



Dear Parents

Schooling is about preparation for life. Children will be exposed to a wide range of learning experiences during their years at school and it is hoped that the learning prepares them to be positive citizens in an ever changing society.

Recently our students have delighted in the wonders of nature. With the help of Graeme Sawyer, we are learning about biodiversity and sustainability of our environment.

Our Wagaman students have taken on the label of "Wildlife Warriors". They rescued an injured frilled neck lizard from the bush tucker garden. They successfully relocated a bowerbird from under the playground equipment to a safer space for the bowerbirds to nest. (See photo and article on page 2). They removed a batch of frilled neck lizard eggs from the sandpit to a contained space and now have a hatchery in the courtyard where they observed two baby lizards hatch. The students are now supplying termites, crickets and other delectable treats to the babies.

Territory Wildlife Park are encouraging us to raise the young family before releasing them to the wider playground.

All of these experiences will live long in the memory of our students and influence them in how to protect the animals and plants of our environment now and into the future.

The integrated learning includes researching and writing of facts on the animals, using IT to record data on a biodiversity portal, and mapping observations in the yard.

This successful venture is being shared via video link with our sister school in Timor Leste. They will also share entries on their wildlife in the region.

We are excited to see the similarities and differences!

Michele Cody  
Principal

## Coming Events

26 February	Early Childhood Assembly - 1/A
7 March	School Council AGM
11 March	Student Free day

## Student Representative Council



### SRC Executive Committee

<b>President</b>	Jye Fong
<b>Vice President</b>	Bridget Jackson
<b>Treasurer</b>	Alex Ramos
<b>Secretary</b>	Mia Wiltshire

### SRC House Captains

<b>Crocs Captains</b>	Shaneiya Austral & VJ Suva
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<b>Crocs Vice Captains</b>	Keszia Fernandez & Mason Ashburton
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<b>Sharks Captains</b>	Louise Zanco & Michail Anapliotis
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<b>Sharks Vice Captains</b>	Deontae Greenoff & Darius Murphy
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### Class Representatives

<b>4 Ramsay &amp; Chadbourne</b>	Becky Fuller & Timothy Burton
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<b>4 Mclean</b>	Angeliki Diakonikolaou & Andreas Politarchis
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<b>5/6 Hetherington</b>	Emma Symonds & Eden Tran-Anderson
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<b>5/6 Renner</b>	Amelia Sam, Josephine Gray & Ezra Higlett
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<b>5/6 Bevan</b>	Ke Ying Lin & Tobey Pablo
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## Bower Bird Relocation



An untidy forest of sticks has been the focus of a carefully orchestrated relocation at Wagaman Primary School. The spiky structure is the nest of two bowerbirds, previously erected beneath playground equipment. Bowerbirds use their nests, adorned with an odd assortment of coloured materials, to attract a mate.

After Parks and Wildlife authorised the move, Year 4 students carefully transferred the bower onto a light platform, then onto a wheelbarrow. The nest was moved 250 metres to a site on the perimeter of the playground, and decorated with the sticks, pebbles and glass collected by the male bird. The birds, undeterred by the move, reoccupied the nest.

Principal Michele Cody said the children use binoculars and a telescope to observe the birds, and have captured their movements on special motion sensor cameras organised by FrogWatch stalwart, Graeme Sawyer.

“It is amazing the footage we have to date of the male and female putting on quite a display with dance and bower building,” she said. “We monitored for a week to wait to see if the birds returned to the bower, and we observed them return after day two.

“The bowerbirds are an exciting addition to a biodiversity project being run in conjunction with our Timor-Leste sister school, Maubara School. Both school communities are mapping plants and animals that live in the playground areas.”

The students will add information about the birds to an online Biodiversity Portal, a database on mammals, reptiles and birds identified in the playground.

“Our students are making observation notes as a means of managing the biodiversity in our school community, and it’s hoped this will influence families in the wider community.”



**Every Child, Every Day** - improving student enrolment, attendance and participation is everybody’s responsibility and everyone’s business.

## Lunch Boxes

To ensure that food stays fresh we provide a fridge in each class to keep your child’s lunch.

Please note that food is best kept in plastic lunch containers. Insulated (esky) type containers prevent the refrigerated air getting to the food.

If your child brings lunch to school in an esky type container, it is best to leave it in the airconditioned classroom OR unpack the lunch into the fridge to keep it cool.



**Do not place insulated lunch bags in the fridge**

## Oral Health Services – Play Well



Drink lots of water when playing sport try to avoid sports drinks for hydration they contain sugar and acid which can lead to tooth decay. For more information and appointments please contact Darwin Dental Clinic on 08 89226466

## Student Free Day Friday 11 March 2016

**Friday, 11 March** has been approved as a student free day for teachers to attend a training course in First Steps Reading. The whole day course will be followed by four weeks of after hour workshops to complete the training. We trust that with advance notice families will be able to make arrangements for the care of their child that Friday. Brat Pack is open to provide childcare if families wish to make a booking for the day. Ph: 89272546

## Preschool Fundraising

Our first fundraiser for the year will be an Easter Hamper raffle. We would appreciate any donations such as Easter eggs, books, soft toys, vouchers etc. Please place any donations into the box in Preschool. We will send raffle tickets home with families next week. Any extra raffle tickets will be available at Preschool or Front Office



## East Darwin Hockey Club



A family-friendly club where sport is fun

**SIGN ON DAY** Saturday 27 February  
from 9am @ Marrara Indoor Stadium

*Use your NT Government sports voucher for fees  
and equipment*

Never played before? New juniors receive **FREE**  
stick at sign on

For more information:

Olivia MacDonald [junioryp@edhc.com.au](mailto:junioryp@edhc.com.au)  
8927 6966

Jamie Hullick [president@edhc.com.au](mailto:president@edhc.com.au)

Yvie Varatharajan [secretary@edhc.com.au](mailto:secretary@edhc.com.au)  
[www.edshc.com.au](http://www.edshc.com.au)

## Darwin Dragons Rugby Union Club



### Juniors Training

u7's, u9's, u11's, u13's, u15's, u17's

Tuesdays & Thursdays

Commencing 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016 at 5:15pm

Field 1 - Rugby Park - 71 Abala Road Marrara

**SIGN ON DAY**

Sunday 6 March 2016 from 1-3pm

Airport Tavern McMillans Road Jingili

Contact: President - Puru Westrupp 0450 500  
568

Or email [darwindragonsrugby@hotmail.com](mailto:darwindragonsrugby@hotmail.com)

## Update Your Contact Details ASAP

Please make sure all contact details have been updated this year. Contact the front office ASAP when any contact details change.

## School Council AGM

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2016

5.45pm in the Library

Childcare & refreshments will be provided.

We need your support

**Everyone welcome**



Parents have a right to be involved in their children's schooling and to participate in the development of education policies at all levels of the education system.

**Parents have a responsibility to:**

- show an active interest in their children's schooling
- cooperate with school staff, other parents and children in the interests of their children's education
- keep staff informed of their children's progress and significant events which may affect their children's learning

- raise concerns promptly and appropriately
- be supportive of agreed school policies.

• advise the Principal about the educational needs of the community, e.g. through the Strategic Improvement and Annual planning process

**Under the Act the Council has a responsibility to:**

- advise the Principal about building links between parents, community groups and the school
- access and advise on the physical needs of the school

- determine the community use of school facilities
- determine, through the budgeting process, how the school's money will be spent

- oversee work on buildings and grounds being carried out at the school

- employ appropriate staff

- draft the context statement for the Principal and some senior staff to be used in the recruitment process

- chair or have a parent representative on selection panels for such positions

**In addition School Councils will:**

- determine broad directions for the school with the Principal and staff

- encourage and welcome the participation and involvement of all parents and staff

- share information about the Council's work

**See nomination form on next page**



Dear Parents/Guardians,

We wish to advise that the Wagaman School Council Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held at 5.45pm on the 7 March 2016, in the Library. There will also be a brief meeting of the new Council immediately following the AGM.

School Council activities give parents the opportunity to participate in decision making for the benefit of your child/children. Please consider nominating for a position on the school council. ***Nomination forms can be submitted to the front office or handed to the chairperson on the night prior to the meeting starting.***

All parents are encouraged to express their interest in our community school and its activities by attending this meeting. The Annual Report will highlight our achievements in 2015.

Childcare will be available during the meeting and refreshments provided following the AGM.

Remember that you don't have to be a member to attend. So please consider giving us an hour of your time.

We look forward to seeing you there.

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Michele Cody  
Principal  
19 February 2016

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## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS:

Parent representatives: (4 positions need to be filled)  
Preschool representative: (Nominated by the Preschool Organisation)  
Teacher representatives: (1 position nominated by staff)

## Also for the executive positions of:

Chairperson: (must be a parent representative)  
Secretary: (preferably a parent representative)  
Treasurer: (parent representative or school registrar)

**NOTE: The Executive position are voted in by parent reps on the night of AGM**

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**(Please cut along dotted line and return to either a school council member or the school front office)**

I nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for the position/s of \_\_\_\_\_

on the **Wagaman School Council Inc.**

Proposed by \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

I accept the above nomination Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

