



TIWI COLLEGE

Term 1 Newsletter

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Principal's Message



WELCOMING OUR NEW PRINCIPAL THELMA PARKER

Welcome to the end of first term 2022.

As an Aboriginal woman from Wangkayujuru, Waluwarra clan groups in Queensland, I pay my respects to the Traditional Owners of the Country on which we live, learn and work. I respect and honour the Mantiyupwi Peoples past, present and future.

I acknowledge the stories, traditions and living systems of Mantiyupwi Peoples.

As the new Tiwi College Principal/CEO, I am committed to a co-designed and co-created service model that will provide a culturally safe learning environment for all Tiwi students, staff and those who have joined our Deadly community. This will see the development of a 2030 Vision Plan for Tiwi College.

First term saw us dealing with COVID for the second year in a row. Sincere thanks to staff, students, families and carers for your support and cooperation in keeping our community safe and well. My heart goes out to those people who have lost loved ones during this challenging time.

Restructuring of Tiwi College:

The restructure is now providing evidence through Tiwi voices of the improved opportunities for Tiwi people to engage in further training and employment. This provides a focus on establishing a new Career and Employment strategy to engage the creativity and potential of Tiwi people as they take ownership of their futures.



The Tiwi Curriculum:

At the beginning of the year the Tiwi staff members provided a framework for the Tiwi Curriculum to be embedded into our everyday classroom practices. This process is led by our Tiwi Principal and Liaison Officers. The second phase of development of this model is now underway. We have curriculum developers that will align the Tiwi Curriculum with the Australian National Curriculum.

As the new Principal I have seen firsthand that Tiwi People have strong cultural capital and the strategic commitment to invest in the education of future generations. Strong culture, strong Tiwi's.

Senior Years 13 and 14:

This new program will see post-school transition into traineeships and full-time employment. Furthermore, it will provide further support for those wishing to pursue TAFE and Tertiary education pathways into the future.

Mana

Thelma Parker

Deputy Principal

WELCOMING OUR NEW DEPUTY PRINCIPAL MATT RICHARDS



Awana,

I would like to respectfully acknowledge the land Tiwi College resides on as Mantiyupwi Country and I give thanks to all Tiwi people – past, present and future – for the opportunity to live and work on the Tiwi Islands alongside them. This term has certainly flown by! I have been very lucky to be a part of many amazing experiences here at Tiwi College. On Friday the 11th of March, Trouble, Savage, KK and I spent some time at Charles Darwin University for a First Nation welcome BBQ. It was a wonderful opportunity for Tiwi College staff to look at the higher education options for our Tiwi College Students. We would like to thank the Traditional Owners of Darwin, the Larrakia people for allowing us to visit and take part in this special day. We would also like to thank Professor Reuben Bolt for his warm welcome, and we are very much looking forward to working with him in the future. We can't wait to have you on the Islands for a visit Reuben!

We have had some wonderful conversations with Tony Glover from Scotch College, and it is with great pleasure that I can announce 20 young men from the Junior Young Men and Senior Young Men classes will have the opportunity to visit Scotch College in Melbourne from the 4th – 11th of June! The leadership team is very excited to re-establish the connection between Tiwi College and Scotch College. We are also working on re – establishing the connection between Tiwi College and Ruyton Girls' School. We are looking forward to our Junior Young Women and Senior Young Women participating in their own trip to Melbourne in Semester 2.

The teaching team have had a very productive term building relationships with their students and are busy planning for lots of outdoor learning opportunities for their classes in Term 2. Lots of hunting, fishing and time spent out on Country is planned, and I know the teaching staff are looking forward to learning from our Tiwi staff and students all about the wonderful Country that we are lucky enough to be living and working on. I have very much enjoyed my time out in community, whether I am seeing Buffalo running on the road, relaxing on the beach in Milikapiti or helping Trouble after she got bogged in a Troopy, I'm having a wonderful time.

A big shout out to our sports academy teacher Callan Newman for helping the college by moving the gym from boarding home 5 to the old academy room. It's a wonderful new space and I continue to hear from both students and staff that they love being in there, well done Callan! Finally, I would like to acknowledge and thank all the staff for their continued drive to ensure our students have the best care and educational options provided to them. Tiwi College is very much a community, and the actions from Tiwi College staff in Term 1 has made me extremely proud to be a part of it.

Mana, Matt

School Registrar



Tiwi College is delighted to announce Geri Narul as our School Registrar

Hi Tiwi families,

My name is Geraldine Narul. I'm the School Registrar at Tiwi College.

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians, the Mantiwupi clan for the land we work and reside on. I also would like to thank the TEB (Tiwi Education Board) for the opportunity at Tiwi College.

I'm an Iwaidja woman from West Arnhem Land on my dad's side and Gudanji/Wambaya from the Barkley Tablelands/Gulf of Carpentaria from my mums' side. I speak Maung/Mawng as my main language as well as Iwaidja & Kunwinjku. I understand Wambaya & Kriol and am fortunate enough to have learned the Tiwi language, culture and the cultural dynamics these past 22 years! It is something that I keep close to my heart.

My family and I relocated to Pickertaramoor, Tiwi College in March 2020 after spending five years on Larrakiah country (Darwin). In mid-2020, I started doing casual work with the Quicksmart Literacy and Numeracy program. In 2021, I moved into a new role as an Assistant Teacher in the Senior Young Women's class with Ashlee Healey. Sadly, I was in the Senior Young Women's class only for a short period of time as I had to go on Maternity Leave. In May 2021, my partner and I welcomed our 7th child to our now complete family.

I returned to work in October 2021 as an Academy Administrator after seven months on leave. I looked after the REACH mandatory reporting program collecting data entry on enrolments, incidents, students' well-being, medical reports and students' performances across our boarding and academic space as well as our famous 'Meat Tray Awards'. Our Meat Tray Awards were introduced in early 2021 by Tiwi Principal, Jeffrey Simon, and former staff member, Trent Gorrie. Worth over \$250! It is a great incentive and a great way for Tiwi College to serve and give back to our Tiwi communities. The Meat Tray Awards are presented each week to two students both male and female based on their performance aligning with our school values TRUST, RESPECT, MERCY & CARE. The Meat Tray incentive is now run by myself and Fred Maetoloa (Boarding House Parent).

As the School Registrar I coordinate 'students pick ups & drop offs' each week and any students or staff movements on a daily basis i.e. clinic run, student well-being, funerals, family request, off campus excursion, community engagement, ABSTUDY, take new enrolments and boarding house allocation for every single student enrolled at Tiwi College.

This Term due to COVID-19 Tiwi College opened only four Boarding Houses with a total of 47 boarders, 10 students from the Picka community and 13 students are currently on our Mobile Flexi Learning Program. That's a total of 70 students currently enrolled at Tiwi College and for the first time in Tiwi College's history, we have a waiting list!

I also work in collaboration with three Tiwi Liaison Officers, Banita Ullungura, Bradley Palipauminni and Caitlyn Moreen-Wonaeamirri. Our liaison officers are valuable members and employees of the Tiwi Education Board and the wider Tiwi Community, their hard work, commitment and dedication doesn't go unnoticed. Without our Tiwi Liaisons, Tiwi College cannot operate!

It has been a very long and challenging first term for us at Tiwi College, facing so many obstacles, COVID-19 was the hardest when it reached our Tiwi communities and the restructure of the Tiwi College which caused so many mixed emotions but as a school we managed to come out the other side smiling, with such relief knowing we have achieved a lot in such small amount of time.



Pictured: Geri Narul



Pictured: Geri Narul & Fred Maetoloa

With our first term coming to an end, I would like to reflect on what this term has brought us, I'd like to say welcome to our new staff members for coming on board this year and a 'see you later, not goodbye' to staff members who are moving on, I wish you all nothing but the best in your future endeavours. I also would like to this opportunity to thank the Tiwi Education Board, the Tiwi College staff and the wider Tiwi community for supporting me in my new role and I look forward to working with you all in Term 2.

I hope everyone keeps safe over the Easter holidays and you all have a well-deserved break!

God bless you all.

If you would like to express your interest in enrolling your child at Tiwi College or for any general enquiries regarding enrolments, please email me at geraldine.narul@ntschoools.net or call me on 0459 278 144.

School Nurse

Amy Ward - Highlights from Term 1!

This term I have been working hard at developing my role here as the school nurse. Tiwi College has never had a nurse before, and I am excited to create this new role within the school.

My main focus at the school will be health promotion and helping our young Tiwi people make healthy choices. This term has required lots of administration, gathering all student's health histories to ensure I can create health care plans tailored to each student's needs. I have been working on building relationships with all the students to help set up the year ahead. I have spent some time with the middle young girls introducing meditation techniques and looking into how sugar effects our health!

Mana,
Nurse Amy



Message from our Operations Manager

WELCOMING OUR NEW OPERATIONS MANAGER

GRANT SIIPOLA

Term 1 Operations Manager Report



This year has seen exciting new opportunities to enhance the College facilities throughout the rest of this year.

Capital Projects in progress:

- Water tanks

The College has engaged AIG in Darwin to help design and quote for 3,000,000 litres of water storage, captured during the wet season from the creek using high speed pumps.

This will ensure continuity of water supply during the dry season.

- Solar Farm

APEX Energy has been engaged to conduct the feasibility study and system design for a 500kw solar farm with large capacity battery storage. This will greatly reduce the use of diesel generators and the costs associated with fuel consumption. It offers us green energy and is reducing the carbon footprint of the College by 900 cubic tons per year.

- Machinery for construction and the Tiwi College Road Crew Project

We have decided to purchase a John Deere 466 Loader which will serve many purposes including aiding construction of the Dining Hall, new staff accommodation, road repairs and clearing. Eventually this resource will become the start of the Tiwi College Road Crew project. Our aim is to provide opportunities for employment for our young people across Tiwi Islands through internal and external contract work.

- Staff accommodation X 6

We are purchasing 6 new 2-bedroom houses to cater for increased staff numbers in Tiwi College.

- Dining Hall

This project is in the design stages and will cater for 200 interior guests and a 100-person dining deck. It will also include a large commercial kitchen which will provide increased learning opportunities for students interested in the hospitality industry.

Mana
Grant.

NEW STAFF!

WELCOMING YOU ALL TO TIWI COLLEGE



Barbara Darcy - Boarding, Summer, Lianne Darcy - Boarding, Mathias & Martina Puruntatameri - Assistant Teacher



Shayne Murphy - Year 13 & 14 Coordinator



Stacey Rosas - Year 13 & 14 Coordinator



Thelma Parker - Principal



Matt Richards - Deputy Principal



Amy Ward - School Nurse



Roderick Macmillan & Andre Darcy
Operations Team



James Scrymgour - Governance Officer



Adam Henry - Senior Young Men Teacher



Pictured: Thomas, Athanasia, Harmony & Skye

Primary

AWANA FRIENDS & FAMILY!

In English, Primary students in years 3-4 learn about Narrative text – to write stories.

In our class, we have had lots of fun creating our own characters, settings and plots using our imagination and culture.

In early years, we are learning to read, to sound out, and to write simple words independently.



Pictured: Skye Simon - Working on creative writing



Pictured: Harmony Simon - Working on creative writing



Pictured: Thomas Simon - Working on creative writing

Junior / Middle Young Women



Pictured: Junior Young Women Class

TERM 1 NEWSLETTER

Awana!

In Literacy this term the Middle Young Women worked on Narrative texts creating their own stories within the Tiwi context. The girls were quite engaged in group work and as individuals utilizing techniques and skills of writing to make their stories more interesting than their original class draft. The girls then worked on converting portions of their written stories into comic strips. The class also devoted the first 20 minutes of our Literacy classes to Reading and Word Building. It was encouraging to observe the effort and creativity that the young ladies put into Literacy.

In Numeracy, the students used the Fitzroy program and Essential Assessment to help gauge their ability levels after a very long break. The class focused on Number and Algebra at differentiated levels. 10-15 minutes at the beginning of Maths class was devoted to Mental Maths and Clock work.

In History, the class focused on their locality and researched primary sources to gather information about Pickertaramoor and the history of Tiwi College. For Science, the focus was on Forces and Energy transfer. During Health classes, the class enjoyed sessions with Ms. Amy, our school nurse, because she helped the students think about making healthy choices and she also taught them about meditation and its benefits. During Physical Education classes, Callan introduced the students to fitness testing using a variety of hi-tech equipment and the girls actively participated in fitness sessions and sports.

We would like to thank the Boarding House parents for taking good care of the girls while they are away from home and also their families in community for sending them in to learn. Much appreciation to all staff that have helped guide us this term and to the Tiwi Education Board for allowing us the privilege to be educated on country
Mana, Cilia & Joy



Junior / Middle Young Men



AWANA FRIENDS & FAMILY!



Although we had a delayed and challenging start to the school term, the students that have returned to campus have shown the utmost enthusiasm and excitement. It is wonderful to see the boarding house parents ensure students arrive nice and early to class! Myself and Bronson are proud of the students' knowledge and commitment when in the classroom. With the help of Callan, we have been doing meditation in the mornings to assist with mindfulness and ensuring students are relaxed for the day ahead. In literacy we have been focusing on proof-reading and spelling. In numeracy, the men have been working through solving addition and subtraction equations. Also, they have been analysing their heart rate data and are learning to understand how this is influenced through exercise. During our brain breaks, we have been using Blazepods-these help improve reaction time and increase mental sharpness. We have also gone out on country to do spearfishing at the beach and the students have been successful at catching some bush tucker! The class has also been teaching me Tiwi words which I am using more and more!

Mana,
Simon and Bronson