

# ON TO THE NEXT adventure

## FOR THE GRADUATING CLASS OF MOUNT ISA BRANCH OF THE AIR

Each year as Grade 6 students get ready to graduate primary school, and for many, head off to complete their secondary schooling away from home, Mount Isa Branch of the Air asks these students what's next for them. Take a glimpse into what these bush kids have in-store for the future...



**What is your Name:**

Haley Parker.

**What school will you be heading to in 2026?** I will be attending Townsville

Grammer School, in Townsville.

**How far away is that from where you live?**

From home in a car, it takes 10 hours and in a plane 2 hours.

**What are you most excited about?** Sleeping in the dorms, making new friends, visiting family over the weekends, participating in sports and activities that I couldn't do as much in primary school.

**What are you a little worried or hesitant about?** I'm kind of worried about getting homesick, not getting an assignment sent in on time and not waking up on time for school.

**What career do you want to be in when you're finished school?**

I'm kind of aiming to be a lawyer because I like the concept of law and I'm good at debating (arguing) but then I also love dance, so I also want to be a dancer and compete against other dancers.

**Do you have any advice you will be leaving at home for your Mum and Dad or siblings?**

Dad – "Don't catch all the good fish down at Longreach"  
Mum – "Try not to bring back too many calves"  
Kira – "Don't annoy the new puppy too much"  
My entire family – "Make my favorite food for me when I come back, please!"



**What is your Name:**

Alex Ruska.

**What school will you be heading to in 2026?**

Faith Christian School.

**How far away is that from where you live?** 1700km.

**What are you most excited about?** Getting to live with My Aunt Katie, Uncle Brendon and my Cousins, I will also get to go from being 830km from my best friend to only 125km. We can finally have a weekend visit together.

**What are you a little worried or hesitant about?** Being so far away from home.

**What career do you want to be in when you're finished school?**

Either a Geologist or an Interpreter for both verbal (different languages) and hearing impaired people.

**Do you have any advice you will be leaving at home for your Mum and Dad or siblings?**

Dad – Remember if you don't take photo as proof it never happened (ie all those Hunting, Fishing and Flood pictures).  
Mum – Ensure Banga and Pepper will be safe. I don't want to return home to 2 fat Sausages. Virgin airlines lets pets travel inside the cabin now so I expect a visit at least once a year for Cameron's sake.

**Haylee – The fishes are waiting, Haylee. How much longer will you resist?** (this is a personal joke between Haylee and myself so don't worry if you don't understand).



**What is your Name:**

Emylou Brock.

**What school will you be heading to in 2026?** Blackheath & Thornburgh College in Charters Towers.

**How far away is that from where you live?**

About 10 hours in a car, probably more but anyway...

**What are you most excited about?** Having an endless sleepover and better school and meeting new friends and doing heaps of sports.

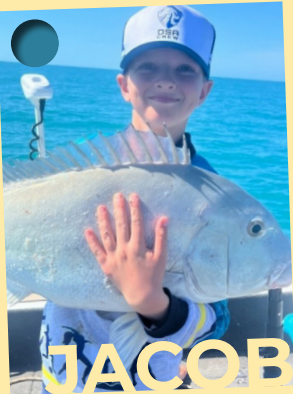
**What are you a little worried or hesitant about?** Maths because its already hard & probably doing music because I'm not very good at music.

**What career do you want to be in when you're finished school?**

I think I want to be a teacher but only for lower grades like kindy to year 3.

**Do you have any advice you will be leaving at home for your Mum and Dad or siblings?**

Feed Naughty and 2Dots fairly – don't give Naughty anymore than 2Dots (dogs) and look after Cobber super special and look after the other horses too!



**What is your Name:**  
Jacob Easton.

**What school will you be heading to in 2026?**  
Townsville Grammar School.

**How far away is that from where you live?**  
6 looong hours .

**What are you most excited about?** Being able to have more friends that are boys - there is a lot of girls out here.

**What are you a little worried or hesitant about?** The school work.

**What career do you want to be in when you're finished school?**  
A marine biologist.

**Do you have any advice you will be leaving at home for your Mum and Dad or siblings?**

Don't cook too much and waste food now that you will have no kids at home.



**What is your Name:**  
Stevie-Lea Pegler.

**What school will you be heading to in 2026?**  
I will be going to Boarding school at Blackheath and Thornburgh College.

**How far away is that from where you live?**  
Charters Towers is about 6 hours away from Winton.

**What are you most excited about?** I am most excited to make new friends and not having to do school on the weekends!

**What are you a little worried or hesitant about?** I am worried that I won't know how things work and what class I am supposed to be in.

**What career do you want to be in when you're finished school?**  
When I am finished school I want to be either an accountant or work with horses.

**Do you have any advice you will be leaving at home for your Mum and Dad or siblings?**  
Hadley: Please look after Lottie and Rylee for me.

Mum: DON'T TOUCH ANYTHING IN MY ROOM WITHOUT ME!!

Dad: Don't let mum throw out any of my stuff in my room!



**What is your Name:**  
Zander Wilson.

**What school will you be heading to in 2026?** The Southport School.

**How far away is that from where you live?** 1650kms.

**What are you most excited about?** Having teachers who really love teaching who make things exciting and interesting for boys. I am also so excited to do robotics with lego, they have it as a subject, how cool is that. I also can't wait to start rowing in year 8, hopefully I will get to help out next year or even cox for a team.

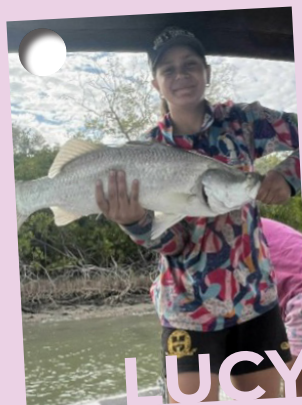
**What are you a little worried or hesitant about?** Missing out on mustering and spending

time working with my Dad and our workers. I am also going to miss Mum's cooking and her teaching me to cook.

**What career do you want to be in when you're finished school?**  
Something in agriculture possibly an agricultural engineer, but definitely something on the land.

**Do you have any advice you will be leaving at home for your Mum and Dad or siblings?**

For Dad I would say save up lots of mustering for the holidays and campdrafts too. For Mum I would say make lots of your meat patties and bring them down to me as well as have them here when I get off the plane. For Kadence I would say HEEEEELLLLLPPPPP.....I need your help with my schoolwork and also can you hurry up and become a doctor already. For the cats I would say don't jump in the pool with mum she doesn't like it, and I'm not there to save you.



**What is your Name:**  
Lucy Gould.

**What school will you be heading to in 2026?**  
I will be going to Columba catholic college in Charters Towers.

**How far away is that from where you live?**  
One the plane its 6h 33m from Hells Gate Roadhouse because that's where we fly from.

**What are you most excited about?** I'm most excited about school because I get to make new friends and learn new things and I also get to try new sports.

**What career do you want to be in when you're finished school?**  
I'm going to come back home and continue working here on the station with my family.

**Do you have any advice you will be leaving at home for your Mum and Dad or siblings?**  
Mum - Please remember to take care and do not joke about cooking my pet fish.

Dad - please take care and brush up on your crazy Dad jokes before I return.

Mum & Dad - don't tell me when you're having a good feed of steak because I'll be sad!!

All my family on the station - You all take care of each other and remember don't let anyone dull your sparkle.