



METUNG PRIMARY SCHOOL

... the village school

Term 1

Week 6

Friday 6th March 2026

"It takes a village to educate a child"

90 Stirling Road,
METUNG 3904
Phone: 5156 2259

metung.ps@education.vic.gov.au
www.metungps.vic.edu.au
School no.3050

Principal
James (Jim) Allen

Metung Primary School acknowledges the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first inhabitants of the nation and the traditional custodians of the lands where we live, learn and work. 

REGULAR EVENTS

Mondays

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY
from 9.00am



Fridays

LUNCH ORDERS FROM
METUNG BAKERY &
AROMA@METUNG

CALENDAR

March

Monday 9th

LABOUR DAY Public Holiday

Tuesday 10th

East Gippsland Shire Mobile Library

(students may borrow library books & return them each fortnight)

Wed 11th-Mon 23rd

NAPLAN Assessments

Friday 13th

Cricket Clinic

Tuesday 17th

School Photos

School Council AGM

Thursday 19th

MARC Library

(students may borrow library books & return them each fortnight)

Friday 20th

Cross Country, Buchan

Friday 27th

Cricket Clinic

April

Thursday 2nd

LAST DAY Term 1

Friday 3rd

GOOD FRIDAY Public Holiday

Term 2

Monday 20th April

STUDENT FREE DAY

Tuesday 21st April

FIRST DAY Term 2

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF (Camps, Sport & Excursions Fund). The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount for 2026 per student is:

\$400 for primary school students

\$400 for secondary school students

How To Apply

Please complete the form that was sent via uEducateUs or get one from the office and return to with a copy of your valid concession card.

PLEASE NOTE:

As per Department guidelines, supervision is not required at school until 8.45am, therefore students who arrive before this time will be placed into our before school care breakfast club program and charged the relevant fee. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

You can find the full edition of our newsletter in the 'communication' section of uEducateUs.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hi Everyone,

Another great week at MPS. I have spent a good amount of time doing yard duty this week and I have been so proud of the students in the yard. They play very well together and there are some fantastic new friendships developing. Some of the new preps are starting to play with the older students and develop their own social circle.

Today we hosted a cricket clinic convened by Cricket Victoria. These days are fantastic for giving students an opportunity to play a sport that might not come naturally, or they do not have access to. As always, our students were well behaved and enjoyed and benefited from the session.

Just a reminder about photographing students. Please remember that not all families have consented to allowing images of their children to go into public domains, such as the newsletter and social media. If you take pictures of your child at sporting events or the like, please seek permission from the parents of other students in the picture before posting to social media. We have many students whose images are not to be publicised.

Please talk to your child about their day at school. This might be like pulling teeth, but children need prompting to go into detail. Ask them questions that needs explanation and ask why. Also, ask who they played with and why they like that child or children. These are great ways to start conversations and get your child to reflect on their day.

If you are late to school, please do not worry. We are just glad you and your child have made it safely to school. Attendance is important and every day counts.

Be aware that there is a bit of sickness running through the school currently. We have had several students away due to illness. Gastro symptoms have been common recently.

Have a great weekend,

Jim Allen.

SCHOOL IS MADE FOR ADVENTURES.

Selfies of the week



Grade Prep

We have enjoyed another busy week in the classroom with our Prep students now attending school five days a week. We have participated in the specialist sessions of music, art, science, physical education, MARC Van and a cricket clinic throughout the week.



The students have participating with enthusiasm in the Phonics Plus program, which provides a comprehensive approach to teaching reading using the evidence-based systematic synthetic phonics approach. The Phonics Plus resources include a detailed scope and sequence program that sets out how students first learn simple sound letter relationships before moving on to more complex letter combinations for reading and spelling. The students have been enjoying the format of the program, using individual whiteboards and markers at each session to assist with their learning. Daily fluency passages will be sent home after each session in the students' reader covers. Please ask your child to read the sounds and decodable words after reading their book each night.



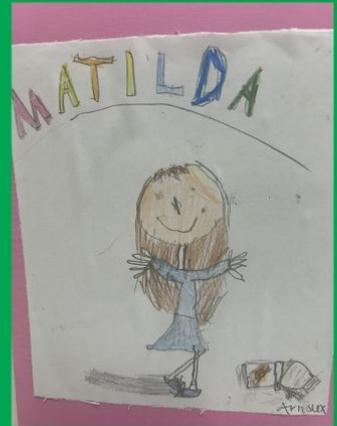


Grade 1/2/3 News



Grade 3 Matilda Art

As part of the Grade 3 novel study, the students have participated in guided drawing to draw Matilda.

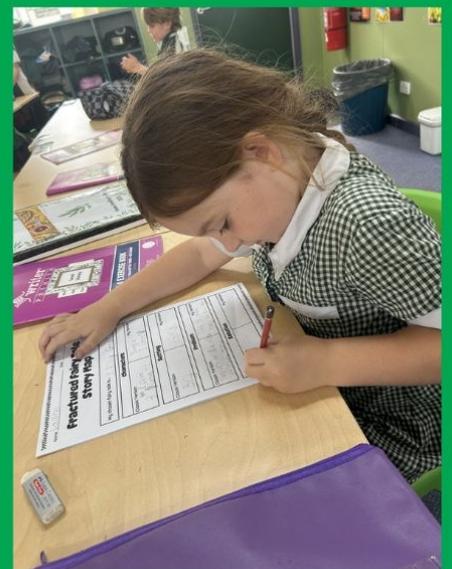


Writing

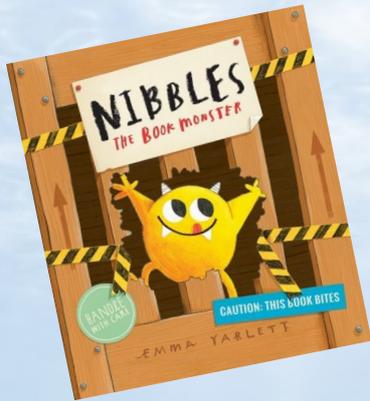
We are currently writing narratives. The Grade 1 students are writing a traditional fairytale in their own words. They will be focusing on including adjectives in their writing and using the correct structure for story writing.

The Grade 2's are writing a fractured fairytale. They will be focusing on structural elements, sentence structures and descriptive language.

The Grade 3's are also writing fractured fairytales. Their focus is using figurative language and paragraphing correctly.



MARC LIBRARY



Sponge
Characters



AUSTRALIAN
EDUCATION
UNION
Victorian Branch

Address 126 Trenerry Crescent,
PO Box 363, Abbotsford 3067
Phone 03 9417 2822
Email melbourne@aeuvic.asn.au
Web aeuvic.asn.au
ABN 44673398674

Dear School Council President,

I write to you in relation to recent media that you may have seen, outlining proposed protected industrial action that AEU teacher, education support, assistant principal, and principal class members will be commencing in March 2026.

Pending the outcome of a Fair Work Commission authorised ballot for union members to endorse the action, which is currently underway, members will be able to participate in a range of actions, including bans and limitations on certain work and stopping work for various times, including for full days. To this end, the AEU Council has resolved that in the absence of any offer from the Allan government, a statewide 24-hour stopwork will be held on 24 March 2026.

AEU members are not considering this action lightly. They would much prefer to be doing their job, attending school, and providing a high-quality education and wellbeing support for their students. They understand keenly that stopping work presents difficulties for some parents and carers, and sincerely regret the inconvenience caused.

But as you may know, Victorian public schools are the lowest funded in Australia, with a [Productivity Commission report](#) published on 10 February 2026 showing that in 2023–2024 each Victorian student was funded \$2,325 less than the national average, and \$3,983 less than a student in New South Wales. Since that time, the funding gap and, consequently, the significant lack of resources for students, have grown.

This is despite [Premier Jacinta Allan promising](#), in January 2025, to fully fund Victorian public schools to 100% of the national Schooling Resource Standard, alongside increases by the federal government. As part of this broken promise, the Victorian government has decided to delay any additional funding until 2031, meaning our schools will miss out on more than \$2.4 billion in much-needed resourcing, which would enable every student to receive more individual support. AEU members consider this denial of resources to Victorian public schools to be unacceptable to them and their students. Like members of school councils and the broader parent community in public schools, AEU members are proud advocates for proper investment in public education and expect governments to deliver.

Full and fair school funding, which was originally [meant to be provided to schools by 2019](#), is critical to ensuring that every child and young person can equitably access a high-quality education in their local public school. It is also fundamental to fixing the chronic shortage of school staff. At the heart of high-quality learning is a fully qualified permanent teacher in every classroom, and well supported education support staff and school principals. But right now, this is not the case across our schools. As I write, there are currently just under 900 vacancies advertised across public schools, with 1,378 vacancies advertised each day on average throughout 2025.

It is not possible to meet the educational and wellbeing needs of children and young people unless we can attract and retain school staff. Central to the shortage issue is sub-standard pay and excessive workloads. There has been an exodus of staff from our schools with the most recent [Department of Education report](#) identifying significant ongoing shortages and that teacher attrition rates are almost double those prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Activate. Educate. Unite.

This will only get worse unless Premier Allan and her government act. By October 2026, the undervaluing of Victorian school staff will only grow. An experienced teacher in NSW will be 13% – or \$15,359 – better off a year than a comparable Victorian teacher. A Victorian ES employee starting out in a classroom supporting students would be paid \$56,580 – 10.5% behind the same employee in NSW. Similarly, a Victorian school principal new to the role would start on \$156,335 – 18% behind their NSW colleague. At the same time, on average, school staff are working 12 hours per week unpaid overtime during each school term.

The Allan government has had AEU members' pay and conditions claims since July 2025; however, after eight months, negotiations have failed to make progress on key areas, including fair pay and measures to address excessive workloads. In fact, there has not been any offer from the state government at all.

It is in these circumstances that union members consider there to be no alternative but to take industrial action. Teachers, education support staff, assistant principals, and principals would very much appreciate your understanding and support in this campaign.

Supportive actions that your school council and school community can take include:

- [writing to your state Labor member of the Victorian Parliament](#) to tell them that you expect your school to be fully funded and that school staff receive decent pay and conditions to retain the existing workforce and attract the next generation to the profession
- adding an item to your school newsletter outlining the school council's support and explaining to the school community the issues that have led to school staff taking action – please [find a sample newsletter item here](#)
- [sending an email](#), as a school council, to Premier Jacinta Allan and Treasurer Jaclyn Symes, calling for full and fair funding, and encouraging parents and carers in your school community to do the same.

Please provide this correspondence to members of your school council as soon as possible. If you would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

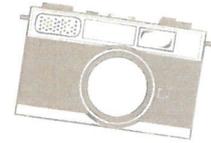
Yours sincerely,



Justin Mullaly
President

26/02/2026

cc: Minister for Education



SCHOOL PORTRAITS ORDER FORM

ORDER DETAILS

Family Name _____ Parent's Name _____
 Phone Number _____ Email Address _____
 School Name _____ Order Date _____

PACKAGES

PACKAGE 1 \$ 40
 (1) 5X7 INDIVIDUAL PHOTO
 (1) 8X10 CLASS PHOTO
 (1) 8X10 SCHOOL PHOTO
 (4) 4X6 INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS

PACKAGE 2 \$ 65
 (1) 5X7 INDIVIDUAL PHOTO
 (1) 8X10 CLASS PHOTO
 (1) 8X10 SCHOOL PHOTO
 (4) 4X6 INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS
 PRINT READY DIGITAL FILES

PACKAGE 3 \$ 40
 Print ready digital files,
 including class and
 school

EXTRAS- Only available in addition to package

PRINT SHEET \$ 25
A4 sheet with multiple size images, designed to cut & share.
 _____ quantity

(1) 8X10 PRINT \$ 12
 _____ quantity

(1) 5X7 PRINT \$ 10
 _____ quantity

(4) 4X6 PRINTS \$ 10
 _____ quantity

SIBLING PHOTO \$ 28 PER FAMILY (4) 6 x 4 prints
 (2) 5x7 prints
*Families adding sibling photo, will receive one less school photo

STUDENT NAME	CLASS	PACKAGE	EXTRAS	TOTAL
SIBLING PHOTO \$28 PER FAMILY				

PAYMENT

- cash
 direct deposit

Account name- Lauren Anderson Photography
 BSB-733270
 Account-690089

Please use child's full name as reference

GRAND TOTAL

\$

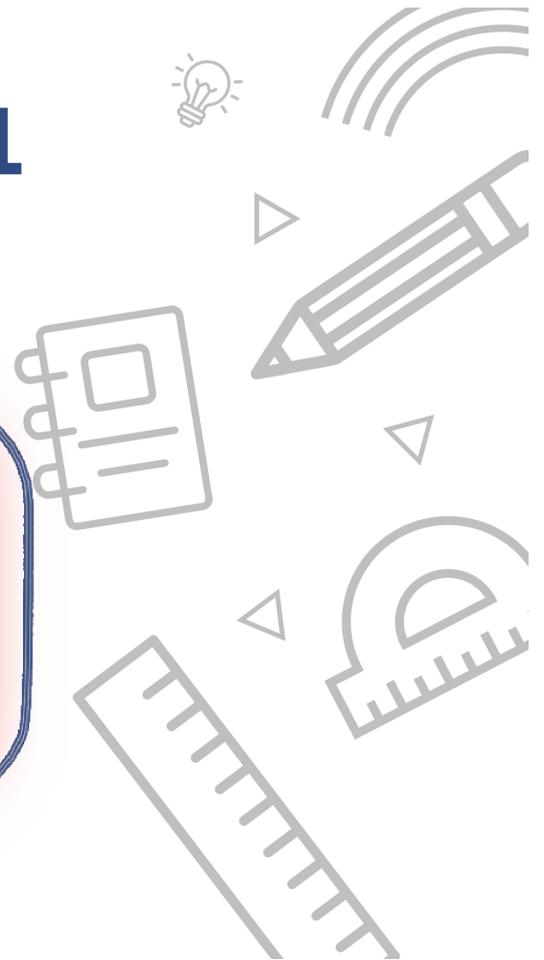
THANK YOU

METUNG PRIMARY SCHOOL PHOTOS - 2026

Photo date March 17th 2026



Please note: orders close 13th March



School Council Elections

Metung Primary School will hold its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 17th March 2026 at 5:15pm.

There are three School Council positions available.

School Council provides a valuable opportunity to learn more about how our school operates and to contribute to its future direction. Members are expected to attend eight meetings per year, each running for approximately 1.5 hours. This is a manageable commitment across the year and a meaningful way to support our school.

If you are interested in nominating or would like further information, please speak with Jim, Jo, Jacinta, or any current parent member, who will be happy to assist you.

Joining School Council is a wonderful way to become more involved in our wonderful school community.

HOME READING & AWARDS

AT-HOME READING

Metung Primary School values the importance of reading, and encourages students to read at home each night.

Each time students reach a series of 25 nights reading, they will receive a special award.

The more they read, the more awards they receive!

This has proven to be a very popular reading incentive for the children, with many records broken in the past.

Watch this space.....HAPPY READING EVERYONE!

25 Nights	50 Nights	75 Nights	100 Nights	125 Nights	150 Nights
Kaiabelle Jessica Mikayla Daisy Emily Aubren Sathi Chelsea Arnoux Ezra Olivia Rose Otis Halle					



Achievement Awards



To **Zaeli** for being a kind and friendly classmate who is making very good academic progress.

To **Ned** for being a happy and caring student who is demonstrating an excellent understanding of mathematical concepts introduced this year (e.g $6+4=10$ is the same as $4+6=10$).

To **Ezra** for exceptional work in writing, by planning a fractured fairytale.

To **Patricia** for amazing work in phonics.

To **Chelsea** for working hard in all areas, trying her best and sharing her ideas with others.

SCHOOL NOTICES



MARCH



BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE—AVAILABLE DURING SCHOOL TERMS

Before School Care is available from 7.45am-8.45am Mon-Fri.

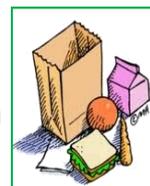
After School Care is available from 3.20pm-4.20pm Mon-Fri.

\$10.00 is charged for the first child per session, with each subsequent child charged \$5.00. A concession rate of \$5.00 per child, per session, is available to all valid concession card holders.

Please let us know in advance if your child will be attending.

SCHOOL LUNCH ORDERS

Lunch Orders are available to order from Metung Bakery or Aroma @ Metung on Fridays. Please place your child's lunch order either in person or online with each business.



METUNG PRIMARY SCHOOL BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS FOR DIRECT DEPOSITS.

Metung Primary School Official Account:

Commonwealth Bank

BSB - 063 000

Account # - 14182698

FAMILY OWNED BUSINESS
since 1966

**BLACK BALL & BASKET
MINI GOLF**

471 ESPLANADE, LAKES ENTRANCE 3909

PLAYERS WANTED!

Lakes Entrance
Netball Association

Net Set Go
Mondays 4-5pm

Under 13s & Under 11s
Mondays 5-6pm

Registrations:
<https://registration.netballconnect.com/login>

Kindergarten and Childcare places now available!

Looking for a gentle, supportive kindergarten or childcare setting in Lakes Entrance where your child is known, listened to and cared for?

Our programs include:

- Calm, spacious learning environments with plenty of room to move, explore and grow
- Outdoor and sensory play, including water, music, movement and hands-on discovery
- Coastal Kinder adventures and Esplanade excursions, connecting children with nature and community.

We welcome enquiries and are happy to give tours, discuss programs or answer any questions you might have.

5155 3946

childrenscentre@glch.org.au

GLCH Children's Centre: 45 Coates Road.
Gippsland Lakes Early Learning Centre: 44 Carpenter Street.