

Yirara College Newsletter

Term 1, 2022



Yirara
COLLEGE

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die. John 11:25



Reading with our Seniors

Message from our Principal

This term has been a safe term with no known cases of Covid with students when they were boarding. Students and staff were restricted on where they could go. Classes although small were as normal as could be.

Next term, we are looking forward to moving things back to normal. School will generally run as it always has with all our dormitories opened, Saturday shopping, localised class trips, sports and other activities.

We are trying to keep away from the public as much as possible, and we hope this will reduce the risk of contracting Covid.

Yirara2u live streaming lessons will not be running next term but you can watch all our term one lessons on our [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) channels.

Should boarders contract Covid we have spaces for them to isolate from others on campus. They will not be in contact with other students for 7 days, as per the NT health department regulations.

I wish you all a great Easter to remember the death of Christ and more importantly his resurrection.

We look forward to seeing new and returning students next term.

May God bless you and all your family with good health.

Chris England.



Clontarf Fun

These few weeks at the tail end of Term One have been amazing, a taster for all the good things to come.



Whilst the numbers of fellas attending may have been small, the engagement has been mighty. Staff and students have set a great tone for the rest of the year. We have seen some genuine growth in our students this term and a real

desire to get the most out of Yirara's many opportunities, whether they lie in the classroom, in employment, in footy, or in the friendships that begin here and last a lifetime.

"friendships begin here and last a lifetime"



We get to 'up the ante' again next term, with the hoped for return of camps, carnivals and inter-Academy activities. Among these will be the Territory Cup Challenge and Top End Cup leadership camp for seniors and Katherine for

the middle school, a regional Super training camp and so much more!

Can't wait to see you in Term Two, fellas!

Reading Program

Yirara runs a one to one reading programme where all classes read for 20 minutes or more every day.

LSO's (Lutheran School Officer) assist our students with their reading as they explore so many adventures. We usually read one to two short story books a week giving students a wide range of story lines to discuss. This was also a good time for each of us to get to know more about each other in a relaxed, learning atmosphere.

Some of the books read included The Fat Cat, Holes, The Enchanted Wood and a range of Indigenous Adventure stories.

The students showed a love for reading EVERYDAY and were supported enthusiastically in their journey towards fluency in reading.



Music

This term our new LSO Mischa and I have enjoyed creating online learning for Yirara2u. As well as a variety of guitar, drum and bass lessons, this term also saw the introduction of electric instrument maintenance using various tools.

As part of our learning, we have enjoyed practical activities in the 'live room', fully equipped with a drum kit, keyboard, guitars, bass, amplifiers and PA system.

This term has also seen the introduction of the 'Ableton Live 10' software program, with which our students have been creating new music, working in small groups to write lyrics and build unique tracks using the software.

Thomas Cox – Music Teacher.



Cooking

In our cooking Elective each week, we made something savoury and another simpler, sweet item.

We focused on food that was easy to make with ingredients that were locally available and not expensive.

Some of the things the students baked were delicious Honey BBQ Chicken wings in the oven, pikelets with jam and whipped cream and a delicious, simple banana cake (using two real mashed bananas!!). It was soft, sweet and delicious. The corn fritter recipe was not so tasty.

However, this experience in the kitchen can lead to eating good food at home or even a job in cooking. Well done young chefs!



Students were excited to receive a shipment of 2 in 1 dual mode Infinity computers from One Education.

The touchscreen and convertible design allow the devices to be used as a tablet laptop with the capability of a computer.

At Yirara College we aim to have all students accessing the curriculum and achieving daily, successful outcomes. Through assistive technology features such as the touchscreen, the stylus pen and voice recording, teachers can develop teaching programmes that support individualized learning needs and allow students to demonstrate their proficiency through creativity (e.g., drawing).

Thank you to One Education from the Staff and Students at Yirara.

Harmony Day

On 25th March, students and staff celebrated Harmony Day.

Yirara is a multi-cultural Indigenous school as all our students have different cultures that are so wonderful.

We learned what the word 'harmony' means both in music and in relationships.

When we all bring our different notes or cultures together, a fuller, richer and beautiful sound is made.

It was wonderful to hear our Yirara College elders sing Amazing Grace in Pitjantjatjara, and then to hear everyone sing with different parts in English. We learned about ways in



which 'message sticks' were used and then we made our own friendship sticks to share with someone.

Everyone shared in a multi-cultural lunch of kangaroo steaks (Australian), tandoori chicken (Indian), stir-fry (South Korean) and beef stew (European). After lunch, we heard about a few cultures from our teachers (Samoan, South African, English) and played some games from other countries.

It was a great day. Everyone enjoyed themselves and learned something to help us value one another in a different way.



For more information, please contact the College on (08) 8950 5644 or email info@yirara.nt.edu.au

Yirara College of the Finke River Mission

Yirara College was established initially in 1973 as a government secondary residential college for Aboriginal students.

Later in 1991 negotiations between Finke River Mission (FRM), the Central Australian Aboriginal parent family client group, the Northern Territory Government and the Federal Government commenced with the aim of FRM assuming control of the college.

FRM assumed control of the college in 1993.

Today Yirara College is a vibrant and busy community providing a wide range of teaching and recreational resources to its boarding students.