



# NEWSLETTER

Week 7: 31 August 2023

## Principal Update

Welcome to our Week 7 news.....



# Congratulations!

Huge thanks to all who engaged, contributed and showed interest over the past week in our External School Review. Our initial report [shared with Staff last Thursday and Council Monday 28th] provided authentic and specific feedback aligned to each of the 9 domains of the School Improvement Tool. Our report now is passed through to the Australian Council of Educational Research [ACER] for Moderation and we will then receive a final report which I will share with the school community. The LEAD Reviewer has shared their findings and ratings as follows:

Domain	Low	Medium	High	Outstanding
Driving an Explicit Improvement Agenda			Yellow	Green
Analysing and discussing data				Green
Promoting a Culture of Learning			Yellow	Green
Targeting School Resources				Green
Building an expert teaching team			Yellow	Green
Leading systematic curriculum implementation			Yellow	Green
Differentiating teaching and learning			Yellow	Green
Implementing effective Pedagogical Practices			Yellow	Green
Building school-community partnerships			Green	Yellow

**Green:** Majority of indicators rated in this category      **Yellow:** A few indicators rated in this category

### Student Led Conferences

It is that time again when families are invited into school for a chat with your child and their teachers. This is the opportunity for you to share their successes, their challenges and their plans for moving forward. See further in the newsletter for details re booking directly online. **Have you booked in yet? Don't disappoint your child!**



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

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

**Week 7** — Which student was recognized at Assembly last Friday with an Honour Distinction award? [**Sandy Cartwright**]



## Assistant Principal Update

Welcome to week 7

Sandy has shared the exciting news about our wonderful school which was reinforced by our reviewers last week. We really appreciated the feedback from everyone to get a clear snapshot of how we are going and to help inform our next steps for growth.



I am really looking forward to our Whole School Concert this Thursday night. The classes have spent many weeks practising their routines and have learnt many acrobatic tricks to surprise you all.

I hope all our fathers and father figures have a wonderful day this Sunday. There will be no Fathers day stall this year, however our SRC students will be helping set up a BBQ breakfast next Wednesday morning before school. So please come into our school from 8am to enjoy a bacon and egg sandwich.

Have you heard about  
**“Bookcamp”?**

Classes will be reading with their buddies on Wednesday morning in week 8 and 9, the 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> September.

This is part of our huge focus on Reading this term. Please come and join us from 8:30-8:45 after the Father’s day breakfast next week. Your teachers will be in contact with more information about where they will meet for this time.

## Hot Tips

### Raising Children-



## Friendships: Children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder [ADHD]

### Key points

- Friendships are good for all children’s sense of belonging, self-esteem and social skills.
- Children with ADHD might need support to develop friendship skills like
- managing emotions, taking turns and following rules.
- Children with ADHD might find it easier to make friends with children with similar interests.

Short, structured playdates can help friendships grow for children with ADHD.

[ADHD and children’s friendships friendship](#)

[Finding friends for children and pre-teens](#)

[develop play and social skills for](#)

[Playdates for children and pre-teens](#)

## Calendar of events

Thursday 31 August	Whole School Performance & Community Night [Alawa Spectacular]	5-7pm
Wednesday 6 September	BookCamp Fathers day breakfast BEAT Festival: Alawa Choir performing	8:30-8:45am Before school Evening
Thursday 7– Friday 8 September	Year 3/4 Camp	All day
Monday 11—Friday 15 September	Book Fair	All week
Tuesday 12 & Wednesday 13 September	Student Led Conferences	3-6pm
Wednesday 12 September	BookCamp	8:30-8:45am
Friday 15 September	Book Parade	8:40am
Monday 18 September	School Council meeting	5:30pm
Friday 22 September	Assembly hosted by Year 2 Chamberlain followed by morning tea for parents and carers. Table Tennis and Golf Gala days Last day of Term 3	8:40am  All day

## Honour and Honour Distinction award winners



Congratulation to last weeks Honour award winners and to our latest Honour Distinction award winner and Principal for the day, Mr Henry.

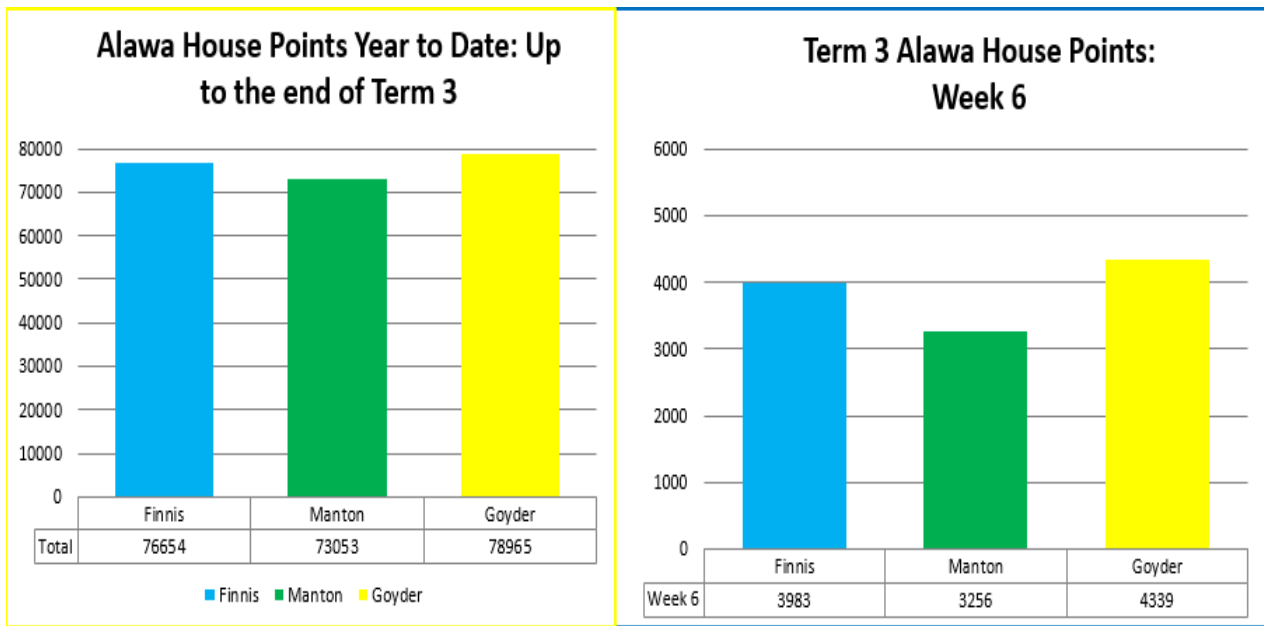
Principal Henry spent the day handing out merits, visiting classes and helping in the front office.



### 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 6 of Term 3 Goyder was ahead with 4339 points!  
In the lead for the Year to date is Goyder with 78 965points!**

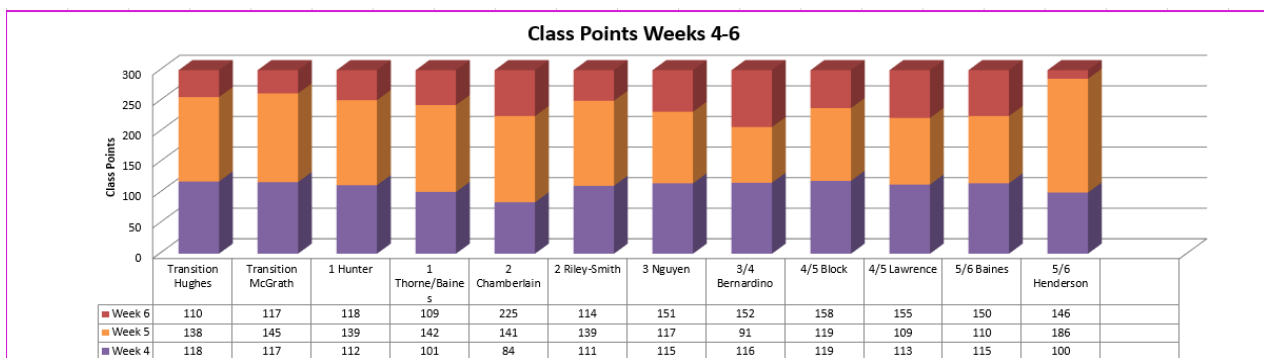


### Class Points

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 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 6 of Term 3 was.....2 Riley-Smith with 225 points !!!  
Winner for Weeks 4-6 was 2 Chamberlain with 450 points!!!!**

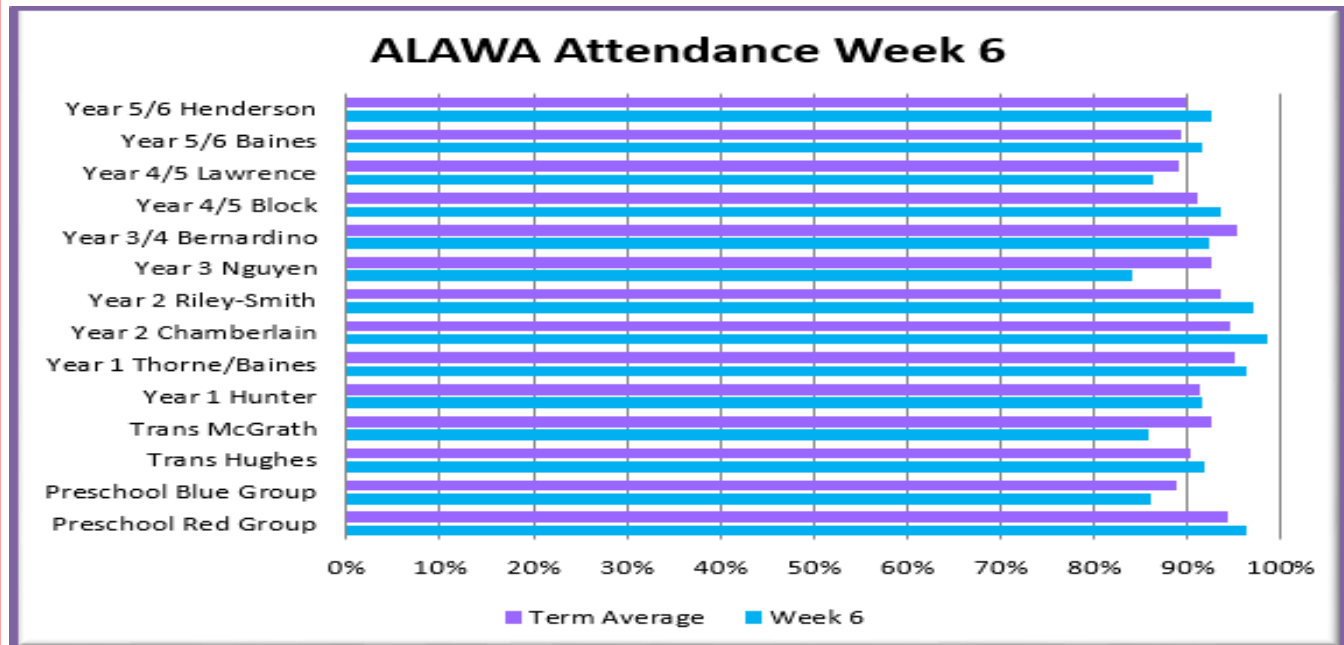


## Attendance

Primary School Average for Week 6 Term 3: **91.72%**

The class with the highest attendance for Week 6: **2 Chamberlain with 98.57%!!! Amazing job!!!**

In the lead for Term 3...**3/4 Bernardino with 95.23%** - very closely followed by **1 Thorne-Baines!!!**

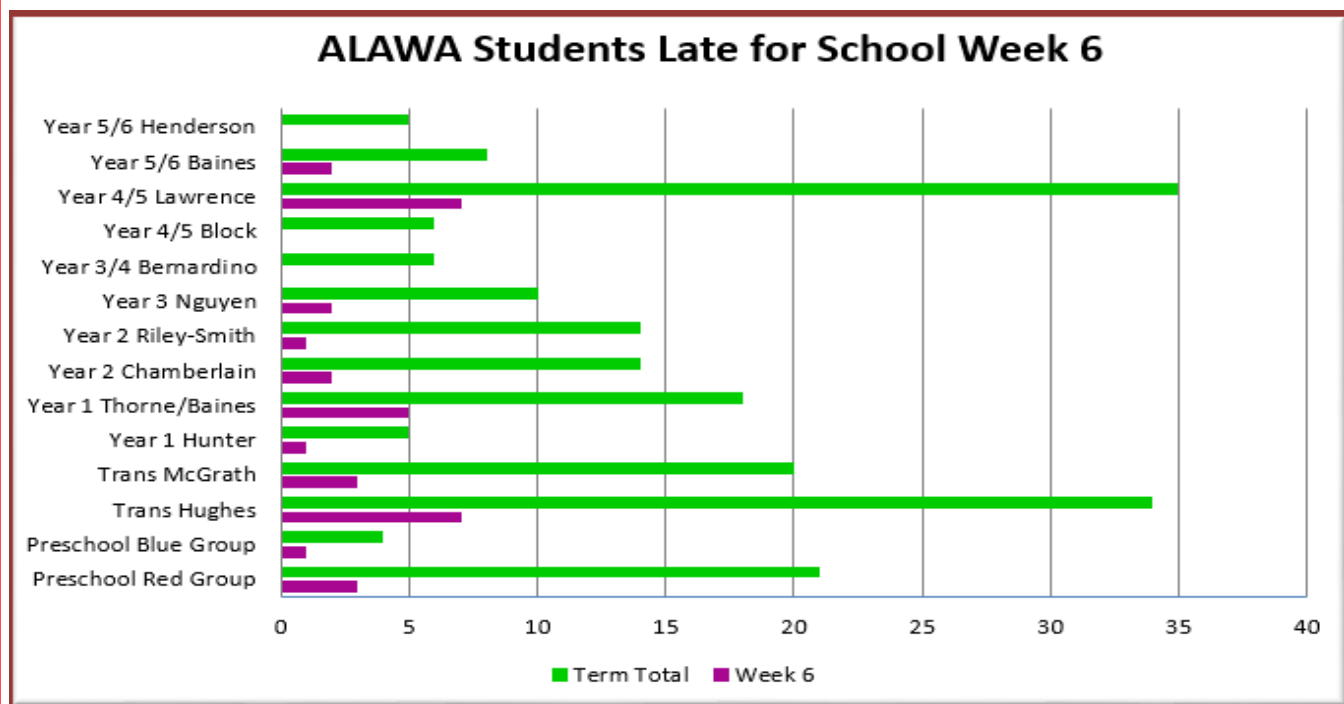


## Lates

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

There were 34 lates in Week 6!

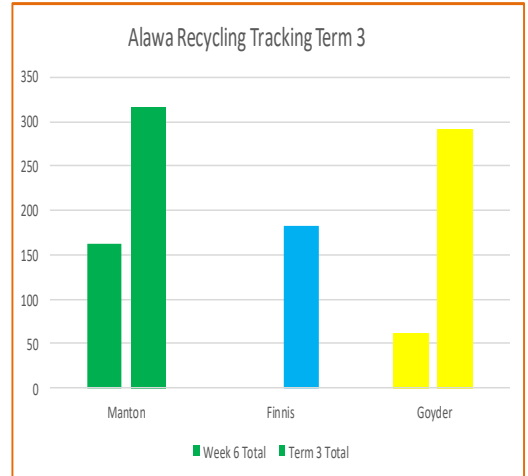
For Week 6 it was *fabuloso* to see NO lates at all for 3/4 Bernardino, 4/5 Block or 5/6 Henderson!



## 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.



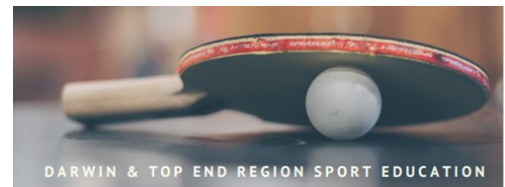
## Physical Education news

In PE for this Semester, we have been focusing on trying our best and working hard practicing different volleyball and basketball skills. The first four weeks saw us practicing the volleyball skills of serving, setting, and spiking across the year levels 3-6. In the lower primary year levels, we focused on the fundamental movement skills of throwing and catching. We will be working on our dribbling, passing, and shooting for basketball in the remaining weeks.

Preschool to Year 2 students get to have some extra practice in PE each week by participating in KIDDO sessions. If you are not too sure what KIDDO is, it is a program that aims to provide training and physical literacy programs to children. It was developed by the University of Western Australia to address the low levels of physical activity in children over the last decade. The program provides online resources and tools that support primary school teachers, early childhood educators, parents and carers deliver physical literacy programs to children.

This term we have participated in different interschool sports days on Fridays with years 3-6 students doing volleyball and basketball. We will be hosting some schools from the Darwin Region in the coming weeks for golf and table tennis as we will be taking some students to the gala day for these sports on the last day of this term.

**Ms Troy [PE Teacher]**



### PRIMARY INTERSCHOOL TABLE TENNIS

The main purpose of this day is to provide the opportunity for interschool sport participation and build the skills, knowledge and behaviours that give students confidence and motivation to lead active lives.

Event information	What to bring
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Friday 22nd September</li> <li>8.30am arrival, 9.00am - 2.00pm</li> <li>Table Tennis Centre, Marrara</li> <li>4 students per team</li> <li>\$8.00/student</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>water bottles, water cooler and ice</li> <li>Morning tea &amp; lunch (no canteen)</li> <li>Paddles (some available to borrow)</li> <li>Team sheet (to be handed to SEC)</li> <li>First aid kit</li> <li>Garbage bags</li> </ul>

### PRIMARY INTERSCHOOL GOLF 2023

**DARWIN & TOP END REGION SPORT EDUCATION**

Friday, 22 September, 2023

8.30 AM - 2.00pm

Gardens Golf Club

**\$8.00/STUDENT**

Mixed 4 students/team

## Library news

Last Thursday, eight year 6 students travelled to Haileybury Rendall School for a light brunch which they shared with local author Leonie Norrington. The students presented Leonie with a book they had made for her about the school farm and talked with her about the farm, the inquiry project they have been doing and the grant the school has received from Power and Water to assist the farm in becoming more sustainable.



Leonie answered questions from the students about her books and inspiration in writing and did a workshop with them in which they were given an imaginary gift. Leonie placed each gift in the hands of a student and each student was asked to imagine what the gift felt and looked like. They then wrote a description of the gift. Leonie asked them to write about how they received the object, what was the encounter and she and the students discussed what would happen next in the story and how it might end. She suggested to students that when they find a character or story they like they can use it throughout their school lives as each time a story is written they can change or hone it without having to come up with a whole new story or character every time they write.

*Mrs Sacha Evans [Library & ICT Manager]*

## Playgroup news

It was quite busy and bustling at playgroup on Friday. There were a few new people who joined us last week, keeping Miss Erin's memory working overtime with all the new names and faces to get to know and remember! It has been so great getting to know so many new people in our community.

We started our morning investigating some of the play activities in the pre-school room. Mums, dads, grandparents and kids all chattering away while Miss Erin got busy in the kitchen doing some cooking preparations. When all was ready, Miss Erin brought everything to the table where there were many little helpers ready to make apple pastries. We each had a pastry square to decorate with red and green apples, then we painted them with golden melted butter! And the finishing touch was some cinnamon on top before they went into the oven.

While we all waited 'very' patiently for our food creations to cook, we went outside to explore and play!

When our apple pastries came out of the oven and had cooled down a little, we were finally able to taste-test them with a dollop of fresh cream on top. They were soft, sweet and appley, but also crunchy and crispy! The best combination! Yum, Yum, Scrum!



**Alawa Spectacular**

**NO MORE SLEEPS!!!!**

Food and activity stalls will open from 5pm-6pm. We will have a host of free and charged activities for your enjoyment

*Free of charge*

- Skittles
- Tin Cans
- Roaming entertainment
- Obstacle course
- Bubble making
- Basketball shooting

*Charged activities [\$1-\$4]*

- Glow products
- Pin the nose on the clown
- Chocolate Toss
- Face Painting
- Lucky dip and cake stall
- Chocolate wheel
- Guessing games

**MENU**

**BURRITOS**

Mouth-watering choice - served with rice, beans, salsa, guacamole, cheese & sour cream

- Slow cooked beef
- Crispy chicken
- Crispy vege fritter
- Smokey Pulled Pork

\$12  
Add Chips \$15



**Popcorn chicken**

Crunchy hand-crafted chicken balls, served with hand crafted potatoes

\$10



**SLIDERS**

\$10  
Add Chips \$13

2 Brioche Buns with your choice below served with tomato chutney & mayonnaise

- Slow cooked beef
- Smokey pulled pork
- Crispy Chicken
- Gourmet vege patty



**COUNCIL BBQ FOOD STALL - PRICE LIST**

- HOT DOG - \$3.00
- CHICKEN SATAY - \$3.00
- CORN ON THE COB - \$2.00
- POPPERS - \$2.00
- WATER - \$2.00
- POPCORN - \$2.00

**WE WILL ALSO HAVE A RANGE OF BOTH FREE AND CHARGED FUN FILLED ACTIVITIES FROM 5PM - 6PM**







# Alawa Spectacular- under the big top



**THURSDAY 31 AUGUST**  
**5PM -FOOD STALLS AND ACTIVITIES**  
**6:10PM - PERFORMANCE TO COMMENCE**

**TICKETS AVAILABE FOR ACTIVITIES AND  
FOOD/BEVERAGES ON THE NIGHT AND AT THE  
OFFICE THE WEEK BEFORE**  
**EFTPOS AVAILABLE ON THE NIGHT**

\* Preschool age children will need to be accompanied by an  
adult for all activities



## Student Led Conferences

Bookings for Student Led Conferences are now open for families of Transition – Year 6 students only. [Preschool bookings are through Xuno]

Students will be leading the meeting and explaining to you what they have been learning in various subject areas this year. Your child has reflected on their learning and is preparing to share their reflection and some of their work with you. This will include information about their efforts, achievements and continued focus areas.

3pm – 6pm on Tuesday 12 and Wednesday 13 September

You can now book interviews at times that suit YOUR FAMILY BEST.

\*Please note Farm, Kitchen and PE teachers have their spaces open for drop in, no interview booking required.

**BOOKINGS CLOSE Friday, 8 September**



Book School Interviews Online



Dear Parents

Parent/Teacher/Student conferences will be held on **Tuesday 12 and Wednesday 13 September at 3pm – 6pm.**

You can now book interviews at times that suit **YOUR FAMILY BEST.**

Go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and follow these simple instructions.

You can book to see as many teachers as you wish to for each of your children.

**BOOKINGS CLOSE Friday 8 September COB.**

School event code

j5usc

Go

Go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au)

Enter **THIS** school event code.  
Then follow the 3 simple steps.



1 Enter your details



2 Choose teachers



3 Choose times



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

For parents that don't have access to the internet at home, at work, at a friend's house or on their phones, parents may send a note to school with the approximate times they require if you do not have access or cannot come to the front office, or phone the school on 89977886. Interviews are strictly 15mins and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

Parents can change their interview bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 89977886.

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

## Kitchen news



We have been cooking up a storm in the past few weeks with our home made meals.

Last week 4/5 Lawrence made a magnificent curry banquet for the reviewers lunch. We did a Nepalese dal, potato curry, chicken and pawpaw curry, chicken and pumpkin curry and a palak paneer. We also made a delicious kiri (spiced rice pudding) for dessert.

The other classes made great curries throughout the week and it was very impressive how many people tried some things they had never tried before.

This week we are starting our bakery foods and will be making yummy scrolls.

***Tina Stratton [Kitchen Teacher]***



## Preschool news

The beautiful dry season weather has made the outdoor learning area very popular. The outdoor learning environment is constantly evolving as we respond to the needs and interests of individual children, the whole class and also the weather. Investigating outside is so much fun and looks different every day.

Currently we have a very busy camping dramatic play area. Children like to cook food in the mud kitchen, rest in the tent or just sit in the camp chairs and chat. Lately a small group have started making perfumes by mixing leaves and seeds that they have found to make special potions.

The obstacle course is set up to provide opportunities for lots of climbing and swinging. We have had many children develop their skills on the monkey bars, practicing each time we are outside and proudly asking their teachers to see their amazing new skills.

Have a lovely week.

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



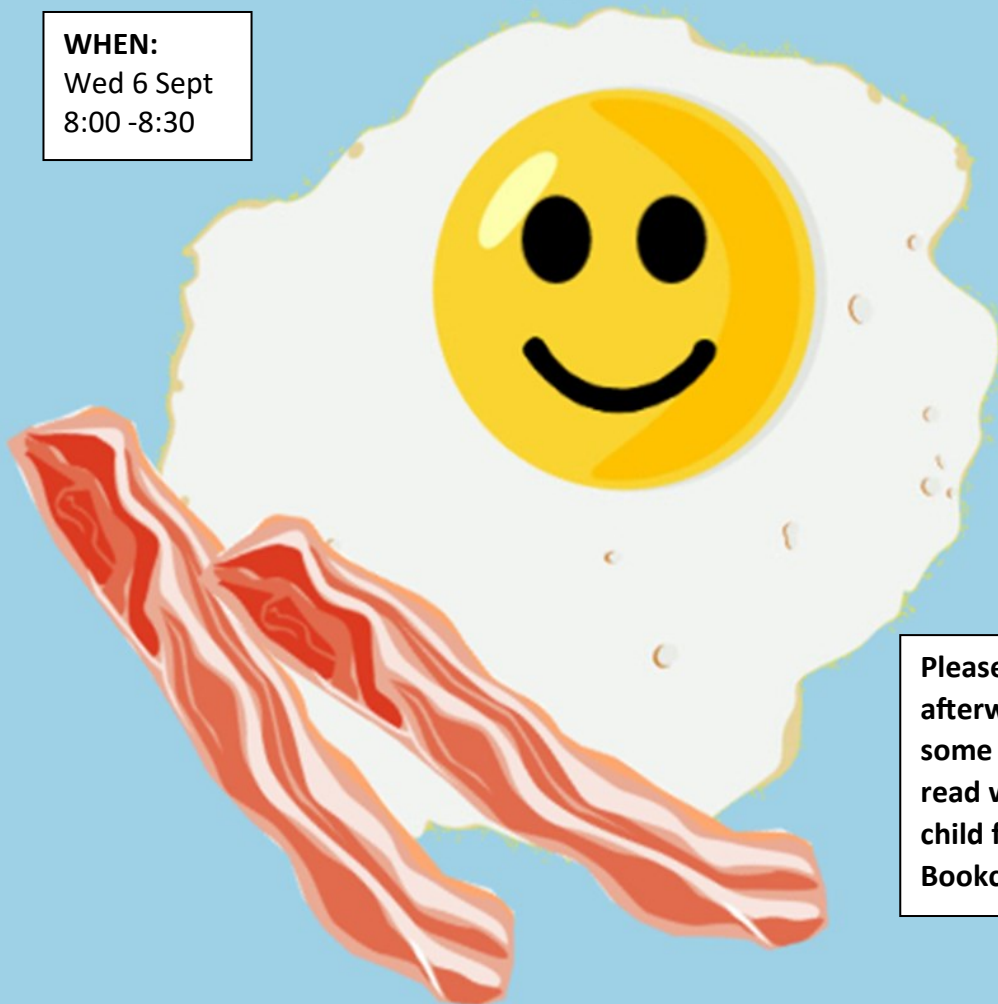
Fathers Day

# FATHER'S DAY

## Breakfast

**WHEN:**

Wed 6 Sept  
8:00 -8:30



Please join us afterwards for some time to read with your child for Bookcamp.

Please join us for a breakfast next Wednesday morning before school. The SRC and parent helpers will be putting on free bacon and eggs for our dads and significant males in our lives.

**We ask for a gold coin donation for any others who would like some breakfast.**

## Bookcamp

### Have you heard about "Bookcamp"?

Classes will be reading with their buddies on Wednesday morning in week 8 and 9<sup>th</sup>, the 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> September.

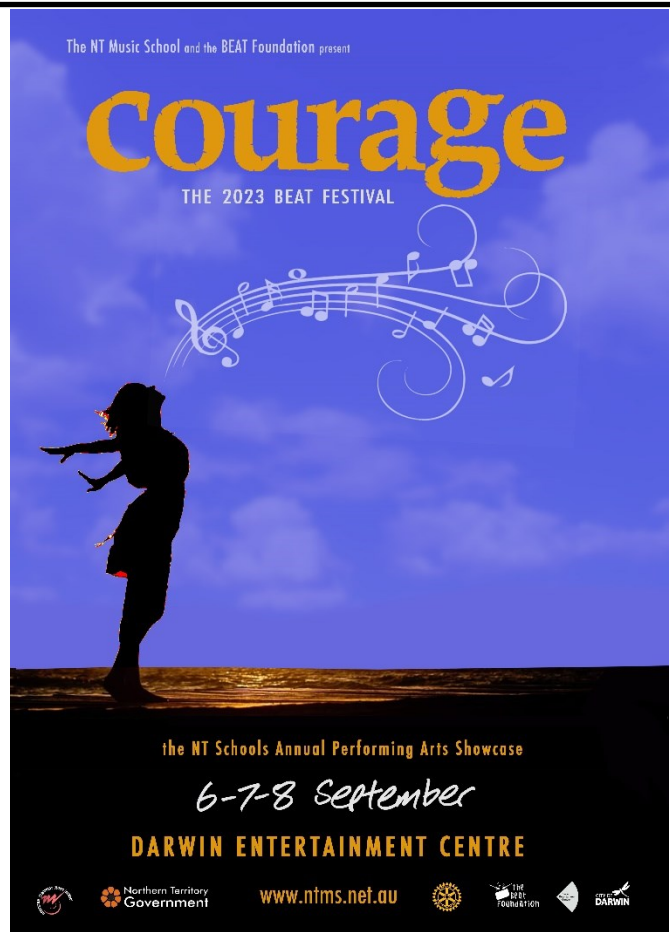
This is part of our huge focus on Reading this term. Please come and join us from 8:30-8:45 after the Father's day breakfast next week. Your teachers will be in contact with more information about where they will meet for this time.

## Alawa BEAT Choir

Every year, more than 1,000 students perform in The Beat Festival, the NT Department of Education's annual performing arts showcase. An annual event since 1979, the three shows in September each year typically feature a 300-voice choir, 30-piece orchestra, dance groups, rock bands, soloists and other music ensembles and talented vocalists.

This year, 14 students from Alawa will be performing alongside choirs across the Northern Territory on the **6<sup>th</sup> September, 2023.**

The students have worked tirelessly over the last two terms to learn twelve songs and perform them in two part harmony. Come along and support our talented students!  
**Presented by The NT Music School, Beat Foundation & The NT Department of Education**



Tickets are available from

[https://www.yourcentre.com.au/#!/events/-N\\_D5jsG3p8TXIDnZr7g/](https://www.yourcentre.com.au/#!/events/-N_D5jsG3p8TXIDnZr7g/)

## Defence School Mentor news

Another sombre week for the Defence Force community as a second tragedy struck and so soon after the previous incident just last month in Queensland. Our thoughts and hearts go out to the Marines, their families and the US Defence community as they come to terms with the loss of life of three service personnel and injuries suffered by others from the weekend's crash on Melville Island.

A significant number of our Defence families at Alawa Primary School are Aviation Unit families. We also have serving members who work quite closely with the US Marines. Although the most recent accident did not involve Australian personnel it was still very close to home and still has the potential to impact our children as they are exposed to the news and details around the crash. It is a timely reminder that we need to be checking in with our children, addressing their concerns and fears and answering any questions they may have around Defence service and the risks that come with it (in an age appropriate manner of course). Laura and I are always here to assist with support if families feel that their children are struggling or worried with concerns arising from this recent accident. There are also organisations available in the Defence community and Darwin community who are there to support and assist in times of need. If you would like information about organisations or services available please contact me.

One organisation that I often refer to is Open Arms. Open Arms provides 24-hour free and confidential counselling and support services. *Open Arms – Veterans & Families Counselling* is Australia's leading provider of high quality mental health assessment and clinical counselling services for Australian veterans and their families. The amazing thing about Open Arms is their eligibility criteria. Eligibility incorporates anyone who has served a day in the Australian Defence Force and extends to their families. It includes Current serving members, personnel transitioning to civilian life, ex-serving members, partners and children of serving and ex-serving members, ex-partners who are co-parenting and Reservists with one day continuous full time service or hazardous service. If you have queries about your eligibility please come and see me or give Open Arms a call on 1800 011 046.

***Ms Katie and Ms Laura [ Defence School Mentors ]***



## Alawa's Got Talent

Our Alawa's Got Talent winners were announced last week—a HUGE congratulations to our winners!

- ⇒ First— Lukus
- ⇒ Second—Indi and Xavier
- ⇒ Third— Rosalee

Thanks to all of our students that entered for sharing their array of skills over the last few weeks and to Mrs Block and Ms Riley-Smith for coordinating.



## 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 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.



***The Week 6 winner was 4/5 Lawrence***

## 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 bolognaise small serve \$4.50 or large serve \$6.50 /Gluten Free Spaghetti \$6.50 [Wed & Thu only]

**Wednesday:** Savory crepes with ham and cheese OR Ham cheese and Pineapple \$6.50

**Thursday:** Mexican Nachos - small \$4.50 large-\$6.50

**Friday:** Home made chicken burgers \$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](http://www.quickcliq.com.au)



Community notices



**MARRARA  
ON SHOW!**

**15 SEPT | 5:30PM - 8PM**

**110 AMY JOHNSON AVENUE, MARRARA**

Our Twilight Tours provide the perfect opportunity for curious families to get a taste of what makes Marrara Christian College unique. Bring a friend along so they can experience Marrara CC for themselves!

- Family Entertainment • Food stalls •
- Art exhibitions • Live music •
- Student Work Showcase •
- Twilight Tours • Marrara Market •

+ Much more!



**MARRARA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE**  
A campus of NT Christian Schools

**mcc.nt.edu.au**  
**(08) 8920 2000**

**Free cyber safety app**

[Dolly's Dream](#) has partnered with the Telethon Kids Institute to get *Beacon*, the free cyber safety app, into the hands of parents and carers across the nation.

Co-designed with input from parents, carers and cyber safety experts, *Beacon* provides families with trustworthy, practical resources to help them confidently navigate their children's technology use and reduce associated harms.

Families receive content tailored to their needs – including articles, videos and alerts – from a comprehensive library of strategies and tips to help address challenging issues such as screen time, gaming and cyberbullying.

For any questions, contact Donna Lea - NT Dollys Dream Advisor by calling 0498 371 122.



We'll keep the children entertained these  
**September/October School Holidays!**

Wagaman OSHC as a community based, not-for-profit Outside School Hours care, we provide a stimulating, caring and fun environment for your school aged child (5-12 years).

Whether at our service enjoying activities in the surrounds of the beautiful, natural parklands we are adjacent to, or out and about on exciting excursions, our skilled educators will create an environment in which your child can form friendships, explore, create, experiment, and use their imagination.

Wagaman OSHC  
35 Wagaman Terrace, Wagaman NT 0810  
0481 699 262  
wagamanoshc@childaustralia.org.au

**Beacon: the  
cyber safety  
app for every  
parent and  
carer**



The switched-on app for families online



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