



East Gippsland Specialist School Newsletter



Upcoming Events



JULY

Swimming Room 4
and room 6

AUGUST



JULY BIRTHDAYS

**Happy birthday
to all our July
birthdays**

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**



CONTACT US
31 Calvert Street
Bairnsdale VIC 3875
Telephone 03 5152 5922
Email east.gippsland.ss@education.vic.gov.au

Safe
Respectful
Learners

Safe
Respectful
Learners

July 22/07/2026



Principal Report

Dear Families,

Welcome back to Term 3! I hope all our students, families and staff had a restful and enjoyable holiday break and have returned feeling refreshed for the term ahead. Term 3 is shaping up to be another busy and exciting one, with many opportunities for learning, growth and celebration across our school.

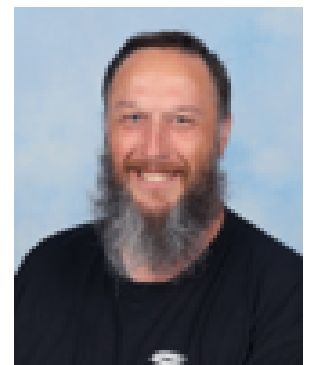
Student Morning Drop Off

Just a friendly reminder, the front parking area is designated as a drop-off and pick-up zone to ensure traffic continues to flow safely and to allow families to quickly drop students off before moving on. When vehicles remain parked in these spaces, it creates congestion and makes it more difficult for other families to access the zone safely.

Please ensure you follow the expectations around using the front drop-off area, I ask that, if you need to leave your vehicle for any length of time, that you park in one of the available parking areas rather than the drop-off zone.

Farewell and Best Wishes

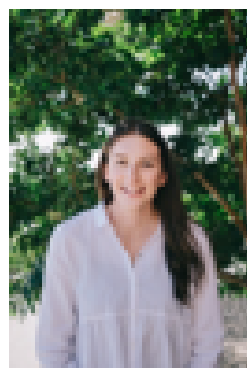
At the end of this month, we say goodbye to one of our valued Education Support staff members, Rick, as he begins an exciting new chapter in his career as a Koorie Engagement Support Officer (KESO). Throughout his time at East Gippsland Specialist School, Rick has made a positive and lasting contribution to our school community through his dedication, kindness and commitment to supporting our students. In his new role, he will continue to make a meaningful difference by working with schools to create culturally inclusive learning environments and supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to engage and succeed in their education. While he will be greatly missed by staff and students alike, we are incredibly proud of him and wish him every success in this important role. Thank you, Rick, for everything you have contributed to EGSS—we wish you all the very best for the future.



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



Introducing Kaitlyn



We are delighted to welcome Kaitlyn to the East Gippsland Specialist School team as our Exercise Physiologist.

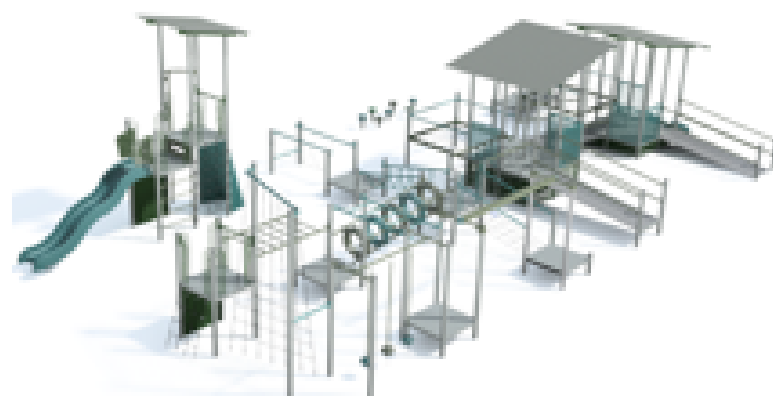
Kaitlyn brings a wealth of experience from a range of health and education settings. Over the past few years, she has worked as an Exercise Physiologist, Health Promotion Officer and TAFE teacher, educating future allied health professionals. She has also facilitated loose parts play sessions and delivered a variety of sports programs, including Ultimate Frisbee and basketball, combining her passion for movement with creating fun and engaging learning experiences.

An Exercise Physiologist uses movement and exercise to help people improve their health, wellbeing and participation. At EGSS, Kaitlyn will work alongside students and staff to develop personalised, engaging activities that support each student's individual strengths, interests and goals. Whether through play-based activities, games, sport or structured exercise, her focus is on making movement enjoyable, meaningful and accessible for every learner.

Kaitlyn is looking forward to getting to know our students, families and staff and supporting our school community to stay active, healthy and engaged. We are excited to have her as part of the EGSS team and know she will make a wonderful contribution to our school.

Exciting changes in our Senior Yard

Construction is now underway in our Senior Yard, and we are excited to watch the transformation over the coming months. The project will see the addition of a fantastic new playground, sensory gardens and in-ground trampolines, creating engaging outdoor spaces that will enhance learning, play and wellbeing for our students.



During construction, some areas of the yard will be fenced off to ensure everyone's safety. We appreciate that this temporarily reduces the available space for student movement and play, and we thank our students, families and staff for their patience and understanding while these works are completed.

We look forward to sharing updates as the project progresses and can't wait to see our students enjoying these wonderful new facilities once they are finished.

Kindest Regards,

Acting Principal



CALENDAR

July 2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1 Holidays	2 Holidays	3 Holidays	4 Holidays	5 Holidays
6 Holidays	7 Holidays	8 Holidays	9 Holidays	10 Holidays	11 Holidays	12 Holidays
13 Student Free Day	14 First Day Back Term 8	15	16 Parent Group 2pm at EG88	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August 2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Parent Group 2pm at EG88	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

FOUR TYPES OF BULLYING BEHAVIOUR

Bullying is never okay.

It can be physical, verbal, social or online.



1. PHYSICAL

Examples include:

- hitting, pushing, shoving
- intimidating or otherwise
- physically hurting another person
- damaging or stealing their belongings
- threats of violence



2. VERBAL/WRITTEN

Examples include:

- name-calling or insulting someone about an attribute, quality or personal characteristic

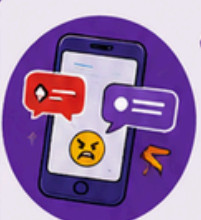


3. SOCIAL

(Sometimes called relational or emotional bullying)

Examples include:

- deliberately excluding someone
- spreading rumours
- sharing information that will have a harmful effect on the other person



4. CYBERBULLYING

Any form of bullying behaviour that occurs online or via a mobile device. It can be verbal or written, and can include threats of violence as well as images, videos and/or audio.

For more information, refer to Cyberbullying.



ARE YOU A BULLY?

Do you:

- ✓ Try to hurt, scare or intimidate others?
- ✓ Use mean words or gestures?
- ✓ Leave someone out on purpose?
- ✓ Spread rumours or embarrassing information?
- ✓ Post or send hurtful things online?

IF YOU ANSWERED YES...

It's not too late to change.



CHOOSE TO BE BETTER.



Treat others how you want to be treated.



Think before you act or post.



Include others and stand up for what's right.



Apologise and make things right.



Be kind. It makes a difference.



BE KIND. SPEAK UP. SUPPORT EACH OTHER.
Everyone has the right to feel safe, included and respected.



Staff Shoutouts



- Jac

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

-Bec

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



-Tracey

For always being friendly, and supporting students to do their best.



LUNCH ORDERS



**Culinary Crew lunch orders will
be happening on Friday this
week , due to unforeseen
circumstances**



ROOM THREE

News from Room 3



This term, Room 3 students and their lower-primary peers are focusing on the PBS value of having safe hands and being a respectful friend.

We can play safe, and we can learn safely.

'Safe body, safe feet and safe hands yeah!'



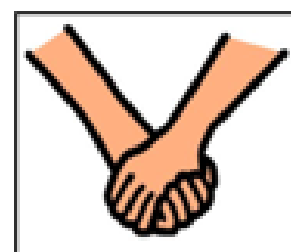
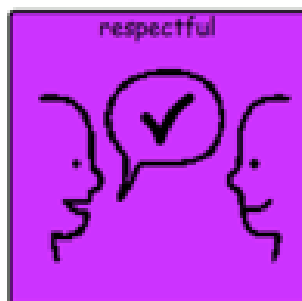
Shake hands



high 5



wave



ROOM FOUR



ROOM 4



newsletter

OUR PROGRESS

Our students from Room 4 continue to amaze us every single day. Watching their growth over the past two terms has been one of the greatest joys, and we couldn't be prouder of each and every one of them.

One of the biggest highlights last term was swimming. Every student embraced the experience with courage and enthusiasm, adapting beautifully to a brand-new routine. It was a wonderful reminder of the strong relationships we have built together—our students showed us they trust the adults around them, feel safe, and are ready to take on new challenges (even if drying off afterwards wasn't everyone's favourite part!).

Our classroom is filled with growing confidence. Many of our students are communicating more than ever before—using words, signs, gestures and their voices to tell us what they need, share their thoughts and even express how they are feeling. It is a privilege to watch them find their voice, and we continue to adapt our program to celebrate each child's unique learning journey.

In Literacy, we have explored the letters C, M, P, T, A, S, F and I, and the progress has been incredible. Many students now confidently recognise the alphabet and enthusiastically sign along during our morning circle. Others are proudly singing familiar words, some are spelling their own names, and others are tracing them with growing independence.

The growth we have witnessed over these two terms has been nothing short of remarkable. Every small step has led to something bigger, and every achievement—no matter how big or small—has filled our hearts with pride. We can't wait to see what the rest of the year brings for our incredible Room 4 family.

OUR FOCUS FOR TERM 3

This term, our learning will take us on a wonderful journey as we explore Gunaikurnai Country through music, movement, art and nature. We'll be dancing like kangaroos and kookaburras, moving to Indigenous music, exploring natural textures, and creating beautiful artworks inspired by the colours of Country.

In Literacy, we'll be introducing the letters B, N, H and O through our Little Learners Love Literacy program. Together we'll explore their sounds, discover words that begin with each letter, and continue building our confidence with recognising, tracing and writing letters.

Our Numeracy learning will be full of hands-on experiences as we practise counting, exploring "one" and "more", sharing objects, comparing big and little, discovering shapes, understanding where things belong, and using everyday experiences to build early addition and subtraction skills.

We'll also continue developing our Health and Personal & Social skills by recognising safe people, understanding public and private spaces, building emotional regulation strategies, and celebrating our strengths. Through movement and play-based experiences, we'll keep encouraging confidence, independence and teamwork as our amazing learners continue to grow.



YOU'RE INVITED

Parents Group

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

WHERE: East Gippsland Specialist School



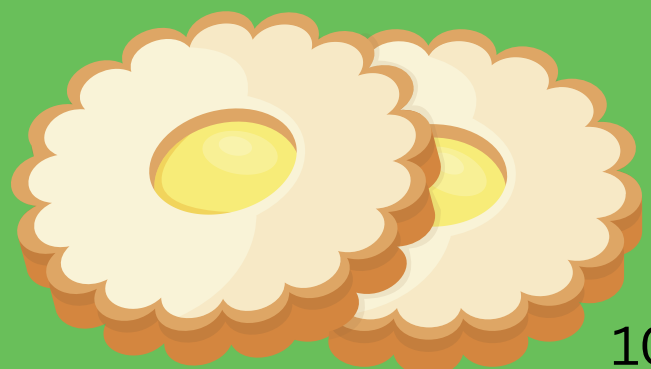
Join us for a relaxed and friendly afternoon with other families in our school community.

-  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



INFLUENZA VACCINATIONS

Dear parents/carers,

East Gippsland Shire Immunisation team will not be doing a visit to the East Gippsland Specialist school in 2026 to administer influenza vaccinations to the students.

Please below find the link to the Consumer fact sheet about influenza.

It outlines eligibility for the free influenza vaccination.

[2026 Influenza \(flu\) vaccination – Consumer fact sheet](#)

Parents are welcome to book into one of our community immunisation sessions to discuss their child's eligibility directly with one of our nurses.

The link to our shire booking site can be found here:

[Immunisations](#)

 East Gippsland Shire Council Immunisation Services 2026 www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/Services/Public_Health/Immunisation Ph: 5153 9500					
TOWN	BAIRNSDALE	BAIRNSDALE	LAKES ENTRANCE	ORBOST	PAYNESVILLE
TIME	12.30 - 2.30pm	4 - 6pm	12.30 - 2.30pm	9.30 - 11.30am	9.30 - 10.30am
VENUE	Bairnsdale Library 22 Service St 1st Thursday	Bairnsdale Library 22 Service St 3rd Thursday	Mechanics Hall Mechanics St 3rd Thursday	Orbost Service Centre 1 Ruskin St 2nd Thursday	Community Centre 55 The Esplanade 1st Thursday
January	-	15	15	8	-
February	5	19	19	12	5
March	5	19	19	12	5
April	2	16	16	9	2
May	7	21	21	14	7
June	4	18	18	11	4
July	2	16	16	9	2
August	6	20	20	13	6
September	3	17	17	10	3
October	1	15	15	8	1
November	5	19	19	12	5
December	3	17	17	10	3
Community Immunisation sessions are free to attend. Please make an appointment by visiting our website All vaccinations on the National Immunisation Program Schedule are provided free of charge.					



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.



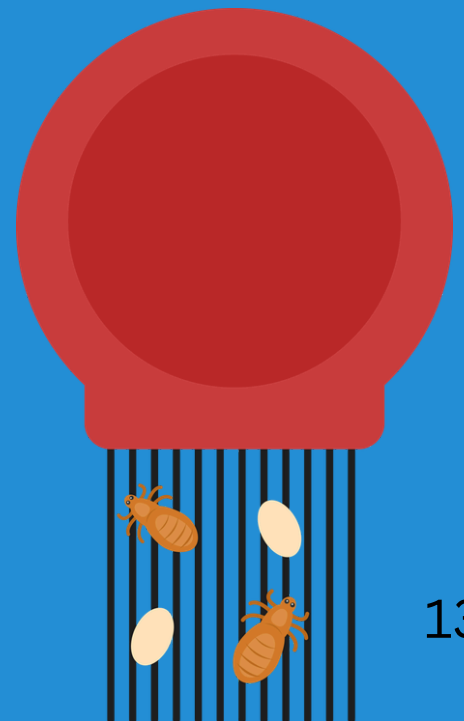
Your child's safety is extremely important to us, and we appreciate your support in keeping our school community safe. Thank you for your cooperation.





Headlice checks

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





- **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**

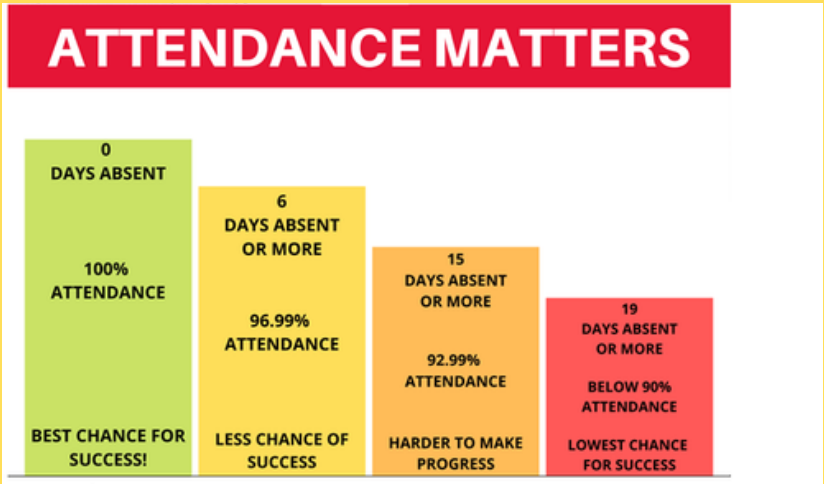




Every School Day counts

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