



# East Gippsland Specialist School Newsletter



## Upcoming Events



### MARCH

### Senior Swimming



### Sailing Room 8 & 9



### APRIL

Last day of Term 1

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2pm finish

First day back of Term 2

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS



Oliver



Jason



Koorin



Jesse



Riley



Jake

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

CONTACT US

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Bairnsdale VIC 3875

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Safe  
Respectful  
Learners



# Principal Report

Dear Families,

## Learning Progress as We Approach the End of Term

It is hard to believe that we are already in Week 8 of the term. The time has certainly flown by, and it has been very pleasing to see the learning progress students have made across the school during this time.

Students have continued to build confidence in their classroom routines and have been engaging enthusiastically in their learning. Teachers have been working closely with students to strengthen key literacy and numeracy skills, while also encouraging further learning and development of student's communication and personal and social capabilities.

It has been wonderful to see our school values of Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be a Learner reflected in classrooms, in the yard and throughout the school community. As we approach the final weeks of term, staff remain focused on supporting students to consolidate their learning and finish the term strongly.

## Student Support Group (SSG) Meetings

This week we are also holding Student Support Group (SSG) meetings for students across the school who have not yet had an SSG this term.

SSG meetings provide an important opportunity for families and teachers to work collaboratively to review student progress, discuss learning goals and ensure that appropriate supports are in place to help each student succeed. These conversations are a valuable part of our commitment to ensuring that every student is supported to reach their full potential.

During these meetings, Individual Education Plans are reviewed and updated to reflect each student's current learning needs, strengths and areas for growth. The partnership between home and school plays a vital role in this process, and we greatly value the insights families bring to these discussions.

If you have not yet received an SSG meeting time, or if you need to schedule or reschedule a meeting, please contact your child's classroom teacher so that a suitable time can be arranged.

We thank families for their ongoing collaboration and support in helping our students achieve their learning goals.

**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**



## Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA) Negotiations

Families may be aware through media reports that the Department of Education and the Australian Education Union (AEU) have been negotiating a new Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA) for more than 12 months. The EBA sets out salary and working conditions for all employees working in Victorian government schools.

At this stage, negotiations are still ongoing. As part of this process, the AEU has indicated that a stop work action (strike) is likely to occur on Tuesday 24th March.

I do not anticipate that the school will close on this day, however, alternative staffing arrangements may be required to account for potential staff shortages. We will certainly understand if any families decide to keep their child home on this day to avoid the impacts that a change of routine and staff personnel may have on their child.

As negotiations are ongoing, circumstances regarding the stop-work action and staffing arrangements for the 24<sup>th</sup> of March are likely to change between now and then. As a result, further, specific information will be communicated via email and a letter home on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

We appreciate your understanding while these negotiations continue.

## School Council Ballot – Parent Member

Information was sent home with students yesterday regarding the School Council ballot to elect a parent member to the open vacancy on School Council. Both Matthew Turner and Andriana Nedelkovska have self-nominated themselves to this position.

School Council plays an important role in supporting the direction and governance of the school, and parent representation ensures that the perspectives of families are included in these discussions and decision-making processes.

Families are encouraged to review the information provided and participate in the ballot process. Voting details and instructions are included in the information sent home.

If you have any questions regarding the ballot process, please contact the school office.

We thank families for their continued interest and involvement in supporting the work of our School Council.

## End of Term Arrangements

With the end of term fast approaching, I would like to remind families that the last day of Term 1 will be Thursday 2nd April.

Students will be dismissed at 2:00pm on this day.

Kindest Regards,



Principal



# CALENDAR

## March 2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2 Senior Swimming	3	4	5	6 Student free Day	7	8
9 Labour Day Public Holiday Student free day	10	11	12	13 Bike ED East Gippsland Rail Trail	14	15
16	17	18	19 Parent Group @pm At EGSS	20	21	22
23	24	25 Forge Theatre The Box show	26	27	28	29
30	31 Forge Theatre The Box show					

## April 2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2 Last day of term 1	3 Good Friday	4	5
6 School Holidays	7 School Holidays	8 School Holidays	9 School Holidays	10 School Holidays	11 School Holidays	12 School Holidays
13 School Holidays	14 School Holidays	15 School Holidays	16 School Holidays	17 School Holidays	18 School Holidays	19 School Holidays
20 First day back for term 2	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

# ROOM FIVE

## ROOM 5 NEWS

### THIS MONTH

#### LITERACY:

In Literacy, we have been learning the letters M, S, F, A, P, and T, and are currently focusing on the letter C. We are also developing our writing skills by creating our own stories.

#### NUMERACY:

In Numeracy, we are learning how to count using "more than" and "less than" with counters. For example, we explore questions like "What is 2 less than 10?"

### NEWS

Room 5 has been busy engaging in fantastic learning and creativity across Art, Woodwork, PE, and Performing Arts. Everyone has settled in well, and it's been great to see such positive participation. We would also like to warmly welcome our new student, Darci, to the class this term. 😊

### PE, WOOD & PERFORMING ARTS



### ART LESSONS

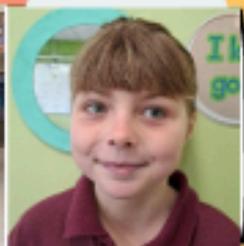
### MORE ADVENTURES



Cooking French toast



Making tiger hats

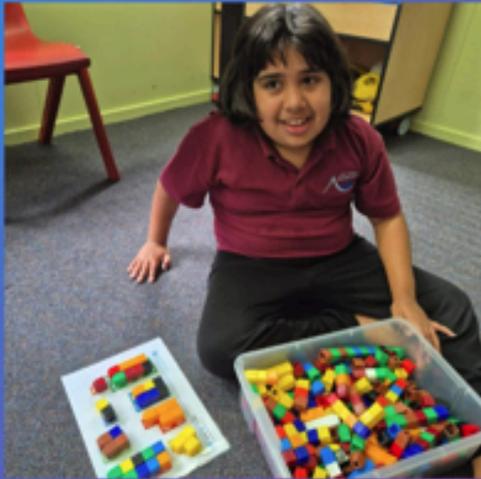
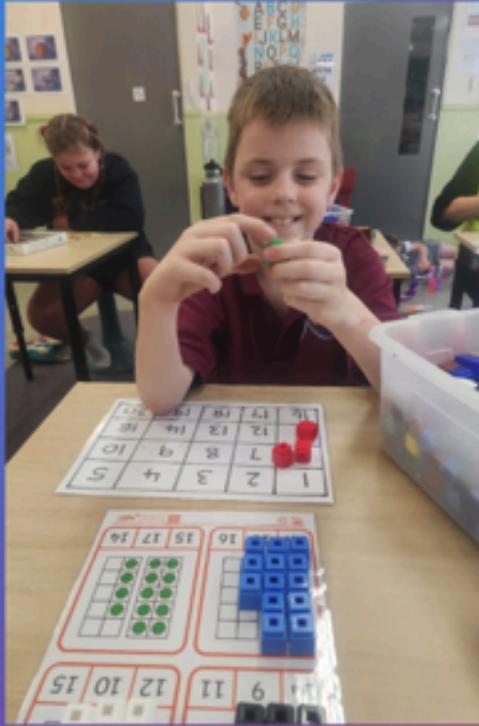


Pumpkin hat reward

Darci

Room 5s new student

# ROOM SIX



# Staff Shoutouts



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



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



**-Barb Eipper**  
For always being friendly, and supporting students to do their best.

 **YOU'RE INVITED** 

## Parents Group

**WHEN:** 3rd Thursday of Every Month  
2:00 PM

**WHERE:** East Gippsland Specialist School



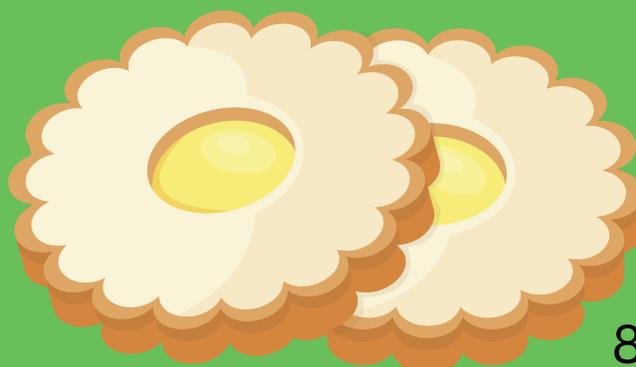
Join us for a relaxed and friendly afternoon with other families in our school community.

-  Meet other parents and carers
-  Chat in an informal setting over a coffee
-  Share experiences and ideas
-  Discuss any concerns or needs you have for your student

This is a welcoming space to connect, support one another, and strengthen our school community.

We would love to see you there!

For more information, please contact  
Assistant Principals Donna or Pauline





### Traffic Management Reminder – Student Safety First

Families, a friendly reminder that the start and end of each school day is a **high traffic time** at East Gippsland Specialist School, as students transition safely to and from buses and home.

To help keep all students safe around **cars, buses, and roads**, we ask everyone to be extra mindful during these busy periods.

Please remember to:

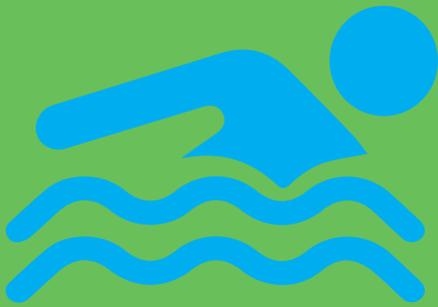
- **Follow the directions of staff** managing traffic at the crossing, including the use of the traffic sign.
- **Observe and follow all posted speed signs** in and around the school.
- **Avoid using mobile phones while driving** through the car park or school area.
- If collecting your child in person, **wait on the roadside of the crossing at the front gate** until it is safe to proceed.



Your child's safety is extremely important to us, and we appreciate your support in keeping our school community safe.

Thank you for your cooperation.





# SNAAP

**SPECIAL NEEDS AQUATIC AWARENESS PROGRAM**

SLSLE is running our second SNAAP session! A water safety program ran for people of any age or ability.

Surf Life Saving Lakes Entrance, March 22<sup>nd</sup> 11am-1pm

Come on down to learn about key water safety messages, and get hands on experience in and around the water.

Sign up now!



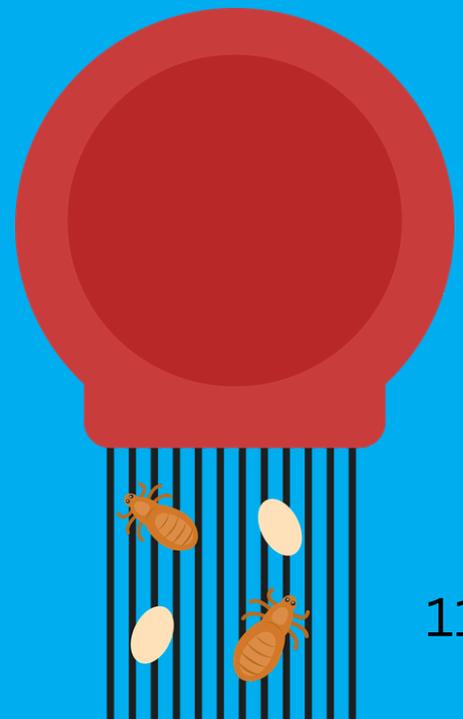
Proudly supported by LSV Gippsland Sporting Hub Project, made possible by the Victorian Government's Strengthening Regional Community Sport Program.





# Headlice

**Please make sure  
you check your  
childs hair on a  
regular basis**



# 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



# Joke of the week



*Why did the  
cookie go to  
the doctor?*

*It was feeling  
crummy.*



- **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**

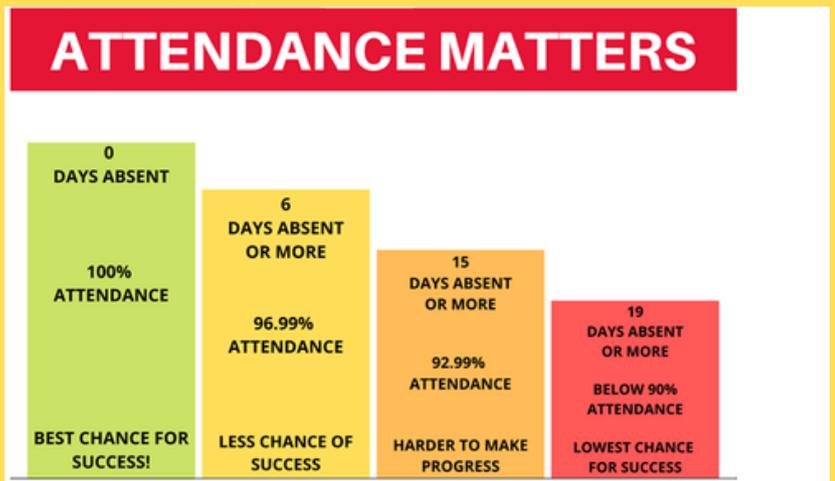




# Every School Day counts

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](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/protect)

