



Alawa Primary School

Learning Caring and Sharing

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Issue: 14

Tuesday 17 May 2011

For your Diary

- **Biggest Morning Tea** parents are invited to join staff in a biggest morning tea. Gold coin donation



- **School Photos**
Wednesday 8 June.
Envelopes will be sent home with today's newsletter. Sibling photo envelopes can be obtained from the front office



- **Sports Day** Wednesday 15 June



From the Principal

Dear Parents,

Just to provide some information regarding student attendance...There are now tougher laws to boost school attendance. Recently, the NT Government passed amendments to the *Education Act* in Parliament which aim to boost school attendance and ensure every child in the Territory attends school every day.

The Minister for Education and Training, Dr Chris Burns, has accurately stated "When a child attends school every day they are able to dramatically increase their opportunities to improve their quality of life. Regular school attendance leads to opportunities of regular, reliable employment which enables people to support themselves and a family".

The amendments to the *Education Act* support DET's attendance strategy "Every Child Every Day" and will give Attendance and Truancy Officers broader powers to deal with students who don't go to school.

The key amendments to the *Education Act* also include:

Giving DET the power to direct parents and students to attend meetings about a child's education and participation

Giving DET greater power to obtain and use information from other agencies in order to support a child and their family.

Increased penalties for parents who fail to send their children to school

Student attendance is a high priority for Alawa Primary. It is important that parents notify the school if their child is absent.

We have previously sent information to parents regarding the **Parent Opinion Survey**. This survey is conducted by National School Surveys and aims to help Alawa Primary School to understand parents' perceptions. The information gained from this survey will assist in our strategic planning later this year.

All information is kept completely confidential and the survey is anonymous. We would appreciate it if you would consider your eldest child who attends this school. Both parents may complete the survey independently. The survey will take about 10-15 minutes and you will also have the opportunity to provide further comments at the end of the survey. To complete the survey, please click on: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/alawaparent>

If for some reason, you are unable to access the survey online, please contact Heather Briant at the front office to request a paper copy. Many thanks to those parents who have already completed the survey. However, to date, only 7 parents have completed the survey and we need more responses. We encourage all parents to participate. Please ensure that you complete the survey by this Friday 20 May, 2011.

We have recently received information from CatholicCare NT who are currently running a promotion that provides free counselling sessions for individuals, couples, families and children. The promotion runs from 1 April to 30 June. The counselling service is confidential and professional counsellors are trained to deal with a range of personal and relationship issues. Brochures are available from the school front office or phone 89442000.

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This week's assembly is hosted by 5/6 Bernardino. All parents are welcome to attend.

Regards,

Fathma Mauger
Principal

Library Chatter



What great weather we are having – a great incentive to snuggle under your doona and read. We have great readers in our school and students input is very important to me when choosing books for the library. I do encourage students to let me know what they would like me to order, so they feel they are taking a part in our school. I appreciate their knowledge. If parents would like to borrow from our library, you are most welcome.

BookClub is here again. Please remember to fill out the order form and payment and send back to the your child/ren's teacher. Payment can be cash, credit card details on the order form, cheque (made payable to Scholastic BookClub) or you can go online. For online payment go to www.scholastic.com.au/payment and follow the instructions.

QUOTE: "There is no substitute for books in the life of a child."

Mary Ellen Chase (24 February 1887 – 28 July 1973) was an American educator, teacher, scholar, and author.

Farm, Kitchen and Garden Corner

We are making some amazing things in kitchen at the moment. We have opened the new verandah eating area with a launch of lessons and we made raw pumpkin salad with fabulous garden pumpkin, stir fry with seasoned greens. This week we have a HUGE cassava harvest and we are making this with a aromatic coconut sauce. We also have harvested a huge jack fruit. We are re-launching a kitchen, garden and farm committee of school council. Anyone interested in this as an important part of our school is welcome to come along, this Wednesday at 3.10-4.14pm in the kitchen. Also we will be having an information stand at the Tropical Garden Spectacular Sustainable Living Festival on the 4-5 June. There is a sign up sheet available in the front office.



Canteen

Dear parents and students, there have been a few changes in our canteen. We try to give children and staff homemade cooked meals. We stopped breakfast, and encourage students to write their recess lunch orders at home. On our cooking days Monday's and Friday's there is no other hot food available. All our salads, sandwiches, rolls, wraps are still available. Home cooking will be advertised on other day's but everything from the canteen list available on those day's. May I suggest you place your weekly newsletter on your fridge door so you can refer to it when writing recess/lunch orders. Currently we are working on a new price list and we will send it home when ready. We still offer students and staff the best service possible.

Thanks Roula Boubaris

SPECIALS FOR THIS WEEK

Wednesday 18/5/11

Beef stir fry with steamed rice; Recess: \$2.50 Lunch: \$3.90

Friday 20/5/11

Recess: Bacon & Egg Tarts \$2.50

Lunch: Beef Stroganoff ; Small: \$3.90, Large: \$5.90

Monday 23/5/11

Recess: Homemade sausage rolls \$2.50

Lunch: Roast Lamb with potato bake; Small :\$3.90, Large: \$5.90

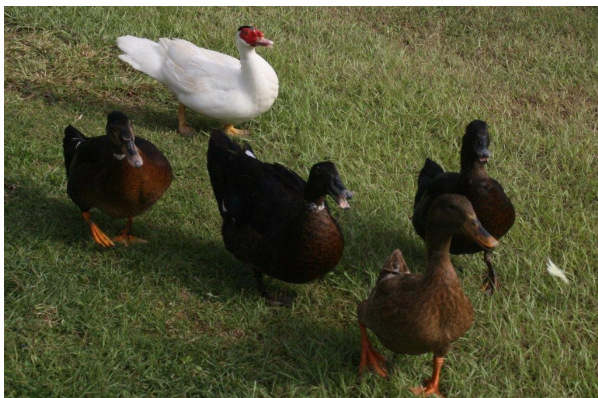
Tuesday 24/5/11

Pasta; Recess: \$2.50 Lunch: \$3.90

Fleur, Tara, Roula



In the 29th March issue of our newsletter we advertised to give away a male duck. Here are some photos of him enjoying his new home.



Classifieds



YOU'LL NEED:

Full Face Helmet * Bike
* Shoes * Long Pants
* Long Sleeve Shirt * Gloves

Limited Hire Bikes, Helmets & Gloves available

Come On Down Give It A Go! You Will Love It!!

sunday may 28th

10:00am - 2:00pm

ELRUNDIE AVENUE,
NEAR MARLOWS LAGOON
PALMERSTON

0401473664

www.bmxaustralia.com.au
Follow the "find a club" Link

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Community Notice Board

Kormilda College invites interested parents or families to take a Twilight Tour of Kormilda College on the evening of 7 June. Tours will depart from the main entrance about every half hour between 5.30pm and 7pm. Tour the campus, chat to students and staff. Ask about curriculum, fees, and scholarships. Enrolment information will be available upon request. To assist the school with staffing please RSVP your interest to Mrs Vivienne Parker telephone 08 8922 1611.

Rix Kix Arts Dance Studios will be offering a range of dance and other performing arts classes for children from the age of 3 to adults. These exciting lessons will be launched at the brand new CDU Sports Complex, corner of Lakeside Drive and Dripstone Road, Casuarina, from the 14th of May, 2011. Teacher Kristy Rickert has worked nationally and internationally as a professional dancer. Qualifications include a BA (Dance), Cert III in Health & Fitness and a Graduate Diploma of Teaching and Learning.

DANCE TIMETABLE

Mondays

7- 8pm Universal Dancers 15+ Beginner/Intermediate Hip Hop

Saturday

10:45- 11:15am Twinkle Little Stars 3-4yrs Creative Dance

11:15- 12:00am Rainbows Under 8yrs Jazz/Funk/Hip Hop

12:00- 12:45pm Sunrisers Under 12yrs Jazz/Funk/Hip Hop

12:45- 01:30pm Storm Dancers Under 16yrs Jazz/Funk/Hip Hop

1:30- 2:15pm Shooting Stars 12yrs + Technique and Choreography

2:15- 3:00pm Elements Open Drama and Musical Theatre

3:00- 0:45pm Zumba CDU

3:45- 0:30pm Pilates CDU

Tuition: \$15 on a casual basis. Phone Kristy Rickert

0403529057

danceforeva@otmail.com



Guitar lessons available

Phone: 0429 309 159

music@sandla.com.au

Visit me @

<http://web.me.com/sandla>