



Toorloo Arm Primary School



NEWSLETTER

17th of February 2026

IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 1

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Week 4 Feb	16	17 Parent Teacher Conversations	18 No preps- testing Parent Teacher Conversations	19 Parent Teacher Conversations	20
Week 5 Feb	23	24	25 No preps- testing	26	27
Week 6 Mar	2	3	4	5	6
Week 7 Mar	9 Labor Day	10	11	12	13
Week 8 Mar	16 3-6 Swimming	17 3-6 Swimming	18 3-6 Swimming	19 3-6 Swimming	20 3-6 Swimming
Week 9 Mar	23 3-6 Swimming	24 3-6 Swimming	25 3-6 Swimming	26 3-6 Swimming	27 3-6 Swimming
Week 10 April	30	31	1	2 Early Finish	3 Good Friday

ONLINE BANKING - Account Name -Toorloo Arm Primary School Council
BSB 063 832 Acc No 1002 2188

Please include details – Surname and description e.g., Fees, uniform, camp etc.

 Compass and  Parents and Friends of Toorloo Arm Primary School

Principals Report

I hope everyone has had a good week and are managing to factor in some time to look after yourself.

Working with Vic Kids Eat Well

We're pleased to be partnering with *Vic Kids Eat Well* to strengthen healthy food options at our school and promote a positive food culture for our students.

Through this program, we will refine our approach to food to ensure healthy choices are accessible and aligned with guidelines. *Vic Kids Eat Well* also sets us on the right path toward Victorian Government recognition through the Achievement Program's Healthy Eating benchmark.

This work links closely with our focus on sustainability, with students learning about food sources, waste reduction and environmentally responsible choices.

We look forward to sharing our progress as we continue building healthy and sustainable habits together.

Attendance

Around week 4 of a new term the novelty of starting the year has started to wear off and the reality of getting up for school every day has started. This can sometimes mean that you are meet with resistance of coming to school which is perfectly normal. Often this is where patterns will start, and it is super important to get into the pattern of coming to school every day.

Regular school attendance makes a real difference to your child's learning, wellbeing and sense of belonging. Each day at school builds on the last — whether it's developing reading skills, strengthening number knowledge, or working collaboratively with classmates. When students miss school, they can miss important concepts, class discussions and opportunities to practise new skills.

Being at school every day also supports friendships and confidence. Routines help children feel settled, ready to learn and connected to their peers and teachers. Even occasional absences can add up over time and impact

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learning growth. We understand that children will sometimes be unwell, and those days at home are important for recovery. However, whenever possible, we encourage families to prioritise daily attendance and avoid scheduling holidays or appointments during school time. By working together to ensure students attend every day, we give them the very best opportunity to thrive, grow and achieve their personal best. If you are having trouble getting your child to school, please reach out as we are here to help and support.

Parent teacher chats

This week teachers will be available to have conversations with parents/carers and students around settling into classrooms for the new year. Please take this opportunity to help support your child as setting up the start of the year well is an important pre cursor to having a successful and happy year.

District Swimming

Good luck to all our swimming superstars this Thursday when they compete at the Orbost pool in the district competition. Try your best and have a great, we are all very proud of you for getting this far.

Parent Payment Contributions for 2026 set by school council are now being accepted. At Toorloo we provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum, and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary.

Nevertheless, the ongoing support of our families ensures that our school can offer the best possible education and support for our students.

Voluntary contributions can be paid online or in cash.

Bank details are:

Account Name -Toorloo Arm Primary School Council

BSB 063 832 Acc No 1002 2188

Please include your child's surname and a description of what is being paid for e.g. contributions.

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<i>Education items to use & own.</i> • exercise books • scissors, rulers • pens, pencils • highlighter, • pencil case etc	\$50.00
<i>Purchasing of supplies & resources.</i> • art & craft • science • maths • integrated studies • inquiry unit • rewards days	\$50.00
<i>Digital technology</i>	\$50.00
Total Amount	\$150.00

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Toorloo Arm Primary School offers a range of items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides in order to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

Below are this year's Camps:

Extra-Curricular Activities	Amount	Extra-Curricular Activities	Amount
Grade 1 Sleepover	\$ 30.00	Grade 3/4 Camp to Healesville	\$450
Grade 2 Camp in Lake Tyers Beach	\$150.00	Grade 5/6 Camp to Ballarat	\$600.00

These are approximate costs and may vary year to year

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**Financial Support for Families**

Toorloo Arm Primary School understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- the Camps, Sports, and Excursions Fund
- State Schools Relief (SSR)



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund help ensure that no student will miss the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational, and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's financial circumstances and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS and EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline, and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school excursions, camps, and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or support an out of home care student, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid directly to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is \$400 for all school students.

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- new student enrolments: your child has started or changed schools this year.
- changed family circumstances: such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:
<https://www.vic.gov.au/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund>



School preparations for the bushfire season

Each year, we undertake a range of activities to ensure the safety of our school and to prepare for bushfires and grassfires.

An important part of this process is communicating to parents what will happen when certain fire danger ratings are issued to help ensure the safety of students and staff.

Our school has been identified as being at risk of bushfire or grassfire and is a Category 3 school.

Our school will **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating** in **East Gippsland** fire district.

Closure of the school due to a Catastrophic fire danger rating will be enacted when the Bureau of Meteorology forecast and related public safety messaging are confirmed. Due to uncertainties in the



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forecast, the timing of this confirmation may vary. Information regarding potential or confirmed Catastrophic fire danger days will be communicated to you by the Parental Communication App **Compass**.

It is also important to be aware that:

- No one will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Catastrophic day.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days.
- All bus routes that travel through the Catastrophic area will be cancelled.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast for fire weather district in which the camp is located, or if the travel involves passing through areas that have Catastrophic fire danger.

As part of preparing our school for the fire season, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan and cleared our facility's grounds and gutters.

What can families and the school community do to help us prepare?

- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers.
- Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, checking Compass Updates and by talking to your child's teacher.
- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements if our school is closed due to Catastrophic fire danger. Further information can be found on the [CFA's website](#).
- Action your family's bushfire survival plan if your own triggers are met. Our school community may be spread out across many areas, and some families may be at higher risk than others. Your family's safety is critical, so please let us know if you are actioning your bushfire survival plan and if your children will be absent on these days.
- If your child is old enough, talk to [them about bushfires](#) and your family's bushfire survival plan.

Families are encouraged to action their [Bushfire Survival Plan](#) on Catastrophic fire danger rating days in their district. The safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Catastrophic day. **On such days, children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

You can find more information on emergencies, warnings and preparedness actions here:

- VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices.
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)
- Website <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>
- Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency>)
- Twitter (<https://twitter.com/vicemergency>)
- ABC local radio, Sky News, and other emergency broadcasters

Belated Thank you

Thank you so much to the **Jackson family** for accommodating our Bollywood Artist in Residence last year. We are so lucky to have such amazing families within our TAPS School Community.



Brekky Club 8.20am – 8:50am

If any parents would like to help out in the kitchen for brekky club, we would love to hear from you. Kids love having a new face helping out in Breaky club. Please see Miss Hopkins, Quita or Lisa if you would like to help. Have a wonderful week and enjoy the sunshine.

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**P12**

Welcome to week 4 of Term 1 P/1/2 families. A huge congratulations to our award winners this week. Miss Cock's class - **Poppie Mallen** for her readiness to learn, **Mackenzie O'Shea** for her participation in our big book reading and **Eliza Tiatia** receiving the kindness of the week award from Poppie Mallen for helping the preps in the class. 1/2 classroom - **Frankie Bolding** for being ready to learn, and **Jyeran Whitford** for his leadership and kindness during Winter Olympic events.

It has been a busy week in the junior area with the bracelet making wish list, science and team building jigsaws in Miss Cock's class.



In the 1/2 classroom, we are exploring chemical science by making sherbet.

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**Wednesdays**

Just a reminder that the Preps have Wednesdays off and have been allocated a specific time to come in to do a one-on-one session, focusing on the English and Math activities.

It is an opportunity that allows me to find their level of understanding and skills so I can create appropriate programs for their abilities.

This week we are looking at:

Reading:

- Students are revising and learning different reading strategies such as vocabulary, making inferences, questioning, summarising and reading aloud.
- Students are working within their spelling groups based on their needs.

Writing:

- Preps are starting to be brave and place pen to paper to write a recount of their weekend.
- 1/2's are revising their knowledge of conventions to place full stops and capital letters in the correct position in a short piece of text.
- 1/2's are learning to write a recount using correct time markers such as first, then, next and finally, to add detail and expand on their ideas, and to finish with how they felt about the experience they are recounting.
- Continued practice writing the 'who, what doing and where' components of a sentence for our preps and extending the 1/2's with 'when' and 'how'
- Handwriting s, a, t

Maths:

This week in maths, the P/1/2's are looking at gathering data, graphing and using digital programs to create their own graphs. Grade 2's are extending their understanding of graph types, choosing the most appropriate for their need, such as using a line graph to see trends or bar graphs to see popularity.

Integrated Studies

- Exploring different emotions and body language.
- Preps will be spending time with their grade 6's to find their buddies.

The P/1/2 crew will be decorating their Writers Notebooks this Friday and are invited to bring in photos that can be cut and pasted onto the coloured cover. Pictures can be brought into school or can be emailed to caitlin.jackson@education.vic.gov.au or naomi.cock@education.vic.gov.au for printing at school.

Have a great week,

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Miss Cock, Ms Jackson, Bree, Lindy, and Hunee.

34AB

Hello 3/4 Parents and Guardians

Students of the week are:

Halle Douglas: for the positive manner she approaches all learning tasks. Great job Halle!

Max Thompson: for the positive way he has approached mathematics to begin Term 1.

Harper Robertson: For making an effort to always do her best.

Casey Bills: For making an effort to always do his best.

Literacy

In reading we have launched our guided reading groups. Students this week will begin reading, discussing and asking questions about their given text. We are continuing to focus on the comprehension and vocabulary strategies: "summarise what you already know" and "use context clues to find word meaning." In writing students have planned and are beginning their narrative writing. They are using their ideas, brainstorming and skills learnt last week to assist in writing their story. In spelling we are introducing our spelling activities and the processes of our spelling program.

Mathematics

In Mathematics we are continuing our small maths groups and focusing on reading, writing, ordering and manipulating numbers. We have also begun our maths fluency activities, where students are practising quick number skills four times per week. These skills are about being accurate and efficient.

Good luck to Savannah and Jack at district swimming on Thursday.

Thank you

Carolyn Smith, Alec McPhee, Lisa, Hunee and Lindy

56AB

Hello families

Students of the week

5/6 A

Payton Angel for thinking deeply about characters including what they might be thinking and how the characters and events in the character's life relate to her own life.

Dartanyan Milner for taking risks with his writing, thinking more deeply about what 'two shoes' might be referring to and elaborating his ideas in a poem.

5/6 B

River Johnson for her great attitude to her learning last week. She is willing to give everything a go and put 100% effort into all she does. What a fantastic learner!

Fletcher Hindle for demonstrating the qualities of a good learner. He willingly takes on feedback and regularly refines his ideas to improve his work. Keep up the great work Fletcher.

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WOW! What an awesome opportunity the students had yesterday to learn about the dos and don'ts of swimming in the ocean. It was fabulous to see how enthusiastically the students who took up the opportunity participated in all activities and listened to the **Life Saving Victoria instructors**. We hope they brought home the key messages to share with their families.



We will be starting our Mentor Text '*Sister Heart*' this week. Students will be given the opportunity to record what they have learnt in the past week about the 'stolen generation', why Sally Morgan wrote this book, and to put themselves into the shoes of one of the characters in the book.

In writing last week students really worked to vary their 'sizzling starts', experimenting with dialogue, questions, statements and onomatopoeia (sounds like SPLASH!). This week are focusing on developing characters and setting in our writing.

The growth in decimal place value knowledge over the last two weeks has been pleasing. All students recognise that there are numbers less than one and are developing their understanding of 10ths, 100ths and 1000th - how to write them as fractions and decimals, convert between the two, read the numbers and order these numbers. Students should be feeling proud of their progress. This week we will be focusing on using the vertical algorithm to add and subtract multi-digit numbers with and without regrouping. Adding multiple numbers is a great activity to practise at home.

Our Grade 6/Prep buddy activities and the grade 5/grade 1 games continue to go well. It has been pleasing to see how considerate of the younger students the grade 5 and 6 students have been.

Please continue to encourage your child to read at home. This is a very important part of the curriculum and allows them to practise the strategies we are learning at school.

Have a great week,

Ali Mackie, Larissa Murray, Lizzy Haldane, Alyssa and Dee 😊

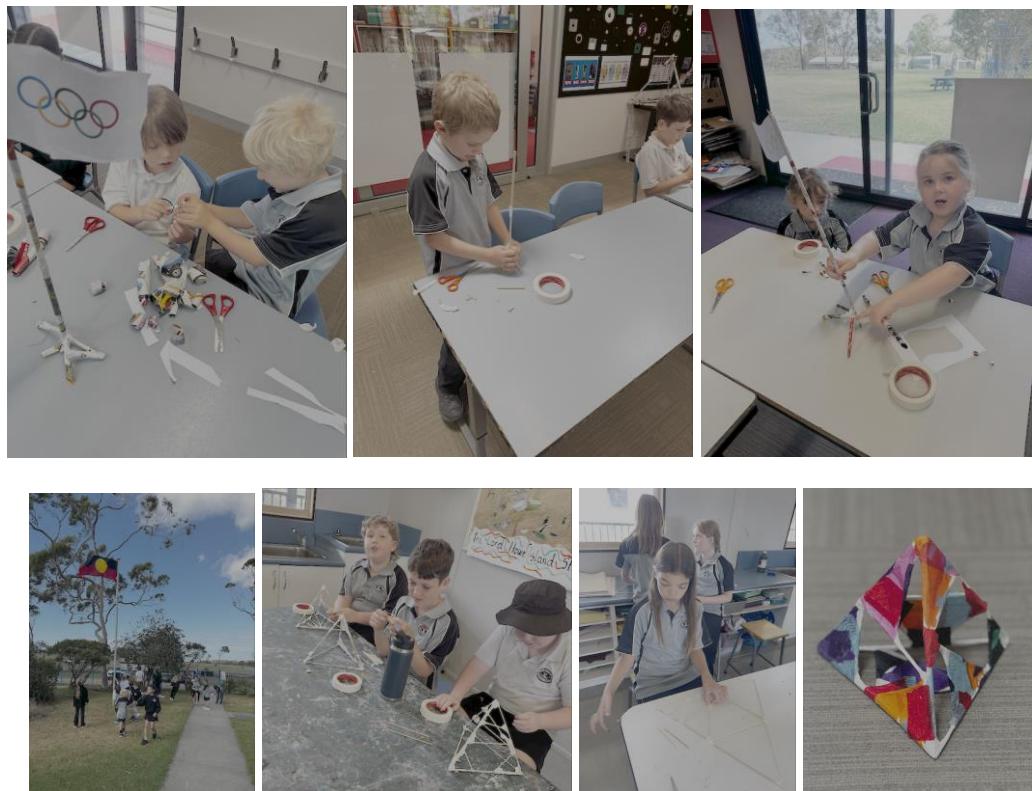
Art/Stem

This week students have had a chance to cross over skills from both STEM, Art and classroom activities –

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namely the Junior's Winter Olympic Games activities.



Jobi Laybourne.

Cultural Studies

SPORT AND PE NEWS

Students of the Week

Fraser Fotheringham: for being ready to learn and so careful of others in PE!

Nikiah James: for really challenging herself in the IN/OUT game and the parachute activity.

PE has been fun playing games where we are practicing being safe, switched on a listening to instructions and the whistle and working together for juniors.

Grade 3-6s have also focused on being ready to learn in PE-listening, focus, trying your best and playing fair in Minor Games. Well done everyone, it has been a fantastic start to the year!

Grade 5/6s started their swimming program yesterday with the LSV Open Water Swimming Clinic. Well done everyone who attended, very important information and it was fantastic to that ex TAPS student Kelsey Shegog working for LSV and was running the session with her 9 colleagues. Awesome role models!

District Swimming Carnival: ORBOST

Good luck to Team TAPS who are travelling to Orbost on Thursday February 19th at the Orbost Outdoor Pool. First event starts at 11:00 am. Thanks to **Clancy, Tess, Nicki and Alicia who** have offered to help out with transporting everyone to the event. Alicia is also a place judging, if you are going and don't mind helping out, please let us know to give her a break!

Notices are up on Compass for those students that have qualified, they must be filled in asap as we need to coordinate parent transport. See me if you have any concerns or questions about the interschool swimming carnivals.

Please don't hesitate to catch up with us if you have any concerns about your child's participation in PE, or if you are interested in connecting them up with sport in the community, we can usually you

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point in the right direction. Also, it would be great if your child wears runners and has a water bottle on PE days, so that participation is comfortable and safe, and of course, hats are compulsory this term.

Thanks,
Barb (SPORT COORDINATOR)

Important Sport dates for Term 1 2026

Thursday 19th Feb Eastern District Swimming Carnival Orbost pool
Monday 2nd March Division Swimming Carnival Sale
Monday 16th March-Friday 27th March Gr 3-6 Swimming Program Aquadome
Wednesday 1st April Cross Country Colour Run Whole School



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BREW BAR

on the ninety miles

583 Esplanade Lakes Entrance. Phone: 5155 3839

Sausage Roll \$5.50 Sauce .20

Spinach and Ricotta Roll \$5.50

Nacho's \$7.00

Corn chips, salsa, cheese, and sour cream

Add guacamole \$1.00

Spaghetti Bolognaise \$7.00

Toasties

Cheese \$5

Ham & Cheese \$6

Cheese & Tomato \$6

Chicken, Cheese and Mayo \$7

Extras .50c

Avocado \$1

Choice of High fibre white bread, Multigrain and Wholemeal

Pizza Muffins (2 pieces)

Ham & Cheese \$6

Roasted Capsicum & Olice \$6

Add pineapple .50c

Chicken Salad bowl \$8.00

Lettuce, tomato, carrot, cheese, cucumber, and Mayo

Add Egg \$1.00

Add Avo \$1.00

Chicken Strip Wrap \$4.00

Lettuce, Chicken, cheese, and Mayo

Side Salad \$3.00

Fruit and yoghurt cup \$5.00

Gluten Free Bread & Wraps available on request

Please have lunch orders in office by Thursday mornings. Late Orders cannot be guaranteed their choice.

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COMMUNITY CONVERSATION **about accessing service and** **support for families who support** **people with disability**

We'd like to talk with parents, carers and kinship carers of people with disabilities about what they need to connect to services to support the people they care for.

Please join us at:

10am-12.30pm on Thursday 5 March, 2026
Bairnsdale Community Hub, 27 Dalmahoy Street
to share your knowledge and ideas.

We will provide lunch and, if you aren't being paid by a workplace, we'll give you a voucher for \$100 to acknowledge the time and expertise you share with us.

For more information or to RSVP, contact:

Alisha Gilliland, Program Manager, 0455 021 138

email: alisha.gilliland@gippscasa.org

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HOOK in 2 HOCKEY
SWAN REACH HOCKEY CLUB

FIRST SESSION IS FREE! ALL EQUIPMENT PROVIDED!
Mondays 4.30-5.30pm from Feb 16 2026
WORLD Hockey Fields, 101 Wallace St, Bairnsdale
For more info: swanreachhockeyclub@hotmail.com
or contact Sarah 0439 312 962



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
Location: WORLD Precinct- 99 Wallace Street, Bairnsdale
Contact: Janet Parker at 0430 480 405

REGISTER TODAY!
On our Facebook page

Cost - \$100



INTRODUCTION TO COACHING WORKSHOP
Lakes Entrance Netball Association
Saturday 7 February 2026
9:00am - 11:00am
Lakes Entrance Recreation Reserve -1 Rowe St

Register using the QR Code



UMPIRES IN THE FIELD
INTRODUCTION TO UMPIRING
Lakes Entrance Netball Association
7 February 2026
1pm - 4pm
Lakes Entrance Recreation Reserve -1 Rowe St

Presented by Judi Buhagiar

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Cuppa Connections



Ever notice how a good cuppa tastes better when it's shared?

We're looking for friendly volunteers to join Cuppa Connections – a program all about connection, conversation and companionship.

As a volunteer, you'll pop by for a relaxed visit, sharing a cuppa and a chat with someone in need, in their home. They may be experiencing loneliness or social isolation, and this gives them an opportunity to feel seen, heard and valued. No tasks, no to-do lists – just being present, listening and enjoying some good company.

Visits are flexible, matched carefully, and often become the highlight of the week (for both people involved).

If you've got an hour a week to spare and enjoy a good conversation, we'd love to hear from you.

Call Karren our Volunteer Engagement Officer on 03 5150 9388 to find out more.



**FREE EVENT
8 MARCH
2026**
LAKES ENTRANCE
FORESHORE RESERVE
11AM - 8PM

HOOKED ON LAKES
SEAFOOD & FISHING FESTIVAL

**COOKING DEMOS
LEFCOL TOURS
FISHING AND CASTING CLINICS
AQUACULTURE HUB
FISHING GEAR SWAP MEET
FISH DISSECTION DEMOS
KIDS ACTIVITIES ZONE
SPIN TO WIN – FREE GIVEAWAYS**

**FREE CONCERT 2.30PM-8PM
HEADLINE ACT - PIERCE BROTHERS 6.30PM**

**MARKET STALLS
LOCAL MUSIC
FOOD TRUCKS**

Go Fishing Victoria
More people fishing, more often

@loveeastgippsland

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Nagle Catholic College is an active and proud faith-led learning community that provides a rich holistic education to the young people of East Gippsland.

DISCOVER NAGLE YEAR 7 INFORMATION EVENING

We welcome you and your family to discover firsthand what makes our College community so special - from our welcoming learning spaces to the natural beauty that surrounds us.



**SCAN HERE
TO BOOK**

There are 3 information sessions, followed by the opportunity to explore our our campus:

Wednesday 25 March
4.00pm, 4.45pm & 5.30pm

Sessions are limited.
Bookings essential.



ENROLMENTS ARE NOW OPEN YEAR 7 2027



APPLY TODAY

Enrolment Applications are now open for families seeking to join the **Nagle Catholic College** community for Year 7 in 2027.

To assist with timely processing, please ensure required documents are provided at time of application.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE FRIDAY 18 MAY 2026

For further information, visit our website: www.nagle.vic.edu.au

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