



Week 5: 9th November 2023

Principal Update

Welcome to our Week 5 news.....

Well we are now half way through Term 4 and time is flying by. Our students are completing assessments for their key learning areas and teachers are using their achievements to inform judgements as well as further planning for coming weeks. At Alawa we continue our explicit teaching and focussed support right through to the end of Week 9 so we do ask that children continue to attend each day unless unwell.



For 3 days this week I am out at Forrest Parade School in Palmerston as part of their External School Review—this is an opportunity for me to contribute back to our system but also see and learn about how another school operates, sets an improvement agenda and focusses on growth. I will be back at Alawa on Friday 10th and looking forward to seeing people at the Remembrance day Assembly to be hosted by 5/6 Henderson.

2024 Classes

We are currently finalising our class structures for 2024 and will then be allocating teachers and students to classes. While we cannot guarantee being able to accommodate requests you are welcome to email me if you have any special requests to be considered in our class placement for 2024.

Preschool Open Session

Recently we held the first of 2 Open sessions for new pre-schoolers for 2024. It was terrific to see the families come along and explore our fantastic preschool learning space and hear about our program. The 2nd open session is Wednesday 15th November.

Transition Information Night

Last night we held our Transition parent Information session—with our team sharing the core approaches, important hints and tips for supporting children starting Transition and unpacking the first few weeks.

Farm Working Bee: This Saturday 8am—10am

This Saturday we are having our working bee in the Farm to get many end of year / pre wet season jobs done. We really appreciate any / all help you can provide by coming along [even for a short while].
Have a fab week,

Sandy Cartwright [Principal]

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 — What is it that the Year 6's are soooo looking forward to towards the end of the year?
[Sandy Cartwright]



Assistant Principal Update

I can't believe we are already half way through Term 4.

Over the last few days you may be aware that I have had to split classes and children have had to go to another classroom for some of the day whilst their teacher has been away. This is certainly not the preferred practice at Alawa, however due to another recent bout of COVID and unwell teachers our relief pool has been impacted. If this is to happen the children are provided with work from their teacher and may also join in the learning with the class they are sent to. Most children have reported that they have enjoyed the experience of getting to know other teachers and classroom environments. If you have any concerns please let me know.



Last night we had our **Transition Information Night** from 5-6 pm.

It was a wonderful opportunity to find out more about what to expect at this stage of schooling and how you can prepare your children for this important stage of their life. We are looking forward to seeing our new families for 2024 as well as current families who have another child starting in Transition. Thankyou to our current Transition teachers for sharing our lovely space, our approaches and expectations for Transition at Alawa.



As we head into the last part of our year we can really feel that the weather is heating up. Please remind your children to bring a marked water bottle to school everyday so that they can keep their fluids up.

I hope to see many families at our Farm Working Bee on Saturday.

Genevieve Donohue [Assistant Principal]

2024 Intentions

We have commenced looking at student enrolment numbers for 2024 with a view to developing our class structures / compositions for the year. It would be appreciated if you could advise us ASAP if you WILL NOT be at Alawa next year.

Thanks



Calendar of events

Friday 10th November	Basketball Gala Day Assembly hosted by Year 5/6 Henderson [Remembrance Day focus]	All day 8:40am
Saturday 11th November	Farm Working Bee	8:00am—10:00am
Monday 13th November	Children's University Graduation ceremony	5:30pm
Tuesday 14th November	NTLC Pitch to the Minister Day Learning Commission	All day
Wednesday 15th November	Preschool Orientation Session	1:30pm—2:30pm
Tuesday 21st November	Dr Corey Paediatric Clinic	All day
Friday 24th November	Assembly hosted by Year 5/6 Baines 2023 Awards and Certificates	8:40am
Tuesday 28th November	Masterchef Bake Off	3:00pm—5:00pm
Thursday 30th November	LEAP/RISE Brekkie at Dripstone Middle School	8:45am—10:30am
Friday 1st December	Defence Kids Dress-up	All day
Wednesday 6th December	Preschool Graduation	5:00pm—6:00pm
Thursday 7th December	Year 6 Graduation	5:30pm—6:30pm
Friday 8th December	Year 6 Graduation Fun Day Assembly hosted by Mrs Donohue and the SRC Dr Corey Pediatric Clinic	All day 8:40am All day
Tuesday 12th December	Class Parties / Reports go home 2023 Presentation Assembly Volunteers Morning Tea	8:40am 10:00am
Thursday 14th December	Last day of Term 4 Year 6 farewells after lunch	1:40pm

APPLE
For
THE TEACHER

**REWARD A LUCKY
TEACHER & CLASS WITH
GREAT PRIZES**

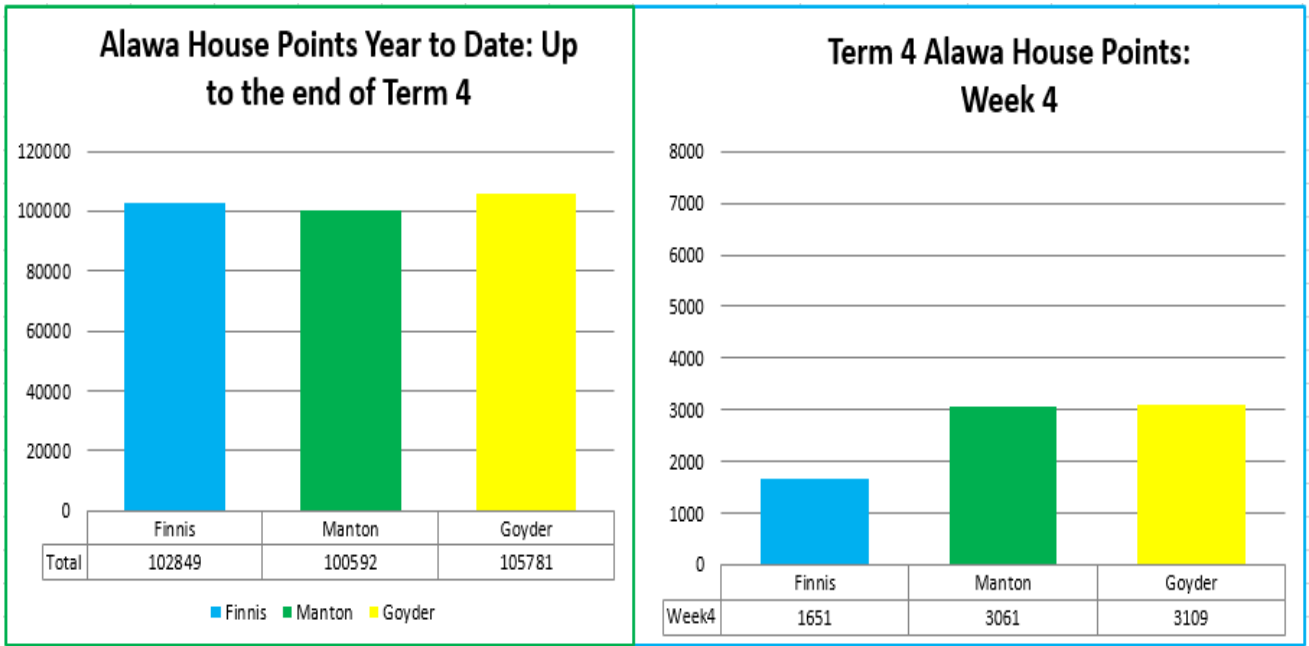
**NOMINATE
NOW!**

Harvey Norman | **DARWIN
MAZDA** |

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 4 of Term 4 Goyder was ahead with 3109 points!
In the lead for the Year to date is Goyder with 105 781 points!**

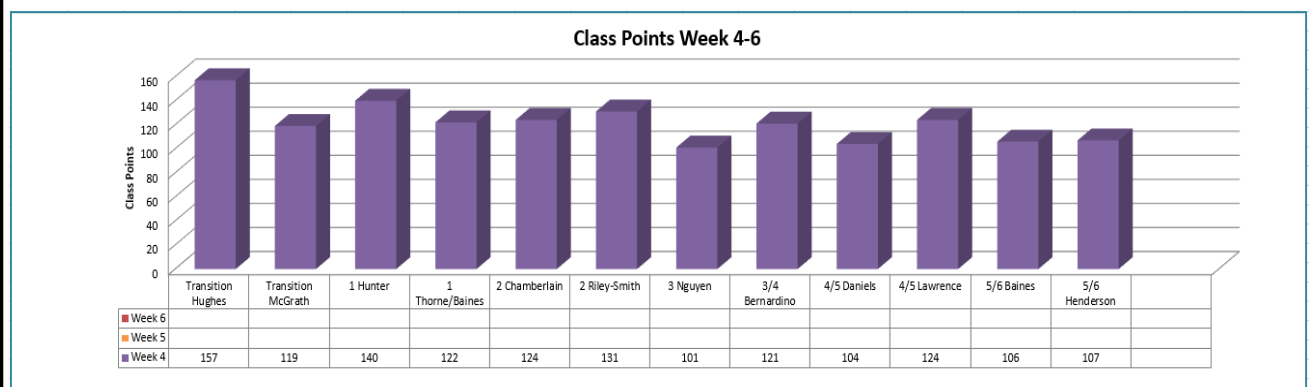


Class Points

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 4 of Term 4 was....Transition Hughes with 157 points !!!

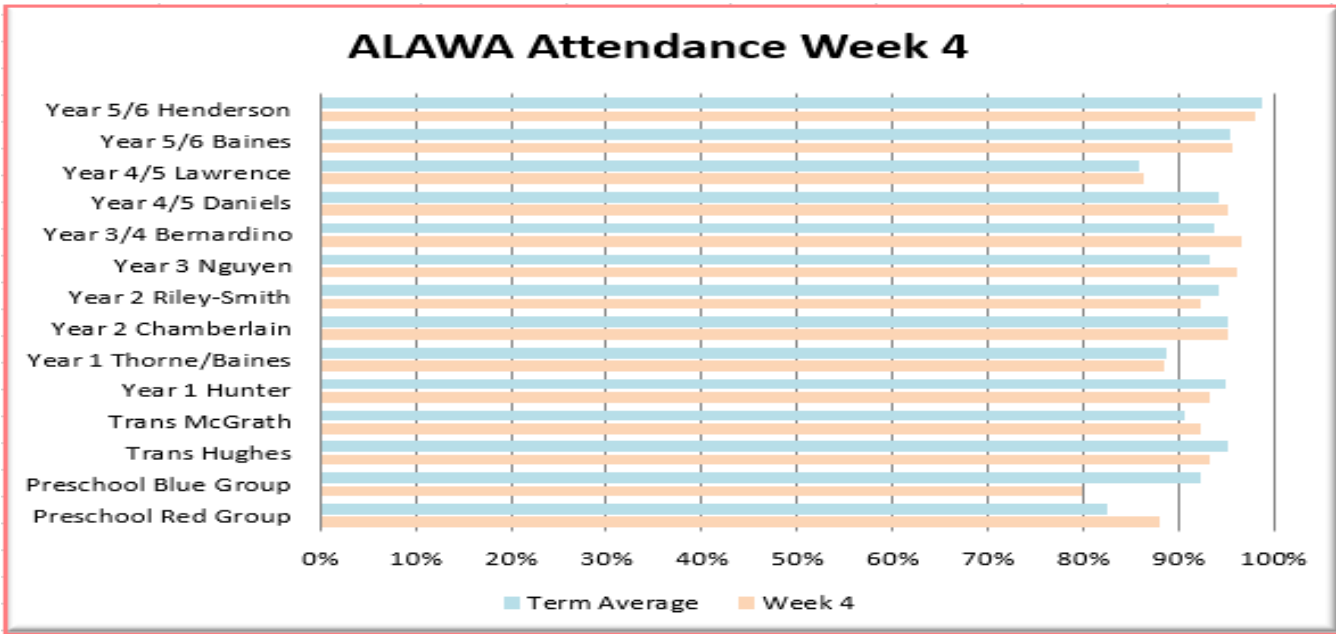


Attendance

Primary School Average for Week 4 Term 4: **93.54%**

The class with the highest attendance for Week : **5/6 Henderson with 98.15%!!! Amazing job!!!**

In the lead for Term 4 we have... **5/6 Henderson with 98.66%!!!**



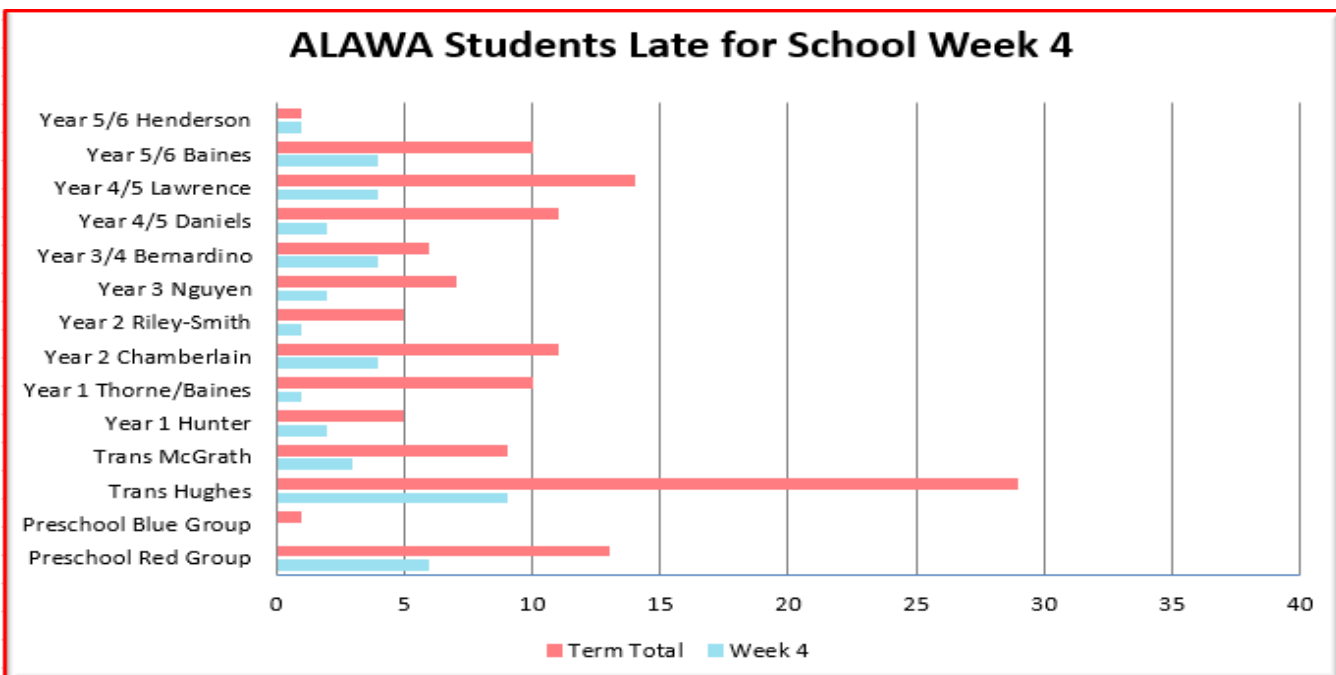
Lates

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 it was *fabuloso* to see NO lates at all for **Preschool Blue Group!**

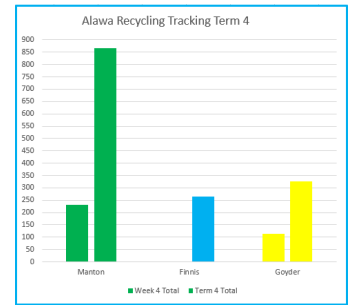
In the lead for Term 4 we have... **Preschool Blue Group and 5/6 Henderson with 0 lates!!!**



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.



Kitchen news

I'm excited to be back after my big adventure to Mera Peak in Nepal. It was an incredible trip. As you may be aware I took ALL the Alawa Frill neck lizard with me and we had a brilliant time. I completed a blog along the way to share where we were and what we were doing. I have attached the QR code so you can see our travels.



This week we finished our breakfast meals theme with home made tortilla wraps filled with yummy ingredients. We had heaps of farm eggs as well as carrot, avocado, cheese, lettuce, cucumber, onion and corn. All the groups did such a great job making the bread wraps. In the next few weeks we will do some more favourite take aways such as pizza, pasta and sushi. Keep an eye out for some dehydrated produce and Ms Elsa's ice creams which will be for sale through the front office. All the money raised goes to the Kitchen program.



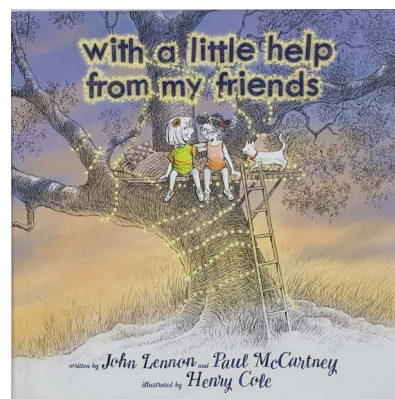
Tina Stratton [Kitchen Teacher]

Library news

Recently I found the book **With a little help from my friends** written by John Lennon and Paul McCartney and illustrated by Henry Cole. Having grown up with this song I was quite excited to find the book and had the opportunity to share it with the Transition classes this last week. As the story/song involves two characters it lends itself to being read/sung by two people and Mrs McGrath and I took on a character each. While I like to think I can sing and hold a tune I really don't think I did so well but we had a few laughs and a lot of fun. Transition McGrath went back to their classroom and listened to the song, learned about the Beatles and have been spending time reading stories together.

Research shows that spending time reading with your child provides a number of benefits including creating bonds with your child, promoting brain development and imagination, increasing vocabulary, improving language and communication. Singing and music while being fun also help children to learn sounds and the meanings of words and reinforces the ability to retell a story with songs being easier to remember. Reading a story together where two or more people are reading can promote turn taking, increase fluency and build oral skills so the reader becomes more comfortable with their reading.

I challenge you this week/end to find a book you can sing or take turns reading with someone. Don't be embarrassed, just have fun and spend time together



Sacha Evans [Library and ICT Manager]

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 5 winner was.... 4/5 Lawrence!!!

Year 1 Hunter news

Year 1 Hunter have been on a mission to find out how things move! We have used objects in our classroom, sport shed and even the primary playground to understand how forces work. We have pushed our friends on the swings, pulled ourselves up on the climbing frame and even seen some objects that use push AND pull. Students have loved getting active and involved with their discoveries in Science this term.



Honour Awards and Honour Distinction this week

The following students will receive their Honour Awards this Friday 10th November:

Jorja Gontscharow	Reuben Roberts	Rosemary Gurruwiwi
Angus Farquhar Walker	Robyn Cooper	Jaxon Royal
Tex Lehmann	Caspar Pike	Eleanor Macskimin
Armin Vafi	Indi Smyth	Miss Yenni
Ethan Grieve	Jace Crawford	Stamatia Antonopoulou
Cara O'Donoghue	Toby Kinnane	Eleanor Dennis
Carla Hopkinson	Jayde Gontscharow	Eli Trigar
Perrin Agnew-Auld	Ezra Smith	Mikael Ahmad
Tarik Tolley	Gemma Davey	

Alawa students have been doing such an incredible job of using their ALLE tools and displaying the Alawa values that our assemblies for the remainder of the year are full for students receiving their Honour Distinction Award! This week we have **Olivia Mills** receiving an Honour Distinction!

Week 7 Assembly

On Friday of Week 7 [24th November] we will be hosting a special assembly to present Student Leadership Awards and Certificates.

Parents and carers are invited to be a part of this event. An email reminder with details will be sent to those families.



Xuno—our main school communication platform

In January 2023 we moved from using Skoolbag App over to Xuno.

There are a few aspects to Xuno we are currently using:

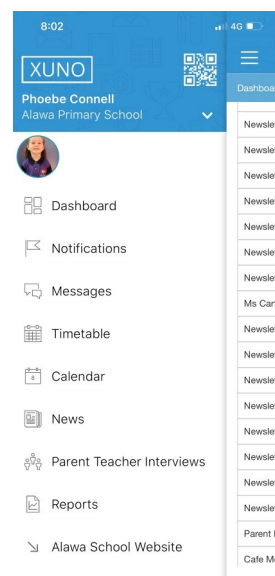
- ⇒ Portal [Access to messaging, student reports and the school calendar of events, News messages and newsletters]
- ⇒ Email notifications
- ⇒ School Visitor Kiosk
- ⇒ Parent Teacher Interview used by Preschool families for the recent SLC's]
- ⇒ Incident tracker [Sick Bay, behaviour, Gala days, awards etc]

There are also features / functionality we are looking to use in the future:

- ⇒ Payments
- ⇒ Newsletters [we trialled this at the start of the year but had formatting issues but they developers have advised better functionality is now available]

In the Perception survey we received a few comments expressing concern about the usefulness of Xuno, it's ease of use and reliability. We would like to pass your concerns onto the developers to see if the use can be improved.

If you have concerns it would be appreciated if you could email us with details or phone the front office or pop in and see us.



ALAWA FARM

Farm Working Bee

Please come along and support our Working Bee
on Saturday 11th November
8.00am - 10am
Refreshments and a fruit snack supplied

Please wear a hat, sun-safe clothing and covered shoes. Any extra
wheelbarrows and machinery to prune trees etc welcome.

We have lots of wet season jobs to do!



Alawa Preschool

*Come along to one of our
Alawa Preschool Orientation sessions*

Thursday 26 October, 5pm-6pm

Wednesday 15 November, 1:30pm-2:30pm

Explore the preschool environment and have a chat to preschool staff.

**Alawa Preschool class times:
2 Full days 1 half day**

**Rich learning experiences
including visits to our Alawa**



Telephone Contact: 8997 7666

Website: www.alawaprimary.nt.edu.au

School Email: alawa.school@education.nt.gov.au

DSM news

Yesterday Laura and I attended the Term 4 DSM workshop which is the final one for the year. We had the opportunity to network with other DSMs from the Darwin and Palmerston area as well as guest speakers from some great organisations that we have available to us in the NT. When we receive information or event dates from these organisations we will pass it onto our Defence families.

This Saturday, 11th of November is Remembrance Day. On Friday, 10th November, 5/6 Henderson will be hosting a Remembrance Day assembly to commemorate and remember those fallen service men and woman. Remembrance Day is an opportunity for all of us to reflect, give thanks and pay respect to all Service Personnel past and present for the sacrifices made. Lest we Forget.

Katie Wedel and Laura Thiele [Defence School Mentors]

Playgroup

What a busy morning we had at playgroup last Friday. There were quite a few families who came to visit so our room was full of happy chattery voices. Miss Erin started baking early and tried out a new scone loaf recipe, which turned out to be really yummy. We all shared some while it was still warm from the oven with butter and jam on top. It was so nice that there were no scraps left behind! Speaking of being left behind...there was nobody left behind when we promptly moved towards the oval for the emergency alarm! That was something different in our day but always good to practice.

When we returned from the oval, Miss Erin prepared the ingredients for Coconut Jam Drops. There were lots of little ones who were very excited to help. Together we counted our cups of flour and coconut and took turns to pour them in. Next the dry ingredients went in with the wet ingredients, it looked like falling snow so we sang 'Jingle Bells' as it was falling into the big bowl. Its a little early for Christmas but it's not far away now! After a good mix the final step was getting our hands in to squish our dough into cookie shapes, this was so fun! Then miss Erin added the drops of strawberry jam before going into the oven.

After a little play outside, our cookies were ready. They disappeared so quickly I think they may have had some 'invisibility magic' sprinkled in there too!

Looking forward to seeing you again this week and we will visit the farm so remember your drink bottles and hats.

Miss Erin [Playgroup Co-ordinator]



Are you eligible for FREE INTERNET?

The Australian Government has established the School Student Broadband Initiative (SSBI) to provide free home internet for 12 months for up to 30,000 families with school aged children that do not currently have a National Broadband Network (NBN) connection at home.

The Department of Education is supporting the Australian Government's SSBI by becoming a nominating organisation to help identify eligible families within the Northern Territory (NT).

To be eligible families must:

- have a child living at home that is enrolled in an Australian school in 2023
- not have an active NBN internet service at home. Having a mobile internet service does not affect eligibility
- live in a premises that can access the NBN via a standard connection. This will be validated by NBN Co.

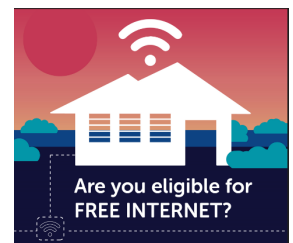
There are many ways families can nominate for the SSBI.

- Receive/request a nomination form from your child's school.
- Access the nomination form online at <https://forms.office.com/r/sLSrGb74BP> or scan the QR code with your phone's camera and click on the link that appears.

Request a nomination form by emailing digitalanddata.doe@education.nt.gov.au or calling 8972 5344.

Nomination forms need to be returned to schools or completed online as soon as possible so that vouchers can be delivered and **activated before 30 April 2024**.

For more information on SSBI please visit www.infrastructure.gov.au/SSBI



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: Homemade beef pies—1 for \$4.50 or 2 for \$6.50

Thursday: Chicken and vegetable noodle stir fry \$6.50

Friday: Roast pork and gravy rolls \$6.50



A reminder that our school Cafe is open Wednesday to Friday ONLY.

Closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Order online at www.quickcliq.com.au

OSHC Update 2023

In 2022 Alawa school council and parents met multiple times to discuss OSHC options. Whilst recognising the desirability of this service for some parents, council determined that it was not feasible. Alawa School does not have an appropriate facility that could be used without impacting on the education and delivery of current programs for our students during school hours. A background feasibility study is available on request from the council and the school.

In November 2022 three actions were set:

- Stephanie Cockfield (school council) volunteered to coordinate a sub committee to identify new opportunities for establishing an onsite OSHC. This would be based on identifying resource/ funding to establish a purpose built facility and identifying a suitable operator willing to operate the service based on the demonstrated demand.
- Members of the school community were invited to nominate themselves to work on the sub committee
- Council discussed a letter of endorsement for a future sub committee to use when seeking grant funding.

At the beginning of Term 1, 2023 members of the Alawa school community were invited to join the sub committee through multiple invitations in the Alawa school newsletter and direct invitations to parents and carers who had expressed an interest in an OSHC.

The response to support the sub committee was limited and no further opportunities for providing on-site OSHC were identified. The sub committee is no longer active. Please see the current OSHC services available to Alawa families <http://www.alawaprimary.nt.edu.au/parent-information>
The council remains open to new suggestions from the school community.

The council would also like to extend an invitation to parents to consider nominating for the council or volunteering in other ways. All support in class and around the school benefits the students and is very much appreciated by the staff.

Donations for Vinnies Christmas Hampers

In the past our school has been a supporter of the St Vincent de Paul Society NT community works.

This year we are facilitating a 'Donation Point' by collecting **new** toys and non-perishable goods on behalf of Vinnies until the week of Monday the 11th of December.

If you have any donations please feel free to drop them off in the Front Office. Everyone's help would be greatly appreciated.



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

The poster is titled "Vinnies SEEKING CHRISTMAS HAMPER DONATIONS". It lists donation categories and items:

- FOR CHILDREN** (Baby to age 16): New Toys, Books, Games, Gift Cards, Movie Vouchers.
- FOR FAMILIES**: Baked beans or spaghetti, Canned spam, bully beef, ham, Canned fruit, vegetables, Breakfast cereals, jams, honey, Coffee, milo, tea, condensed milk, Rice, pasta, simmer sauces, Pretzels, nuts, dried fruit, salty plums, Cracker biscuits, chips, Gingerbread, jelly, lollies, Toiletry items.

Additional text includes: "Ideas...", "Non-perishable", "Don't melt", "Festive feel", and "All donations go to Vinnies... doing it tough this Christmas!". It also provides the location: "WHERE AND WHEN TO GIVE YOUR GIFTS: Vinnies Stores & Conferences (St Marys, St Pauls, Holy Spirit, Holy Family) or Society Partners" and the collection date: "Collections close on Monday 11th of December 2023 | (08) 8948 8113".

Sporting Schools

Afterschool Taekwondo has made its debut to Alawa Primary, with a whopping 29 participants in grades 3 – 6. Students have learnt about the South Korean form of Taekwondo requiring discipline and concentration. Students are mastering the ready stance, stretch kicks, round house kicks, body blocks and punches —all to be practised with a qualified instructor. Outback Taekwondo brochure attached (Humpty Doo based).

*This week – Thursday Nov 9 is the final week for grade 3 – 6.

*The following week - Thursday Nov 16 afterschool Taekwondo will begin for Transition - Grade 2. (First 25 places available, permission notes coming soon).



WHAT IS TAEKWONDO?

Taekwondo is a Korean martial art that can be traced back over 2000 years ago to the original form that became the root and foundation of the popular sport that we have today. Taekwondo can be divided down into 2 parts. The meaning 'foot', 'hand', 'meaning hand' and 'to' meaning 'the art of war'. Taekwondo is the art of hand and foot.

While Taekwondo has been around for hundreds of years, it has evolved into a popular martial art for sporting competitions and police competitions. Taekwondo made its first debut in the 1988 Olympics for demonstration, and at the Sydney 2000 Olympics became a full medal sport.

THE CURRICULUM

At Outback Taekwondo, we teach sparring (controlled fighting), self-defence, general fitness and techniques alongside of the Korean terminology for each move as they progress through their ranks. We strive to have a fun and safe environment for students to train at and ultimately to improve the quality that students receive.

Some of the other training as part of the syllabus are:

- One, two and three step sparring
- Three and One step exercise
- Full-contact sparring against knives and sticks (for higher belts only)
- Non-contact and full contact sparring (full contact is during competitions where it is mandatory to wear protective equipment)
- 2 year's grading proficiency test where successful students are progressed to the next age)
- Technical drills
- Games involving Taekwondo techniques, balance and fitness.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday and Thursday
5:15pm to 6:15pm Juniors (ages 6-9)
6:30pm to 7:30pm Seniors (10 years +)

FEES

Nightly Fee: \$12.00 or
Semester discounted fees:
Part time (once per week) \$180
Full time (2 lessons per week) \$300
Family discounts for 3 or more members and senior discounts also available. Please contact Casse for further disclosure.

Training fees are due at the start of each semester/high up. Membership and insurance fee due at the start of learning.

Students who are enrolled for the NT Sports Voucher Scheme can receive team rewards, training fees, insurance and membership, uniforms, or training equipment such as sparring gear.

Ms Gina [Sporting Schools Coordinator]

Years 3-6 Electives

As the weather begins to warm up, it is time to take Years 3-6 Sports indoors to student electives. Student electives offer the opportunity for students to choose and engage in a variety of learning based on their interests.

Electives are directly related to the Australian Curriculum Version 9 [General Capabilities] as follows:

- apply a range of conflict resolution strategies to negotiate positive outcomes in a range of contexts
- practise different strategies to prevent, defuse or resolve conflict, assessing the causes and effects of conflict
- apply verbal and non-verbal communication skills when responding to others
- apply skills to address factors that influence verbal and non-verbal communication
- perform designated roles within groups, appreciating everyone's contributions to a shared outcome
- coordinate contributions of group members, suggesting improvements to ways of working and collaborative outputs

Students have met with teachers and electives were explained. They were then given time to ask questions and think about their preferences.

The elective schedule is based on 2 rotations running for 3 weeks. Electives are run by teachers and support staff. The Year 3 and ¾ classes will have the following electives: Art with Miss Nguyen, Basketball with Ms. Bernardino, Board Games/Lego with Ms. Saleena, and Prodigy English [ICT focus] with Ms. Janet.

Year 4/5 & 5/6 classes will have the following on offer: Art with Mrs Baines, Digital Technology with Mr Henderson, Board Games with Mr Daniels, Soccer with Mr Lawrence, and Chess with Miss Casey.

If you would like more information, please feel free to contact Ms. Bernardino.

Community notices

DARWIN SCHOOL OF BALLET

PRESENTS

The Sleeping Beauty



BOOK NOW: SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2023
TWO SHOWS: 10.30AM | 6.30PM
 CHARLES DARWIN UNIVERSITY THEATRE

FOLLOW US
 facebook.com/darwinschoolballet
 instagram.com/darwinschoolofballet

Centre for Disease Control

Key resources for notifiable diseases & public health in the NT

HEALTH ALERTS

Current information about active health conditions, diseases and risks in the NT



TIME OUT

Minimum periods of exclusion from childcare and school following exposure to an infectious disease



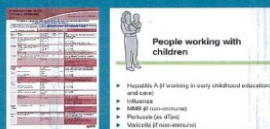
DISEASE RESOURCES

Surveillance updates, bulletin, disease information, factsheets and guidelines on public health conditions



IMMUNISATION

Schedules & updates
 1. For children
 2. For educators / carers



SCAN



<https://health.nt.gov.au/public-health-notifiable-diseases>



MOSQUITOS & MIDGES

Mosquito and midge pest calendars

