

ACACIA IN ACTION

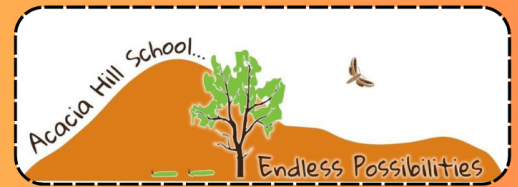
NEWSLETTER

Confident

Community

Caring

Connected



WEEK 04 TERM 2

08 May 2026

Dear Families and Friends,

We are already moving quickly through Term 2, and it is hard to believe we are already in Week 4. It has been a productive start to the term, and I am pleased to see our students settled into their routines and engaging so well with their learning programs.

Remembering Kumanjaya Little Baby

On behalf of the staff and students at Acacia Hill School, I would like to acknowledge the tragic events that have recently occurred in our town. Our hearts and deepest sympathies go out to the family and all those connected to Kumanjaya Little Baby.

In times of such profound loss, our focus remains on providing a stable, compassionate, and supportive environment for our students. We held a staff lunch recently to allow our team to come together and support one another, and we continue to check in with our students to ensure they feel safe and cared for. To assist our staff in this, we have provided our teachers with specific resources and guidance on how to support students through these difficult times, ensuring they have the tools to facilitate sensitive conversations and provide the necessary emotional care. We are a strong community, and we will continue to look out for each other as we navigate this difficult time together.

ANZAC Day Commemorations

I was incredibly proud to see our school so well-represented at the ANZAC Day ceremony on ANZAC Hill. Six of our students took part in the march from Todd Mall to the summit, showing great dignity and respect throughout the morning.

A particularly moving moment was watching our students lay a wreath at the monument to honour those who have served our country. I want to extend a huge thank you to our wonderful staff Lisa Sherriff, Melissa Insch, and Kelly Adams for their dedicated support in coordinating the morning and ensuring our students could participate so fully in this important community tradition.

A Request for "The Hill": Cardboard Boxes Needed!

Our lunchtime activities on "The Hill" are always a highlight for the students, and one of their absolute favourite things to do is build, slide, and create using cardboard boxes.

If you have any old cardboard boxes at home—from appliances, deliveries, or groceries—please consider bringing them into the front office. We would love to put them to good use! These simple items spark so much joy and imaginative play for our students during their breaks.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we continue another productive term of learning and growth.

Warm regards,

Joel Hohn

DATES COMING UP

- Monday 8th June - King's Birthday
- Friday 19th June - last day for Term 2
- Monday 13th July - Teachers Return - Term 3
- Tuesday 14th July - Students Return - Term 3

Room 4

Room 4 students have very been busy learning, exploring, and having fun together. Students enjoy listening to stories, songs and group activities. We are encouraging them to build their confidence in all learning areas including communication. Our students practise recognising numbers, patterns and shapes during hands-on- experiences.

Below are some of the examples of students in action.

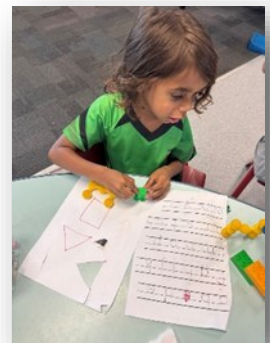


A student is demonstrating early skills through name recognition activities. Learning to recognise their own name is often the very first "reading" milestone for a child. It is a deeply personal and powerful experience because their name is a part of who they are.



During their Art lessons, students experiment with colours and explore colour mixing activities. Art is often called a "language of childhood" because it allows kids to communicate and explore the world long before they have the vocabulary to explain it. While it looks like just a mess of paint or clay, it is a powerhouse for development.

Here is a student practising tracing activities by following the lines of the letters and shapes. Tracing is much more than just "staying in the lines" - it's a major workout for children's brain and hands! When children trace, they are building the foundation for drawing, writing, and even self-care skills like using a fork or zipping a jacket.



A student developing numeracy skills through counting and shaping numbers. Early numeracy skills, like counting and recognising number shapes, are the building blocks for logic and mathematical thinking. For young children, numbers aren't just symbols; they are a way to make sense of the world around them.

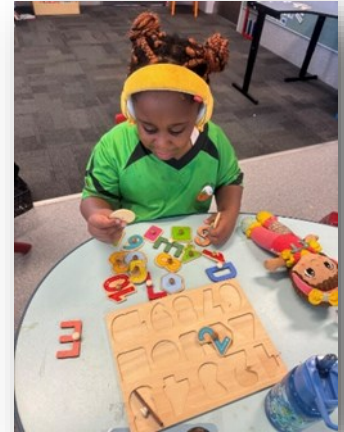
Here, a student is participating in a science experiment demonstrating the chemical reaction between bicarbonate of soda and vinegar. Watching a child experiment with baking soda and vinegar is like seeing a tiny scientist discover a new world. When the liquid hits the powder, their eyes widen as the mixture erupts into a fizzy, bubbling "volcano" that they can see, hear, and even feel.





Students in Room 4 enjoy their weekly swimming lesson in our hydro-therapy pool. For many students, the water acts as a gentle sensory tool. The consistent "hug" of water pressure can be incredibly calming for those with sensory processing sensitivities, helping to regulate the nervous system and reduce anxiety.

Students develop fine-motor skills by completing puzzles. Puzzles are like a "full-body workout" for the brain. Because they require a child to look at a small piece and imagine how it fits into the "big picture," they build several different types of intelligence at once.



Students work together in building and creating structures using different shapes. When students work together, they are doing much more than just completing a task; they are learning the essential art of collaboration. Through sharing ideas and listening to different perspectives, they begin to see that a group's combined effort can solve problems that might be overwhelming for one person alone.

Room 4 has had a fabulous start to Term 2! A big thank you to all our parents and carers for your support in ensuring the students are attending school regularly. The children have settled back into their routines beautifully and it is wonderful to see them so engaged and enjoying their learning journey.

ACACIA HILL SCHOOL

NEW STAFF

Abdul Rehman Iftikhar

TEACHER

"Hi everyone, I'm Rehman. I'm very happy to be part of the team and work with all of you and making a positive contribution to children's learning"

A graphic announcement for a new staff member. It features a portrait of Abdul Rehman Iftikhar on the left, with a yellow 'X' icon above it and a yellow zigzag line below it. The background is a light blue and white textured design. The text on the right includes the school name, 'NEW STAFF', the name 'Abdul Rehman Iftikhar' in red, and 'TEACHER' in grey. A quote from the new staff member is at the bottom.



**ANZAC DAY
PHOTOS**

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

Feature
Story



Our Student Art Comp is NOW OPEN!

Calling all NT student artists from government schools!

Our student art competition is back for 2026, after a [successful inaugural launch](#) last year. **Submissions are NOW OPEN** until 16 May.

Submit your creative piece for a chance to be featured in NTCOGSO's digital and print publications, including our 2025-26 Annual Report.

This year, we are thrilled to have [Jacksons Art Supplies](#) on board as a proud sponsor - providing gift vouchers to the winning entries. They are generously providing the top three winners with a \$150, \$100 and \$50 Jacksons voucher (respectively).

Get creative, and upload your fantastic piece(s) before 16 May, 2026! Check out the finer details and find the submission link [here](#).



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FREE DRUMMING WORKSHOPS WITH KING MARONG

FOR CHILDREN AGE 6 -15 YRS

Join us for a series of free African drumming workshops with King Marong & have the opportunity to perform at Big Day Out in Harmony 2026!



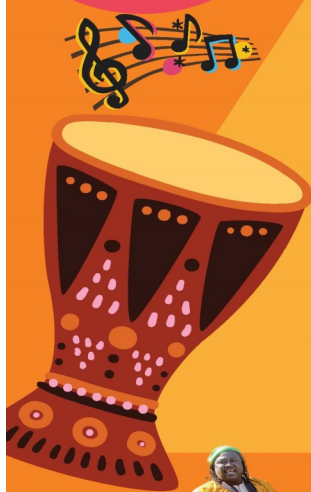
Saturday 9th, 16th & 23th May @ 12-1pm:

MCSCA office, 5b Wills Terrace

**Thursday 28th May @ 4-5pm:
Final Rehearsal**

**Performance at Big Day Out in Harmony
Saturday 30th May @ 12pm
Town Council Lawns**

**To reserve your place contact:
0475 010 196 or BDOIHsupport@gmail.com**



Presented by:



With additional support from:



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 1800 951 955.

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