

Fortnightly news in brief from Jabiru, Warruwi, Minjilang, Maningrida and Gunbalanya



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The inaugural West Arnhem Youth Leadership Summit was held on 7 and 8 November with more than 50 attendees from all West Arnhem communities.

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Warruwi Preschool and Families as First Teachers (FaFT) visit Council's workshop recently.

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The Jabiru and Maningrida Post Offices are getting into the festive spirit! Pop in and have a browse. PAGE 2 >

EMPOWERING TOMORROW'S LEADERS

In a region known for its vibrant culture and stunning landscapes, the West Arnhem Youth Leadership Summit made history this month with its inaugural event, uniting young people from across West Arnhem Land. The Summit brought together 50 attendees from Gunbalanya, Maningrida, Minjilang, Warruwi and Jabiru to build leadership capacity, identify the current needs of youth in West Arnhem Land, and present a shared vision for youth outcomes.

Held at the Mercure Crocodile Hotel in Jabiru and facilitated by Amanda Marshall, this two-day Summit had a handson approach to leadership development, communication skills, public speaking, teamwork, cross-cultural collaboration, cooperative vision development and problem-solving.

The success of the event can be attributed to several factors.

First and foremost, it brought together young leaders from across West Arnhem Land fostering cross-community collaboration and unity.

"Our youth's shared vision for contributing to a bright future across West Arnhem Land.."

The event provided a platform for students to step up to leadership challenges and engage in team-building activities, which will undoubtedly have a positive impact on the communities they represent.

One of the key highlights of the summit was its emphasis on youth perspective. Attendees were not only encouraged to develop their leadership abilities but also to conduct a needs analysis from the viewpoint of the region's youth.

This inclusive approach allowed them to identify the strengths, challenges, and needs of young people in their respective communities. A feature of the event was the student presentations, where each community group shared their community's strengths and challenges, and pitched innovative ideas for supporting youth.

presentations These captivated an audience that included community leaders from each community, representatives from the West Arnhem Regional Council (WARC), the Northern Territory Department of Education, and the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA).

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PROTECT YOURSELF FROM MELIOIDOSIS THIS WET

Top End residents and visitors are being urged to take extra precaution to avoid melioidosis ahead of the wet season. Melioidosis is a disease caused by the bacterium, Burkholderia pseudomallei, found in tropical soil and water.

"People are more likely to come in contact with the bacteria during the wet season, when bacteria increase after heavy rains and concentrate in the soil surface layers," said Royal Darwin Hospital and Menzies Professor of Medicine, Bart Currie.

"On average around 50 cases of melioidosis are reported in the Northern Territory each year, with the vast majority of those diagnosed between November and April," said Professor Currie.

Case numbers in the most recent wet season (1 October 2022 to 30 April 2023) were higher than usual, with NT Health recording 80 cases of melioidosis and six deaths in the Northern Territory.

Melioidosis bacteria can enter the body through cuts and sores. When it's wet and windy, the bacteria can be blown around in the air and inhaled through dust and droplets.

"Melioidosis most often causes lung infections and can also affect various other parts of the body, including causing skin sores that don't easily heal," said Professor Currie.

"If left untreated, melioidosis can lead to severe pneumonia and blood poisoning, with around 10 per cent of infections leading to death."

Symptoms usually develop within one to three weeks of a person being exposed to the bacteria, but in some cases, illness may not occur until several months or years after the initial infection. The first sign of melioidosis is commonly a chest infection. Other symptoms can include:

- · fever and sweats
- headache
- \cdot confusion
- \cdot difficulty passing urine for men
- · joint pain or swelling

 \cdot skin sores that don't heal.

People are advised to seek medical attention early to ensure prompt diagnosis and treatment. Treatment requires hospital admission and intensive antibiotic therapy.

People with underlying health conditions that lower immunity are more likely to develop melioidosis. This includes those with diabetes, heavy alcohol intake, kidney and lung disease, people who take immune suppression therapy medications, cancer, and advanced age.

To avoid melioidosis, the following precautions should be taken:

• wear covered waterproof footwear when outdoors

 \cdot wear gloves while working in the garden or a soil-based environment

 \cdot wash then cover sores and abrasions with waterproof dressings

 \cdot wear a face mask while using high pressure hoses around soil and paths

stay indoors during heavy wind and rain
seek medical attention early.

Melioidosis does not usually spread from one person to another or from animals to humans.

More information about melioidosis is available at <u>https://nt.gov.au/wellbeing/</u> <u>health-conditions-treatments/bacterial/</u> <u>melioidosis</u>

MANINGRIDA AND JABIRU POST OFFICE NEW STOCK

Our Post Offices are getting into the festive spirit! Below is the Jabiru (left) and Maningrida (right) Post Offices' stock currently in store. Pop in and have a look!



The West Arnhem Wire | 31 October - 10 November 2023





West Arnhem Regional Council acknowledges the First Nations Custodians; and the many Language and Family groups who are Managers and Care-takers to each of their Traditional homelands and Waters across the West Arnhem Regions Wards. West Arnhem Regional Council pay their respects and acknowledge Elders, past present and rising.

The Wire is the only regular source of news and information in the Kakadu and West Arnhem Land region. More than 500 copies are distributed fortnightly to Jabiru, Warruwi, Minjilang, Maningrida and Gunbalanya.

Our electronic edition goes out to more than 500 individual email addresses across West Arnhem Land and the Top End.

The Wire accepts advertising from businesses and government organisations. Placement of ads is subject to editorial and Council policy.

Our competitive rates start from as little as \$72 (including GST). Call 08 8979 9465 today or email wire@westarnhem.nt.gov.au to discuss how we can help you spread your messages around West Arnhem Land.

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

Bookings: 5pm Monday prior to publication

Artwork: 5pm Tuesday prior to publication

The Wire is published fortnightly on Fridays.

The Wire is published by West Arnhem Regional Council. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those held by the Council or Councillors.

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www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au

Call (08) 8979 9465 or email wire@westarnhem.nt.gov.au

TUNE INTO TEABBA RADIO

Maningrida Radio	106.1 FM
Minjilang Radio	106.1 FM
Gunbalanya Radio	106.1 FM
Warruwi Radio	106.1 FM
Jabiru Radio	98.9 FM



HEALTH AND WELLBEING DAY FOR WOMEN

The Gunbalanya Safe House had been collaborating with the NT Health Team, to put together a 'Health and Wellbeing Day' event for the women of Gunbalanya on 1 November.

The Gunbalanya Safe House team, along with West Arnhem Regional Council's Manager of Community Service Support and Wellbeing Service Manager joined in together to prepare salads, fruit platters and cook up a fantastic barbecue with roast vegetables for the 34 participants.

The event was focused towards the women's social, emotional and wellbeing health. Topics covered on the day were how women can keep themselves strong not only for themselves, but also for their families and the community.

Together the women were able to yarn about some of the worries and what may take their strength away. The women then were able to set goals on how to feel good about themselves. There were also feel-good activities for the children in how they too can stay happy within family and community.

"Women can keep themselves strong not only for themselves, but also for their families and the community.."

The Safe House would like to thank all who took the time to help organise and set up for the day.

Thank you to Jo-Ann Adams for presenting this session, we look forward to your next trip to Gunbalanya. Thank you to Marnie and Vicki and all the safe house team who put on a great day.









MANINGRIDA PRE-CYCLONE CLEAN UP DAYS

Mon 23 – Fri 27 October & Mon 20 – Fri 24 November 2023

Place unwanted hard waste at the front of your house BEFORE the day and Council will collect it for you!

WHAT WE CAN COLLECT:

Household items: furniture, white goods, timber E-waste: TVs, computers Scrap metals: Bedframes, toys

X WHAT WE CAN'T COLLECT:

Green waste, commercial waste, oils or chemicals

Any enquiries, please see the Council Office



WHAT'S ON

If you have an upcoming event you would like to see listed in this space please phone the Wire on 8979 9465 or email wire@westarnhem.nt.gov.au.

WARRUWI PRE-CYCLONE CLEAN UP DAYS

WED, 4 OCTOBER & MON, 6 NOVEMBER 2023

Place unwanted hard waste at the front of your house BEFORE the day and Council will collect it for you!

West Arnhem Regional Council will be holding pre-cyclone clean up days in all communities. Keep an eye on your noticeboards.

WEEKLY

Monday

Underwater Hockey: Jabiru Pool, 5pm Fire Station Training: Jabiru Fire Station, 6pm

Tuesdays

Jabiru Playgroup: see the Facebook page, 9:30am Bombers football training: Brockman Oval, 5:30pm Jabiru Firey's Fitness Training: Magela Oval, 5:30pm Aqua Fitness: Jabiru Swimming Pool, 6.15pm Jabiru Art & Craft Group: private residence (enquire directly) 7.30pm

Wednesdays

Skins Golf: Jabiru Golf Club, 4.45pm

Thursdays

Story Time: Jabiru Library, 11.00am Jabiru Bombers Football training: Brockman Oval, 5pm Jabiru Firey's Fitness Training: Magela Oval, 5.30pm Aqua Fitness: Jabiru Swimming Pool, 6.15pm Jackpot Joker Draw, Jabiru Golf Club 7.30pm

Fridays

Jabiru Golf Club raffles & Members Draw, 7pm Pool competition: Jabiru Golf Club, 7pm

Sundays

Jabiru Firey's Fitness Training 5.30pm

NOVEMBER

Mon 13 Minjilang Pre-Cyclone Clean Up Mon 13 WARC Ordinary Council Meeting, Jabiru Tue 14 WARC Ordinary Council Meeting, Jabiru

Sat 18 White Ribbon Day

Sun 19 International Men's Day

20 - 24 Maningrida Pre-Cyclone Clean Up

Sun 26 Jabiru Children's Christmas Party

LET'S PREPARE FOR CYCLONE SEASON

As we move into cyclone season there are things we can all do to prepare and keep yourself, your family and your home safe. A few helpful tips from NT Police, Fire & Emergency Services <u>https://securent.</u> <u>nt.gov.au/</u>

"Council will be undertaking pre-cyclone clean-ups across all of our communities.."

- Trim tree tops and branches well clear of your home
- Clear your property of loose material that could blow about and possibly cause injury or damage during extreme winds
- In case of a storm surge/tidal warning, or other flooding, know your nearest

safe high ground and the safest access route to it

• Prepare an emergency kit that can sustain every member of the household for at least 72 hours.

Council will be undertaking pre-cyclone clean-ups across all of our communities so community members can dispose of any hard rubbish that may become a risk in the cyclone season.

As Council staff members please spread the word around our communities and help your colleagues, family and neighbours stay safe this cyclone season. Keep an eye out on the WARC Facebook

and the Wire for you communities dates.

Upcoming pre-cyclone clean up dates:

- Maningrida Pre-cyclone clean up (20-24 November)
- Minjilang Pre-cyclone clean up (13 November

WRITE YOUR LETTER TO SANTA AT THE JABIRU LIBRARY

Pictured is Rosie and Denzel holding the 'Letter to Santa' mail box located at the Jabiru Library! All are welcome to visit the Jabiru Library to write a letter to Santa and place it in the mailbox, so he gets it in time to get organised!

JOIN FIRST CIRCLES 2024 PROGRAM

The Territory Labor Government supports the ground-breaking First Circles Program, which cultivates the next generation of Aboriginal leaders.

"Ground-breaking First Circles Program, which cultivates the next generation of Aboriginal leaders.."

The program is now open to expressions of interest from Aboriginal Territorians who want to be part of next year's program.

Supporting this unique program is one of the ways the Territory Labor Government is enhancing strong Aboriginal leadership, governance and capacity, which is fundamental to Aboriginal Territorians driving local solutions and leading the way in local decision making.

First Circles Members will attend four workshops in 2024 and be mentored and supported by staff and previous members whilst in the program.

The year-long series of intensive

workshops culminate in the group addressing all Ministers in the Northern Territory Government Cabinet.

Successful applicants will be invited to attend the Aboriginal Leadership and Governance Forum to be held in Alice Springs in 2024.

The current 2023 program includes 27 members who have attended the First Circles workshops and are scheduled to complete the program in October 2023.

Managed through the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet's Aboriginal Affairs Strategic Partnerships Team, since it started in 2014 over 100 Aboriginal leaders have been part of the program.

Many members go on to represent their community on a national platform. Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Member for Arnhem Selena Uibo, is a First Circles graduate.

The program is a key element of the Territory Labor Government's commitment to the Aboriginal Affairs Strategy, including local decision making, closing the gap and ensuring Aboriginal Territorians' social and economic aspirations are being met. Expressions of interest applications for the 2024 program close on 30 November 2023.

WEST ARNHEM YOUTH LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

<< From Front Page

The Summit evidenced the power of bringing our youth together, immersing them in hands-on learning, and giving them a platform to share their voice. This regional response to building leadership capacity highlighted our youth's shared vision for contributing to a bright future across West Arnhem Land. The insights gained from the Summit will inform strategic direction of local community youth initiatives, ensuring that they align with the actual needs and aspirations of the youth in West Arnhem.

Well done to our West Arnhem youth for their strength and courage in showing up, stepping up, and sharing their voice!

The Summit was supported by NIAA and West Arnhem Regional Council.









West Arnhem Local Authority Members and Councillors (from left to right): Andy Garnarradj, Max Garnarradj, Henry Yates, Alfred Gawaraidji, Julie from NIAA, Gabby Gumurdul and Kenneth Mangiru at the Youth Leadership Summit.



ORANGE SKY MANINGRIDA

FREE LARGE WASHING MACHINES AND DRYERS

COME FOR A YARN!

Where will you find us?

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Side Camp 1 Top Camp Side Camp 2 Bottom Camp New Sub



MANINGRIDA COMMUNITY MOBILE GYM

Young people in Maningrida have been getting active recently utilising the youth mobile gym! The community mobile gym provides an opportunity for young people to participate in some new physical activities which incorporate cardiovascular and resistance exercise!

It also sports some equipment

including medicine balls.

This type exercise has many positive physical and mental health benefits for participants, and it also offers an additional option for a recreational program which is not 'team sport' focused.

Ŵest Arnhem Regional Council wishes to thank the Northern Territory Government for funding this initiative.

Australia D



2024 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS





www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au/our-communities/nominate-citizen-year

NOMINATE NOW

CATEGORIES:

Citizen of the Year To be eligible, the person must be an Australian Citizen

Young Citizen of the Year To be eligible, the person must be an Australian Citizen under 30 years of age on January 26, 2023

Community Event of the Year erson/group who staged an outstanding community event during the past veg

CAN the above QR code to fill out the Nomination Form



CRISIS SUPPORTERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR EVERYONE

Going through a tough time?

If you, or someone you know, are feeling worried or no good, we encourage you to connect with 13YARN on 13 92 76 (24 hours/7 days) and talk with an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Crisis Supporter.

This is your story; your journey and we will take the time to listen.

No shame, no judgement, safe place to yarn.

We're here for you.

https://www.13yarn.org.au/ - 13YARN is run by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

- Free and confidential service available 24/7 from any mobile or pay phone

- Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Crisis Supporters to yarn to.



SPECIAL VISIT TO WARRUWI COUNCIL WORKSHOP

The Warruwi Preschool and Families as First Teachers (FaFT) children with mums visited West Arnhem Regional Council's workshop recently.

"As family needs arise and the community have the faith in all services developing young people."

With the support of four of Council staff William, Terry, Richard and Bayden, the children were able to do some hands on learning and exploring.

They were able to test out all the work vehicles and they even got a ride on the double buggy...what a fabulous morning.

West Arnhem Regional Council Services Manager Griffiths, Matt working with Wellbeing Services Coordinator Geri Narul, are continuing the partnerships developed with Principal Sam Robinson and FaFT manager Helen Spooner.

"By allowing the children and parents/caregivers experience the options here in Warruwi, it develops trust between the community, our staff, School and the Crèche.

We aim to have the ability for children pre-school age to be able to move from and between Crèche, FaFT and Pre-School as family needs arise and the community have the faith in all services developing young people in a physically and culturally safe environment".





5 DIMENSIONS OF RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation Australia's vision of reconciliation is based and measured on five dimensions: historical acceptance; race relations; equality and equity; institutional integrity and unity.

These five dimensions do not exist in isolation, but are interrelated. Reconciliation cannot be seen as a single issue or agenda; the contemporary definition of reconciliation must weave all of these threads together. For example, greater historical acceptance of the wrongs done to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples can lead to improved race relations, which in turn leads to greater equality and equity.



Equality Race And Equity Relations Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples participate equally in a range of life opportunities and the unique rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stralians understand and value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous cultures, rights and experiences, which results in stronger relationships based on ust and respect and that Unity peoples are recognised and upheld. free of racism An Australian society that values and recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and heritage as a proud part of a shared Institutional Historical national identity Integrity Acceptance The active support of reconciliation by the nation's political, busine community structures.

All Australians understand and accept the wrongs of the past and the impact of e wrongs. Australia makes nds for the wrongs of the and ensures these wrongs were repeated st and er

> RECONCILIATION AUSTRALIA

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PHOTOS FROM SOUTH GOULBURN ISLAND





Thank you to Matt Griffiths for sending through these photos from Warruwi, South Goulburn Island.

(Far left) WARC, USC, Stedmans, ALPA, and WTD working collectively together to get the barge unloaded and important food, fuel and supplies for the Warruwi township.

(right) Pictured is a lovely sunrise capturing a WARC vehicle.

WORK IN & EXPERIENCE

Retail and Post Office Team Leader – Jabiru, Level 5 - \$74k -Full Time – Subsidised Accommodation provided -Applications close Wednesday 15 Nov 2023

Early Childhood Educator Assistant – Jabiru, Level 2-3 \$56k - \$68 – Part Time – No Accommodation provided - All applications considered

Pool Officer – Jabiru, Level 2 \$56k – Part Time – Subsidised Accommodation provided – All applications considered

Community Care Officer – Jabiru, Level 2/3, \$28 -\$34 per hour – Casual – No Accommodation provided – All applications considered

Customer Services Officer – Maningrida, Level 3 - \$59k – Full Time – No Accommodation provided - Opened until filled - All applications considered

Utilities Support Contract Officer (Essential Services) – Gunbalanya, Level 5 - \$74k - Fixed term - Full Time – Subsidised Accommodation provided - Applications close Wednesday 22 Nov 2023

Community Care Cook – Gunbalanya, Casual – 20 hours per week – No Accommodation provided - All applications considered

Centrelink Assistant – Gunbalanya, Level 2 \$56K - \$61k – Full Time – No Accommodation provided - All applications considered

Broadcasting Officer – Gunbalanya, Level 4 \$68 - \$73k – Part Time – 20 hours per week – No Accommodation provided - All applications considered

Utilities Support Contract Officer (Essential Services) – Minjilang/Warruwi Level 5 - \$74k - Fixed term - Full Time – Subsidised Accommodation provided in Minjilang -Applications close Wednesday 22 Nov 2023

For more information: Please phone 08 8979 9404 or email vacancy@westarnhen.nt.gov.au



Indigenous people are encouraged to apply

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Maningrida Local Radio

Tune in to 106.1

Ask your mob, your way, RUOK?

Come from a place of love and care. It's not about judging them for the way they've been behaving.

66

Karen Meriam, Wagadagam



RU©K?



EXCITING NEWS AT JABIRU CHILDCARE

(Pictured below) The Jabiru Childcare has some sunflowers growing in the centre's garden thanks to all of Maggie's efforts!

(Pictured right) Congratulations to Early Childhood Educator – Assistant Faileez Hassan who recently completed her Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care Services.







New opening hours commence Monday, 1 May 2023

Additional wet season hours 1 October - 30 April

Saturday morning sessions available CLOSED Good Friday, Christmas Day,

NO SCHOOL, NO POOL POLICY

day

New Year's day

Thursday

6.00am - 8.00am

6.00am - 8.00am

Monday	1.30pm - 6.30pm
Tuesday	1.30pm - 6.00pm
Wednesday	1.30pm - 6.30pm
Thursday	1.30pm - 6.00pm
Friday	1.30pm - 6.00pm
Saturday	1.30pm - 6.30pm
Sunday	1.30pm - 6.30pm
Public Holidays	1.30pm - 6.30pm

Regular & casual pool passes available

Olympic-sized pool with shade - children's splashpad & pool - playground - barbeche facilities - gym & shower facilities - kiosk - aqua fitness -- shaded picnic tables - mobility lift - kids Manarail - jumping pillow



PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST JAPANESE ENCEPHALITIS

Japanese encephalitis (JE) is caused by the Japanese encephalitis virus. Encephalitis is inflammation of the brain tissue and is usually caused by an infection. The virus is spread through mosquito bites.

Infection in humans is most commonly asymptomatic.

On rare occasions, it can result in severe disease with brain damage and even death. **How it is spread**

JE is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. It cannot be spread from person to person.

In countries or regions where the virus is present, the transmission is more common in areas of increased mosquito activity.

Pigs and wild water birds help spread the virus. It multiplies in infected pigs, leading to very high levels in their blood.

Mosquitoes feeding on infected pigs and water birds pick up the virus and may spread it to humans.

Symptoms

It usually takes 5 to 15 days between getting bitten by the infected mosquito and becoming unwell.

Symptoms include:

- headaches
- fever

• seizures or fits (especially in young children)

neck stiffness

• drowsiness

• confusion, delirium and coma in severe cases.

Treatment

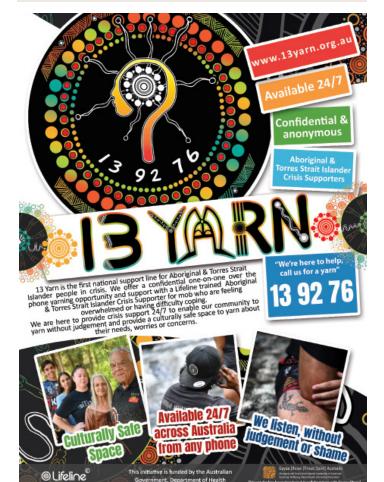
There are no specific treatments for JE. In most cases, individuals are admitted to hospital where they are closely observed and given supportive care.

How to protect yourself

There are 2 ways to prevent JE:

• avoid being bitten by mosquitoes

• There is a vaccination. There is currently a limited supply of JE vaccines. If you're a Northern Territory (NT) resident you may be eligible to receive a free vaccine.



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SPORT

JABIRU STUDENTS BECOME NINJA WARRIORS



On Friday, 27 October, Jabiru students became ninja warriors. The students ran, jumped, flipped, slid and splashed their way through an amazing course. Jabiru School want to thank West Arnhem Regional Council for organising the event, which was supported by the Northern Territory Government. We also want to recognise the many amazing organisation who supported WARC. Thank you to: Red Lily, Sodexo, CGS, Stars, Clontarf, Jabiru Volunteer Firefighters and anyone else who came down to make the day a success.

JABIRU ANNUAL SPOOKTACULAR HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL

The Jabiru community had a Spooktacular Halloween Festival on Tuesday, 31 October.

A huge thank you to Caulfield staff and students who put in hours of work to make such an event possible. We started off with some Halloween craft activities and snacks and got dressed up in costumes and facepaint. Then we had an hour of Halloween Carnival activities - this included everything from a ghoulish graffiti showdown to mummify yourself! The children collected certificates from each activity which they could 'cash-in' for a Halloween themed prize or a sweat treat. We then of course had the unmissable Halloween disco!

Shout out to Tremaine for being a DJ legend and to Reggie for his deadly dance moves. Also a special thanks to Greg from Sodexo for the donated cupcakes!





MINJILANG PRE-CYCLONE CLEAN UP DAYS

MON, 30 OCTOBER & MON, 13 NOVEMBER 2023

Place unwanted hard waste at the front of your house BEFORE the day and Council will collect it for you!

✓ WHAT WE CAN COLLECT:

Household items: furniture, white goods, timber E-waste: TVs, computers Scrap metals: Bedframes, toys

X WHAT WE CAN'T COLLECT:

Green waste, commercial waste, oils or chemicals





Please register each child once and include their age

Any enquiries, please see the Council Office