

DATE: 18th August 2023 Connected

Newsletter Week 5 Term 3 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

40th Birthday Event

This was an excellent event - see attached photos. The day ran really smoothly, with a steady stream of visitors moving through. I'm very thankful to all the people who put in a lot of time and energy to make it a great day, particularly our Art Teacher, Veronica Hagan, who has been working on the event since way back at the start of the year.

It was great to reflect on how much has happened in the special education space in Central Australia in the past 40 years. It actually all began a further 20 years, with Telka Williams' energetic work to establish an educational facility for students with special needs. The first facility opened in February 1965 in a house on the corner of Stott Terrace and Hartley Street, with four students.

In 1983, the school moved to the current Acacia Hill location. It was originally an annex of Sadadeen Primary. A lot of students and staff have passed through Acacia Hill School since then, and various building have come and gone and been replaced. For a more detailed history, especially of Telka Williams and her role, there is a brochure and a small booklet on our reception desk at Acacia.

Health and Wellbeing

A reminder, if your child is sick, please keep them at home until well. There is quite a lot of sickness in Alice Springs at the moment and we do all we can to ensure everyone can stay healthy at school.

Here is some information about time of exclusion from school with common medical conditions:

Condition	Minimum period of exclusion from school
Conjunctivitis	Exclude until discharge from eyes has ceased or doctor says its okay to resume school.
Scabies, Ringworm	Exclude until the day after appropriate treatment has com- menced.
Diarrhoea (no organism identified)	Exclude until there has not been vomiting or a loose bowel mo- tion for 24 hours.
Viral Gastroenteritis	Exclude until there has not been vomiting or a loose bowel mo- tion for 24 hours.
Influenza like conditions	Exclude until well.
School Sores/Impetigo	Exclude until appropriate treatment has commenced. Sores on exposed surfaces must be covered with a watertight dressing.
COVID	Exclude if there are any symptoms, even if mild.

Also, wounds and sores on exposed parts of the body must be covered with a watertight dressing before coming to school to prevent infection.

DATES COMING UP

- 10:00am Friday 18 August School Council meeting
- 5:30pm Wednesday 20 September Year 12 Graduation
- Friday 22/09/2023 end of Term 3
- Tuesday 10/10/2023 first day of Term 4 for students
- 10:00am Friday 20 October School Council meeting
- 10:00am Friday 17 November School Council meeting
- 9:30am Thursday 30 November Rm 1-6 Annual Awards Assembly
- 9:30am Friday 1 December Rm 7-20 Annual Awards Assembly
- Friday 8 December Year 6 Graduation Assembly
- 1:30-2:30pm Thursday 14 December School Concert
- Thursday 14/12/2023 last day of school for students
- 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/



NDIS Therapists

Just a reminder that NDIS therapists must be registered NDIS providers in order to apply to work in NT Government schools.

On Country Learning Measure

The On Country Learning measure was announced through the 2023-24 Federal Budget as part of the better, safer future for Central Australia plan. It is a commitment of \$40M over 2023-24 and 2024-25 to support improved attendance and engagement at the 46 government and non-government schools in the Central Australian region. In line with the broader Central Australian response, the underlying principle is for community-driven responses, with community engagement as a core component of delivery.

We have itemised the ideas we have for the money received by Acacia Hill School in the parent survey – see link below. A hard copy of this survey can also be accessed at reception. We look forward to hearing your feedback.

Parent/Carer Survey

The 2023 School Survey is now live. You may have already received the link on your mobile phone. This feedback is really important for planning for 2024. The link is here: https://www.schoolsurvey.edu.au/s/acaciaasp. Alternatively, if you prefer a paper survey, you can collect one from reception.

Julie Permezel

Principal

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

<u>Relationships Australia</u> 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.

<u>Dolly's Dream Support Line</u> is now available to families and students 24/7, providing them with access to qualified counsellors for free and without a referral. To access this service, call or text 0488 881 033 or use this webchat.



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





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