

ACACIA IN ACTION

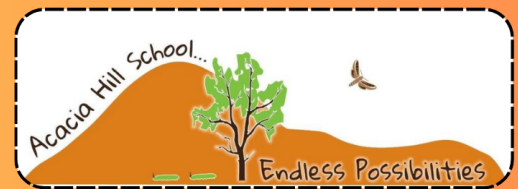
NEWSLETTER

Confident

Community

Caring

Connected



WEEK 10 TERM 3

19 Sep 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

The school continues to run smoothly and calmly, and students are happy to come to school. I appreciate that we are fully staffed, with three relief teachers on staff and a terrific admin team. These are essential factors in a smoothly running, calm school! I'm very thankful to our PE teacher, Nyk Balanay, for enabling three of our students to participate in the Mini Paralympics recently. Here is a news item and facebook clip: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-09-06/nt-alice-springs-regional-mini-paralympics-wheelchair-basketball/105741394>.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/r/1GdC11Xdij/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

School safety audit

I am proud to announce that there was recently a safety audit of Acacia Hill School, and we scored 95%, which is "Leading Safety Maturity" level. This audit includes things like safety inductions for workers, having a hazardous chemicals register, having a visitor sign in and out register, hazard inspection checklists, annual electrical testing and tagging, First Aid kits and treatment register, school excursion risk assessments, emergency plan exercises (fire drills, lockdown drills). Some of these things everyone will be aware of, and others are quietly organised by the admin team (such as hazardous chemicals registers, hazard inspection checklists). I am very thankful to Julia and Steve in particular, for ensuring that Acacia is up to date with all relevant safety procedures and requirements.

Student attendance

While students are happy to come to school, there are a number of students who come only rarely. A positive is that our current overall attendance, according to eDash, is 69.4%, and this time last year it was 68.7%, so there is some improvement! Cheryle, our Aboriginal Education Officer (AEO), Stephanie, our Home Liaison Officer (HLO), and I continue to work with an officer from the Attendance and Inclu-

	2019		2020		2021		2022			2023			2024			2025	
Collection	Active	Att %	Active	Att %	Active	Att %	Active	Att %		Active	Active	Att %	Active	Att %		Active	Att %
Feb (1)	83	79.6	91	79.0	92	79.0	91	74		100	97	69	100	71			
Mar (2)	88	81.0	93	79.0	91	78.0	95	78		101	96	67	99	74			
May (3)	93	72.0	92	72.0	93	73.0	98	70		100	96	65	97	65			
Jun (4)	95	72.0	91	78.0	93	78.0	96	67		100	93	67	99	66			
Aug (5)	98	76.0	90	75.2	92	77.0	101	73		98	94	66	105	65			
Sep (6)	97	76.0	89	75.0	90	80.0	101	68		97	91	70	104	69			
Oct (7)	91	74.0	88	74.0	88	78.0	97	72		98	93	68					
Nov (8)	91	73.0	87	75.0	86	75.0	96	71		101	95	73					
Mean	92	75.5	90	75.9	91	77.3	97	72		99	94	68	101	68			

DATES COMING UP

- 1:00pm Friday 19th September School Concert – Sadadeen Hall
- Friday 19th September - End of Term 3
- Monday 6th October – first day of Term 4 for staff
- Tuesday 7th October – first day of Term 4 for students

Annual School Survey

The School Survey was held from 4th August to 5th September, so is now closed. We had 27 parent responses and 57 student responses. This is a reasonable response rate, comparable with previous years. This information will help us with our planning next term for the 2026 Annual School Improvement Plan.

Cybersafety

Acacia has procured some copies of Susan McLean's book, *Sexts, Texts & Selfies: How to keep your children safe in the digital space*, for sale at cost price (\$35) from the front office. The book is now out of print, so we have some of the last copies around. There is a quote from this book later in this newsletter. The Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation also has helpful information for parents [ACCCE | Australian Centre To Counter Child Exploitation](#).

School concert and end of Term 3

Our annual school concert starts at 1:00pm on Friday this week (19th September) in the Sadadeen Primary Hall. I hope you are all able to come and enjoy this event with us! This is our last event before the school holidays.

Over the holidays, hope you are able to have some relaxed and happy time with your children and family, and I look forward to working together again in Term 4. Students commence Term 4 on Tuesday 7th October.

Julie Permezel

Principal

Some snapshots from Room 19—Larapinta



Cutting a line of symmetry in the soccer goal.



Showing a leaf with Symmetry.



Learning to save lives with Mr.Koal.

We had an awesome time on our excursion.



Learning to make 'Lasagne in a Mug' for one.

O
U

Weighing things they collected. Trying to make the scale equal.



Quote from Susan McLean's book, *Sexts, Texts & Selfies: How to keep your children safe in the digital space* (p. 9)

'An important fact to discuss with your child when online is respect and responsibility. If everyone was respectful and responsible online, we would have far fewer online issues. We need our young people to pause and ask themselves, 'Is what I am about to do online respectful of myself and/or someone else, and is it responsible use of technology?'



GRADUATION 2025

Shayla Presley Celebrated at Year 12 Graduation

Acacia Hill School's community gathered on Wednesday, September 17, 2025, to celebrate the graduation of our sole Year 12 student, Shayla Presley. The intimate ceremony, held in the Telka Williams Hall, was a beautiful tribute to Shayla's hard work and dedication throughout her time at the school.

The event was a testament to the close-knit community at Acacia Hill. Teachers, family members, previous staff, and senior students came together to share in this special moment. The atmosphere was filled with a mix of pride, nostalgia, and excitement for Shayla's future. Speeches were given by Principal Julie Permezel and Shayla's teachers, both past and present, who all spoke of her resilience and positive spirit. It was a day to reflect on her journey and to cheer her on as she embarks on the next chapter of her life.

While it will be sad to say goodbye to a member of our school family when she officially finishes at the end of next term, we're all incredibly excited to see what Shayla accomplishes next. Her journey at Acacia Hill has been inspiring, and we have no doubt she will continue to achieve great things. Congratulations, Shayla, from everyone at Acacia Hill School!

Joel Hohn

Assistant Principal – Secondary Pathways

Graduation Photos



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



Parent and Carer Information sessions

2025

May 27th

Supporting your Trans and Gender Diverse Young Person

Delivered by Ari Heart from Trans Wellbeing via Zoom
4:30pm - 6:30pm

June 24th

Supporting Young People at Risk or in Crisis

Delivered by Annabelle Moody, Clinical Lead
headspace Alice Springs
4:30pm - 6:30pm

July 22nd

Understanding Disordered Eating, and how to support Self-Esteem and Positive Body Image in Young People
Delivered by Grace Dwyer, Eating Disorders Care Coordinator with NT Health
4:30pm - 6:30pm

August 19th

Understanding Autism Part 1
Delivered by Skye Cemina and Jen Cousins from Positive Parenting via Zoom
4pm - 7pm

September 16th

"What Do I Say, What Do I Do?" supporting Young People Impacted by a Death by Suicide

Delivered by Jordon Braver, Stand By Support
4pm - 7pm

October 14th

Having Conversations with Young People about Drugs and Alcohol
Delivered by Dr Dan Wilson, Addiction Medical Specialist, Alice Springs Hospital
4:30pm - 6:30pm

November 11th

Supporting Young People Experiencing Severe Anxiety
Delivered by Annabelle Moody, Clinical Lead
headspace Alice Springs
4:30pm - 6:30pm

December 9th

Understanding Autism Part 2
Delivered by Skye Cemina and Jen Cousins from Positive Parenting via Zoom
4pm - 7pm

To Register:

Contact Annabelle Moody, Clinical Lead at
annabelle.moody@caac.org.au
or call 08 8958 4544

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

20 SEPT - 5 OCT SCHOOL HOLIDAYS!

@ Alice Springs Town Council



★ **WEEK 1**
22-26 SEPT

Monday 22 SEPT

10.15 - 11.15AM
STORYTIME & CRAFT
@ the Library

2.00 - 4.00PM
COMIC ART WORKSHOP
@ the Library
Suitable for ages 7+
* Bookings essential

3.30AM - 5.30PM
ROCK CLIMBING
@ the Y

TUESDAY 23 SEPT

4.00 - 6.00PM
Tangentyere Day
in collaboration with Tangentyere Council
@ The Youth Zone, Alice Plaza

10.15 - 10.45AM
MUSIC & MOVEMENT
@ the Library
Suitable for ages 0-5

2.00 - 4.00PM
ROBOTICS
@ the Library
* Bookings essential

4.00 - 6.00PM
MAKEUP & NAILS DROP IN SESSIONS
@ The Youth Zone, Alice Plaza

wednesday 24 SEPT

2.00 - 4.00PM
VIRTUAL REALITY (VR) DROP IN SESSION
@ the Library
Suitable for ages 10+

2.00 - 4.00PM
ART & CRAFT
@ the Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre, 1 Speed St

4.00 - 6.00PM
SKATE WORKSHOPS
@ Speed St Skate Park

Sunday 21 SEPT

1.30 - 4.30PM
TEN PIN BOWLING
@ the Dust Bowl

thursday 25 SEPT

10.00AM - 12.00PM
GOLF CLINIC & FREE PIZZA
@ the Alice Springs Golf Club

11.00 - 2.00PM
MINI GOLF
@ the Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre, 1 Speed St

12.00 - 2.00PM
FREE BBQ
@ the Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre, 1 Speed St

2.00 - 4.00PM
3x3 BASKETBALL
@ the Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre, 1 Speed St

2.00 - 4.00PM
ZINE WORKSHOP
@ the Library
Suitable for ages 10+

friday 26 SEPT

10.00AM - 12.00PM
GOLF CLINIC & FREE PIZZA
@ the Alice Springs Golf Club

10.15 - 10.45AM
BABY RHYME TIME
@ the Library

2.00 - 4.00PM
LEGO LEGENDS
@ the Library
Suitable for ages 6+

4.00 - 6.00PM
ART & CRAFT SESSION
@ Lyndavale Park, Larapinta

5.00 - 8.30PM
GLOW FEST & MINI GOLF
A FREE Night of Glow-in-the-Dark Fun for Everyone!
Games, DJ & Disco, Face paint, Free BBQ & more!
@ the Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre, 1 Speed St

Enjoy

FREE ENTRY

to the Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre all School Holidays - including weekends!



alicesprings.nt.gov.au



BOOKINGS OPEN:
WEEK 1: SUN 21 SEPT
WEEK 2: SUN 28 SEPT

SPRING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS ARE HERE!
Join the fun with ASTC's free events from 22 Sept - 5 Oct

20 SEPT - 5 OCT

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS!

@Alice Springs town council

WEEK 2
29 SEPT-5 OCT



Monday 29 SEPT

10.15 - 11.15AM
STORYTIME & CRAFT
@ the Library

3.30AM - 5.30PM
ROCK CLIMBING
@ the Y

TUESDAY 30 SEPT

10.15 - 10.45AM
MUSIC & MOVEMENT
with Jingili Song Project
@ the Library

2.00 - 4.00PM
ROBOTICS
@ the Library
* Bookings essential

4.00 - 6.00PM
MAKEUP & NAILS DROP IN SESSIONS
@ The Youth Zone, Alice Plaza

wednesday 1 OCT

2.00 - 4.00PM
VIRTUAL REALITY (VR) DROP IN SESSION
@ the Library
Suitable for ages 10+

2.00 - 4.00PM
ART & CRAFT
@ the Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre, 1 Speed St

4.00 - 6.00PM
SKATE WORKSHOPS
@ Speed St Skate Park

thursday 2 OCT

10.30AM - 12.00PM
INSECT ART
@ the Library
* Bookings essential
Suitable for ages 7+

11.00 - 2.00PM
MINI GOLF
@ the Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre, 1 Speed St

12.00 - 2.00PM
FREE BBQ
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3x3 BASKETBALL
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friday 3 OCT

10.15 - 10.45AM
BABY RHYME TIME
@ the Library

2.00 - 4.00PM
LEGO LEGENDS
@ the Library
Suitable for ages 6+

4.00 - 6.00PM
ART & CRAFT SESSION
@ Lyndavale Park, Larapinta

Sunday 5 OCT

1.30 - 4.30PM
TEN PIN BOWLING
@ the Dust Bowl

Enjoy
YOUR LIBRARY

open on
weekends
Saturdays &
Sundays from
10am - 1pm



BOOKINGS OPEN:
WEEK 1: SUN 21 SEPT
WEEK 2: SUN 28 SEPT

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08) 8950 500
astc@astc.nt.gov.au
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