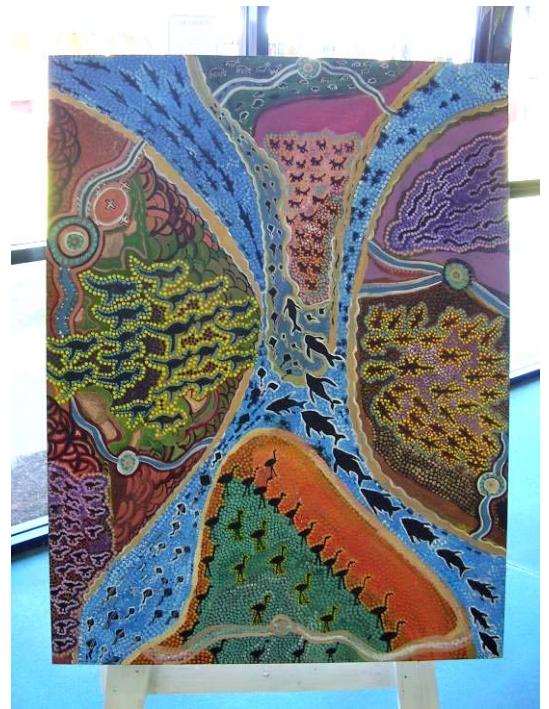
However, because they did not finish their routine (because of the rain) the group will return at the end of term to complete their performance, this time it should be nice and

warm. Rain aside, it was great to see teachers and students, up and dancing like they'd done it all before!

This is exactly what NAIDOC is all about; celebrating our Indigenous Australian Culture together, sharing, learning, understanding and caring. From this comes healing, to name just a few of the things we can benefit from having these special events.

Students from Yr 9 SOSE, with Mr Dennis Screaigh, also produced some Dreamtime Stories, and artwork that made a wonderful contribution to the NAIDOC Exhibition. A big THANK YOU to those students.

It was a crash course in Aboriginal culture. MSHS was also presented with two paintings of Contemporary Aboriginal Art by students Olivia Lawrence and Sharnee Werahiko. One of the paintings depicted the Six Seasons of the Noongar calendar - showing the animals, fruits and vegetables available during the different seasons. The second painting 'The Yorgum Tree' - the message was 'Thank You' to the school for acknowledging our Sorry Day. Yorgum is a Noongar name for a large red flowering tree with healing properties. We say let the healing begin. We realise that these wrongs were not committed by many people of today, but we look at it from a perspective of someone who has lost a loved one, and say sorry for your loss.



These words or gestures are so powerful and comforting. This is the message of healing. A Big thank you to Ms Fran Mackenzie and Mrs Gay Fortune.

Thank you, once again Morley Senior High. Deborah Cotter, AIEO



Common Ground Dance Group dancers were; Lee West, Peter Nelson, Ben Nelson, Dave Shakespear, Teina Te Hemara, Brian Lloyd, Candice Dempsey, Paul Wright, Lincoln Dunk. You can contact the group on 9343 4563.