



Week 6: 24 May 2023

Principal Update

Dear families,

Last week school attendance dropped to 89%. The Darwin Region Engagement and Attendance Plan aims for schools to have an attendance of above 90%. It is important for our students to come to school every day so they are engaged in learning, feel connected to the school, their teacher and their friends. Missing out on school means missing out on learning. Even skipping on one day of school can leave a child struggling to keep up with the rest of the class.

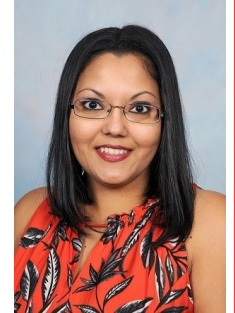
Slime, Slime, Slime!

This week we are gearing up for our Slime Spectacular on Friday 26th May. Students are encouraged to wear a white sun smart shirt and ***please make sure they bring a towel to school***, unless you want a messy car! To ensure we have plenty of time to enjoy the Slime Run, we will have a modified timetable for the day [please see further in the newsletter for full schedule]

Ms Cartwright's Blog:

Mrs Cartwright and ALLE have arrived in Perth, WA. To keep up to date on their amazing adventure, make sure you follow their blog - <https://mscandalle.blogspot.com/> Check it out!

Bianca Hyke [Acting Principal]



Assistant Principal Update

Hello everyone,

Well, we are half way through the term already. It is certainly flying by.

It was wonderful to welcome back Farmer Bob this week down on the farm. Thankyou to our parents who were able to fill in during this time.

The **Big Slime Run** is this Friday and there are a few teachers as well as Ms Hyke and myself who will be getting slimed by some students whose names have been drawn out of a hat.

These students have done a great job with their fundraising for the school. Ms Hyke and I are not sure whether this is such a great idea !!!!!...but I guess it's too late now. Thankyou for the volunteers who will be assisting us to make this happen.

Well done to all our students who were randomly selected and then participated in our **NAPLAN Science** assessment. All students were confident with the process and everything ran very smoothly. Thankyou Ms Sacha in the library for the technical support and Mr Henderson for ensuring the students were at ease with the testing conditions and the expectations.

Our morning **Bootcamp** exercises on a Wednesday have continued and this week we practice our sprint races down the track. It is terrific to see families coming down and joining with their children as we run/walk around the track. We are really looking forward to our sports coming up later in the term.

Have a lovely week!

Gen Donohue [Assistant Principal]



Calendar of events

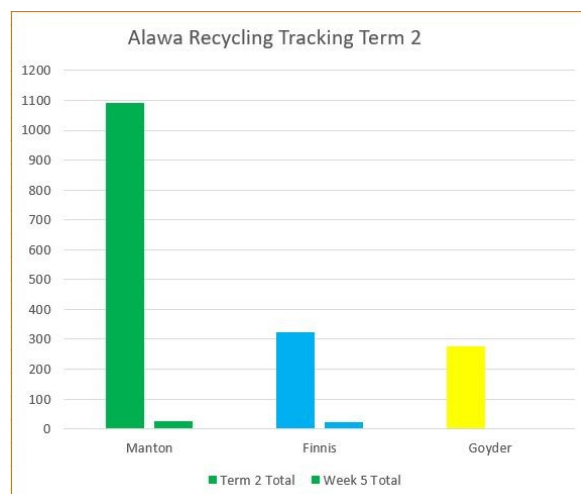
Friday 26 May	Assembly hosted by Transition Hughes, followed by morning tea for families of hosting class. Slime Spectacular	8:40am 1pm– 2:30pm
Wednesday 7 June	800m races and field events—Year 3-6 only	8:40am—10:30am
Thursday 8 June	Masterchef	3:30pm
Friday 9 June	Sports day	All day
Monday 12 June	Public Holiday—Kings Birthday. NO SCHOOL	All day
Wednesday 14—Friday 16 June	Year 5/6 Camp	All day
Monday 19 June	School Council meeting	5:30pm
Thursday 22 June	Assembly hosted by Year 4/5 Lawrence, followed by morning tea for families of hosting class. Last day of Term 2	8:40am All day
Friday 23 June	Pupil Free day	All day
Monday 17 July	Pupil Free day	All day
Tuesday 18 July	School resumes for Term 3	All day

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.



Preschool news

With the arrival of the dry season the outdoor learning environment has become a feature of the preschool program. We have been able to move learning activities off the verandah and utilize all the beautiful natural spaces within the outdoor space.

Last week ALLE decided to come and hang out for a few days in our bamboo circle area. We already had cushions, couches, and books so we added pencils and clipboards as an invitation to draw ALLE. Children loved observing ALLE and having the opportunity to do observational drawings of our friendly visitor.

This week we will be encouraging children to search for interesting shadows in the environment. We will trace the outline of the shadows on paper to create beautiful artworks.

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



Playgroup

Last week at playgroup we started our morning in the pre-school room, we settled in with some puzzles and then we worked on some creations at the play-dough table! It was so fun to squish and roll, chop and eat (just pretend) with the warm, freshly-made, blue play-dough that Miss Erin had whipped up. Miss Erin then pulled out the apple spiralizer and we made swirly springy apples, they were yummy to eat and we didn't have to pretend!

Soon we got ourselves ready with hats, drink bottles and holding a big persons hand we headed off to one of our favourite places....The Farm! When we arrived we ran into Farmer Bob and gave him all our apple scraps from our swirly apples for all the farm animals. We loved taking our families all around the farm to visit the guinea pigs, rabbits, goats, fish and chickens. It's always so lovely when grandparents come to visit playgroup too and they think our farm is amazing and special just as we do!

After all our farm exploring was done we headed back to the pre-school room where we pulled out some morning tea. We sat and ate together with our friends.

With a little more energy now there was just one more activity to squeeze into our playgroup morning and that was working in the Medical Centre. It was a very busy little clinic where Mum's, Dad's and Grandparents were being checked for temperatures, sores and heartbeats, the teamwork in the clinic was very efficient indeed. All the patients left playgroup feeling happy and healthy I'm sure!

This week we will do some baking so bring your strong mixing muscles! Looking forward to seeing you there.

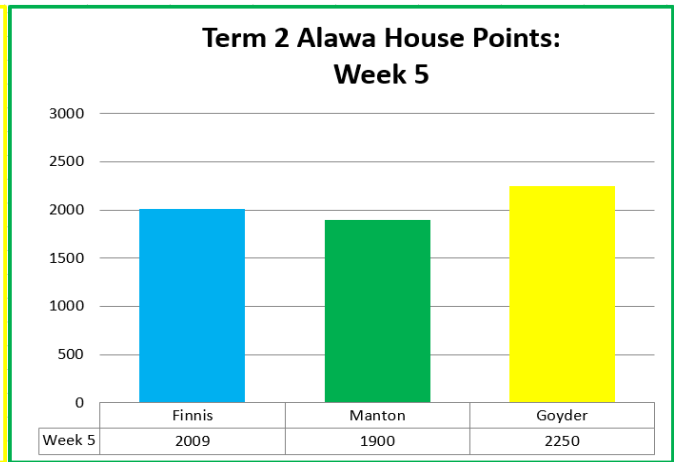
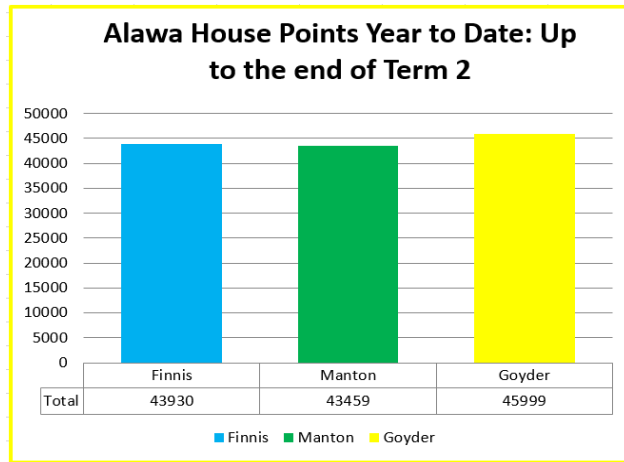
Ms Erin [Playgroup co-ordinator]



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. 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 5 of Term 2 Goyder was ahead with 2250 points!
In the lead for the term is Goyder with 45999 points!**

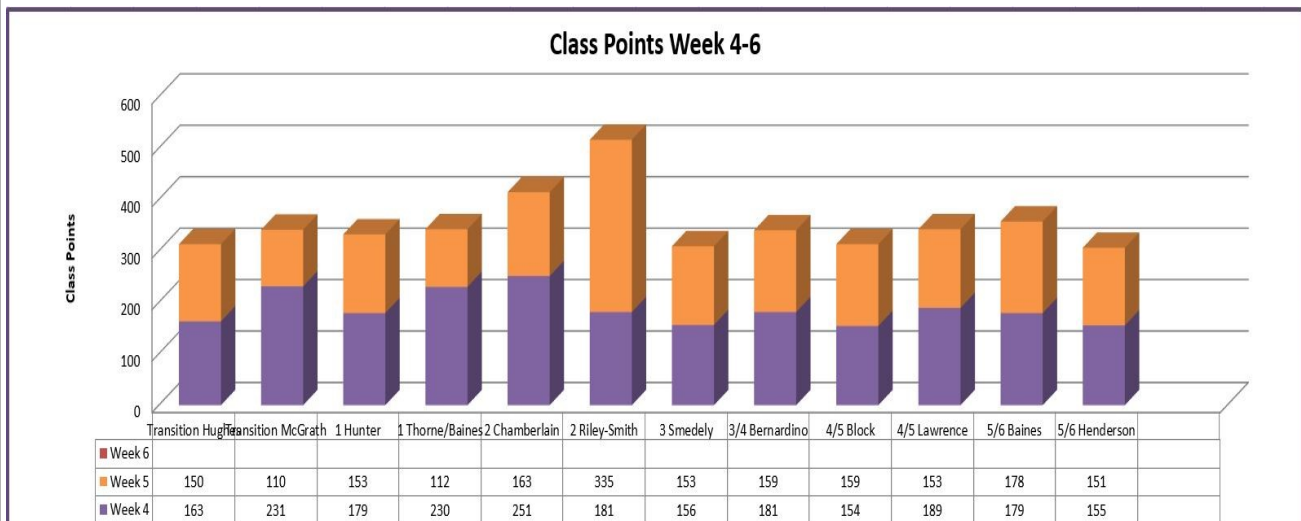


Class Points

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 recognizing 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 Mrs. Hyke 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 5 of Term 2 was....2 Riley-Smith with 335 points!!!

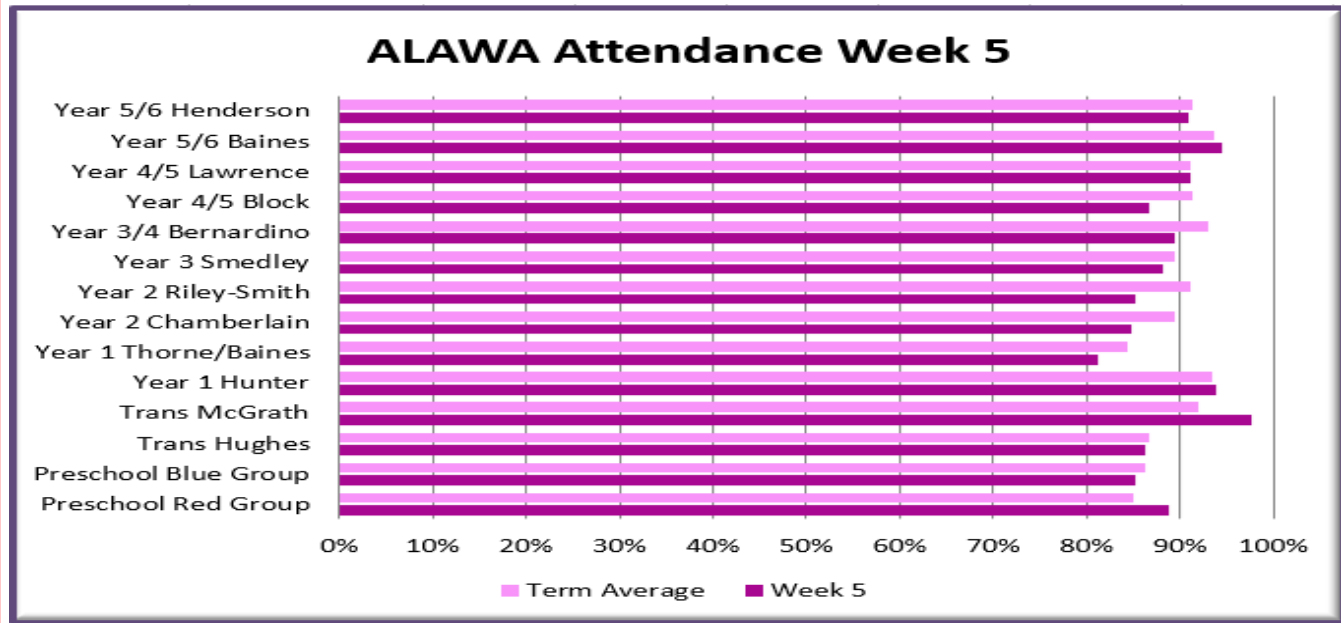


Attendance

Primary School Average for Week 5 Term 2: **89.15%**

The class with the highest attendance for Week 5: **Transition McGrath with 97.62%!!! Amazing job!!!**

In the lead for this term...**5/6 Baines with 93.60%!!!**



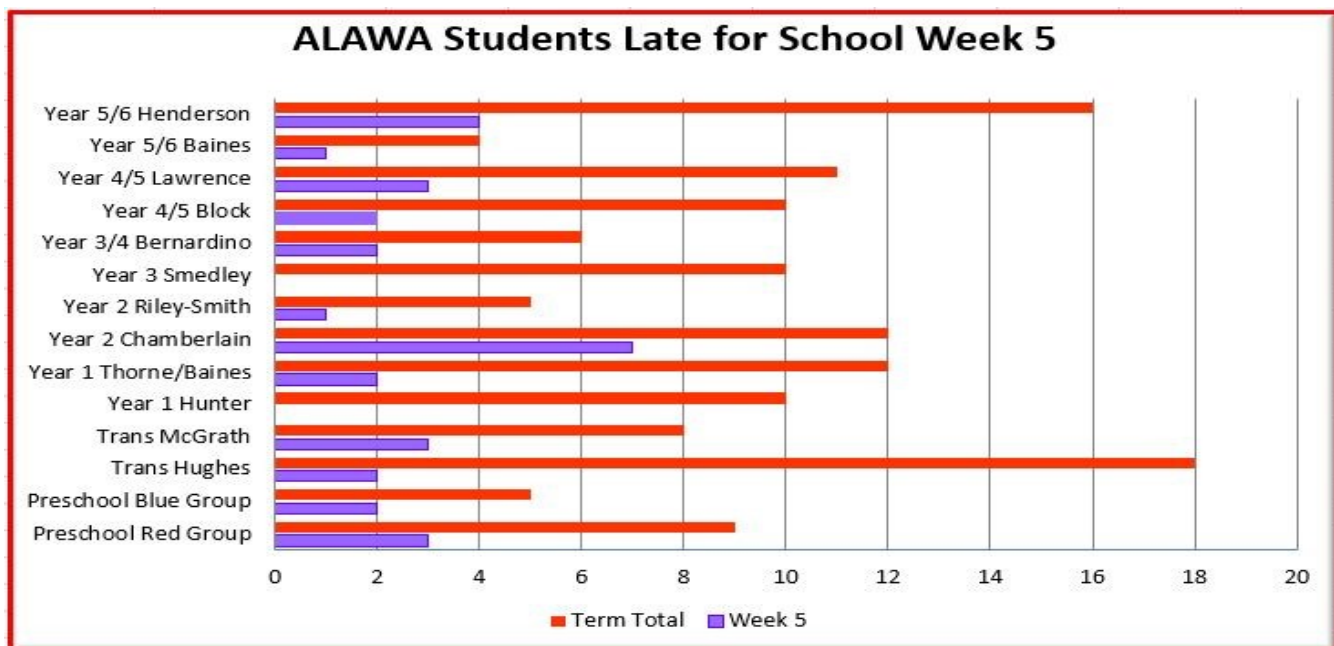
Lates

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

There were 32 lates in Week 5!

For Week 5 the classes with the least lates were: **1 Hunter and 3 Smedley with 0 lates each !!!**

In the lead for the this term...**5/6 Baines with 4 lates!!!**



Honour Awards—To be presented Friday 26 May

This Friday at Assembly 19 students will be presented with Honour Awards in recognition of receiving 10 Merit Awards—Congratulations!

Stella Wedel	Axel Garbusinski	Xavier Vujcich
Jaxon Lee	Jude Jackson	Carys Walsh
Ethan Grieve	Ayllah Tomlins	Asta Laidlaw
Bao Vy Tran	Ruby Althouse	Alexis Nicholas
Eileen Amarant	Esther Ishara	Charlie Frawley
Aislin Vickery	Maja Hangan	Harrison Cockfield
Indi Vujcich		



Parent Information night

On Monday night we held a Self-regulation Parent Information session in the library which we organised in response to our parent perception survey last year. This session was presented by Grant Russell, who works for the organisation called [Positive Partnerships](#) that supports children and families on the Autism spectrum. Grant is also a parent at our school. We are grateful that Grant volunteered his time to share his extensive knowledge about what is happening in our brains as we feel emotions, how we can deal with challenging behaviours and some things we can do to assist our children with managing their emotions.

As parents we don't always react in the best way while our children are dealing with big emotions. But like our children it is important to be ready to learn and adjust our own behaviour to help our children.

I am sure all our parents and carers who attended the session, appreciated the learning that was gained during this session. Thankyou for those who helped organise the night.

Over the next few weeks, there will be a section in our newsletter where we will provide hot tips, links and resources for further information.

Genevieve Donohue



Seabreeze Festival

Two years ago students in Year 3/4 worked on some watercolour sea life designs with Artist Cath Miles as part of our electives program.

Mrs Miles then got our designs put onto material and donated it to the school to use. Mrs Wood then very generously sewed us these cushions.



The cushions were entered into the SeaBreeze festival on the weekend as part of The Community Bank Jetty Art Space Awards. They were set up beautifully by Jaxie's Mum and her business Two of Us NT.

The winner will be announced at the Nightcliff Markets.

The cushions will now take pride of place in the library, please enjoy and take care of them.

Farm news

Larrakia Season: **Damibila** - (Barramundi and bush fruit time)

Farm News: Mother's Day was a special celebration, the students enjoyed potting up Rhoeco Discolour or commonly know as 'Moses in the Cradle' for SRCs Mother's Day Stall.

The garden's most wanted!

Students often visit the Farm and list the creatures they find. They can also take photos or draw pictures.

This term students, with their lists in hand, have been finding out whether the insects help or harm our garden plants. What do you think are our worst offenders?

Students research and discuss appropriate pest control strategies, including hand-picking, organic sprays, companion planting and encouraging predatory insects and animals such as chickens to eat our pests for their lunch!

On our cold exploration this week we found some baby pumpkins growing, which was very exciting!

Mrs Cleary and Farmer Bob
[Farm Team]





SLIME RUN SCHEDULE - FRI 26TH MAY 2023

*ON THE DAY- Students **wear white/Slime Run shirt** [any sleeved shirt child is wearing for the Slime Run] to school and bring a towel.*

8:30-10:30- Trans Hughes Assembly and learning as per usual.

<u>Time</u>	<u>What</u>
10:50am	House Points Muster [points given to students wearing white/Slime Run shirt]
11-12pm	Class as per usual
12-12:10pm	Eating time
12-10-12:40pm	Play time
12:40-1pm	Students to go back to classroom. 2 nd Roll Call. Students to pack bags, fill water bottles. Headbands and sunglasses will be given to each student. Students take bags to quadrangle.
1-1:25pm	<i>*Shoes and socks will be removed and left in the quadrangle with student's bags</i> SLIME THE TEACHER event in quadrangle [1:10pm]. Followed by Whole School Slime Run Safety Talk and Cha-Cha Slide warm up. Then teachers will take their own class group to their starting station.
1:30-2:30pm	Slime RUN and FUN FUN FUN! Each rotation is approximately 4mins
2:30pm	Slime Run Activities STOP
2:30pm	Pack up equipment and all classes to assemble in Quadrangle icy poles and dismissal on the bell. Please be aware students will be covered in SLIME and water.

Kind Regards,

Slime Run Team



CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN TERRITORY EDUCATION

The Teaching in the Territory Excellence Awards recognise the contribution of Northern Territory Government school teachers, principals, leaders and support staff to quality education.

Nominations for the 2023 Teaching in the Territory Excellence Awards opens on Wednesday 26 April and close on Friday 2 June 2023.

2023 Teaching in the Territory Excellence Awards Categories and Criteria

All nominees must be working in a Northern Territory Government school at the time of nomination, and meet the eligibility criteria below for the award category. [Read more](#)

Awards categories :

- ◇ **Northern Territory Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Educator of the Year**
- ◇ **Northern Territory Early Childhood Educator of the Year**
- ◇ **Northern Territory Inclusion Educator of the Year**
- ◇ **Northern Territory Inclusion Educator of the Year**
- ◇ **Northern Territory Leader in Education**
- ◇ **Northern Territory Primary Educator of the Year**
- ◇ **Northern Territory Principal of the Year**
- ◇ **Northern Territory Secondary Educator of the Year**
- ◇ **Northern Territory Support Person of the Year**
- ◇ **Northern Territory Vocational Education Teacher of the Year**

Classroom news — Transition McGrath

Transition McGrath have been learning about reading and spelling words. We are using the sounds we know to segment (sound-out) and then blend the sounds to read the words. Students love playing games to practice the sounds.

In the first two photos students are in a carousel (inside, outside circle). Students on the outside of the circle pretend to be teachers. They ask: What is the letter name? What is a sound it can make? Can you give me a word that starts with that sound? Students work their way around the carousel, then they swap over and have a turn to be the teacher. So much fun.

In the third photo students are learning to read words. They segment the word that our friend has on their headband. Then our friend will then try to use the sounds they hear to blend them together to guess the word they have. In this game we have lots of practice segmenting and blending sounds to read simple consonant, vowel, consonant words.

We love learning our sounds and how to read words in Transition McGrath.

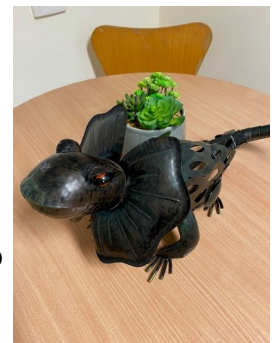
Transition McGrath



Weekly Farm award

This year we are celebrating 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 following 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.

Last weeks winner was.....Year 2 Chamberlain!!!



Year 5/6 Camp: Payment Reminders

Year 5/6 students will be heading to Batchelor for school camp on the 14th and 15th June. Permission notes along with full payment are due no later than Friday 2nd June.

Please contact your child's teacher or the front office for any further information.

First Instalment	Friday 21 st April	\$70
Second Instalment	Friday 5 th May	\$60
Third Instalment	Friday 19 th May	\$60
Final Instalment	Friday 2 nd June	\$60

Library news

National Simultaneous Storytime 2023

This week we are celebrating and participating in National Simultaneous Storytime. The book for 2023 is *The Speedy Sloth* written by Rebecca Young and illustrated by Heath McKenzie.



"It was finally time for the event of the year, Spike couldn't believe it, THE GREAT RACE was here! The other sloths said it couldn't be done, but Spike didn't care, she was ready to run!" – The Speedy Sloth

The Speedy Sloth is an inspiring story with a message around running your own race, setting yourself a challenge, persevering, trying something new, having fun and celebrating reaching your goals. It reminds us that 'winning' doesn't always mean beating everyone else, it can be what you make of and get out of the experience. Written in rhyming language and illustrated with bright colours and fun to look at characters this has already become a favourite of mine and a book I hope will become one of yours too.

Happy Reading
Miss Sacha [Library Teacher]

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 6 —what is the capital city of Italy?



Sports Day—save the date

Our annual whole school sports day will take place on Friday 9th June.

We are now seeking volunteers to help on the day with a variety of activities. If you have a spare 1/2hr or so and would like to help out please contact Ms Katie - Katie.wedel@education.nt.gov.au or call the front office to leave your details 8997 7666.



The following are some of the activities you may like to help out with:

- Running races – place keeping—9 - 9.30
- Upper years field rotations – 9.30 - 12.50 [any time in between these hours]
- Early years rotations – 9.30 – 12.30 [approx]
- Café - helping with lunch preparation

*Please note that NT Government requirements are that all volunteers in schools must hold a current ochre card. Please contact the school if you need assistance with applying.

Pupil free day– Friday 23 June

Our next professional learning day for staff is planned for Friday 23 June. There will be no school for students that day.

Staff Professional Development days are essential to enable all staff to provide the best service to our students and families and engage in meaningful professional learning.

Brat Pack will once again be providing care for students that day. All bookings are to be made directly with Brat Pack

thebratpacknt@bigpond.com or 8927 2546



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 – Pork Dumplings - \$6.50

Thursday – San Choy Bow \$6.50

Friday – Teriyaki Beef wraps—\$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

Community notices



Variety Trivia Night

Thursday 1 June 2023
6pm for 6:30 start
Darwin Trailer Boat Club

Tickets \$20pp
Tables 10 max



<https://darwintickets.com.au/event/17391>



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