



As Term 2 draws to a close, we want to take a moment to reflect on what has been a term of growth, resilience, and pride here at Yipirinya School.

Yipirinya is building – not just in numbers, but in spirit, in purpose, and in belief. We've faced challenges along the way, as all schools do, but what stands out most is the determination of our staff, families, and students to move forward together.

Across classrooms, we've seen great teaching and learning taking place every day. Our teachers are creating strong, engaging lessons and our students are responding with curiosity and commitment. We are especially proud of our Choir students, who performed beautifully this term and reminded us all of the talent and confidence that exists within our young people. It was a moment of celebration, joy, and togetherness.

Our Language and Culture Centre aims to grow stronger, with students learning Western Arrernte, Warlpiri, Luritja, and Central Arrernte every week. These languages connect our students to their identity and Country, and help keep culture strong within our school.

There is a deep sense of community spirit at Yipirinya. From support in the teaching team, Admin team, Kitchen, Nurses, HHH, and Bus and Maintenance team, to the families who show up and support us, we are building something special together. We are grateful to be part of this journey.

As we look to the rest of the year, we feel hopeful and excited about what we can achieve. We are growing in the right direction, and we are determined that Term 3 will bring more opportunities to celebrate learning, strengthening culture, and connection with students.

We are wishing you all a safe and restful holiday. We look forward to welcoming students back on Monday, 14 July.

teaching two ways



Leadership Team Member

Justin Colley

Dear Parents and Carers. My name is Justin Colley. People at Yipirinya call me “Mr Justin”. I am new to the leadership team of the school. I used to be the Principal at Ltyentye Apurte / Santa Teresa, so I’m experienced in Aboriginal education, and proud to join the Yipirinya School community.

My focus in Term 2 has been on introducing HEALTH ROUTINES to all class – from Transition to Year 10. These routines improve student wellbeing, making students healthier and more able to learn. Three (3) routines have been introduced and are going well. I am very grateful to the school nurses, Elise Daly and Madeleine (“Mads”) Fasnacht, for helping to introduce the routines and get resources. The Malvern Primary School in Melbourne and Flynn Drive Oral Health Services also helped with resources (toothbrushes and toothpaste).

ALL students at Yipirinya School have been given their own toothbrush and toothpaste (and a container). Each day starts with cleaning our teeth. This keeps our teeth healthy and strong. Poor oral hygiene is very bad. Besides too-ache and teeth falling out, poisons from rotting gums and teeth hurt our body and can make us seriously ill in later life.



Each day also starts with a big ‘Blow + Breathe + Cough’ (‘BBC’). The BBC activity helps us teach children / students about nose blowing, coughing into tissues (or elbows), and hand and face washing. This helps prevent the spread of the germs that cause ear trouble and deafness (such as Otitis Media) and coughs and colds. Our students use anti-bacterial face wipes to clean their faces, which keeps Trachoma away. This is good for eye-health.



Feedback from teachers and teacher assistants at Yipirinya School is that these new routines are VERY GOOD. Once again, if we help to keep students healthy and strong, they have the best chance of learning in lessons.

Thanks, everyone!

Our Values

We come ready to grow, stay curious, and do our best every day by listening to our Teachers and Elders.

Be A Learner

Akaltye-irretyeke
Kaltye-irretyeke
Nintirrku tjaku
Pinarrijarriya



Be Respectful

Antarnte-arrrerityeke
Ntarnte-arrentyeke
Antani tjukaru
Warra-warra kanyi



We treat everyone with kindness, fairness, and consideration, embracing all cultures and backgrounds.

We take ownership of our actions and care for ourselves, others, and our environment

Be Responsible

Mwerre anetyeke
Marre netyeke
Palya nyinantjaku
Ngurrjurlu nyinaya





Preschool



**Werte Preschool Families,
Here is what we have been learning and doing at Yipi Preschool:**

- **We are learning to build together with our friends. It can be hard to take turns, but coming to preschool helps us practise and learn these important skills.**
- **We are learning about the shapes: square, triangle, and circle.**
- **We are learning to use our scissors correctly.**
- **We are learning about warm, healthy foods we can make at home – like pizza!**
- **We've been exploring the wet outdoors. We had so much rain! It was lovely to splash in the puddles and see the rain fall from the sky.**
- **We are learning about the letters P and T.**
- **We have enjoyed doing yoga every day before settling down for mat time.**
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Also, Yipi Preschool has entered the Alice Springs Show – Craft Group Project (5 years & under category). The children worked very hard together to tell the Dreamtime story of the Ayeparenye Caterpillar on Mparntwe Country. If you go to the Alice Springs Show, please check out the children's amazing group artwork!

As always, thank you for your continued support in bringing your children to Preschool. It's so important that we give our children the best start to their learning years.

**Kele mwerre from
Ms Lana and our Preschool Team**





Transition/Year 1



We have been learning to identify, observe and respect the local plants, animals, birds and insects that live at our school. On our Nature Walks we found – ants, butterflies, moths, grasshoppers, bees, spiders, beetles, caterpillars, lizards and geckos. We also saw birds like magpies, doves, galahs, parrots and eagles. There are lots of different trees, grasses, vines, mushrooms and shrubs growing at our school.





Year 1/Year 2



This term the students have been working hard in all their subjects. The one subject that I thought all the students really liked best was having the gardening lessons with Miss Clare.

We also continued the aspect of growing plants in our science lesson, which was all about how plants, animals, and people grow. The students really connected to how plants grow through the hands-on learning of planting seeds, observing the stages of growth, and discovering what they need to thrive.

They enjoyed watering the plants, checking for changes each day, and taking responsibility for caring for something living and growing.





Year 3



The Year 3 class has had a great time this term. We have settled into our classroom routines and learned a lot along the way.

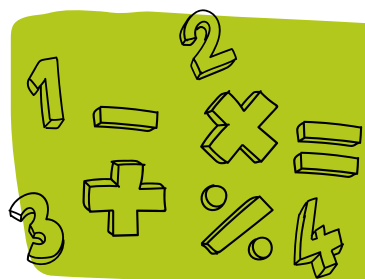
In maths, we have been working on counting numbers up to 100. We have also been learning how to solve simple addition and subtraction problems. In phonics, we are making good progress and learning how to read more confidently.

One of our favourite parts of the term was when students from other schools came to visit. We loved spending one-on-one time with our buddies and getting to know them. Science lessons were lots of fun too. We went outside to learn all about how plants grow. It was exciting to see how things change in nature.

In HASS and literacy, we talked about how people used tracks in the past to hunt for food. We also looked at how life has changed and how it is still the same in some ways today. We are proud of all that we have done this term and are looking forward to next term.

Happy holidays from Miss Aylja, Miss Nikita and Miss Deleeda! 😊





Year 4



“Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself.” – John Dewey

This quote powerfully encapsulates our philosophy and approach to teaching Year 4 students at Yipirinya School Council. It serves as a guiding principle in our daily practice, reminding us that education should not be seen as a distant or abstract concept, but as something deeply embedded in our students' everyday lives.

Too often, students view learning—particularly in areas like literacy and numeracy—as disconnected from their immediate realities, something that prepares them for a future that feels far away and intangible. Recognizing this, our team has made a conscious effort since the beginning of the semester to shift that perception. We aim to show our students that education is not just about preparing for life; it is life. It is happening here and now.

Together with the Teaching Assistants, I have engaged in ongoing conversations with students and adapted our teaching methods accordingly. Our goal has been to make learning more meaningful and relevant by grounding it in real-life experiences and the local context. For example, we have incorporated practical activities such as creating a budget for a birthday party to teach mathematical concepts like addition, subtraction, and multiplication. We’ve also involved students in planning bush trips, which serve as a platform to explore local history, geography, and environmental knowledge in an authentic setting.



These strategies have not only boosted student engagement and participation but have also helped bridge the gap between the classroom and the community. By making education visible and immediate—something lived rather than just learned—we’re nurturing a deeper connection to learning that aligns with both cultural context and individual experience.





Year 5



Term 2 in Year 5 has been full on with learning activities! Students have been reading the book called “Go Home, Cheeky Animals!” and have been enjoying the story and its characters. The class has been practising writing key words and saying words at sight.

In Maths, students have been learning how to organize whole and partial numbers as they work with fractions and number lines. Student have been solving problems in their notebooks and by working with classmates.

In Science, Year 5 Students have been learning about the solar system and the different characteristics of the planets. Students can place the planets in proper order beginning at the sun.

In HASS, students learned about the importance of the Stolen Generation and Sorry Day. Students also began to learn about democracy and living in an ordered society. Students were introduced to elections and voted on classroom themes.

Year 5 welcomed a new classroom teacher near the end of Term 2. Ms. Lisa has been having a great time getting to know the students and leading them through a variety of learning activities and encouraging students to share their culture.









Year 6



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we wrap up an exciting Term 2, I'd like to share some classroom highlights—and I can confidently say our Biryani Cooking Session was the standout!

Our Year 6 class turned into a bustling kitchen this term for our "Culture and Cuisine" unit in Humanities and Health. The hands-on cooking experience had students preparing a delicious, aromatic biryani. Following step-by-step instructions, they chopped, stirred, seasoned, and layered with care—and the results were mouth-watering!

But it was more than just cooking. It was about teamwork, following procedures, exploring culture, and building confidence in a new setting.

What Else Have We Been Up To?

English: We explored persuasive writing—some students even argued why biryani should be Australia's national dish!

Maths: Fractions and ratios came alive through calculating ingredients and portion sizes.

Science: In our chemistry unit, students experimented with how rice absorbs water—biryani-themed, of course!

PE & Wellbeing: We kept active and explored mindfulness to support end-of-term assessments





Secondary Fellas (Year 7-10)

The secondary fellas have been diving into an exciting and balanced term of learning, combining strong academic focus with teamwork and sporting spirit. In

the classroom, the fellas have been strengthening their spelling and literacy skills through hands-on activities, word challenges, and daily reading routines. In numeracy, they've tackled real-world maths problems with confidence, focusing on number patterns, multiplication, and place value.

But it's not all books and whiteboards — the fellas recently took their energy and teamwork to the AFL field, competing in friendly matches against Yarra Yarra Valley Grammar and Melvin School, visiting all the way from Melbourne. These games were more than just sport — they were about connection, respect, and showing pride in their school and community. Whether learning spelling rules or handballing down the wing, the fellas showed great sportsmanship, discipline, and determination in Term 2.





Secondary Ladies (Year 7-10)



Secondary ladies – Haseena Asokan and Amandeep Kaur

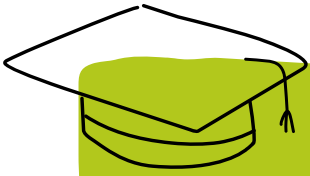
In Term 2, the senior girls actively participated in a range of curricular and co-curricular activities. Our focus book was *Come Together* by Isaiah Firebrace, which helped us explore the important things every Aussie kid should know about First Nations people. We linked this learning to history and Reconciliation Week, and the girls created a meaningful artwork representing Yipirinya School coming together as one.

One of our greatest achievements this term was painting a large canvas for Family Day. The students worked together to design and complete a colourful and meaningful piece that reflected their pride in culture and community. In Maths, we focused on 3D objects and practised our multiplication tables. The girls enjoyed regular sports sessions, including footy, basketball, and trying out netball.

We also had the Headspace team visiting us on Wednesday afternoons to run mental health sessions, which gave students tools for wellbeing and self-care. Another highlight was starting the POD Project – a weaving activity using dried palm leaves. As a team, we are working to create a large pod-shaped structure, like a seat we can sit in. Some students also explored smaller projects like weaving baskets and making jewellery.

We enjoyed some creative time in the girls' room too, where students could relax, draw, and express themselves through art and craft.





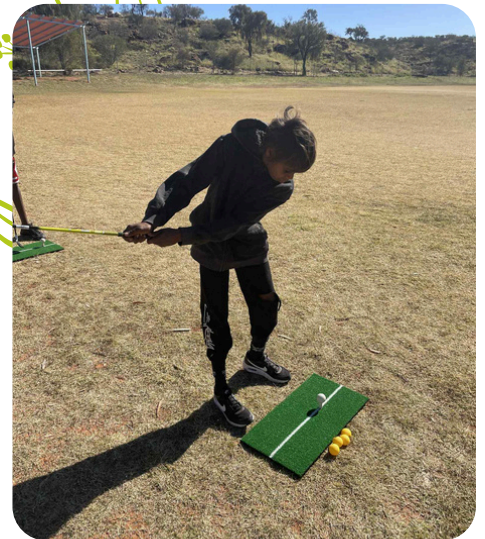
Outreach Fellas

A special thanks to Mr Victor and his Team.

The Outreach Mob had a great Term 2, showing strong progress in attendance, engagement, and hands-on learning. Highlights included fixing bikes, playing golf, and spotting rock wallabies on Country.

These activities built confidence, teamwork, and connection to nature. The fellas also worked on their career action plans, setting goals for the future.

We're proud of their efforts this term and look forward to seeing their continued growth and participation in Term 3.

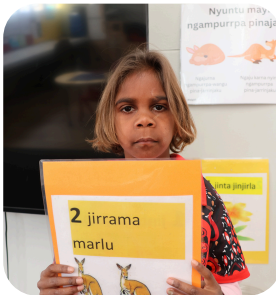


Language Report

At Yipirinya, our Language and Culture Centre is the heart of the school. This term, students across all classes have continued to grow strong in culture, identity, and language through hands-on activities and classroom learning. We are also very fortunate to have some new staff and teachers join this term, as we welcome them to the community.

They explored bush foods, seasons, animal names, and local environments, always linking language to lived experience. Students are gaining confidence and pride in who they are and where they come from.

We're proud of their progress and excited that Learning on Country will return in Term 3 to deepen these cultural connections even further.





Sports Report

It's been a big term in the sports space at Yipirinya! Our AFL program kicked off with the U10 and U13 Yipirinya Swans competing in the CAFL junior roster on Thursday and Friday nights. The support from the community has been fantastic – thank you! A major highlight was having two school teams play in the AFL match in early June, a proud moment for everyone and a huge step forward for football at our school.

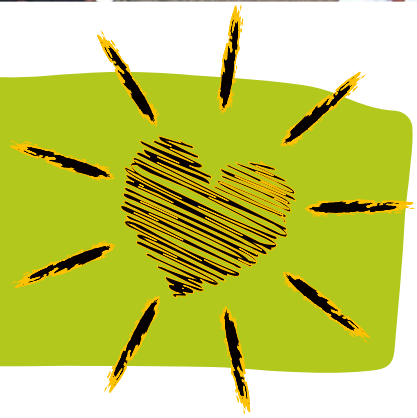
The AFL Girls Gala Day was another success, with our girls just missing out on the grand finale. Standout players this term for AFL include Monica Hayes, Edgar Kunmantjara, Byron Stevens, Leeahnah Blue, and Tiana Campbell. We were also fortunate to have AFL NT and Jess run a session –thank you for your time and expertise!

In other sports, we held a fantastic hockey clinic with Elle from Hockey NT and enjoyed a successful netball program. A special thanks to the Yarra Steiner School (Victoria) for joining us, sharing skills, and helping with netball activities.

Looking ahead to Term 3, we're excited to begin Athletics and host our Athletics Carnival—a highlight on the school calendar we can't wait to share with our community.



Happy Heart Hub



It's been another wonderful and busy term in the Happy Heart Hub (HHH)!

Students from Transition through to Secondary have enjoyed spending time in the HHH. Whether it's engaging in extra learning or participating in calming and creative activities like LEGO, arts and crafts, imaginative play with dress-ups, or cooking up a storm in the play kitchen, there's always something exciting happening.



Our school nurses have also been hard at work, helping to keep everyone healthy and ready to learn. This term, we were lucky to have visits from the dental van, which checked students' teeth, and CAAC Audiology, who came to assess students' hearing.



Our Outreach team have been supporting students to play local footy and were lucky enough to play at halftime in the recent AFL, here in Alice Springs!

A huge thank you to all the dedicated HHH staff for making the Hub a safe, supportive, and fun space for all Yipirinya students.



We're looking forward to another great term 3!





Choir



See You Term 3

Monday
14th July



YIPIRINYA SCHOOL
teaching two ways



☎ 08 8952 5633

✉ reception.yipirinya@yipirinya.nt.edu.au

📍 25 Lovegrove Drive, Alice Springs, NT 0871



Growing up strong in education and rich in culture.

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