



Week 9: 7th December 2023

Principal Update

Welcome to our Week 9 news.....

Week 9 and the term is slipping by way toooo quickly!

We are all doing well and working through end of term learning programmes, finishing up the fabulous Early Years swimming program and gearing up for graduations this week.

We continue to review and draft class lists and these will be available Tuesday 12th December at the end of the school day. PLEASE keep in mind the following:

- these are DRAFT lists and subject to change if required
- we share these for our school community - PHOTOS are NOT to be taken of the lists as they contain other student names, other than your own child.

For those students who will have a teacher new to Alawa in 2024 I already have letters from their new teacher for them and have arranged to connect via Zoom Wednesday or Thursday for the children to meet the teacher.

Class letters would by now have come home with reminders of events, activities etc and also details of the class parties which will be held Tuesday 12th December [Transition to Year 6]. Any concerns or queries, please liaise directly with your child's class teacher.

Staffing Updates 2023

As is always the case at this time of year, we are finalising staffing for 2024. At this stage I can advise a few further final appointments:

- Mrs Krystal Schey is joining our team as Special Education Teacher
- Ms Jacqueline Gardner is joining our team as a Primary Teacher.

Reports

Student progress reports will be sent home yesterday via email [Tuesday 12th December]. Please remember when viewing your child's report that a C grading is year level expectation. The Red data folders will be provided to children to bring home as well so parents / carers could look at their assessments and reflections in conjunction with their reports.

Note: Students in Years 3-6 are accessing their reports online at school Wednesday 13th December.

Looking forward to seeing you around the school and many of you at our special graduations this week [Preschool Wednesday evening and Year 6 Thursday evening],

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 9— What is the last day of school for all our students in 2023? [**Sandy Cartwright**]



Assistant Principal Update

Hello everyone and welcome to Week 9!

Wow, not long to go now and still so many exciting events to happen. As you are aware our Graduations are on this week.

Our little preschoolers had their special night last night and we acknowledged all the wonderful educators and families who make our little community at Alawa such a thriving and successful place to bring your children. Thankyou parents and especially to our Preschool committee this year. We are looking forward to seeing them all in 'Big School'.



The Year 6 Graduation is tonight. Our year 6's will be moving on to another stage in their lives and we wish them all the best. We also have our end of year assembly next week. We look forward to recognising our students who have won awards as well as people who have contributed to making Alawa a fantastic school and community.

Many of our support staff will be finishing up this week. I would like to express my appreciation to these wonderful people who work tirelessly with our teachers to support, not only students with additional needs but also the rest of our students. Have a well-earned break.

As we wrap up our last two weeks, please pop in and say goodbye as my time at Alawa comes to an end. I will miss our school and will certainly come back and see you all.

Have a great week,

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

Thursday 7th December	Bonus House Point Day Year 6 Graduation	All Day 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	9am 10:15am
Thursday 14th December	Last day of Term 4 Year 6 farewells after lunch	1:40pm
Tuesday 16th January—Thursday 25th January	Front Office open for uniforms etc	8:30am—4pm
Tuesday 30th January	First day back for students	

Honour Awards this week

The following students will receive their Honour Awards this Friday 8th December:

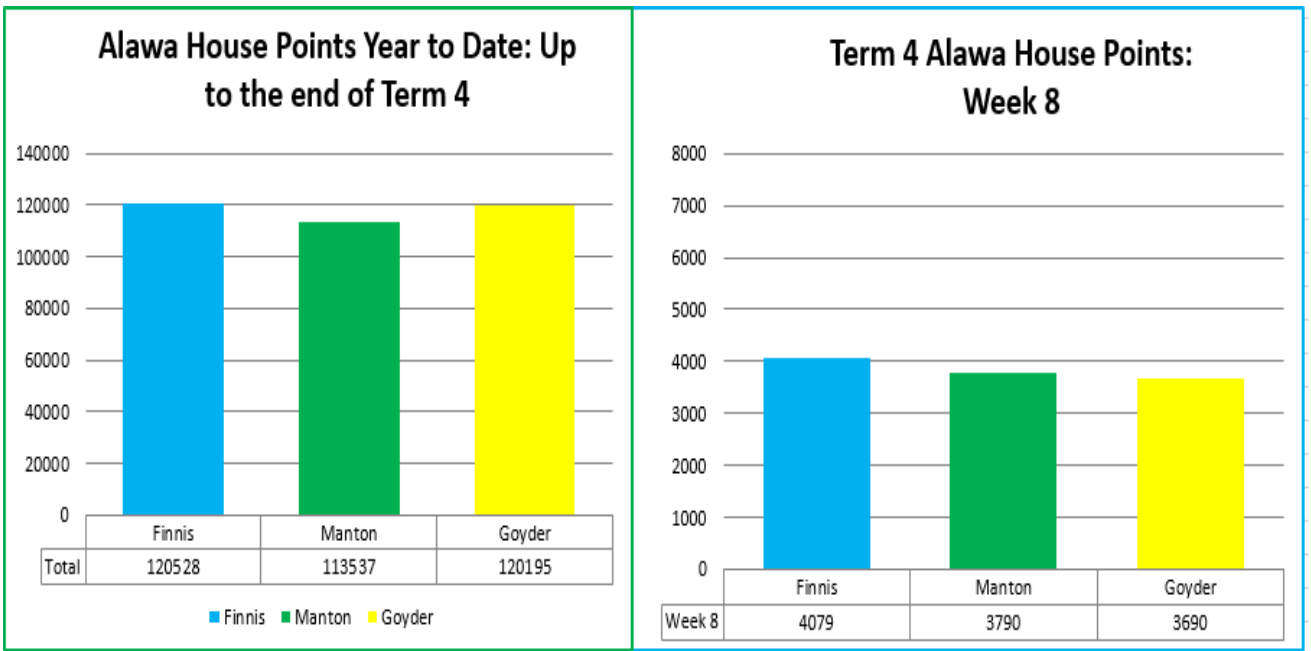
Lachie Whitmee	Matheias Wilson	Mali Fulton
Lucinda Ronayne	Georgie Jenner	Aalayiah Favreau
Aiden Howard	Indi Smyth	Alexis Buer
Ruby Smallbone	Bronte Rees	Lestari Smith
Jaxon Garbusinski	Shannon Gleeson	Patrick Scheide
Cleo Rayson	Henry Vidins	Tommy Wolfe
Kavya Karmacharya	Flynn Cleary	Callum Davey
Sage Lehmann	Eleanor Farquhar Walker	Tearakau Tinirau
Sayed Ahamod	Darcy Johannessen	Jackson Page
Anthony Black	Indi Smyth	Maryanne Manby
Rosalee Rutledge	Ana Bernardino	Reuben Stevens
Harrison Cockfield	Axel Garbusinski	Alena Chau
Reilly Tanner	Stella Wedel	Marley Petterson
Dieume Pwisa	Tommy Jenner	Damien Hopkins
Gisele Roe	Jaymisha Tyson-Canet	

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 **Paige Hughes** receiving an Honour Distinction!

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 4 Finniss was ahead with 4079 points!
In the lead for the Year to date is Finniss with 120 528 points!**

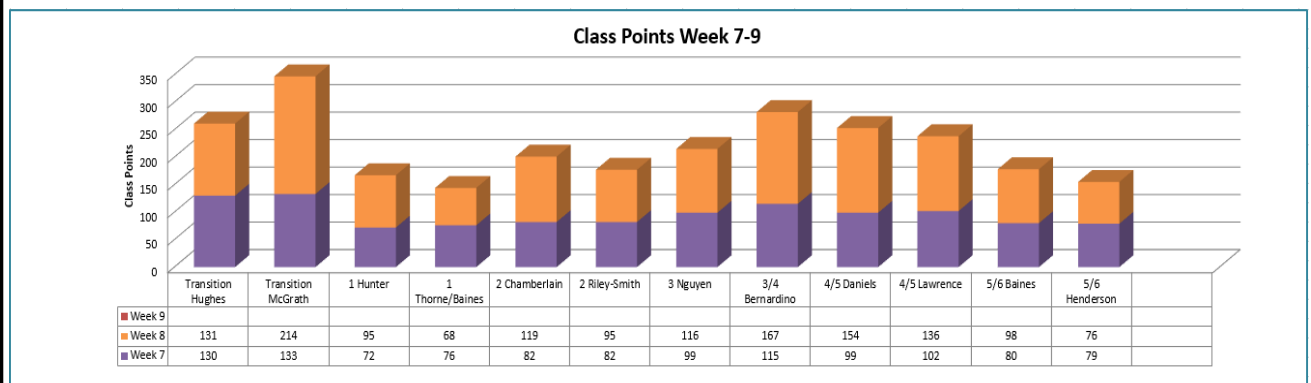


Class Points

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 8 of Term 4 was....Transition McGrath with 214 points !!!

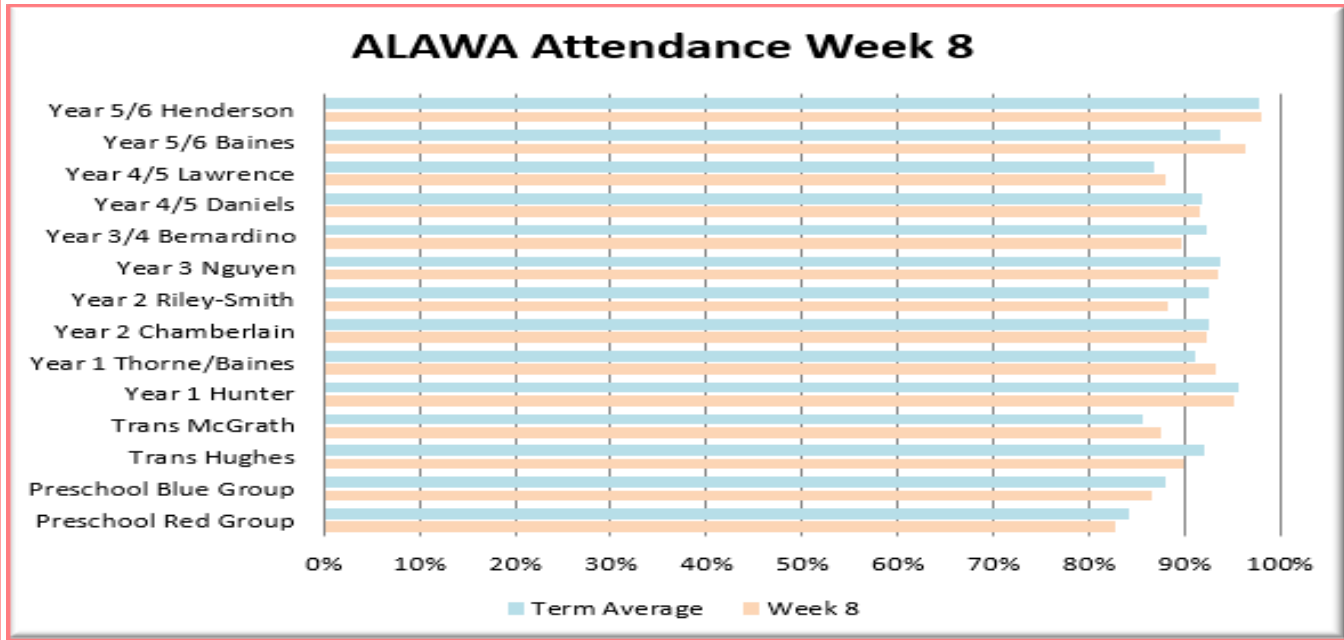


Attendance

Primary School Average for Week 8 Term 4: **92.01%**

The class with the highest attendance for Week 8: **5/6 Henderson with 98.15%!!! Amazing job!!!**

In the lead for Term 4 we have... **5/6 Henderson with 97.85%!!!**



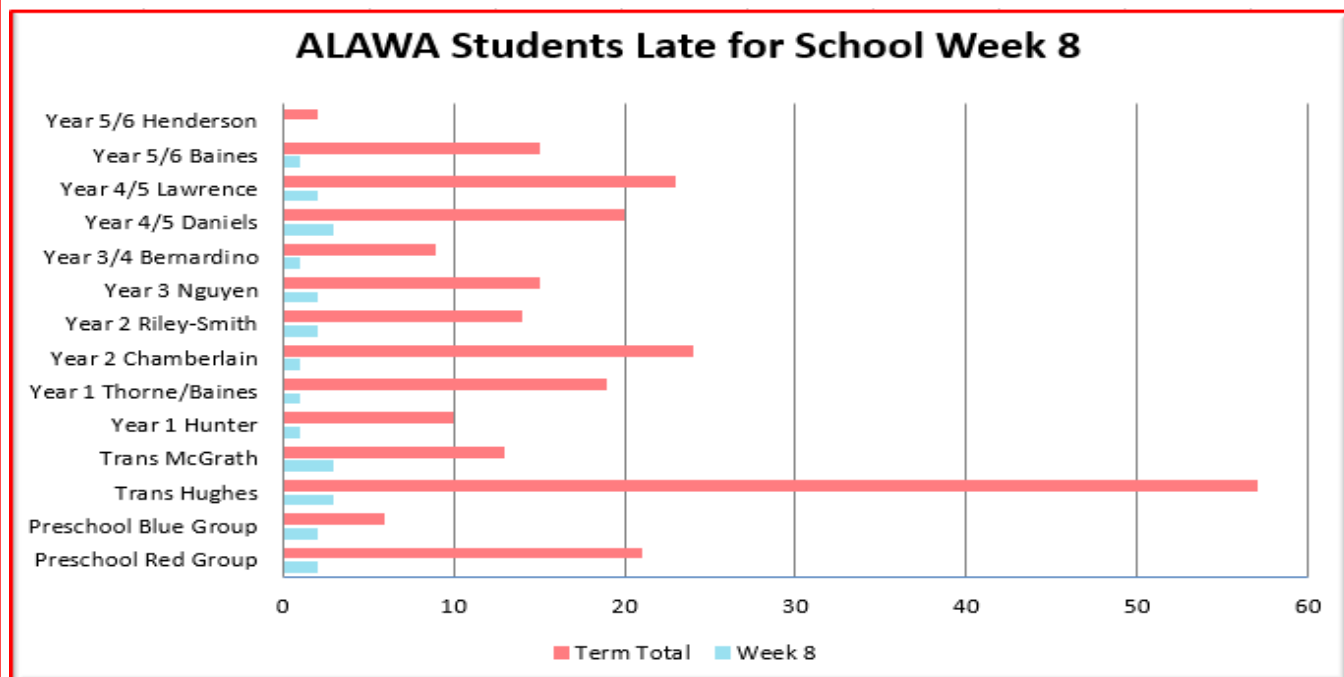
Lates

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

There were 24 lates in Week 8!

For Week 8 it was *fabuloso* to see NO lates at all for **5/6 Henderson!!! Great effort!!!**

In the lead for Term 4 we have... **5/6 Henderson with 2 lates!!!**



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

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



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

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

Access Code: cm6r2

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

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

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

2024 Voluntary Parent Contributions: Preschool - Year 6

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



Kitchen news

Over the last 2 weeks we have seen 10 teams vying for the Alawa bake-off MasterChef title. The theme was 'Colours of Alawa'.

We now have 4 student teams and one staff team through to the final bake off which will be held at 3pm next Tuesday.

We are still seeking a non student guest judge so anyone wanting to donate their taste bud please let Tina Stratton know.



Ms Stratton [Kitchen Teacher]

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.

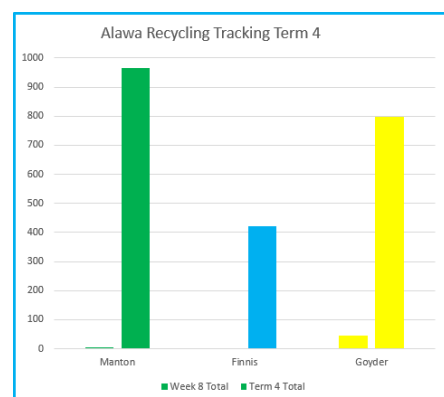


The Week 8 winner was.... 4/5 Lawrence!

Recycling

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

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



Library news

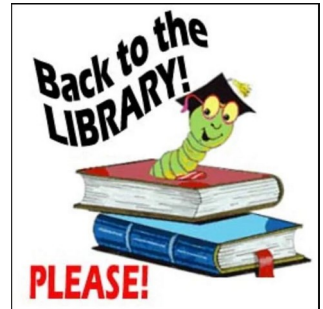
With just a week left until School Holidays Library books and Home Readers are due back to the Library now. Please have a good look around the house for any Library books and if you are unable to find a book please let me know as occasionally books manage to sneak past the returns and hide back on the shelf.

Darwin City libraries has a December School Holiday Program happening with storytimes, Christmas lego and a movie. You can view the program for the Darwin City, Casuarina, Nightcliff and Karama Libraries through this link: [December School Holiday Program](#)

City of Palmerston has the following Christmas holiday program happening:

- 18/12 Movie Madness- Elf
- 19/12 Auslan Storytime
- 20/12 DIY Christmas Decorations
- 21/12 Card Making

Mrs Sacha Evans [Library & ICT]



Preschool news

Wow what a night! So many smiling faces last night at the preschool graduation.

The preschool team are so proud of the children and how they performed. It was such a lovely experience to see the families come together and celebrate.

Bring on 2024 you little legends!

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



The Kindmas Calendar 25 ACTS OF KINDNESS HEAD&HEART mindfulness

	1 Smile at people	2 Compliment as many people as you can	3 Write a card for someone special	4 Do someone a favour (big or small, it doesn't matter)	5 Ring/text/ email someone and check in	6 Say "I love you" to special people
7 Be kind and compassionate to yourself	8 Do someone's chores for them	9 Be extra generous with your time and attention	10 Do something kind for the environment	11 Be extra kind to a pet or animal	12 Use your manners more	13 Practise pausing before you respond in a negative way, to show kindness
14 Tell someone a joke to make them laugh	15 Donate something to charity	16 Make someone a homemade gift	17 Write a letter and tell someone why they are special to you	18 Surprise someone by doing something kind	19 Do something for yourself that you really love	20 Ask people, "Are you okay?" or "Can I help you?"
21 Cuddle a family member	22 Say "Thank you" often and explain why you are thankful	23 Tidy up without being asked	24 Teach someone something new	25 Practise gratitude		

Alawa Primary School Volunteer's Morning Tea

To thank you for your ongoing support of our school throughout the year you are invited to attend our 2023 Volunteer's Morning Tea.

**Tuesday 12th December
10.15am - 11.00am**

**[directly following the awards presentation assembly]
Library Conference Room**

RSVP to katie.wedel@education.nt.gov.au by Wednesday 6th December



Alawa Primary School *Presentation* & **AWARDS ASSEMBLY**

Tuesday 12th December 2023 - 9:00am

ALAWA SCHOOL LIBRARY

Volunteers Morning Tea
to follow at conclusion
of awards

Before School Care: Reminders

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



I would like to remind parents of the following:

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

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

Sandy Cartwright [Principal]

Cafe

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: 3x Vietnamese rice paper rolls—Vegetarian or Chicken & Vege. \$6.50

Thursday: Jacket potato with bacon, cheese, chives & sour cream \$6.50

Friday: Fettucine carbonara \$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



We are looking for some fit and strong volunteers to help move classroom furniture in preparation for 2024.

When: Wednesday 13th December 2023 (Week 10)

Time: 8:30am – 10:30am

Please contact the Front Office on (08) 8997 7666 if you are able to help out.



Calling For VOLUNTEERS

To help move classroom furniture in preparation for 2024

HELP!!!

Wednesday 13th December 2023
8:30am - 10:30am - Alawa Primary School

End of Term Special Lunch

Another term coming to an end!

Miss Yenni will prepare a special lunch that you can pre order on QuickCliq. Orders close on Tuesday 12th December.

For any questions please call the office on 8997 7666.

End of Term Lunch Special

- 1x Sausage & Bread, Icy Pole & Popper - \$6.50
- Vegetarian Quiche , Icy Pole & Popper - \$6.50



Playgroup

What a lovely day at playgroup we had last week. The weather was great for visiting the farm so we headed down to visit our hairy, furry and feathered friends! First we stopped by the fence to check in on the chicks and duckies, they are so big now but still super cute. As we wandered through the gates we all set off in different directions, excited and ready to explore! We watched the tadpoles wriggling happily and saw Hey Hey vegging out being 'still like broccoli'! We peeped in on the little rabbit and fed the goats some tasty treats of banana and avocado leaves.

Back at the pre-school room, Miss Erin had set up a little Christmas craft activity which was painting and decorating gumnuts to take home and hang up for Christmas. So we dug into the big green bucket to find our favourite gumnuts, then very creatively added loads of colours and patterns with the paint pens. We brushed on some dollops of glue with our little paint brushes so we could finish off with the best part....GLITTER!! They had to be sparkly of course! Then we added different coloured strings so we could hang them up at home.

This week we will do some Christmas cooking, It will be our last playgroup for the year. Looking forward to seeing you then.

Miss Erin [Playgroup Coordinator]



Bonus House Points

This Thursday we will celebrate our LAST bonus house points day for the year.

We encourage students and staff to join in to earn bonus points for their house by wearing accessories in their house colours over school uniform.

Please note:

- all items must be WORN as an accessory, not carried in addition
- PICTURES of pets and teddies only - not to be brought in
- Pictures are to be received by midday on Friday 8th December



If you have any questions or concerns please contact the front office on 8997 7666. All photos can be emailed to alawa.school@education.nt.gov.au



Merry CHRISTMAS

SRC CHRISTMAS STALL

TREATS & GIFTS- ALL \$5

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY WEEK 9
BEFORE SCHOOL & AFTER SCHOOL



GIFTS



TREATS



ALL \$5.00



Alawa Harvest Kitchen Christmas Cooking

When: Friday 15th December 2023

Time: 9:00am - 12:00pm

Cost: \$40 per student

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

DSM news

From Miss Laura

These last two weeks have been very busy as we wrapped up Defence Kids Club for the year.

Last week we decorated biscuits again, which was very highly requested. Especially since it was such a popular activity last semester.

This week we wrote some letters to Santa with a wish list of what we'd like for Christmas. And of course, confirmed that this year we had been nice, not naughty!

It has been lovely getting to know Alawa's defence families this year as I stepped into the DSM role alongside Katie.

Next year, I will be continuing with the DSM role, as Katie moves into the office full-time. If any of our families have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out. I can be contacted at any time via email (laura.thiele@education.nt.gov.au).

From Ms Katie

It is hard to believe that the end of the year is already here. This time of year is always an exciting and fun time with lots of special events happening. We have a number of Defence students who graduated preschool last night and one of our Year Sixers graduating tonight. Congratulations to both cohorts on your graduations. To Lachie, our Year Sixer who is graduating, good luck on your next schooling chapter in middle school.

Thank you for allowing me to be part of your primary school journey. We have one Defence family leaving Alawa at the end of this year, it was lovely having you as part of the Alawa community, all the best for the future.

After a lot of consideration I have made the decision to step down as DSM in 2024, to take on the fulltime role as Administration officer in the front office. We have seen the program and support offered grow substantially, since I first started the role as DSM and we introduced the program to Alawa in 2019. I have loved my time as DSM and cherished the opportunity that I was given to get to know and support the Defence students and families of Alawa.

I hope all of our families have a safe, restful and joyful summer break. I look forward to seeing you back in the New Year for what is sure to be another fabulous year at Alawa.

Katie Wedel & Laura Thiele [Defence School Mentors]



Sporting Schools

Sporting Schools Update:

Final Thursday of Afterschool Taekwondo this week!

Our keen group of Transition to Grade 2 students have shown strength and persistence learning their Taekwondo moves and positions.

Also Final Thursday lunchtime session of Gymnastics for students Years 3 - 6 this week.

Thank you Ms Ros and Ms Janet for your help with these.

Ms Gina [Sporting Schools Coordinator]



Choir news

This week, our junior and senior choir came together to bring some Christmas cheer to sick kids in hospital.

We teamed up with the Starlight Children's Foundation, and travelled to Royal Darwin Hospital where we sang songs to the children on the paediatric ward.

There were so many happy faces in the room - kids, parents, and the staff at the hospital were overjoyed to see us perform.

What a proud moment to be an Alawa student!



Joke from the excursion:

What do you call a group of Alawa kids packed into a lift?

An ALAWAvator

Miss Selena & Ms Hunter [Choir coordinators]

Community notices



Dripstone
middle school

2024 ENROLMENTS

NOW DUE!



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

APPLY

www.dripstonemiddle.nt.edu.au/enrolments-3/



Dripstone
Middle School



@dripstonemiddle

Writing in Nature for Young People Workshop

12 - 14 years

With author Diane Lucas

Monday 18th December, 9.30am - 4.00pm

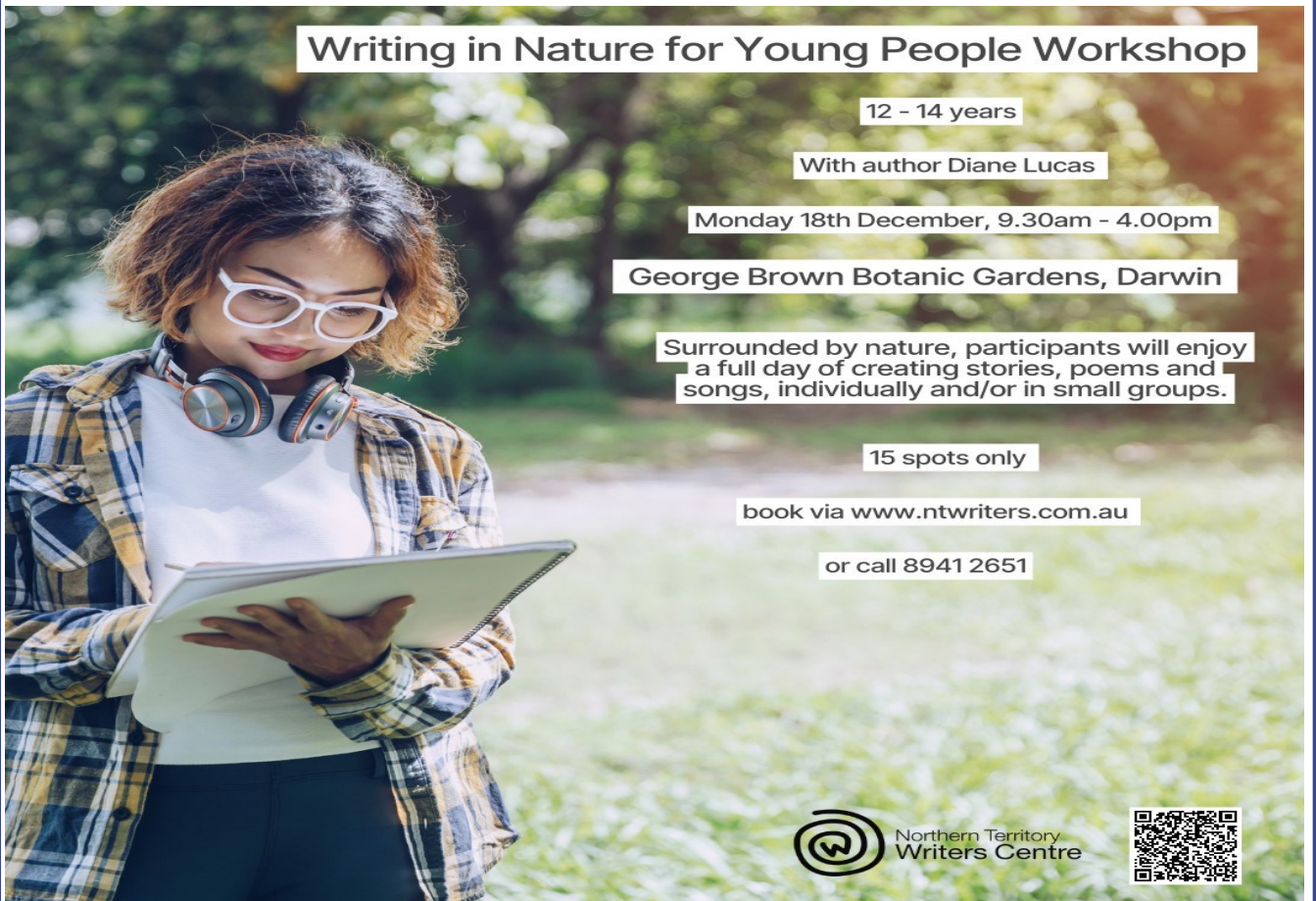
George Brown Botanic Gardens, Darwin

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

15 spots only

book via www.ntwriters.com.au

or call 8941 2651



Northern Territory
Writers Centre



Community notices

ROYAL EXISTENCE DANCE ACADEMY

Acrobatics Ballet Contemporary Jazz Hip Hop Tap

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



Email: admin@royalexistence.com.au

Phone: 0429 560 602

Address: 4/18 Caryota Court, Coconut Grove

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

+ www.nightcliffcc.org.au



WANT TO PLAY CRICKET?

JOIN ^{THE} NIGHTCLIFF CRICKET CLUB

SIGN-ON 2024 DAY

COMING THIS
FEBRUARY - 2024
CONTACT AMANDA
0418 292 582

PLAYERS WANTED

