



East Gippsland Specialist School Newsletter



Upcoming Events



FEBUARAY

9th Swimming



11th Sailing Room 9



JANUARY & FEBUARAY BIRTHDAYS



Happy Birthday to all
our students that have
Birthdays in Januaray
and Febuaray.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Safe
Respectful
Learners

CONTACT US

31 Calvert Street

Bairnsdale VIC 3875

Telephone 03 5152 5922

Email east.gippsland.ss@education.vic.gov.au

Safe
Respectful
Learners

February 04/02/2026



Principal Report

Dear Families,

Welcome Back

We would like to extend a very warm welcome back to school to all students and families and we would like to especially welcome all our new EGSS students and families to our school community. One week into the new school year, students have done a terrific job of settling into their new school routines with their new classmates, teachers and support staff. Personally, I have thoroughly enjoyed spending time in classrooms and seeing firsthand students (and staff) settling back into the routines of school life!

We have another exciting year of learning and growth ahead of us and I look forward to seeing all this growth unfold throughout the year.

Annual Privacy Reminder

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' privacy policy](#) and the [Schools' privacy collection notice](#).

Our [Photographing, Filming and Recording Students policy](#) describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' privacy policy: information for parents](#).

We acknowledge the Gunai Kurnai people, the traditional custodians of the land where we live, work and travel. We pay our respect to the Elders, past, present and emerging



2026 School Closure Days

At the end of last year our School Council endorsed our school closure days for 2026. Reminders will be given to families throughout the year, but we wanted to share these dates with you now so that families can plan ahead.

Term 1

- Friday 6th March

Term 2

- Monday 25th May

Term 3

- Monday 13th July (first day of Term 3)

Term 4

- Monday 2nd November
- Monday 7th December

The content of focus for these days will be shared with families in the newsletter, closer to the time.

Pick Up & Collection Arrangements

As we start the new year, we would like to remind families to provide relevant updates, including a copy of identification for the adults (particularly NDIS or other carers) who may be responsible for collecting children at the end of the day. If we have already received notification from parents and have obtained a copy of individuals ID, this will make the end of day pick up process smoother for everyone. We thank you for your assistance with this.

We would also like to remind families to let the school's reception know of any permanent or ad-hoc changes to your child's collection arrangements as soon as practical so that relevant staff are aware. This also supports a smooth end of day transition.

Uniform Assistance

For any families who require any assistance with school uniforms, please contact the school's reception and let us know. We will then be able to contact State School's Relief to support with obtaining uniform at minimal to zero cost.

NDIS Navigators

As we were last year, this year, we continue to be involved in the NDIS Navigator Program. NDIS Navigators help families navigate and understand the NDIS and get the most out of the supports available for your child or children. This type of support could include support for first applying for the NDIS as well as support and assistance for reviews and changes of circumstances.

Our reception staff: Linda Pendergast and Jennayer Hopkins will be sharing this role at our school. They will:

- provide information and advice on the NDIS and available supports, including guidance on where to look for services and how to make the best selection for your child
- support you to understand the:
 - o structure of the NDIS and how to navigate and engage with the system
 - o ongoing management of NDIS plans and how to raise questions or concerns with the NDIA or NDIS funded organisations
- assist you to access NDIS Local Area Coordination partners for advice and support.

If you have any NDIS related questions or need any NDIS related support, please do not hesitate to contact the school's reception and speak with Linda or Jennayer.

Kindest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel Clark". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Principal



CALENDAR

February 2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Senior Swimming	10	11 Sailing Room 9	12	13	14	15
16 Senior Swimming	17	18	19	20 Bike Ed Rail Trail	21	22
23 Senior Swimming	24	25	26	27 Bike ED Raymond Island Loop	28	

March 2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2 Senior Swimming	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Bike ED East Gippsland Rail Trail	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Forges Theatre The Box show	26	27	28	29
30	31 Forges Theatre The Box show					

Staff Shoutouts

-
For always putting in so much effort into supporting student, and doing it with such a lovely smile.

All Staff for a great start to 2026

-
For always putting so much effort into making sure the students are supported.

-
For always being so creative and supporting students to do their best.

We welcome our new Teachers for 2026



**Sarah McAninly
Room 1**



**Suzana Silveira
Room 4**



**Sue Legg
Room 16**

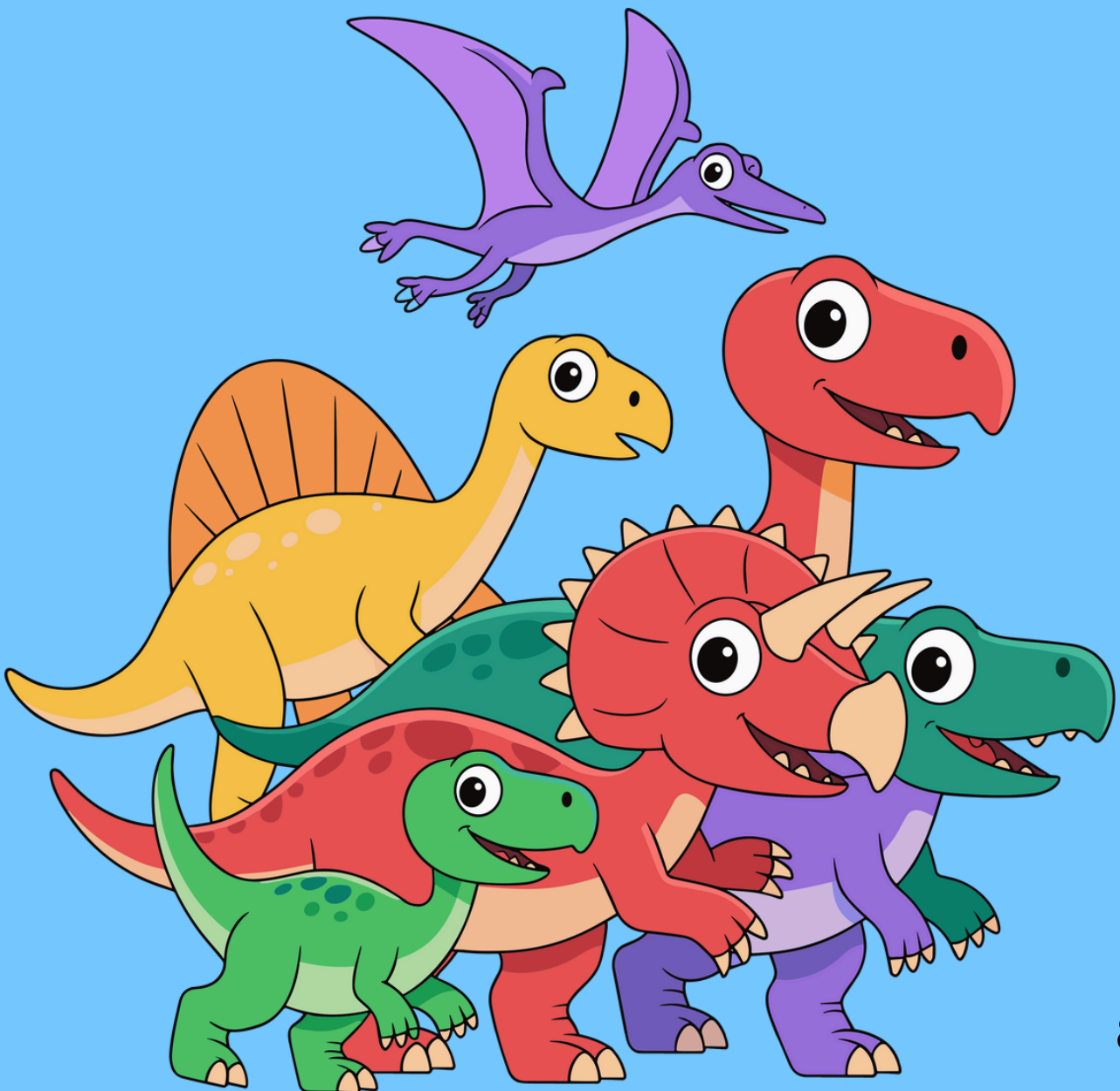


**Emma Mutch
Room 10**

JOKE OF THE WEEK

What do you call a
dinosaur with bad
vision?

A Do-you-think-he-sarus!



NETBALL



All Abilities Netball

Enjoy netball in a fun, friendly environment where you will learn new skills, stay active and enjoy being part of a team built on belonging and inclusion.

Date: 26/02/2026- 28/05/2026

Excluding School Holidays

Time: 4.00pm-5.00pm

Cost- \$100

Location: WORLD Precinct- 99 Wallace Street, Bairnsdale

Contact: Janet Parker at 0430 480 405

REGISTER TODAY!

On our Facebook page





- **Needing help to access the NDIS**
- **Supports and services**
- **Plan reassessments**
- **Therapists and Physio**
- **General enquiries**

**If you would like more information please call the
school on 51525922
our NDIS Navigators
Linda Pendergast
Jennayer Hopkins**

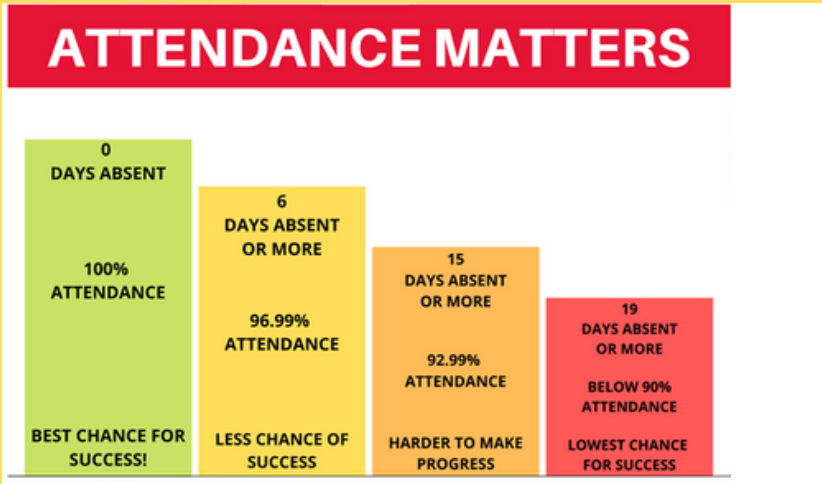




Every School Day counts

If your child is absent from school please remember to let us know why.

Please call the office on 51525922 explaining why your child will be absent and how long you expect them to be away.



PROTECT

Everyone has the right to be safe and be protected from abuse.

No one should behave in a way that makes you feel unsafe or afraid, including anyone in your family, anyone at school or anywhere else in the community.

Tell a teacher or any adult at your school if you feel unsafe.



It's everyone's responsibility.

Adults at school must listen and respond to concerns about child abuse.

If you suspect abuse of any child or young person, you have a responsibility to report it, even if you are not sure.

Further information & resources

www.education.vic.gov.au/protect