

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome Back!

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back to our Karama School community for 2022. As this is our first newsletter for the term, I wanted to take this opportunity to update you all on a few things in relation to the start of the new school year. We continue to live in very uncertain times. The staff here at KPS are continuing to prepare for our usual start with our kids onsite. We are very much looking forward to a fantastic school term and seeing all of our kids at school every day except for illness.

Parents are asked to limit their time on school grounds, wear a facemask at all times, and adhere to social distancing requirements. If parents do enter the school, they are asked to check in via the front office and sign in using the QR Code. For your convenience, we have placed the QR code at the entrance of the school next to the front office doors. Parents of students in Preschool and Transition can drop their child at the classroom door but are not to enter the classrooms. Parents of students in Years 1 to 6 are to drop their children at the 'kiss and go' area at the front of the school and pick them up from the same location. Thank you for your understanding in relation to these measures. Your child's teacher will be sending a class letter home shortly outlining all the relevant information about classroom routines. Our usual welcome community breakfast is postponed to a later date this term and our parent/teacher evening will take place also later in the term. I thank you for your understanding in making these tough decisions, however, we must follow all directives from the NT Department of Education.

We are very excited to announce the appointment of

our new Assistant Principal, Mr. Tim East. Mr. East is extremely enthusiastic about joining our community and has much to offer our students. We look forward to having Mr. East on staff. We also would like to wish our new teachers, Miss Lana Collier (Preschool), Miss Candance Loane (Year 4/5), Mrs. Kerry Costigan (Year 2/3), Mrs. Jane Analzark (Offsite Yissa program), Miss Michelle Espinoza (offsite Yissa Program), Mrs. Vivienne Chellew (Health & Drama) and support personnel, Tom Guerra and Luisa Borges. Please make them feel welcome if you see them around.



The Leadership Team will be monitoring the use of our school uniform closely in 2022 and will aim to have all students in the correct uniform each day at all times. Finally, you must notify the school if your child is tested positive for covid-19. This is to ensure that we respond quickly according to the Chief Health Officer's direction and notify the staff and parents of the children in that class. Your child will need to isolate for a period of 7 days and return a negative test before returning to school. Remember, that even if your child is a close contact of a positive Covid-19 case, your child can still attend school if your child does not have any covid-19 symptoms eg coughing, runny nose, sore throat, etc. All you need to do is monitor your child closely for symptoms but keep them home if they become sick.

Please look after yourself over the coming days/weeks and stay safe. Always remember, we are here to support you.

Kind regards,

Maria Albion

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

My name is Tim East and I am the Assistant Principal for Karama Primary School this year. I have moved up to Darwin from Katherine with my wife and 3 girls over the school holidays.

My wife and I have both worked in education in Katherine for the last 11 years, having moved from regional NSW after completing University. During my time in Katherine I worked as a PE/Health Teacher, Classroom Teacher (3/4, 4/5 and 5/6), Senior Teacher Primary and Acting Assistant Principal. I have also been heavily involved with sport and School Sports NT, especially with Touch Football. I worked at Clyde Fenton Primary School for 5 years and Katherine South Primary School for 6 Years. In education my interests are around student wellbeing and engagement and I have developed and run a number of different student, staff and community projects in this space. Student engagement through sport, art and culture have underpinned a lot of work I have done to encourage students to come to school and do the right thing. I have been learning a lot about the school values this week going in and out of the classrooms. Relationships, Respect, Responsibility and Resilience are all extremely important values for students, staff and the families of Karama Primary school to demonstrate. Resiliency is one of my own No. 1 Values and I have enjoyed seeing and hearing about it this week in the classrooms. I am looking forward to working with the Karama Primary School Community this year!



THE LITERACY CORNER

I'm super excited to be heading up literacy this year and can't wait to share some wonderful learning stories with all of our families. Last year we spent six months learning and improving our craft in Let's Decode. This work is set to continue into 2022 and will begin to be complemented by a Daily Review Process to ensure that our children are covering the very important content of Let's Decode often enough to ensure learning is committed to long-term memory. This work is set to be started this term, however we must always be flexible in the way that Covid-19 will very likely interrupt our learning too.

The excellent news is that our data for reading has started to improve and the commitment of teachers at Karama School to continually improving their practice is nothing short of inspiring.

Tip #1 You can help to improve your child's literacy at any time by helping them to foster a love of the written word by regularly reading to your children no matter their age. Read anything that engages them with them and to them. It's a great bonding experience and a positive time for all.

Carley Melbourne

Darwin Junior Competition Registrations Now Open!

The season tapping off on the 7th of February 2022 (9 week competition). This is a mixed competition, so boys & girls are welcomed to take part in the competition.

Location: Territory Rugby League Stadium Cost: \$100 per player Age: Boys & Girls 12 years & younger.

Each week Touch Football Northern Territory will be running skills & drills 4:30pm – 5pm for the players that are keen to join in, please note this is optional for all players. The games will tap off at 5pm and finish by 6pm.

Register on **the touch football website** or contact **brodie.morcom@touchfootball.com.au**

MEET THE NEW TEACHERS



Hi my name is Ms Kerry Costigan and I'm so happy to be now working at Karama Primary School. When I first started teaching it was in London where I moved from Melbourne. I stayed for 5 years before I moved to Darwin in 2000. My previous schools were Bakewell then Leanyer. I taught for about 10 years in each of the schools. I have a husband, 3 children (2 girls and a boy) and 2 dogs which keep me busy. The gym is a regular place I visit. Reading, dancing and yoga are also some of my interests. I look forward to getting to know the Karama school community, particularly the families that I will be working closely with.



Hi, I'm Miss Candace Loane and I will be teaching Year 4/5 this year. I taught at Minyerri School for nearly 10 years and have just moved to the city. I live with my partner Troy and our two dogs (Gizmo and Cindi) and our cat (Alfred). I follow the Canberra Raiders in the NRL and enjoy spending my spare time at the beach, reading and socialising with friends.



Hello, I'm Sue Loeliger and this is my 20th year teaching! I have just recently come back to teaching after 2 years on maternity leave. I can't believe my boy will be 2 years old in a few weeks!

My passion is Visual Arts from drawing, painting, sculpture, graphic design, architecture and ceramics. I am currently teaching Art for two days a week at Karama P.S. Previously I have taught Visual Arts (and range of other subjects) from year 7-9 but have had experience in primary schools across Darwin and also Victoria. This is my 15th year in Darwin, moved from Victoria where I successfully completed both of my Bachelor degrees.

My interests also include spending time with family and friends, exploring the world we live in, animals and a range of sports like tennis, netball, cricket, swimming and cycling.

I am eager to see what the students will create this year and look forward to sharing these successes with you.

Hi and thanks so much for the lovely welcome to Karama.

My name is Viv Chelley, I came to Darwin in 2006 to teach for two years and I am still here.

I taught in Karama in 2007 and happy to return here.

I was successful in winning the Bells Shakespeare mentorship and had a wonderful time at The Rocks in Sydney studying and learning to teach Shakespeare.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS – TERM 1

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
Week 1	31 January	1 February		2 February		3 February		4 February	
						Newsletter		PBS Rewards 2:00pm	
Week 2	7 February	8 February		9 February		10 February		11 February	
								Assembly 2.00p.m	
Week 3	14 February	15 February		16 February		17 February		18 February	
						Newsletter		PBS Rewards 2:00pm	
Week 4	21 February	22 February		23 February		24 February		25 February	
								Assembly 2.00p.m	
Week 5	28 February	1 March		2 March		3 March		4 March	
						Newsletter		(Provisional) Community Breakfast 7.45am PBS Rewards 2:00pm	
Week 6	7 March	8 March		9 March		10 March		11 March	
								Assembly 2.00p.m	
Week 7	14 March	15 March		16 March		17 March		18 March	
		(Provisional) PLP Interviews 3.00p.m. – 6.00p.m.				Newsletter		National Day of Action against Bullying PBS Rewards 2:00pm	
Week 8	21 March	22 March		23 March		24 March		25 March	
								Harmony Day Assembly 2.00p.m	
Week 9	28 March	29 March		30 March		31 March		1 April	
						Newsletter		PBS Rewards 2:00pm	
Week 10	4 April	5 April		6 April		7 April		8 April	
								End of Term Awards Assembly 8.30a.m.	