If you build it, they will come.
The KSA Tourist Room is reopening! The official opening date is 18th April, 2016.
Wow it’s already Week 6! I can’t believe how quickly the term is disappearing. Luckily we have achieved so much already. Here are just a few things to celebrate:
- Dance, guitar and ukulele lessons are well underway.
- Work returns are on track with students sending in assessments and other tasks (this will keep teachers very busy in the coming weeks).
- ILPs (Individual Learning Plans) are coming together with students identifying their goals for the remainder of the semester.
- The 2015 Year Book is complete and will be finding its way to you very soon.
- Ms Rhiannon Lehman has joined our teaching team.

Ahead we still have some really exciting things planned:
- Students in Year 7-9 are heading off to camp at Batchelor Outdoor Education Unit.

- Families with students in Preschool to Year 6 are gathering in Daly Waters for a mini school next week – I’m heading down too.
- Miss Deb and Mrs Shepherd have made preparations for the student choir to participate in “The Beat Festival” in Darwin – there will be more information coming about that.
- Student leaders will be attending a leadership conference in Darwin known as “The GRIP”.
- Our 50th Birthday Celebrations are shaping up with the first one next term to open the Tourist Room.

Don’t forget to drop into the BOOK EXCHANGE here at school and swap those books that are collecting dust on your bookshelves.

- Sharni Wilson
SAY CHEESE!

snapshots in the distance

01  William Coffey, Transition working with Miss Sam during the visit from Joffa - the cartoonist

02  On the way to WA, Mr Nick & Mr Mark travel the distance to get three students connected.

03  Big & Little Fungi. Photo taken by Ebonnie Lockwood, Yr 9, exploring symmetrical composition.

04  Miss Deb and her Yr 1 class linking in with the Yr 1/2 Moodle class from Nakara Primary School for Sound Waves.

05  Rope Wortley, Yr 8, studying hard - finally connected.

06  Amy Haynes, Yr 9, with Miss Jess. Amy’s first visit to our school.

07  Miss Breanna setting up the satellite dish to get a MY student connected.
IN 2016 KSA CELEBRATES

50 YEARS OF DISTANCE EDUCATION

Celebrate our 50th Anniversary with us.

Our 50th Birthday Celebrations are well and truly underway – and it’s going to be HUGE! Lock in the following dates:
Open Day at KSA 18th April;
50th Birthday Party for the students on Sports Day 1st July;
Gala Dinner at the Katherine Country Club 2nd July.

Urgent: We are still in need of some support and contributions for our Cookbook, Coffee Table Book and Timeline at KSA. If you have any photos, short stories/anecdotes or recipes, please send them to kath.so@ntschools.net and place the source you are contributing to, i.e “Cookbook”, in the subject line of your email, so it can be directed to the right person. If you are mailing the pieces in, please make sure you mark clearly what they are for so they get directed to the right person. We really need these by the end of March so get those albums out!

Also if you have any donations for us to auction on the Gala Dinner night or to use as a lucky door prize, please let Cheynee know ASAP. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions about the overall 50th Anniversary, please feel free to contact the school. Also if you have access to Facebook, send a request to join the KSA page that has all the birthday details.
Home Tutor Orientation

Friday Week 5 saw a group of new Home Tutors gather at KSA for the second Home Tutors Orientation Day for 2016. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to meet and discover that many of our challenges were the same as those of others.

Home Tutors investigated the ‘inner workings’ of the school, seeing the mailroom, storage and technology areas of the school.

With the help of Jess Leary, one of KSA’s Middle Years teachers who has been a Home Tutor, discussed ways to organise their classrooms. As a special treat Stephen Flynn, from Crack the Code, talked about phonological development (how students learn the letters and sounds to read and spell). They also explored the Australian Curriculum, how it is used for planning, teaching, assessing and reporting along with investigating learning styles of students and understanding working memory.

It was an extremely valuable day. With the Home Tutors came about ten students who had a great time in school as well.

Visit our new website: www.ksa.nt.edu.au
Manuela is a familiar face at Katherine School of the Air. Recently she has changed roles from Primary Teacher to Special Education Teacher. With this change in roles, we will see Manuela at KSA 50% of the time, and at Clyde Fenton Primary School for the other half of the week. Speaking to Manuela, she sees the biggest challenge she will face is supporting teachers and Home Tutors to identify those students with learning needs that are, as yet, unidentified to help improve learning outcomes and self confidence in our students.

Outside of school, Manuela enjoys DIY home improvements, especially painting and gardening. She's highly crafty and enjoys knitting. If you'd ever like to surprise her with a favourite meal - cook anything you please, she just loves being cooked for. She's a little terrified of snakes and her favourite colour is red.
My Poddly Kicked Me in the Eye

By Jessica Boote, Yr 3

My poddy kicked me in the eye.
My croc bit me on the rear
My bull gave a snuffle cry
and charged me with no fear.

My pig flung me upside down.
My chooks pecked my head.
My snake strangled me to the ground
and left nearly me dead.

So my advice avoid regrets
no matter what you do,
don't ever let your station pets
take lessons in kung Fu.

Horses

By Pepper Wortley, Yr 4

Horses galloping as loud as thunder
across the plain.
We stood and watched them running in
the rain.
Huffing and puffing like a dragon that
lived long ago.
They pushed and chased each other to
and fro.
We heard them nicker and neigh
And just like children they wanted to play
in the puddles and the mud.
Dragon Description

By Jessie Miller, Yr 5
I've been away for seven years in China, studying Dragons of many different types. Big ones, small ones, even ones the size of an ant. The most interesting one I discovered was the 'Ice Diamond Dragon'; these are beautiful creatures with ice wings and tails.
In my studies, I have found out the 'Ice Diamond', likes silver, that is why my cutlery went missing and my kettle. I know this because I've watched it in a very old cherry blossom tree, eight metres away from it's cave. The dragon is a female; she has been coming out of her cave less and less every day. She's been in there now for eight months. I think she is hibernating, it's winter and the dragon has laid eggs. They hatched last week; they are the size of an adult dog. The little dragons can fly, hunt and dive in water. Another two years has passed, the Ice Dragons breed has increased. There are now twenty 'Ice Diamonds' in the area.
The dragons are quite shy; they love to race the falcons in the valley. They have lovely bright coloured scales; they have horns that look like ears.
I've recorded that their diets are plants, meats like fish and small animals, bugs, and sea creatures in the big lagoon. The dragons habitat is magic, it contains all the seasons in zones. The winter zone is where they nest. The spring zone is where they hunt for deer. The summer zone is where they love to swim in the salt water lagoon. The autumn zone is where they eat beautiful wild pumpkins.
It's been great seeing these giant reptiles grow. Up here it has been a magical adventure. I've trained one of the girl dragons, her name is 'Lucky'. I can ride her, it's like flying a horse, and it is amazing. I've learnt so much from the dragons. I will tell this adventure to many children.

Yr Six Science

By Sophia Kanyilmaz, Yr 6
[An excerpt from her assessment]
Earthquakes are caused when tectonic plates move and the plate boundaries collide which causes pressure to build up and the earthquake occurs. Some of the effects from the earthquakes can be devastating, such as roads and bridges destroyed, people injured, and buildings can collapse. Earthquakes are categorised with the Modified Mercalli Scale and the Richter Scale focuses on the size of the seismic waves and is also categorised my magnitude.
A BOOK FROM THE LIBRARY; A BITE FROM THE TECHIE.

The IT team has expanded this year from just me, to Kelsie and Bronwyn.

Kelsie is your first level request for help. Kelsie will log any IT issues that she isn’t able to fix with me.

Bronwyn is working with the teachers one day a week to assist in IT projects.

2016 has seen more families using different versions of windows. The IT team will be creating new 'How To' instructions for the different versions. If you would like us to create a 'How To' please send us a request as we are creating more videos.

The new version of REACT that counteracts an echo from both students and teachers side is almost here. Keep an eye out for more information on the Portal.

2016 has seen the library expand with new books arriving every few weeks and a new Portal tab to keep you up to date.

If you think of a genre or series that you would like to see in the library, do not hesitate to contact me. I love seeing all the library requests coming through and picking books out for students. Keep those library requests coming!

Scholastic catalogues are on the Library Portal page with the close date for each issue. Remember the more books your buy, the more the Library can purchase.

Melinda Sauer (Mel IT)
1  
**MINI SCHOOL - DAILY WATERS**  
Week 6, Term 1  
8th & 9th March  
Daly Waters.  
For students in Pre - Yr 6.  
Further information is available on the Portal.

2  
**MIDDLE YEARS RESIDENTIAL**  
Week 8, Term 1  
14th - 18th March  
Batchelor.  
All Middle Years students are encouraged to attend.  
Further information is available on the Portal.

3  
**MINI SCHOOL - TIMBER CREEK**  
Postponed to Term 3  
Dates TBA  
Timber Creek.  
For students in Pre - Yr 6.  
Further information is available on the Portal.

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**Upcoming Events // Important Dates**

**GRIP LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**  
Week 8, Term 1  
20th - 22nd March.  
Students on our SRC will have the opportunity to develop their leadership skills at the GRIP conference in Darwin. A total of 12 students will represent our school - six from Primary, and six from Middle Years.  
Further information is available on the Portal.

Thursday 24th March -  
Last Day of Term 1  

Friday 25th March - Good Friday  
No School  

Monday 28th March - Easter Monday  
No School  

Monday 4th April - Friday 8th April  
School Holidays  

Monday 11th April -  
First Day of Term 2
Katherine Community Notices

KSA OPEN DAY!
Katherine School of the Air is opening its doors to the community on Monday 18th April 2016. You are more than welcome to attend and help us celebrate our 50th Anniversary. The day will see the reopening of the Tourist Room - with free tours, morning tea, and the opening of the KSA Time Capsule.

Katherine Athletics Club
Participation from age 3 to Masters

Competition Starts
Friday 11th March
Warm up 4.45pm 5pm Start
Katherine Athletics oval (opposite the YMCA)

Join us for Fun, Family & Fitness

Registrations taken at the
Community “Come and Try Expo” at YMCA
Saturday the 20th Feb 9-12
or alternatively
At the Playground
(between the pool, skate park and town oval)
Tues 23/2 and Thur 25/2 5-6pm

Season begins Friday 11th March
Finishing @ NT Championships in September
Training is available Tues and Thurs Competition Fri
No Fri competition on public holiday weekends and school holidays.
Training options are available in the holidays.

Contact katherineathletics@gmail.com