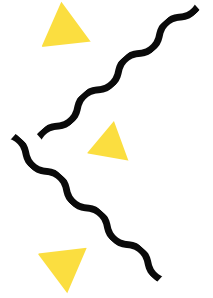


GAAYIP-YAGILA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



THE LATEST EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR
OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

Welcome to Term 4, Week 8! With just over three weeks remaining in the school year, there is a wonderful sense of excitement and energy across Gaayip-Yagila Primary School as we head into our final events and celebrations.

Over the past two weeks, our Foundation and Year 1 students have been participating in swimming, trialling Paul Sadler Swimland for the first time. It has been fantastic to see our youngest learners growing in confidence and developing important water-safety skills. We appreciate the positive feedback from families and thank our staff for supporting the program. Thanks to Jake Layley for organising our swimming program throughout the year.

Next week, we are looking forward to our Dance Showcase on Thursday 4th December at 5.00pm. This is always a highlight of the year, and with the weather looking lovely, it promises to be a wonderful community event. Please see further details in today's newsletter.

Coming Together To Learn

Letter from the Principal cont...

As we continue our end-of-year celebrations, here are some upcoming events to note:

- *Transition Morning – Tuesday 9th December*
- *Kaboom Sports – Years 1 and 2*
- *Wonderful Winter – Foundation*
- *Year 6 Celebrations and Farewell Events*

Thank you for your ongoing support as we move into these final weeks of Term 4. We look forward seeing many of our families and celebrating the achievements and growth of our students as the school year draws to a close.

Kind Regards

Cassy Hoggins

Coming Together To Learn

Kinect2Dance Program

Showcase Thursday 4th December

5pm – 7pm

A reminder to mark your calendars for Thursday, 4th December, from 5:00 pm to 7.00pm. Our Kinect2Dance Showcase is just around the corner, and the excitement among our students is growing! With each rehearsal it is incredible to see our students' growth and confidence shine. Kyle, our fantastic dance instructor, continues to inspire and motivate students with each practice.

Students are encouraged to wear black shorts or pants and a white top as their performance costume, with the option to add a touch of Christmas festivity to their look!

We encourage parents to bring a deck chair, throw out a rug, and pack a picnic to enjoy the evening comfortably. Our canteen will be open, and there will be a sausage sizzle and an ice cream van on site for refreshments. We will also be selling the last of our snake in the egg and dragon fidgets from the Art Show.

This showcase is not only a celebration of the students' hard work and creativity but also a wonderful way to come together as a community to end an incredible school year. Thank you to everyone for helping make this event possible—we can't wait to share this joyful evening with you all!

Please note the school canteen will be open from 4:30pm - 7pm (unless sold out)

Coming Together To Learn

Join us for an afternoon of fun and dance

END OF YEAR CELEBRATION

Dance Showcase



Food Available

- ✓ Sausage Sizzle
- ✓ Canteen
- ✓ Ice-cream
- ✓ Drinks

Thursday 4th December
5.00 - 7.00pm

Bring along a chair
and picnic rug

Students must be supervised by an adult

Excellence Awards

	Student (class)	For...
Foundation	Lexther Alex-Mulipola (FF)	For STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE with a positive attitude towards writing and trying his best.
Year 1	Raavi Gill (1E)	For consistently showing a positive attitude towards learning and confidently embracing challenges.
Year 2	Aisha Brown (2I)	For demonstrating EXCELLENCE in writing, including the use of rhetorical questions, conjunctions and paragraphs in her persuasive texts.
Year 3	Mason Valasinavicius (3A)	For demonstrating EXCELLENCE by making huge growth in his letter sound knowledge this year and sharing his growing belief in himself to read out aloud.
Year 4	Mia Kumar (4B)	For showing EXCELLENCE in Literacy.
Year 5	Zimal Majid (5D)	For STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE when working independently and always completing her work to a high standard.
Year 6	Manny Taupau (6D)	For displaying EXCELLENCE by having a high work ethic that is reflected in the quality of his work.



Coming Together To Learn

Wellbeing Awards

	Student	For...
Foundation	Manoa Sang Yum (FA)	For always demonstrating KINDNESS towards others by willingly helping others when in need
Year 1	Amy Choo Koon (1E)	For consistently showing KINDNESS and RESPECT to teachers and students.
Year 2	Alisha Batra (2C)	For demonstrating KINDNESS and always helping other students work.
Year 3	Sara Asolua (3E)	For always showing the school expectations of KINDNESS and COLLABORATION by helping others and contributing positively to the classroom community.
Year 4	Ria Gupta (4F)	For always showing our expectation of KINDNESS by helping others when they find a task tricky.
Year 5	Simon Khaniya (5C)	For always showing KINDNESS to his peers and making sure they feel included.
Year 6	Matilda Lucca (6E)	For being KIND and checking in with her peers to be a supportive friend.



Coming Together To Learn

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TERM 4

Date	Event
Tuesday 2 nd December	Kinect 2 Dance
Wednesday 3 rd December	Foundation Wonderful Winter Incursion
Thursday 4 th December	Kinect 2 Dance SHOWCASE - 5pm - 7:00pm
Wednesday 10 th December	Year 1 and 2 Kaboom Sport
Monday 15 th December	Year 6 - Graduation
Wednesday 17 th December	Year 6 - Luna Park
Thursday 18 th December	FINAL Assembly 2025 - 2:30pm
Friday 19 th December	Last day of term - 1.00pm finish



Coming Together To Learn

Student Leadership 2026

Student leadership is an important part of who we are at Gaayip-Yagila Primary School, and we are proud to provide opportunities for our students to grow, lead and represent our school community.

We are excited to announce the 2026 School Captains and Vice Captains. Over the past few weeks, our Year 5 students have participated in a thorough leadership selection process, which included written applications, shortlisting, and formal interviews. We were incredibly impressed with the maturity, confidence and passion demonstrated by applicants. After careful consideration, we are proud to introduce our two School Captains: Austin McDonald and Amrose Hundal, and two Vice Captains: Hukmeh Brar and Unnati Upreti, who will represent our student community and lead with respect, responsibility and integrity in the year ahead.

Further student leadership opportunities will also be available in 2026. Information about representatives for Student V.O.I.C.E, House Captains, Art Captain, Sustainability Leaders, and Play Leaders will be shared in the future. We remain committed to offering a wide range of leadership pathways so every student has the chance to contribute, develop their strengths and make a positive impact within our school community.

We look forward to seeing our student leaders shine in 2026 and continue shaping our school with pride and purpose.



Coming Together To Learn

Assistant Principal Curriculum Update

Scholastic Book Fair is Coming!

We're excited to share that our Scholastic Book Fair is just around the corner! This is a wonderful opportunity for students to explore new books, build their home libraries and celebrate a love of reading.

During school time, all students will visit the Book Fair and create their own wish lists. These lists will be sent home so families can look through the options together.

Families can purchase items in two simple ways:

Option 1: Pre-Payment Online

Based on your child's wish list, complete the Scholastic Book Fair Pre-Payment Form online and return the confirmation to school. Once received, we will organise for your child to collect the books they've chosen.

Option 2: Visit the Fair In Person

The Book Fair will be open for cash and card purchases on

Thursday 4 December, from 4:00pm - 6:30pm

This is the same evening as our Whole School Dance Showcase, so while you're onsite, pop into the library and browse the wonderful range of books on offer!

Important Reminder

Please do not send any cash or credit card details to school with your child. We cannot accept cash purchases from children directly, and we want to ensure all payments are handled safely by adults.

The Book Fair is always a highlight for our students—and every purchase helps support our school's reading resources. We look forward to seeing you there!

Coming Together To Learn



You're invited to our SCHOLASTIC Book Fair



OCEAN ADVENTURE
Mr Luke's class opened a magic book and found themselves under the sea!
100144570 | HB PICTUREBOOK | AGES 3+

\$10



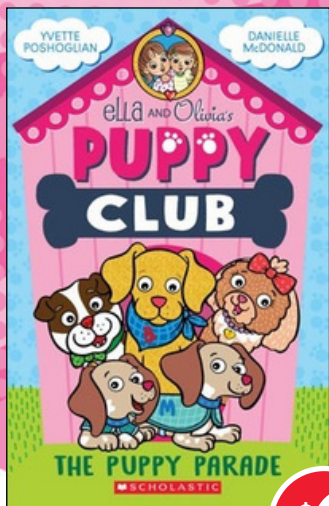
TWO CRANKY BEARS
Can two cranky bears learn to share?
100144522 | HB PICTUREBOOK | AGES 3+

\$10



WOMBAT
A funny look into the life of a wombat.
100141320 | PB PICTUREBOOK | AGES 3+

SPECIAL VALUE \$6



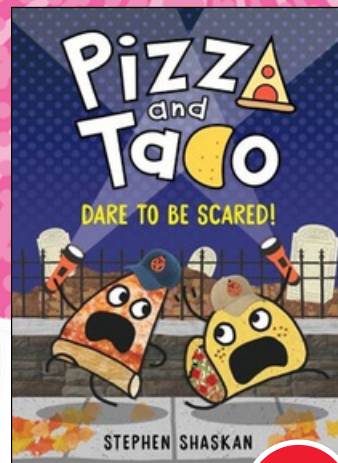
THE PUPPY PARADE
A new series all about Ella and Olivia's puppy, Bob.
100144370 | CHAPTERBOOK | AGES 5+

\$6



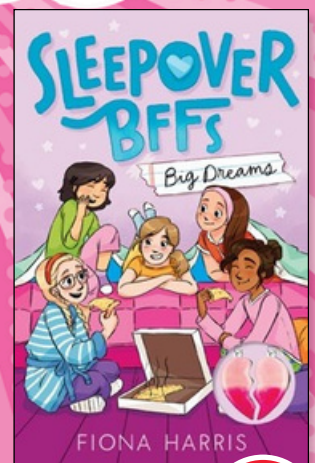
NINJA SUPERSTARS!
Can Ninja Girl and Karate Kitten save the town from evil lizards?
100145003 | CHAPTERBOOK | AGES 7+

\$10



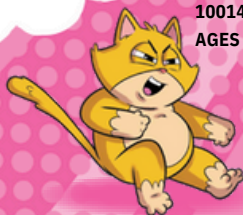
DARE TO BE SCARED!
Pizza and Taco go ghost pepper hunting!
100145054 | GRAPHIC NOVEL | AGES 6+

\$10



SLEEPOVER BFFS: BIG DREAMS
These BFFs make a business out of planning sleepover parties for people!
100145640 | PB NOVEL | AGES 9+

\$10



EVERY DOLLAR EQUALS RESOURCES FOR OUR SCHOOL



Date _____ Time _____

Place _____

Scholastic Book Fair Pre-Payment

Your child's school is having a Scholastic Book Fair. Your child will bring home their wish list of titles they have discovered at the Fair. We encourage you to **discuss the Book Fair and their wish list choices with your child**. Once you have agreed which items you will purchase you can **pre-pay for those titles** by completing the following steps.

- 1** List the titles they are going to purchase from the fair.

Title	Price

- 2** Make a secure payment online by going to scholastic.com.au/payment or scanning the barcode below.*



* Please note a surcharge of 1% on all card payments.

Book Fair Payment

- 3** Complete the Payment Form including the receipt number and amount paid. This form needs to be returned to the school.

Receipt Number	Amount Paid
<input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
First Name: _____	
Surname: _____	
School: _____	
Suburb/State: _____	
Daytime Tel: _____	

THIS IS JUST A PRE-PAYMENT.
THIS FORM MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE SCHOOL DURING THE FAIR TO COLLECT YOUR BOOKS



Every **BOOK** equals **RESOURCES** for our school.



SECRET KEEPER

Nell and Eden have been best friends forever, but will a new girl and a secret come between them?

100144371 | PBNovel | AGES10+

\$12



DANGER ROAD

Two brothers try to solve a cold case murder mystery in their small town.

100145280 | PBNovel | AGES10+

\$13



BESTIES CANDYDIARY

Packed with activities for you and your BFF. Includes 2 gummi bear BFF necklaces.

100141770 | Activitybook | AGES8+

\$18

NS:100142171

St Andrew's Day – 30th November 2025

St Andrew's Day is a special celebration in Scotland, held every year on 30 November. It honours St Andrew, who has been Scotland's patron saint for more than 700 years. He is also an important figure in several other countries, including Romania, Greece, Russia, Ukraine and Poland.

People celebrate with traditional food, music, dancing and storytelling. It is a lovely time to learn about Scottish culture and the values of kindness and generosity that St Andrew is known for.

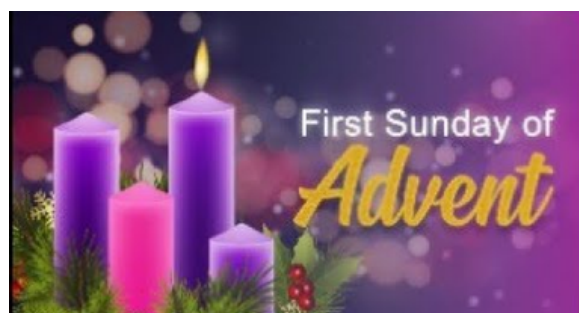


First Sunday of Advent – 30th November 2025

For many Christians around the world, the First Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of the Christmas season. Families and churches often light a candle, display an Advent wreath, or take part in special ceremonies.

Advent is a time of reflection and hope, focusing on themes such as peace, joy, love and looking forward to Christmas.

At Gaayip-Yagila Primary School, we value and celebrate the many cultures and traditions that make up our wonderful community. Sharing these celebrations helps our students build understanding, respect and a sense of belonging - no matter what culture or faith they come from.



Planning for 2026

At present, we are planning for approximately 1045 students across 48 classes in 2026. Our student numbers are seeing a manageable increase. In 2026, we anticipate having the following class structure:

- Foundation (seven classes)
- Year One (seven classes)
- Year Two (seven classes)
- Year Three (eight classes)
- Year Four (six classes)
- Year Five (seven classes)
- Year Six (six classes)
- Specialist subjects: The Arts, Physical Education, Science
- Support roles: Learning Support, Tutor Program, Mental Health Initiative in Primary Schools

We know that parents/carers and students are always keen to see the teaching arrangements for the new school year. We continue to work on the development of the school's workforce plan and will share this information with our community after our whole school transition day on Tuesday 9th December.

Our staff have completed the complex task of forming classes for next year, where we have ensured that all students are in a class with at least one nominated friend. This process takes time as teachers carefully consider key factors such as academic and social-emotional needs, friendships, requests, and their own professional insights into which students will work well together. While being in the same class as a best friend may seem ideal, it can sometimes lead to distraction - there will still be plenty of time to connect during recess, on excursions, and outside of school hours.

Class placements will be shared on Tuesday 9th December, as part of our whole-school transition day, when students will also meet their new teachers. Foundation transition will be from 9.30am - 11.00am. And Year 1 - 6 will be from 9.15am - 12.30pm. Our current Year 6 students will be completing Year 7 transition. Any students who are leaving our school will participate in alternate activities during this time.

In support of our planning processes for next year, we continue to liaise closely with families in regards to all confirmed enrolments for 2026, as well as those families who may be leaving the school. If you are moving to another school, could you please notify the administration team as soon as possible.

How to support your child under 16 with the new social media age restrictions

From 10 December 2025, the Online Safety Amendment (Social Media Minimum Age) Act 2024 will require social media platforms to:

- prevent children and young people under 16 from having a social media account
- deactivate or freeze existing accounts held by people under 16.

Delaying access to social media protects the health and wellbeing of young people and gives them extra time to build real world connections and digital literacy skills.

The responsibility will be on the social media platforms, not parents, carers, children or schools, to implement these new restrictions.

Most popular social media platforms will be age restricted. These include Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, X (formerly Twitter), Reddit and YouTube.

Messaging services and online games, as well as apps and platforms that support health and education, can still be used.

How to help under 16s prepare for the change

Parents and carers play an important role in supporting their children to be safe online.

To help get under 16s ready for the social media minimum age requirements, you can go to the eSafety website to learn more about the social media age restrictions and find tips on how to talk about social media age restrictions with young people.

What the change means for our school

At our school, all age-restricted social media platforms are blocked for student use on the school network.

To keep up to date about the new social media age restrictions, visit the eSafety website and subscribe to their newsletter.

Coming Together To Learn



SCIENCE NEWS

FOUNDATION

Our youngest scientists have been learning all about the four seasons and how our environment changes during the year. We're especially excited for our Wonderful Winter incursion, where students will experience the magic of winter up close... brrr!



YEAR 1

Year 1 students have been digging into space! They investigated the moon's phases using Oreos (a delicious experiment!), and learnt how constellations form pictures in the night sky. There are now many budding astronomers in our classrooms!

YEAR 2

Our eco-experts in Year 2 have been learning all about composting and how we can reduce waste. They even created their own Composting Monsters to help "eat" old scraps. These green heroes are becoming real Earth Helpers!



NEW MOON

FULL MOON



YEAR 3

Year 3 has been exploring the purpose of rocks throughout history, including how First Nations Australians used different rocks for tools, art, and daily life. We've discovered just how important rocks are to people—past and present

YEAR 4

Year 4 students have been investigating how water moves around our planet. They were amazed to discover that we are still drinking the same water dinosaurs once drank!

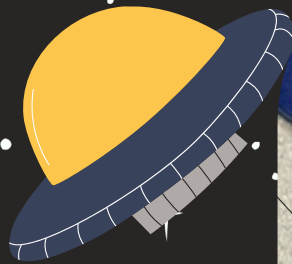


YEAR 5

Year 5 has been looking deeper into star patterns and constellations, uncovering the stories behind them and how people have used the night sky to navigate for thousands of years.

YEAR 6

Our senior students have been studying natural disasters and how they shape the Earth. They explored how erosion changes landscapes and how communities protect themselves from extreme weather events.



FOUNDATION AND YEAR 1 SWIMMING

Our Foundation and Year 1 students have been doing an amazing job during their sessions at Paul Saddler Swim School. Their confidence in the water has grown each day as they practise water safety, floating, kicking and beginning stroke skills.

Teachers and instructors have been proud of their positive attitudes and willingness to try new things. A big thank-you to families for preparing students so well each day.



Coming Together To Learn

Free Public Transport

From 1 January 2026, people aged under 18 can travel free on all Victorian public transport services using a new youth myki card. This includes trams, trains, buses and coach services.

To access free travel, they must tap the myki card on and off each time they travel. For areas that do not use myki cards, they must show their myki card to travel free.

More information about the youth myki card will be available later in Term 4, 2025 - refer to the [myki types webpage](#) on the Transport Victoria website.

For more information about other travel options to school, and support for eligible students, refer to the [Travelling to school](#) webpage on the Victorian Government website.

Orientation Day

Our classes for next year, including teachers, will be announced on the state-wide transition day, Tuesday 9th December. All students will have an opportunity to spend time with their new class and teacher on this day.

In my experience, this process is comprehensive, considerate and best prepares our students for a positive start to the following school year. Of course, on occasion, there might be some disappointment for a few of our students. They might miss a particular friend or be anxious about leaving a favourite teacher. As adults, it is our responsibility to support them through this. If there is some initial disappointment, we will enact our school values and work collaboratively with kindness and respect to ensure our students and families feel supported and prepared for the transition into 2026.

As you can appreciate, class placement is a very complex undertaking. At Gaayip-Yagila Primary School, we strongly believe it is essential for children to have the opportunity to make new friends, as this experience often leads to wonderful new friendships and stronger social skills.

If anything, I have outlined is unclear, please do not hesitate to contact me for further clarity. I look forward to working through this process together with the intention of providing our students with the best possible learning platform to begin 2026.

Coming Together To Learn

Changes to digital device use

From 2027, the Victorian Government is introducing changes to the use of digital devices for students from Prep to Grade 6.

Under the new guidelines, schools:

- will no longer invite families to purchase or bring their own digital devices to use at school for Prep to Grade 6
- will follow new recommended digital device times, including minimal device time for Prep to Grade 2; and a maximum of 90 minutes per day for grades 3 to 6.

These changes are intended to support families by reducing cost-of-living pressures. They will also support students by reducing screen-time which can reduce the risk of eye strain, sedentary behaviour, and reduced peer interaction. These reforms complement Victoria's nation-leading mobile phone restrictions, ensuring an integrated approach to addressing digital distraction and the inappropriate use of technology.

What this means for our school

This means we will be ceasing our current BYOD program for Grade 3 from 2027 on. Instead, we will provide class sets of digital devices for use by students. Students who have been using BYO devices prior to 2027 will be able to continue to bring their devices to school, but we will be following the new recommended device use times.

Students with disability who use a digital device as a reasonable adjustment are exempt from these changes.

These changes are intended to support families with cost-of-living pressures and reduce student screen time.

You can read more about the changes on the department's website: [Digital Learning: Policy](#).

Webpage to help families and students prepare for a new school year

A new school year is an exciting time for students and families, but it can be a big step – particularly for those starting Prep, secondary school or VCE.

The Department of Education has a webpage with resources and information to help you prepare for the new school year.

During the school holidays, please consider reading through the resources, which include:

- tips to help transition from kinder to Prep, primary to secondary school, and Year 10 to VCE
- what to expect at school
- help with school costs and fees
- health and wellbeing guidance to support children's mental health.

Please refer to the [New year of learning webpage](#).

Coming Together To Learn



JUNIOR TENNIS PROGRAM



**LEARN TO PLAY TENNIS
& BRING A FRIEND FOR FREE!**

THE JUNIOR PROGRAM INCLUDES
A WEEKLY TENNIS LESSON, PRACTICE ON
COURTS, A FRIEND OR PARENT PLAY FOR FREE
PLUS FREE ACCESS TO HOLIDAY PROGRAM



SCAN THE CODE TO REGISTER

HUME TENNIS & COMMUNITY CENTRE
PH: 1300 486 382



JUNIOR PICKLEBALL PROGRAM



LEARN TO PLAY PICKLEBALL & BRING A FRIEND FOR FREE

6 Pickleball lessons over the three weeks,
3-week membership to Hume Tennis,
paddles while you learn, free practice time..



JUST \$66

SCAN THE CODE TO REGISTER

HUME TENNIS & COMMUNITY CENTRE
PH: 1300 486 382