

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### COVID19 RESTRICTIONS

Following lockdown across the greater Darwin area, light restrictions were in place last week at the school under the direction of the NT Department of Education. Only parents and caregivers of our Preschool and Transition students were allowed entry into the school for pick-ups and drop-offs of their children. This was to decrease the movement of adults in our school. All adults including staff were expected to wear masks and sign in via the QR code. I wish to express my sincere gratitude to all our parents/caregivers who have kept us safe by abiding by these restricted rules. We have now returned to normal practices but our staff and students are continuing to observe hygiene and physical distancing practices whenever possible. We ask that our parents and caregivers continue to check in via the front entrance of the school during school visits and at pick-up and drop-off times.



### BOOK WEEK

Book Week is being held this week. This year's theme is "Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds". Last Friday our students were invited to dress up as a character from their favourite book. Our book week parade went virtual, meaning that the students were able to view all the exciting costumes online and winners were announced over the PA before home time. Congratulations to all the costume winners and to everyone who participated in this fun event.

### CONCERT

Great news, our concert is still going ahead! The school concert is taking place at the school on Wednesday 22 September in Week 10 starting at 5.30 pm. Students have started back this week, practising their dance moves. A note regarding costumes will be sent home by classroom teachers soon. This year's theme is "Walt Disney Movies".



### FATHER'S DAY

This weekend we celebrate Father's Day on Sunday. It is a special time to say thank you to our dads who do so much for us each day. We have lots of goodies to be purchased for our dads in the Library each day during recess this week ranging from \$1 to \$10.00.



### LET'S DECODE COACHING FOR EC TEACHERS

As you already know, Karama School is implementing "Let's Decode", systematic, synthetic phonics and phonemic awareness program across our Childhood (EC) classes. Our goal is to ensure that every child is a reader by Year 3. Our commitment to our parent community is to apply evidence-based research as the foundation to our practices when helping children towards achieving this. This week, Mr. Jared Lawson, our ex. Assistant Principal and an expert Let's Decode coach is working on-site providing support to our EC teachers to develop their confidence and skills in the teaching of this approach. Please ask your children about this program to get a sense of how they feel about this approach and what impact it might already be having on the development of their reading skills. Please watch out for a Let's Decode informational evening coming up in Week 9. Time and date to be confirmed.

**Yours in Education**

## COOKING & GARDENING

Hello everyone, I hope you are all enjoying the splash of rain we had last week. The garden was certainly pleased.

We have been busy in the garden and kitchen making up for lost time after lock down. The classes that didn't get to make and taste yummy orecchiette did that, and the others got busy in the garden.

We have lots of pineapples in our garden at the moment and we are all waiting patiently for them to be ready to eat, we are sure it will be worth the wait. We are also waiting and watching the jackfruits as they get bigger and bigger. We have some slightly unripe jackfruit which will try in a curry next week. We will also be trying the sweet potato we harvested, all with curry paste made fresh from ingredients in our garden.

Upper primary students have been working on designs for our frog habitat and hotel for which we have received a grant from Woolworths to construct. We are also researching a list of native edible plants we can put in our garden in the preschool, which we have also received a grant to do. Lots of exciting things happening in the Karama gardens at the moment.

Take care everyone and happy cooking and gardening

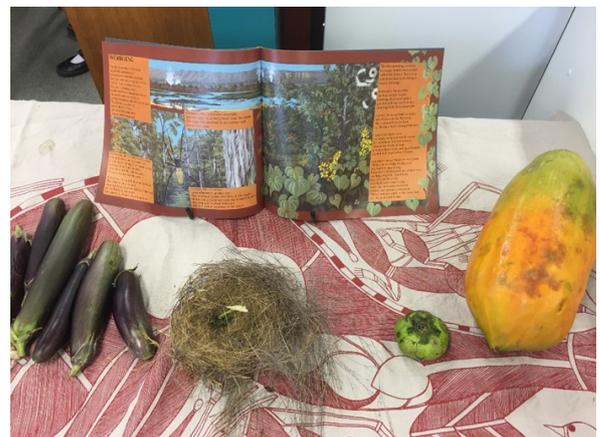


Exploring our garden with our treasure hunt folders



Harvesting lots of yummy sweet potatoes

Our produce table, with a giant pawpaw kindly donated by Tracey Magee



What a wonderful fortnight we've had! Since the introduction of the Karama SWPBS (School-wide Positive Behaviour Support) Matrix, we have been strengthened by a common language of positive choices, toward which we can lead students. This has been the work of the hard-working Positive Behaviour team (PBS) led by Mr. Mark Grosser. During the last week, it has been so easy to discuss behaviours with students by referring to the explicit positive actions in the behaviour matrix to strengthen these conversations. It has given students positive goals to work towards and a point of reference to understand the kind of environment wished for and expected by community members, students, and staff at Karama School.

The SWPBS Matrix has given us a common language for pinpointing and recognising positive behaviours as we see them. I have been privileged to note a greater number of students moving on the bell after recess or ensuring the eating areas are clean, displaying responsibility. Resilience has been shown in classrooms with students making the effort to bounce back after mistakes, helping others when they are in need, and in the playground by using their strategies to remain calm. Respect is evident when students respond to greetings and use their manners around the office. Finally, the underpinning ideal of relationships has been readily displayed by many students, who are conscious of using kind words and respecting differences.

SWPBS links beautifully with the Berry Street Education Model, and practices embedded in our classes. Relationships being a hinge point within the BSEM model. With this in mind, the thought for this week is the power of “Unconditional Positive Regard”. This is the idea that while we all get frustrated from time to time, we treat each other with care and kindness. The diagram below shows the aspects of unconditional positive regard for an understanding of how we aim to apply it at Karama School.

We discipline behaviours not students.

We remember that they are not yet adults and while we model positive behaviours with adult maturity we allow for the developmental levels of children.

We talk about the child as a whole person. Not just their academic performance or the sum of their behaviours.

We know as educators that we sometimes have to call out bad behaviour but we do it with love and understanding that we do it because we want them to be the best that they can be.

Our teachers use the systems and strategies of BSEM to support their students to achieve. Thank you to the parents and community members who support our work by emulating and expecting these practices within the school.

Carley Melbourne

Acting Assistant Principal



## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN 5/6B

In 5/6 we have been focused on using Scientific Method to help discover findings about how environmental change has an influence on living things and how living things develop special adaptations to help them survive in different environments.



The Lynx has many adaptations. Its whiskers help it to feel movement around it. They are used as motion detectors while hunting or at night.



The Australian Pelican has a hook on the end of its bill. The hook is a structural adaptation helping the pelican to hook onto their prey when hunting, instead of having to be cautious of the prey slipping out of its beak, which gives it an advantage to survive.



### Behavioral adaptations

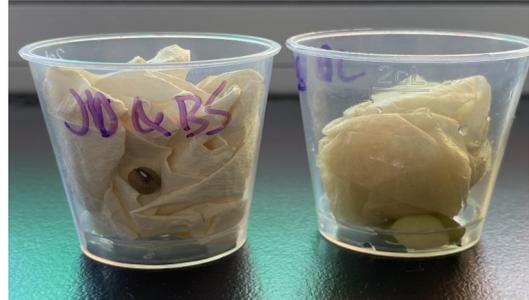
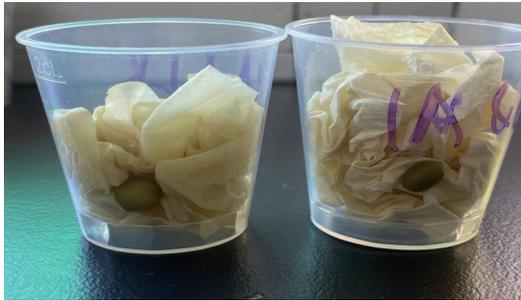
Wolves mate once every year between January to March. Their babies stay with their mother for 8 weeks so that the babies would learn what to do when they leave. Grey wolves will most of the time hunt in packs because it will be easier to hunt and will keep company. If something tries to attack them they will have a higher chance of winning. For example if they hunt by themselves they will have a higher chance of losing but if they hunt in packs they will have a higher chance of winning.

We have also been getting ready for the dry season concert, many of our students are very excited about this activity.



Students are conducting experiments which involve them germinating and growing plants with a variety of variables being changed such as watering methods and salt levels in water. They are looking to see how these changes to the environment effect the plants growth.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN 5/6G





## WRITING IN THE GRASS

Catherine

• The mysterious egg

It was a sunny day in Darwin 2024. The sky was a ocean blue colour and the sun was shining bright.

Hi, my name is Catherine and I go to Karama School.

One morning when I went to school I saw a ginormous egg in the school yard. I was curious to find out what egg it was, so I went close to it and touched it. Suddenly there <sup>was</sup> lightning surrounding me and the egg, when I turned around to see the egg, a wrinkly, green hand grabbed me and took me into his UFO which was secretly an egg! When we arrived in space he opened the door and threw me into a blackhole! I was never seen again.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS—TERM 3

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1 19 July Breakfast Club Every day for Term 1, 7.45-8.00a.m. <b>PD Day</b>	20 July Students Resume	21 July	22 July Newsletter	23 July Public Holiday Darwin Show Day
Week 2 26 July	27 July	28 July	29 July	30 July Assembly 8:30a.m
Week 3 2 August Public Holiday Picnic Day	3 August	4 August	5 August Newsletter	6 August Age Grade Census NCCD Collection
Week 4 9 August School Survey Opens	10 August Camp	11 August	12 August	13 August Assembly 8:30a.m
Week 5 16 August	17 August	18 August	19 August Newsletter	20 August
Week 6 23 August Validation 5 Opens	24 August	25 August Book week 21-27 August	26 August	27 August Virtual Assembly 8:30a.m Validation 5 Closes School Survey Closes
Week 7 30 August	31 August	1 September PLP Interviews	2 September Newsletter Father's Day Stall	3 September
Week 8 6 September	7 September	8 September	9 September	10 September Assembly 8:30a.m
Week 9 13 September	14 September	15 September	16 September Newsletter	17 September
Week 10 20 September Public Holiday Easter Monday Validation 6 Opens	21 September	22 September Dry Season Concert	23 September	24 September End of Term Awards Assembly 8.30a.m. Validation 6 Closes