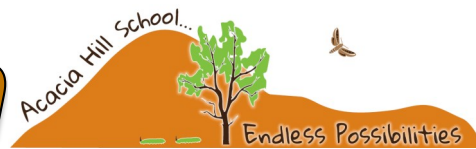


Acacia in Action



Confident

Community

Caring

Connected

DATE: 1st September 2023

Newsletter Week 7 Term 3 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

We have moved into beautiful spring weather. It's great to see lots of happy young people at school each day!

Recently, one of our new cleaners commented on how impressed he is with the Acacia staff, and how kind everyone is. We really do have a great team here, and it is a privilege to work with this group of people. I think, too, that our students bring out the best in all the adults who work with them.

I have modified my upcoming leave. Next term, during my long service leave, I will visit family and have a general rest. I have successfully applied for study leave in Semester 1 next year, so I will complete the research unit for my Master of Public Administration in that time. It is really fortunate that Acacia will have an excellent Principal, Ms Cae Ashton, to take over the reins from me.

Staff

Welcome, Anika Ferrari, who is currently doing some relief support work with us.

Our Health Promoting School Nurse, Sarah, has won an extension of her contract until 25th September 2024. We are very happy to have Sarah with us for a longer period of time.

Book Week

Last week was Book Week. On Sunday 13th August, Aliness and Heather presented book reviews on two of the shortlisted books at the Children's Book Week event at the Town Library.

See the article below from our teacher, Kate Burbeck, about some special book week visitors.



Dental Therapy Fluoride Varnish

A reminder that the dental therapist visit will be Monday 10th – Tuesday 11th September. Permission notes went home on Friday. I am very thankful to our Health Promoting School Nurse, Sarah, for organising this.

Alice Can Dance

We have quite a few students participating in Alice Can Dance, and rehearsals are a lot of fun! The performances will be 5:00pm and 7:00pm on Wednesday 13th September at Araluen. Tickets are on sale now at <https://araluenartscentre.nt.gov.au/whats-on>. I encourage you to purchase your tickets soon, as last year both shows were sold out and some people missed out.



NDIS Therapists

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

DATES COMING UP

- | | |
|--|---|
| • 10-11 September dental therapist visit | • 10:00am Friday 17 November School Council meeting |
| • 5:00pm, 7:00pm 13 September—Alice Can Dance at Araluen | • 9:30am Thursday 30 November Rm 1-6 Annual Awards Assembly |
| • 5:30pm Wednesday 20 September Year 12 Graduation | • 9:30am Friday 1 December Rm 7-20 Annual Awards Assembly |
| • Friday 22/09/2023 end of Term 3 | • Friday 8 December Year 6 Graduation Assembly |
| • Tuesday 10/10/2023 first day of Term 4 for students | • 1:30-2:30pm Thursday 14 December School Concert |
| • 10:00am Friday 20 October School Council meeting | • 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/>

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

On Country Learning Measure

We are very excited to have so many parents complete the School Survey this year. The survey includes our ideas for the On Country Learning Measure for funding for Acacia next year. We are waiting to hear your feedback so we can then start planning for how we will use this funding.

The School Survey has been extended until 8th September, so if you haven't responded yet, 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

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. Contact number is 8950 4100.

Dolly's Dream Support Line 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. Resources are available to support families concerned about bullying and cyberbullying.

Book Week



We had a great Book Week at Acacia Hill School.

The CBCA NT Branch held a Shortlist event for the first time in a few years at Alice Springs Public Library where three of our staff were involved in presenting reviews of books – Heather Jeffries, Aliness Phiri and Kate Burbeck who also works with the CBCA.

Book Week overlapped with a summit for FNAWN (the First Nation Writers Network of Australia) at the start of Book Week and the CBCA NT Branch was contacted by Charmaine Ledden-Lewis, Corey Tutt, of Deadly Science, along with illustrators Charmaine Ledden-Lewis and Jade Goodwin, who were visiting town for the FNAWN summit.

Our school thoroughly enjoyed a book reading and illustration session by these creative and enthusiastic presenters on the Monday of Book Week, and by the end of the week, enthusiasm for Book Week really peaked at our school, and we had one of the best dress-up days ever, according to some of the staff!

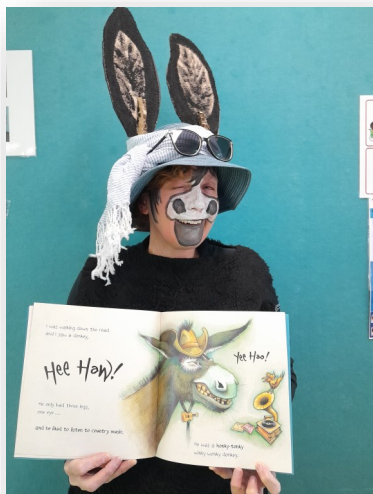
All three of these writers and illustrators are First Nations people from the East Coast. Corey is the author of *The First Scientists*, which was shortlisted for the CBCA Awards in 2022, and won the 2022 Australian Book Industry Awards. On behalf of Deadly Science, Corey donated a whole lot of beautiful children's books to Acacia Hill School, including some copies of *The First Scientists*, as well as *Found* (illustrated by Charmaine) and *Little Ash* – about Ashley Barty (illustrated by Jade).

Next year, in the lead-up to Book Week, it would be wonderful to see students from Acacia Hill School involved in the Shadow Judging program. This is a parallel judging program run by the CBCA as part of the Book of the Year Awards that is now in its second year. Hundreds of school (and community groups) have taken part around Australia this year, and the votes of the children may surprise some adults! The Shadow Judging winners have been announced and can be seen here: <https://youtu.be/UuvTvPYTLsw?feature=shared>

Kate Burbeck

Classroom Teacher

Book Week Photos



School Student Broadband Initiative



The Australian Government has established the School Student Broadband Initiative (SSBI) to provide free home internet for 12 months for up to 30,000 families with school aged children that do not currently have a National Broadband Network (NBN) connection at home.

The Department of Education is supporting the Australian Government's SSBI by becoming a nominating organisation to help identify eligible families within the Northern Territory (NT).

To be eligible families must:

- have a child living at home that is enrolled in an Australian school in 2023
- not have an active NBN internet service at home. Having a mobile internet service does not affect eligibility
- live in a premises that can access the NBN via a standard connection. This will be validated by NBN Co.

There are many ways families can nominate for the SSBI.

1. Receive/request a nomination form from your child's school.
2. Access the nomination form online at <https://forms.office.com/r/sLSrGb74BP> or scan the QR code with your phone's camera and click on the link that appears.
3. Request a nomination form by emailing digitalanddata.doe@education.nt.gov.au or calling 8972 5344.



Nomination forms need to be returned to schools or completed online as soon as possible so that vouchers can be delivered and activated before 30 April 2024.

Room 4

Happy birthday Thompson!

Victor





Henry the therapy dog
is back !



Autism Social Group



Thursday 14 Sept, 4pm–6 pm

Our Autism Social Group is a monthly get-together for Autistic young people and those who think they might be.

The group is a chance to meet others who might share some of your experiences. You can make new friends, share coping tips, or just hang out and be part of a supportive group.

We provide a range of games, drawing materials, and stim toys. So, if you don't feel like talking to anyone, that's ok.

We also put on some light refreshments.

You are welcome to bring your own games (including electronic).

Where

headspace Alice Springs, 5/74 Todd Street
(we're behind Loco Burrito)

Age range

12 to 25 years old

RSVP or more information

Call headspace on 8958 4544 or email
deborah.rock@caac.org.au

Interested but not sure? You're welcome to come for just a quick look before deciding.

The next group: Thursday 12 October
(tentative)

headspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health



**Australian
Childhood Anxiety
TREATMENT STUDY**

Free home-based assessment and treatment for

**7 to 12 year old children with fear
and anxiety disorders.**

Does your child become very afraid of certain situations or objects, worry about a lot of things, get very distressed, or try to avoid things they fear?

About the study

Our team at Griffith University may be able to assist you. We are conducting a nationwide study that includes the following services at no cost to families:

- A thorough assessment of your child's anxiety with a trained psychologist via the telephone;
- Your child receiving one of two kinds of homebased treatments delivered on a PC, laptop or tablet; and
- Two follow-up telephone assessments with a trained psychologist 6- and 12-months after treatment to track your child's progress.

The study aims to find out if these two treatments are as effective as each other, and which children have the best response to each kind of treatment. This will mean that there are more evidence-based treatments available for helping anxious children.

About the treatments

Each treatment involves your child completing treatment sessions at home on a PC, laptop or tablet.

Each treatment involves your child learning practical strategies to better manage anxiety.

- One treatment helps children learn to control the focus of their attention on helpful things around them.
- The other treatment helps children learn to think differently and approach things they fear.

Each treatment includes information, telephone or email support for parents in assisting their child to better manage anxiety.

Prior studies have shown that children who complete each treatment experience significant reductions in anxiety.

Contact us

This study is being funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council and is led by Professor Allison Waters and a team of experts in childhood anxiety disorders.

For more information about our study and our team, or if you would like your child to participate, please contact us:

(07) 3735 3351

cadrp@griffith.edu.au

[Australian Childhood Anxiety Treatment Study](http://AustralianChildhoodAnxietyTreatmentStudy)



Australian Government
National Health and
Medical Research Council



GU Ref No: 2019/146

NEWLAND PARK ROAD SAFETY CENTRE

FREE EVENT

FAMILY FUN DAY

**Saturday 16 September
9am - 1pm
36 Newland St Gillen**

Practise safe riding

Bring your bike & helmet or use ours

Hector the Road Safety Cat

Free sausage sizzle

Lots of kids activities



roadsafety.nt.gov.au



SPC Car Boot Sale

**Seller's Fee:
\$10**

Register here:



*Money raised from
fees will go to
headspace,
Alice Springs*

**Sunday 10 September
10am - 12pm
St Philip's College Car Park**

**COME AND SELL YOUR NEW, SECOND HAND OR HANDMADE GOODS OR
SEARCH FOR A BARGAIN!**

The Rivergum Cafe will be open for drinks and snacks and you can also join a tour of the College and check out some of our facilities.

For more information please call 8950 4511. To register as a seller, scan the QR code above.

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