

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MAY 6th, 2026



**Growth.
Respect.
Inclusiveness.
Fun.**

MAY

Friday 8th

Mother's Day Stall
Do it for Dolly Day
Year 7 Enrolment Packs due back

Monday 11th

School Council Meeting
5:30pm

Tuesday 12th

Junior School swimming

Wednesday 13th

Grade 3-6 swimming

Friday 15th

Division Winter Sports @
Paynesville. Grade 5/6

Tuesday 19th

Junior School swimming

Wednesday 20th

Grade 3-6 swimming

Thursday 21st

F-2 Forge Theatre
Excursion

Friday 22nd

Walk to School Day
Open Morning 9:30-
11:00am

Monday 25th

Reconciliation Week

Tuesday 26th

National Sorry Day
Junior School swimming

Wednesday 27th

Grade 3-6 swimming

Curriculum Contributions – 2026

As we head into Term 2, we would like to advise families of the voluntary financial contributions that support your child's education in 2026. Government schools provide free instruction to meet standard curriculum requirements; however, voluntary contributions help us deliver additional resources and programs. In 2026, these include but not limited to:

- Classroom consumables
- Sports/Playground equipment
- Library books/readers
- Shared ICT devices

While voluntary, these contributions are essential in helping the school fund these items and maintain other important resources such as equipment, grounds, and additional programs. We greatly appreciate your support. Payments can be made at the office (cash) via Bpay, or by arranging a payment plan with office. For more information, please refer to the Parent Payments Policy on the school website.

Please note: Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) and School Saving Bonus (SSB) cannot be used for Curriculum Contributions.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Activities beyond the standard curriculum are provided on a user-pays basis. These include camps, excursions, incursions, and other specific activities. Payment is requested prior to each event. Payment plans are available—please contact the office if needed.

Attitudes to School Survey

Each year, students in Years 4, 5 and 6 have the opportunity to share their feedback through the Attitudes to School Survey.

This year, the survey will take place from 11–29 May. Students are invited to share their thoughts on their school experience and how we can continue to improve.

The survey is conducted by ORIMA, with results provided to the school as de-identified data. We value this important feedback and look forward to hearing students' perspectives on what is working well and where we can grow.

Do It for Dolly

This Friday we will be showing our support for Dolly Day by asking everyone to come to school dressed in blue.

Mother's Day Stall

Our annual Mother's Day Stall will be held once again this Friday. There is a range of carefully selected gifts on offer for \$6.00. Thank you to Jodie & Sally for all their planning & organising.



Division Cross Country

Yesterday seven of our very best endurance runners, Charlie S, Holly, Edie, Jessie, Flynn, Milla & Harriett represented the Mitchell Cluster and our school at the Division Cross Country held at Nagle College. The 2 and 3 kilometre courses were extremely challenging. All our competitors gave their personal best and conducted themselves with outstanding sportsmanship. Well done everyone!

Kind regards,
Sue Clague



We acknowledge the Gunai-Kurnai people the traditional owners for the land our school is built on. We pay our respects to the elders past, present and emerging and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



RECURRING EVENTS:

Breakfast Club:

Monday to Friday 8:30 – 9:00am

Lunch Orders:

Orders and payment into school or Nicholson General Store by Thursday morning. Friday is lunch order day

Early Learning Victoria

The Victorian Government is opening a new early learning and childcare centre near you in early 2027.

Early Learning Victoria Nicholson and District (interim name)

994 Princes Highway Nicholson 3882

Opening 2027

Early Learning Victoria centres

- Government-run, offering **high-quality early education and care**
- A place to **learn through play and connect with nature**
- Welcoming, **inclusive and part of the local community**
- Long day care and Free Kinder for three and four-year-olds
- **Co-located** with schools and community services.

Work with us

- Be part of the new Victorian government-run early learning and childcare centres
 - Foster children's development and wellbeing in our high-quality learning environments
 - Build your career with access to professional learning and development opportunities.
- Location incentives may apply



Learn more and enrol now
Scan the QR code or visit earlylearning.vic.gov.au/nicholson-and-district

Reading Awards

Happy Birthday!



Zealan, Hallie, Aspen, Charlie, Charlotte, Billy, Jodie, Ms Lyn Gamble, Mr. Beha & C.C



Classroom News

Foundation

What a busy start to Term 2! Congratulations to our Foundation students on their first school swimming lesson! We know it can be an anxious time, but they did a wonderful job.

In Phonics we have been learning some new sounds; m/d/g/o/c/k. We are building on what we already know to make new words using the new sounds. We are also learning some spelling rules, such as when to use c or k. We use c before a short vowel a/o/u, cat, cot, cut. We use k before a short vowel i/e Kim, Ken.

In reading we are practising segmenting and blending, building on our reading fluency.

In maths we are learning teen numbers. We know that teen means ten and some more. We are learning about place value, knowing that the 1 in 15 is actually 10 or 1 ten. We are using bundling to help us to understand this concept as it is a very tricky (and important) part of place value!



Grade 1/2

Another busy week has begun! Students have been developing their skills publishing their own 'Free Write' stories on the laptops. They have been so proud of their own abilities and learned to navigate their way around the keyboard increasingly more each day!

We have been exploring the Decodable Readers Australia website and doing our daily reviews of phonemes each day. We have also utilised the individual logins to have each student spend time working on their focus phonemes or revision phonemes as well.

During our reading of the 'Folk of the Faraway Tree', we have finally found out the real name of Mr Watzisname and it is... 'Kollamoolitoomarellipawkyrollo'! No wonder he was never able to remember his name!!

In Maths we are working on the strategies of counting on and doubling in our addition work this week. We are also using the daily reviews on Ochre to assist students to embed these skills into long term memory. All of the students did a brilliant job at the Lakes Entrance Aquadome for their first double lesson last week, it was great to see their confidence grow across the two sessions.

Grade 3/4

In Literacy, we have been learning that the letter c can make a /s/ sound (as in city), and g can make a /j/ sound (as in gem). We now understand that these softer sounds usually occur when the letters are followed by e, i, or y. We also discovered that there are some exceptions, such as girl and get, where g still makes its hard sound. Students have enjoyed spotting these patterns in their reading, especially when they find words that show both sounds, like circus!

We have also been working on recognising simple sentences. Students are learning to identify when a sentence is incomplete, discuss what is missing (such as a subject or a verb), and then turn sentence fragments into complete sentences.

In Maths, we have been putting our knowledge of "friends of ten" to good use by using it to help us bridge to ten when adding numbers. For example, $57 + 15$ can be solved as $57 + 3 + 12 = 72$.

Grade 5/6

In Literacy, our focus novel is Black Cockatoo, and we are learning to find the deeper message within stories and making connections to these stories. We are finding the difference between direct and indirect speech and learning how to change sentences to suit these purposes. In Maths we are building on our addition strategies, balancing equations and finding unknown values in worded problems in preparation for algebra. We would also like to congratulate our school leaders on the beautiful ANZAC ceremony they led in week 1. They spoke with reverence and did our school community proud.



NICHOLSON: Nicholson Primary School students who helped run the service, alongside Mr Petrovich and Light Horse members. (PS)

Courage and service

Nicholson Primary School held an ANZAC Day service at the school, with four students leading proceedings by reading the order of service and the *Ode*.

Guest speaker Peter Petrovich, president of the 13th Gippsland Light Horse,

spoke about the courage and service of the Light Horse contingent at Gallipoli and in France, and highlighted the contribution of East Gippsland locals who enlisted in 1915.

He also recounted the actions of Bairnsdale area

soldier Thomas Axford, who was awarded the Victoria Cross for his bravery in charging two machine gun posts and capturing 30 German prisoners.

The service concluded with students laying wreaths in remembrance.

SCHOOL SWIMMING





SCHOOL CONTACTS:

Phone: 03 5156 8220

Mobile: 0447 123 744

uEducateUs



Do you have the uEducateUs app yet? This free app allows our school community, teachers, and parents, to stay in touch. You will find all the newsletters in the app, as well as handy forms. You can even let the school know if your child is absent. It's free from both the Google Play Store and the App Store.



OPEN DAY

VISIT, TALK AND TOUR

Nicholson Primary School invites you to our open day for 2027 enrolments. Come and visit our school, talk to teachers and students and see what our little school has to offer. Enrolment packs will be available on the day.

THE DETAILS:

- Friday 22nd May 2026, 9:30am until 11:00am
- Children Welcome
- No booking necessary however, if you cannot make the date, feel free to book an alternate tour with us.

ENROL NOW FOR 2027

 51568220

 nicholson.ps@education.vic.gov.au



NEW! East Gippsland Shire Council

KINDERGARTEN CENTRAL REGISTRATION SERVICE

Is your child attending a funded 3- or 4-year-old kindergarten in 2027?

From April 2026, families can register for 3- or 4-year-old kindergarten through Council's Central Registration Service

Contact the Early Years Team:
 ✉ earlyyears@egipps.vic.gov.au ☎ 03) 5153 9500

Scan the QR Code

NEW! East Gippsland Shire Council

KINDERGARTEN CENTRAL REGISTRATION SERVICE

The Central Registration Service ensures the process of registration and enrolment is simple, consistent, inclusive and equitable. It provides a single point for families to register for multiple kindergarten services.

To allocate kindergarten places in line with the Department of Education's Priority of Access criteria.

First round offers open 1 April 2026 & close 30 June 2026. You can complete a pre-registration form at any time.

Scan the QR code or visit our website to complete an online registration form.

Register for kindergarten in 4 easy steps:

- 1. Register** - Family completes an online form
- 2. Allocate** - Council carefully reviews all registrations and allocates kindergarten places
- 3. Confirm** - Families receive a kindergarten offer
- 4. Enrol** - Families complete the child's enrolment directly with the kindergarten.

Contact the Early Years Team:
 ✉ earlyyears@egipps.vic.gov.au ☎ 03) 5153 9500

Scan the QR Code

LOCAL GIVE BACK

SCHOOL EDITION

We're proud to be giving back \$6,000 in grants to support our local community

VOTING
 OPEN: Mon, 9th Mar
 CLOSE: Thu, 30th Apr

Scan the QR code to vote and for a chance to win one of five \$100 gift cards*
*Terms and conditions apply

eastwoodvillageshoppingcentre.com.au

HIPPY

East Gippsland

HOME INTERACTION PROGRAM FOR PARENTS AND YOUNGSTERS

FREE PROGRAM

Are you living in the East Gippsland area & caring for a child who is turning three on or before the 30th of April 2026

for more information please contact
 Nikki 0403 692 639

Uniting

Are you a parent living in a rural or regional area? Take part in new research aiming to better support rural and regional families in Australia

Rural and regional life brings resilience, and real challenges.

- Families living in rural and regional areas can face unique stresses, from bushfires, droughts, and the ongoing threat of natural disasters
- We are inviting families with children aged 0-12 years to join important research aimed at strengthening family wellbeing and support in rural and regional communities

Scan the QR code or visit <https://lifespan.deakin.edu.au/our-research/project/family-foundations-trial> to find out more

Join us to shape better supports for rural and regional families

DEAKIN UNIVERSITY | DEAKIN LIFESPAN INSTITUTE
 Ethics Approval: RCH HREC Reference Number - 117878