

Newsletter Week 9 Term 1 2023

From the Principal

On Wednesday last week, we had an impromptu visit from our Deputy Chief Executive Agency Services, Susan Bowden, and two other Department of Education guests, Rebecca and Rob. I took Susan, Rebecca and Rob for a visit all around Acacia Hill School. They were very impressed, and I am always proud to know that our staff are great at what they do all the time! We can drop in any time, and there will be good things happening in every class.

We had a fire drill on Thursday just before lunch playtime. Again, I was very proud of our staff and students. Even though a loud fire alarm is distressing for some of our students, both staff and students managed the fire drill calmly and quickly. Within a very short time, the whole school was quietly at the assembly point, and everyone returned to lunch playtime calmly and quietly afterwards.

After school pick up procedure

These days, a number of students are picked up by a respite carer after school, and quite often, there is a change in which person picks up a student. From now on, we will be asking carers whom we are not familiar with, who come during bus time at the end of the day, to provide identification and to sign the student out. Carers who pick up students slightly earlier than the buses will continue with the current process of signing out at reception.

Harmony Day Special Assembly

Thank you, Ms Hannah, for another awesome Harmony Day Special Assembly! It was great to recognize students and staff from 18 different cultural and language backgrounds. There were lots of colourful outfits and each group sang their national anthem. We are so lucky to have such a multicultural staff and student community at Acacia. It is one of the things that makes it such a great school!



School Council Meeting 17th March

At our School Council meeting on 17th March, we discussed the plans so far for the 40th birthday of Acacia Hill School. Everyone supported naming our hall the 'Telka Williams Hall' in honour of this remarkable woman who started special education in Central Australia. There is more information about this below.

Council also supported us putting in a Minor New Works application for a tall boundary fence, similar to the fences at the special schools in the Top End which are not climbable. From time to time, we have a student who goes through a phase of climbing fences.

DATES COMING UP

- Thursday 6/04/2023 End of Term 1; Friday 7/04/2023 Good Friday
- Term 2 Tuesday 18/04/2023 - Friday 23/06/2023 (Teachers commence 17/17/2023)
- 18-21 April Ciara-Lucy Forrest (Speech Pathologist) at Acacia
- 9:30am Friday 26/05/2023 naming of hall after Telka Williams
- Term 3 Tuesday 18/07/2023 - Friday 22/09/2023 (teachers commence 17/07/2023)
- 11:00am-2:00pm Friday 4/08/2023 Acacia 40th Birthday Open Day
- Term 4 Tuesday 10/10/2023 - Thursday 14/12/2023 (teachers commence 9/10/2023)
- Friday 15/12/2023 Staff PD Day for Teachers

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

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

Visit from NT Police Trainees

Our visit from the police trainees was great! I think every single student had fun playing sports activities with these wonderful men and women. Even a child who was a bit nervous at first ended up having fun.

For their part, the trainees and their supervisors really appreciated their time at Acacia, enjoyed interacting with student and acknowledged our wonderful staff.

THANK YOU!



Acacia Hill School 40th birthday

Telka Williams was the force behind the beginning of special education in Central Australia.

In 1962, Telka gave birth to a daughter with Downs Syndrome. In those days, children with a disability were sent interstate to an institution or 'hidden away' at home. Telka was horrified at those suggestions, and instead, she proudly included her daughter in all the Williams family activities. The community came to accept this.

Telka believed that her daughter should enjoy all the same experiences as others in the community. But this required community services to support people with a disability. Telka first established the Alice Springs Special School (1965) and later Bindi. The Special School was called 'The Sunny Centre' and was located at the now historic Hartley Street precinct.

Acacia Hill School

In 1983, the Special School moved to the current Acacia Hill site. Originally, Acacia was an annex of Sadadeen Primary, which was also established in 1983. This means that both Sadadeen Primary and Acacia Hill School are celebrating their 40th birthdays this year.

Telka lived well into her nineties, and passed away in 2018.

40th birthday celebration

We are planning two events for Acacia's 40th birthday:

- A special assembly at 9:30am on Friday 26th May which will include naming our hall 'The Telka Williams Hall'
- An Open Day 11:00am-2:00pm on Friday 4th August.

If you know anyone who should be invited to either of these events, can you please leave a message with the school on 8955 2222, or email Acaciahill.school@education.net.gov.au.

Stay tuned for further information.

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

A few farewells

Sadly, Sharmon will be leaving us at the end of term, moving into a different role. Sharmon has been a very good teacher and has helped her students really make progress with their learning.

Also, Richard Cox, who has been a very faithful and helpful relief teacher, is moving interstate with his wife.

Marica will be on a seven week placement from the start of term as part of her Master of Early Childhood Education.

Rohan will be working with us just one day a week from next term.

Support for Families and contact details

Autism Advisory Line: 24/7; Run by families of children with autism; 1300 22 777

Autism NT: 8948 4424

FACES: 8:00AM-8:00PM Monday to Friday; parenting support, budgeting support; Referral for services; 1800 999 900

Parentline: Access to counsellors Monday to Friday 8:00am-10:00pm; 1300 301 300

Relationships Australia sometimes sees children if they have the capacity to cater for the individual. There is a phone intake process in which they determine if they have the capacity.

Family must pay for the service. The fee varies according to family income and can be quite low if income is very low. Contact number is 8950 4100.

What's happening around the school!

Room 4

During maths sessions students love building houses using shapes and thereafter playing with water during free choice time.

Victor/Alenira



Room 8

We enjoy learning to read in class through Reading Eggs as part of our reading activity. For writing, we talk about what we liked about our weekend and we write our story. Well done to all our students for your hard work!

Carolyn/Hellena





TENNIS
11/4/23
ALICE SPRING TENNIS CLUB



BASKETBALL
12/4/23
[A7]ALICE SPRING BASKETBALL
ASSOC.

YOUTH WEEK 23
SPORT & REC
2:30 PM - 6 PM
REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED
FREE EVENT



ROCK WALL
14/4/23
[A7]KILGARIFF RECREATION
CENTER



FUTSAL
13/4/23
KILGARIFF RECREATION
CENTER

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SCAN CODE FOR INFO & TO REGISTER

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**ACTION
BREAK**
April 11 - 14
AGE GROUP:
5 - 12
YEAR OLDS

**ARE YOU READY FOR AN
ACTION-PACKED EASTER BREAK**

Tue 11 April Inhouse	Wed 12 April Inhouse	Thu 13 April Excursion	Fri 14 April Excursion
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bubble Soccer. • Yo Alice. • Drama Games • Net Sports <p>\$35 half day \$60 full day</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal Games • Yo Alice • Just Dance • Rockwall <p>\$35 half day \$60 full day</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rockwall • Yo Alice • Dustbowl <p>\$70 full day</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ninja Warrior • Disco Party • Cinema <p>\$70 Full Day</p>

&
SUSTAINABILITY THEMED PROGRAMS

BOOK IN PERSON OR VIA EMAIL

1. Visit krc.ymca.org.au
2. Download the 2023 enrolment form & complete
3. Send your form with the dates you would like to book to krc.reception@ynt.org.au
4. We will contact you for payment!

Alternatively come in and see us!

Killgariff Recreation Centre
71 Sadadeen Road, Alice Springs, NT 0870
P: 8952 5666 - W: krc.ymca.org.au - E: krc.reception@ynt.org.au

GET OUT GET ACTIVE
GOGA IS BACK
PERFECT SCHOOL
HOLIDAY FAMILY FUN!

Tue 11 April - Bubble Soccer
Wed 12 April - Net Sport
5:30 - 8 PM





Rockwall open every session

\$5 ENTRY

NO BOOKINGS
REQUIRED

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