

Acacia in Action

Respect

Collaboration

Integrity

Understanding

Adaptability

5 February 2021

Welcome to 2021! Hopefully everyone has had at least some holiday time and feels refreshed and ready for whatever 2021 will bring us! We are off to a really great start in week 1 and there is a fantastic feel of team amongst our staff.

LATE NEWS

If you know of any students who were in the following suburbs in Victoria on or after 29th January, could you please let me know straight away.

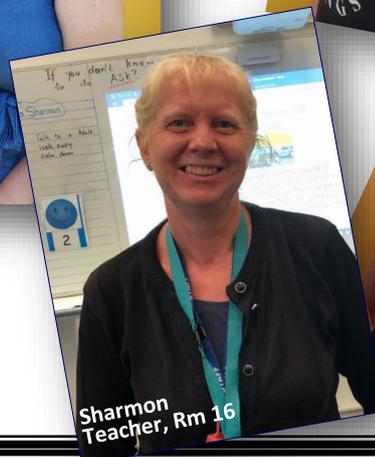
IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR ALL NT FAMILIES

If you have travelled to the suburbs of Brighton, Brandon Park, Clayton South, Heatherton, Keysborough, Melbourne, Moorabbin, Noble Park, Springvale and West Melbourne of Victoria on or following the 29 January please follow the advice issued by the NT Chief Health Officer to:

- Arrange for a COVID-19 test
- Self-quarantine whilst awaiting for the results
- Return to school only once a negative test has been returned and/or you have clearance from COVID-19 Hotline to do so (COVID-19 Hotline: 1800 008 002)

New staff

We welcome a number of new staff and some returning staff this term. Michelle is back with us as she has been missed whilst on maternity leave.



Website: <https://www.acaciahill.nt.edu.au/>

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/Acacia-Hill-School-101999724805228/>

Allergy Alert: students at Acacia Hill have nut allergies and other serious eating conditions

COVID-19

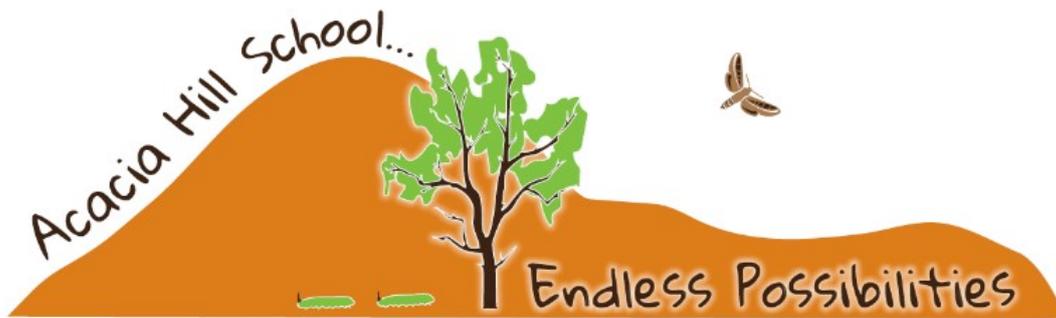
We continue to put measures in place to ensure our school remains a healthy and safe environment for students and all staff.

A fact sheet for parents and carers is attached to this newsletter which includes a range of information about education in NT government schools, and how families can help to keep our schools as safe as possible. To ensure that we maintain a safe learning environment in our school, we ask all our families to continue to practise and promote good hygiene and respect the guidelines that we have set in place including those relating to visitors to schools. If your child is unwell, please ensure they remain at home and notify the school.

Please notify the school if your child has been directed by the Northern Territory Government to self-isolate at home or enter mandatory quarantine at a government facility. The school will provide the student with learning from home materials to ensure that they can continue to learn during this period.

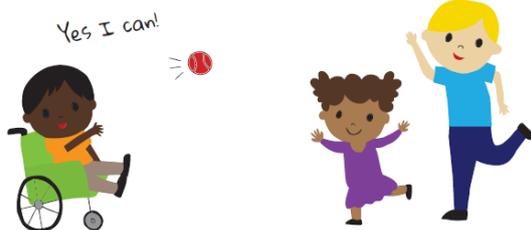
School logo, vision and values

As part of our Vision and Values work we present to you our final version of the new Acacia Hill logo. I would like to thank all of the parents and carers who gave us invaluable feedback in the school survey in Term 3 to complete this project. We commissioned local graphic designer, Charlee-Anne Ah Chee to do this work. The logo includes elements of Yipirinya Dreaming (Acacia Hill is a cocoon site in the traditional story), and the tree is a connection with the current logo and 'acacia'. The bright green processional caterpillars are the particular variety of Yipirinya in the Dreaming of our AEO, Cheryle Edward's. Cheryle is a member of the traditional custodian family. The moth flying off signifies moving forward – Endless Possibilities.



The other part of this project was our new values. These, along with their graphics, are presented below and you will see them around the school more and more in the coming months.

Confident



Community



Caring



Connected



Medication at school

Just a reminder that medication must be brought into the school under the following conditions:

- Accompanied by 2 forms (both of which are available from Justine in Reception):
Medication Instruction from Prescribing Doctor
Medication Request by Parent/Carer for Student with Notified Medical Condition
- In the chemist packaging that has the administration instructions
- It cannot be placed in students school bag/pocket, it must be brought in by the parent/caregiver.

Educational Adjustment Plans (EAPs)

An EAP is the learning plan with specific goals to meet each individual student's needs. These plans are the basis of the school program of a student with special needs – that is, every student at Acacia Hill School. In Term 1 each year, there is an EAP meeting for each student. This meeting is attended by the student's parents or caregivers, legal guardians where appropriate, school staff and any other support people. This year we are hoping that the NDIS Coordinator of Support will also attend for students who have one. It is really important that we have everyone's input so we gain a complete picture of the young person's needs to plan the most appropriate learning program. In particular, parents and caregivers have information which is extremely valuable to the school.

In the next few weeks, you will receive a form from your child's teacher where you can indicate two or three preferences from the proposed meeting times. We look forward to seeing you at these meetings.

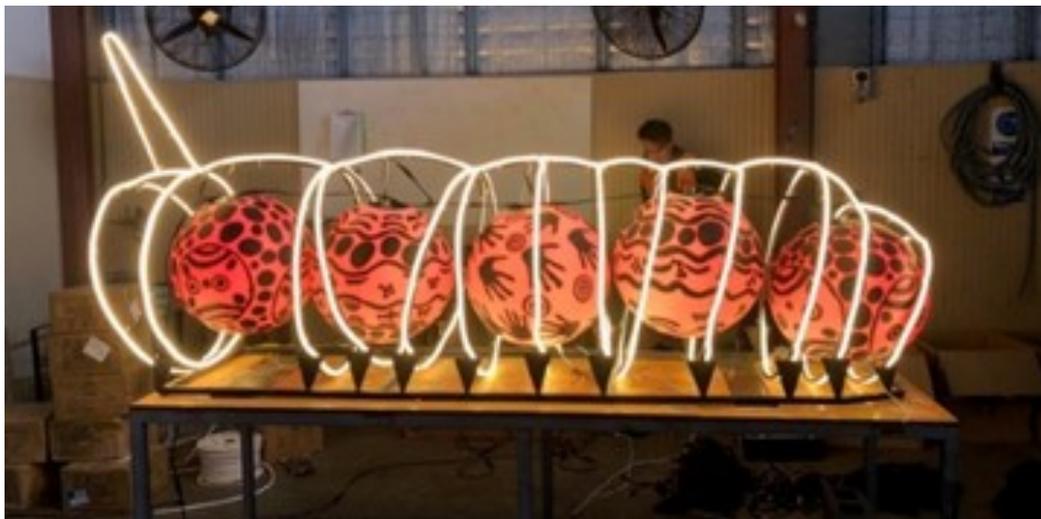
Disability Gateway kit

The Disability Gateway kit includes a website, a dedicated phone number (1800 643 787) and social media channels (Facebook, Twitter). It aims to assist people with disability, their families and carers to find and access trusted information and services. It is for all Australians with disability, whether NDIS participants or not.

www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/sites/default/files/document/2021-01/121-disability-gateway.pdf

Parrtjima caterpillar

One of the caterpillars from the Parrtjima Festival in Light 2018 has been donated to us. This fits well with the Acacia Hill caterpillar and cocoons story. The caterpillar is about three metres long and a metre high. It was painted by Parrtjima artists at a workshop at Bachelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education. We are placing it in our veggie garden area and look forward to it brightening up the area.



Dates Coming up

- ◆ **Friday, 26 February** 10:00—11:30 School Council AGM and Ordinary Meeting—all welcome
- ◆ **2 - 5 April** Easter