

Acacia in Action



Confident

Community

Caring

Connected

DATE: 21 March 2025

Newsletter Week 8 Term 1 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our Harmony Day breakfast this morning was relaxed and colourful, and it was great having quite a few parents and carers come to join us. The school remains calm, with students happy and engaged. Various parents have told me that their young person gets up and ready for school, and really looks forward to coming each day. It is heartwarming to hear this. We are privileged people, working with young people who happily hop off the bus and go to class with a big smile.

We are on an upward trajectory with attendance: for the first four weeks of term, it was 71%, and we are now at 74%. Our enrolment is 100. I am thankful to families working hard to get their young people to school, to staff for following up absences, and our Home Liaison Officer, Stephanie, and Aboriginal Education Officer, Cheryle, for all their work liaising with families. We have held lots of EAP meetings now. These meetings are always greatly appreciated by staff, as we work together to plan for each young person.

Just a reminder that there is a special needs dentist visiting on Friday next week (28th March). There is a consent form attached to this newsletter if you would like your young person to see the dentist. This is for a check and fluoride varnish. If any further work is needed, the dentist will let you know. Please return forms to your child's teacher or the front office.

Kind regards,

Julie

DATES COMING UP

- 10:30am Friday 28th March School Council meeting
- Friday 28th March Special Needs Dentist
- 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

newstaff



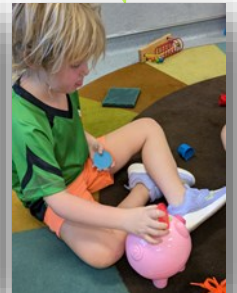
Room 1 Preschool Term Update

Dear Families,

As we wrap up another exciting term, we're thrilled to share all the wonderful learning and fun that has been taking place in Room 1! Our little ones have been busy exploring a variety of activities, all while developing essential skills in all areas of learning. Here's a glimpse into some of the fantastic things we've been doing this term:

Numeracy

Our numeracy learning this term has been all about numbers, patterns, and colours! The children have been practising counting to 3/5/10 while bouncing on the trampoline. We are learning to count backwards using our favourite number songs such as *10 in the Bed*, *5 Little Speckled Frogs* and *5 Little Ducks*. We've worked on identifying colours and copying patterns. Using play-based learning, children are working on understanding the world around them and developing early mathematical concepts.



Literacy

In literacy, the children have enjoyed the classic story of *The Three Little Pigs*. We used puppets to retell the story, which helped the children enhance their storytelling and language skills. Afterward, we took part in a fun activity where we built our own houses using various materials, pretending to blow them down just like the Big Bad Wolf. This creative play allowed the children to connect with the story while practising their fine motor skills and imaginative thinking.

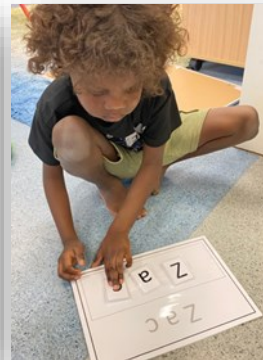


Science

In science, we have been learning about *floating and sinking* linking to the book, *Who Sank the Boat*. The children then experimented with various objects to see which would float and which would sink in water. We talked about what we could feel and see happening. Following on from that we explored our senses—touch, smell, sight, hearing, and taste—we made slime and tasted different kinds of fruit and vegetables. This is giving the children the opportunity to understand how we use our senses as Little Scientists.



Fine Motor Skills



Fine motor skills have been developed through a variety of activities! The children loved threading beads and using small-world play to enhance their hand-eye coordination. They've also

been busy practising writing their names by ordering the letters, which is a great way to build early literacy skills while strengthening their fingers and hands.

Gross Motor Skills

Our physical development has been in full swing! The children have had a blast on the trampoline, climbing frames, and balancing on beams. These activities have helped them build strength, coordination, and balance, while having fun in the process! We've also been practising catching and throwing balls, which has improved their hand-eye coordination and teamwork.



Healthy Living

We've spent time focusing on personal care and healthy living habits. The children have been learning to brush their teeth, follow a visual toilet routine, and wash their hands regularly. They've also been practising asking for help when needed and greeting their friends when they arrive at school. These little routines are helping the children develop independence and good hygiene practices that will last a lifetime.



We are so proud of the progress the children have made this term, and we are excited to continue supporting their growth and learning in the upcoming term. Thank you for your ongoing support!

Warm regards,
The Room 1 Team



Reminder

To ensure the safety and proper supervision of all children in Room 1, we kindly remind you of our sign-in and sign-out procedures for late arrivals and early departures.

If your child arrives late to preschool, after dropping them off, please sign them in at the administration office. This allows us to accurately record attendance and ensure your child is safely escorted to their classroom. Likewise, if you need to pick up your child early, please visit the administration office first to sign them out before collecting them from the classroom.

These procedures help us maintain a secure learning environment and keep an accurate record of all students throughout the school day. We appreciate your cooperation in following these steps.

If you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

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.

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



Central Australia Fluoride Varnish Program

Improving the smiles of Territory Kids



Dear Parent/Guardian

Acacia Hill is taking part in a Fluoride Varnish Program run by Oral Health Services Central Australia in an effort to improve the smiles of children in Central Australia.

The program will take place on Friday 28th March, at Sadadeen Primary school dental clinic a consent form for your child to participate is attached.

What is the Fluoride Varnish Program?

The Fluoride Varnish Program is a free service that aims to prevent tooth decay and improve dental health awareness among young people in Central Australia.

What is fluoride varnish?

Fluoride varnish is a dental treatment applied by an oral health professional, directly to the teeth as a pale yellow paste that hardens quickly. It only takes a few minutes to apply.

The paste will make the teeth look discoloured for a short time. This will gradually wear off through chewing or brushing.

The varnish contains a concentration of fluoride that works to protect the surface of the tooth and is a safe and effective, non-invasive means of preventing tooth decay.

Wellbeing

During the procedure, if it appears that your child would benefit from additional dental care, a take home slip with contact details for Flynn Drive Dental Centre will be provided, where they can receive a thorough check-up and a treatment plan can be made.

Any school-attending child, or younger, is eligible for treatment at no cost at Flynn Drive Dental Centre or at one of our school-based clinics, provided they have a Medicare number.

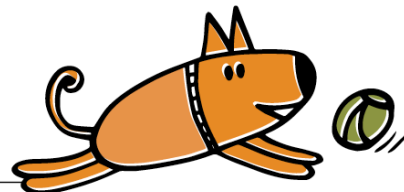
Please note, the Fluoride Varnish Program does not replace a dental check-up, and it is recommended that you visit a dentist at least once per year.

Contact

If you have questions regarding the program, or need to withdraw consent for any reason, contact the Flynn Drive Dental Centre on 8951 6713.

More information

For more information about fluoride for children, visit the Australian Dental Association website: ada.org.au/Your-Dental-Health/Children-0-11/Fluoride.



www.health.nt.gov.au

Fluoride Varnish Program - Consent form

Child's details

Full name:

Address: Post code:

Date of birth: Contact phone number:

* Does this child have a Medicare number? Yes No

I agree for my child to have fluoride applied
by an oral health professional at school: Yes No

Please include any relevant medical history below (including any allergies):
.....
.....

** Please note, children without a Medicare number are not eligible for this program.*

Parent/Guardian statement

1. I have read and understood the information provided, and I have had the opportunity to ask questions by contacting Oral Health Service Central Australia (OHSCA) on 8951 6713
2. I understand that the procedure will not be carried out if my child has any issue that prevents the safe application of fluoride varnish.
3. I give permission for OHSCA to use my child's health information for the purpose of administration, monitoring and evaluation.

Full name:

Signature: Date:

HRN:.....

