

# Murrupurtiyanuwu Catholic Primary School



# Newsletter

Issue 8

21 September 2023



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# Principal's Message



It has been a busy term! I can't believe it is already the holidays.

There has been a lot of fun events:

Swimming lessons

Athletics

Tiwi Futures Expo

Visit from the the animal management team

Marty Ogle- the Making Jesus Real magician and singer

Visit from St Aloysius, Our Lady's College and Mary Mackillop

The School Photographer

I have been able to meet a lot more families this term, which has been lovely. It is wonderful if we all work together as a team to improve outcomes for the students. If your child is upset about anything happening at school please come in for a meeting to chat about your concerns.

Our attendance has been improving but still has a long way to go. We have lots of ways of supporting families with this so please let us know if you need us or Yellow Shirts to help in any way. If a child has low attendance not only are they missing out on great learning, they are also missing out on developing social skills and nutritious food. School is a great place to be and all teaching staff have been working on developing social and emotional learning lessons and resources to support the students even more.

We have great photos from the photographer and will send them out next term.

Keep safe and see you all next term!

**Kellie McGinlay**



# What's Been Happening in the Classroom

Transition by Rosie Nguyen

It did not take too long for me to get to know children and took no time for them to get to know me. Coming back to Tiwi Island and working as a teacher, I have greatly appreciated how much the children and community welcomed me from the very first day of work.

Welcome to Rosie's class.

Literacy: Brown Bear – What do you see?

In their remarkable journey of learning literacy skills, children embarked in a captivating adventure through the pages of the beloved book, "Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?" By engaging with this text, children cultivated reading comprehension, vocabulary development and language skills in an exciting and interactive manner. As little minds dive into the vibrant illustrations, they encountered a range of captivating characters, including the titular brown bear, a blue horse, a yellow duck, a green frog, a black sheep, a red bird, a goldfish and children. Children become familiar with iconic animals and learn about colours and their corresponding names through delightful repetition. We

took a further step into understanding the text by creating an acting performance. We made masks for each animal and practiced read-aloud as the whole class. We plan to perform this text to our whole school assembly in the near future. As children joyfully journey through the story's pages, they cultivated a love for reading and storytelling. Our class started having quiet-reading session everyday before our lunch break. They get to choose the book they would like to read and then share in the group what part of the book they like the most. During shared group reading sessions, our Tiwi teachers also had opportunities to choose Tiwi books to read for our children. I believe through the timeless and engaging variety of books, children will blossom into confident readers, equipped with a solid foundation in literacy skills.

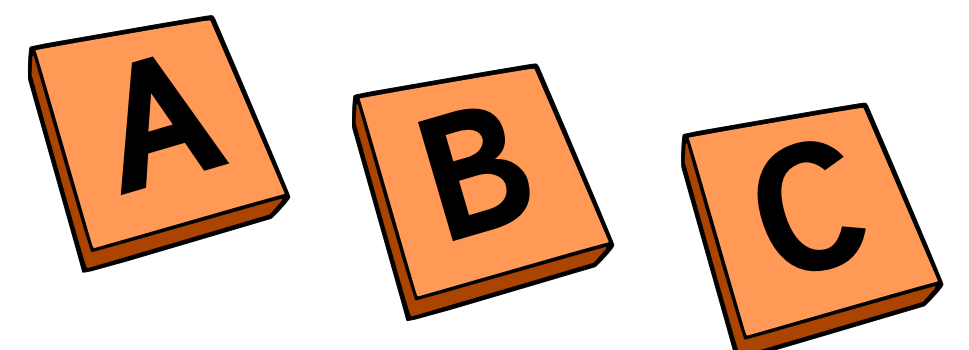
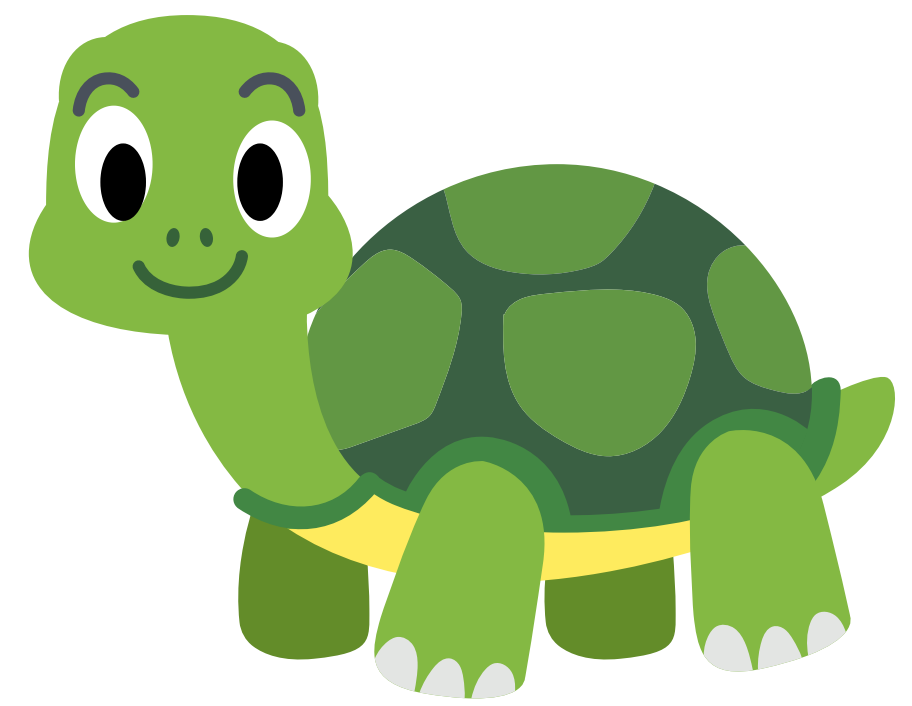


# What's Been Happening in the Classroom

Transition by Rosie Nguyen

Math: 2D shapes – I am making a truck from 2D shapes

Transition children had opportunities to explore the exciting world of 2D shapes through hand-on activities. Through a combination of creativity, problem-solving and critical thinking, they develop a solid understanding of basic shapes like circles, squares, triangles and rectangles. Using simple and accessible materials such as coloured papers, scissors, glue and markers children explored their fine motor skills while exploring the properties of each shape. To understand these shapes, children were prompted to identify real-world objects that resemble these shapes, such as a clock, a mailbox, a picture frame or road signs. We decided to build a truck by using these flat shapes. We used a square for the head, circles for the wheels, a rectangle for the body and triangles for goods. Throughout this activity, children not only have a collection of beautifully coloured shapes, but they also possessed a solid conceptual understanding of circles, squares, triangles and rectangles. This hand-on activity and interactive math learning experience lay a strong foundation for their future mathematical development while nurturing their artistic expression and creativity.



# What's Been Happening in the Classroom

Year 2 by Jean Stewart

In Religion, Sister Anne has been teaching us about Jesus and how to show respect. We have looked at Jesus's teaching about being kind and caring towards each other. The students have been encouraged to remember their cultural name and be able to confidently dance their group's special dance. The TIWI culture is promoted and valued by everyone because it makes the children understand how great their community is. The students are proud of who they are and they value elders who have helped them. They want to be strong christian leaders in the future and they are trying to follow Jesus's pathway. We had a sister from Darwin who visited our classes and they really enjoyed the "Godly Play." Also Sister Monique joined us for a lesson.

In Literacy, the students have been learning about what is a word? How you can count words in sentences. Those words can rhyme, have syllables which can be segmented and blended. Those three letter words have a first letter sound, an end sound and a middle sound. We are starting to use the terms onset and rime when we are looking at word groups.

In sport the students really enjoyed trying to win points for their team.



# What's Been Happening in the Classroom

Year 2 by Jean Stewart

In Mathematics, the students are trying so hard to learn to say, recognise and make quantities to 20. They are finding it very difficult to count backwards from 20. We will continue to help them master this skill by the end of the year. Those able to count higher are being challenged to do this.

The students really enjoyed making slime and exploring other science concepts. You can see how much the students enjoyed the activities while there were learning.

Jarrakarlanlani wishes everyone a very safe break and look forward to learning more next term. God Bless you all from Jean, Naomi, Anthea and the year 2 Students.

We had a magician come and the students were fascinated.



# What's Been Happening in the Classroom

Year 3/4 by John Fox and  
Isabella Hands

This semester, our Year 3/4 students embarked on an engaging educational journey that integrated various subjects and hands-on activities. One standout project involved the construction of kites, where math and science worked together. As the students designed and built their kites, they delved into geometry, exploring angles, shapes, and measurements while also understanding the scientific principles behind lift and aerodynamics. This project not only showcased their mathematical prowess but also fostered a deep curiosity for the world of science.

Exploring geography and mathematics, our students embarked on bike rides that took them on exciting adventures through our local community. These rides served as interactive geography lessons, allowing students to observe firsthand the landscapes, terrain, and geographical features of our region. They also used their math skills to calculate distances, speeds, and time, turning each bike ride into a math lesson in the great outdoors.

In the subject of science, creativity blossomed as students engineered their own ziplines using Lego. This project not only tapped into their scientific curiosity by exploring concepts like gravity, friction, and motion but also enhanced their problem-solving skills as they designed and tested different zipline structures.



# What's Been Happening in the Classroom

The zipline project highlighted the fusion of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) disciplines, showing students the real-world applications of their classroom knowledge. Moreover, our students had the unique opportunity to engage with their local community through swimming lessons in Garden Point, deepening their understanding of water safety skills.

Additionally, students dived into fractions while making pizzas and cookies, learning about portions and measurements, which added a tasty part to their mathematical education. iPads played a pivotal role in enhancing their learning experience, facilitating coding activities, mathematical exercises, literacy development, and artistic expression through drawing. To strengthen their literacy skills, students also benefited from the structured 'Initialit' program.

Overall, this semester has been filled with fantastic learning experiences that have not only expanded our students' horizons but also made learning an exciting and memorable adventure.





# What's Been Happening in the Classroom

Year 5 by Tanna Blackney-  
Noter



Awungana Mamanta,  
Our students have been hard at work, demonstrating a strong commitment to their studies and displaying exceptional behavior throughout the start of the term. In Literacy, we have been focusing on our reading and comprehension, grammar and spelling.

In Math, our focus has been on building a strong foundation in the fundamentals. We have been working on times tables. Our students have been honing their skills in multiplication through various games and hands-on activities.

In addition to our core subjects, our students have also been participating in physical education, and ILC classes. They have been developing their creativity, coordination, and teamwork skills through various activities. They have also been learning about needs and wants.

Overall, our grade 5 students have been demonstrating an enthusiastic work ethic and a hunger to learn. We are proud of their progress and look forward to continuing to support them throughout the last term of the school year.

# What's Been Happening in the Classroom

Year 6 Sam Gray

This term Pipirriwini has been discovering and learning new skills. All term we have been working towards raising some money for our class. It was our idea to use Tiwi skills and knowledge to sell Mud Mussel shells to the tourist. But first we had to learn how to make red ochre. Luckily Francis could show us how to cook the yellow on the fire to turn it into red. We then had to find and collect some shells! Finally, we painted the shells with our own Tiwi inspired design and sold them to the Tourist from Darwin. We raised a lot of money for ourselves to throw a class party!

We had a day trip out to the Ranku Waterhole to better connect to our culture, Jacob showed us how to call to the ancestors to help keep us safe, we then had lots of fun swimming. We also took the St Aloysius year 11 girls, it was a great opportunity to teach them about our culture!

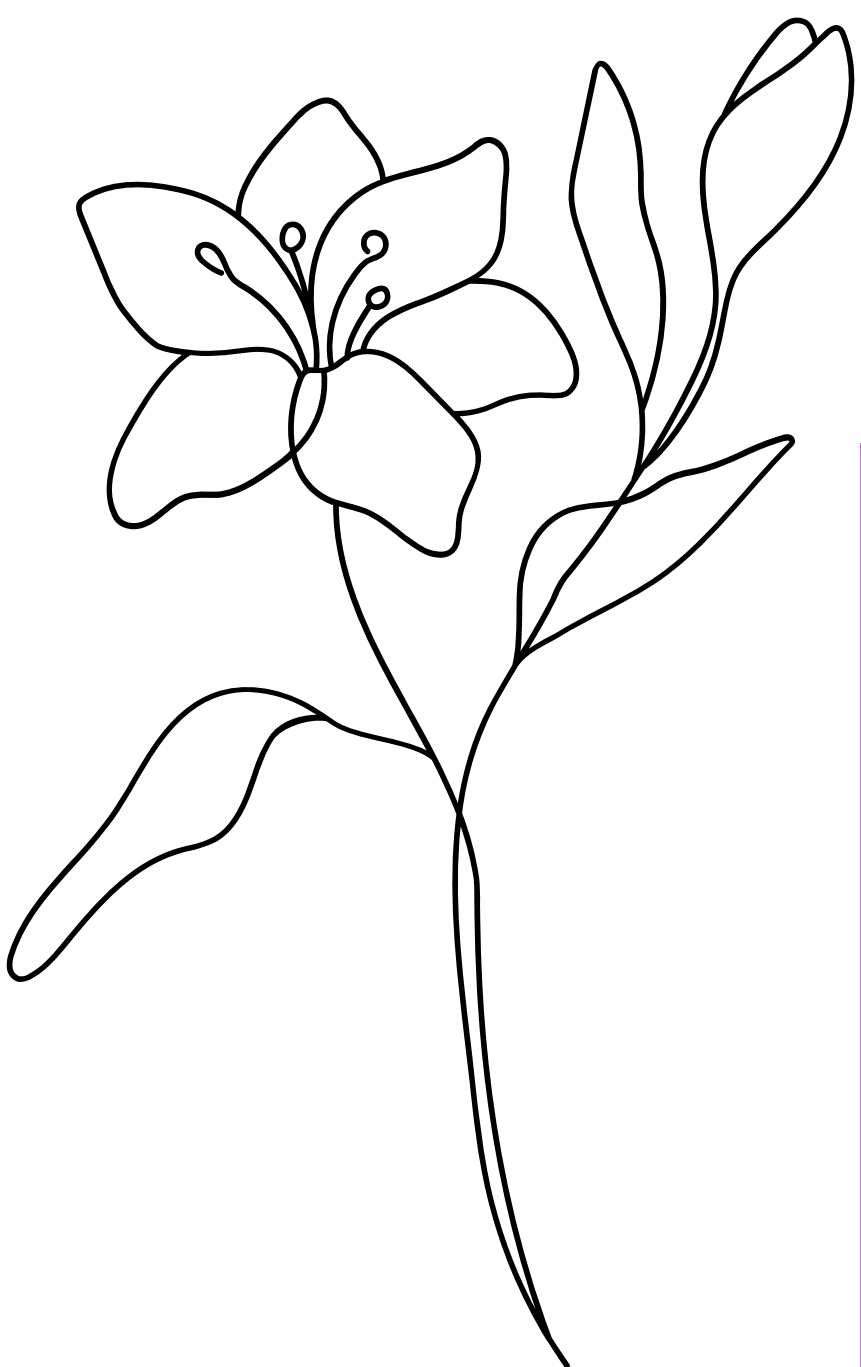


# Catholic Identity

By Monique Singh

On the 24th and 25th of August, we had the joy of Marty Ogle presenting to both schools. He shared his stories of living on Island in the 90s, as well as about how to make sure we see the Spirit of Jesus living in the people around us, and can be the Spirit of Jesus to others. So how will you make someone smile today?

From the 1st of September we have started the 'Season of Creation'. This is a special season to remember how blessed we are in the beauty of nature, and to make an effort to take care of this beautiful gift. We join all those praying around the world in being thankful for the natural beauty of the place we live in. Classes have been looking at their representations of the animals their classes are named after. At the start of next term we shall bring the Season of Creation to a close with a big painting!



## Prayer for the Season of Creation

Creator God,

You bless us every day. Thank you for your blessings in creation and in all of our friends and family. Help us to be kind and loving, just like your Son Jesus.

Make us strong in faith and trust in you.

Help us look after each other and look after Country. Amen.

# WorkForce

## NGARUKUTURUMI

By Anita Pacey



# WorkForce

## NGARUKUTURUMI

By Anita Pacey



FirstCircles

Nominations Open

Supporting the next generation of Aboriginal leaders



**Learn from yesterday,  
live for today,  
hope for tomorrow.**

Albert Einstein

*@weareteachers*

**Today a reader,  
tomorrow a leader.**

Margaret Fuller



*@weareteachers*