



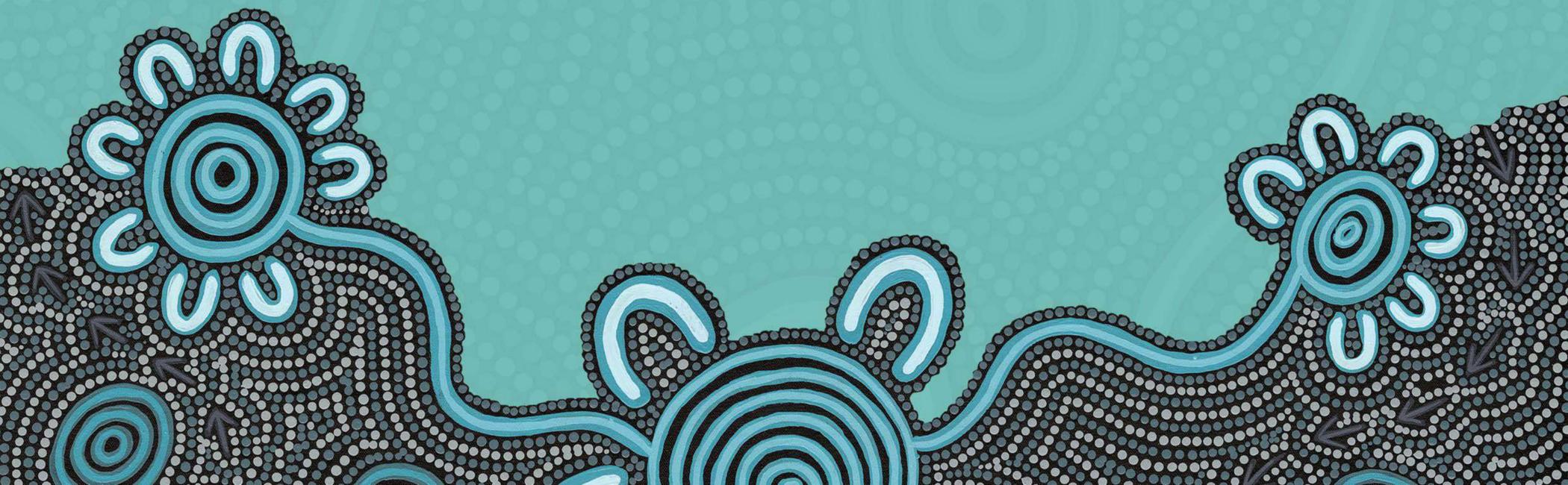
JOHNATHAN THURSTON
ACADEMY



JTYouGotThis

Monthly Newsletter - July 2025

Inspiring Confidence, Building Connections



NAIDOC Week – Celebrating Culture & Courage

Across regions, our teams proudly participated in NAIDOC Week 2025, fostering community connections and celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. Highlights included:



Townsville:

Participation in Share House and Deadly Day Out, with cultural dances by local youth and performances by the Wulgurukabah Dance Group.

Mount Isa:

Cooking, craft, and storytelling workshops promoting resilience and cultural pride.

Cairns:

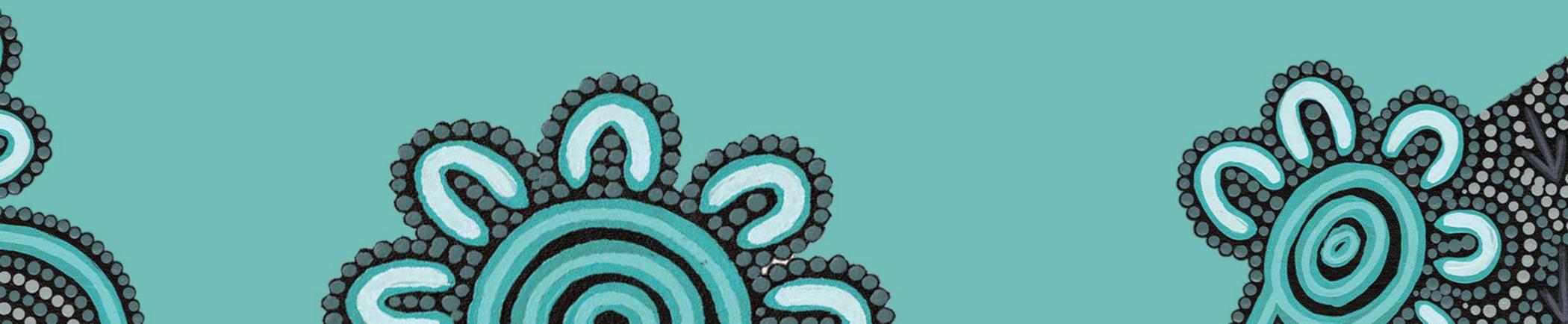
Engagement in Yarrabah's NAIDOC March and community events, reinforcing unity

Program Launches & Introductions

Townsville, Cairns, Mount Isa, Hervey Bay launched their Term 3 cohorts with dynamic introduction days. Activities focused on:

- ◆ Building team trust and cohesion.
- ◆ Outlining program values and expectations.
- ◆ Encouraging self-belief and leadership from day one.

Participants explored key values – kindness, respect, honesty, courage – and began shaping their Working Agreements to guide the term ahead.



Skills in Action – Building Strong Foundations

Throughout July, sessions developed life skills through engaging and hands-on activities:

- ◆ **Team Building Challenges** – fostering communication, problem-solving, and leadership.
- ◆ **Role Models & Self-Belief** – inspiring confidence and resilience through positive examples.
- ◆ **Community Days** – connecting youth to local support networks, services, and mentors.

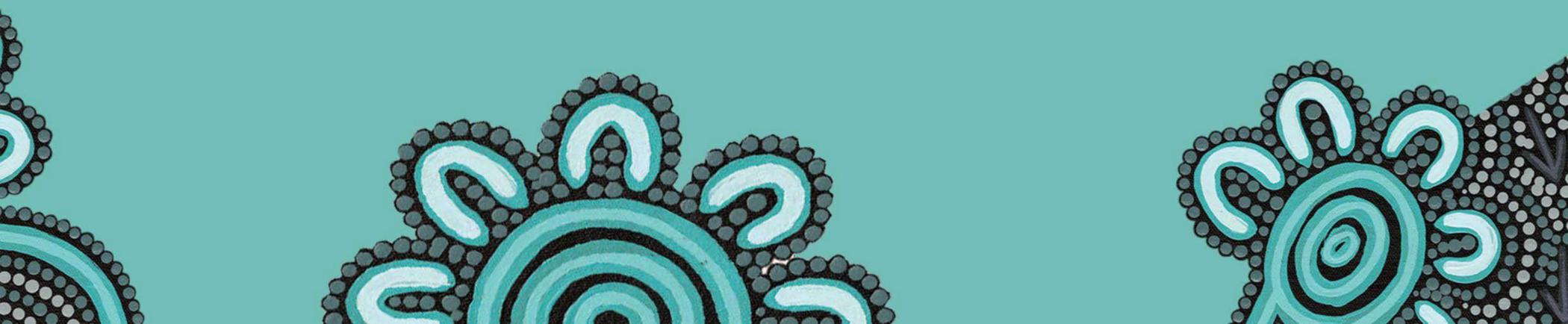


Gold Coast – Graduation Success

This month marked the completion of JT Academy's YouGotThis Gold Coast pilot program, finishing with a heartfelt graduation on 2 July 2025.

Over 20 stakeholders, families, and community members joined to celebrate participants' dedication and growth over the 10-week journey. The event featured:

- ◆ Reflection on program learnings, challenges, and memorable moments.
- ◆ Display of clay sculpture gifts and a team banner created by participants.
- ◆ A celebratory lunch, with families and staff sharing stories of transformation.
- ◆ Staff and attendees commended the evident changes in each young person, praising their confidence, courage, and self-belief.



Hervey Bay – Growing Together

The Hervey Bay cohort strengthened team dynamics through sports, discussions on values, and community BBQs. Participants explored what it means to be a good team member, how to demonstrate leadership, and ways to support each other's growth.



Impact & Reflections

Across regions, July was about connection, culture, and confidence. Young people:

Took bold steps outside their comfort zones.

Built strong bonds with peers and mentors.

Practiced decision-making rooted in values.

The month closed with an infectious sense of optimism for the weeks ahead.



Quote of the Month:

“Every day I look in the mirror and say: I am confident, I am strong, I am amazing!”

