



# Alawa Primary School

## Learning Caring and Sharing

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### For your diary

- Literacy Numeracy week 29 August—4 September
- Parent/Teacher Interviews Week 8 Tuesday 13 September

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### From the Principal

Dear Parents,

Last term we asked parents to complete a Parent Opinion Survey conducted by National School Surveys. Many thanks to those parents who completed the survey as parent perceptions are very important for school improvement. We now have the results from the survey and this information will assist in our strategic planning later this year.

Staff, parents and our older students completed the survey. In the next few newsletters, I would like to share the overall results – starting with the student survey results.

The student survey report provided students' perceptions of the nine key areas for Alawa Primary And these were measured against the National School Surveys benchmarks, which were obtained from a diverse range of schools nationwide.

#### 1. Guidance and Support

This area measures whether students feel that they are supported in the school community. It assesses whether they feel supported through the transition from each school year, as well as being prepared for the future. In addition, this area assesses students' opinions of student well-being support and whether there are accessible and helpful student services.

#### 2. School Environment

This area measures whether students feel that the school environment is comfortable and inviting. It assesses students' perceptions of school cleanliness, safety, equality, and students' pride and enjoyment with their school.

#### 3. Teacher Quality

This area measures students' perceptions of the overall quality of teaching within the school. It assesses whether students believe that teachers are caring and supportive, recognise improvement, and provide useful feedback. It also assesses whether students consider teachers to be enthusiastic and positive role models.

#### 4. School Curriculum

This area measures whether students feel that the curriculum is innovative and caters to individual needs of children. It assesses students' opinions of the variety of subjects offered, the standard of schoolwork expected, and the appropriateness of class activities and homework.

#### 5. Learning Environment

This area measures students' perceptions of the learning opportunities offered within the school. It assesses whether students believe that the school environment is conducive to their learning, whether special interests are developed and whether students are motivated and encouraged to achieve high results.

#### 6. Personal Development

This area measures whether students feel that the school focuses on their personal development. It assesses whether students believe that they have opportunities to participate in community activities, hold leadership positions, and learn about being a responsible citizen.

#### 7. Student Behavioural Values

This area measures students' perceptions of whether they believe the school has taught them morals and values, and whether students are proud of their school. This area also assesses whether students believe their peers are well-behaved and whether they respect individual differences.

#### 8. Technology and Resources

This area measures students' perceptions of the technology and resources offered in the school. It assesses whether students believe that the school is keeping up-to-date with advancements in technology, and whether the resources are accessible and of high quality.

#### 9. Student Relationships

This area measures whether students feel that they have strong relationships at this school and whether they feel that students help one another. It also measures students' perceptions of bullying, and whether there is a sense of trust and mutual respect among students.

Fathma Mauger



### Alawa Primary School's Results (N=42) compared with Overall Sample (N=8,828)

Your school's results are compared with the overall benchmarks from the National Sample. Green percentage scores indicate that your school is higher than the National Sample, and red percentage scores indicate that your school is lower than the National Sample.

Key Area	National Benchmark Mean	Alawa Primary School Mean	Difference in Mean Score
1. Guidance and Support	69.6%	70.5%	+0.9%
2. School Environment	60.0%	70.7%	+10.7%
3. Teacher Quality	62.2%	79.3%	+17.1%
4. School Curriculum	64.4%	69.9%	+5.5%
5. Learning Environment	68.4%	77.6%	+9.2%
6. Personal Development	65.8%	79.1%	+13.3%
7. Student Behavioural Values	66.0%	77.6%	+11.6%
8. Technology and Resources	63.7%	53.0%	-10.7%
9. Student Relationships	62.9%	71.6%	+8.7%
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>64.8%</b>	<b>72.1%</b>	<b>+7.4%</b>

## Student Satisfaction Survey

## Farm, Kitchen and Garden Corner

### Volunteers

A big thank you the Mason and Hoe family who volunteered in the farm over the four week mid-year break! The animals were kept safe and well cared for during this time. If you would like to volunteer in the farm, please contact the office where a form is available or alternatively, contact [joanne.sachse@ntschoools.net](mailto:joanne.sachse@ntschoools.net).



### Donations

If you have any egg cartons or items suitable for guinea pigs, a blue tongue lizard or poultry, please have your child bring to school and give to Ms Sachse

### Animals



In order to enhance our learning through the context of the farm, we will be purchasing baby chickens and creating a worm farm during the semester. No doubt your child will keep you up to date with the progress of these new additions!



### Science News

This Semester students will be learning about earth, biological and physical sciences. The students will be learning about;

**Transition** weather, survival of animals and plants through the senses and, push and pull forces

**Years 1 and 2/3** water, the lifecycles, growth and change of animals and, sound.

**Years 3/4** the relationship between the sun, moon and earth, the lifecycle, germination and growth of plants and, forces and motion

**Years 5/6** earthquakes, micro-organisms and electricity

Students will participate and learn through fun and exciting hands-on investigations. Learning will be related and reflected within the farm, Stephanie Alexander Kitchen and Garden and, in classrooms. Already students have shown a great deal of interest in developing their understandings within these topics.



## Library Chatter

Welcome back everyone to the library. Some library times are in the process of changing and I should be able to let you know next week the classes time for borrowing. A reminder to students to return any outstanding library books or home readers to the library as soon as possible. There are quite a few home readers from the Strong Beginnings area, so could you please help your child to look for any around the house. If anyone has plastic shopping bags that they would like to get rid of, could you please send them to the library. Students must have a bag to put their library books in to take home. Our new library is coming along. We had a sneak preview last week and we are very lucky, and excited, to be getting this new building for our school.

**QUOTE:** Walt Disney: "There is more treasure in books than in all the pirate's loot on Treasure Island."

Happy Reading  
Mrs Price



## Canteen

Dear parents, students, and staff, thank you for your support.

We sent out our new canteen price list, (the green one) last week and it is good to see you are using the new prices and food lists

Unfortunately we had to cut down our food offers, but we are still cooking good homemade food on Mondays and Fridays.

### Specials for this week:

Friday 5/8/11

Recess: homemade sausage rolls (pop dogs) \$2.50

Lunch: roast beef with rice and vegetable gravy - Small \$ 4.50; Large \$5.50

Monday 8/8/11

Recess: Rice paper rolls \$ 2.50

Lunch: Seafood Carbonara—Small \$4.50; Large \$5.50

Thank you Roula & Janet

## Story telling

Story Telling is a big part of supporting children with their reading. This term we are holding story telling in the library on Fridays. We are looking for parents or community members who will come and share their favourite childhood story. The sessions will be at recess (approx 20 mins) so if your favourite story takes longer just let us know. We can then warn staff that students may be late back to class. If you are willing to participate please return the form below.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Story Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Preference- Circle a Friday-

12/8    19/8    26/8    2/9    9/9    16/9    23/9    or any Friday that suits me!!!!

## CLUSTER ATHLETICS

Last Friday, 47 athletes from Alawa Primary School competed in the Northern Suburbs Cluster Pool A Primary Schools Track and Field Carnival. The Northern Suburbs has many schools in our cluster, and is divided in to two pools. Our Alawa athletes had a big task ahead of them as they competed against athletes from Leanyer, Holy Spirit, Wagaman, Nakara, Wanguri and St. Andrews primary schools. It was fantastic to watch all our athletes striving to do their best in their selected events. Alawa Primary came 4th overall, scoring 562 points and 2nd in the Paul Henderson Shield, scoring 739 points, a mighty effort from our athletes. Congratulations to all our athletes who competed on the day. From this carnival, students are selected to represent the Northern Suburbs Track and Field team to compete in the Northern Territory Athletics Championships.

### CONGRATULATIONS to

Roslyn Nastasi, Jayhannah Thatcher, Gladys Anena, William Reeve and Daniel Houldsworth for being successful in selection for the Northern Suburbs Athletics team. Special thanks to Miss Ana Bernardino, Mrs Louise Reeve, Ms Ros and Mr Bruce for assisting our athletes on the day.

## Community Notice Board

### ICE CUPS

Ice cups will be sold on Monday, Wednesday and Friday after school by Year 6 Students, as a fundraiser for their graduation. Ice cups will cost 50c and their sale will start in week 3 of Term 3



### Dripstone Middle School

*A Community of Achievers*

Parent Information Evening

For prospective Year 7 students in 2012

Wednesday 10 August , 6.00 pm in the Dripstone Library

For enrolment enquiries telephone 8920 2299.

Email: [admin.dripshs@ntschoools.net](mailto:admin.dripshs@ntschoools.net) or view our website

<http://www.dripstonemiddle.nt.gov.au>



### Nightcliff Football Club Sign on Day

Calling all junior footballers to the Nightcliff Football Club on Saturday 13 August for the Tigers sign on day!

Free sausage sizzle & water slide bring the family! 11.00am until 2.00pm



**Australian Red Cross**  
THE POWER OF HUMANITY

Volunteers needed for  
Meals on Wheels Delivery  
And Telecross

For information please call or email Chantel Wagenaar  
8920 3700 / 0427 177 018  
[cwagenaar@redcross.org.au](mailto:cwagenaar@redcross.org.au)