

As promised in my last message, here is a bit of an update of what family the has been up to this year.

It's been a big year for young master Z. He started secondary school in January, I know right, how did that happen already? It's been a massive step for the little (not so little anymore) guy. I think one can forget quite what a huge change it is from primary. With him also being one of the youngest in his year, I think he has found it a bit overwhelming at times. Having said that he's really stepped up to the challenge

and seems to be making the best of it. His teachers had nothing but good things to say about him and he won an award for academic excellence in his year. He still plays tennis and the flute and is overall growing up to be a fine young man. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers as he negotiates this next stage of growing up.



Not to be up staged by her big bro, Miss B has had quite the year too. In the middle of the year she went, with her Auslan Signing Choir to Creative Generation in Brisbane. This week long spectacular is staged by many state schools in Queensland and the kids spend months preparing. Sadly when the performances finally arrived she was quite under the weather. Being the little trooper she is, she powered through, had a great time and did us all very proud.

She also continues with her dance lesson and has started an extra class. Which culminated in her doing back to back performances at the end of the year. She's certainly quite the little performer. In January she will start her final year of primary school, eek! Which means before we know it she'll be following her brother to big school. We're still unsure as to the best schooling option for her so please, prayers for wisdom and guidance for us in this area as she considers her next steps.



July and August brought with it visitors, firstly my brother and family then some amazing friends all the way from Bristol.

One of the things we found really tough during the lockdowns was feeling quite so far away from home. Then as the world got going again the cost of travel seems to have remained astronomical. These are some of the reasons why having dear friends to stay was quite so special. August is possible the best time of the year to visit the tropical north and we sincerely hope they felt like they experienced some of the best small town Mareeba has to offer. It was really lovely having time to catch up and reconnect and we're very much looking forward to doing more of this when we visit the UK next year.



Of course, winter wouldn't be winter in Mareeba without a few camping trips. We had a couple of cracking trips and might have discovered a new favourite spot. However the camping season was cut short a little, firstly with all the fires and now the threat of an early and cyclone-ridden wet season. Please pray for safety and protection for all of those who have and will be affected.



E is busy as ever. As well as her anaesthetic and prison work she's currently in the process of securing a forth job. Helping out another opioid substitution program in a nearby (ish) prison. Although this should only be short term until they find someone else to fill this role. Please pray for her as she balances all of the pressing commitments on her time.

So that's been a very brief snap shot of our year thus far. It's starting to get hot here in the far north and the humidity seems to have come early. I've got a final tour to the Arnhem Land program where I'll be providing relief flying services then hopeful things will quieten down and we'll have a relaxing and well deserved Christmas break with family. Getting us all ready to do it again next year.

Thank you once again for your enduring love, prayers and support.

All our love J, E, Z & B

xx XX xx