Dear Parents and Guardians

It was a very busy day last Friday for our school Bike Bus participants and even more impressive with the Minister for Education Mr Peter Chandler waiting for the students as they walked through the school crossing. The Bike Bus has grown in size to now accommodate 30 students riding to school. The school council members have met this week to discuss a second route to school due to the increasing popularity of this activity. It is fantastic to see a council initiative come to life with such enthusiasm from the students and community members. Minister Chandler was most impressed with the program.

On Tuesday we celebrated St Patrick's Day with our annual Student-Teacher Gaelic Football game (Irish AFL) at recess time on the school oval. This was a fun activity and the students joined in with enthusiasm and gusto to beat the teachers. Congratulations Ms Magee’s team! We would like to thank Mr Ryan for organising this event and it is certainly a highlight of the school calendar.

Our Friday assembly this week will be dedicated to Harmony Day and our students will participate in school activities which highlight our school culture and celebrate the diversity of our school community. Our assembly begins at 8.30am and please feel free to come along if you are available.

**Home tips for reading.**
- Invite your child to read with you every day
- Read many stories with rhyming words and lines that repeat. Ask your child to join in on these parts. Point, word by word, as they read along with you.
- Stop and ask about the pictures and about what is happening in the story.
- Read from a variety of children’s books; include fairy tales, song books, poems and information booklets.

The above are simple techniques to create strong readers and thank you for your continued support of our home reading program.

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

Graham Chadwick
Principal;
DATES TO REMEMBER

- Friday 20th March: Harmony Day Assembly 3 Mangoig
- Friday 20th March: National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence
- Friday March 16th: Upper Primary Assemble 3 Magee
- Tuesday 31st March: 3 Way Conversations and NPS Council Celebration
- Thursday 2nd April: Last day of term 1
- Friday 3rd April: School holidays start
- Monday 13th: School resumes term 2

$150 Back to School Payment Scheme

Just a reminder the $150 NT Government Back to School Payment Voucher will expire on the last day of Term 1, Thursday 2nd April 2015.

If you have not used your $150 voucher please see the school front office staff and they will be able to advise and help you.

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Dear parents

At our school we aim to create a safe and supportive school community for everyone.

Sometimes, it can be difficult for parents or carers to know what to do when their child talks to them about bullying.

You are an important part of our work to prevent bullying and to respond effectively if it happens. Stopping bullying involves everyone.

Additional information about bullying is on the school’s website [www.nightcliffprimary.net.edu.au](http://www.nightcliffprimary.net.edu.au).

Don’t forget, our school is taking part in the 2015 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence on Friday 20 March.

If you are looking for support for yourself to deal with a bullying situation, you will find ideas on the Bullying. No Way! website for parents. As well, please contact the school if you would like to discuss any aspect of our approach to preventing bullying.

Thanks for your support to make our school a great school for everyone.

Greg Hauser
St Patrick’s Day Student-Teacher International Rules Football Match

This year’s Student-Teacher St Patrick’s Day International Rules Football match was played between Ms Magee’s Shamrocks and Mr Ryan’s Leprechauns. The match was played with mixed student-teacher sides and was played with great fun and spirit. The final score was:
Ms Magee’s Shamrocks 3 goals | Over 2 Behind (23)
Defeated
Mr Ryan’s Leprechauns 1 Goal 3 Overs 6 Behind (21)

Mathew Ryan
Nightcliff PS
HPE Teacher

Eco School

Nightcliff Primary has a proud tradition of being a sustainable school. We have now joined the global Eco-School group, a part of Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE), an international, not for profit organisation which promotes sustainable development through environmental education.

The NPS Eco committee currently consists of Miss Chan and Year 4 students, Dominica De Sagon, Richard Petterson, Takira and Taleisha Castillon, as this Year 4 class operates the recycling program. As more Eco projects are developed during the year, the committee will expand.

Ten teachers are part of the Nightcliff Primary Wellbeing and Sustainability Project team that aims to promote, encourage and develop class environmental projects, in partnership with the NPS School Council and the Keep Australia Beautiful Council.

Early Years Swim and Survive Program 2015
Preschool to Year 2 students

Permission notes and other details have been sent home. The cost of the program is $55 for 8 sessions. This fee includes pool entry, a certificate and swimming instruction. Whilst this program is not compulsory, it is strongly recommended that each child participates in this valuable life skill program!

If you need a new permission note please see your child’s teacher.

You can use your child’s Back to School Payment Voucher to pay for this excursion.

PLEASE NOTE - the program starts on 14th of April, DAY TWO of Term Two!
Fun with Music
"No previous experience needed!"

Workshop B
"Fun with Music: No previous experience needed!"

Date: 18 March 2015
Time: 9:30 am to 11:30 am
Venue: CDU, Townsville

Cost: $30.00 per person

About the Workshop:
A workshop designed to introduce music and movement into your everyday early childhood teaching program.

The aim of the workshop is to help you develop new ways to encourage the natural growth of children in an enjoyable and enriching environment.

Who should attend:
ECEC Educators, Preschool and Transition Teachers, Parents

Note: All workshops in the series will link to the National Quality Standards (NQS) and Australian Professional Standards for Teachers.

For more information, please visit our website: http://darwinathletics.org.au/ or follow us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/pages/Darwin-Athletics-Club/189293787844813
Message from the 2015 Chair

Last week we held a well attended Council AGM and elected a new committee. Thanks to those who stood again and welcome to new members. Building on the work we did last year we are in a good financial position, and have a number of exciting projects about to start rolling, including the school grounds masterplan and significant investment in energy efficiency measures.

BikeBus and National Ride 2 School Day
The BikeBus continues to grow in leaps and bounds with 25 children on the “Bus” last Thursday and then 30 on Friday. Coinciding with National Ride2School day this was our biggest bus to date, so well done.

Due to its success we’re considering adding a second route, starting next term. If you’d like your child to join the BikeBus please fill in the BikeBus flyer and return to school by next Friday.

In the meantime the BikeBus will continue to run along the Ryland Rd route on Thursdays and Fridays until the end of term.

Nightcliff Education Precinct Traffic assessment
Following the release of the Nightcliff Precinct Traffic assessment last year by the City of Darwin, the school council in conjunction with the Nightcliff Middle School Council have engaged a consultant to prepare a response. Our focus and priority will be on measures that support and encourage active travel options for all our children.

The report is now available and so if you’re interested in the report and council’s response, or are aware of traffic safety issues around the school please feel free to contact myself or Graham.

End of Term Celebration - Week 9, 5 - 7pm Tuesday 31 March,
Timed to coincide with the Three-way interviews, the end of term celebration will be a fun and relaxed occasion to meet and catch up with other parents and children. We hope to have an Easter egg hunt, Jumping castle, activities and things to eat and drink.

Helpers wanted! Show your support and get involved.

Please text or call Philippa Cotter, mob 0408 482 986 or prcotton@bigpond.net.au

Simon Niblock

NPS School Council Chair
simonniblock@me.com
Mob 0402 617 416
The Nightcliff Primary School

BIKE BUS UPDATE

Following the successful trail of the BikeBus late last year Nightcliff Primary School is looking to increase the number of routes and and days we run the bus.

What is a Bike Bus?

By now many parents will have seen the BikeBus arrive at school. If not imagine a group of 10-20 children with an adult at the front (the Bus driver), an adult in the middle (the Conductor) and an adult at the back (the Stoplight). The group starts with the 3 adults and a couple of children, and as they ride along the footpath on a predetermined route they collect children along the way and deliver them to school in the morning and back home in the afternoon.

It's an idea that has been developed at the Trinity Beach primary school in Cairns, and is now run across a number of schools in Qld, it's similar to the "walking school bus" which is common in southern states, but being on bicycle it's more suited to our tropical climate.

It's a great way for children to get some exercise, improve their wellbeing and confidence, make new friends and can help reduce traffic congestion and parking issues around the school.

We started our own bus in week 5, term 4 last year and regularly had 10-12 children. Despite a slow start this year and some very sticky weather we've had lots of new interest with 28 children on the bus last Thursday and then 30 on Friday!

So we'd like to know if there are other parents and children who would like to participate in a second BikeBus.

Escort parents will be provided with training which we will organise in conjunction with the Parap Road safety facility.

If interested please fill out the form over and return to your child's teacher by Friday 27th March (Week 9).

Please contact me with any questions.

Regards

Simon Niblock,
Council chair
Nightcliff Primary School
mob: 0402 617 416
email: simonniblock@me.com

The Nightcliff Primary School Bike Bus

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Child 1 details
Child's Name: ____________________________ Grade: ________

Child 2 details
Child's Name: ____________________________ Grade: ________

Parent contact details
Parent Name: ____________________________
Street Address: ____________________________
Phone number: ____________________________
Email: ____________________________

Do you and your children currently ride to school? Yes / No

Preferred day or days for your child to ride to school (please number in order of preference)

Parent availability
Are you interested in volunteering or being more involved in the bike bus trial? (please indicate which days you'd be available).

Please return to school with your child by next Friday (27th Mar)

Nightcliff Primary School School Council
Cunjeevoi Crescent Nightcliff, NT 0810
Ph: (08) 8948 8488 Fax: (08) 8948 8499
www.nightcliffprimary.nt.edu.au
School Bus Service Notice
Route 52(PM)
Monday 16 March 2015

The Northern Territory Government advises teachers, students, parents and carers that a timing change to school bus route 52(PM) will commence on Monday 16 March 2015.

Route 52(PM) will now depart from Nightcliff Primary School at 14:40pm in lieu of the current time of 14:35pm and arrive at Casuarina Interchange at approximately 14:57pm.

This change is being introduced to allow Nightcliff Primary School students to have enough time to get onto the bus.

The updated timetable is available from our website.

If you have any concerns around this change or require more information, please contact Public Transport.

For more information about bus services phone 8924 7666 or visit www.nt.gov.au/publictransport
School bus services operate in school terms only. Departure and arrival times are subject to traffic and weather conditions. Please ensure you arrive at the bus stop a few minutes early.

**Legend**

- AM Bus Route
- PM Bus Route
- Bus Stop
- Route Number
- School

**Notice**

Students, Parents and Carers please ensure you have read and understand the Code of Conduct rules of behaviour. All Public Transport buses are equipped with closed circuit television systems (CCTV) to assist with anti social behaviour on buses.

For more information about services and the Code of Conduct please contact Public Transport on 8924 7666 or visit www.nt.gov.au/publictransport