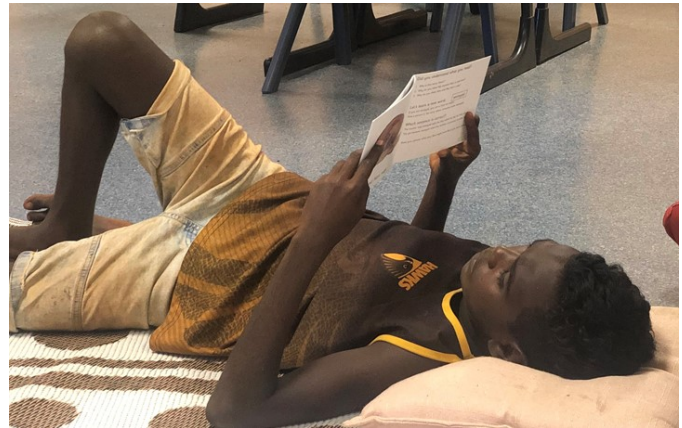
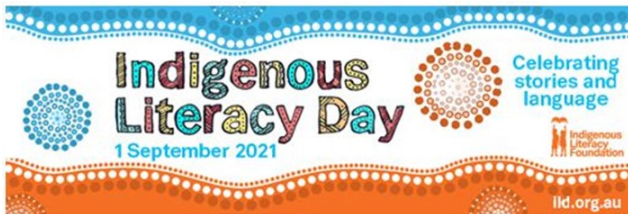




Xavier Catholic College Newsletter

Strong in Faith • Strong in Culture • Strong in Learning

Xavier Catholic College is committed to the safety, wellbeing and empowerment of all children, young people and vulnerable adults. Drawing on Tiwi traditions and the teachings of Jesus Christ and Bishop Gsell, we recognise and uphold the sacredness of our young people and the need to protect all children from abuse and exploitation.



Prayer for Education

Lord,

Proverbs tells us that an education is invaluable and that we should pursue it, even if it costs everything we have.

We praise you that millions more children are getting an education now than a decade ago.

We ask for Your continued blessing on the work of educators and teachers to educate children worldwide.

We pray for You to help us build momentum around the world for education, so every child has the opportunity to go to school and learn how to read and understand basic math.

Amen

Coming up in Term 3...

Week 7

Father's Day (Sunday, 5 Sept)

Week 8

CDU Cookery Training (Seniors)

Catholic Identity Diocesan Day (Friday)

Week 9

VET Tourism Course (Seniors)

Week 10

School Photos

Santos Science Experience CDU Darwin

First Aid Course (Seniors)

Last day of Term 3 (Thursday)

Curriculum Planning/Student Free Day
(Friday)

Weekly

- Mondays: After School Activities
- Tuesdays: Assembly/Activities (P5)
- Wednesdays: Pastoral Care (P5)
- Thursdays: Cultural Program (P4-5)
After School Activities



Principal

Dear Families,

We have lots to celebrate this week at Xavier! It was **Indigenous Literacy Day** on Wednesday and students took part in reading activities provided online by the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. It was a joy to walk into the library and see everyone relaxing with a book. Anne-Maree asked the students why reading opens doors and the students gave all these reasons:

Reading makes for better understanding.

Reading gives you brain power.

Reading teaches us how to do things.

Reading gives you knowledge.

Reading is like words on the door that help you get through.

Reading gives you a job.

Leash congratulated the whole school on improving their reading levels this year. This has happened because of our new Systemic Synthetic Phonics Program and the use of our Tiwi Readers.

We are also very proud that we had more students receiving **Random Acts of Kindness Awards** this week, more than ever before. These awards are given to students who do something kind or helpful without being asked to.



Francis Xavier Kurrupuwu, Xavier Tiwi Teacher and Leader, was very successful in the recent Council elections. Francis Xavier got lots of votes and he is held in high esteem by the community. We are very happy that he will be able to push the agenda of education and wellbeing for young people as central to the success of Wurrumiyanga.

It is National Child Protection Week from 5-11 September and the theme is **Every Child In Every Community Needs A Fair Go**. Here at Xavier we do our best every day to make sure that school is a safe and nurturing place for our students. We make sure that our young women and men have someone that they can talk to and we tell them that everything can be talked about and fixed up. Shona and Caitlin play a very important role at the front office in making our students feel welcome and happy each day and they are often the first ones to notice if someone is not ok.

It has not been easy in community and lots of people are affected by upset and fighting. In the midst of this pain, it is good for us to remember that God is with us in the hard stuff, every day God is our friend and supporter.



You might like the words of today's prayer from the online Sacred Space:

***I remind myself that, as I sit here now,
God is gazing on me with love and holding me
in being.
I pause for a moment and think of this.***

***When I return to my everyday tasks,
remind me, Lord,
that you are always there beside me.
I need never despair.***

Stay safe and God Bless everyone in Wurrumiyanga,

**Andree Rice
Principal**

Deputy Principal

Hi everyone,

I would like to share a parable about an old Cherokee Indian Elder who was teaching his grandson about life. “A fight is going on inside me,” he said to the boy. “It is a terrible fight and it is between two wolves. One is evil – he is anger, envy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego.”

He continued, “The other is good – he is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion, and faith. The same fight is going on inside you – and inside every other person, too.”

The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather, “Which wolf will win?”

The old Cherokee simply replied, “The one you feed.”

Whether or not it’s your first time hearing this story, it serves as an important reminder of the power we have over our experiences and emotions.

It’s easy to feel like a victim in challenging situations and circumstances in our lives. We want to understand our negative thoughts, feelings and experiences, so we place blame on other people or events. We look outward to try to make sense of what’s going on inside of us. We do this all the time. Why? It’s our way of coping, and feeling more in control of uncontrollable situations. At Xavier we are supporting students who sometimes struggle to manage their emotions and feelings in a supportive way by providing pastoral care and wellbeing programs and culture programs which allows them to feel connected. Being part of a strong faith community allows us to see the good in each other and we are willing help each other.

On a final note to think about, “Happiness isn’t a conditional state. It’s a state of being”. True lasting happiness comes from making an active choice to be happy, rather than depending on external things to make you happy. The more that we seek out happiness, and look for it as if it is a treasure we will find, the less we are feeding the wolf that is inside of us. You already have everything you need to be happy because you are whole as you are, right now. The feeling and experience of happiness comes from feeding the wolf from within. As he becomes bigger and stronger, he will be better equipped to handle life’s challenges. If you choose to feed only him, he will always win. He is the wolf that encourages us to come to school every day and when we are here be present in what is happening in the classroom and success in what we do will follow.



In the Bible there many parables about forgiveness, but God wants to support us in the choices we make each day. All we have to do is pray and talk to God.

Enjoy the rest of the term and try and attend school every day.

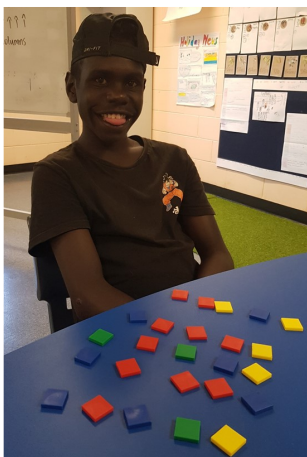
God’s blessings,

Anne-Maree Fewtrell

Yirrikipayi Maths



In Yirrikipayi Maths we have been learning about Multiplication and Division. The best way to do that is using counters, bundling sticks and pattern tiles. We have been working very hard and working together. We have been skip counting by 2s, 5s and 10s, making groups and making arrays. We have even been sharing big numbers evenly into groups. Sometimes,



Dwayne visits from EP and helps us. We have also been learning about Time, in the photo with Raymond and Dwayne you can see our brainstorm of all the things that take different amounts of time. Some of the things that take only seconds are: shooting a gun at a goose, jumping up and landing, or dropping a pencil. Some things that take hours are: playing video games, taking the ferry from Wurrumiyanga to Darwin, watching a movie, a school day and cleaning up the house. Keith arranged the words in to the board for us.

Cynthia Pereira
Maths Teacher

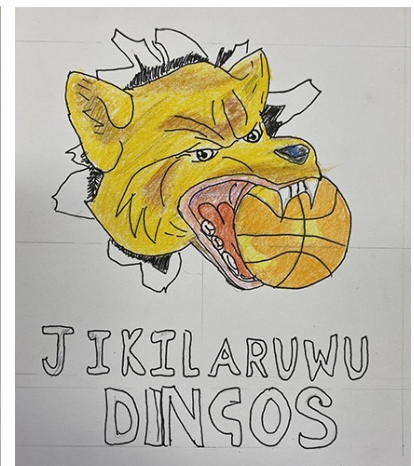
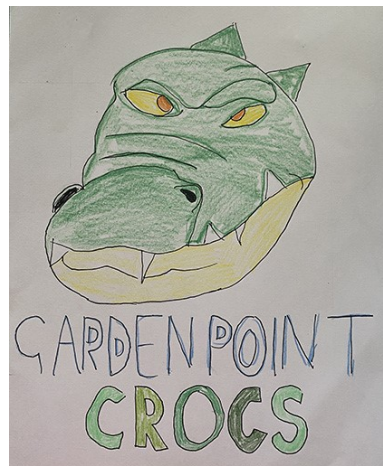
Art

This term in Art, junior students have been learning about AFL and NBA branding. Focussing on type and colour, we've been learning new words to describe logos and to talk about our work. Last week, students began finalising their concepts and are creating their own logos. Some students decided to create a new logo for their favourite team while others have created new teams based on their Country and totems.

This week we'll start working on jersey designs and we will watch interviews by Indigenous AFL players and how they created Indigenous Round jerseys for their teams.

It has been great to see so much work happening in Art this term and how excited students are about coming to class. Well done everyone and keep up the great work!

Georgia Irvine
Art Teacher



Student Recounts of the Excursion to Tiwi Plantation

On the 4th of August, Brando, Canisus, Teresina, me, Helen and Carmina went to Melville Island to the plantation. Belinda and Bertram came with us. We put out some grass fires. We used binoculars to look at special birds. We were looking at their nests. Sarah told us that if they see the nests they make a water break around the tree so that the birds are safe when there is a fire. Bertram did a lot of driving, we went from Paru to Shark Bay. Leesa sent with us a delicious lunch. Thank you to Bel and Bertram for looking after us on the excursion. We had a lot of fun.

Dwayne, Year 10

We used binoculars to look at big eagles. We found the father and the mother and the baby. We went back to the plant and ate and we played pool using their pool table. The best part was looking for the nests. Thank you to Bertram for the safe drive and bringing us back safe.

Carmina, Year 10

We went to look for the nest of the birds. We used binoculars, they make things faraway look bigger. The boys were telling stories about hunting. My favourite part was when we watched the mechanic fix the cars. We played darts and pool.

Brando, Year 10



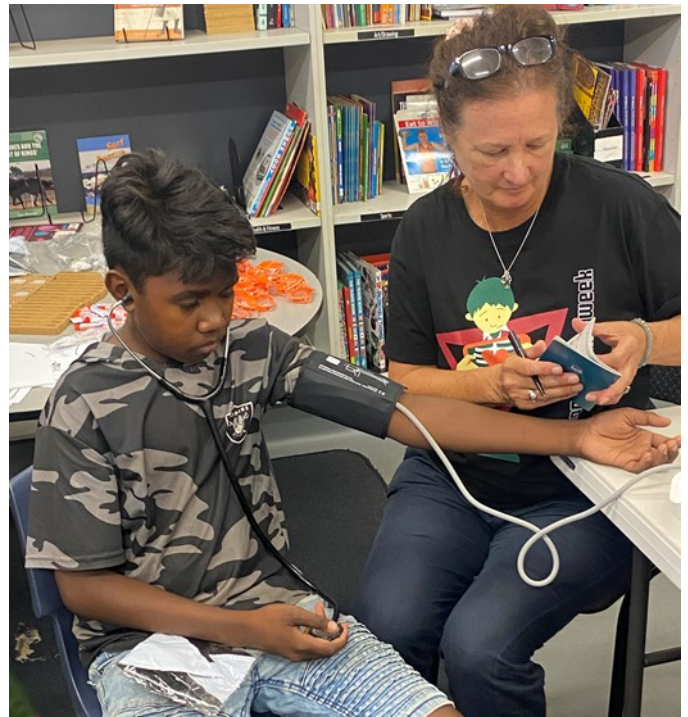


Menzies

During Week 5 Menzies HealthLAB came to Xavier to launch the NT's National Science Week. The students loved participating in all the different activities, recognising the need to lead a healthy lifestyle. The activities focused on diet, exercise and the risks associated with smoking and drinking.



Clare Kearney
Inclusion Support Coordinator



Why the students of Xavier Catholic College Bathurst Island Wurramiyanga should be dropped home after the school day has come to an end

Ladies and gentlemen, my fellow students, I strongly believe that this is an issue that has been plaguing many of our lives since the beginning of our high school experience **and can I say I have had enough.**

May I present to you the sun a huge, spinning, glowing sphere of hot gas burning far away. This fireball of death manages to scorch through our skin and boil our poor feet upon the ground as it extracts the water from our bodies. This is just one of the fates that await us every afternoon as we make the grueling journey back home to our families.



Let us also not forget the other forces working against us on our voyage home like none other than the monsoons of rain that wash us away down the streets never to be seen again. Our poor clothes will be drenched and our expensive phones destroyed.



The sun is not the only irritant awaiting us on our mission home **NAY** the next position belongs to the street fighters and humbuggers which not only bring us strife but make us fearful to walk the streets. We may ourselves even get into fights with our families when we humbug for a lift home.



As my opponent Kat would have you believe that walking home is a good form of exercise which I absolutely empathize and agree with her that walking is a healthy alternative I trust that walking home in the afternoons as my current evidence would suggest is detrimental to our wellbeing. With that being said health and exercise are still very important factors to all of us and let us not forget that any time after we get home we are free to do whatever exercises we need.

I know that for some students like myself have things to carry to and from school e.g. **very heavy** schoolbags. These particular students whoever they may be may feel that they would like to get home as promptly as possible so that they can have sufficient time for a rest after school before going on with their studies/homework and would much appreciate a lift.

Being the children and young adults that we are we are highly prone to irritability when having to make our own way home and this may lead to many more students feeling that the effort getting to and from school is just not worth it. Although we have the responsibility placed upon ourselves of making the decision of getting to and from school on our own for the sake of our education we would highly appreciate the extended support and would be evermore grateful.



Also let it be known that we do understand the teachers point of view of why they cannot deliver us home after school hours for reasons such as: it is not their job they do it out of the kindness of their hearts (except for Josh-you usually have to threaten to not turn up at school the next day or complain loudly to get him to give you a lift home), the students do occasionally waste time tricking the teachers and making them drive all over the place for nothing and the teachers also have their own work to be doing and meetings to attend preventing them from having the spare time to drop us off.

In conclusion my friends the action is up to you to speak up and say "**GIMMY LIFT PLEASE**" because nothing can be done about it unless we come together and persuade the teachers. Thank you and **YIGEE.**

Taluhla, Year 12

Student Reflections

Jarranga English

In English we are learning our long vowel sound, we are also learning new words. This week the sounds we learnt were long O sounds. You can make long O sounds like this: oa, ow, oe, o-e, o, ough, oh

Francis



In English this term we have been learning about verbs and the past, present and future tenses and it was fun because we played a kahoot about them.

Tahni

In English this term we have been learning about past, present and future tenses. We are also listening to Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. We learnt that Harry is a wizard and he grew up with no parents. My favourite part was when Harry and his uncle, aunty and cousin Dudley went to the zoo and Harry accidentally did a magic trick. We also got to watch the Harry Potter movie which is really different from the book. At the moment I like the movie more.

Mia

This term in English I finished typing my story about Spartans having a war. We have also been listening to Harry Potter and answering lots of questions about the story.

Lionel

In English I like writing because it keeps us learning and gets us a better education and I like to read books about Tiwi language. This term we have been listening to Harry Potter and answering some questions about the book. We also got to watch the movie.

Rebecca

In English this term we have been listening to and reading Harry Potter. I have really liked reading Harry Potter because it is an interesting book.

Monica



We have been learning about soundings and blending them together (phonics) and we've learnt that there are some words the sound the same but mean different things. For example, right and write.

Michaliah

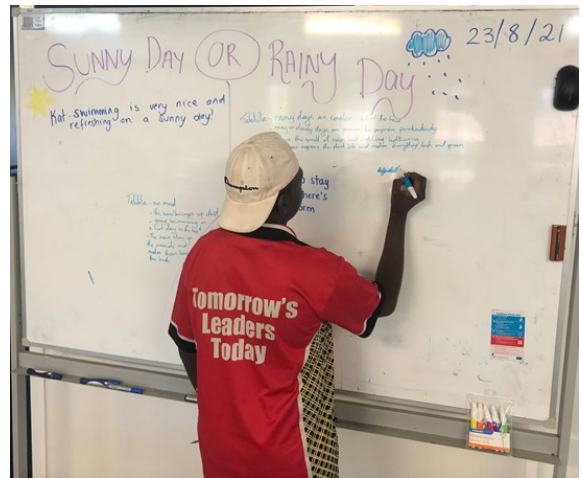
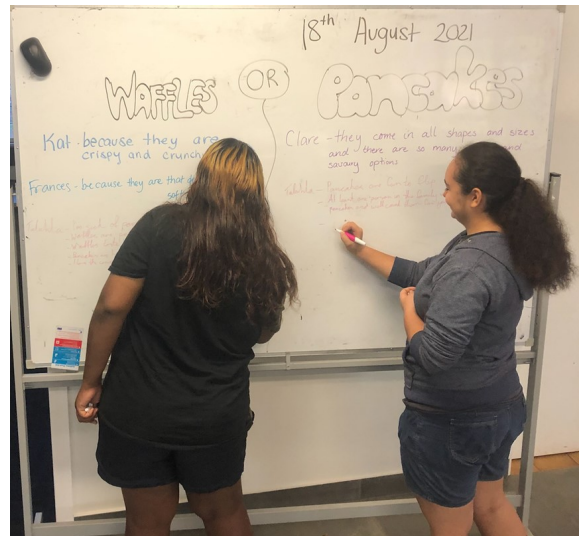


Stage 1 and 2 English

In Stage 1 and 2 English we have been learning about persuasive writing. Persuasive writing is about persuading people to believe a certain opinion or point of view or to take action about an issue. We have been debating different topics and have been writing persuasive emails to send to staff members at Xavier to make changes. It is important to learn persuasive writing because it can help us to make changes in Wurrumiyanga and across Australia and the world.

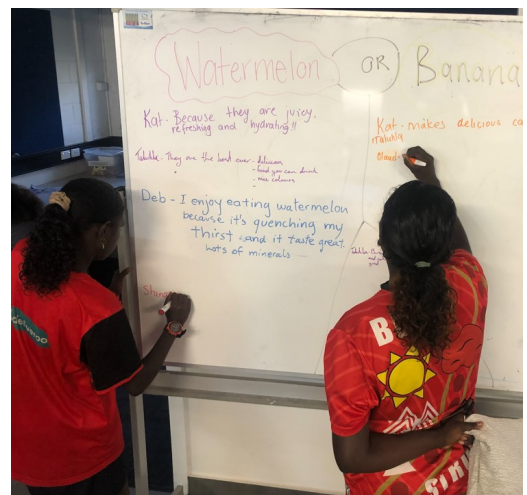
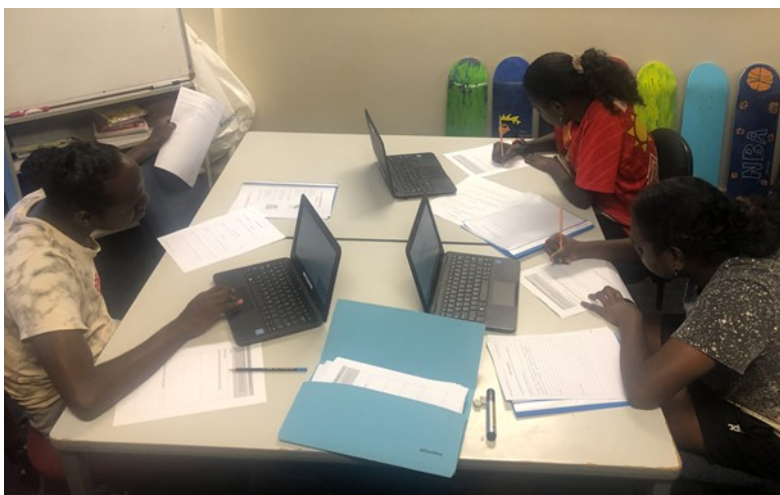
Some of the topics the Stage 1 and 2 students have chosen to write about in their persuasive emails are:

- Why we should wear uniforms at school
- Why students need to come to school everyday
- Why we should have more time learning culture on Country
- Why the canteen should have different food options
- Why we should have PE lessons as a whole school



Congratulations to all the Stage 1 and 2's for respecting the Stage 1 and 2 classroom rules about keeping mobile phones in lockers during lessons. Having our phones put away has helped everyone stay focussed on their learning.

Kat Knapp
Stage 1/2 Teacher





Every fortnight at assembly, we spend a little bit of time recognising the thoughtfulness and kindness of our students. This week at assembly, we had a great number of nominees!

The nominees were:

Marcus and **Ephrianna** for helping plug up all the laptops to charge in the Stage 1 and 2 room before going to lunch

Taluhla for helping Rochelle pick up pencils dropped on the floor before going to lunch

Claudia, Stanalisha and **May** for putting their phones in their lockers at the beginning of the period 1 on Friday in week 5 and setting a good example for the Stage 1 and 2 class.

Taluhla for always participating in class discussions and debates in Stage 1 and 2 English lessons and helping Kat demonstrate persuasive techniques to the class.

Campbell and **Jason** for helping Kat put up the basketball hoops and helping put them away at the end of recess.

Thaddeus for collecting up basketball's after the CCNT afternoon activities.

Teresina and **Canisus** for willingly carrying the recycling equipment to the bus.

Brett for helping another student with a reading task in class.

Troy for giving the basketball back to Kat at the end of recess as soon as the bell went off.

Hubert for selflessly giving up his blanket for a friend who was more in need.

Campbell for helping Darcy carry skateboards to class without being asked to.

Anna, Tahni and **Mia** for offering to help Darcy move skateboards to and from the classroom for painting workshops.

Student names are drawn from a hat and this fortnight, Mia was the lucky winner!
Congratulations Mia!

Thank you to all our students who continue to show kindness to each other and our staff. Keep up the great work!

Darcy Direen
Inclusion Support Assistant