



## Week 5

### Principal Update

Week 5 already and we are looking forward to seeing many of our families this evening at our Meet and Greet!

A terrific opportunity for you to learn more about our focus areas, core programs and approaches at the school. Take some time to connect with friends, meet our teachers and quality support staff and have a bit to eat or drink. Also just a reminder I will be in The Hub [Southern Block] hosting a Meaningful maths information session where I will be explaining our approach to the teaching of numeracy at Alawa as well as have some fun games out for you to play with your child.

Following the event we will be holding our Annual General meeting for the School Council - all are invited and encouraged to attend. We will be officially presenting our Student leadership Group for 2023, I will be sharing the highlights from our Annual Report and we will be electing our new Council for 2023.

### Volunteer Survey

We highly value the support of so many in our community through their volunteer support.

Please take the time to respond to the survey emailed out in recent weeks. The closing date for the survey is Friday this week.

### Primary Years Swimming

Please ensure you have returned your notes and money for this fantastic program by the end of this week. We are really hopeful ALL students in Years 3-6 are able to engage in the 3 full days of water safety, team building and regulation activities.

Have a fabulous week,

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



# ALAWA PRIMARY SCHOOL MEET, GREET 'N' EAT

WEDNESDAY 1 MARCH  
5:00PM-6:15PM  
AGM TO FOLLOW DIRECTLY  
AT 6:30PM



CLASSROOMS ALONG WITH OTHER LEARNING SPACES  
(FARM, KITCHEN, & LIBRARY-WITH MINI BOOK FAIR)  
WILL BE OPEN FOR YOU TO EXPLORE WITH YOUR CHILD FROM 5-6PM

A SPECIAL SESSION EXPLORING MEANINGFUL MATHS AND HOW IT IS TAUGHT AT ALAWA  
IS BEING HOSTED BY MS CARTWRIGHT IN THE HUB.

WE INVITE YOU TO BRING A PICNIC DINNER OR PURCHASE FROM THE COUNCIL  
STALL FROM 5-6PM

EVERYONE WELCOME TO ATTEND OUR AGM IN THE LIBRARY  
FROM 6:15PM



[www.alawaprimary.nt.edu.au](http://www.alawaprimary.nt.edu.au)

## Assistant Principal Update

### Assembly

Last Friday was an action packed assembly hosted by Year 3/4 Bernardino and they did a fabulous job, sharing their findings on their big inquiry question around celebrations. It was a proud moment celebrating the first Honour Distinction for 2023! Finally, our student leadership were awarded their badges. It was wonderful to see so many proud parents and family members in attendance.

### Meet and Greet

I am very much looking forward to our first community event for 2023... Meet and Greet. Students have been practising in class how to formally introduce their parents to their classroom teacher and specialist teachers. They are planning on taking you for a walk around our school to show you where they play and other great facilities such as the library, farm, kitchen and much more.



Don't forget to stop by our Mini Book Fair in the conference room. Money raised will go toward purchasing new books for our library around wellbeing and self-regulation.

### **Preschool**

We know that children are born with amazing potential and imagination and as educators we get to foster and grow these capabilities. It is a privilege that I get to work in the preschool three days a week, I thoroughly enjoy spending time with the children exploring, playing and investigating new learning.

### **NAPLAN**

If you would like to view an example of a NAPLAN Online assessment, please visit the Public Demonstration Site at - <https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/public-demonstration-site>

Have a wonderful week.

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

### **Student Leaders: Further Appointments announced**

<b>Library Monitors</b>		
Aria Green	Findlay Davey	Maebe Thomson
Cleo Rayson	Chloe Carslund	Halle Wedel
Lucinda Ronayne	Shannon Gleeson	Olivia Mills

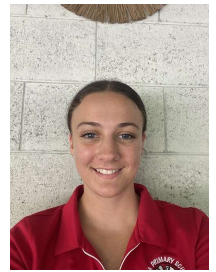
<b>SRC Representatives</b>	
Year 1 Hunter	Sadie Jackson
Year 1 Thorne/ Baines	Indi Smith
Year 2 Chamberlain	Eleanor Dwyer
Years 2 Riley-Smith	Sallyanne Cartwright
Year 3 Smedley	Loti Barker
Year 3/4 Bernardino	Henry Vidins
Year 4/5 Lawrence	Vania Appiah
Year 4/5 Block	Reuben Dwyer
Year 5/6 Henderson	Henry Hubbard
Year 5/6 Baines	Shannon Gleeson

### **Introducing Ms Casey Griffiths**

Hi there, I'm Casey Griffiths.

This is just my first year in Darwin, I have moved from Albany WA. I love visiting the beautiful beaches in my home town and playing all kinds of sport!

This year I have the privilege to be assisting Mr. Henderson in the Year 5/6 class and Miss Smedley in the Year 3 classroom. I am very excited to be a part of the Alawa community!



### **Introducing Ms Laura Thiele**

My name is Miss Laura, and this year I'll be in the classroom with Year 1 Hunter and Year 4/5 Lawrence. I worked at Alawa briefly in 2021 after completing a university placement in the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program. Last year I went back to Victoria to complete my Bachelor of Nutrition Science. I am very excited to be back at Alawa in 2023, and looking forward to the fantastic year ahead!

### **Paediatric Services**

Just an update re the availability of Paediatric services on site at Alawa. As many families who have been lucky to access these services over the past 4 years are aware Dr Mantho is no longer able to commit due to her increasing workload through Royal Darwin Hospital. We have been in negotiations with a Paediatrician to potentially offer services. At this stage arrangements are not confirmed and if this goes ahead it will be a slightly different model. I encourage any families waiting for this service to make appointments either through the private system or Royal Darwin in the interim. We will keep you advised as further developments unfold.

**Sandy Cartwright [Principal]**

### **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.

**Honour Award Students from last week & Principal for the Day: Ms Vania**





On Friday we celebrated our first Honour Distinction student for the year Miss Vania. Principal Vania had this to report....

*"I had a really fun day, everyone was exceptionally kind to me and I felt very special. My favourite part was going around to the classes and handing out merit awards to students. During the day I went to preschool with Mrs. Hyke. She read them a story; we gave stickers to the students who were doing great listening. I also went to Transition and helped them with math. When I went to my brother's class they were talking about when everyone in the class's birthday is."*

Congratulations Principal Vania- you did a fantastic job!



**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 5 question: Who are our 2023 School Captains?

**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 all forms are due in ASAP and payments completely reconciled by Friday 3rd March.



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



### GET INVOLVED!

**What:** Being on School Council is an opportunity to be a part of our parent body who provide advocacy and representation for our families. The role of the school council is to support the Principal to provide the best possible educational outcomes for our children. Participating as a school council member is a great way to contribute to the school. Being a part of the school council can be a very rewarding and interesting experience.

Council meetings are held once a month during the school term, after work hours, so it is a great way to be involved if you are busy during the day. Child care is available during the meetings if you need to bring your kids along. You don't need any specific experience or professional background to be a part of the School Council so if you have a keen interest in your child's education and school environment, we encourage you to consider nominating to be a Council member.

## Alawa Primary School AGM [TONIGHT]

**When:** Wednesday 1 March, 6:30pm

**Where:** School Library

**Who:** Everyone welcome

## Out of Hours School Care Sub-Group - seeing people to be involved

As a member of the OSHC subcommittee for Alawa Primary school I am asking for volunteers to continue the work that was accomplished by both parents and council last year. For this work to endure and for the future of the school it will be important to continue to establish options for parents at Alawa Primary yearly and look into the future to establish a feasible OSCH within the school grounds.

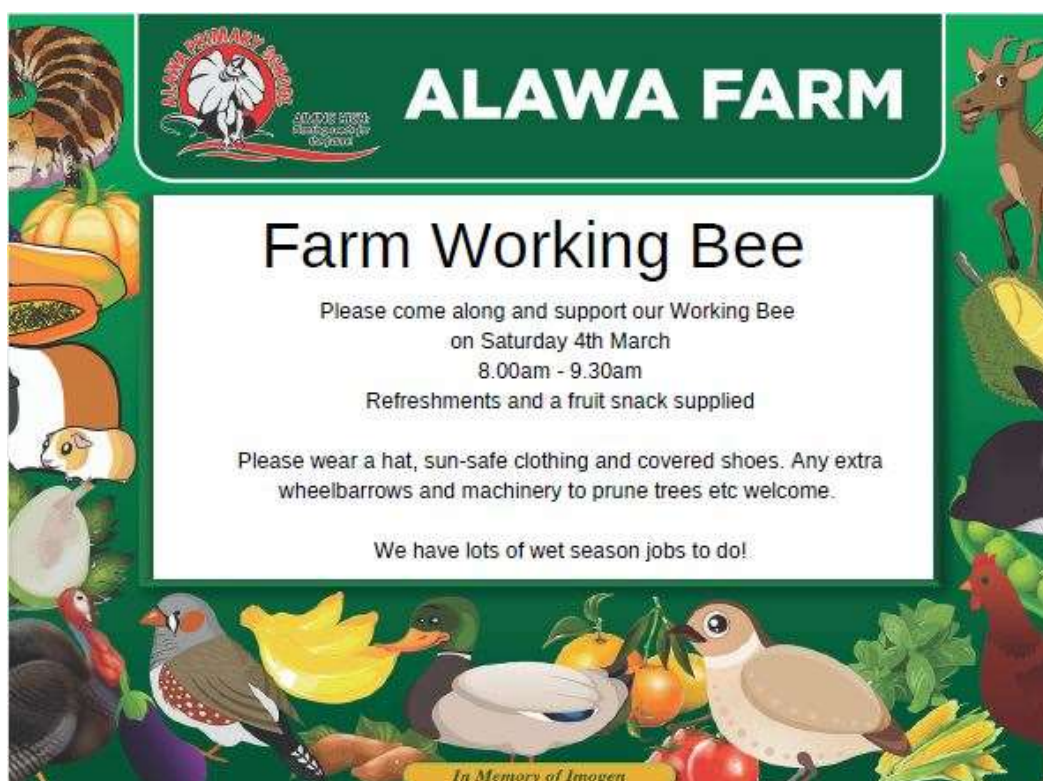
If you would like to nominate to join the subcommittee please contact [stephanie.cockfield@education.nt.gov.au](mailto:stephanie.cockfield@education.nt.gov.au)

## Calendar of Events

Wednesday 1 March	Meet and Greet	5pm
	Alawa Primary School AGM	6:30pm
Friday 3 March	Netball Gala day	All day
Friday 10 March	Assembly hosted by Year 4/5 Block - Morning tea to follow for parents and carers of Year 4/5 Block	8:40am
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
Monday 20 March	School Council meeting [TBC after AGM]	5:30pm
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
Friday 31st 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



### **Children's University - a fabulous new program available to a small group of students from Years 4 & 5 at Alawa**

10 students will be provided the opportunity to participate in an exciting program: 'Children's University Australia' [CUA].

Children's University Australia aims to provide high-quality 'learning activities for children aged between 7 and 14 years, engaging the broader community as learning partners. An important principle of CUA is that participation is voluntary – children can choose their learning activities. Activities **must** occur outside the regular school day during lunch, after school, on weekends, and holidays. CDU also offers free activities for students and caregivers on Saturdays, during school holidays, and through school excursions.

Students enrolled in Charles Darwin Children's University will be issued a 'Passport to Learning,' which records their learning journey. Each time they participate in a Children's University Learning Activity, they will receive a 'stamp' in their 'Passport to Learning.' After 30 hours (or more) of learning, the children are rewarded for their participation with certificates at a graduation ceremony held at Charles Darwin University in November.

More information to come at Assembly and Muster! Stay tuned... We will also hold a 'Parent Introductory' night once our 10 applicants have been selected!

**Georgia Block [Alawa Children's University Co-ordinator]**

### **Sporting Schools Updates: After school netball**

The After school Netball Program is progressing well, with 2 weeks complete under Coach Gail from Netball NT.

What we have learnt so far:

- Netball drills
- Practice of passes: chest, bounce and shoulder
- Finding good spaces to position ourselves to receive the ball
- Calling loudly 'HERE' for the ball.

We are looking forward to more fun, practice and learning for the final 2 weeks.

**Gina Ryan [Sporting Schools Co-ordinator]**

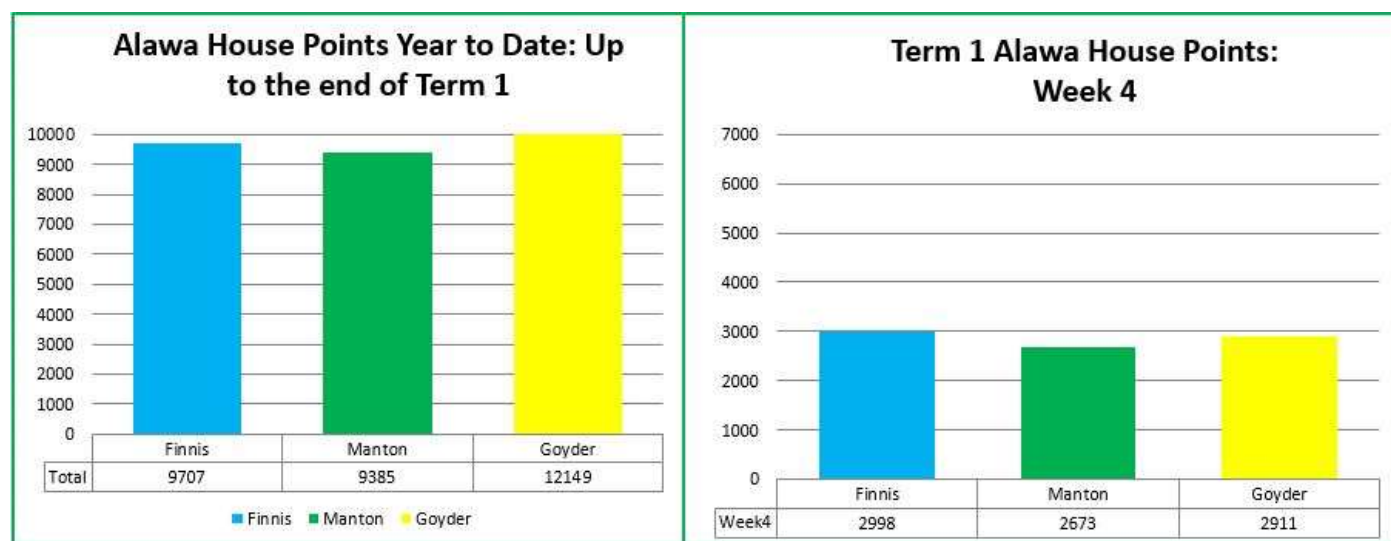


### House points

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 points earned through the recycling project and water bottle checks.

**In Week 4 of Term 1 Finnis was ahead with 2998 points!**

**In the lead for the Term is Goyder with 12149!**



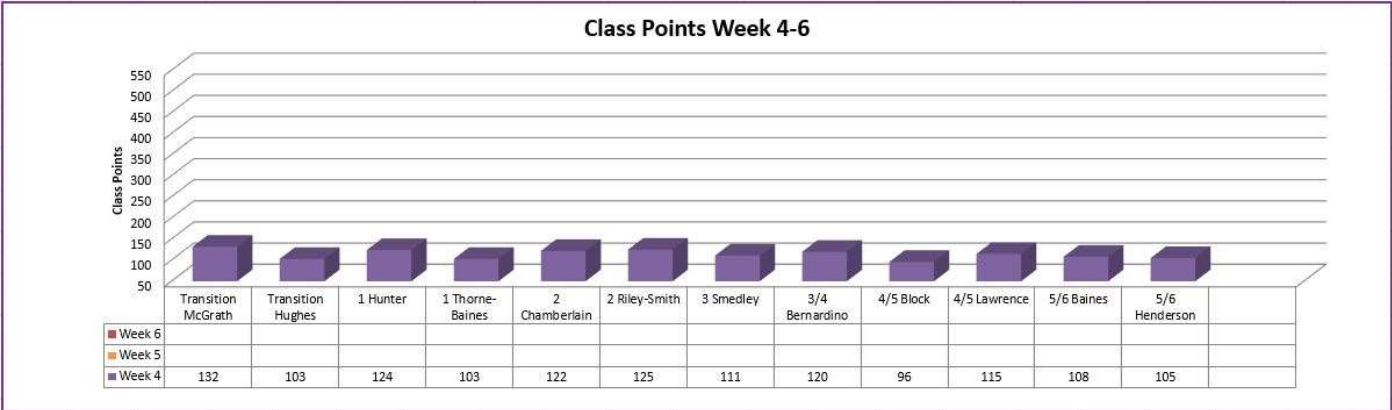
### Class Points

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.

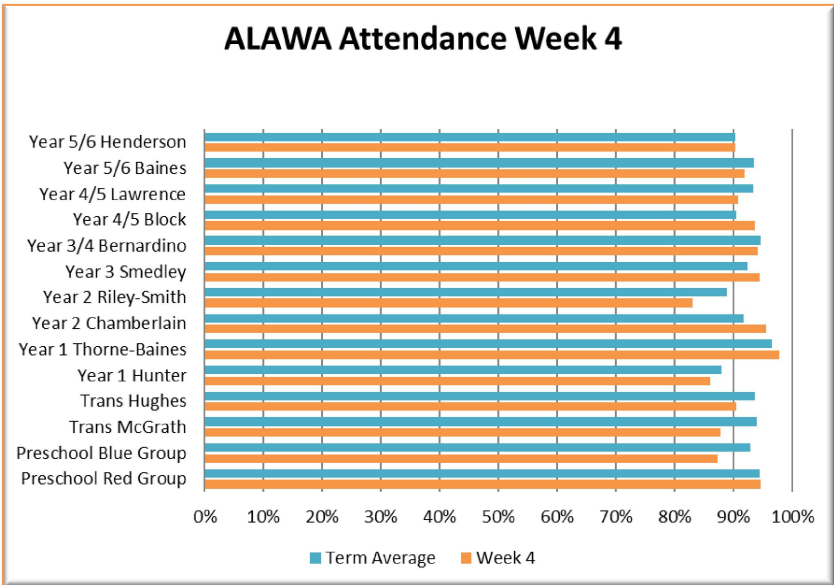
The class with the most points in Week 4 of Term 1 was....Transition McGrath with 132 points!!!



Attendance

Primary School Average for Week 4 Term 1: 91.29%

The class with the highest attendance for Week 4: 1 Thorne/Baines with 97.78%!!! Amazing job!!!



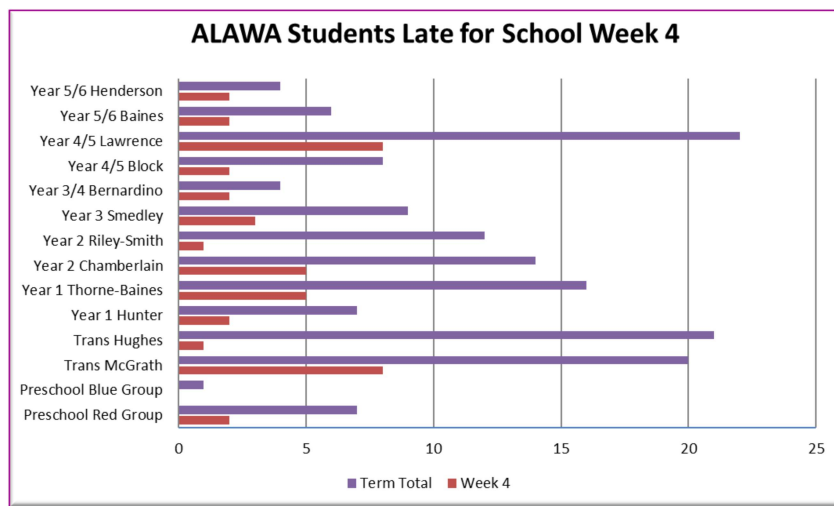
Lates

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

There were 43 lates in Week 4!

For Week 4 the classes with the least lates was: Preschool Blue with 0 lates!!!

In the lead for the term...Preschool Blue with 1 late arrival!!!

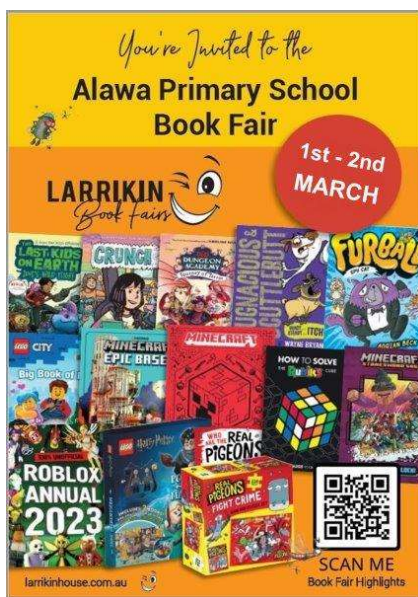


### Birthday cakes/treats in class

We respectfully ask that families continue to refrain from bringing in cakes or sweet treats for students to share with their classmates.

If you would still like the chance to celebrate your child's birthday with their classmates at school we suggest instead perhaps a pre packaged icy pole or ice cream for them to enjoy.

Thank you for your ongoing patience and understanding.



### Library news

Come and check out our BOOK FAIR at the Meet and Greet

Come along to our mini Larrikin House Book Fair running during the Meet and Greet Wednesday the 1<sup>st</sup> of March from 5pm – 6pm and on Thursday afternoon the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March from 3pm-4.30pm.

Larrikin House Book Fairs showcase Australian Authors and include Picture Books, Junior and Middle Grade Fiction, Non Fiction, Journals and Graphic Novels all at a reasonable price. Both Eftpos and cash options are available along with Larrikin House's LarriCoin Vouchers where you can purchase a voucher online which your child can bring in to exchange for books to that value. These can be purchased through the following link: <https://larrikinhouse.com.au/pages/why-larricoin> .

Books from the Fair can be reordered if we run out of copies. You can check out some of the books and their prices through the QR Code on the poster attached, you will also find them posted around the school.

I look forward to seeing you at the Meet and Greet 😊

**Miss Sacha [Library and ICT Manager]**

### Playgroup

Such a beautiful rainy day at playgroup on Friday! It was lovely to meet and see some new faces again this week. We didn't get to visit the farm as planned but we did still enjoy some playtime outside under the verandah. We were busily painting with brushes and hands, reading with our new friends and families and building some cool things with the duplo blocks.

Inside the classroom we got creative with all the wonderful dress ups and were very busy making yummy things in the cafe. Then some of us got a little peckish so brought out our lunchboxes for some morning tea. Miss Erin made curly, swirly apples for everyone with the spiralizer. There were no traces left behind, everyone loved them!

If it's nice and sunny this coming Friday we may have a little visit at the farm so remember your hats, shoes and water bottles. Looking forward to seeing you then.

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

## Can you help out?

As we are quickly approaching NAPLAN for Years 3 and 5 students we would very much appreciate any extra volunteers to sit and listen to our Year 3 children read daily. Research shows daily reading makes a significant difference in the acquisition of literacy skills and reading fluency.

If you have any time available please advise through the front office via phone or email with regards to your availability and we will then connect you with Ms Smedley or Ms Bernardino to slot you in. Even 30mins once a week from a few people can make all the difference for our students - we saw this last year with the fantastic support of 6 parents who came in once a week each.



## Preschool news

It has been a very wet week at Preschool and our program has had to adapt to make the most of the outdoors when it is not raining.

We have had a wide array of visitors to keep us engaged including a galah, a beautiful moth and lots of wriggly worms. Mrs Thorne visited us and

brought along her gorgeous Galah Roy. Children quickly gathered around to see Roy. Mrs Thorne told us all about looking after Roy and promised she'd bring him for another visit soon. Roy was very curious and didn't want to go back in his cage!

One morning Charlotte spotted a beautiful Moth on the verandah. We did some research and discovered it was a Peppered Moth. The children were very curious to watch it as it stayed put throughout the preschool day! We love discovering new things at preschool.

Have a wonderful week.

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

## Kitchen news

The classes have been cooking up a storm recently.

This semester we are looking at home made meals. We will be having a focus on the health values of making food at home versus shop bought or take away choices. Groups will be choosing a meal of their choice to teach to the class next term, which will be an excellent learning experience.

We have had 2 weeks of soups, looking at noodle soups and classic soups such as pea and ham, potato and leek and lentil.

Last week we made our own home made Indian take away and included lots of vegetables. We made a delicious paneer and spinach curry which was new for some of our cooks but it was very popular despite its green colour.

I have been very proud of all our groups so far and have seen some wonderful collaboration and team work as well as some great cooking.

**Ms Stratton and Ms Elsa**





## Volunteer Survey: Closes this Friday [3rd March]

Our annual parent volunteer survey is now available by clicking the link below.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AlawaFamilyInvolvementSurvey>

At Alawa we value our Alawa school community and the support they provide us throughout the year in many various roles. We thank each of you for your commitment to our school and community and thank you for taking the time to complete our survey.

As always if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate in contacting the school on 8997 7666 or [alawa.school@education.nt.gov.au](mailto:alawa.school@education.nt.gov.au)

This survey will close Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

*\*Please note that all volunteers in schools must have an ochre card to be sighted by staff and added to our register*

## 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 every day lunch only:

- mini beef burgers \$4.50
- spaghetti bolognaise 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



**COME AND TRY HOCKEY!**

FRIDAYS 6PM – 7PM  
FEB 17, 24 AND MAR 3, 10

**COST IS FREE!**

GIRLS & BOYS AGES 4+. SENIORS ALL ABILITIES

Borrow a stick and have some fun @Marrara Hockey Stadium

**\*ALL NEW PLAYERS GET A FREE UNIFORM AND HOCKEY STICK WHEN SIGNED FOR 2023 SEASON!**

**EAST DARWIN STORM HOCKEY CLUB**

secretary@edhc.com.au  
0419 147 198  
www.edhc.com.au  
instagram.com/EastDarwinStormHockeyClub  
facebook.com/EastDarwinStormHockeyClub





# Top End Star Gazers

**Astronomy evenings on the Casuarina Senior College oval**  
Three 11 inch Celestron tracking telescopes

- Craters on the moon
- The rings of Saturn
- The poles of Mars
- The moons of Jupiter

- Open clusters of stars
- Globular clusters of stars
- Galaxies
- Lava flows on the moon

**BBQ facilities**  
available  
for booking

For school and community  
group bookings contact  
**Peter Ramsay**  
peter.ramsay@education.nt.gov.au

**7.00-9.00 pm**  
\$50 for up to  
50 observers




## Want to play table tennis?

Come to our Club Open Day  
and give table tennis a go!

**Saturday 18 February, 10 to 12, free and fun  
activity for all ages including free BBQ**

Darwin Table Tennis Club Members will be on hand to talk  
to you about the Club, membership, opportunities for social play, our  
grade competitions, and our Junior Coaching Program

Demonstration by our top Junior players at 10.30am  
BBQ about 11.30am

No prior experience is necessary, bats and balls provided,  
please wear sports shoes with non-marking soles  
and bring your water bottle (we have a water cooler)

**Our Open Day is of part of HOT100FM's Fit Feb program, so get  
Involved, meet others, have fun, keep active and healthy!**

More info Michael Yaxley DTTA President 0427 988 129

Venue: Marrara Multi-Purpose Hall, 10 Abala Road, Marrara

www.revolutionise.com.au/dtta

Facebook: @darwintabletennis

Email: DarwinTTA@gmail.com

# Craft & Care Program

*Create, Care and Connect*  
A Program for Parents

**What will we do?**

- Fun Craft Activities
- Cooking
- Community knowledge sharing
- Support with Literacy, Financial Literacy and Budgeting
- Trauma Awareness Training
- Support with writing resumes
- Fun outings and activities
- First Aid Training/Certificate

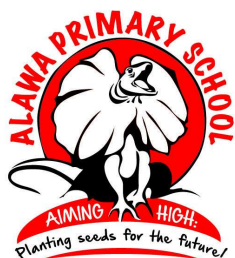
**Dates**

Start: Tuesday 07th of February 2023  
 When: Every Tuesday, 9:00am-1:00pm  
 Where: The Darrandirra Child & Family Centre  
 Shop 27, Malak Shopping Centre -16  
 Malak Cres, Malak 0812

For more information speak to Darrandirra staff  
 08 8947 4007

 **SCAN ME**



## Contact Us

📍 27 Pett Street, Alawa NT 0810

☎ 08 8997 7666

✉ [alawa.school@education.nt.gov.au](mailto:alawa.school@education.nt.gov.au)

🌐 [www.alawaprimery.nt.edu.au](http://www.alawaprimery.nt.edu.au)

☎ 0447 326 186

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