

ONslow SCHOOL, AUGUST 2019

Darren Clark, Photographer

IMAGE No.	COMMENTS
BA2840/1405	In 2019 the Onslow school has 135 enrolled students in seven classes, many of which are split years from kindy to year 12. The school's numbers have been quite consistent over the past five years and the demographic is split evenly between indigenous and non-indigenous students now that more families are moving to town for the employment opportunities.
BA2840/1406	All the artwork around Onslow School was salvaged from the old school, which was just down the hill. Whenever a cyclone hit the area the old school would flood, so they moved 200 meters from where it was to the top of a sand hill.
BA2840/1407	The school ground is beautifully maintained and together with all the colourful buildings a really positive energy can be felt whilst in the school grounds.
BA2840/1408	Attendance levels ebb and flow at Onslow Primary/High School, so the school implements incentives like school balls, which the kids can only attend if they have been in class enough. They are also given special wrist bands when they attend classes that the kids have to wear to enter the swimming pool, If they don't have a wrist band they have to wait until 5pm before they can enter the aquatic Centre and go for a swim with their friends.

BA2840/1409	Each classroom has an Indigenous Education Assistant to help maintain a positive learning environment.
BA2840/1410	In the Onslow School Library there is a Literacy Intervention Group that help young indigenous student who have fallen behind in their learning. A lot of the indigenous students have trouble keeping up with their studies because of a lack of attendance and frequently changing schools.
BA2840/1411	Mrs Irene Hayes who is the Onslow Primary language teacher, helping two young indigenous students with their English.
BA2840/1412	Mrs Irene Hayes helping a young indigenous student with his English and writing.
BA2840/1413	All high school students are in one class, which blends traditionally taught lessons with the online Schools of Isolated and Distance Education program. The students work independently studying tailor made programs. The high school program is skewed towards the Vocational Education and Training Program, which this year is now offering two electives; a sport and recreation certificate and a media production analysis certificate. The students will get a Certificate I in Year 10 and a Certificate II in Year 11. The school helps organize work experience opportunities for Year 10 to 12 students in a range of positions, often on the gas hubs.
BA2840/1414	Mrs Shantell Wright teaching the first year reading group at Onslow School.
BA2840/1415	This is the second year class at Onslow School which has a special needs student in it, Simone Harding is the special needs teacher at the school and makes sure that the student is attended to at all times.
BA2840/1416	I loved the harmony between the young indigenous and anglo students at the Onslow School; at this young age they still see each other as the same.
BA2840/1417	The kindergarten students at Onslow School enjoying themselves playing with play dough.
BA2840/1418	Jacquie Barry is the principal at Onslow School and she's been in town since 2010. She said the mining companies coming to town have helped the school access funding for new technology in the classroom, including I-Pads. As well as the new facilities, the

	<p>upgraded roads make Onslow a safer place and the new hospital is a big benefit as well. Jackie thinks it is good for the town to have access to infrastructure and resources that are more up to date and readily available. She has been in the Pilbara for nine years now and has fallen in love with the way of life. “I just really like the lifestyle here”. “Even though Onslow is busy now it still has that small town feel.” “There isn’t really anywhere you can’t walk to at this stage”. “I also like to take my dog down to the beach, I walk for an hour and don’t see anybody.</p> <p>“It is bound to change but it’s about working with that change so that it does benefit the community. Having access to a lot more infrastructure and resources will be the big benefit.”</p> <p>In two words Jacquie describes Onslow as a hidden gem. “Particularly when you talk about the kids at school,” she said. “Everyone who comes comments on their behaviour. They’re really good kids.”</p>
BA2840/1419	<p>The old school canteen is now the shelter shed; it’s the most popular part of the school during Summertime.</p>
BA2840/1420	<p>It was beautiful walking around the Onslow School grounds and watching everyone playing happily together.</p>
BA2840/1421	<p>The undercover areas are extremely popular with the children during summer when the temperature can reach up into the high 40’s for weeks at a time.</p>
BA2840/1422	<p>Onslow Primary School students receiving a Jet Kids movement session. The JET Kids pilot at Onslow School has been a great success! The Fundamental Movement Skills program has been greatly received in its first year of delivery, with both the kindergarten and pre-primary classes taking part in the program. The JET Kids program allowed students to get extra FMS support throughout the year and progress their physical skills which can in turn support their cognitive skills in the classroom.</p>
BA2840/1423	<p>Young students from Onslow School discovering the pure delight of eating fresh tomatoes straight from the vine in the Onslow School garden.</p>
BA2840/1424	<p>In the school garden, the children are actively involved; each year group takes care of a</p>

	different garden bed. In a society where most of the youth of today have their faces turned downwards as they scroll through the useless information on the mobile phones, it was refreshing to watch as the children got their hands dirty, laughed, and ate their way around this beautiful garden.
BA2840/1425	Years 3/4 students from Onslow School enjoying a class in the school garden, they were being taught what they should grow at this time of the year by their teacher Jennifer Conwell.
BA2840/1426	The happy smiling faces of the Onslow School children says it all, the Onslow School garden is a big hit with everyone.