



## Assistant Principal Update

Week 10 it is!!!

We are finally here. What a great final week with fun activities to wrap up our year.

Tuesday mornings Presentation Assembly was fabulous. It was wonderful to acknowledge the achievement of so many students at our school. Class parties were certainly in full swing after our assembly and there were many smiling faces enjoying the food and celebrations with their class for 2023.

It is now the end of my fourth and final year at Alawa and what another fabulous year it has been. I have thoroughly enjoyed continuing to work together with teachers, students and our whole Alawa community. A couple of highlights for me include, of course, our Whole School Performance Night as well as our Preschool Bikathon. As busy as I get in the role as Assistant Principal I always love my time teaching in the classrooms. This year I have taught Science inquiry units in year 3/4 Bernardino and in Year 5/6 Henderson.

Our staff here are to be commended for their hard work and commitment to making Alawa the super school that it is, and certainly deserve a well-earned break. Our school review was evidence of this and I am really proud to have been part of this team. I have loved my time here at Alawa and getting to know all staff, parents and families/carers. I wish you all the very best as I move on to my new position in the department of education as an advisor. I have learnt so much. I will miss you all but I am also excited about continuing my learning in a new role. I will certainly be taking a lot of knowledge and skills with me. Thankyou.

Please make the time to reflect on the year with your children and chat with them about their successes and areas for growth for next year. It will also be important to talk about the class they will be in for next year and who their teacher will be.

Stay safe during the holidays. Enjoy your Christmas celebrations with family and loved ones.

***Genevieve Donohue [Assistant Principal]***



## Farewell Mrs Gen Donohue

Gen Donohue has been a pivotal member for the Alawa leadership team for the past 4 years in her role as Assistant Principal. She has led the English improvement agenda team, the wellbeing team and taught across the school. Gen has initiated and coordinated our Book Parade each year with enthusiasm which so many enjoy.

Gen has worked closely with the SRC members in her time at Alawa and successfully led special celebrations and fundraising for Mother's Day, Fathers Day and Christmas. We all thank Gen for her efforts and commitment whilst at Alawa and wish her all the best in her new role for 2024!



## Calendar of events

Thursday 14th December	Last day of Term 4 Year 6 farewells after lunch	1:40pm
Tuesday 16th January—Thursday 25th January	Front Office open for uniforms etc	8:30am—4pm
Tuesday 30th January	First day back for students	

## Farewell Ms Ana Bernardino

What can we say about Ms Bernardino?

An educational icon at Alawa over the past 14 years, teaching in classes across the school from Early Years to Middle primary. Ana has guided and supported so many of your children in her care and is highly respected within our community.

As so many know Ana is the inspiration and driving force behind so many of our significant community events including the very first Colour Fun Run, the Slime Run, the annual community concert nights [Alawa Spectacular, Our NT Home, Drumming etc etc].

Ana in her role as leader at Alawa has led the Curriculum improvement team over recent years and mentored many new teachers at our school.

We wish Ana all the very best as she transfers over to Wanguri for 2024.



## Alawa Harvest Kitchen

**LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER!!**

Don't forget that our Alawa Harvest Kitchen cooking program is on tomorrow Friday 15th of December from 9:00am—12:00pm. Cost is \$40 per child to register and spots are limited.

If you are interested in doing this one off program, please call the front office on (08)89977666 ASAP to secure a spot.

**Alawa Harvest Kitchen**  
**Christmas Cooking**

**When:** Friday 15th December 2023  
**Time:** 9:00am - 12:00pm  
**Cost:** \$40 per student

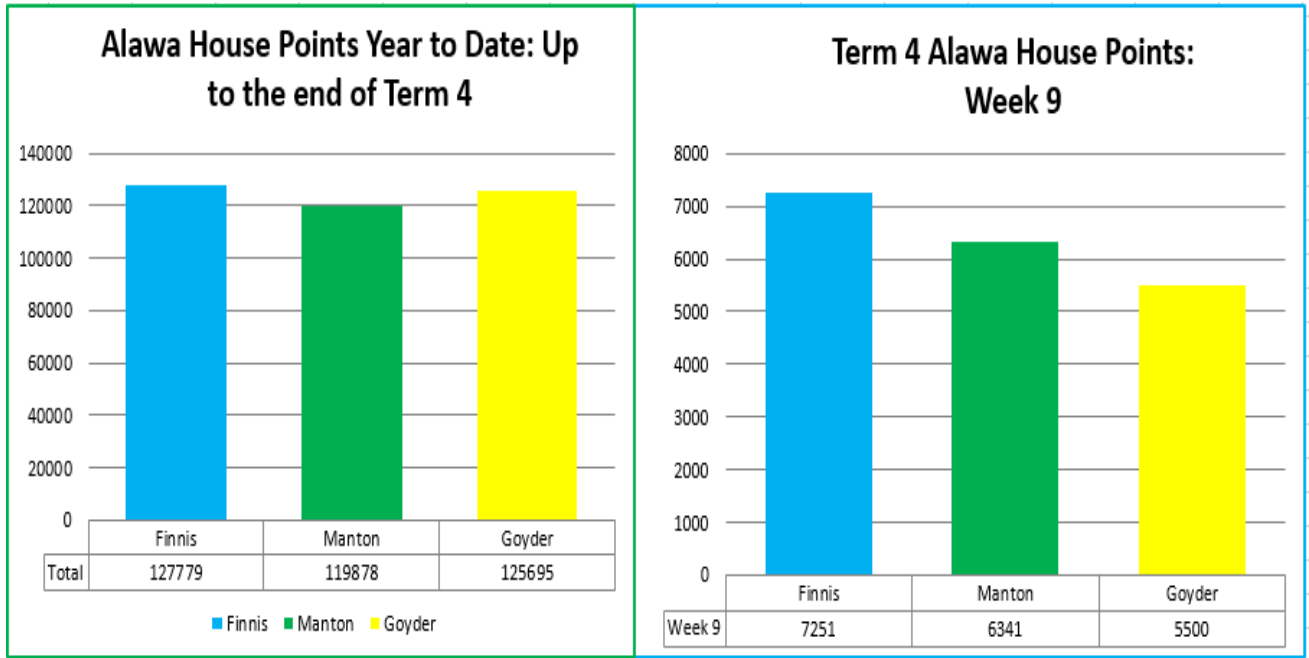
Please contact us on 8997 7666 to book and pay ahead to reserve your child's place. Class is limited to 20 students to ensure a quality experience. Children must be 8 years and above to access kitchen facilities successfully.

### 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. 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 9 of Term 4 Finniss was ahead with 7251 points!**

**And the winner of the House Shield for 2023 is... FINNIS with 131468 Points!**



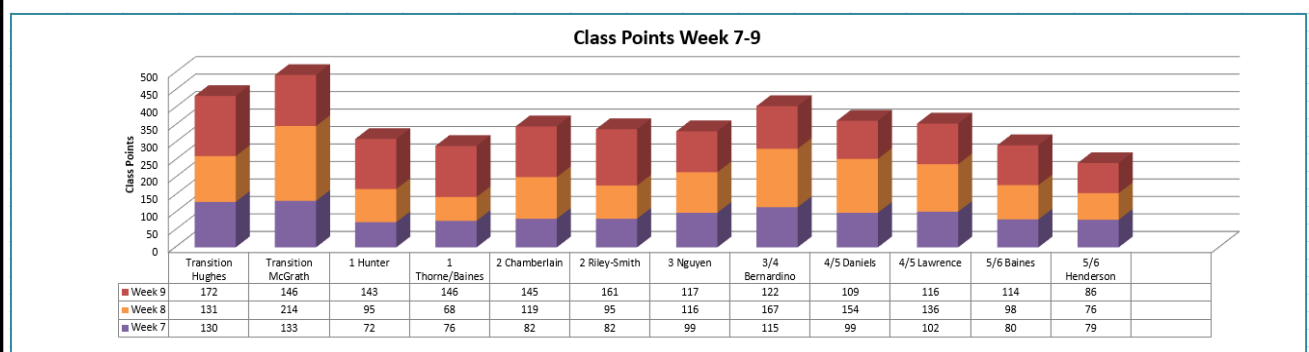
### Class Points

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 our Principal and get to choose 3 songs that will play before our bells for the following 3 weeks.

**The class with the most points in Week 9 of Term 4 was....Transition Hughes with 172 points !!!**

**The winning class for weeks 7-9 is...Transition McGrath with 493 points!!! Amazing!!!**

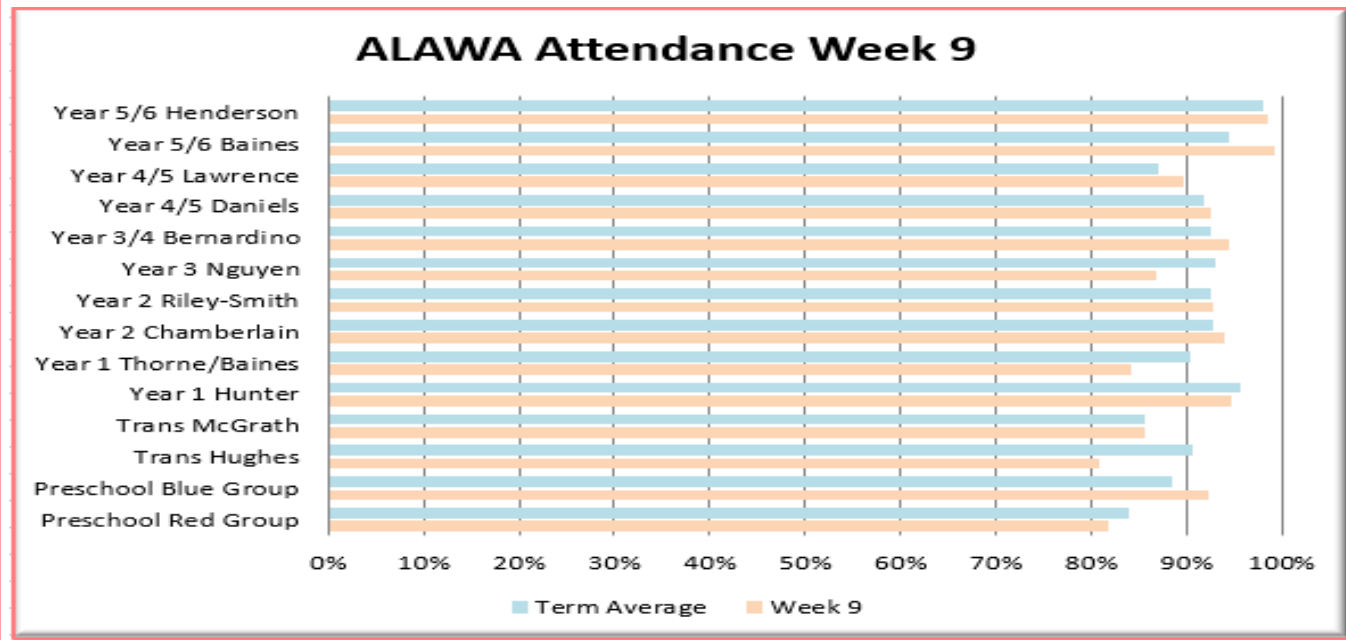


## Attendance

Primary School Average for Week 9 Term 4: **91.14%**

The class with the highest attendance for Week 9: **5/6 Baines with 99.20%!!! Amazing job!!!**

The class with the highest attendance for Term 4 is..... **5/6 Henderson with 97.92%!!!**



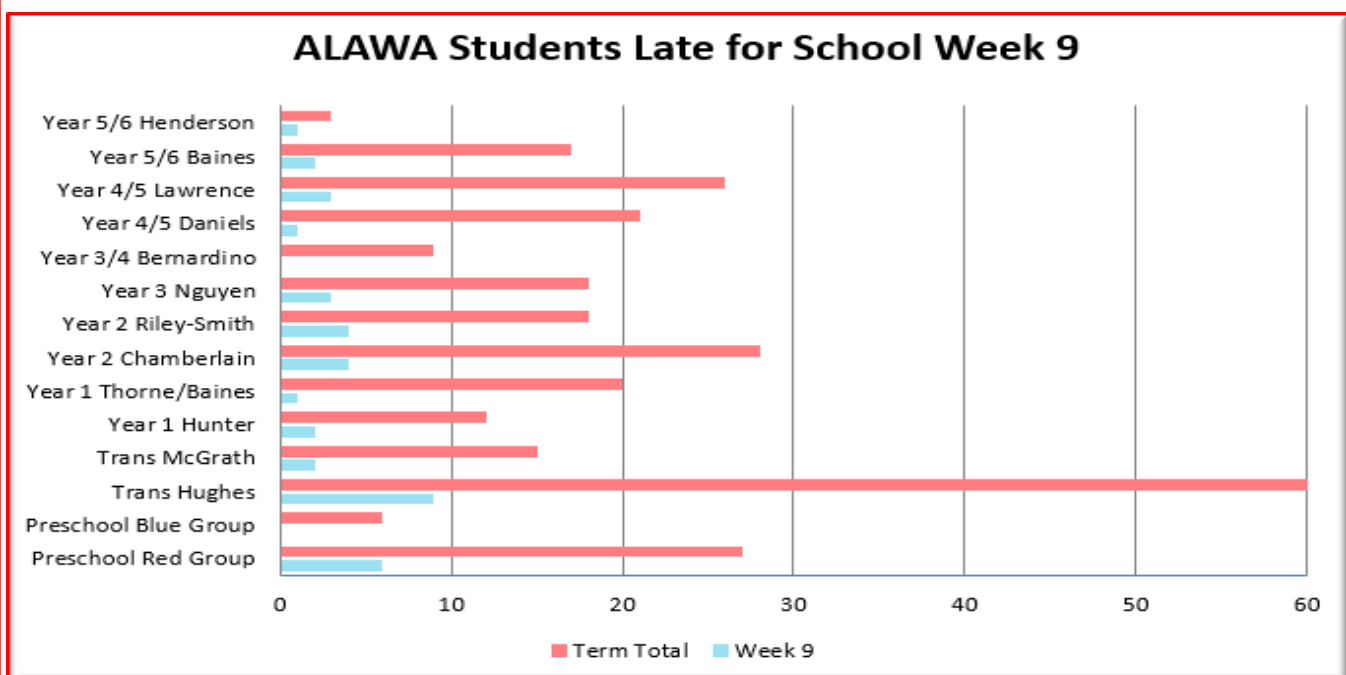
## Lates

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

There were 38 lates in Week 9!

For Week 9 it was *fabuloso* to see NO lates at all for **Preschool Blue and 3/4 Bernardino!!!**

The class with the least lates for Term 4 is..... **5/6 Henderson with 3 lates!!!**



**Our front office will be open as follows for families to come in and utilise their Back to School Voucher, pay School Contributions, purchase uniforms etc.**

- Tuesday 16th January 9:00am - 3:30pm
- Wednesday 17th January 9:00 - 3:30pm
- Thursday 18th January 9:00am - 3:30pm
- Friday 19th January 9:00am - 3:30pm
- Monday 22nd January 9:00am - 3:30pm
- Tuesday 23rd January 9:00am - 3:30pm
- Wednesday 24th January 9:00am - 3:30pm
- Thursday 25th January 9:00am - 3:30pm



For 2024 to help families avoid long wait times and help our team manage with the rush we are again using an online booking system. Families can book a time slot online to ensure we are able to provide an efficient service for you.

To book a time simply go to our online booking system: School Interviews Online  
<https://www.schoolinterviews.com.au/>

**Access Code: cm6r2**

Time slots are in 30min intervals and we are having 2 bookings for each half hour. Maximum 2 children per 30 minute slot. If more than 2 children- Book 2 slots please. If possible please bring in ONLY students that are enrolling to help assist with congestion in the front office.

If families come to the front office with no booking we will do our best to help you BUT if families already have bookings they take priority service.

Further information can be accessed through the NT Department of Education website: <https://nt.gov.au/learning/student-financial-help-and-scholarships/back-to-school-payments-scheme>

**2024 Voluntary Parent Contributions: Preschool - Year 6**

Parent Contributions will slightly increase to \$175 per year for Primary Students and \$160 per year for Preschool Students. Contributions are used to purchase a wide range of equipment and consumables; including art and craft supplies, library books, literacy/numeracy and ICT resources, farm resources, food for cooking and online subscriptions.



## Farewell Mr Jarrad Lawrence

Jarrad Lawrence joined us at Alawa at the start of the 2022 school year and quickly established himself as a highly credible, experienced, committed educator who quickly established effective relationships with the students in his care as well as their families.

Jarrad has contributed significantly to our community in his time with us through the Writers Festival, The Tek Ninjas as well as the Writing improvement team.

We wish Jarrad all the best as he transfers to Leanyer for 2024.



## Weekly Farm award

This year we continue to celebrate the best Farm Class of the week on Fridays.

The Farm Class of the week is selected, based on their abilities to working cooperatively as a team and always follow our Farm rules. The Farm classes are divided each week into 3-4 smaller groups and each one has a Group Director.

Group Directors are in charge of giving out responsibilities to their group, keeping their area tidy and giving out points.

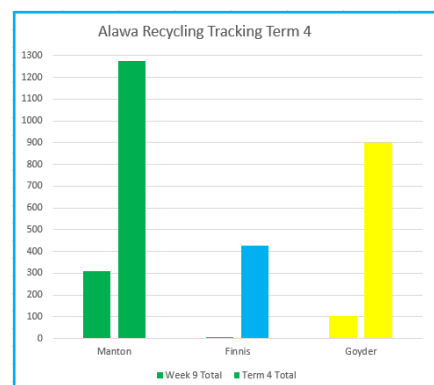


**The Week 9 winner was.... 4/5 Lawrence!**

## Recycling

**A reminder that recycling is back up and running at the school.**

Our recycling bags are up and ready for deposits in their usual location in the back car park hanging on the fence. Each bag represents a house and all items will be recorded as a point for your house. Items can be delivered during school hours and placed directly into the bags.



## Library news

...And just like that the school year has finished and what a fantastic, busy year it has been. Last week I added in the activities being run by City of Darwin and City of Palmerston in December and this week I thought I would add in what is happening in these spaces over January.



You can find out what is happening around the City of Darwin in their [School Holiday Program](#) They are running activities such as Movies, Animal Education, Recycling Fun, Weaving with flowers and fronds, video gaming tournament, Summer Reading club and much more.

City of Palmerston always runs a fun program and while the program for January has not been released at the time of this going out you will be able to find it on their website at City of Palmerston Library [School Holiday Program](#)

Have a happy, safe holiday break and I look forward to seeing you in the new school year.

***Mrs Sacha Evans [Library & ICT]***

## Preschool news

Yesterday we invited preschool families to join us for a celebratory morning tea. It was lovely to share food and stories and reflect on a wonderful Year.

This year we have had so many adventures. We decorated our bikes and took part in a bike-a-thon. We explored many amazing books and got very clever at recognising and writing our names and counting. We learnt through play, danced at a concert, made new friends and, most importantly, had lots of fun.

The preschool team will really miss our beautiful class of 2023. One of the best things about Preschool is how connected we are to our preschool families. We would like to thank all our amazing families and volunteers for all their support and assistance throughout the year. We wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and holiday season.



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



Year 6 Graduation



## Before School Care: Reminders

At Alawa we offer a very small Before School Supervision service to support families with early morning starts at work.



I would like to remind parents of the following:

- A staff member will be available for before school supervision from 7:30am – 8am in the Preschool - NOT prior to 7:30am
- Parents must walk the students in and sign them in with the staff member if they are Year 2 and younger

Please ensure all payments are up to date as access to the service cannot be offered in 2024 if any outstanding money is not paid in full by Thursday 14th December.

*Sandy Cartwright [Principal]*

## Cafe

### MODIFIED CANTEEN HOURS FOR 2024

The Alawa School Canteen will be reducing its hours in 2024. In Term 1 the canteen will be open on Thursday and Friday ONLY. The usual range of delicious and nutritious food, using farm produce, will be available.

#### **The canteen will not be open on Wednesdays.**

The canteen has been running at a loss for the past few years and despite the best efforts of canteen staff and School Council we have not been able to make the canteen stop losing money.

At the end of Term 1 canteen profits or losses will be reviewed by the School Council and a decision made about if the canteen will continue to run.



If you would like this service to continue please support it by buying food.

Any comments or questions please contact the School Council  
[alawa.school@education.nt.gov.au](mailto:alawa.school@education.nt.gov.au) or 8997 7666.



## Farm news

**Larrakia Season:** Somewhere between Balnba (rainy season) and Dalay (monsoon season)

**Farm News:** Students in year 4/5 Lawrence and 4/5 Daniels have achieved a remarkable feat by being crowned the overall champions of Farm Class for semester 2. This outstanding accomplishment will be celebrated throughout the week in true farm style.



**Farm Highlights:** It has truly been a privilege to teach at Alawa Farm this past year, and we are both eagerly looking forward to seeing all of you there again next year! We want to give a special congratulations to Ali in year 5/6 and Frankie in year 1, who are both very deserving winners of the Farm Awards. Their inquisitive nature and caring attitude towards both animals and people at the Farm have truly made a difference.

*Mrs Cleary and Farmer Bob [Farm Team]*

## A poem from Henry for Ms Bernardino

### Ms Bernardino

After fourteen years at Alawa, we didn't believe  
That you were going to leave

"We'll miss you" they said on the mic  
So I wrote a list of things you like

On this list, my first thought  
Was that you like playing on a basketball court

I know you like a good joke  
and you start your day with coffee, and not a coke

You were REALLY good at helping us learn  
Sometimes, a merit is what we earn

You were a great teacher  
No other teacher could beat ya

Like at the end of a match, I'll give you a high five  
Hopefully, I'll see you again in twenty twenty-five





# Certificate of Appreciation

is presented to

*Alawa Primary School*

Thank you for supporting the  
St Vincent de Paul Society Northern Territory  
2023 Christmas Hampers Project

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RL'.

Rob Lutter  
CEO  
St Vincent de Paul Society  
Northern Territory

1<sup>st</sup> of December 2023

Date



St Vincent de Paul Society  
(NT) Inc. *good works*

# Alawa Primary School



## Farewell Ms Cara Baines

Cara Baines started working with us at Alawa in 2022 as a relief teacher and then came on board 3 days a week for 2023 working in the Year 1 room with Mrs Thorne as well as in the Transition and Year 2 rooms.

We have very much appreciated all Cara's efforts and contributions this year and wish her all the best as she transfers to NT Distance Education school for 2024.



**SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS** JANUARY 2024

**FREE COME & TRY SESSION**  
A MORNING OF CRICKET FUN FOR KIDS NEW TO THE GAME  
MON 8 JAN | 9AM - 11AM  
FREE | OPEN TO BOYS & GIRLS AGED 5YRS - 12YRS

**Girls only FREE COME & TRY SESSION**  
**COLOUR BLAST**  
THURS 11 JAN | 9AM - 11AM  
FREE | OPEN TO GIRLS AGED 5YRS - 12YRS  
HAVE FUN LEARNING NEW CRICKET SKILLS

**2-DAY SCHOOL HOLIDAY CRICKET CLINIC**  
CALLING ALL JUNIOR CRICKETERS EAGER TO IMPROVE THEIR SKILLS THESE HOLIDAYS  
15/16 JAN: 8:30AM - 1PM | 22/23 JAN: 8:30AM - 1PM  
\$150 PER 2-DAY CLINIC | OPEN TO BOYS & GIRLS AGED 7YRS - 15YRS

COME JOIN US AT THE HOME OF NT CRICKET  
DXC ARENA, ABALA ROAD, MARRARA

To sign up, or for more information, scan the QR Code or visit [www.ntcricket.com.au](http://www.ntcricket.com.au)

**COME & TRY CRICKET THESE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS!**

LOOKING TO GIVE CRICKET A GO?

JOIN US FOR AN ACTION PACKED MORNING OF CRICKET FUN FOR GIRLS AND BOYS NEW TO THE GAME!

**MONDAY 8 JAN 2024: 9AM - 11AM**

COME JOIN US AT THE HOME OF NT CRICKET  
DXC ARENA, ABALA ROAD, MARRARA  
OPEN FOR GIRLS & BOYS AGED 5YRS - 12YRS

**CAN YOU HIT THE STUMPS?**

**LEARN THE BASICS OF BATTING**

**TAKE A CLASSIC CATCH!**

IDEAL FOR KIDS WHO ARE NEW TO THE GAME!

To sign up, or for more info, scan the QR code or visit [www.ntcricket.com.au](http://www.ntcricket.com.au)

**COME & TRY CRICKET AT OUR FREE**

**Girls only COLOUR BLAST**

WHERE CRICKET MEETS A BURST OF COLOUR!  
THURSDAY 11 JANUARY 2024, 9AM - 11AM

COME JOIN US AT THE HOME OF NT CRICKET  
DXC ARENA, ABALA ROAD, MARRARA

HAVE FUN LEARNING NEW CRICKET SKILLS  
BATTING, BOWLING & FIELDING!  
MAKE NEW FRIENDS ON THE SLIP N SLIDE &  
GET COLOUR BOMBED WITH WATER BALLOONS!

**FOR GIRLS AGED 5 - 12YRS**  
**SIGN UP FOR FREE!**

TO SIGN UP, OR FOR MORE INFO, SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT [WWW.NTCRICKET.COM.AU](http://WWW.NTCRICKET.COM.AU)

**SCHOOL HOLIDAY CRICKET CLINICS**

CALLING ALL JUNIOR CRICKETERS EAGER TO IMPROVE THEIR SKILLS THESE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Work With Our Coaches To Improve Your Technical Game and Match Awareness Skills Ahead of the 2024 Darwin Cricket Season

**DATE:** 15 - 16 JANUARY & 22 - 23 JANUARY 2024

**TIME & PLACE:** 8:30AM - 1PM, DXC ARENA, MARRARA

**WHO:** GIRLS & BOYS 7 - 15 YRS

**COST PER PERSON:** \$150 (PER 2-DAY CLINIC)

**WHAT TO BRING:** CRICKET KIT, LUNCH, HAT & WATER BOTTLE

To sign up, or for more info, scan the QR Code or visit [www.ntcricket.com.au](http://www.ntcricket.com.au)

Enquiries to: [NTCricket@NTCricket.com.au](mailto:NTCricket@NTCricket.com.au)

## Farewell Ms Sarah Riley-Smith

Sarah Riley-Smith has been with us at Alawa for the past 2 years teaching the cherubs in Year 2. Sarah has created great excitement through her coordination of Alawa's Got Talent as well as contributed to the Reading improvement team at Alawa.

Sarah has also been a key member of the Alawa School Council We wish her all the best as she transfers to NT Distance education school for 2024.



Plan ahead for your child's  
after school activities 2024



Darwin  
Languages  
Centre

## AFTER SCHOOL LANGUAGE CLASSES

Year 1 to Year 12 Students

Choose from 11 different languages

Auslan - French - German - Greek - Japanese - Korean -  
Indonesian - Italian - Mandarin - Portuguese - Spanish

Monday to Wednesday - 4:00pm to 6:00pm

Saturdays (Mandarin only) - 10:00am to 12:30pm

School pick up service available from some local  
Darwin schools (additional fees apply - ask for details)

Term fees are \$180 for a term, based on  
1 class per week, per child.

**ENROL NOW**

For more information visit:

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

Call us on: 8997 7000

Empowering our community to be lifelong learners



**TERM FEES**  
**\$180**

per class / per term

SCAN  
ME



Community notices



**Dripstone**  
middle school

# 2024 ENROLMENTS

**NOW DUE!**



Please return enrolment packs to your Primary School or to the Dripstone Middle School Front Office as soon as possible!

**APPLY**

[www.dripstonemiddle.nt.edu.au/enrolments-3/](http://www.dripstonemiddle.nt.edu.au/enrolments-3/)



Dripstone  
Middle School



@dripstonemiddle

## Writing in Nature for Young People Workshop

12 - 14 years

With author Diane Lucas

Monday 18th December, 9.30am - 4.00pm

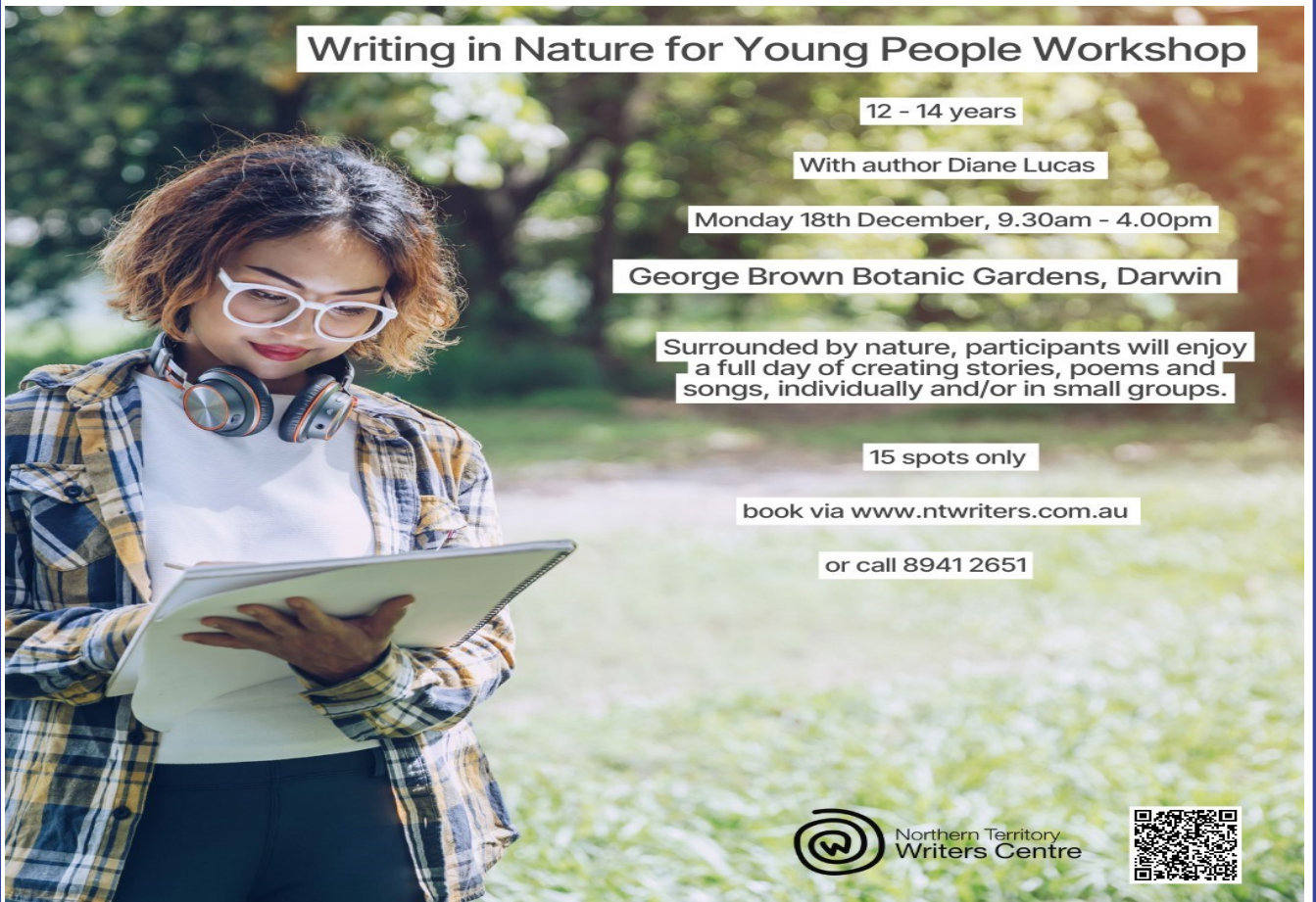
George Brown Botanic Gardens, Darwin

Surrounded by nature, participants will enjoy a full day of creating stories, poems and songs, individually and/or in small groups.

15 spots only

book via [www.ntwriters.com.au](http://www.ntwriters.com.au)

or call 8941 2651



Northern Territory  
Writers Centre





Community notices

# ROYAL EXISTENCE DANCE ACADEMY

Acrobatics Ballet Contemporary Jazz Hip Hop Tap

ALAWA PRIMARY SCHOOL  
GET 10% OFF THE TOTAL TERM 1 TUITION FEE AND EACH  
STUDENT RECEIVES A COMPLIMENTARY WELCOME PACK



Email: [admin@royalexistence.com.au](mailto:admin@royalexistence.com.au)

Phone: 0429 560 602

Address: 4/18 Caryota Court, Coconut Grove

\*This voucher is valid for new students only. Mention this flyer when you enquire.

+ [www.nightcliffcc.org.au](http://www.nightcliffcc.org.au)

## WANT TO PLAY CRICKET?



### JOIN <sup>THE</sup> NIGHTCLIFF CRICKET CLUB

### SIGN-ON 2024 DAY

COMING THIS  
FEBRUARY - 2024  
CONTACT AMANDA  
0418 292 582

## PLAYERS WANTED

