

Tiwi College News



Term 1, 2020

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Tiwi College
Pickataramoor
Melville Island
NORTHERN TERRITORY

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Welcome to the **TEAM**

Jill Lees *Principal, Tiwi College*



Previous Job: Associate Principal, Carnarvon Community College

Home town: Pietermaritzburg, South Africa

Family Members: Husband – Paul, sons – Mathew and Ben, daughter – Tashmiev, dog - Wolfe

AFL team: West Coast Eagles

Hobbies: Running, sport, reading, travelling, scrapbooking

What I like about being a part of the Picka Family: Friendliness of everyone and team spirit of executive team.

Funniest moment at Tiwi College: Moving furniture with Stuart and Sila

Favourite part of the week: Monday – look forward to another great week with staff and students.

My Interesting fact: Recently, I ran 12 half marathons in 12 months in 12 different countries in the world.

Yasmine Henry Murphy *Girls Intervention Tutor/Classroom Support*

Previous Job: Remote School Attendance Supervisor Bulman, Arnhem Land

Home town: Milikapiti

Family Members: My Self and My 4 Children, Brandon, Mickayla, Denise and Alberta

AFL team: Gold Coast Suns

Hobbies: Hunting and Fishing

Favourite music: Country

What I like about being a part of the Picka Family: Everyone is friendly, and treat you as Family.

Funniest moment at Tiwi College: Students that don't know me, and start talking in Tiwi, not knowing that I know what they are saying.

Favourite part of the week: Fridays...If I get ask to do drop offs, I love yarning with all the girls, and playing their favourite music on the way home.

My Interesting fact: I grew up in Pickataramoor, as a child in the forestry days in the 80s and 90s and now my children are going to Tiwi College.





Jeffrey Thomas Simon *teacher assistant - Junior Young Men*

Previous Job: North Australian Aboriginal Justice Association

Home town: Milikapiti

Family Members: Father of 6 children, 3 boys & 3 girls

AFL team: Carlton Blues

Hobbies: Music & Footy

Favourite music: Reggae

What I like about being a part of the Picka Family: Family Orientated

Favourite part of the week: Fridays

Stacie Conway *Junior Primary School Teacher*

Previous Job: Grade 4 Primary School Teacher at Doomadgee State School

Home town: Don Valley Victoria

Family Members: Dad Ray, Mum Barb, Sister Dani, Partner Matt,

AFL team: St. Kilda

Hobbies: Movies, Music, Exercise and Reading

Favourite music: All music

What I like about being a part of the Picka Family: Get to work in paradise and with some amazing people and students.

Funniest moment at Tiwi College: Every day with my grade I hear funny things

Favourite part of the week: Monday mornings where I get to hear all about the adventures that my students have had on the weekend.

My Interesting fact: I have been to every Disneyland on Earth.



Natasha Dunn *teacher assistant - junior primary school*

Previous Job: Assistant teacher in JYW

Home town: Darwin

Family Members: Mum and 3 younger sisters

AFL team: Hawks

Hobbies: Footy, hunting, fishing

Favourite music: RNB

What I like about being a part of the Picka Family: I like being part of the Picka family because everyone is so welcoming and has everyone has really taken me under their wing.

Funniest moment at Tiwi College: We've had a lot of funny moments already so hard to pick one

Favourite part of the week: Thursday's because we have cooking and swimming with the girls and it's always fun.





Awana Picka Family and friends of Tiwi College

Thank you for the very warm welcome I have received from all members of our community. As the incoming Principal, I would like to thank you very sincerely for the friendliness and openness you have displayed in making me feel part of this wonderful Picka family. The welcome smoking ceremony made me feel very much part of this community. My desire is to provide strategic leadership and operational management as I lead the College into the future.

I would like to welcome new staff to our College this year: Stacie Conway, Yasmine Murphy, Natasha Lynch and more recently Jeffrey Simon as well as returning staff member Wendy Shulz.

The College has been abuzz with a wide variety of curriculum as well as extra and co-curricular activities during this first term. Staff have also had a number of professional learning opportunities. Most notably we have engaged with:

- ◆ **First Aid training**
- ◆ **Four Wheel Drive Training**
- ◆ **Lunch time rotational activities coordinated by Jack Mcgrath**
- ◆ **The Girls's Academy organised the Welcome Smoking ceremony for new staff**
- ◆ **Our Boys' Engagement Day**
- ◆ **Our Girls' Engagement Day**
- ◆ **New primary school painted games by Clinton Jetta**
- ◆ **Our Art students involved with the opening of Ngawurramangajirri**

Like all Australians, we at Picka are enforcing the social distancing protocols and ensuring that our bit of paradise stays safe for our community. We know that this will be in place for the foreseeable future and want our families to know that our school will remain open until we are directed otherwise.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Stuart Ward the outgoing principal for his dedication and hard work here at Tiwi College. To Stu and his lovely wife, Ashley on behalf of the board and school community, I wish them all the best . Next term Stuart will assist us with Family Group Parent duties.

I wish you well over the Easter holidays and school will resume for students on Tuesday 21 April 2020, all being well.

Warm regards

Jill Lees

Hello Family and Friends,

This year has been quite an interesting year with so much happening on the global scale affecting the health and wellbeing of so many people here, interstate and overseas. It has also been an amazing year to look forward to especially to have the opportunity to work with our newly appointed Principal, Jill Lees. We have also had to extend our primary school into two classes due to the fact our numbers here at Picka are increasing.



Some of the events this term:

- New Staff Induction to both new Non-Tiwi and new Tiwi Staff.
- AFLNT Talent ID Match in Wurrumiyanga.
- Academy Official Cultural Welcoming of new Staff to Pickataramoor.
- Boys and Girls Engagement days out at Milikapiti and 9 Mile.
- TIFL Grand Final Day-Well Done to the Back to Back Winners Ranku Eagles.
- Thank you to the Audiologist visits to Tiwi College.
- Thank you to Matt in organising 1st Aid Training with the Staff followed up by the 4WD Training to upskill new and current staff.
- Thank you to Academy in organising the AFLNT Talent matches in Wurrumiyanga and then the AFL Camps in Darwin. Students appreciated the opportunity to display some of their skills and experiences with other students in Darwin.
- Tiwi Cross Cultural Workshops-Thank you to Tammy and Tippa in running this with the Tiwi Staff this term.
- Tim Dansie Educational Testing-Thankyou Geri in organising this with the students.
- Regular staff social events on the weekends such as Touch Footy, CAFÉs, Church, Hunting, Fishing and visits to the communities to see our Tiwi Families.

Unfortunately there were some events we had to cancel due to the Coronavirus epidemic affecting us all from a local, interstate and international scale. Thank you to our Principal Jill Lees for making sure Tiwi College community were well informed of the safety precautions put in place. We can only hope and pray that the Government will advise us on the best plan to ensure we too as a school community have an action plan put in place.

It is a time of sadness for our departing staff members Stuart Ward - Outgoing Principal. Ashley Brochu – Ward IT/Quick Smart Tutor and Jacob McAdams– Junior Primary School Teachers Assistant. We thank you all for your service to the school and for all the commitment and hard work you have produced in trying to make a difference. We wish you all a safe and happy journey on your next chapter in life. All the best in your future endeavors.

To all the staff, thank you all for your support this term. I hope you all will be safe as we take on the difficult challenges during these testing times for us all. Thank you to the exec team. I look forward to working with everyone, seeing you next term. Be safe and take care.

Mana, Sila



Term 1 of 2020 has been fast paced and flown by so quickly. It was wonderful to welcome back our academic team from 2019 for another year of teaching and learning at Pickataramoor. It was wonderful to see our Tiwi students return to school and also to see many lovely new faces joining us.

Our primary numbers have grown over the past year so we now have an extra class allowing us to split into lower and upper primary. We also had a couple of new staff arrivals. Stacie Conway has joined us as the teacher of the lower primary class and Jeffrey Simon joined our Junior Young Men's class as an assistant teacher. We are very happy to welcome them to our academic team at Tiwi College.

This year will be a year of consolidating and lifting expectations when it comes to curriculum and teaching. Last year a great deal of planning went into developing a whole school approach to literacy and numeracy and introducing learning progressions for IT, Science, Geography and History. We have an assessment schedule that will assist us to test students at key points throughout the year and record the data so we can gain a clear picture of student progress.

Our reading program has continued on this term with all students involved in reading 4 mornings a week. This has resulted in some big improvements in student reading literacy across the school which is exciting to see. We have also established a partnership with Deadly Science which has been great for promoting Science learning at Tiwi College and helping us to source fantastic opportunities and resources for our students.

Several students are currently completing School Based Traineeships in Business and Community Service alongside their usual senior school program and we hope to increase the number of VET opportunities and trainees at Tiwi College going forward.

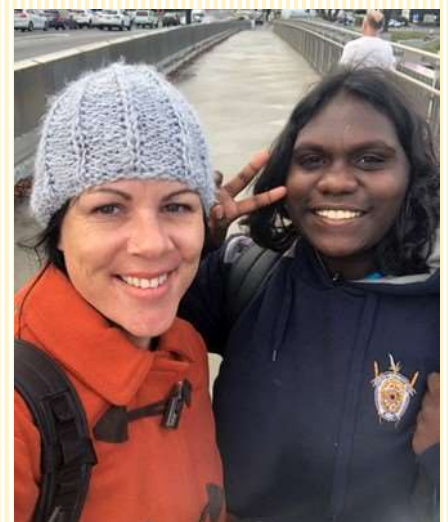
Tiwi staff have continued their work this term on developing cultural curriculum to be implemented across the whole school later in the year. This will be a wonderful addition to our teaching and learning program and an opportunity for our Tiwi staff to share their expertise and knowledge with students and other staff.

I'm sure we will have another great year ahead, full of amazing learning opportunities and experiences for our students here at Tiwi College. We will keep you posted!

Mana,

Cally Jetta

Academic Coordinator



FGH COORDINATORS

I would like to acknowledge the Tiwi elders and people past and present who on whose land I have been given the privilege to serve tomorrow's leaders, today. Thank you for entrusting with me a humongous responsibility, which I will continue to faithfully undertake with the help of God, Tiwi Education Board, my supervisors and the Family Group Home (FGH) parents.

First term has passed by so quickly and it is hard to take count of the number of days that swooped by. It has been a great joy in watching the old students setting a good example for the new students who have caught on so well to our core values of Trust, Mercy, Care and Respect. It has also been challenging for our junior boys but I am so proud of them in their continual effort in trying to live up to the Tiwi College standards. I would like to acknowledge the hardworking and diligent FGH parents in their excellent work they continue to portray day in and day out for awesome students here at Tiwi College.

There were some minor challenges with students settling down into the Tiwi College "Way" and routines this term. I truly believe Term 2 will be an awesome time of holistic learning for students in the FGH's and classrooms. I also believe that we are all looking forward to an exciting Term 2 with the FGH Fete in mind.

May God bless and keep thee safe and sound, especially during this trying time.

Enjoy your holidays responsibly and see you all in Term 2.

Lots of love from Paul & Amelia Laginikoro

Mana!





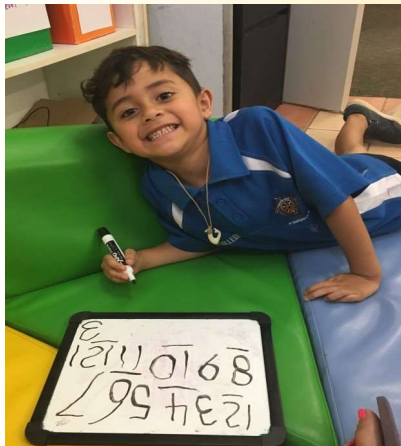
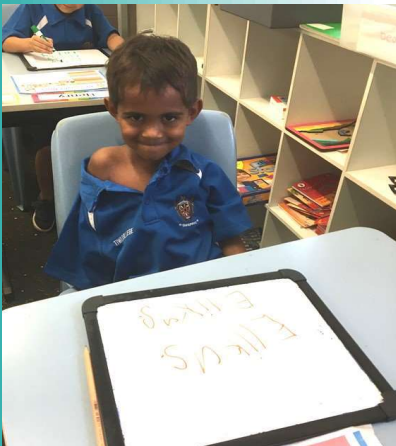
Look what we are learning in Junior Primary

During our Literacy sessions, we have been learning the letter names and sounds. So far we have looked at and learnt the following sounds; S, A, T, P, I, N, C, K, CK, E, H, M, R, D, O and G.

We have been practicing these sounds daily and learning words that use them. In class, we practice blending the sounds we have learnt. I would have to say I have been so impressed with the effort and hard work the students have put into learning these sounds.

We have been doing lots of reading. We read both as a group and independently. We have also been thinking and discussing about the things we are reading about. We have made some predictions about the stories we are reading, thought of some questions we may have about the books and made some connections from the story to our own lives. We have also been practicing our sight words. These are the most frequently used words in texts.

In Writing, we are just having a go at writing small sentences using the sounds we know to help us write. Our writing is mostly about what we have done on the weekend or about something we have read. We have also practiced forming our letters and numbers correctly.



During Numeracy, we have been learning about numbers up to 10, number lines, 2D and 3D shapes. We are now learning about patterns (which the kids are loving especially because they get to build them). We looked at colour patterns, number patterns and shape patterns. We have been counting by 2's, 5's and 10s.

We were also lucky this week to have our Tiwi Teacher Jacob teach us how to build boats and we got to float them in the river. We had the best time! Please feel free to come see me at any time for any more information. ~ Stacie Conway & Jacob McAdam-Roberts

