

Acacia in Action



Confident

Community

Caring

Connected

DATE: 07 June 2024

Newsletter Week 8 Term 2 2024

Dear Carers and Parents,

As you will all be very aware, this week is leading up to the famous Finke Desert Race. We have been extremely fortunate to host a visit from two drivers with their buggies during the week. Students were thrilled to sit in the driver's seat and speak with competitors. Please check out photos in this newsletter.

Recently, 13 staff members attended training for implementation of Read Write Inc at Acacia Hill. We are most fortunate to have been provided professional learning specifically designed for our special needs context. This has been made possible by our On Country Learning funding from the Australian Government, in consultation with our school community.

Our consulting Behaviour Support Practitioner, Samantha Simmons, has been working with all staff to assist in the development of a whole-school Positive Behaviour Support Framework. This will be shared with families upon completion. She has also worked with each teacher to develop behaviour support plans for identified students. This is greatly assisting our whole-school approach for consistent responses to identified behaviours. Consultation with all stakeholders is essential of course, and you may be contacted for a discussion about developing a positive behaviour support plan for your child. This will greatly assist their learning, both at home and school. Please do not hesitate to discuss any concerns with your child's teacher.

Our Vocational Education and Training Coordinator, Jennifer Lopes, is developing a rich program for our secondary students, for pathways beyond school. This includes modified senior subjects and certificates that build foundation skills for employment. Jennifer is keen to speak with parents about the program for students and recently sent a letter home to parents of secondary students. Please reach out to her if you would like to know more, through school reception.

Involvement by allied health professionals is welcome at Acacia Hill School, in strict alignment with departmental policy. Class teachers are not able to approve any therapy from external providers and school staff will not discuss anything with your child's therapist or medical practitioners without your consent. I ask that you complete the attached form to ensure your child's stakeholder details, including therapists and medical contacts, are up to date for our records.

I hope you and your family enjoy the long weekend and stay safe if you are visiting the big event.

Kind regards,



NDIS Therapists

Please be reminded that NDIS providers must hold a current certificate of NDIS registration to apply for a NDIS service in NT Government schools.

DATES COMING UP

- Monday 10 June—King's Birthday Public Holiday
- Monday 15 July—Teachers start Term 3
- Friday 21 June—End of Term 2
- Tuesday 16 July—Students start Term 3

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 around the school!



ART

Acacia Hill students were very lucky to meet Anne Ryan and Leonie Norrington, authors of the beautiful picture book 'Follow the rainbow'. 'Follow the rainbow' is a mystery story that leads 'Ruby', the character in the book, on an exciting adventure. We were fortunate to have Anne read the story out loud for us.

After a beautiful reading session, Anne engaged students in a colourful masterpiece, creating characters that led us all on our own expedition through a colourful rainbow, through the rain, to the red dirt of Central Australia.

This wonderful experience had children thinking, developing their imagination, and coming up with their own ideas for a book they may want to publish themselves one day. We had talking Yeperenye's, dancing butterflies and colourful raindrops.

Reading books to children is a fantastic way to develop their language skills, critical thinking, and imagination.

We were very lucky to have Anne donate two of her books for Acacia Hill Schools library.

Thanks for the visit Anne and Leonie, and thanks for our wonderful books.

Teacher, Kelly



Room 18



Recycling Business

Senior students business, Acacia Hill Recycling, are very busy.

We collect the recycling bins from the staff room.

We sort the recycling into glass, plastic and cans.

Reconciliation Week Senior Boys

The senior students watched the Rainbow Serpent, which tells the story of how all the people, animals and laws were made in Australia during the Dreamtime.

They made a rainbow serpent for Reconciliation Week.



Pumpkin Soup

Senior students have been learning how to cook.

We got the pumpkin from our garden.

Pumpkin soup tastes yummy.

It was easy to make.

Room 20

Our class actively participated during whole school Colour Smash fundraising activity at Ross Park. It was a wet day and our students and staff thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Teacher, Miriam



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National Simultaneous Storytime

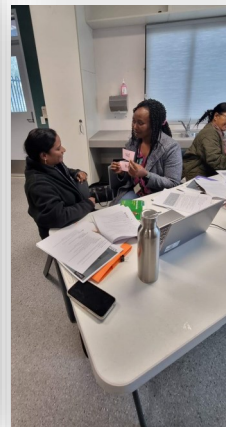
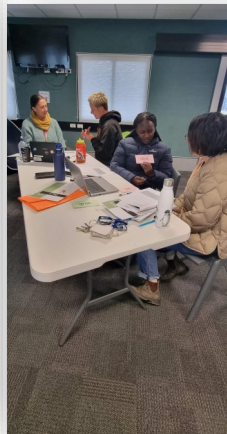
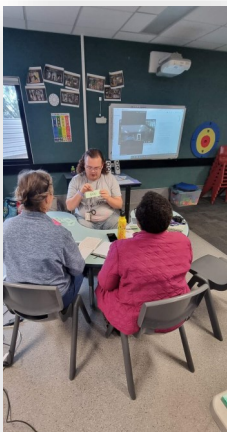


Last week at Acacia Hill School, our students participated in the National Simultaneous Storytime, joining readers from all over Australia! Mrs. Samantha Maharaj organised a fantastic event in our school hall where we all read "Bowerbird Blues" by Aura Parker together. This beautiful picture book tells the touching story of a Bowerbird on a quest for blue, exploring themes of longing and connection as he travels across the sea, sky, and city. It was a wonderful experience for everyone involved!



Read Write Inc (RWI)

Our dedicated staff have just completed two days of comprehensive Read Write Inc training. This fantastic program will empower us to enhance our literacy teaching methods, ensuring every student receives the best possible support in their reading and writing journey. We are thrilled to implement these new strategies and watch our students thrive! This was tailor-made to meet the need of neurodiverse students.



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Exciting Visit from Finke Desert Race Buggies!

Yesterday, Acacia Hill School had the incredible privilege of hosting two cars that will be racing in the Finke Desert Race this weekend. The children were thrilled to see these impressive vehicles up close, taking photos with the massive tyres, lots of curiosity looking in and under the cars. The students had the chance to ask the race drivers questions who were very impressed with our school.

One of the cars was especially remarkable, as it had been modified for race driver Jamie Harrison, who became a paraplegic in 2021 after racing in the Finke Desert Race. The children learned how the car had been adapted to allow Jamie to get in and out easily, with the accelerator and brakes now attached to the steering wheel allowing Jamie to still be part of the Central Australian Event.

It was an unforgettable experience for the students, sparking curiosity and excitement about the world of racing and inclusivity.



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SPECTATE SAFELY

FINKE NEEDS YOU!

WE NEED ALL SPECTATORS ALONG THE TRACK TO ALWAYS FOLLOW ALL SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS. THESE INSTRUCTIONS ARE IN PLACE TO KEEP YOU AND OTHERS SAFE

- ✓ ALWAYS stand minimum 30 METRES back from the track.
- ✓ Obey Spectator 'NO GO' Zones
- ✓ Stay behind and obey all bunting and signage
- ✓ NEVER stand on the outside of a corner
- ✓ In the absence of signage - STAND minimum 30 METRES BACK
- ✓ Obey ALL directions of Tatts Finkel Desert Race SPECTATOR MARSHALLS and EVENT ORGANISERS.
- ✓ If someone's not doing the right thing, let them know. If they don't stand back, let us know by telling a Spectator Marshal.

HELP US KEEP FINKE SAFE FOR EVERYONE - **DON'T BE THE REASON IT ENDS FOR GOOD.**

THE RACE MAY BE STOPPED IF SPECTATORS DON'T COMPLY. IF YOU'RE ASKED TO MOVE - JUST DO IT

PUBLIC VIEW POINTS

Head trackside for a great view of the race in our dedicated public viewing areas.

Located close to town at the 3km, 4km and 7km marks on the Maryvale Road

Look out for the Public View Point signage on the roadside.



IMPORTANT CONTACTS

EMERGENCY
Call 000

INJURED COMPETITORS
UHF Simplex 1 or Duplex 8
UHF Duplex 20

COMPETITOR ENQUIRIES
Call 8952 8886

The country we race on is very remote. ALWAYS travel with someone, or let someone know where you are going and your expected return. If you breakdown, stay with your vehicle, and always carry water.

EXCLUSION ZONES FOR SPECTATORS

NO GO-AREAS YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED IN

RACING VEHICLES CAN OVERTHOOT.

FOR YOUR SAFETY NEVER STAND/CAMP IN THE MARKED AREAS



TIGHT CORNERS
No standing & camping zone



TIGHT CORNERS
No standing & camping zone



HAIRPINS
No standing & camping zone



CHICANE
No standing & camping zone



KEEP LEFT OR RIGHT
No standing & camping zone



TURN AT CROSS ROAD
No standing & camping zone



TURN AT T JUNCTION
No standing & camping zone



JUMP
No standing & camping zone

AMBULANCE LOCATIONS

- ➡ FDR Start/Finish Line
Alice Springs
- ➡ Deep Well Checkpoint
63km
- ➡ Rodinga Checkpoint
94km
- ➡ Bundooma Checkpoint
136km
- ➡ Mt Squires Checkpoint
169km
- ➡ FDR Start/Finish Line & Camp Ground
223km



GENERAL SAFETY RULES

- ✓ Don't wander the track
- ✓ Drink responsibly or choose to have an alcohol-free weekend
- ✓ Always know where your kids are
- ✓ Leave pets at home
- ✓ Ensure safety with fires and extinguish properly
- ✓ Don't be the Reason



Autism Social Group



Thursday 27 June, 4pm–6 pm

Our Autism Social Group is a regular get-together for Autistic young people and those who think they might be. It happens on Thursdays, about every 4 weeks.

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 groups: 25 July 2024
22 August 2024
(September date TBC)

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

ALICE SPRINGS Masters Games

12 - 19 October 2024



The games with heart

'Sentensity' and 'No Refunds' present

June 6th-7th 2024

7.00pm start

Ruby Moon

By Matt Cameron

A One Act Play

No Intermission

**St Philip's College
The Minnamurra Hall**

\$10 Adult

\$5 Concession

Breaking News

Community in Distress as 6-Year-Old Girl Disappears on Route to Grandmother's House Will She Ever be Seen Again?

Missing



IDEAS IN NUTRITION

Eat Together

Some parents ask us; "How can I get my child to eat vegetables?"

Did you know one of the best ways to encourage your child to eat more vegetables is to eat them together?

Sharing meals as a family can also have other benefits. Like:

- Helping a child develop a healthy relationship with food.
- Helping improve a child's mental health.

Give it a go and let us know if it works for you; nutritiondarwinurban.doh@nt.gov.au. We might use your story to encourage other parents to try.

