



*It's Damibila, Barramundi and bush fruit season.*

*The skies are clearing, and the clouds are high.*

*When there is a cold wind, old people say that new flowers are calling the cold weather.*

Dear Families,

My name is Ms Sam and this week I commenced as the Principal Malak Primary School, backfilling Mr Haydon Staines while he is on leave. I wanted to say a big thank you to all of the staff, students and families for making me feel so welcome in my first week.

I have visited each class this week and had lots of students come up to me at recess and lunch to introduce themselves and I have appreciated that very much. I even had an invitation from the staff and students in our CommAut class to join them for an afternoon tea of scones which was really lovely. Thank you Ms Nicole, Mr Paul and CommAut students for my invitation!

### Mothers Day Breakfast

This morning we hosted a special Mothers Day Breakfast for all of the wonderful mums and grandmothers in our school community. Thank you to all the families that joined us. Everyone who came along enjoyed pancakes cooked by Mr. Ridley and tea and coffee in the Conference Room. Thank you so much to Ms Kerry and Ms Maddy for being on deck to serve our families and for other staff who stayed for a chat with our mums. At Malak School we appreciate our mums very much and hope Mother's Day is wonderful for you all this weekend.

As a school, we are really keen to continue to create opportunities such as these to come together as a community and so we really appreciate everyone who is able to attend.



## Staff Professional Development



At Malak Primary School our teachers and staff are committed to keeping their professional skills up to date and to find ways to improve for the benefit of their students.

Last week, Ms Suse, Ms Karissa and Ms Alisha ran some professional learning about developing the pre-skills students need for handwriting. These included a range of fine and gross motor skills and was a follow on from the learning staff undertook with an Occupational Therapist during a staff meeting.



There will be another session for teachers in Week 6, and if you would like to know how you can support your children's fine and gross motor skill development feel free to ask their classroom teacher!

## Attention: Families of Year 6 Students

Across the Darwin Region, parents of students in Year 6 are now completing expressions of interest so that Middle Schools, such as Sanderson Middle School, have information about how many students they may be enrolling next year so that they can ensure adequate staffing arrangements are in place and so that they can connect with families of potential students.

In 2023, there were 850 students who had not enrolled in Middle Schools and a lot of work had to happen at the start of the school year to find these students and enrol them.

Can I please ask that all families of Year 6 students complete this Expression of Interest survey. It should only take about 3 minutes to complete. **Please note this is not an enrollment form, it is only a survey sharing where you are thinking of sending your child to school in 2025.**

[Year 7 2025 Parent Expression of Interest Malak Primary School \(office.com\)](https://forms.office.com/r/Emzmqj65i2)

Also, a reminder that Year 6 Orientation to Sanderson Middle School is on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May. Students will need to be dropped off and collected from Sanderson Middle School. Please return any outstanding consent forms on Monday if you would like your child to attend.

## Smith Family Parent Engagement Team

The Smith Family Parent Engagement team has reached out to our school because they need feedback from families to help shape the 2024 Parents' Voices forum, and the work they do across the year.

Click this link below to complete the survey or scan the QR code provided.

<https://forms.office.com/r/Emzmqj65i2>

A graphic for the Smith Family Parent Engagement Team. It features the Smith Family logo with the tagline "Learn today, change tomorrow." and the text "FAMILIES, WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK!". Below this is a row of five smiley faces in different colors (red, orange, yellow, green, blue). A speech bubble contains a QR code. To the right of the QR code is a text box that says "The Parent Engagement Team would love your feedback to help shape the focus of the 2024 Parents' Voices in Education forum, and the work they do in partnership with your school." and "Thank you". The background is a light blue and white pattern.

## Malak Primary School 2024 Annual School Improvement Plan

Did you know that part of our school planning involves setting goals and targets for our students and that this informs the way we deliver teaching, learning and wellbeing programs at Malak Primary School?

To achieve these improvement targets for our students we understand the importance of the entire school community working in partnership. In our newsletters we will share our school's progress toward our targets and key focus areas of our work, starting with our **attendance** target.

As you can see below, our students attended 75% of the time in 2023. Our target for 2024 is to increase this attendance to 78%.

This week, we are only slightly above our 2023 percentage and have 75.9% attendance. We hope this can continue to improve this year – I will keep you updated. We need your help to make it happen!



### Week 4 Attendance Winners

Our Attendance Challenge Week raffle was drawn this afternoon. Congratulations to all of the winners – enjoy the AFL game or movie tickets!

### 5/6 P and the Nightcliff Sea Breeze Festival – Please come along and vote!

5/6 P is learning about the Gulumoerrgin Seasons. Students have been busy making an exhibit for the Nightcliff Seabreeze Festival about the current season - Damibila.



The Seabreeze festival is at the Nightcliff foreshore and runs on Saturday 11th May and Sunday 12th May. Please visit and vote for our school's entry!



Thanks for reading everyone and enjoy the weekend!

Samantha Brannelly

Principal Malak Primary School

# We are Water Warriors!

In 3/4S we have learned about water and the water cycle. Last week 3/4S hosted the Year 3-6 Hub Assembly. At the assemblies, three 3/4S students courageously shared with the Year 3-6s and the Transition to Year 2s all about water and how we can be Water Warriors at Malak!

## ***Did you know?***

Did you know that 70% of Earth is water?

## ***Did you know?***

Did you know that out of the 70% of water on Earth, only 3% is freshwater? But... approximately 2% of the freshwater is frozen in ice caps. Woah! That means we only have access to approximately 1% freshwater.

Let's be careful with water because there isn't a lot of fresh drinking water.

## ***Did you know?***

Did you know that humans need water to survive? After 3-days without water it is not good for our health and wellbeing. Remember we need water to live!

## ***What is a Water Warrior?***

A water warrior is someone who doesn't waste water. They care about the Earth.

## ***How can we be Water Warriors?***

Our class have made posters and put them up around the school to help us all be Water Warriors. Here are five ideas:

- 1) Put your rubbish in the bin. When you see rubbish around pick it up and put it in the bin. We don't want rubbish getting into any waterway systems like drains, sea, creeks, or ocean.
- 2) Do not leave taps on. Get leaking taps fixed. Don't have the tap running when brushing your teeth.
- 3) Have a shorter shower.
- 4) Water the garden when it is cooler so water doesn't evaporate quickly.
- 5) Tip out water from your bucket or drink bottle on to the garden, plants, or grass.

# What can you do to be a Water Warrior? Come join us and be a Water Warrior too!



3/4S Water Warriors

DARWIN ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

# GARRMALANG

WED 22 – SAT 25 MAY 2024

## NUMANGGWA-GUM | BLAK TALK – FORCES OF CHANGE

### An invitation for young First Nations people

Join us at Garrmalang Festival 2024 on Saturday 25th May for an empowering half-day event designed exclusively for young First Nations community members. Facilitated by Mililma May (Uprising of The People) and Conor Bowden, with support from Dante Rodrigues and Jahdai Vigona (One Percent Better Communities), this gathering promises enlightening presentations and engaging workshops. Delve into conversations and activities tailored to empower and inform, exclusively for Northern Territory First Nations youth.

**Where:** Darwin Entertainment Centre

**When:** Saturday 25th May

**Time:** 9:30am to 1pm

**Note:** Morning tea and lunch will be provided.

Registrations essential

**RSVP:** by Friday 17th May to Tikesa Hale – [festivalassist@yourcentre.com.au](mailto:festivalassist@yourcentre.com.au)

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR EVENT SCHEDULE & DETAILS



[yourcentre.com.au](http://yourcentre.com.au)

## EVENT SCHEDULE

### 9.30AM – ELDERS' MORNING TEA (ALL WELCOME)

Connect with local Larrakia and First Nations Elders over morning tea, fostering a generational exchange and setting the tone for the day.

### 10.30AM - PRESENTATIONS (PUBLIC EVENT)

Head to The Playhouse theatre to hear from exceptional young leaders and change-makers in the Northern Territory. Featured speakers include Mililma May from the grassroots organisation Uprising of The People; Conor Bowden and representatives from One Percent Better Communities, Dante Rodrigues and Jahdai Vigona. Celebrate resilience and the power of collective action in this free, open event. Don't miss out on this opportunity for inspiration and empowerment.

### 11.15AM - WORKSHOP SESSION (CLOSED SESSION FOR FIRST NATIONS YOUTH)

Choose between two consecutive workshops, each designed to equip participants with valuable skills and insights.

#### WORKSHOP ONE - VOICES FOR CHANGE

##### Facilitated by Mililma May

Voices for Change is an opportunity for you to learn how to use your voice to help create change in our community!

Young people are the changemakers of history, let's learn how to be clever, gentle and courageous with our voice!

**Facilitator:** Mililma May is a Kulumbirigin Danggalaba Tiwi woman and the CEO of Uprising of the People. She works with community to advocate for Elders, Young People and Country. Mililma is also a freelance writer, public commentator and an advocate for Rest as Resistance.

#### WORKSHOP TWO - CREATING CHANGE THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA

##### Facilitated by Conor Bowden

This workshop will explore techniques and tips used to create and distribute information using various social media accounts with an aim of empowering young people to tackle modern problems with modern solutions. In this workshop we will aim to identify appropriate apps to use, techniques to cultivate viewership and to finally create a video for social media itself.

**Facilitator:** Conor Bowden is a Tagalaka and Gumatj man. Conor was an independent advocate for remote communities across the period of the 2023 Referendum.

#### 12.15pm - Lunch

#### 12.45–1pm - Wrap Up

As the event draws to a close, reflect on your newfound knowledge and connections, ready to embark on your journey as an empowered agent of change.