

ALAWA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



TERM 2 WEEK 6
22ND MAY
2024

Principal's Message

Welcome to our Week 6 News!

Hard to believe the year is rolling by so very quickly and we are now in the latter half of the term. Still lots happening as we continue the high quality programs and support right through the school.

Last Friday saw 32 of our students head off for Gala days [AFL & Tennis] supported by Mr Corey Daniels and Ms Tiffany Nguyen. Huge thanks to our parent volunteers who went along to support and provide First Aid as required: Peter Fulton, Joey Frawley & Sam Jenner. From all accounts all students demonstrated fantastic team spirit and sportsmanship and were a credit to our school and their families. We have one final Gala day coming up later this term - hockey on June 21st.

Last Wednesday evening I ventured over to the preschool to connect with over 20 families who came along for the annual Picnic night. Such a lovely way for families to engage, share the early years journey and just take time to relax in our gorgeous outdoor environment. The young stars entertained us with a few little songs and were super confident.

Thanks to all who continue to support and engage with our school in a respectful, inclusive and collaborative way - it is much appreciated.

Dates to Remember

- **Wednesday 5th June**
9yrs and up Field events & 800m
- **Friday 7th June**
Alawa Sports Day

Teaching in the Territory Excellence Awards 2024

Have you thought about recognising one of our exceptional team at Alawa?

Nominations are now open and close 24th May only a few days to go.

[Click here to vote](#)

End of Semester Reports

Teachers continue to review progress and achievement through the school to inform parents as well as further targeted teaching.

Reports will be available in Xuno Tuesday 18th June.

They will also be emailed to students in Years 3-6

Wednesday 19th June.



Principal's Message contd.

THUNKS
Puzzlements, riddles & philosophical questions to wake your brain up!

THUNK!



If the answer is "Once with a fish", what is the question?



Year 5/6 Camp: Notification & Payment Reminders

Our Year 5/6 Camp to Katherine is fast approaching - only 5 weeks away. So many of our students are super excited.

Permission forms are going home with students today and are required back at school by Monday 3rd June.

Reminder re the payment due dates.

Payment Date	Amount due each date	Total over time
Monday 29 th April (Week 3)	\$80	\$80
Monday 13 th May (Week 5)	\$80	\$160
Monday 27 th May (Week 7)	\$80	\$240
Monday 3rd June (Week 8)	\$80	\$320

Each Thursday after lunch our 14 Student Commissioners meet with Mrs Baines, Ms Katie and myself. They have begun delving into data, developing their line of inquiry for 2024 and asking probing questions. They have nailed the focus for 2024 - Online safety [based on parent perception data and their own experiences] and are now finalising the actual Line of Inquiry. Stay tuned for further updates from our articulate and focussed Commissioners - striving for improvement at Alawa. This Friday they connect online with hundreds of Student Commissioners across the NT to share their journey for the year to date and seek feedback.

Have a fab week and hope to see you around the school,

Sandy Cartwright [Principal of the Best School in the Multiverse]

Assistant Principal's Message



KIDS FITNESS BOOT CAMP

AS part of our wellbeing as well as preparation for our school Sports Day on June 7th, today we recommence fitness bootcamp on a Wednesday morning.

We ask for all children to arrive at school by 8:15am Wednesdays and we all gather on the oval for 30minutes. Parents and family members are also invited and encouraged to come and join us.



Hi Alawa Families!

Last week finished off with not one, but two successful Gala Days for Alawa Primary School - AFL and Tennis. Our students did a great job competing and showing wonderful sportsmanship. Congratulations to all of our participants, volunteers and the teachers who organised the Gala Days to make it all happen.

This is the final week for visiting Speech Pathology student, Lily Hamilton, here at Alawa Primary School. Her placement finishes on Friday. We have enjoyed having Lily here, working with our students, teachers and families. I have valued the knowledge and skills she has been able to bring to the school which will allow us to better support our students even after her placement is finished. We wish Lily the best of luck completing her qualification back at Latrobe University in Victoria. Who knows? Perhaps we will be lucky enough to see her back in Darwin before too long!

The Preschool Picnic Night last Wednesday was such a lovely evening. I was so pleased to see many families from both of our preschool groups come together to enjoy an amazing meal together. To top it off, the evening finished with a beautiful singing performance by the Preschoolers. Well done to the littlest members of the Alawa PS Community! Thank you also to Ms Churchman and Ms Henschke who organised the evening.

The greatest sign of success for a teacher...is to be able to say, "The children are now working as if I did not exist." - Maria Montessori

Rachel Barnett [Assistant Principal]

Movie Night Volunteer House Points

Hats off to our fabulous volunteers who made the Mother's Day Movie Night a hit! Your efforts have scored some major points for your Houses:

Goyder: 700 points

Manton: 700 points

Finnis: 1300 points

**I LIKE KNOWING
WHAT HAPPENS NEXT**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday 21st May	Dr Corey's Paediatric Clinic	All day
Wednesday 22nd May	Bootcamp	8:15am - 8:45am
Friday 24th May	Assembly hosted by 3 Nguyen Learning Commission Goes Live	8:40am 10:30am - 1pm
Wednesday 29th May	Bootcamp	8:15am - 8:45am
Thursday 30th May	Young Achievers at DMS	All day
Tuesday 4th June	Masterchef	3:00pm - 5:30pm
Wednesday 5th June	Years 3-6 Field Events	8:40am - 10:30am
Thursday 6th June	Year 6 Orientation Day at DMS	8:45am - 1:00pm
Friday 7th June	Sport's Day	All day
Monday 10th June	King's Birthday - Public Holiday	All day
Tuesday 11th June	Dr Corey's Paediatric Clinic	All day
Wednesday 12th - Friday 14th June	5/6 Camp in Katherine	All day
Friday 21st June	Hockey Gala Day NAIDOC Assembly hosted by 5/6 Henderson Last day of Term 2	All day 8:40am All day



HONOUR AWARDS AND HONOUR DISTINCTION



The following students will receive their Honour Awards this Friday 24th May:

Jaxson Garbusinski	Tex Lehmann	Toby Kinnane
Paige Suter	Flynn Cleary	Georgie Jenner
Sadie Jackson	Theodore Andrew	Harry Frawley
Dorcas Muhawe	Georgie Barkley	Evli
Chelsea Coote	Destiny Wigness	Maebe Thomson
Jerome Dowling	Eleanor Dennis	Irene Glynatsis
	Eddie McErlane	

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 **Layla Cook** receiving an Honour Distinction!

SPORTING SCHOOLS

Sporting School Update

*Transition – Year 2 are having loads of fun learning a new sport during lunchtime this term: T-Ball

*For Years 3 – 6 students in the Afterschool AFL Program, there will be a make up session on Thursday 30th May 3pm – 4pm (usual time). This will be the final AFL session.



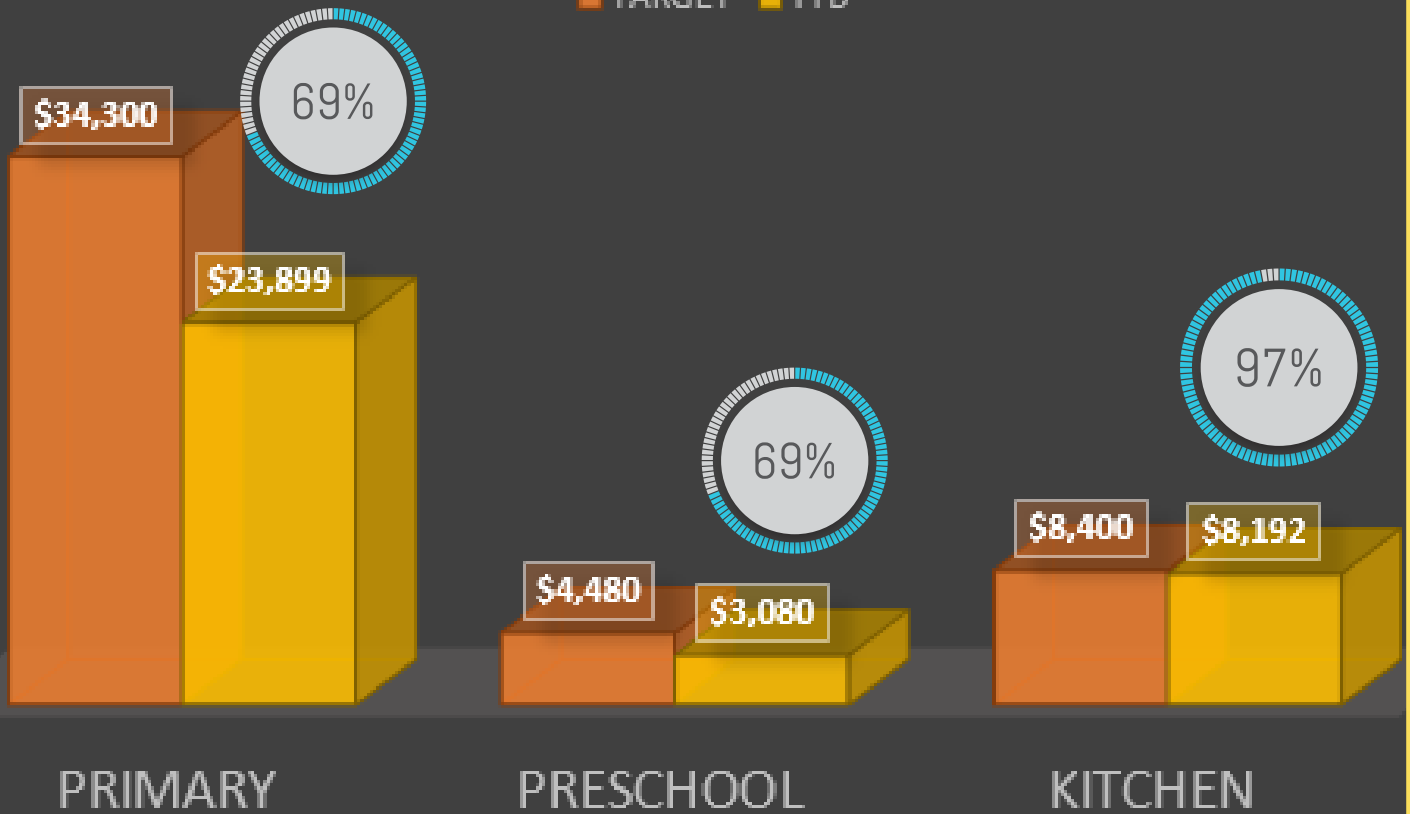
Ms Gina [Sporting Schools Coordinator]



ALAWA PRIMARY SCHOOL

2024 SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS

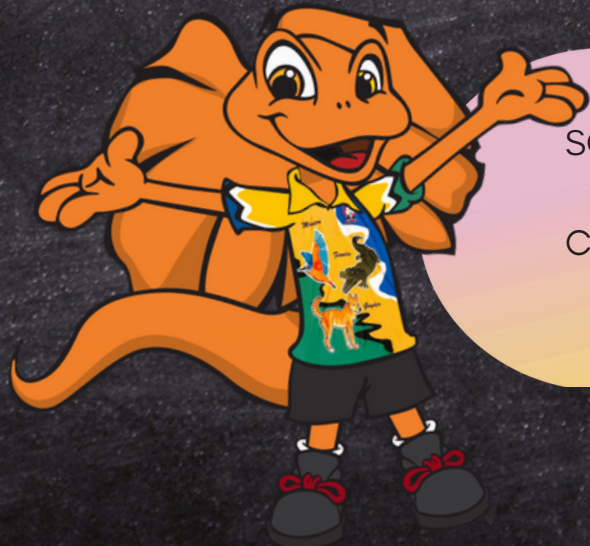
TARGET YTD



PRIMARY

PRESCHOOL

KITCHEN



PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS HELP ALAWA PRIMARY SCHOOL TO BE THE BEST SCHOOL IN THE MULTIVERSE, BY PROVIDING A WIDE RANGE OF EQUIPMENT AND CONSUMABLES, INCLUDING LIBRARY BOOKS, LITERACY AND NUMERACY RESOURCES, ICT EQUIPMENT AND ART AND CRAFT SUPPLIES.

SPORTS DAY VOLUNTEERS

One of our major events this term at Alawa is **Sports Day, Friday 7th June**, which is fast approaching. Therefore, we are doing our annual call out for parent volunteers.

As you know a lot of planning and time goes into our Sport's Day and it could not run as smoothly as it does without our parent volunteers. If you have some spare time on the day and would like to help on an event, in the canteen or delivering fruit platters to our hard-working athletes, please contact the front office via phone or email. If not pop in and there will be a sign up sheet at the front office.

alawa.school@education.nt.gov.au
8997 7666

**HELP
NEEDED**



Wednesday June 5th, 8:45am-10:30am

Students will participate in age groups over the 2 sessions

800m

Warm up stretching with house captains

8:45am - 9:30am Students turning 11 and 12 in 2024 out on the oval

9:30am - 10:30am Students turning 9 and 10 in 2024 out on the oval

Girls High Jump: 8:45am

Boys High Jump: 8:45am

9:30am

9:30am

8:30am Students from 5/6 not turning 11 or 12 in 2024 stay in class

9:30am Students not turning 9 or 10 in 2024 stay in class

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

The council is going to trial a regular column in the newsletter to let the community know more about what we are doing. Please let us know if you appreciate this update and what you would like to see in it.

Council met on Monday. Topics on the agenda included:

* Access to sustainable Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) options for Alawa families. A parent group attended the meeting and presented a paper. If you would like to join their investigations of OSHC options, please scan the QR code provided.

* The success of the movie night fundraising. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and supported the event. There are more activities to come - keep your eye out for a Bunnings BBQ in Term 3 and an Alawa themed Christmas present all the family will love.

* Council is making an increased effort to promote the playgroup this term. The school provides this service to support families as first teachers and help future students familiarise themselves with the school environment. Many of us have enjoyed this service, please promote it amongst your networks and like any school Facebook posts you see.

* External cafe provider options were discussed and their compliance with NT Department of Education healthy eating guidelines is currently being investigated.

Members of the school community are welcome to attend meetings or raise issues with the council. Please contact the front office for more information or to request contact with the council chair.



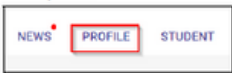
QUICKCLIQ REFUNDS

QuickCliq: Closing your account / Wallet Refund

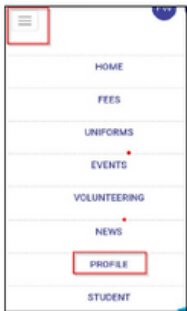
QuickCliq users can close their account at any time and / or request a refund for any balance in the QuickCliq Wallet.

- Login to your QuickCliq account.
- Select PROFILE

Desktop View:



Mobile View:



- Navigate to the section titled: Account Balance Refund + Close Account
- For Wallet Balance Refund select REFUND REQUEST.
- To close account (+ wallet balance) select CLOSE ACCOUNT

With the refund, funds will either be returned to the card last used for payment (allow 3-5 working days) or you will be prompted to provide bank details for an eft refund (allow 5-7 working days).

Any questions?

Phone: 1300 11 66 37

support@quickcliq.com.au

PRESCHOOL NEWS



Last Wednesday evening preschool children and their families arrived at preschool with picnic blankets and yummy food to share. We had a wonderful turn out for our Picnic night event.

The weather was perfect, and the dishes were out of this world! There were homemade dumplings and baguettes, amazing curries, wraps, pasta and delicious south African doughnuts (which disappeared very, very quickly).

When everyone had eaten it was time for our performance! We began with our acknowledgment of country 'Larrakia' song which we sing at the start of every preschool session. We moved onto an animal action song with Larrakia names.



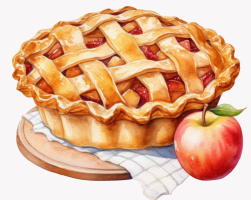
Finally, we performed 'Taba Naba' a traditional song from the Torres Strait.

We were so very proud of all the children who sang with big voices and lots of energy. It was a beautiful evening. Thank you to everyone who came along.

Have a great week!

**Ms Henschke, Ms Churchman, Ms Kelly, Ms Flor, Ms Katie
[The Preschool Team]**

PLAYGROUP NEWS



It was our cooking day at playgroup on Friday and lots of little ones were excited to do some making and baking! Playgroupers and their families were coming in one after the other, settling in finding comfy spots, toys to play with and friends to have chit - chats. While everyone was having fun playing and catching up, Miss Erin got busy chopping lots of apples! Soon the ingredients were making their way onto the cooking table, little ones were washing their hands and finding a good seat to be amongst the action. First Miss Erin cut some BIG squares of pastry into SMALL squares so everyone had a piece to decorate. But we didn't do our decorating with sparkly glitter, we decorated with crunchy, green apples! We also decorated with sweet, brown sugar and 'painted' on golden butter. When the decorating was finished we put them on the tray ready to cook in the HOT, HOT oven.

While we waited it was the perfect time to go explore outside, this was especially exciting for our new playgroup families who thought our Pre-School yard was so amazing and full of fun things to do! We did have lots of fun going around and around on the bikes, digging in the sand, building blocks under the verandah and of course checking-in regularly to see if Miss Erin was bringing out the pastries yet! Finally our pastries were ready, we brought them outside to share in the fresh air. We all picked out our favourite sweet, golden and puffy treats, then dolloped on some fresh cream. They were Sooo Delicious! I think some people loved them so much they were going to make some more at home.

This week we will visit the farm so remember you hats, shoes and drink bottles.

Miss Erin [Playgroup Coordinator]

LIBRARY NEWS

Bowerbird Blues

The Australian Library and Information Associations National Simultaneous Storytime is happening this week. I was looking at the book *Bowerbird Blues* again today and there are so many things to look for, think and learn more about woven into the story and images of the book. The reader is invited to explore the end papers of the book and the story itself to see what blue things they can find. While the Bowerbird in the story is searching for fulfilment through its treasure it discovers that the real treasure comes from relationship and connection with others.

This book along with stories such as *Bin Chicken* by Kate and Jol Temple and *Walk of the Whales* by Nick Bland challenge us to think about the impact we are having on the environment, animal behaviours and how we can make a change in our lives to help to save our part of the world.

DID YOU KNOW?

In Queensland plastic milk containers were once marked with blue caps. The Satin Bowerbirds loved to collect these and the blue locking rings. Unfortunately many birds were strangled and died as the rings got caught around their necks. Fortunately when the milk company was alerted to this they changed the cap colour. (https://nt.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/199946/bowerbirds.pdf)

Things you might like to learn more about or do:

- Bowerbirds, where they live, what types there are, what their nests look like.
- The colour blue, its different shades, where it is found in nature, how it has been used over history
- How pollution affects our wildlife
- Build a Bowerbird Nest. What treasures will you collect?
- Draw a Bowerbird nest and fill it with the names of family and friends who are your treasures

Check out the following links for information from the Author on her inspiration and process of creating the book *Bowerbird Blues*.

[Aura Parker - illustrator, designer and writer talking about Bowerbird Blues](#)

[Aura Parker on the process of creating BOWERBIRD BLUES - crafting the text and illustrations.](#)



Ms Sacha [Library/ICT]

FARM NEWS

Larrakia Season: Damibila (Barramundi and bush fruit time) The cooler mornings are starting to set in.

Farm News: Baby Guinea Pigs are doing well and the baby quails are growing quickly. Mothers Day is a special celebration at the Farm, the students from Transition Hughes enjoyed potting up Rhoeo plants or more commonly know 'Moses in the Cradle' for all their mums and hand decorated pots.

Farm Highlights: The garden's most wanted!

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

This semester, students have been finding out whether the insects help or harm our garden plants. What do you think are our worst offenders?

This year it's the Mealybugs that have mainly infested our hibiscus and paw paws and have been a common problem for many gardeners in the Top End. Fortunately, at the beginning of the year in the Christmas Holidays, Farmer Bob and I released some 'good bugs' into the garden. We set out to release hundreds of juvenile Green Lace Wing bugs into the Farm garden. They have been very successful, and we are now starting to see tiny Lacewing eggs laid on native grasses, ready for more of these amazing helpful predators!



FARM CLASSES OF THE WEEK

3/4 GARDNER

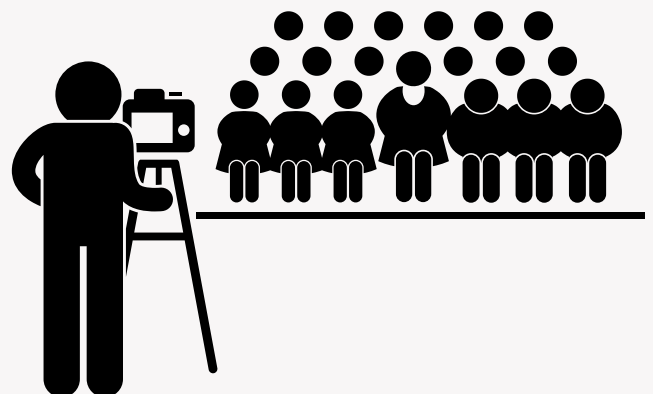
AND

5/6 HORIZAN

Mrs Cleary and Farmer Bob [The Farm Team]

COMING UP.....

**SCHOOL PHOTOS
2024
HAVE BEEN
BOOKED FOR 7TH OF
AUGUST**



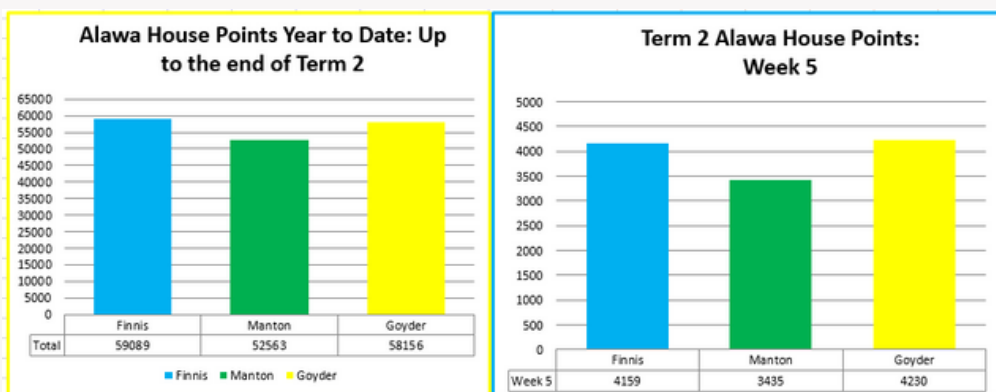
HOUSE POINTS



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. Parents can also earn points for their houses by volunteering at the school- Whether it's in the kitchen, the farm, the library, the canteen or even in the classroom, parents can earn 100 points each time they volunteer. Make contact with your classroom teacher or the front office to find out more information.

**In Week 5 of Term 2 Goyder was ahead with 4230 points!
In the lead for the Year to date is Finnis with 59089 points!**



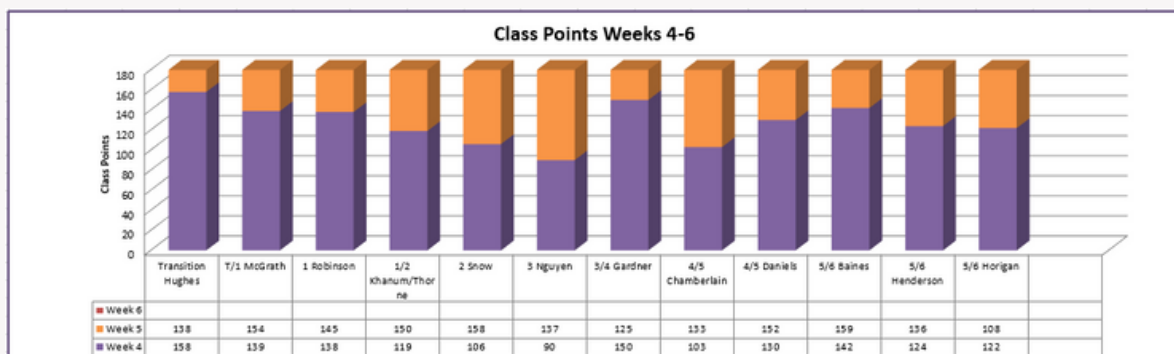
CLASS POINTS



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.

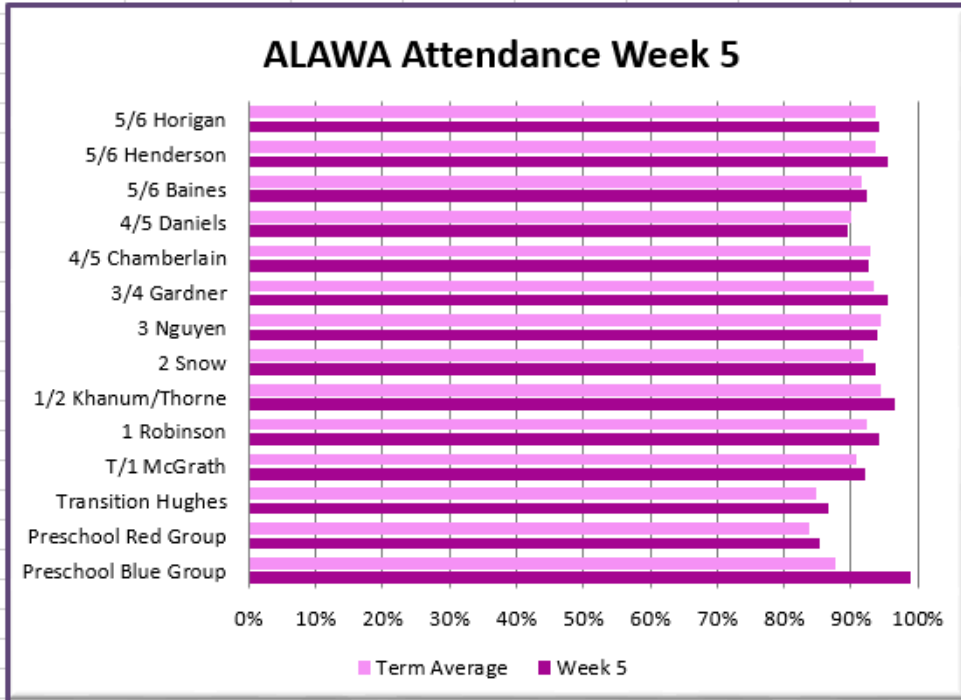
Each week we allocate class points during Muster time recognising those students who were ready and waiting to go back to class calmly and quietly after break times. The winning class from each 3 weeks will receive ice-blocks from our Principal and get to choose 3 songs that will play before our bells for the following 3 weeks.

The class with the most points in Week 5 of Term 2 was...5/6 Baines with 159 points!!!



ATTENDANCE

Primary School Average for Week 5 Term 2: 93.06%
 The class with the highest attendance for Week 5:
Preschool Blue Group with 98.78%!!! Amazing job!!!



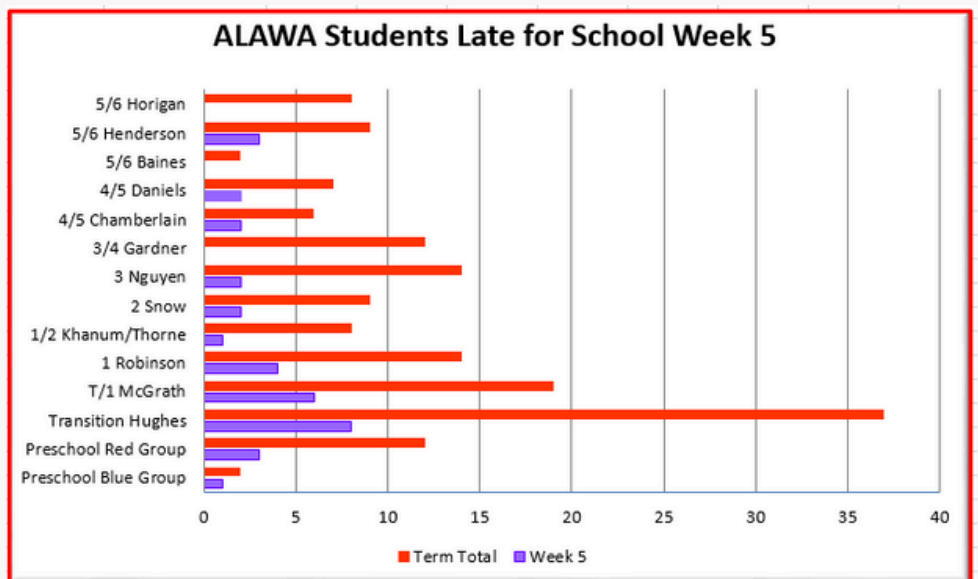
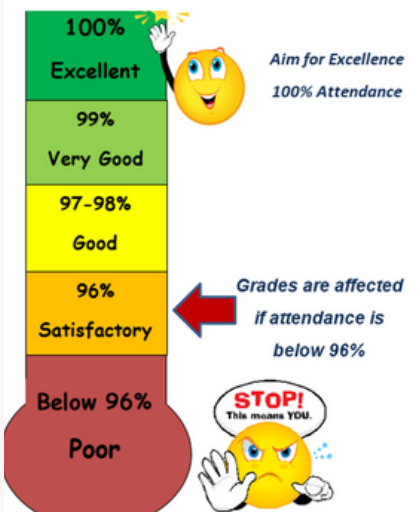
LATES

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 5!

For Week 5 it was fabulouso to see NO lates at all for 3/4 Gardner, 5/6 Baines & 5/6 Horigan.

ATTENDANCE

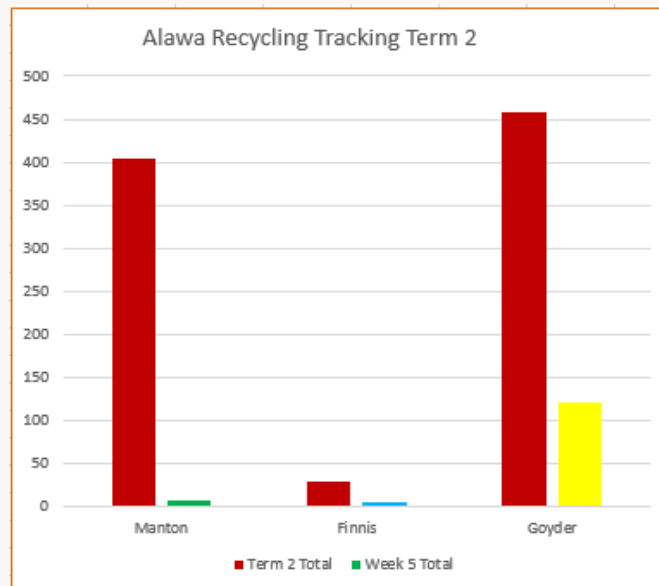


RECYCLING



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.



Teaching in the Territory Excellence Awards 2024 Nominations now open!

Nominations are now open for the **2024 Teaching in the Territory Excellence Awards**.

The awards are an opportunity to recognise the outstanding contributions of teachers, specialist teachers, early childhood educators, principals, leaders and support staff who are making a difference in the lives of NT students.

We have amazing educators working right here at Alawa. These awards give us a chance to celebrate and reflect on our frontline staff who do an exceptional job of engaging our students in high-quality learning every day!

Nominations can be submitted [HERE](#) and close on Friday 24th May.

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 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 Trainer of the Year

DID YOU KNOW?

COMMUNITY NOTICES



RULES FOR COMPETITION

THE PURPOSE OF THE RADICAL WRITERS COMPETITION IS TO ENCOURAGE AND PROMOTE YOUNG WRITERS IN THE NORTHERN SUBURB SCHOOLS BY PROVIDING AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHOWCASE THEIR WRITING ACHIEVEMENTS.

- The Writing Competition is open to students who attend school in the Northern Suburbs.
- All writing submitted is to be the original work of the student.
- Teachers can assist with brainstorming and proofreading only.
- Entrants are eligible to enter more than one piece of writing in all categories.
- Writing entries will be judged by a panel of local authors and educators.
- The Year 2 Paint A Poem entries will be judged by The Casuarina Library.
- SWAN category entries will be judged by a Special Education teaching panel.
- Winning school entries will be notified through their school representative and personal entries will be directly notified.
- Winners will be invited to the awards Presentation in Term 3.
- By submitting an entry, permission is given for written work, name of author and product to be displayed, published or promoted by the Radical Writers Festival and sponsors of the event.



CATEGORIES

PRIZES FOR EACH CATEGORY

FIRST PRIZE \$100
ENCOURAGEMENT AWARDS \$20

ENTRIES

PAINT A POEM V2

An original poem and painting for display as one piece. The poem can be written or typed and stuck to the picture. Entries to include the student's name and school written on the back of the page. Maximum size of A3. Year 2 only.

WRITTEN ENTRIES V3-7

Original short story. Max 600 words. Original poem. Max 200 words. Word document only, font-Ariel, size 12. No illustrations/borders. Entries to include student name, year level and school typed at the top of the first page.

STUDENTS WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS V3-7 AND V8-12

Original short story. Max 600 words. Original poem. Max 200 words. Word document only, font-Ariel, size 12. No illustrations/borders. Entries to include student name, year level and school typed at the top of the first page.

ENTRIES DUE
6TH JUNE

ONE
COMMUNITY
PRESENTS

READY-SET-CONNECT



Hello, Darwin!

FREE NDIS NETWORKING EVENT

Thursday 23/05/2024

9:45 AM to 12:30 PM

Darwin Turf Club Dick Ward Drive Darwin NT

WHO?

Support coordinators, support workers, people with disability, teachers, parents and carers are all welcome.

WHY?

Get to know NDIS providers servicing your local area and boost your contacts in a fun and informative networking session.

HOW?

Register at oncommunity.net.au/Ready-Set-Connect

JOIN US

EVENT SPONSORS

dannymetsally™

A NATIONAL PREMIUM DISABILITY SERVICE PROVIDER

Kismet

nib Thrive

COMPETITION CLOSES 6TH JUNE

Written entries to be emailed in a word document to lesley.calling@education.nt.gov.au

Paint a poem entries to be submitted in hard copy to the Casuarina library.



Prizes will be presented at The Radical Writers Festival Day, 12:30 pm - 1 pm on Tuesday, 6th August at Dripstone Middle School

THE RADICAL WRITERS FESTIVAL DAY

Date: 6th August 2024

Venue: Dripstone Middle School

9 am - 12 pm

Students Y5-7 from Northern Suburb schools will participate in Writing workshops with local authors and artists.

12.30 pm - 1 pm

Radical Writers Competition Presentations.

THE RADICAL WRITERS COMPETITION 2024

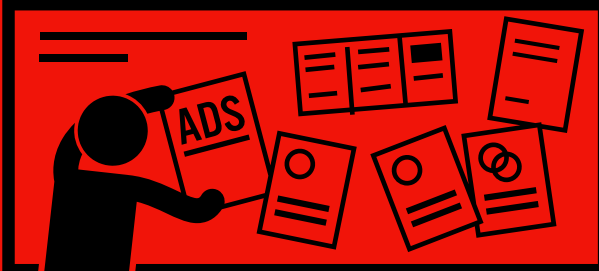


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CLOSING DATE:
6TH JUNE 2024

ADVERTISEMENT



2024

Harmony Soiree

SATURDAY 25 MAY 2024
DARWIN WATERFRONT
4:30 - 9PM

Celebrate the Territory's rich multicultural community.

Experience and learn about Darwin's diverse multicultural communities by joining in a range of fun-filled activities.

Enjoy delicious food, be entertained by spectacular performances from all over the world and release a decorated lantern into the lagoon at sunset.

