

ACACIA IN ACTION

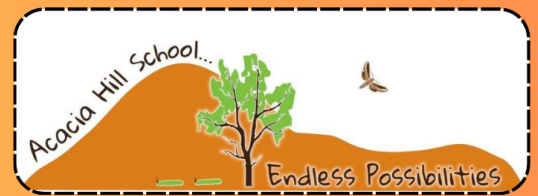
NEWSLETTER

Confident

Community

Caring

Connected



WEEK 8 TERM 2

06 June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a few staff changes since the last newsletter. John Matthews, who came as Associate Principal in Term 4 last year, was in a temporary role at Acacia, and I knew at some point we would lose him. Two weeks ago, John was offered a principal role in a Studio School for Year 10-12 students in WA. He has been wanting to move back closer to his family in WA, so this was an opportunity not to miss. Unfortunately, it was a rushed finish for John, and we didn't have a chance to farewell him at a school assembly. John has left the legacy of a huge amount of excellent work on the school Data Plan, which is now ready to implement.

We have recently welcomed Kate Phosong, who has joined us as a SESO. We welcome Nyk Balanay, who is a recently graduated new teacher with very good placement references, and to our delight, Nyk wants to work in special education! And we welcome Joel Hohn. I have known Joel for a number of years. I am very thankful for the depth of experience that Joel brings with him. Joel will be Assistant Principal Secondary Pathways. He will be deeply involved with the secondary review and Acacia's place in it, and with our plan to transition to modified NTCET over the next few years for our senior students; he will lead some of the mid- to senior-secondary classes, and he will lead the implementation of the Data Plan.

After the generosity of Variety Queensland in donating \$10,000 towards replacing the soft fall under our liberty swing, I was invited to the dinner at the end of their 4WD adventure, and they very kindly donated an additional \$1,650! At the dinner, I was really impressed by the way the 100 or so participants (in 46 4WDs) had a lot of fun, looked out for each other, and they were also very generous. Each car group had to raise at least \$5,000 on the trip for children who are sick or who have a disability. Our CE, Susan Bowden, has expressed her appreciation for Variety and what they do for young people.

Although we are getting close to the mid-year holidays, and people are starting to feel tired, the school still feels a happy and kind place. I am thankful to our terrific staff team, our great parents and carers and wider community, and most of all, to our students, who bring out the best in all the adults!

Kind regards,

Julie



DATES COMING UP

- Whole Day Friday 6th June - Satellite Classes Excursion to Desert Park
- 10:30am Thursday 12th June - School Council
- Term 3 - Tuesday 15th July to Friday 19th September
- Term 4 - Tuesday 7th October to Thursday 11th December

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ACACIA HILL SCHOOL

NEW STAFF

Joel Holn

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

"Hello everyone, I'm excited to be joining the Acacia Hill School team as the Assistant Principal - Secondary Pathways. Most recently I have been working as Principal at Owen Springs School, just outside of Alice Springs. I have experience as a classroom teacher, educational data analyst and as a teacher trainer. I'm looking forward to bringing this experience to my role and learning from the wonderful team here at Acacia Hill. Please come say hi if you see me out and about."



ACACIA HILL SCHOOL

NEW STAFF

Nyk Balanay

TEACHER

"As I begin my teaching career, I'm excited to learn every day - from the students and the amazing team I'm joining. I'm truly grateful for the opportunity to be part of this school community, and I'm looking forward to building meaningful connections with students, families, and staff as we work together to support our learners."



ACACIA HILL SCHOOL

NEW STAFF

Kate Phosung

SESO

"I am excited to join Acacia School. I hold a degree in TESOL from the Faculty of Education in Thailand. Supporting students in their learning and development has always been my passion. I look forward to contributing to the school community and learning alongside our students."

Room 8

✿ Topic: *Everyone is Healthy*

Hello everyone!!

This term in Room 8, we're buzzing with energy and enthusiasm as we dive into our unit topic: 'Everyone is Healthy'. We are exploring what it means to lead a healthy, happy life and we're excited to take you along on the journey!

☀ Morning Check-Ins

Every day starts with a warm welcome and a moment of mindfulness. We begin by asking, "How are you feeling today?" This helps us connect with ourselves and each other and get ready for a great day of learning. If someone isn't quite ready to learn, we share simple ways to boost our mood from taking a short walk to dancing, singing, or having a quiet moment.



👤 Move It, Move It!

One of our favourite ways to stay active is through dance! It's how we wake up our bodies, get our hearts pumping, and practice coordination. Some of the moves are a bit tricky at first, but we're getting stronger and more confident with every step. After our dancing sessions, we take time to stretch and cool down. It helps us feel calm, focused, and ready to learn.



Healthy Eating Adventures

Of course, staying healthy isn't just about movement, it's also about nourishing our bodies. In our cooking programme, we've been exploring colourful, delicious foods. Recently, we created our own rainbow salad and crafted adorable *rice cake flowers*. Not only were they tasty, but they were also packed with goodness!



Thank you for your continuous support.

Room 8 Team 

Review of the back to school payment scheme policy

The Department of Education and Training (the department) is reviewing the [Back to school payment scheme](#) and would like your feedback.

In collaboration with the Northern Territory Council of Government School Organisation (NTCOGSO) we invite you to participate in our survey, available until Friday 20 June 2025.

Survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VPJL777>



Survey QR code:



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 counselors 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

Child Safety Review

Have your say!

The safety, health and wellbeing of all children who attend education and care services is paramount.

Public consultation about regulatory and non-regulatory policy options to improve child safety in the education and care sector is open until **11 June 2025***.

WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE CHANGES?

There are six themes across the changes for consideration. For more information, read the Consultation Regulation Impact Statement, using the QR code below, or go to content.deloitte.com.au/ChildSafetyReview.



Management of digital devices



Child safety training



Responding to educator and staff member conduct



Working with Children Checks



Improving the safety of the physical service environment



Additional recommendations

Get involved



Information Webinar
Learn about the policy options

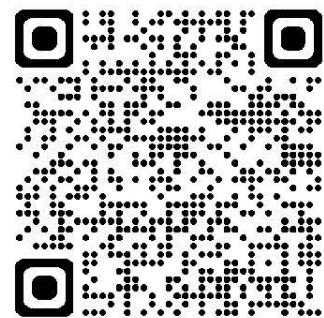


Surveys
Answer a family, educator, service or provider survey



Submissions
Make a brief comment or upload a document

For more information



content.deloitte.com.au/ChildSafetyReview

**Surveys and submissions open 5 May 2025*

FETY • SAFETY • SAFETY • SAFETY • S



A SAFETY MESSAGE TO ALL SPECTATORS

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

- !** Always stand minimum 30 metres back from the track at all times
- !** 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 Finke Desert Race spectator marshals & 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.

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

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