

Acacia in Action



Confident

Community

Caring

Connected

DATE: 1 November 2024

Newsletter Week 4 Term 4 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy, yet positive start to Term 3. Thank you for the welcome that you have extended to me, and the kindness that you have shown. Acacia Hill School is a special place to work in and I am enjoying getting to know the people that make up its community. We have a wonderful cohort of students that have so much to offer.

Principal's Summit - The Department of Education and Training's annual conference for principals has run this week in Darwin. Julie Permezel has been in Darwin meeting with other principals and attending a series of workshops. The event provides principals in the Northern Territory with an important opportunity to network and learn of the new initiatives that are happening in education.

Newlands Park Road Safety Centre Excursion - On Wednesday of this week, five of our classes took part in an excursion to the Newlands Park Road Safety Centre. Organised by our Sport Teacher, Jo Molin, students put into action their knowledge of road safety rules. Thank you to the staff and students that made the event a success.



Assessment Tasks - Assessment tasks that our students participate in, fall into several different categories. Two of which, the Department of Education and Training require students to participate in Term 4 are the **Progressive Assessment Tests (PAT) Adaptive** and **Foundations of Early Literacy (FELA)** tests. Not all our students are required to participate in, nor are able to participate in these assessments, but a number have. If you would like to know a little more about these assessment tools please make contact with me.

Events in the calendar - There are several special events that are being organised as we head into the second half of Term 4. Next Friday, on the 8th November we have on the Acacia Hill School campus, a visit from **Barber Blak** who will be providing our students with hair trims and cuts. A consent form has been sent to all students this week. Please return the signed consent, should you require your child to have a complimentary trim or cut on our school campus next week. On the same day there is an invite for parents and carers (see separate flyer) to join with us for a 'roo tail' lunch, organised by Cheryle. On Friday the 15th November, some of our students will be performing at the **Alice can Dance** evening concert, which will take place at the **Araluen Arts Centre**. Please book your tickets via their website, should you wish to watch your child perform. There will be two performances, one commencing at 5pm and the other at 7pm. We are hoping to see you all there to support our budding performers.

I know that Julie Permezel, our Principal, is looking forward to meeting up with parents and carers at next Friday's roo tail lunch event. See you there.

Kind regards,

John Matthews

Associate Principal

DATES COMING UP

- Friday 8 November - Barber Blak trims and cut, roo tail lunch
- Thursday 12 December - last day for students
- Friday 15 November - Alice can Dance
- Friday 13 December - Staff PD Day

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



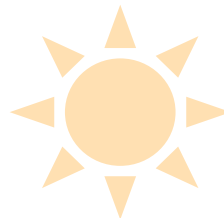
What's happening in class!

Room 8

This term has been amazing in Room 8 thus far. Our curriculum in Term 4, included many practical and engaging learning opportunities and we are looking forward to the rest of the school year! Please enjoy some of the learning experiences we have completed!

Thanks,

Teacher Jordie and Room 8



Working as a team:

This term we have been learning about sharing and turn taking. We have done this in lots of ways, for example: playing snakes and ladders, creating things with pool noodles and sharing the claw machine.



Push and Pull:

In Science this term we have been looking at the topic of 'Push and Pull' and what that means. We did two fun activities showing us different ways a push and pull is used. We made pom pom pushers and balloon rockets.



Blue Earth:

Room 8 has had an awesome time attending Blue Earth with Katie on Wednesday afternoons. Last week, it was a nice, warm day, which meant we were able to do water play, which we all really enjoyed and had the most amount of fun.



Morning Activities:

Every morning, we come to school and start the day off with our morning activities. These activities include: writing our name, colouring in by shape and participating in fine motor activities. Last Thursday, everyone enjoyed the morning by completing a puzzle.



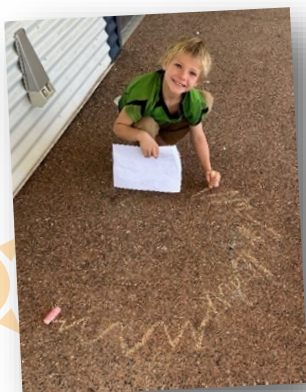
Bus Rules:

Earlier this term we spent some time with Ms Lisa learning about the rules of going on the school bus. We discussed as a class the **Do's and the Don'ts** on the bus. Room 8 created a social story for keeping safe on the bus, using the photos, which we took.



Celebrations around the world - Diwali:

This term for our unit study we are learning about celebrations around the world. We started off the topic learning about Diwali. We learnt about Rangoli in relation to Diwali and made some ourselves with chalk.



Whooping cough (pertussis)

School parents/carers, students and teachers are reminded that pertussis (whooping cough) continues to spread in the NT. Whooping cough usually starts with a snuffle or a cold and within a few days develops into bouts of coughing, which can last for many weeks, sometimes vomiting or shortness of breath can occur. There is sometimes a noise or “whoop” when the person breathes in between coughs. It can be a very serious infection in young babies. It is important to make sure all children and adults who work or care for infants are vaccinated. Children should have whooping cough vaccines at 2, 4, 6 months; 4 years and 12 years (Year 7). Catch up vaccine for children who have missed their school vaccine is available from your GP, pharmacy, health Centre or Community Care Centre. Pregnant women should also be vaccinated during each and every pregnancy, Those working with children are encouraged to receive an adult diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine every 10 years (self or employer funded). If you are unwell, please see your doctor for early testing and treatment and children should not attend school until they have completed at least 5 days of recommended antibiotics or 21 days after the onset of coughing. For more information see Whooping cough (pertussis) | NT Health or contact CDC on 89228044



Parent/Carer workshops

Positive Partnerships Parent/Carer workshops provide the opportunity for participants to learn and share with and from other parents and carers of school-aged children on the autism spectrum.

The workshops are designed to help you understand your young person and foster productive school, family and community relationships.

Participants can access the following workshop types:

- 1 day (in person)
- 2 days (in person)
- Online sessions (covering a variety of topics)

Free to attend



Topics explored include:

Diversity of autism

- examines parent's knowledge of autism and how autism directly impacts their child at home and school
- investigates a range of practical strategies to use at home and school to improve learning outcomes

Working together

- examines ways for parents to strengthen partnerships between home, school and community
- increases awareness of support and services for families and how they can be accessed
- explores ways parents can advocate more effectively for their child's needs
- helps parents develop a plan for moving forward

Understanding sensory processing

- explores sensory processing and the different ways children on the autism spectrum can be impacted by sensory needs
- identifies strategies that can be used to help manage and support children experiencing sensory processing issues

Understanding behaviour

- (only offered at our 2-day workshop)*
- examines the function/purpose of behaviours
 - recognising that understanding behaviour is the key to supporting children on the autism spectrum
 - explores tools and strategies to understand and respond helpfully to our young people



Scan the QR code for more information about our workshops and resources.

“Such supportive and knowledgeable presenters - I feel much more engaged and informed about Autism and where I am better equipped to help my child(ren)! Thank you so much for the opportunity to attend this informative workshop.”
(Bendgate Qld - 2 day PC)

www.positivepartnerships.com.au

This initiative is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education through the Helping Children with Autism package. The views expressed within this program do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government or the Australian Government Department of Education.



Personal Cyber Security Guidance

Visit cyber.gov.au to access personal cyber security guides and to report cyber incidents affecting your personal devices.

Visit scamwatch.gov.au for information on the latest cyber and other scams.

Visit idcare.org if you've been a victim of identity theft or a data breach for advice on protecting against misuse of your information.

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