



4<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear member of the community

## Alawa School & Farm semester update

*The fundamental philosophy that underpins the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program [SAKGP] is that by setting good examples and engaging children's curiosity, as well as their energy and their taste buds, we can provide positive and memorable food experiences that will form the basis of positive lifelong eating habits. (kitchengardenfoundation.org.au)*

2019 was a very successful year for the Alawa School Farm with one of the highlights being our 2 wins at the NT Natural Resource Management Awards. Winning both the Junior NT award and the People's choice award was a direct reflection of the hard work and dedication not only the staff of Alawa Primary School put in but our wider community as well and for that, we thank you.

The underground power lines program has now been completed and have been covered by Power and Water with specially designed wraps showcasing students Artwork from throughout the school. We are grateful to be one of the first schools in the NT to have this work done and that it has been completed in a timely manner and ready for the cyclone season.

In our ongoing efforts to keep the school safe for all that utilise we have had our annual tree inspection done via the Department of Education contractors and have had some trees removed according to their recommendations. We have also had planted over 30 new native trees that were donated by Council and we hope that these continue to enhance the schools aesthetics as well as provide long term shade near the school oval for all to enjoy.

Moving into 2020 we are celebrating Alawa Primary Schools 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday. This will be an exciting year for the school with varied celebrations being held both internally in the classrooms and events open to the wider community. If you would like to keep up to date or just share your pictures and stories about the school please join the [Alawa Primary School 50th Birthday](#) group on Facebook.



Last week we held our first whole school community event, Meet, Greet n Eat. It allowed the students an opportunity to give their families a tour of their learning spaces and introduce them to the teachers. The school council AGM was held directly following this event and a strong council is one again in place for the 2020 school year.

We are also very pleased to announce that in response to the extensive communication plan and community meeting as well as the report handed down by Tonkin late last year with regards to concerns about the traffic congestion and safety

The Territory Labor government have announced an investment of \$570,000 and the Darwin City Council has proposed further \$300,000 in traffic upgrades for the Alawa and Nemurluk schools and neighbourhoods to improve safety for our students and families.

This is a fantastic outcome for the entire Alawa community and has shown the strength in our continued collaborative persistence. Our concerns regarding congestion, lack of parking, vehicle speeds, lack of safe pedestrian crossing points and poor visibility have been heard and the following actions will now take place:

- A new, 30 bay car parking area at Alawa Primary School
- Extension of Nemarluk car parking area to accommodate 12 extra cars
- Installation of traffic calming measures in Alawa Crescent and Styles Street
- Installation of a park and stride area at Alawa shops and an associated pedestrian crossing, to reduce traffic flow around the two schools
- Sign installation at Kiss and Go areas to reinforce time limits
- Footpath upgrades in the school precinct

Works are expected to begin in the coming months and be complete by the end of the 2020 school year. We will do our best to offer the opportunity for community engagement as design work commences.

This is huge win for our community and we welcome the first step in helping our schools become a safer place.

We pride ourselves on being a respectful school and therefore welcome any feedback you may have on working better together as a community.

Kind regards



Sandy Cartwright  
Principal Alawa Primary