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# Nightcliff Primary Newsletter



Wednesday 23rd August 2017

Term 3 Week 5

*We celebrate life long learning in an innovative, challenging and collaborative community environment.*

Dear Parents and Guardians

It is amazing to think how quickly the term is passing with only 15 weeks left of the school year. Our leadership team is very busy at the moment preparing for the 2018 school year, with many new programs and activities being developed.

Our 'Father's Day Breakfast' is almost upon us and it will be great to once again catch up with everyone and enjoy the festivities on offer from our staff and school council. These functions are always well supported and a wonderful way for our families to meet staff, council members and new families. We all look forward to seeing you there.

Our senior students recently went to Parliament House to further understand the business of government and to meet with our local politicians. The students were very excited to have a photo taken with Minister Fyles and Minister Lawler at Parliament House last week.



Our new piano teaching room is proving very popular and we will continue to expand our music programs next year. We have increased our music teaching program to 2 full days this year. I know we have many budding musicians wanting to join our programs. Information for next year's intake will be advertised next term and if you wish to request further information about our music programs please do so at our front office.

As always, if you are in the school grounds please drop in and say hello.

Graham Chadwick  
Principal

## Dates to Remember



### August

Friday 25th: Early Years Assembly - 2 Fereday.  
Including **Be Crowise**  
Table Tennis Gala Day

### September

Friday 1st: Fathers Day Breakfast @ 7:30am  
Friday 1st: Muscular Dystrophy **Super Hero Day** Fundraiser - Gold Coin Donation  
Whole School Assembly - 4/5 Chan  
13th, 14th and 15th: BEAT Magic Festival 2017

## 2017 Dance Extravaganza The Environment

Date: Friday 15th September  
Food: Available at the canteen - 5pm - 7pm  
Performance: 7pm to 8pm at Nightcliff Primary  
School Basketball Courts.



BYO picnic rug

### Artist in Residence David Collins

David has been practising art in and around Darwin for over 15 years. He will be working with Nightcliff Primary Students this term through the Arts Program. David has already held several workshops with Early Years classes using spray paints and markers. The next phase of his residency will focus on the production of medium to large scale murals around the school based on drawings by students.



# Science Week

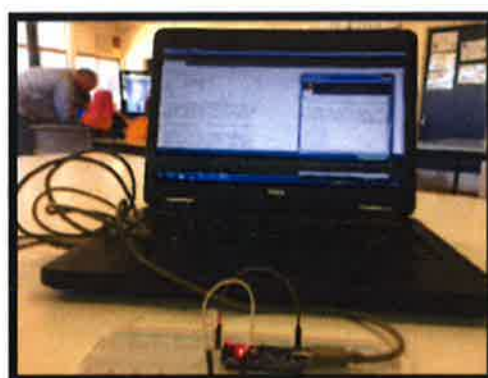
This year's theme for Science Week was 'Future Earth'.

Transition to Year 4 students learnt about frilled-neck lizards as we have an abundance in our schoolyard and baby frillies have been spotted in some of our trees.



# Science Week

Year 5 and 6 students continued to work with Justin Schmidt on their coding skills, with a goal of creating a weather station by the end of the year that will send a live feed to our school's website.



Thank you Justin for continuing to support the children with developing their coding skills and knowledge.

## Windows On The Wetlands

On Wednesday of Week 4, 2/3 Slack-Smith, 3 Mihailou and 3 Costelloe explored Window on the Wetlands for their annual excursion. We really enjoyed spotting a variety of wildlife and recording our observations in our workbooks. One of the rangers talked with us about sustainability and the importance of looking after this unique environment. A huge thank you to Ms Maria, Mr Paul, Ms Walker, Ms LeeAnne and Ms Finch for joining us and allowing the day to run so smoothly. In our classroom, we have been studying the characteristics of wetland ecosystems, including the flora and fauna, and have learnt about the issues facing wetland survival. For this year's Extravaganza, 3 Costelloe and 2/3 Slack-Smith are connecting what we are learning about wetland ecosystems with creative dance. It was useful to watch how animals moved while on the excursion as this will help us in our dance performance. As a follow up to our excursion, we are creating some writing pieces connected to our wetland experience. We used our imagination and the information we learnt on the excursion, to create interesting writing pieces. We hope you enjoy these samples.

### **Student samples:**

Bus driver, Jacana, had a really busy day. He drove his friends, Frog, Croc, Buffalo, Ibis and Brolga to Window on the Wetlands. Jacana also picked up Magpie Goose and Egret along the way. They were all so excited!

On the way to Window on the Wetlands, they saw a keelback snake and barramundi. After a climb up the stairs and sometime sketching flora and fauna, they listened to Sand Goanna as she answered their science questions. Next they went downstairs, past the cane toad trap and inside where they found some fantastic plastic animals.

After that Jacana drove them to Girraween Primary School. They ate their lunch and played tip (with Croc winning). When it was time to go, Jacana drove them back to Nightcliff Primary School and said goodbye. That was a really tiring day for Jacana.

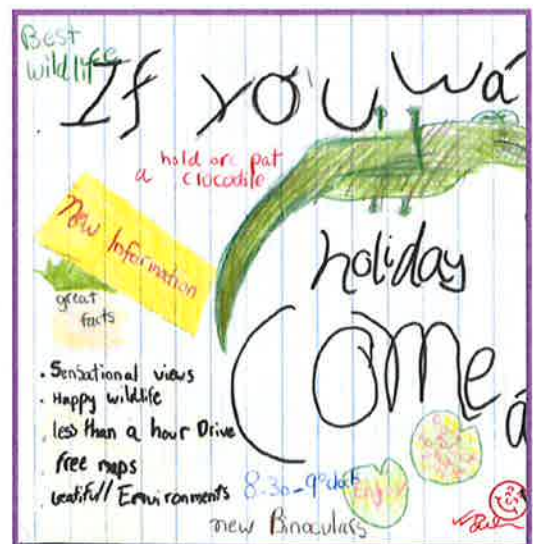
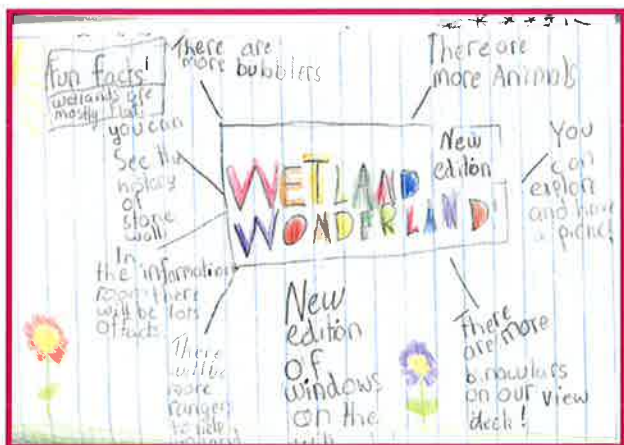
### **By Jayson**

As the bus driver whistled we jumped in our seats  
It was a new view of mountain peaks  
As the view began to sink a herd came by as black as ink  
They snorted their snouts and sang to themselves  
Eat Eat Eat  
Stomp Stomp Stomp  
Jump Jump Jump  
We pulled over to take some shots  
Bop Bop Bop  
Trop Trop Trop went the buffalo  
They stomped their hooves as we hurtled back to the bus brigade.

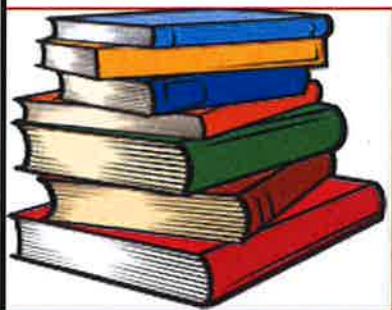
### **By Asha**

Hi, I'm Rory the tiger keelback and I'm going to tell you about one of my biggest adventures. It all began one morning when I was sunbathing on the road. I felt something coming so I stayed put for a moment and then started to scramble off the road. But I was too late, my tail got stuck. I wiggled and pulled as hard as I could but I couldn't get out. Then I saw Clancy, my best friend, then the bus stopped. Clancy tried to pull me out but he couldn't. The bus started to move and Clancy pulled hard. I was free!

### **By Rory**



## New & Preloved Book Donations



# 'Nightcliff to Ngukurr'

In celebration of *The Children's Book Council of Australia 'Children's Book Week'*, from the 19<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> of August, followed by *'National Literacy and Numeracy Week'* from the 4<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> of September, Nightcliff Primary School will be hosting a preloved book donation at primary school level. We ask families to donate books or any unwanted preloved books you may have in good condition. These books will be transported in October and will travel 7 hours to the remote Aboriginal community of Ngukurr. This community is category 3 remote, which means it can only be accessed by road six months of the year.

Through this initiative we hope to support and inspire reading, as well as provide reading resources to places that may not have the same opportunities or access as an urban school. It is a great opportunity for us to exercise our school values of *Respect, Inclusion, Responsibility, Honesty and Caring* into our wider community. Through our various communications with Ngukurr school across this journey, students will gain awareness of the many differences between urban and remote living.

There will two collection points where books can be dropped off in the mornings and afternoons.

Please donate your books in the box outside:  
Ms Fereday's Year 2 classroom in C5  
Or Mr Hauser's Year 6 classroom E1



Thank you so much for donating and we appreciate your support.

Nightcliff Primary celebrates reading, writing, books and stories during Children's Book Council of Australia (CBCA) Book Week 19-26 August 2017

## ESCAPE TO EVERYWHERE

Congratulations to Johanna Bell as her humorous, quirky picture book "Go Home Cheeky Animals" has won the CBCA Early Childhood Book of the Year. We have a copy of this book and "Too many Cheeky Dogs" in our library. The books were illustrated by Dion Beasley [www.toomanycheekydogs.com.au](http://www.toomanycheekydogs.com.au).

\$1500 worth of new books have been purchased for the school library, including many with Children's Book Council Australia Shortlist stickers. These will be displayed as soon as they are processed.

Kaye Kessing, an author/illustrator based in Alice Springs is touring the Top End and visiting our school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September. She be working with several classes during the day and sharing how she came to write her books, book readings, discussion about writing and illustrating, marketing and making books. She will spend time with 5/6M, 5B, 2B, 2F and 1/2H and go to the library at lunchtime. Kaye wrote "The Easter Bilby", "Bilby's Secret" and "The Battle for the Spinifex" trilogy. Information about her books and book sales are at <http://www.kayekessing.com>.

A group of 8 students from years 4-6, with a passion for reading and writing, will be participating in the annual CBCA Bookfeast on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September. Author/illustrator Di Lucas who will be sharing her expertise over breakfast with the group.

This year at least 6 NPS classes and individuals have entered the Darwin City Council Young Territory Author Awards, an annual writing competition where entrants write and produce their own book. The winners will be announced very soon, at an event hosted by the Lord Mayor. The overall winner receives a cash prize of \$500 with the winner of the school entry category also winning \$500. Age group and regional winners also receive prizes. Congratulations to all NPS students who entered this competition.

Parents are encouraged to read to their children daily, to come into the library, to donate to the Nightcliff to Nukkurr Program and share their love of books with others.

## Father's Day Donations

### Wanted please

Donations for Father's Day Breakfast on  
Friday September 1st @ 7.30am.

Lemons, Sugar, Maple syrup &  
Tea bags.

