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15 August 2018

Acting Principal's Report

Dear Families,

Another busy fortnight at Larapinta. This week we welcomed Ms Karen Alexander to our teaching staff. Karen comes to us with a wealth of teaching experience and we are happy to have her here with us in Year 4/5.

Professional Learning

Last week Jacki Raybould travelled to Queensland to participate in some professional learning around the early years of schooling. She has come back excited about the possibilities but also affirmed by what we are doing at Larapinta for our kids.

Book Week 2018

I think there is nothing like getting lost in a fabulous story. One of the greatest pleasures in my life as a teacher is reading to groups of kids and having them remember and retell the story then go off to find more books to enjoy on their own. Never underestimate the importance of reading to your children, no matter how old they are and how well they read for themselves. I treasure the memory of sharing the final Harry Potter book as a family when it was released in 2007 - my daughter was 12 and my son was 16 at the time! So I really look forward to celebrating stories during Book Week. This year's theme is "Find Your Treasure". On Wednesday 22nd August, students are encouraged to dress as their favourite book character and join the parade at assembly. Afterwards, they will be split into multi-age groups to participate in a variety of activities. This is not a free-dress day - if children do not want to dress up as a book character, they need to wear their uniforms to school.

NTMS Play Day

On Tuesday, Mrs Eleanor Diflo accompanied the NT Music School students to the annual Play Day, where they got to work with students from other schools. Feedback from the Regional Music Coordinator, Nicole Quesnel, was that the children were

well-behaved, respectful and excellent ambassadors for their school.

Australian Ballet

The Australian Ballet came to Larapinta yesterday where they ran workshops with some of our senior classes, culminating in a short whole-school performance at 1:30pm. This was a great opportunity for children to try something a little bit different!

School Survey

Our annual **SCHOOL SURVEY** opened on Monday 13th August and will close on Friday 31st August (Wk 4-6). We value your feedback and are always looking for ways to improve what is happening at our school. Please complete the survey by clicking on the link below or on our Facebook page. Alternatively, we have some paper copies in the front office - so pop in and tell us what you like, what is missing and what you'd love to see.

<https://www.schoolsurvey.edu.au/s/T2TEKaFR>

Growing Good Digital Citizens

As we progress through the 21st century, our children face many challenges. One that is impacting on what happens at school is the use of technology. Like moths to a flame, kids gravitate to screens and although there are some benefits, such as developing multitasking ability, coordination, teamwork and puzzle solving skills, we also need to be aware of the risks. So, what does the research say?

Child development experts recommend limiting screen time because real-life interactions are far more beneficial to children's learning, wellbeing and development. Limiting does not mean banning devices - it means looking carefully at how much time children are using devices and making sure it doesn't get in the way of things like sleep, outdoor play, reading books, face-to-face interactions etc.

Children tell us about what they are watching or playing on their devices and not all of it is developmentally suitable. Sometimes children copy the language or actions they see and they aren't always aware that it is dangerous or inappropriate. We can

reduce the risk by keeping a close eye on what our children are doing on their screens to ensure we keep our school environment a safe and happy place for everyone and we grow up good digital citizens.

The best apps and games are ones that have some learning value. Games that reward creativity or planning, involve strategy, encourage turn-taking and laughter, make it easy to play in short burst and have positive messages.

When choosing games and apps, check out the Australian classification guidelines then look at review sites to see whether or not the game your child is playing is high quality, has educational benefits and is appropriate for your child.

- Common Sense Media's game reviews and Common Sense Media's app reviews
- Australian Council on Children and the Media's app reviews.

Some popular ones are coding apps like Scratch Jnr or Tynker or creative apps like Book Creator or Minecraft and Monument Valley.

School Drop Offs and Pick Ups

Please remember when classes begin (8:30am) and end (2:50pm) so that your children aren't arriving at school too early or leaving too late. We encourage families to park their cars if they need to help children in and out so that we can keep traffic moving in the "kiss and go" area at the front of the school and in front of our preschool.

NAPLAN Online 2019

NAPLAN is going online in parts of the Northern Territory in 2019 and Larapinta is part of a cluster of schools who will be transitioning to the online environment next year. Some important benefits of this move will be a faster turnaround of results and adaptive testing (which detects whether or not the questions are at the appropriate level and adjusts them automatically to suit the child). More information will be provided to families as it becomes available.

School Concert

This year's concert will be an outside event on Thursday 20th September from 5pm. Classes have begun practising their songs and dances and it is sure to be lots of fun! We are still finalising details but will let you know the plan as soon as possible but mark the date on your calendars!

**Kind regards,
Jackie Mullins**

School Snapshot

3/4 COLMAN UPDATE

This term in 3/4 Colman we have started a new project we call "*Operation Writing is Fun*". We all decided that it is time that we have a little more fun and freedom with our writing. We have this special writing time two times a week and it goes for about 20-30 minutes. We have special pens/pencils, stamps, stickers and new shiny journals where we can write or draw about anything we like.

We decided to find out what some students in our class think about our new project.

Taku: "I like it because I get to plan the flying car I am going to make in the future."

Thomas: "It's free time to write and draw about friends, what I'm going to do when I'm older, how many houses I'm going to buy, and just planning for the future."

Sophie: "It is quiet time and we get to write about anything we want. I enjoy writing about what I do on the weekends. It's free time and a happy time where everyone is smiling and having fun. "

Charlize: "I like it because we get our own journals and we get to write about our day, draw pictures and we can do it with our friends."

Shyah: "I enjoy writing and drawing in my journal with the special glittery gel pens. It makes writing so much more fun. "

Logan: "I like writing now because I can write about animals and robots."

Ian: "I enjoy writing and drawing about basketball players."

Sharon: "I like "*Operation Writing is Fun*" because it is so much better than normal writing. It is better because I get to write about anything and Miss C doesn't come up and check it."

Jack: "You can write and draw with your friends. I like to use real pens not pencils and you can create really cool stories."

Kiah: "*Operation Writing is Fun*" is a lot of fun because it is free time and you have your own journal to write stuff. My favourite thing is to use are the special pens that we have."



ENVIRONMENT TEAM

Hello Larapinta Primary School community, we're the environmental elective team and we're giving you an update on what we've been working on so far this term.

We have set up a school wide compost system and have been collecting lots of food scraps.

We are looking at starting "Nude Food" Wednesdays. We are encouraging students and families to bring food without wrappers or plastic every Wednesday. We are doing this to help reduce waste and look after our environment so plastic doesn't end up in landfill, on the side of the road or around our school yard. We would love your support with this. There will be more information to come.

**Lily C and Alarah
Representatives of the Environmental Team.**

FREE NEWSLETTER APP

Families can download the free Schoolzine Newsletter App (SZapp) onto their devices as a great way to keep up to date with important information about upcoming events and exciting things that have been happening at school. It also enables you to view previous newsletters. For instructions on how to install the APP, click on the link below:

MEDICATIONS AT SCHOOL

If your child is required to be given medication at school (e.g. antibiotics, Panadol, cough syrup etc.), please ensure that you visit the front office and complete the required paperwork. First Aid staff cannot administer any medication without appropriate consent. All medications are to be kept in the First Aid room. Children should not have asthma puffers or other medications in their school bags.

Preschool News

Excursion to Araluen for the “Josephine wants to Dance” Performance

Last Wed/Thurs Unit 1 and Unit 2 groups and afternoon session students participated in a workshop exploring the story of “Josephine wants to Dance”. Our presenter Kurt outlined what the children might see at the upcoming performance and the students then played some Drama games to explore the roles of some of the characters they would see.



On Wednesday this week the students from these groups went on their first Preschool excursion to see the special performance of “Josephine wants to Dance” at the Araluen Performing Arts Centre.



The performance was based on the hugely popular children’s book – “Josephine wants to Dance” by Jackie French and Bruce Whatley. This musical brought to life a tale about a bush kangaroo and her determination to want to dance. We met characters such as Joey (Josephine’s baby brother), Broлга’s and Lyrebirds and “Big Annie – the Farmer”

This performance was a Monkey Baa Theatre Company production.

Some of the children’s comments about the performance were:

“I liked the kangaroo dancing.” Johan and Eliza

“I liked the roses.” Stella

“I liked the kangaroo jumping.” Ava

“I liked everything.” Mark

Outcome 2: Connectedness 2.2 Respond to diversity with respect : Evident when children explore diversity of culture, heritage, background and tradition. **Outcome 4: Learning and Thinking: 4.1 Develop dispositions for learning – develop creativity and imagination** **Outcome 5: Communication 5.1 Interact verbally and non-verbally with others: Evident when children develop oral language and active listening skills. Also when they begin to extend their literacy vocabulary.** **5.2 Engage with a range of texts and gain meaning from them: Evident when children begin to comprehend and make meaning from texts.**

Picture Products Fundraiser



This term our preschool is doing the very popular melamine picture plates and other products fundraiser.

Products include:

- Melamine Dinner Plate
- Melamine Picture Clock (Large)
- Glossy MDF Clock (Small)
- Aluminium Water Bottle (600 & 400ml)
- Mug (Melamine or Ceramic)
- 2019 Calendar

Your child draws a picture on the template at home which is brought back with the payment to preschool by **Thursday 23rd August**. All completed templates will be sent away and the product you ordered returned to the Preschool for collection. Any family members are welcome to participate. Please contact the preschool on 89585145 for more information.

Father’s Day Breakfast Celebration

When: Wednesday 29th August

Time: 7.30 – 8.30 am

Where: Larapinta Preschool

You’re invited to join us for breakfast. If dads can’t make it mums and family members or family friends are more than welcome to come along.

Hats and Drink Bottles

With the arrival of the warmer weather please ensure that your child brings along a sun smart hat and water bottle to preschool. We are running out of spare hats and children need to have them on to be able to play outside.

Reminders

- Parent interviews are ongoing. Please see your child’s teacher to book in a time.
- If your child is going to be away, please notify the Preschool on 89585145 or reply to the text message.

Child and Family Centre (CFC)

Our vision is that every child has the best possible start to life. Children & families are at the centre of all we do. Families are their child's first teachers and we support a strength based approach.

Dentist van visit

We visited the Dentist van last week and had some fun! The Oral Health team visit our centre regularly and soon there will be a big launch with fun new promotional materials to share – stay tuned!



Teddy Bears Picnic

'If you go down to the CFC today...' We celebrated Picnic Day with a Teddy Bears Picnic for our FaFT families and for our Universal (Wednesday) playgroup. Children brought their teddy bears, we shared teddy bear themed food and we read teddy bear stories!



Lunchbox Food Fun

On Monday 20 August, Anthea Brand (Dietitian from Flynn Drive) will host a lunchbox food fun session at our family centre. Come and cook up a storm and get some easy, healthy ideas for lunchboxes. Bring your littlies for a play! (see the flyer below for details)

Lunch Box Cooking Sessions



Monday 13th August - 2:00 - 3:00pm

Monday 20th August - 2:00 - 3:00pm

This is a hands on cooking session with healthy lunchbox ideas delivered by Anthea Brand (Dietitian) from Flynn Drive Community Health Centre.

Young Fathers Program

We are very excited to welcome Scott Weily to our CFC team! He is the Young Fathers Coordinator and will be working with services in town and young fathers to develop a supportive program for Young Fathers. We are also in the process of recruiting someone for the Young Mothers Program. Exciting times ahead for our Child and Family Centre!



LEARN TO SWIM 2018

Classes available for all ages and abilities
 Payment required up-front for bookings.
 School Sports & other NT Govt Vouchers accepted



Term 3

23rd July - 29th September
 \$180 (1 lesson/week for 10 weeks)
 Enrolments open 2nd July, 2018

Term 4

15th Oct - 15th December
 \$162 (1 lesson/week for 9 weeks)
 Enrolments open 24th Sep, 2018

October School Holiday Swim Intensive

8th - 11th October \$72 (4x30min lessons/week)

October School Holiday Aquatics Fun Day

12th Oct, 8am-5pm \$60 (free if child enrolled in Swim Intensive)
 Enrolments open 17 September, 2018

Speed Street Alice Springs NT 0870
 P 08 8952 4622 E pfranklin@asalc.com.au or info@asalc.com.au
 08 8950 4360 www.asalc.com.au



SPECIAL NEEDS SUPPORT GROUP ALICE SPRINGS

ASPERGERS
 CEREBRAL PALSY
 DOWN SYNDROME
 ALL SPECIAL NEEDS WELCOME
 ADD/ADHD
 AUTISM



Adult Support Group

Welcome Meet and Eat!
 Please bring a plate of food to share. There will be a short survey to have your say in shaping our ongoing support group. All children are welcome to this event. Parents must supervise children at all times.
Wed Aug 15th, 2018
5.30 - 7.00pm
 at
 Larapinta Child and Family Centre
 22 Albrecht Dr, Larapinta

- For Parents and Carers who have a child with special needs & their families.
- For Teens and Adults who have special needs.
- For Educators who work with students with special needs.

Playgroup for 0-5yr

Mondays
10.30am - 12.30pm
 at
 Larapinta Child and Family Centre
 22 Albrecht Dr, Larapinta

- For Parents and Carers who have a child with developmental delay or special needs aged 0-5 years.
- Come and let your little ones play at the beautiful new family centre!
- Morning tea is provided.

Connect with other Carers and Individuals on the Special Needs Journey
Feel Heard and Understood in a Welcoming, Safe, and Positive Environment
 Increase the **Positive Outcomes** for your Child, Yourself and your Family

Relationships Australia NORTHERN TERRITORY

Dipping Your Toes into Mindfulness

Find out about what everyone is talking about. Join us for an introductory evening into the science, the practise, and the benefits of mindfulness. Mindfulness helps us remove clutter in our minds, so that we can think more clearly about what we need to address in the present.

Date: Wednesday, 29 August 2018 - one night
 Time: 6:00pm - 9:00pm
 Cost: \$35 Individual / \$50 Couple
 Venue: 5/11 Railway Terrace Alice Springs

Bookings are essential

How to contact us:

Alice Springs (free call)- 1800 634 405
 Office: 8950 4100
 Email: receptionas@ra-nt.org.au
 Address: 5/11 Railway Terrace, Alice Springs
 Website: www.nt.relationships.org.au

Junior Come & Try Day

ALICE SPRINGS CRICKET

Fun Games & Activities
5:30pm - 6:30pm
Friday, 21st September
Traeger Park
Ages 5+, Primary & Secondary
Students Encouraged To Attend
Free BBQ & Drinks

Email: ntcricquet@ntcricket.com.au

PECS
LEVEL 1 TRAINING

“ EXCELLENT PRESENTATION OF A VERY INTERESTING SUBJECT. The best course I have attended in 20 years as a teacher. Many thanks. ”
- PECS Level 1 delegate London

Professional: \$660
Parent: \$400

Alice Springs | Venue: TBA
17 & 18 September 2018

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
13 HOURS OF CONTACT TIME

The evidence-based Picture Exchange Communication System™ (PECS) is used to rapidly teach communication skills to those with limited functional speech. The PECS Protocol is successfully utilised in learning environments by hundreds of thousands of professionals worldwide.

PECS Level 1 Training is engaging and interactive. It begins by teaching spontaneous request, teaches additional communicative functions such as responding to questions and commenting. Learn to implement the six phases of PECS and attributes, utilizing the FAE Approved PECS Protocol. Participants will leave the workshop with an understanding of how to implement the PECS Protocol in classrooms with learners who have complex communication and behavioural needs such as autism, and related disabilities.

An added benefit for preschool children with autism and related disabilities is the high proportion who acquire independent speech. "When three students with autism, ages 5-9, were taught PECS over a period of less than two months, their spoken language consisted of more words and they used more complex grammar in speech." Ganz and Simpson 2004.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- ▶ Help Meet ECH Requirements
- ▶ Learn classroom instruction strategies
- ▶ Identify key components to designing effective educational environments using The Pyramid Approach to Education
- ▶ Develop strategies to create an abundance of opportunities for communication
- ▶ Identify the relationship between PECS & traditional communication training approaches
- ▶ Implement all six phases of PECS using a behaviour analytic orientation
- ▶ Identify criteria for transitioning from PECS to other communication modalities

Tuition Includes - Procs™

Training Manual, a CD with data sheets, checklists, detailed handouts, CEU Credits and Certificate of Attendance.



Contact +61 3 9562 0621
Register online at pecsaustralia.com

6/108 Whitehall Street, Footscray - Victoria, 3011 - Australia
admin@pecsaustralia.com

Junior BADMINTON

Score new skills at your YMCA

Junior Badminton is a grassroots level badminton program aimed at developing fundamental badminton skills whilst giving the participant an introduction to the game. Junior Badminton caters for all abilities and is aimed at increasing the health and well-being of all participants.

All equipment provided.

Session Prices

Casual Visit **\$12**
10-Visit Pass **\$100**
(\$100 Sport Voucher redeemable)

Session Times

Wed 3.30-4.30pm
8-12 years
Fri 3.30-4.30pm
13-16 years



YMCA of the Northern Territory

Sadadeen Road, Alice Springs, NT 0870
T (08) 8952 5666 E reception.krc@ymca.org.au



ASG Supporting Children's Education **National Excellence in Teaching Awards**

Do you know an excellent educator?

Nominations are now open for the 2018 National Excellence in Teaching Awards

For 24 years, the National Excellence in Teaching Awards have provided communities with the opportunity to formally recognise and thank outstanding teachers and leaders working within:

- Early Learning Centres;
- Primary Schools;
- Secondary Schools;
- and
- Special Schools.

The winners across each category will receive a \$5,000 grant and be flown in to Melbourne to attend a special awards ceremony



STEP 1: Parents, carers or members of the community can submit an online application by clicking the link below.



STEP 2: Principal endorses the nomination.



STEP 3: Once a nomination is received, ASG will send a link for the principal's endorsement.



STEP 4: ASG will announce if the excellent educator will proceed to Stage 1.

The NEITA awards recognises the importance of the profession, its professional standards and the critical role and impact teachers have on young people's lives.

NEITA is Australia and New Zealand's only community centred teaching awards program. Teacher nominations must meet eligibility guidelines and criteria, and are submitted by school parents, school councils, parent associations, committees of management, secondary student councils, and community organisations. They are then assessed by an expert panel of educationalists in a two staged process.

Junior HOOPS

Shoot for new heights at your YMCA

Junior Hoops is a grassroots level Basketball program aimed at developing fundamental basketball skills whilst giving the participant an introduction to the game. Junior Hoops caters for all abilities and is aimed at increasing the health & well-being of all participants.

All equipment provided.

Session Prices

Casual Visit **\$12**
10-Visit Pass **\$100**
(\$100 Sport Voucher redeemable)

Session Times

Mon 3.30-4.30pm
8-12 years
Thu 3.30-4.30pm
13-16 years



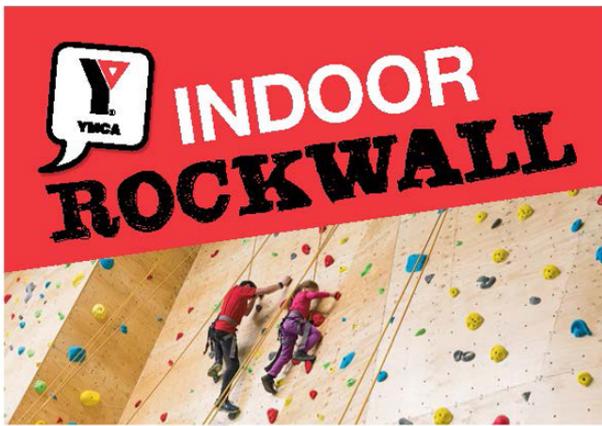
YMCA of the Northern Territory

Sadadeen Road, Alice Springs, NT 0870
T (08) 8952 5666 E reception.krc@ymca.org.au



Click below to nominate an excellent educator in the ASG National Excellence in Teaching Awards

<https://www.asg.com.au/about-asg/neita>



Climb to new heights at your YMCA

YMCA Indoor Rockwall is a fun, social activity with climbs for all ages and abilities (5+ years). Rock climbing is an exciting and challenging sport to enjoy with friends and family.

Build strength, fitness, endurance, balance, flexibility, and confidence whilst scaling one of our many fantastic climbs.

All training and equipment provided.

Session Prices

Casual Visit (Non-member) \$14

Casual Visit (Member) \$9

Concession/Student \$11

10-Visit Pass \$120

10-Visit Pass (Concession) \$90

10-Visit Junior Pass \$100

(Sports Voucher Redeemable)

Session Times

Tues Open age: 6pm-8.45pm

Wed Junior-Session (5-13yrs): 3.30-6.30pm

Thur Open age: 6pm-8.45pm

Sun Open age: 1pm-4pm

Inductions held hourly for Open Age sessions



YMCA of the Northern Territory

Sadadeen Road, Alice Springs, NT 0870

T (08) 8952 5868 E reception.krc@ymca.org.au



Saturday AUSKICK Centre
SATURDAY MORNING - Traeger Park Oval
9:00AM - 10:00AM
REGISTER AT www.aflauskick.com.au
NT GOV. SPORTS VOUCHERS ACCEPTED



Stretch the imagination!
Leap with confidence!
Join the fun!

6-10 yr olds, Mondays, 4:00-5:30pm

11-16 yr olds, Thursdays, 4:00-6:00pm

For more information:

Email: totemytclub@gmail.com

Ph: 0439 857 295