



# School Newsletter

Week 6, Term 4, 2023

Issue No. 18/23

## Upcoming Events

### Term 4

#### Week 7

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November

**UNICEF One Minute of Noise**  
10 am

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November

**MTB Riding 7am**

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November

**Gymnastics 3-4 pm**

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November

**Interschool Sport - Basketball**

**Interschool Gymnastics**

**Competition**

#### Week 8

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November

**Preschool Concert and**  
**Graduation – Bilbies**  
2pm in the Hall

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November

**MTB Riding 7am**

**Preschool Concert and**

**Graduation – Echidnas**  
2pm in the Hall

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November

**2024 Transition and New**  
**families Information Night**  
5:30 to 6:30

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December

**Whole School Assembly**  
8.40am

**Interschool Sport - Basketball**

#### Week 9

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December

**Transition Orientation**

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December

**Transition Orientation**

**Year 6 Graduation 5.30 pm**

*From the leadership team*



What a refreshing way to end an extremely warm week with a day of rain. This week has brought on some particularly high temperatures reaching up to 40 degrees celcius! We have been providing extra reminders to students to wear their hats, slip slop slap sunscreen, drink plenty of water and have a rest or find some shade if they are feeling too hot during play time. Please provide extra reminders to your child/children too. We also offer alternate play areas for students during recess and lunch play if it is too hot out on the playground. Students have access to the Hub, library or soft fall area if need be. The weather isn't the only thing heating up as our classrooms are buzzing with energy and excitement as the final term comes to a close. 4 weeks to go! 5 more weekends until Christmas! Our teachers are like Santa's elves working busily away to get all final pieces complete.

NTLC

The Northern Territory Learning Commission (NTLC) is a collaborative initiative providing an opportunity for students to grow their agency through analysing their school's data, co-planning and co-implementing a project with the goal of improving learning at their school. Student voice plays an important role in co-decision making within a school that can positively impact their learning, but also that of others.

Selected Year 5 and 6 students represented Ross Park with Miss Hogan, Ms. Hawker and Mr. Adami at the Northern Territory Learning Commission conference in Darwin this week. The NTLC is a territory wide organisation that allows our young leaders to collaborate and co-lead change and growth with their peers and teachers within their school. They become agents of our school which provides opportunities to set a goal, reflect and act responsibly to effect change. It is about acting rather than being acted upon; shaping rather than being shaped; and making responsible decisions and choices rather than accepting those determined by others." (OECD, 2019, p.2)

Agency can be thought of occurring in degrees that range from silence to that of shared decision making with adults (Hart, 1992; OECD, 2019; State of Victoria (Department of Education and Training), 2019). There are considered to be eight levels of young people's participation in activities and decision making: young people initiating and sharing discussions with adults; young people initiating and directing projects with adult support; shared decision making; adult led projects with student input; assigned projects with adult informing participation type; tokenism; decoration; manipulation; and silence.

Growing student agency can help individuals overcome adversity (Talreja, 2017).

Our Ross Park students had an enriching experience up in Darwin learning about themselves and from others. They showcased their school-based project to other Northern Territory schools to exhibit what they had learnt from their NTLC experience. They met with other NTLC schools in the Territory and participated in a Northern Territory (NT) school EXPO where all participating schools set up a booth and showcased their NTLC projects. Ross Park students had an opportunity to visit other school booths and share learning experiences with students from other NT regions.

Minster Eva Lawler made a guest appearance at the conference. She presented and discussed the importance of student voice and the impact it can have to inspiring our young leaders. After a busy day conferencing they met up with fellow commissioners from Alice Springs School of the Air at the Darwin Lagoon and enjoyed themselves at the waterpark.

A massive thank you to Ms Hawker, Miss Hogan and Mr Adami for accompanying and caring for our students during their stay in Darwin and for their ongoing support in co-leading our 2023 NTLC project. We are so lucky to have teachers who constantly inspire our students to drive ideas and build enriching learning experiences.

#### BOOK FAIR SUCCESS!

What a success! Thank you to our school community for your recent purchases at our School Book Fair. The book fair is not just a celebration of reading but a significant contribution to the growth of our school library. Every book purchased adds to the literacy wealth of our school. This ensures that our students have access to an ever-expanding collection of captivating stories and educational resources that will enrich their lives with imagination and rich content.

From enchanting books to gripping novels, the book fair offers a smorgasbord of literacy for all readers of all ages. Our very talented librarian Ms. Leisa worked tirelessly in preparation for our Book Fair. Our students, families and friends stepped into a story wonderland of colour and imagination. Excitement spread through the school as students discussed their latest purchase/s and shared new stories and adventures with one another.

A MASSIVE THANK YOU to Ms. Leisa for the beautiful display of books and the many genres on offer to our students and their families. As we bid farewell to the Book Fair, let's carry the spirit of reading forward, turning the pages of our newly acquired literary treasures and share the joy of exciting adventures led by our friends on the shelves.

#### SPLISH SPLASH SPLOSH!

Hold onto your goggles! This week our Transition classes have dived into their swimming lessons with immense gusto! Navigating the water together, students have thoroughly enjoyed their first week of lessons at the town pool. As our young swimmers splash, paddle, kick and glide through the water, they are not only gaining physical strength and development but honing one of life's most essential skills in survival. With smiles on their faces, students have been returning with that sense of success and accomplishment. We hope our tired little fish get a good rest this weekend, so they are ready for their final round of swimming lessons next week. Please remember to label all your child's additional swimming items so if misplaced it can be returned to its rightful owner.

#### DISCO FEVER!

Even with rain the show must go on! It's time to close down your screen and put your dancing shoes on! Enjoy the school disco hosted by the Student Representative Council and Parent Committee! Lots to do tonight as there will be face painting, games and prizes. Our resident rockin' DJ will time warp you back through the classics and floss us straight back into current top charts!

BBQ, drinks and sweet treats available! I say what a great way to start your weekend with... NO DIRTY DISHES! Kids will be so tired from all their groovy moves that they'll fall asleep in the car on the way home and it will be straight to bed! Parents you will still have half your night left to kick back and relax!

Happy Week 6 Ross Park Families!



Pip Mapstone

Senior Teacher – Inclusion



# CHIEF MINISTER'S READING CHALLENGE 2023

SOAR INTO  
A GOOD STORY!



Always eager to explore new books, our students' love for reading is evident as 93 students enthusiastically participated in the Chief Minister's Reading Challenge. A special award ceremony was held at the Town Council and hosted by the Alice Springs Library last week. This included canapes, a live feed from the Parliament House Darwin ceremony and the Deputy Mayor presenting awards. Four randomly selected students who had completed the challenge attended as representatives of Ross Park Primary School.

The Chief Minister's Reading Challenge encourages students to read more books for pleasure. Every student from Transition to Year 6 in the Northern Territory was set the task to read 12 books in 24 weeks. Ross Park had 93 ardent readers complete the challenge. This was an increase from 25 students in 2022. How many students will participate in 2024?

"I was excited and I loved the cheese" – Chloe, Year 4.

"I was nervous, but it was relaxing and I ate very good Kiwi fruit" – Caleb, Year 4.

"We represented Ross Park. I was excited because I never win anything" - Jameson, Year 3.

"We got an award, ate food and watched a video (live feed) from Darwin" – Tzuriel, Year 1.

When asked about next year's challenge:

"Ross Park had 93 children finish the challenge, but some schools had over 200! We can make it more fun, you can read audio books while you're doing things and visit the library a bit more so we can get over 200 finishing the challenge" – Caleb and Chloe, Year 4.



Caleb, Chloe, Jameson and Tzuriel  
In front of Squawky the Cockatoo



Alice Springs Deputy Mayor, Allison Bitar, and  
Mrs Pedrotti extremely excited about all the reading  
Ross Park students have been doing.

All other award recipients will receive their award in the coming weeks.



On Tuesday the 14th of November 45 students from Years 2-6 represented Ross Park Primary School at the annual Interschool Swimming Carnival. The students participated in a variety of events from 100m to 25m. Although Ross Park was the winning school for the day, the sportsmanship is what we were most proud of during the day. At the end of each race, students from the Alice Springs Swimming Club were seen congratulating their opponents in the pool for their efforts and results. It was a very big and busy day.

During our lunch break, students enjoyed cooling off at the waterpark. Age champions for the event will be announced once all the points have been counted.





# Community Service



On Thursdays after recess, I have had the pleasure of taking two groups of students to volunteer their time at the Salvation Army Opportunity Shop (Salvos).

Rosemary and Lesley from the Salvos spoke to the students about what the Salvation Army did to support the community and showed them how they processed and prepared the clothing donations for sale in their retail store. The tasks set for the students were to hang the clothes on coat hangers then on the racks, tidying and re-sorting the clothes racks, dressing the mannequins and polishing donated silverware.

It has been the highlight of my week to take such enthusiastic, kind students and show them the benefits of volunteering and giving back to the community.

Thank you to Rosemary and Lesley who were wonderful teachers and very patient and fun to work with.



Bronnie Crowe



Group One

Group Two

*Thank you to Miss Bronnie for enabling this opportunity for our students!*



# 2/3 Emus and

# Year 3

# Dragons



2/3 Emus and 3 Dragons consolidated their learning about Australian Money by joining together for a Class Shop to 'sell' handmade craft items. It was a very bustling market!





*Come join us on Monday 20 November at 10am for A Minute of Loudness. Children are encouraged to bring something from home to join in and make some noise for climate change, the theme for this year's World Children's Day.*

You're invited to make some...

# NOISE



A MINUTE OF  
**LOUDNESS**  
Monday 20th November

unicef   
AUSTRALIA  
for every child



**ROSS PARK  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
*Learning-Knowledge-Life*



# *2024 new families* **Information**

## **Information Nights**

Wednesday 8th November or Thursday 30th November  
5.30 - 6.30pm  
Babysitting available

Held in the Transition classrooms - follow signs from our staff car park and front office.

## **Transition orientation visits**

- *4th December 11-12pm*
- *6th December 11-12pm*

## **All students - Meet your 2024 Teacher**

- *Wednesday 13th December*



**THE Alice Springs CHRISTMAS SHOW**



**Adults - \$5**  
**Children under 15 free**

**BLATHERSKITE PARK**  
**18 NOVEMBER**  
**SATURDAY | 2023 | 4PM - 8PM**

Free Photos with Santa |  
Duck Cup | Free Cookie decorating |  
Free icy poles | Rumball Hall Competitions  
Free Water Play | Giant Stocking Raffle  
Mini Golf & MORE!

**WWW.ALICESPRINGSSHOW.COM.AU**

Duck Cup is back!  
Supporting The  
Butterfly  
Connection







Heading to the Christmas Show tomorrow?  
Don't forget to check out the Christmas tree  
🌲 craft by the Year 2 Dingoes!  
Thank you to Ms Naomi for helping us  
develop our sewing skills for this project.

**NAFA TRIALS**  
**MALES & FEMALES 9'S/10'S/12'S/14'S**  
**2024**

**TRIAL DATES**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11 AND 18**  
**AGES 9'S/10'S - 4.30PM TO 5.30PM**  
**AGES 12'S/14'S - 5.30PM TO 6.30PM**  
**ROSS PARK, ALICE SPRINGS**

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL [paula.dacosta@toofballie.com.au](mailto:paula.dacosta@toofballie.com.au)


**MathsOnline**  
YOUR ONLINE MATHS TUTOR

**Supercharge**  
Your Child's Capabilities  
with **MathsOnline**

To speak to someone about MathsOnline, call us at 1300 882 045

MathsOnline is here to help your child succeed and build maths confidence.

With over 1,400 video tutorials and 50,000 interactive questions and worksheets, MathsOnline helps guide your children through their exam revision lesson by lesson.

Get started with a **free trial** today!

- Clear and concise step-by-step video lessons
- Interactive questions and worksheets to test understanding of topics
- Students receive immediate feedback on their answers, helping them to correct mistakes in real-time
- Available 24/7, giving students the flexibility to study when it's most convenient for them
- One-stop solution for students preparing for maths exams

Start your MathsOnline FREE trial today at [www.mathsonline.com.au](http://www.mathsonline.com.au)





**JOIN US FOR A  
FREE BBQ BREKKY!**



*Help us get more funding for our schools!*

**9:30AM THIS SATURDAY**

**CHURCH LAWNS, TODD MALL**

**EVERYONE WELCOME**





## IS YOUR CHILD INTERESTED IN LEARNING A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT OR SINGING?

Enrolment applications are now open for new and continuing students in the NT Music School's 2024 Instrumental and Choir Program. Instrumental lessons are offered during school hours for students in Year 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 on flute, clarinet, saxophone, guitar, trumpet, trombone and percussion. Lessons are free with a \$100 contribution requested on placement in the program. Instrument hire from \$100 available through NT Music School. Sports Vouchers accepted to assist with cost of hiring instruments.

Choir is by audition only and rehearsals are held after school.

Apply online now to secure your interest at  
**[www.ntms.net.au](http://www.ntms.net.au)**

**Applications close  
Friday 1 December 2023**

Should you require further assistance phone the NT  
Music School on **8955 2345**.

