



GAAYIP-YAGILA
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ph: 03 9216 3200 | www.gypps.vic.edu.au | Email: gaayip-yagila@gypps.vic.edu.au

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 19th 2026 | VOL 6. ISSUE 3

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

It has been a vibrant and engaging few weeks at Gaayip-Yagila, with many opportunities for our students to connect, participate and demonstrate our school expectations of Excellence, Respect, Kindness and Collaboration in action.

Recently, we conducted our first emergency evacuation drill for the year to ensure our students and staff are well prepared in the event of an emergency. These drills are an important part of the Department of Education's Emergency Management requirements and are conducted each term to support readiness in real-life situations. The scenario required students to evacuate to the oval, and we were very pleased with how calmly and efficiently this was carried out. Students demonstrated excellent levels of responsibility and collaboration, and all were accounted for in a timely manner.



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LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL CONT.....

We have received one nomination to fill our 2026 School Council vacancies. School Council plays an important role in shaping the direction of our school and provides a valuable opportunity for parents to contribute to decision-making and support our community. There is still a further vacancy to be filled. If you are interested in getting involved, I warmly encourage you to contact me to express your interest. I will be sharing our Annual Report to the School Community at our meeting next week.

Our Foundation students enjoyed their Teddy Bears' Picnic to celebrate the introduction of the letter 't' and share their transition into school life with families. It was lovely to see our youngest learners building friendships, showing kindness towards one another and growing in confidence within their new environment.

Year 3 and 5 students approached NAPLAN with a calm and positive mindset. They demonstrated a commitment to excellence and should be proud of the way they engaged in the process. We are finalising our 'catch up' sessions for any students who were absent during the testing period.

Our student leaders continue to demonstrate collaboration and pride in our school. Following their recent Leadership Day, they have been actively contributing to school life, including supporting the planting of new seedlings in our Nature Walk space - an example of their commitment to caring for our environment and community.

A highlight of the term has been our Colour Run, which brought a sense of fun, connection and celebration across our school. With links to Holi, it was wonderful to see students embracing the experience with such enthusiasm. Thank you to Miss Watson and the PE team for their organisation, and to our community for your support in raising funds that will go toward subsidising each of our performances this year. It was wonderful to see parents attend and support students on the day. Prizes are expected to arrive early next term.

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL CONT.....

This morning there was a great sense of energy around the school with Ride to School Day, followed by a healthy breakfast. It was fantastic to see so many students and families actively involved, making positive choices for their health and wellbeing. Thank you to our PE and Breakfast Club team for supporting this important initiative.

We also congratulate Grace B, Daniel B and Zoe L for representing our school at the Regional Swimming Carnival today. This is a fantastic achievement, and we look forward to sharing their results.

Looking ahead, there are plenty more events to look forward to, and we are excited to continue sharing these moments with our school community. We look toward celebrating Harmony Day tomorrow. As advertised, this year students are invited to wear a touch of orange as a symbol of inclusion, respect and belonging - values that sit at the heart of our school community. We will finish the term with our Hat / Easter Bonnet Parade on Thursday 2nd April.

Finally, we extend our warm wishes to those in our community who are celebrating the end of Ramadan over the coming days.

Kind Regards

Cassy Hoggins

INDUSTRIAL ACTION

TUESDAY 24TH MARCH

The Australian Education Union has called on its members to take strike action on Tuesday 24 March 2026. The current direction being provided is that any staff who will be undertaking stop work action have until 5.00pm Friday 20 March 2026 to notify the Principal of their intentions.

We can infer that our school will NOT be able to provide full supervision for all students on this day. As a consequence, families will be advised by 2.00pm Monday 23 March 2026 as to the impact on the school program and the classes that will not be in attendance.

If this will cause you difficulties, in particular if you are a critical services worker, you will be asked to contact the school.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.



2026 CALENDAR

Term 1

Harmony Day	Friday 20th March 2026
Y6 Summer Sport – R6	Friday 27th March 2026
School Cross Country	Wednesday 1st April 2026
Hat Parade	Thursday 2nd April 2026
Assembly – End Term 1	Thursday 2nd April 2026 @1.30pm
Last day of Term	Thursday 2nd April 2026 @2.10pm

Term 2

ANZAC Assembly	Friday 24 th April 2026
Year 6 Winter Sport - Round 1	Friday 1 st May 2026
Mothers Day Event	Thursday 7 th May 2026
Cross Country - Craigieburn	Friday 8 th May 2026
Assembly	Monday 11 th May 2026 @ 2:30pm
Sustainability - Nude Food Day	Wednesday 13 th May 2026
Year 6 Winter Sport - Round 2	Friday 15 th May 2026
Whole School Photos	Monday 18th and Tuesday 19 th May 2026
Maths Mania Evening	Monday 18 th May 2026
PUPIL FREE DAY	Friday 22nd May 2026
Swimming - Year 4	Monday 25 th May - Friday 29 th May 2026
Swimming - Year 3	Monday 1 st June - Friday 5 th June 2026
Foundation Incursion	Tuesday 2 nd June 2026

ASSEMBLY DATES 2026

We warmly invite families to join us at our upcoming school assemblies. Assemblies provide an opportunity to come together as a community to celebrate student achievements, share important information and acknowledge the learning taking place across our school. Family attendance helps strengthen our sense of connection and reinforces the importance of celebrating student success together.

We hold three assemblies each term: two during the term and a final assembly that reflects on and celebrates our achievements for the term. Details of the dates and times for each assembly across the year are outlined below.

We look forward to welcoming families to our assemblies throughout the year.

Term 1

Thursday 2nd April - End of term 1:30pm

Term 2

Monday 11th May - 2:30pm

Monday 15th June - 2:30pm

Friday 26th June - End of term 1:30pm

Term 3

Monday 3rd August - 2:30pm

Monday 31st August - 2:30pm

Friday 18th September - End of term 1:30pm

Term 4

Monday 26th October - 2:30pm

Monday 23rd November - 2:30pm

Thursday 17th December - End of Year 2:30pm

Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy

This policy outlines the shared roles of parents, carers and school staff in creating a positive environment for learning.

RESPECTFUL BEHAVIOURS WITHIN THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY POLICY

At Gaayip-Yagila Primary School, we are committed to fostering a supportive, respectful, and inclusive community. Creating a positive school culture is a shared responsibility between parents, carers, and staff, ensuring that all interactions - whether with students or adults - are grounded in respect and kindness.

The Department of Education and Training has a policy that outlines clear expectations for behaviour within Victorian school communities. This policy promotes a safe and inclusive environment for students, staff, and families by setting standards for positive and respectful conduct.

These expectations apply across all school settings, including at school, on camps and excursions, during school events, and in online spaces. This also extends to communication via phone calls, emails, messaging platforms (such as WhatsApp), and social media channels like TikTok and Facebook.

We encourage all members of our school community to uphold our values of respect, kindness, and collaboration in every interaction, ensuring Gaayip-Yagila Primary School remains a welcoming and supportive environment for all.

BELONGING AT GAAYIP-YAGILA PS

Harmony Week & International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

At Gaayip-Yagila Primary School, we are proud of our diverse community and are committed to creating a safe and inclusive environment where every student feels a strong sense of belonging. This day provides an opportunity for students to learn about fairness, empathy and the importance of treating others with kindness and respect.

This week, we celebrate Harmony Week, as well as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. It is a time to recognise and celebrate the rich cultural diversity within our community, while also reinforcing the importance of respect, inclusion and standing against racism. International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination is celebrated on Saturday 21st March 2026.

Tomorrow, Friday 20th March, we celebrate Harmony Day where we will celebrate all the amazing cultures that make our school great. Come dressed in a touch of orange as a symbol of inclusion and belonging to support the day.

A few fun facts about our 2026 community at Gaayip-Yagila Primary School:

- 188 of our students were born overseas
- 63% of our students speak a language other than English
- 34 languages are spoken in our school
- 2% of students are indigenous
- 42% of parents were born in India



SAFE PARKING AND DROP OFF AROUND OUR SCHOOL

The City of Hume is aware of concerning driver behaviour at school drop off and pick up times in the streets around our school. Please note that in the coming weeks the City of Hume will be undertaking regular patrols to ensure parking compliance outside of the school. Any breaches observed, will be enforced and parents will receive fines in the mail.

This is to help ensure the safety of students and staff and the broader school community. We encourage all road users to ensure that they adhere to the law to maintain the ongoing safety of everyone involved.

Remember that it is dangerous to allow your child walk across the road and not use the designated school crossing or to double park and let your child exit the car out on the street.

It is also helpful to keep moving if there is not a park where you want one. It is likely that there may be a park further up the street or around the corner. Stopping unnecessarily causes congestion and frustration for other road users while also impacting on the safety of our student crossing the road when cars stop for lengthy periods and wait for others to move on.



Celebration Our School Sustainability Certificate

We have achieved our first Resource smart school star.

Our sustainability student leadership group along with staff have worked hard to build their knowledge of sustainability, understanding our school's biodiversity and developing our new sustainability policies. We have worked hard and finally achieved our first star.

Our next goal is to work on our 'WASTE'. We will work towards a waste action plan to combat any wastage across our school.

Families can help us by activity participating in our NUDE FOOD DAYS and sending as little packaging to school in lunchboxes as possible.





Gaayip- Yagila Primary school's sustainability student leadership group are working towards the fundraiser for our school, through the Victorian deposit container scheme. The funds will be used to develop our whole school sustainability learning and improve our garden areas around the school.

Here's how you can help...

1. Download the app and choose the [charity](#) that is Gaayip- Yagila Primary school

CDS VIC (WEST ZONE) - APP

Everything you need to make your change, all in one place

The CDS Vic West Zone app is the rewarding way to recycle your bottles and cans for 10 cents each. You can receive a digital payment straight to your bank account, track how much you earn or donate your refunds – all through the CDS Vic West Zone app. It makes recycling more convenient and rewarding than ever before.

Simply scan your app barcode and start returning eligible containers to watch your earnings grow. You can directly transfer your earnings into your bank account or PayPal, store digital vouchers to redeem for cash or purchases at your nearest supermarket, or you can donate to charity.

Making change has never been easier – download the CDS Vic West Zone app below:



2. Collect 10c eligible containers

Eligible ✓

- ✓ Aluminium cans
- ✓ Plastic bottles
- ✓ Glass bottles
- ✓ Paperboard cartons (under 1L)
- ✓ Steel bottles/cans

Most beverage containers (between 150mL and 3L) made from aluminium, glass, plastic, steel and liquid paperboard are eligible.

Ineligible ✗

- ✗ Wine and spirit bottles
- ✗ Milk containers
- ✗ Paperboard cartons (over 1L)
- ✗ Cordial bottles

Don't throw these out! Ineligible containers may still be accepted in your kerbside recycling bin.

3. Deposit at a collection centre or station or **BRING THEM TO SCHOOL**



If you are not collecting the 10c containers for your household, please donate them to our school.

Craigieburn Plaza
 10 Craigieburn Road, Craigieburn, VIC 3064
 Open now until 8:00pm
 Reverse Vending Machine (RVM)

Craigieburn Central
 340 Craigieburn Road, Craigieburn, VIC 3064
 Open now until 9:00pm
 Reverse Vending Machine (RVM)

West Zone - Operated by Tomra Cleanaway

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CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

The department administers the CSEF to help eligible families with the costs of camps, sporting activities and excursions/incursions.

From 1 January 2026, families eligible for CSEF will see an increase in support to \$400 for primary and secondary school children.

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) provides payments for eligible students to attend activities such as:

- school camps/trips
- swimming extension activities and other school-organised sport programs
- outdoor education programs
- excursions/incursions that are extracurricular
- graduations/valedictories.

Eligibility for the CSEF

Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. A special consideration category also exists. Schools can receive applications from families by 26 June 2026.

Families can list more than one student in the one application form if they are attending the same school.

Submitting an application

A parent/carer will only be required to submit an application form to the school in the following circumstances:

- the parent/carer is applying for the CSEF payment for the first time – i.e. an application form was not lodged with the school in the previous year, or
- circumstances have changed – for example, there has been a change in the care arrangement of the student, a change of name or CRN, or a new sibling has started at the school and the parent/carer wishes to apply for the CSEF payment for the new sibling also.

Please see the office to complete a form.

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 helps ensure that no student will miss out on 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>



Be Amazed

#BEASCOUT



Scouts
VICTORIA

3 WEEK FREE TRIAL

1st Craigieburn Scouts
Join Scouts Today!

Book Your Free Trial
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Joey Scouts (5-8 years)
Wednesday or Thursday 5.30pm to 6.30pm
Cub Scouts (8-11 years)
Monday or Tuesday 6.00pm to 7.30pm
Scouts (11-15 years)
Wednesday 7.00pm to 9.00pm
Venturer Scouts (15-18 years)
Monday 7.45pm to 9.30pm

Email: gl.1stcraigieburn@scoutsvictoria.com.au

Hume City Council and the
Hume Interfaith Network



Harmony Week Interfaith Sports Day 2026

**Join the Hume Interfaith Network to
celebrate harmony through sport.**

This is a free community event with BBQ.

All ages and abilities welcome.

This is a smoke and alcohol-free event.

Saturday 28 March 2026

12pm – 3pm

Kalkallo Recreation Reserve

45 Toyon Rd, Kalkallo

REGISTER HERE



Event supported by Hume Bombers Football Club Kalkallo

For more information, contact: Celia Chang, Multicultural
Community Development Officer on 0477 177 920 or
celiach@hume.vic.gov.au





FREE
ENTRY &
PARKING

BRIDGEWATER LAKE
RETIREMENT ESTATE
by benetas

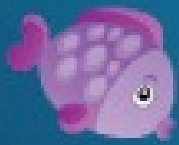
Easter Craft Market + Vintage Car Show

SATURDAY 28 MARCH 2026
9.00 AM - 2.00 PM

9 Wedgewood Road, Roxburgh Park

Includes Car Show, Devonshire Teas,
Facepainting, Easter Egg Hunt (11.00am),
Fun Easter Games/Craft for kids and more!

NO RSVP REQUIRED. NEW STALL HOLDERS WELCOME.
CALL HAYLEY DIXON FOR MORE INFORMATION ON 03 9303 9555

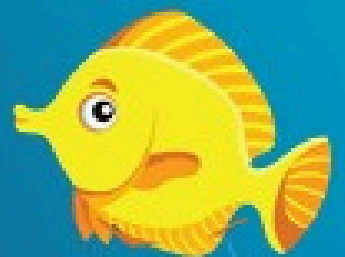


SWIM SCHOOL HOLIDAY INTENSIVE PROGRAM

For all ages 3 years and above

5 day intensive swim program

Enquire at reception or via the portal



BOOK NOW



COME & TRY CALISTHENICS



FIRST TWO CLASSES FREE FOR NEW MEMBERS!

CALLING THOSE AGED 3-10 LOOKING TO TRY
SOMETHING NEW IN 2026!

COME AND TRY CALISTHENICS AT RAIEBURN, WHERE TEAMWORK, FUN
AND FRIENDSHIP IS AT THE HEART OF EVERYTHING WE DO. LEARN TO
DANCE, SING AND BUILD CONFIDENCE ALL WHILE MAKING NEW FRIENDS
IN A FUN, SUPPORTIVE AND NURTURING ENVIRONMENT

Dance

Sing

*Build
Confidence*

CLASS TIME

TINIES (AGES 3-7) - WEDNESDAY 4:45-6:15PM
CRAIGIEBURN SOUTH PRIMARY
SUBBIES (AGES 8-10) - THURSDAY 5-7PM
CRAIGIEBURN COMMUNITY HALL

CONTACT

raieburn@hotmail.com

