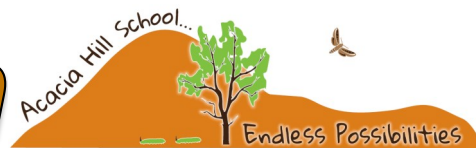


Acacia in Action



Confident

Community

Caring

Connected

DATE: 21 February 2025

Newsletter Week 4 Term 1 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

We continue to have a great start to the year. Students have settled into routines and are learning. We currently have 103 students on the roll. Our attendance, though, has been a bit low, at 69.4%. The NT Government has a big focus on school-aged young people being at school, which will help every young person to prepare for a successful adulthood. Our Aboriginal Education Officer (AEO), Cheryle, and Family Engagement Officer (FEO), Stephanie, are working hard to support families to send their young person to school. Teachers are also making engaging programs, and students are happy in their classes! When a young person is consistently not coming to school, and teachers are unable to contact parents or carers, and the AEO or FEO are not able to help re-engage the child, then the child is reported to the Inclusion and Engagement Team, which will then become involved with the family.

We welcome Okta, who has commenced working in our front office, and Riley Bennett, who has commenced in a SESO position.

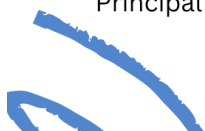
Next Friday, we have our School Council Annual General Meeting (AGM) from 10:00am, followed by an Ordinary Meeting, then a sausage sizzle. We look forward to seeing lots of parents and carers this day!

Educational Adjustment Plan (EAP) meetings have commenced. We really value working in partnership with you, our parents and carers, to design the best plan for each young person. Generally, students have three goals in their EAP. This year, as always, one of those goals will be around communication. Another goal will be in reading: all NT government schools to have a focus on reading this year. The third goal will relate to specific needs and aspirations for each young person. EAPs help shape the learning of each young person throughout the year. Parents and carers are encouraged to invite to these meetings, NDIS Coordinators of Support, speech pathologists, occupational therapists, and anyone else who works with your child. It is a valuable and rare opportunity for all these people to focus on your young person and determine the best EAP for them for the year.

In addition to this newsletter, there is a letter giving information about a group of police trainees and their trainers who will spend 1 ½ hours at Acacia on 6th March. These trainees are learning how to interview vulnerable people and children. We have twice before had a visit from this group, and it was greatly enjoyed by everyone, students, staff and the trainers.

Kind regards

Julie Permezel
Principal



DATES COMING UP

- 10:00am Friday 28th February School Council AGM and Ordinary meeting followed by a roo tail barbecue
- 9:30am Friday 21st March Harmony Day
- 10:00am Friday 28th March School Council meeting
- 9:30am Friday 5th April Dress-up assembly and last day of Term
- Term 2 Tuesday 14th April – Friday 20th June
- Term 3 Tuesday 15th July – Friday 19th September
- Term 4 Tuesday 7th October – Thursday 11th December

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

OUR NEW STAFF



Megan Gardner
Teacher



Katie McGuinness
SESO



Sohail Mohammad
SESO



Leanne Bull
SESO



Oktavia Huang
Front Office

Room 17:

Hello, I thought I would take this opportunity and introduce you to Room 17. My Name is Teacher Jordie, and I am the teacher for Room 17 in 2025.

Supporting us in Room 17 we have the amazing Ms. Kath;



And these are the amazing students of Room 17.



We hope you enjoy what we have chosen to share with you this week in the newsletter!

Happy reading,

Teacher Jordie, Ms. Kath and the students of Room 17.

Emotions:

In Room 17 we have been learning about the emotion's happiness, sadness, fear, anger, disgust and surprise. We decided to make some emotion posters to show what these emotions look like to Room 17. Each student chose an emotion to describe and draw. Last week it was Room 17's turn to present at the assembly. We decided to share our posters with Acacia Hill using our words and our drawings.

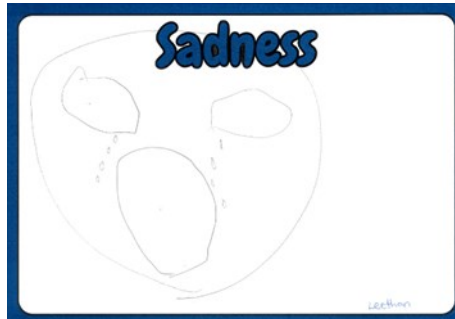
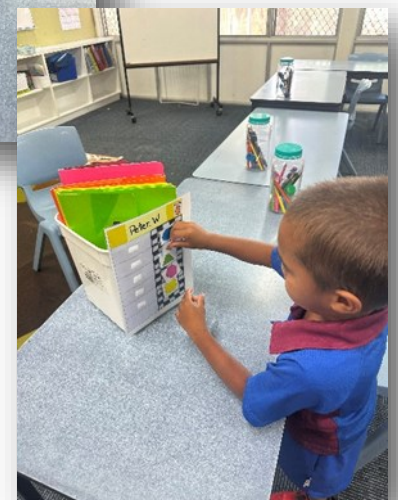


Table Activities:

In Room 17 every morning when we get in the classroom, we complete our amazingly organised table activities. These are set up so when we grab our tub, we know exactly what we need to do. Our activities include practising writing our name, tracing, cutting, colouring by number and fine motor activities (e.g, puzzles, threading, fishing).



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

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.



Have you applied for your
\$100 SPORT VOUCHER?

GrantsNT.nt.gov.au

NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT

Key Details:

- Semester 2 (2024) vouchers are available now
- Semester 1 (2025) opened on 1 January 2025
- Applications close on 24 May 2025
- Vouchers expire on 31 May 2025
- Can be used for sport, recreation, swimming, and music lessons
- Each eligible child gets two \$100 vouchers per year
- Open to children Transition to Year 12, including home-schooled students



School Student
Broadband Initiative

An Australian Government initiative
powered by nbn

**FREE HOME
INTERNET
PROGRAM**

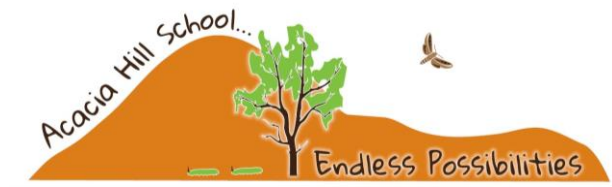
**Extended to 30 June
2028.**

Find out if you qualify **today.**



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

Spearwood Rd (PO Box 435)
Alice Springs, N.T. 0871
Phone: (08) 8955 2222
ABN: 25 526 772 308
acaciahill.school@education.nt.gov.au



21st February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

At 8:30-1000am on Thursday 6th March, we will have a visit from 12 police officers and 2 trainers involved in an NT Police Investigative Interviewing Vulnerable Persons course. In this course, participants learn about memory retention and recall, the impact of trauma, legislation for procedures surrounding interviewing children and vulnerable people, questioning styles, cultural considerations, understanding neurodiverse people and how to communicate effectively, information from speech pathologists and protective behaviours.

Participants meet with students from another school in Alice Springs and interview children about a memory event from two weeks earlier, such as losing a toy or pet and finding it, or going on holidays.

Another aspect of the course is to introduce participants to young people from neurodiverse backgrounds. The aim is for all young people to feel safe and report crimes, and for officers to be confident to engage with neurodiverse young people.

At this visit, participants will be asked to build rapport, communicate and learn about the students' favourite activities, classes, sports, toys, etc., while also doing an activity the student has chosen in the playground. This may be as little as showing the participants areas or objects in the playground, playing with items or just sitting side by side. There is no memory event and no pressure towards the students in any way. If students do not want to communicate or to be involved, that is fine.

Acacia has twice before had a visit similar to this. Students really enjoyed the experience, and the officers found it very valuable. We just wished they could visit us more often! If you have any questions about the upcoming visit, please get in touch me on 8955 2222.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Julie Permezel'. The signature is written in a cursive style.

Julie Permezel
Principal
Acacia Hill School