

Week 9: 14th Septemeber

Principal Update

Welcome to our Week 9 news.....

Another very busy week has gone by with highlights including:

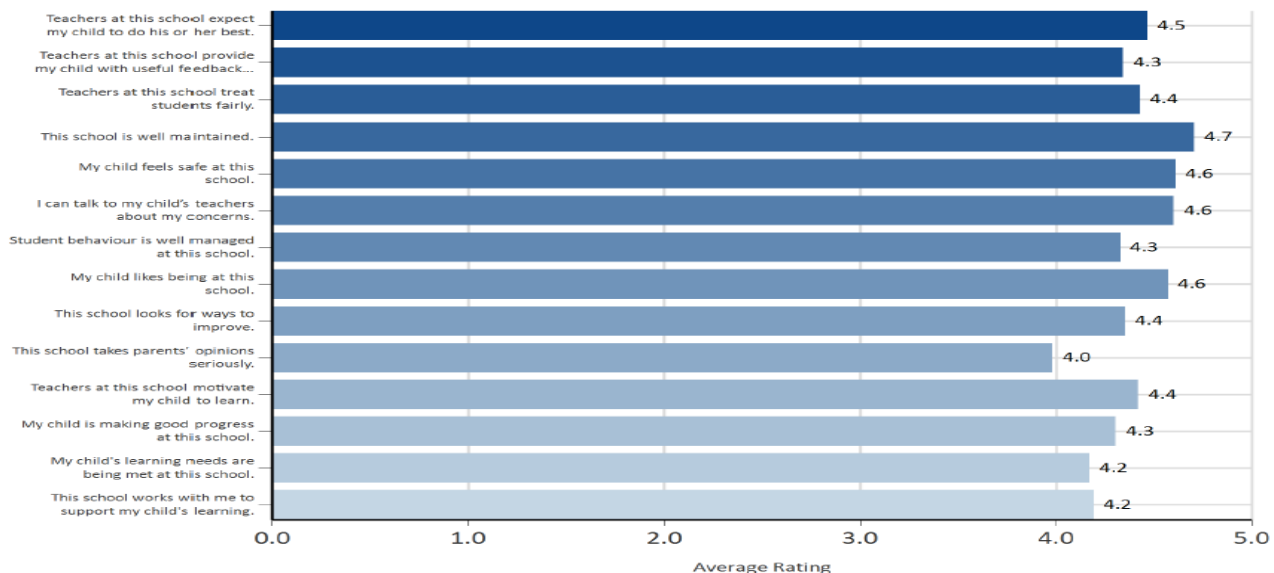
- ⇒ Senior Choir led by Ms Sarah Hunter performing at the Darwin School BEAT festival 'Courage' - a fantastic event showcasing the talent across NT schools. Check out our Facebook post.
- ⇒ The Year 3/4 Camp to Tumbling waters—see further in the newsletter for some special photos and stories as well as through our Facebook page.
- ⇒ Fathers Day Breakfast
- ⇒ Bookclub
- ⇒ Continuing of our Bee a Great Reader Challenge
- ⇒ Student Led Conferences



We appreciate again all the time so many families offer to support these events and to ensure the partnership between our school and our families is dynamic, rich and purposeful.

Annual Perception Survey Results

Thanks to all who took the time to provide your feedback. Overall we had 105 responses this year. For the next few weeks I will share snippets of the feedback and respond to some of the queries raised through the responses. This week I start with a focus on our Maths program at Alawa—see further in the newsletter.



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 9 — Why are Student Led Conferences so important at Alawa?

[Sandy Cartwright]



Assistant Principal Update

Welcome to week 9!

Our **BOOK CHALLENGE** is finishing up this week and the children have been involved in many activities to promote a love of reading. Thank you to our parents and grandparents who came to join us at Bookcamp whilst we read with our buddies on Wednesday morning.



To finish up our reading challenge we have a fantastic assembly planned for this Friday in the muster area. We would love to see you join us at our **Book Week Parade**. There are fantastic prizes for each year level. We also have prizes for families and teachers. Please join in the fun and excitement and love of a great book.

Our **Student Led Conferences** finish up tonight and it was wonderful to see many families sharing in their child's learning journey. If you have missed out and/or would like to have a longer conversation, please get in contact with your child's teacher and organize another time.

This morning at Preschool we had a **Readiness for School Information Session** with an Occupational Therapist, Alice O'Connell and a Speech Therapist, Rochelle Hunt. They provided us with many strategies, and routines as well as ways to engage with children to help prepare them for school.

In the last two weeks of school our timetables have been adjusted to allow our teachers some **Collaborative Planning** time together. This is an invaluable opportunity and it involves assessing and evaluating data and using this to plan their programs for the next term.

Genevieve Donohue [Assistant Principal]

Hot Tips for the Week

Raising Children



Hot tip for the week

'Frenemies' and toxic friendships- Pre teens and teenagers

Key points

[Frenemies and toxic friendships: what you need to know](#)

[Helping pre-teens and teenagers avoid frenemies and toxic friendships](#)

[Dealing with frenemies and toxic friendships: how to help pre-teens and teenagers](#)

[Dealing with bad behaviour from toxic friendships](#)

[What not to do with toxic friendships](#)

<https://raisingchildren.net.au/pre-teens/communicating-relationships/friends-peers/frenemies>

Calendar of events

Monday 11—Friday 15 September	Book Fair	All week
Friday 15 September	Book Parade	8:40am
Monday 18 September	School Council meeting	5:30pm
Friday 22 September	Assembly hosted by the School Leaders and Ms Cartwright Table Tennis and Golf Gala days Last day of Term 3	8:40am All day
Friday 22 September	Bonus House point Day: Wear / bring your accessories, photos of pets in house shirts etc etc	All day
Monday 9th October	Professional Learning day for staff No school for Students	All day
Tuesday 10th October	School resumes for students	All day

Honour Distinction & Honour Awards last week

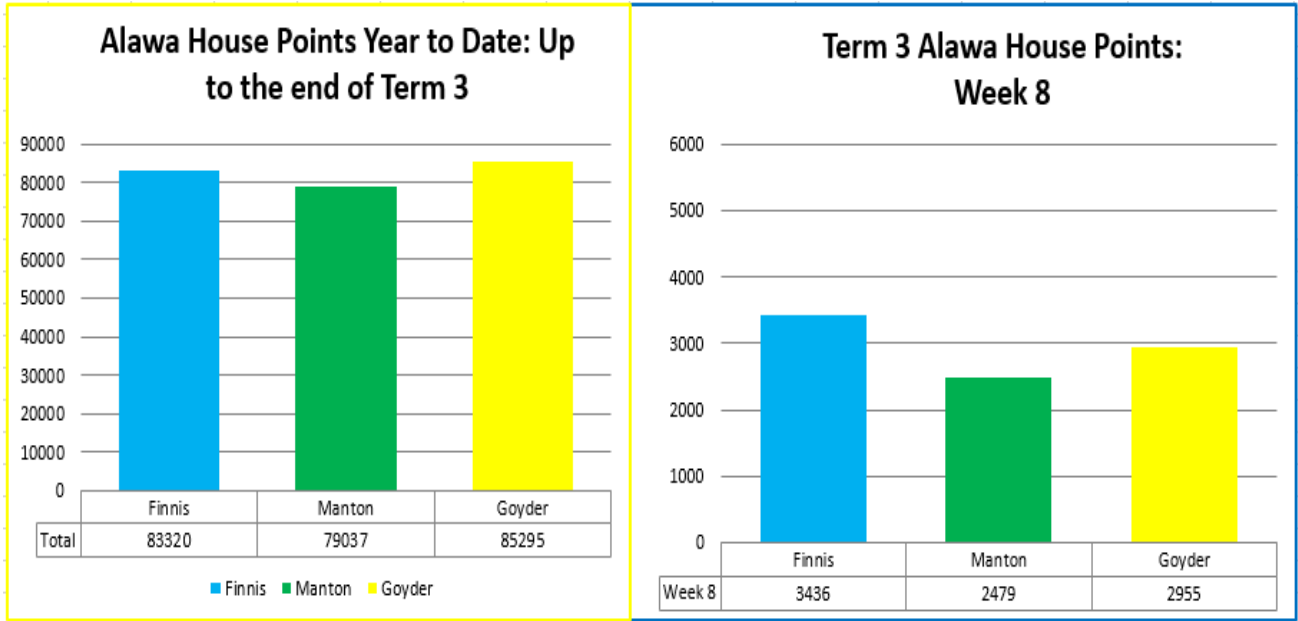


House points

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 8 of Term 3 Finnis was ahead with 3436 points!

In the lead for the Year to date is Goyder with 85 295 points!

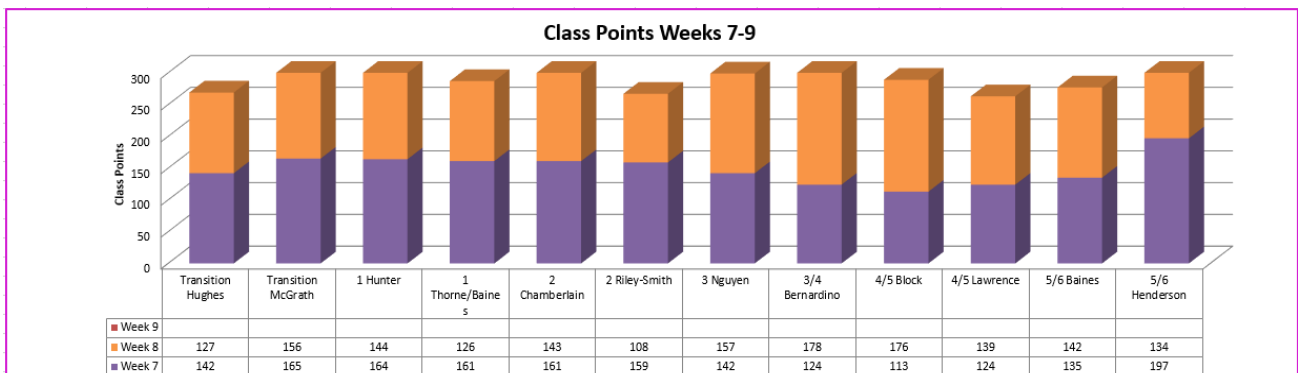


Class Points

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 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 8 of Term 3 was....3/4 Bernardino with 178 points !!!



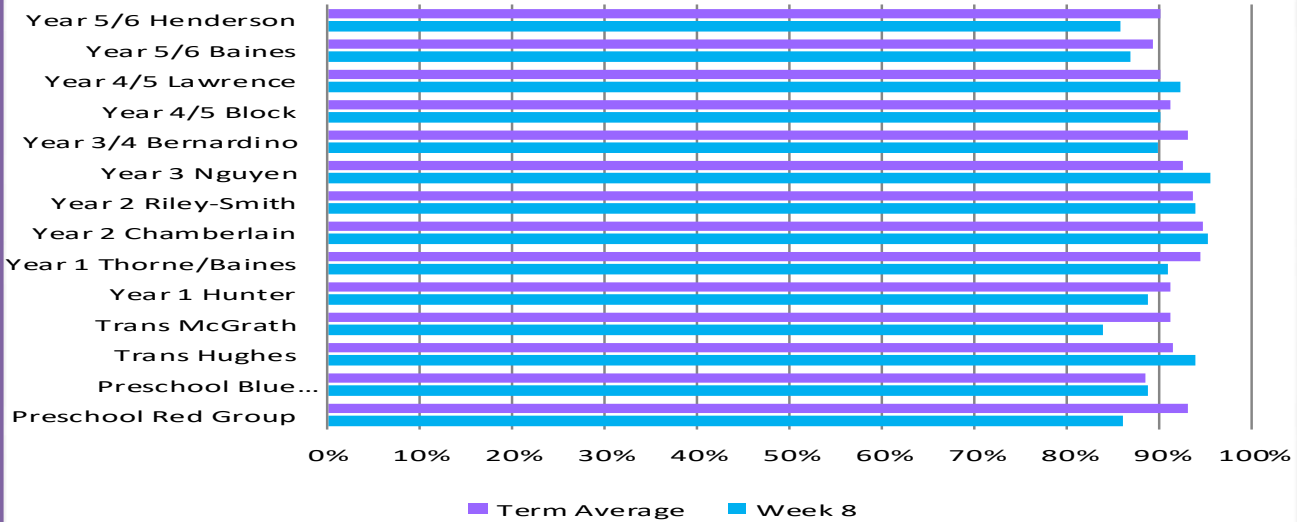
Attendance

Primary School Average for Week 8 Term 3: **90.26%**

The class with the highest attendance for Week 8: **Year 2 Chamberlain with 92.70%!!!** Amazing job!!!

In the lead for Term 3... **2 Chamberlain with 94.83%!!!** Keep it up!!!

ALAWA Attendance Week 8



Lates

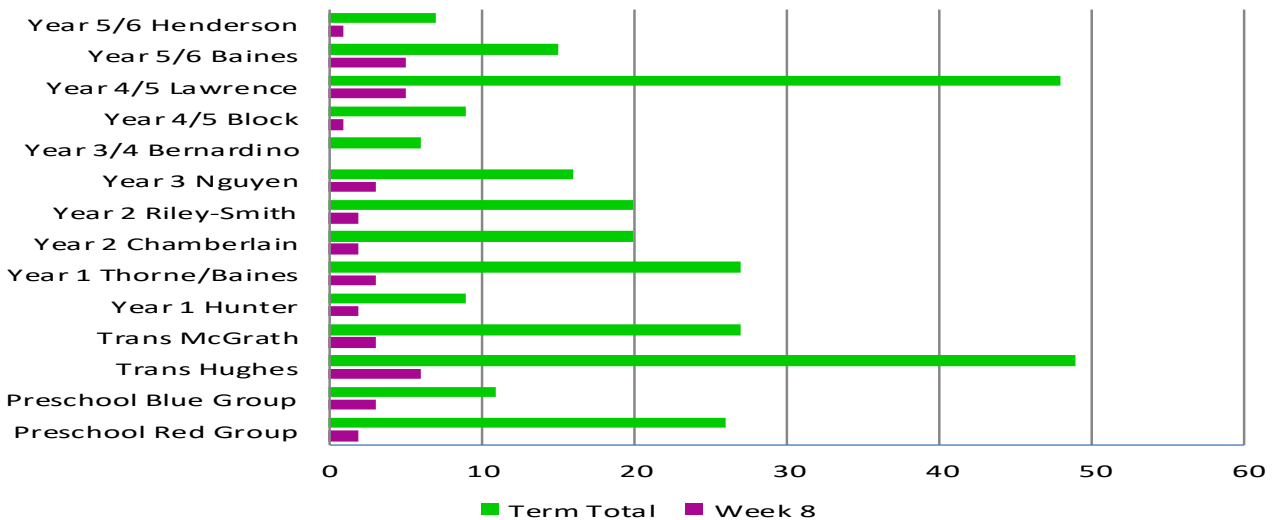
Arriving late for school has a significant impact on your child’s learning and engagement in the education program.

There were 38 lates in Week 8!

For Week 8 it was *fabuloso* to see NO lates at all for 3/4 Bernardino!

In the lead for Term 3... 3/4 Bernardino with 6 lates!!!

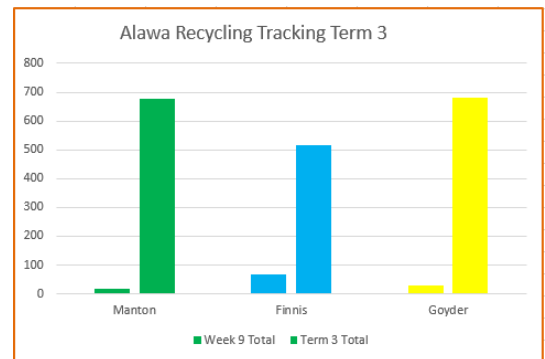
ALAWA Students Late for School Week 8



Recycling

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

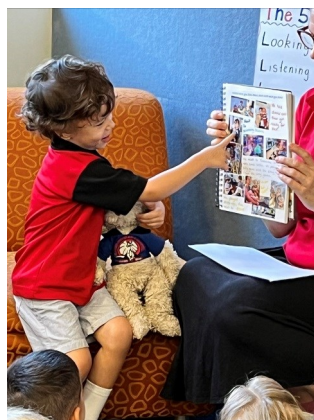
Our recycling bags are up and ready for deposits in their usual location in the back car park hanging on the fence. Each bag represents a house and all items will be recorded as a point for your house. Items can be delivered during school hours and placed directly into the bags.



Preschool News

The Everywhere Bear is part of our oral language program at preschool. He is inspired by the book 'The Everywhere Bear' By Julia Donaldson and Rebecca Cobb. This delightful book is about a bear that goes home with a different child from the class each week and has adventures. The Everywhere Bear in the book gets lost and after many twists and turns finds his way back to 'Class One' where they ask, "Where have you been, Bear, and what have you done?"

Our Everywhere Bear has had so many adventures! Children take pictures and write about their adventures. They then share their experiences in a special news-time at preschool. The Everywhere Bear book goes on display for the week so children can have a closer look at his latest excursion and all his adventures so far. It is such a wonderful way for children to share their experiences outside of preschool and practice their oral language and listening skills. We love having the Everywhere Bear in our class!



The Preschool Team

[Angela Henschke, Emma churchman, Kelly Crawford and Flor Hodgson]

Library news

Book Week and Library Returns

I wanted to say thank you for all of the support you have given the school through our Book Fair so far. We receive a portion of the sales we make from Book Fair as rewards and use this for resources and books for the school and library. If you have not had a chance to get in and see what is on offer at the Book Fair all is not lost as we are open both this afternoon from 3-4pm and Friday from 8-8:30am and 3-4pm.

With the end of term just a week away all books need to be returned to the Library. I will be sending overdue notices out this week and would appreciate if you might track down any books you might have at home. Please let me know if you are unable to find a book or if you have any questions.



Sacha Evans [Library and ICT Manager]



Playgroup news

It was a baking day at Playgroup on Friday. Miss Erin had lots of eager helpers who were very excited to make some yummy fresh scones! We set up at the little table with a big bowl, lots of mixing spoons and all our ingredients. First in was the fluffy flour, everyone taking turns to pour it in the bowl. Then in went the chopped golden butter and lots of little fingers, squishing and squashing the butter through the flour until it was crumbly. And lastly, in with the milk! We gave it all a good mix around with our spoons, then rolling our dough into balls to put on the baking tray and straight into the oven they went.

While we waited for our scones to cook we took our parents outside to play! We went sliding, climbing, digging and building! There are so many things to explore outside. We also kept an eye out for Alle, we heard she had been spotted in the garden earlier. It's always exciting to say hello and check out her great camouflage skills.

After a play, our scones were ready to eat. We brought them outside to share with our family and friends. We topped them with some jam and fresh cream. They were a tasty morning-tea treat and always a favourite! This week we will visit the farm so remember to bring your hat, shoes and drink bottles.

Miss Erin [Playgroup Co-coordinator]



3/4 Camp



Year 4/5 Block news

Wow wee! What a CRAZY BUSY term it has been. With our Whole School Performance in Week 7, our Year 3's and 4's on camp in Week 8 and Student Led Conferences in Week 9, Year 4/5 Block kept up the pace and found themselves working away in the STEM room to finish off the term.

Fitting in perfectly with the concert theme, 'circus'... Year 4/5 Block were required to design and create their very own SIDE SHOW ALLEY games! Students were lucky enough to have Ms.

Cartwright come and play their games as well as their buddy class, Year 2 Riley-Smith!

I love the creativity and imagination amongst the class – there were some fabulous ideas, lots of fun had and... some VERY competitive kids!

I would also like to mention that earlier this term we had 2 new students join us here in 4/5 Block. Kylanii and Drayki – we love having you as part of our class! You fit in with the team just perfectly!



Classroom



News

Meaningful Maths Program at Alawa

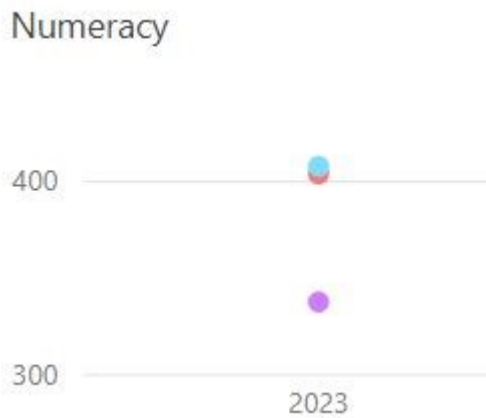
In 2022 we received some feedback that parents were confused / wanting further information about the approach to the teaching of maths at Alawa. As we appreciate and want to improve from feedback we sent out a survey which a few parents responses to and offered a range of options for upskilling / raising awareness including class observations, parent information session, information through the newsletter etc. We then followed up and offered a parent session at the Meet n Greet in March [which was well received and attended by many], included weekly updates in the Term 1 Newsletter and invited parents into classrooms to observe a lesson.

We then included specific questions in the perception surveys this year—please see responses below. We also had 2 parents express concern in the feedback / general comments in the 2023 survey about the program and the effectiveness.

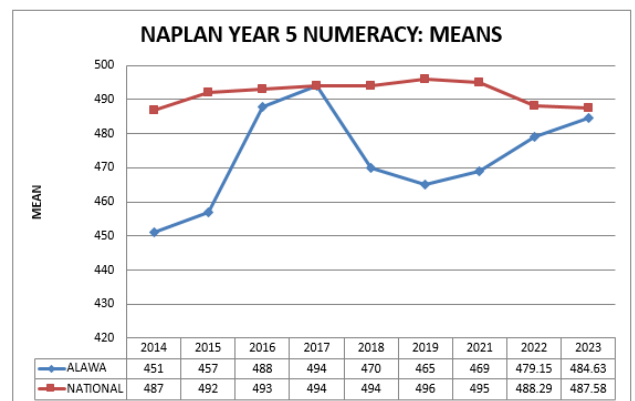
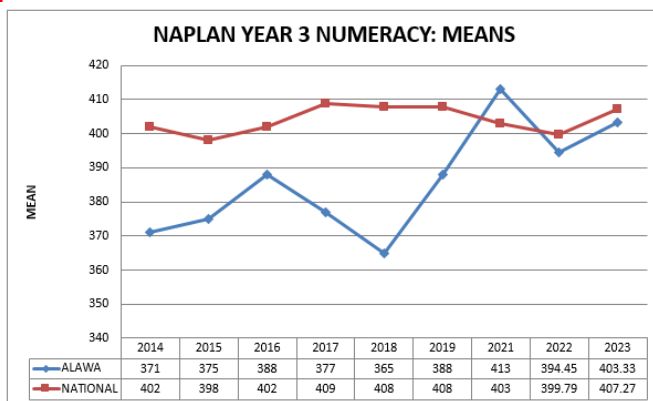
I would like to share with you our recent NAPLAN results for Years 3 and 5 showing the Alawa school average result is within a few points of the National average and significantly higher than the NT average. We have also seen school averages for other schools nearby and I am proud to say Alawa has the highest school average for both Year 3 and Year 5. This indeed is evidence that our approach is making an impact and of benefit to students.

— Cohort — NT — Australian

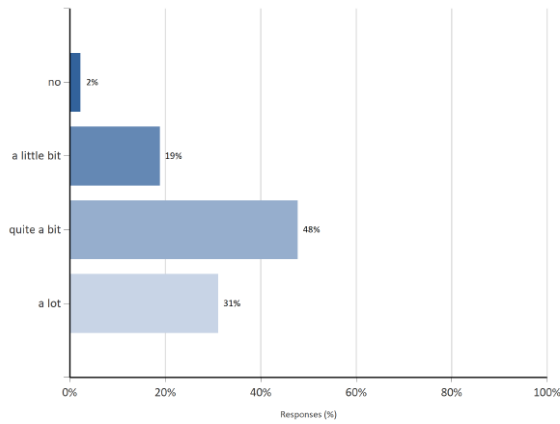
Year 3 Results 2023



Year 5 Results 2023

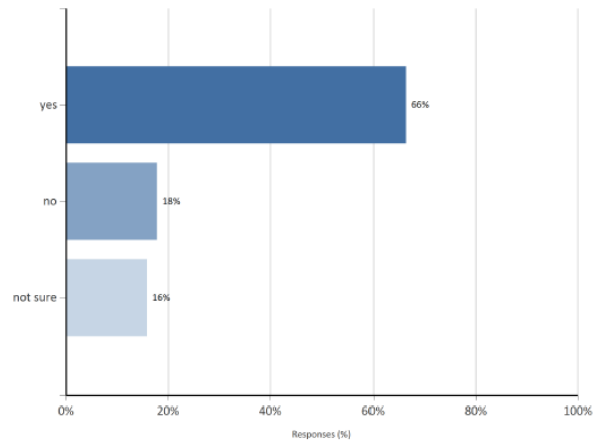


Parent Perception Question: Would you like to have more of an understanding of how we teach maths at our school?



	no		a little bit		quite a bit		a lot	
	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%
Number	2	2%	17	19%	43	48%	28	31%

Years 4-6 Student Perception Question: Are you getting better at Maths?



	yes		no		not sure	
	Num	%	Num	%	Num	%
Number	67	66%	18	18%	16	16%

SO.....while we are super proud of our Maths approach and the ongoing achievement of outcomes for our students and they certainly share their own perceptions that they are improving we want to raise awareness with parents about our approach and address your concerns so you can continue to support your child at home.

Please take a few minutes to respond to this survey to inform us as to how you would like further information so we can then ensure we cater for this and address the request for more information from 68 people as shared through the recent perception survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/H7FDDRY>

Kitchen news

I cannot believe we are nearing the end of the term, we have done some excellent cooking so far. We started our bakery series and have been learning about using the ovens. We made some delicious savoury scrolls using a simple recipe with SR flour, butter and milk. Each team came up with their own fillings and had some vegemite and cheese scrolls, ham, cheese and pineapple scrolls and pizza scrolls. They were pretty popular.



Last week saw 4/5 Lawrence making tasty sausage rolls with Ms Elsa's recipe as well as a spinach and cheese recipe. Due to camp, the 3's and 3/4's didn't get a lesson, however the VIP's who didn't go on camp had a fabulous opportunity to cook for the staff and the school leaders. We made a huuuuuge feast of chicken wings, fried rice, pad thai, sushi and brownies. Ms Elsa also made some great soups. Well done to everyone who participated. This week we will be doing a chocolate chip biscuit challenge and we will finish the term with cakes and slices.



Tina Stratton [Kitchen Teacher]



Farm Manager needed: 4 week vacancy

We are seeking for someone to fill in for the Farm Manager role for the first 4 weeks of Term 4 [9th October—3rd November] as Farmer Bob will be taking some extended well earned leave. We are seeking someone who can work over Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays—15hours. Come along and have some fun with Mrs Cleary and the Alawa farm students.

If you or someone you know might be interested, please give the office a call on 8997 7666 or send an email to alawa.school@education.nt.gov.au and we will provide you with a brief description of the duties and the skills required.



**Farm
Help
Needed!**



Please see post for details

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 9 winner was.... 4/5 Block!

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



Community notices



**2023/24
JUNIOR FOOTBALL
Registration**



Under 10 Boys & Girls
Under 12 Boys & Girls
Under 14 Boys & Girls
Under 16 Boys
EOI under 16 Girls

SCAN HERE

Registration is **FREE** for all juniors!



<https://www.playhq.com/afli/register/c06080>



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

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.

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

beacon

The switched-on app for families online



Scan to
download

