Confident Community Caring Connected DATE: 17th November 2023

Newsletter Week 6 Term 4 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

The end of the school year is quickly approaching and there has been a flurry of activity at Acacia Hill as students and staff prepare for the end of year concert and Annual Award ceremonies. Our ten Year 6 students are also looking forward to their Graduation ceremony on Friday, 8th December and we are all very proud of this huge achievement.

Staff are in the final stages of semester reports which will be sent home during Week 9. Please take time to celebrate your child's achievements with them, as detailed in their report and don't hesitate to speak with your child's teacher for any recommendations on how you might assist your child's learning at home.

Staffing Update

As is usual in school environments, there will be some staffing changes next year. You will be notified of your child's class and staff before the term ends. As you would appreciate, changes can happen over the long holiday break; all plans are based on the best of our knowledge at this time of year and subject to change. I thank our dedicated staff for their capacity and resilience in supporting your child and providing a full program. Please see details of recent staff notices:

- Kate Burbeck has made the difficult decision not to return to Acacia Hill in 2024. On behalf of everyone at Acacia Hill, I sincerely thank Kate for her innovative approach and safe and supported learning environment for her students.
- After much heartfelt deliberation, Adam Mitchell has decided to concentrate on his studies and will not be returning to Acacia Hill in 2024. On behalf of everyone at Acacia Hill, I sincerely wish Adam every success and look forward to his return to Acacia Hill in the future.
- Congratulations to Miley who has won the ongoing ICTC position, shared between Bradshaw and Acacia Hill Schools.
- Bec Strickland has been appointed to a permanent role with NT Health and will not be returning to Acacia Hill School. An advertisement has been published to recruit her replacement as Executive Officer.
- Recruitment has begun for On Country Learning positions. These include ST1 Literacy Leader, ST1 Pedagogy Coach, CT9 VET Coordinator, Aboriginal Resource Officer (ARO) and 4 SESO positions. All will be fixed for one year and special measures will apply. If you know of anyone who may be interested, please direct them to apply online at https://jobs.nt.gov.au/, or they are welcome to email me (catherine.ashton@education.nt.gov.au) for more details.

Art Excursions

A massive thank you to Ms Ronnie for arranging cultural excursions for our students. This has been a wonderful opportunity for all our students who have enjoyed the experience immensely. Please see photos later in this newsletter.

DATES COMING UP

- 9:30am Thursday 30 November Rm 1-6 Annual Awards Assembly
- 9:30am Friday 1 December Rm 7-20 Annual Awards Assembly
- 11:00am 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/

Health and Wellbeing

Please remember to keep your child at home if they are unwell. The table below contains information about periods of exclusion from school for some common medical conditions. I appreciate your assistance in ensuring everyone can stay healthy at school.

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 commenced.
Diarrhoea (no organism identified)	Exclude until there has not been vomiting or a loose bowel motion for 24 hours.
Viral Gastroenteritis	Exclude until there has not been vomiting or a loose bowel motion 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.

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



NDIS Therapists

Please be reminded that NDIS therapists must be registered NDIS providers in order to apply to work in NT Government schools.

Cae Ashton Principal

Room 4

Room 4 students helping with preparing materials for the end of the year concert.





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; NT Mental Health Line: 1800 682 288; E-headspace: 1800 650 890; Kidshelpline: 1800 55 1800

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

13 YARN counselling (First Nations): 13 92 76

<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. 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.



We have had a wonderful few weeks of Art excursions. All classes, except preschool, attended. I was most impressed with how our students conducted themselves.

Each class had two outings. We visited the Araluen Art Gallery to view the Albert Namatjira Exhibition and Yubu Nupa where Rick and Karl are always so welcoming and supportive of our students. They have an amazing gift shop if you are looking for that special Christmas gift. Below are some of the goals that I am working towards with the students which are aligned with the curriculum.

- ⇒ I can look at an artwork with respect and in a good way.
- ⇒ I can talk about what I like or don't like in artworks.
- ⇒ With the teachers' help, I can talk about what was used by other people to make their artworks
- ⇒ I am starting to use line, shape, colour and texture in my art and find these things in the artwork of other people. (elements of art)
- ⇒ I can find art in my life and community.
- ⇒ I can look at artworks and match them to the place they came from. (eg Aboriginal paintings, Asian themed paintings)
- ⇒ I can look at what an artist has done and start to link their ideas to my life.

We are working towards these goals in conjunction with reinforcing positive social skills, e.g. safe travel and appropriate behaviour in the community.

I am so proud of our students and love to see them grow and develop in so many different ways.





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