



Opening doors to **successful futures**

A Northern Territory Government  
Independent Public School

**DARWIN**  
MIDDLE SCHOOL

Parent/ Guardian Notices

20 October 2017, Week 2 Term 4

### **Road Works– Atkins Drive**

Parent and guardians are advised there will be road resurfacing along Atkins Drive commencing next week. It is envisaged, weather permitting the work will take two days to complete. Please be patient, and cautious of the machinery, road workers other road users and allow extra travel time when in this area.

### **Apple for the Teacher– Help Find the NT’s Favourite Teacher**

Charles Darwin University, Hot100FM and Harvey Norman are again teaming up to help find the Northern Territory’s favourite teacher. Nominations will be open from Monday, 23 October via the Hot100FM webpage [www.hot100fm.com.au](http://www.hot100fm.com.au). Not only does the teacher with the most votes claim the 2017 title, there are several prizes to the winning school and classes.

### **Important Dates**

Tournament of Minds

Finals– Adelaide

26– 29 October

World Teachers Day

27 October

Science & Engineering  
National Finals– Dubbo

1– 5 November

### **Outdoor Education**

As the build-up has kicked in, what better learning space to participate in Outdoor Education lessons, than with water.

Last week’s lessons were Paddle Boarding at Lake Alexander and playing Water Polo.

This week the Outdoor Education class went on their fishing expedition on board The Equinox Charter Service.

Students bagged as keepers 30 x Golden Snapper, 1 x Flat Head, 5 x Jew Fish, 3 x Salmon and many more smaller fish along with 4 x Sharks as throw backs.

Students battled through monsoonal like rainy conditions for the first 2 hours without any concerns what so ever.



Darwin Middle School is a member of the Darwin City Schools, in partnership with

Darwin High School, Northern Territory Open Education Centre, Ludmilla Primary, Larrakeyah Primary, Stuart Park Primary and Parap Primary Schools

## Wet Season Netball Competition

The netball competition commenced on Wednesday nights at the Darwin Netball Association courts at Marrara. Games start at 7:15pm and conclude at approximately 8:00pm. If you are dropping off and picking up your child from the courts please endeavor to be there at this time.

## Author Visit– Mark Greenwood

On Wednesday, students at Darwin Middle School were treated to a visit by Mark Greenwood, acclaimed history and fiction author of novels such as: *Simpson and his Donkey*, *The Boomerang and Bat* and *Jandamarra*. Mark shared with the 120 students present very evocative stories of how he researched for a number of his books, describing the shores of Anzac Cove, life threatening encounters with crocodiles in the Kimberley and going in search of sunken treasure off the West Australian coastline. His enthusiasm for his craft of story telling was infectious and an inspiration to the captivated audience.



## Tournament of Minds

In preparation for their upcoming trip to Adelaide to compete in the Australasian Pacific Final, our Tournament of Minds teams participated in a whole day prep on Monday where they workshopped skills to help them on competition day. The teams worked with Mark Bunnett, from Darwin High School, to develop their drama skills, particularly around being creative and improvisation. They workshopped specific skills around the challenges they will encounter in Adelaide as well as completing a 3-hour lock down challenge, just as they will experience on competition day. Throughout the day, our teams were mentored by ex-DMS students, who are now in Year 11. Morgan Gurry, Kate Hinchliffe, Damon Rowston, Michael Neill and Daniel Youn participated in TOMs during their time at Middle School, going on to judge at the regional competition this year. Their experience and mentorship to our teams is invaluable.

The two Tournament of Minds teams head to Adelaide next Thursday to compete against teams from around Australia, New Zealand and other pacific nations. We wish them the very best of luck.



## **2018 Darwin High School Enrolments**

For information on how to enroll in Year 10 at Darwin High School in 2018, please visit <https://darwinhigh.nt.edu.au/enrolment/>

### **Key Dates**

17 November- Register for Students of High Performance: English Testing

1 December- Students of High Performance: English Testing

4 December- Try Your Timetable Day

Please return completed enrolment forms and subject selections to the Office of Good Standing. If you have any questions regarding these dates please contact Darwin High School on 8999122 or email [darwin.high@ntschoools.net](mailto:darwin.high@ntschoools.net)

### **Maths Help for Students**

Maths help sessions will be held on Thursday afternoons from 2.30pm to 3.15pm. If you have any questions please contact Katelyn Moon [katelyn.moon@ntschoools.net](mailto:katelyn.moon@ntschoools.net). Students who catch school buses home will need to make alternative travel arrangements if attending these sessions.

### **Student Contact Details**

A reminder to parents and carers to ensure all contact details including postal addresses are updated at the school. If you need to update your details please email [admin.darwinmiddle@ntschoools.net](mailto:admin.darwinmiddle@ntschoools.net), use the Skoolbag App or call on 8942 5200.

### **Student Lockers and Bags**

The Office of Good Standing will no longer be looking after bags and other items for students during the school day. There are lockers available throughout the school with students needing to provide their own lock.

### **Afterschool Homework Support**

Darwin Middle School will continue to offer an after school Homework Support Program for students for term 4. Students will have the opportunity to work on class assignments and homework in a relaxed and quiet environment. Sessions are conducted every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:30pm until 3:30pm in the school Library and will be fully supervised. If you would like your child to attend, please fill out a permission form and return to the front office. Permission forms can be collected by students from the Office of Good Standing or via the Skoolbag App. Students who would normally catch a school bus home will need to make alternative arrangements as no school buses will be available. Please contact Sue Neal via email [sue.neal@ntschoools.net](mailto:sue.neal@ntschoools.net) should you require any more information.



## New School Term Dates

From 2018, term and semester breaks will be in a 1,3,2,6 model compared to the current 1,4,1,6 model. This means a three week break in June/July and a longer two week break before Term 4, with the Christmas break the same at six weeks. Term 1 will run for 11 weeks, Terms 2 and 3 for 10 weeks and Term 4 for nine weeks.

The decision to change the school term dates is a direct result from feedback provided through the three rounds of consultation conducted throughout 2015 and 2016 by the Department of Education.

The new school term dates and holiday breaks have been approved for a five-year period, commencing in 2018. For further information please visit the [Department of Education](#) webpage.



**KIDS-FIT**  
**6 WEEK FAMILY-FIT CHALLENGE**

Palmerston Challenge kicks off 9 November  
Darwin Challenge kicks off 11 November

- 6 classes (Register for Palmerston OR Darwin Challenge)
- Daily Recipe Recommendations, Tips and Motivations to help your family stay on track
- Private Facebook Group connecting you to other families doing the same Challenge.
- Weekly Challenges
- Just \$129 per family for full challenge
- Sports Vouchers accepted

Register at [kidsfitaustralia.com](http://kidsfitaustralia.com)

#KIDSFITAUST



### Week 3 Lunch Specials:

Monday	Sweet Corn and Bean Enchiladas
Tuesday	Chicken, Chips and Gravy
Wednesday	Traditional Pork Lasagna
Thursday	Thai Green Chicken Curry with rice
Friday	Hot Dogs

### **Gluten free options now available**

The café now stocks gluten free pies and sausage rolls. Orders must be placed at the café during Roll Group.

Please ensure your child has the correct currency in coins and notes. No foreign currency will be accepted.