



**Week 7: 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

**Principal Update**

Welcome to our Week 7 News! The term is flying by and students are all well settled into classes, focussing on their learning and reviewing their data and establishing learning goals with support from teachers and peers. Teachers are conducting some ongoing assessments through one to one interviews with students and we are all starting to prepare for Student Led Conferences.



**Volunteer Survey**

Huge thanks to so many people who responded and offered their support, time and efforts for in the classrooms, the farm, the kitchen and with our major community events. This year we had 50 responses - nearly double that from 2022. Ms Tamra has now collated the responses and passed your offers onto class teacher's and event co-ordinators. Please expect contact shortly from someone. If no contact is made please contact Tamra through the front office [or via email [tamra.caruana@education.nt.gov.au](mailto:tamra.caruana@education.nt.gov.au)] to check in and she can follow up again for you.

**Parent Concerns**

At times we can fully appreciate parents / carers may have concerns about something they see, or something their child tells them is happening or has happened at school. We ask that you approach the class teacher or staff member on duty if you have any concerns respectfully and at a time appropriate for the conversation. If more serious, parents are welcome to contact Mrs Hyke or myself. We insist that parents do not approach other parents or children about matters that may have happened at school as comments may be misinterpreted or cause angst / tension that is unnecessary & distressing.

<p><b>Children have a right to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be safe at school</li> <li>• learn without interference</li> </ul> <p>be treated with courtesy by teachers' families and students</p>	<p><b>Children have the responsibility to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• adhere to school rules and safety guidelines</li> <li>• endeavour to do their best</li> <li>• follow our school values</li> <li>• take responsibility for their behaviour and accept the consequences</li> <li>• wear wide brimmed hats and closed in shoes at school.</li> <li>• Wear bike helmets to and from school as a requirement by law for children riding bikes.</li> </ul>
<p><b>ALL staff and volunteers have the right to be:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• treated with courtesy by colleagues, families and students</li> <li>• recognised as a professional</li> <li>• supported by the school community</li> </ul>	<p><b>ALL staff and volunteers have the responsibility to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• teach effectively; establish effective school behaviour that assists to provide a safe environment</li> <li>• treat others with respect and courtesy</li> <li>• act professionally and promote positive self-esteem and attitudes towards learning and each other</li> <li>• develop helpful communication links with the school community, as families are the major influence in the child's life</li> </ul>
<p><b>Families have a right to be:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recognised as the major influence in their child's life</li> <li>• a partner in their child's education</li> <li>• informed about issues affecting their child</li> <li>• treated with courtesy by teachers, students and other families</li> </ul>	<p><b>Families have the responsibility to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recognise and support the school's behavioural expectations</li> <li>• treat others with respect and courtesy</li> <li>• develop helpful communication links with Alawa staff as partners in your child's education</li> <li>• provide information that may impact on your child's learning.</li> </ul>

As per the information in our Parent handbook [Page 11].

## Student Led Conferences

It is that time again when families are invited into school for a chat with your child and their teachers.

This is the opportunity for you to share their successes, their challenges and their plans for moving forward. See further in the newsletter for details re booking directly online.



A brochure with details was shared via Xuno Monday. Bookings close Friday 24th March.

*Have you booked in yet?*

*Don't disappoint your child!*

Have a fabulous week.

**Sandy Cartwright** [*Principal of the Best School in the Multiverse*]

## Assistant Principal Update

### Swimming Program:

We have some very excited Primary Students at the moment as they are about to begin their Swimming Program. Students in Years 3 – 6 will spend the next three Fridays at Nightcliff Pool participating in a range of activities including yoga, water safety, CPR, Team Building and swimming lessons. Not only are these activities fun and engaging but they also teach our students many valuable life skills. I look forward to visiting and joining in some of the activities!



### Instrumental Lessons:

To accommodate the Swimming Program, our NT Music School instrumental program will occur on Mondays for weeks 7, 8 and 9. Students will follow the same timetable as they usually do on Fridays so please remind your child to bring their instruments to school on Mondays for the next three weeks.

### NAPLAN:

This week we begin NAPLAN testing. Please ensure your child arrives on time for school each day as some tests begin quite early and we don't want to add any additional stress to our students testing if they arrive late.

Please see timetable below.

Have a wonderful week.

**Bianca Hyke** [*Assistant Principal*]

Week 7 – Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> March
<b>Writing</b> 11:00 am <u>All YEAR 3 's in class</u>	<b>Reading</b> 9:30-10:30 <u>Year 5 Baines/ Henderson</u>
<b>Writing</b> 11:00- 12:00 <u>Year 5 Baines/Henderson</u>	<b>Writing Catch up</b> 11:00-12:00
<b>Writing</b> 12:00-1:00 <u>Year 5 Block/Lawrence</u>	<b>Reading</b> 12:00-1:00 <u>Year 3 Bernardino</u>



**Meaningful Maths: Resources for Parents**

** Links to other resources**



The [Home School Partnership: Numeracy Handbook](#) has been designed as a guide for schools and communities to plan ways to work together to support children's numeracy achievement.



The [Numeracy Development Projects](#) have been an important part of maths education in New Zealand schools for more than ten years.



The [Bright Sparks](#) activities are for able students to attempt by themselves on a computer either at home or at school.



The [Problem Solving](#) activities are grouped by strand and age level. They are designed for able students to attempt by themselves. Solutions and extensions are provided.



The [Student Sites](#) are other websites that are intended for use by students. For each link we provide a summary of the maths concepts covered. We also indicate the curriculum level that the site is appropriate for.



The [Early Childhood Education Section](#) has material intended to support early childhood educators to use opportunities that arise in everyday interactions with children to foster the development of mathematical thinking.

## Honour Awards and Year 4/5 Block assembly



## Back to School Vouchers

Just a gentle reminder for families who have not as yet accessed / utilised their NTG Back to School Voucher these expire at the end of Term 1. Please make contact with the front office to arrange how you would like the available funds to be spent / allocated.



[Back to School Payment Scheme | NT.GOV.AU](https://www.nt.gov.au)

## Have you read the newsletter this week? A quick question.....

As with last year I will sneak a little quiz question into the newsletter each week. If you are a student and know the answer, send me an email to have the opportunity to earn 20 bonus house points.



Week 7 question: What special activity is happening over the next 3 Fridays for all the children in Years 3-6?

## Primary Years Swimming program [Years 3-6]



Our fabulous swimming program facilitated by Royal Life is fast approaching. Huge thanks to all the families who have already returned the permission form and made the \$85 payment or advised they will be using their Sports Voucher.

Just a reminder that the cut-off date has now passed and final names and numbers have been submitted to Royal Life. It is expected that children Years 3-6 participate in this program as it is a part of our curriculum program. If any cannot participate due to medical or other reasons we appreciate the timely communication through the Principal.

## Calendar of Events

Wednesday 15 - Friday 27 March	NAPLAN testing [Years 3 & 5 only]	All day - timetabled
Friday 17 March	Primary Years Swimming Program [Years 3-6 only]	All day
Friday 24 March	Assembly hosted by Year 1 Thorne-Baines - Morning tea to follow for parents and carers of Year 1 Thorne-Baines	8:40am
Friday 24 March	Primary Years Swimming Program [Years 3-6 only]	All day
Monday 27 March	School Council meeting	5:30pm
Friday 31 March	Primary Years Swimming Program [Years 3-6 only]	All day
Thursday 6 April	Soccer Gala Day	All day
Thursday 6 April	Last Day of Term 1	
Friday 7 April	Public Holiday - Good Friday	All day

## Student Led Conferences - Tuesday 28 & Wednesday 29 March



Book School Interviews Online



Dear Parents  
 Parent/Teacher/Student conferences will be held on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm – 6pm.**  
 You can now book interviews at times that suit **YOUR FAMILY BEST.**  
 Go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and follow these simple instructions.  
 You can book to see as many teachers as you wish to for each of your children.  
**BOOKINGS CLOSE Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March COB.**

School event code

53djk

Go

Go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au)  
 Enter **THIS** school event code.  
 Then follow the 3 simple steps.

1

Enter your details

2

Choose teachers

3

Choose times

When you click **finish**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately. You can return to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

For parents that don't have access to the internet at home, at work, at a friend's house or on their phones, parents may send a note to school with the approximate times they require if you do not have access or cannot come to the front office, or phone the school on 89977866. Interviews are strictly 15mins and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

Parents can change their interview bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 89977866.

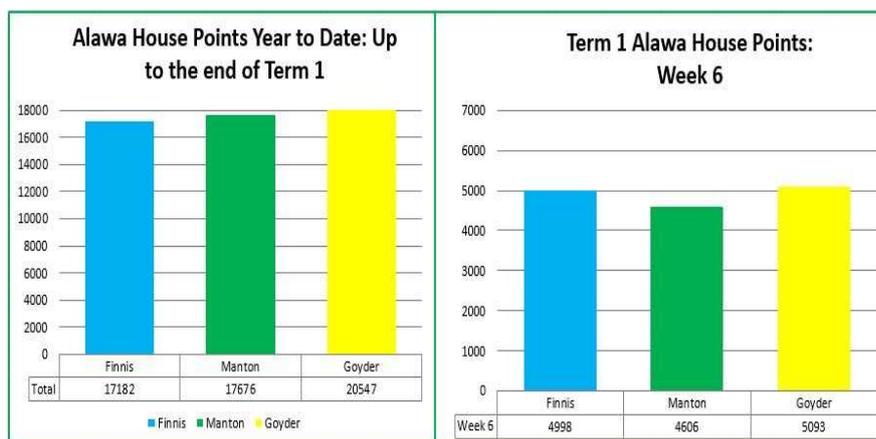
We would love to hear what you think about online booking. If you get time, click on the "contact us" button on the [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) website, and leave some feedback - anonymously if you wish, but please include the school's name and suburb.

## House points

Students at Alawa receive raffle tickets [house points] for their attitude and behaviour in the playground and out the front of the school at the end of the day. Students also can earn house points for having a go at the weekly quiz emailed out Monday mornings by Ms Cartwright. These points are then counted on a Friday along with the points for students in full uniform, wearing house shirts etc. At the end of each term, we also include the point's earned through the recycling project and water bottle checks.

**In Week 6 of Term 1 Goyder was ahead with 5093 points!**

**In the lead for the Term is Goyder with 20547 points!**



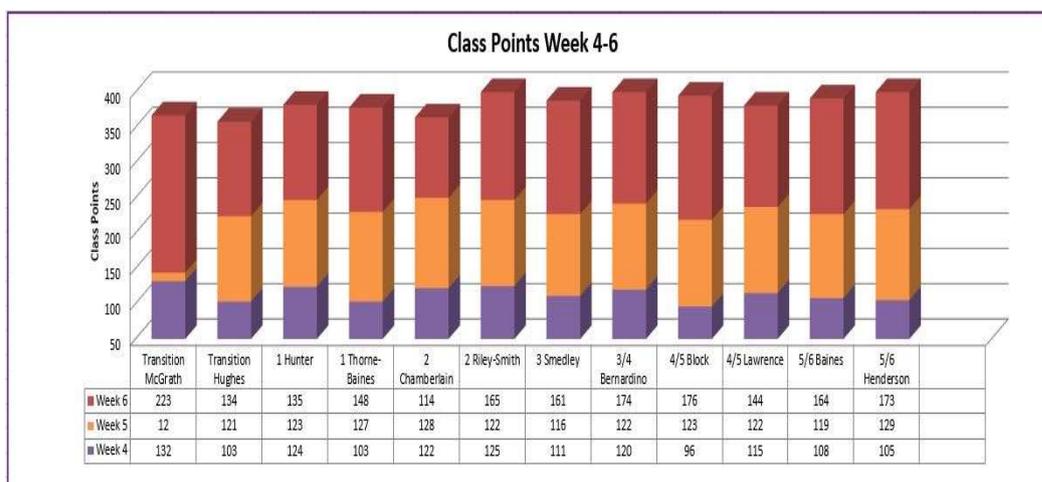
## Class Points

Muster is held at Alawa after each recess and lunch break - this gives us an opportunity for everyone to settle from playtime, share any celebrations and work on consistency of messages and expectations.

Each week we allocate class points during Muster time recognising those students who were ready and waiting to go back to class calmly and quietly after break times. The winning class from each 3 weeks will receive ice-blocks from Ms Cartwright and get to choose 5 songs that will play before our bells for the following 3 weeks.

**The class with the most points in Week 6 of Term 1 was....Transition McGrath with 223 points!!!**

**The winning class for weeks 4-6 is...3/4 Bernardino with 416 points!!!**

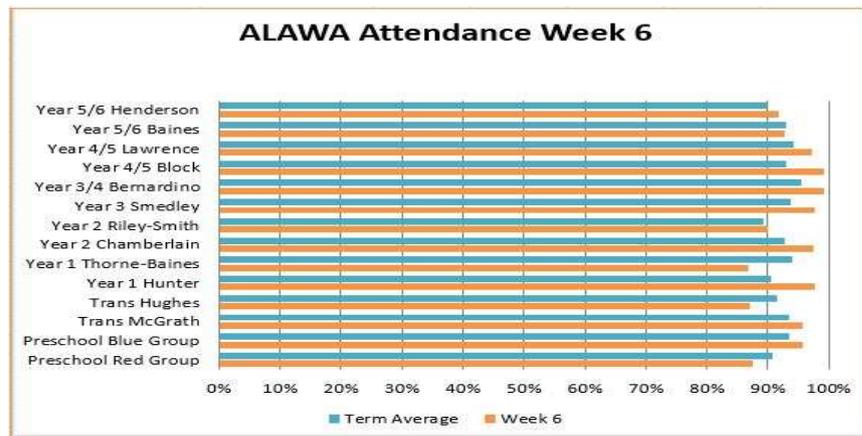


## Attendance

Primary School Average for Week 6 Term 1: 93.96%

The class with the highest attendance for Week 6: **3/4 Bernardino with 99.19%!!! Amazing job!!!**

**In the lead so far this term...3/4 Bernardino with 95.47%!!!**



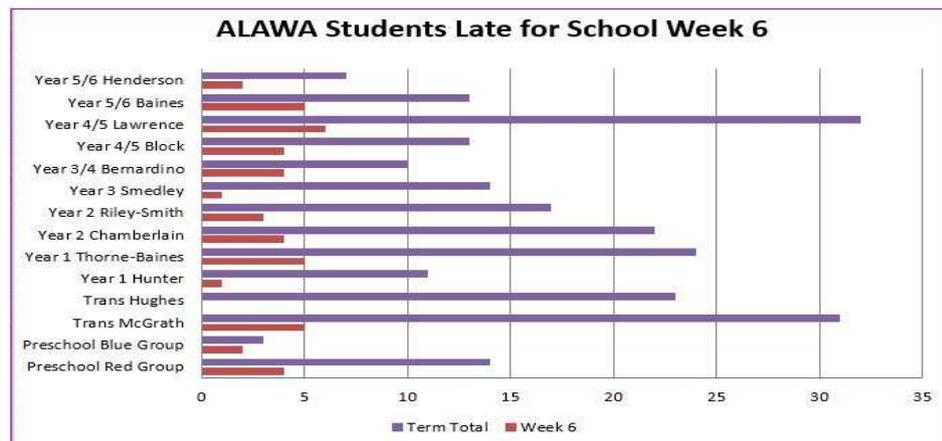
## Lates

Arriving late for school has a significant impact on your child's learning and engagement in the education program.

There were 46 lates in Week 6!

**For Week 6 the class with the least lates was: Transition McGrath with 0 lates!!!**

**In the lead for the term...Preschool Blue with 3 late arrivals!!!**



## Superstar student

Recently trials for the **Darwin Region 12 Years and Under Boys Touch Football Team** were held at TRL stadium at Marrara. Following this, a team as well as reserves was selected to represent the '**Darwin Region**' and will now compete at the School of Sport Education NT Championships which is being held on the 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at Territory Rugby League Stadium, Marrara.

We are very proud to announce that Xavier C has been selected to represent - a fantastic achievement Xavier!



## Defence School Mentor news

It is hard to believe that we are flying towards the end of the Term 1 already. As DSM I have spent this term visiting our Defence students in their classes to check in and assist them in settling into their new year level. With so much support around them, from home and at school, it is great to see that the students have adjusted well to their new learning environments and classes.

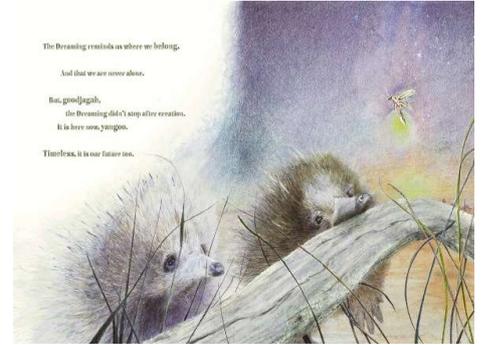


Defence Kids Club has gotten off to a flying start. This year we have seen a change with it being moved from the traditional Thursday lunch time to a Wednesday lunch time. Once the students, and myself, got our heads around this change and in the routine of the new day there has been no looking back. We had a brainstorm of what activities we would like to have at Kids Club throughout the year with some great suggestions. If you have any suggestions or know of interests that your child has please let me know so that I can include activities of interest into our sessions. So far we have done "All about me" activities so that the students from different year levels can learn about each other and discover similarities. Given the unique lifestyle that Defence children live it is great for them to be aware of these similarities as then students realise that there are others who understand what they experience and can support each other. We have also played board games, built Lego and made paper airplanes to commemorate the anniversary of the Bombing of Darwin.

**Miss Katie [Defence School Mentor]**

## Library news

With the CBCA Notable book list for the Book of the Year Awards 2023 being announced last week, I will once again be writing each week to spotlight some of the books found on the list. The annual Book of the Year Awards have been running since 1946 and are presented by The Children's Book Council of Australia. They recognise Australian books of literary merit, for outstanding contribution to Australian children's literature.



**Our Dreaming** by Kirli Saunders and Dub Leffler has been nominated in the category of Picture Book of the Year.

Blurb: Goodjagah, little one, walk with me ... I want to tell you our Dreaming as the Elders told it to me. Award-winning storytellers, Gunai woman Kirli Saunders and Bigambul man Dub Leffler, explore a deep love and respect for Country and all her spirits ... past, present and beyond.

This is a beautiful book which follows a parent or elder echidna as it walks with a young echidna explaining Dreaming. It weaves the Gundungurra Language into the story with a word list at the back of the book which includes a pronunciation guide. The beautifully rendered illustrations bring the book to life generating a sense of calm and wonder. With Harmony Day fast approaching this is a great book read with regards to understanding, embracing and celebrating how different cultures see the world and differ in their beliefs.

**Happy Reading- Miss Sacha [Library and ICT Manager]**

## Learning Commission news

Last week on Friday a group of students from the Alawa Learning Commission went to Double Tree by Hilton. They spent the day reading and exploring different data sets as well as meeting other student commissioners. It was held by Summer Howarth and Mr John Cleary (Rosie, Matilda and Flynn's dad). The Alawa Learning Commission came back ready to find their inquiry question.

**Ameliah, Rosie and Hien Duc**



## Preschool news



Last week the Preschool children were very excited to finally have a visit from ALLE our resident frilled-neck Lizard. A group of children alerted us to their hiding spot as they ran out of where they were playing yelling 'I think there's a small dinosaur at preschool!!'. We soon realized that our dinosaur was in fact ALLE. All the children gathered around to see. We talked about keeping a safe distance so that we don't scare ALLE while keeping ourselves safe too. Lots of ALLE drawings were created in the classroom following our encounter.

In preschool we also learn about ALLE the Alawa Learner and have a puppet that is a much-loved member of our classroom. ALLE reminds us of the Alawa school values and looking after ALLE is one of the most loved jobs of our daily Star helper. We are sure to get many more visits from our real life ALLE when he learns just how much fun we have at preschool.

Have a lovely week.

***Angela Henschke, Emma churchman, Kelly Crawford and Flor Hodgson  
[The Preschool Team]***

## Kitchen & nutrition news

Kitchen has been epic in the past week. We had a stir fry challenge where teams can put into place all their knowledge and skills.

There was a table of food including chicken, pork, tofu, a bit of a variety of noodles and heaps of vegetables.

The teams had to plan their dish and cook it themselves. We had some judging and kitchen points awarded to the best stir fries.

I was so impressed seeing the great cooking skills and watching the pride in what was prepared.

We are looking forward to creating some bakery items over the next few weeks.

***Ms Stratton [Kitchen teacher]***



## Playgroup



It was a 'scones' kind of day at playgroup on Friday! There were lots of little helpers ready to lend a baking hand. Miss Erin had lots of assistance pouring in the flour and squishing in the butter. Everyone was using their wonderful 'sharing is caring' skills and were very patient waiting to take turns to pour, squish and mix the dough. I think many helpers were also enjoying taste-testing their sticky dough fingers! But it tasted even better once the scones were cooked and warm from the oven with a little jam and cream on top. We all shared them outside in the fresh air with our friends and families.

A new play-dough was made last week and it was a beautiful purple lilac colour, I think almost everyone enjoyed squishing, rolling and creating some great play-dough creations. We also had some great fun playing outside. We went on the trikes and climbing equipment and we were back into the water tub again, it has been a favourite activity!

This coming Friday we will visit the farm if the weather stays fine, so remember your shoes, hats and drink bottles. Looking forward to seeing you there.

**Miss Erin [Playgroup Co-ordinator]**

## School Uniforms/ Dress expectations

Students are expected to wear school uniform at all times. Any student not in full uniform will be sent to the front office and asked to change for the day.

**Girls:** Red T-shirt printed with School logo

Black shorts/skorts

Cotton dress

**Boys:** Red T-shirt printed with School logo

Black shorts



School T-shirts, skorts, dresses, basketball/drawstring shorts, bucket hats are available from the school office.

House shirts can be worn Fridays.

- **Jewellery and make up are not to be worn at school this includes nail polish [this excludes stud and sleeper earrings].**
- **Leggings are not acceptable.**

We ask that shoulder length hair or longer is tied back with no colouring, dyes, beads, extensions etc.

## Cafe

Our Mission is to provide the Alawa School community with delicious healthy meals and snacks and to create meaningful links to our kitchen garden program. We will do our best to ensure we order the same products as advertised but occasionally have to change due to stock availability.

Available everyday lunch only:

- mini beef burgers \$4.50

- spaghetti bolognese small serve \$4.50 or large serve \$6.50 /Gluten Free Spaghetti \$6.50 [Wed & Thu only]

**Wednesday – Farm Veggie Fried Rice - Large size \$6.50, Small \$4.50**

**Thursday – Chicken Schnitzel Wrap - \$6.50**

**Friday – Fettucine Carbonara - Large size \$6.50, Small \$4.50**

A reminder that our school Cafe is open Wednesday to Friday ONLY. Closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Order online at [www.quickcliq.com.au](http://www.quickcliq.com.au)

## Community Notices



