NEWSLETTER

29th October 2026
31 Calvert street Bairnsdale 3875
Phone 51525922
east.gippsland.ss@education.vic.gov.au

Safe
Respectful
Learners

East Gippsland Specialist School
ASPIRING • LEARNING • EXCELLING

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Families,
Term 4 is always a long, busy and exciting term, filled with activities, celebrations and opportunities for our students. However, it is certainly not a time for us to slow down or take our foot off the pedal!

At East Gippsland Specialist School, we believe that every day of learning counts. Our teachers and staff remain committed to maintaining high expectations, providing engaging and meaningful learning experiences, and continuing to build on the progress each student has made throughout the year.

While the end of the school year is approaching, there is still so much learning to be done, growth to be achieved and success to celebrate. We want to make the most of every opportunity and ensure our students continue to develop their skills, confidence and independence right through to the very last day.

We encourage families to support this by maintaining regular attendance and keeping routines consistent as we move through the final weeks of the year.

Im pleased to share an update on the progress of our playground works at East Gippsland Specialist School.

·Installation of the new play equipment is now complete!

·The base layers of the rubber surfacing were completed, on Friday 23rd of October.

·A playground safety audit is scheduled for Monday 2nd of November.

We look forward to having the new playground and watching the students enjoy movement break times.

CALENDAR

Up coming events for October

Swimming rooms 12 & 5



30th October student immunisation





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Term 4 Transition SSG's

Our Term 4 Student Support Group (SSG) meetings will be held on Monday 30th of November. These meetings provide a valuable opportunity for families to meet with their child's current teacher and their 2027 teacher to discuss progress, celebrate achievements and plan future learning goals. This date is a Pupil Free Day.

Due to the number of meetings being scheduled and the need to coordinate the availability of multiple staff members across more than 110 student meetings in one day, we ask families to please keep this date available, as there will be very limited flexibility to reschedule appointments.
Thank you for your understanding and support in helping us make these important meetings a success.

Kindest regards,





*Busy Learners in **ROOM 1***



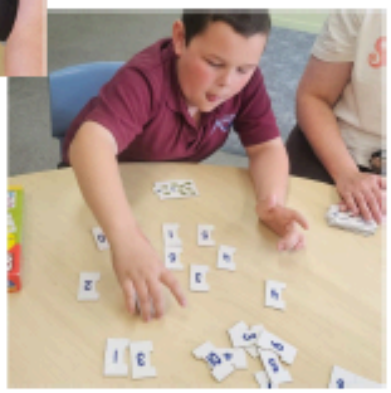












Staff Shoutouts



Cindy

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



Linda

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



Suzana

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

East Gippsland
Specialist School

ASPIRING • ACHIEVING • EXCELLING

End of Year Celebration



We will come together to recognise and celebrate our students' achievements.

Friday
11th December

12:20 pm – 1:00 pm
Awards Ceremony
and BBQ

East Gippsland
Specialist School

Presentation of Hansen Awards

A BBQ will be held as part of our celebrations.

East Gippsland Specialist School
Graduation 2026

Graduating Students



Phoebe Leonidas



Freddy Hanley



Leum Watkins

When:	Thursday 10th December, 2026
Where:	Bairnsdale RSL
Time:	6.00pm
Cost:	$32.00 per adult or $20.00 12 years and under
Tickets by:	Tuesday 1st December from Reception at EGSS

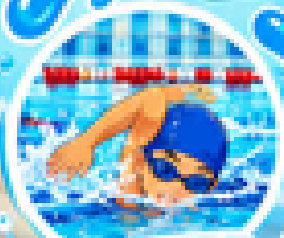
EGSS (East Gippsland Specialist School) have heard that there are some Free Friday activities at BARC!

FREE FRIDAY at BARC

Bairnsdale Aquatic and Recreation Centre

Every Friday | 3:00pm–7:45pm

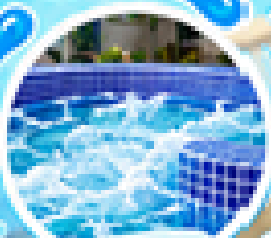
Includes all areas of the pool hall


25m pool


splash park


warm water pool


sauna


spa


OCTOBER
Birthdays
Danny
Lucy
Alec
Connor
Lily
Wishing you all a very happy birthday!
Edit

envisage
Enabling Visions and Growing Expectations

Start 2027 Feeling More Confident



Term 4 Programs Now Open!

ENVISAGE is a fully funded, evidence-informed, peer-led program that supports parents and caregivers of children aged 0–8 years with developmental concerns, disability or neurodivergence.

How it works

- Weekly workshops.
- Led by a health professional and a parent peer.
- FREE Program - no NDIS plan or diagnosis required.
- Designed by parents, practitioners and researchers.
- Australian Government funded.

Online or In Person

Daytime or Nighttime

Scan to register for an ENVISAGE program today!

Need assistance? Contact us on 07 3861 6079 and one of our friendly team can help you register.

Find our available upcoming programs to suit your schedule

https://envisage.community/workshop

© ENVISAGE 2026

Upcoming Programs

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Enabling Visions and Growing Expectations

Program duration: 5 weeks. Start dates below.

All programs are AEDT unless specified.

See some of our upcoming programs below

Online Programs

MORNING SESSIONS (5 weeks)

STARTING:

Tue 27 Oct @ 11-12.30pm
Register here

Fri 30 Oct @ 10-11.30am
Register here

Wed 11 Nov @ 10-11.30am
Register here

EVENING SESSIONS (5 weeks)

STARTING:

Mon 9 Nov 7.30-9pm
Register here

Wed 11 Nov @ 7.30-9pm
Register here

Can't find a program that suits? Want to find out more? Click here or scan the QR code to get in touch with the ENVISAGE team.

Contact us below or follow us on social media *@envisage.community*

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Enabling Visions and Growing Expectations

EVIDENCE-BASED

Free Parent Program



Co-developed *with* families *for* families

ENVISAGE is a peer program designed for parents & caregivers raising children aged 0-8 with a **disability, developmental concerns, or who are neurodivergent.**

The program is designed to help you:

- Feel more **confident and competent** in making decisions for your family.
- Discover **practical, evidence-based strategies** to help you better understand and advocate for your child's needs.
- **Connect with others** who may have similar experiences to your own, exchanging insights and perspectives.

How does the program work?

All workshops are **live and interactive**, mixing information sharing with group discussions and activities.

- 5 x Weekly Workshop Sessions
  **Intensive formats also offered*
- Up to 90 minutes per workshop
- Face-to-face or online programs available
- Facilitated by a qualified health professional and a parent peer
- FREE — No cost to you. Your child does not need a NDIS plan or diagnosis to participate.

What did caregivers get out of the program?

A new perspective

"The program has changed how I see my child. I now focus more attention on his strengths instead of always worrying about how he might be different."

Support & connection

"Hearing the stories of other parents made the world of difference. It was the first time I felt heard as a parent."

Increased confidence

"I feel more confident advocating for my son. I'm learning to trust that I'm the best person to support his needs, which has made me more comfortable speaking up."

How to register

Scan the QR Code to register for a program or contact us to find out more.

(07) 3861 6079
envisage@acu.edu.au
https://envisage.community

ENVISAGE Families Australia is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to dss.gov.au for more information.

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Enabling Visions and Growing Expectations

Program Overview



What does the ENVISAGE program cover?

Workshop 1
Health and wellbeing in early child & family development

- Different ways **health and wellbeing** can be understood in early child development.
- Discover **practical tools** to help you and your child tell your story.
- How to identify the **unique strengths of your child.**

Workshop 2
Child and family development

- Thinking about 'development' - of your child, yourself and your family.
- **Exploring connections** with siblings, partners, extended family & community members.
- Recognising the community and **supports around you.**

Workshop 3
Parenting is a 'dance' led by the child

- Discover how your **values** impact your parenting.
- Understanding what your child is telling you through their **behavior, cues, and signals.**
- Explore ways you can **understand and respond** to these messages.

Workshop 4
Looking after myself

- Find ways to **support your own wellbeing,** so that you can best support your child and family.
- Learn about ways to take **small but important steps** to enhance your own health and wellbeing and **stay resilient.**

Workshop 5
Communicating, collaborating, connecting

- Discover what **family-centered service** means and what this might look like for you.
- Learn strategies to **help you communicate & advocate more effectively** with service providers, medical professionals and the wider community.

Interested in joining the fully funded ENVISAGE program?

Head to our website to find a program that works for you:
https://envisage.community/workshop/

IT'S Physical Literacy Week 26

2–8 NOVEMBER

Play. Move. Explore.



AT SCHOOL

- Physical Literacy Passports
- Brain breaks
- Movement Challenges

ON THE WAY TO SCHOOL

- Walk
- Ride
- Scoot
- Park & Walk

AT HOME

- Daily movement challenges
- Be active together

WHY?

To build skills and confidence, try new things and develop a love of moving.

FAMILIES CAN JOIN IN TOO

Register for free family activities, challenges and prizes.

Register at physicalliteracyweek.com



Media contact:
Amelie Boucher, Program Coordinator
amelie@gellen.org.au
0486 025 461

Event registration link:
http://www.trybooking.com/DQOHY




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
cecv
10


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.
ATTENDANCE MATTERS


FOUR TYPES OF BULLYING BEHAVIOUR
Bullying is never okay.
It can be physical, verbal, social or online.
1. PHYSICAL
2. VERBAL/WRITTEN
LOSER!
UGLY!
STUPID!
You're so weird
3. SOCIAL
RUMOUR
4. CYBERBULLYING
YOU SUCK!
ARE YOU A BULLY?
IF YOU ANSWERED YES...
It's not too late to change.
CHOOSE TO BE BETTER.
BE KIND. SPEAK UP. SUPPORT EACH OTHER.
Everyone has the right to feel safe, included and respected.


NDIS
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
I ndis
8

Mental Health & Wellbeing HUB

