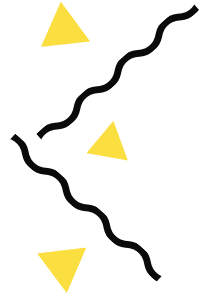


GAAYIP-YAGILA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



THE LATEST EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR
OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

Welcome to Term 1 Week 10. As we reach the end of Term 1, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the efforts, achievements, and special events that have taken place throughout the term and over the past few weeks.

A huge well done to our Year 6 students who attended camp at Phillip Island last week. This experience provided students with the opportunity to develop independence, resilience, and teamwork while enjoying a range of outdoor activities. I had the pleasure of attending camp on Tuesday and thoroughly enjoyed the walk to the beach, watching students engage with one another and play along the shoreline. Thank you to the staff (Ms Lamers, Miss Murray, Miss Edgell, Miss Sassano, Ms Nightingale, Miss MacRae, Miss Simmons, Ms Ohri, Miss Watson and Mr Layley) who supported the camp and ensured our students had a memorable time.

Our Year 3 students also had a fantastic learning experience on their recent excursion to the Melbourne Museum. The feedback from students and staff has been overwhelmingly positive, with students particularly enjoying the First Peoples' exhibition and the Dinosaur Walk. Excursions like these bring learning to life, and we appreciate the planning and effort that goes into making them successful.

Coming Together To Learn

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL Cont...

Recently, we celebrated Harmony Day, and it was wonderful to see so many students dressed in traditional cultural attire and orange to recognise the importance of inclusivity and respect. A special thank you to our families who joined us for our open morning—it was great to see such strong community involvement and support.

To our families who have recently celebrated Eid, we hope you had a joyful and blessed time with your loved ones.

Congratulations to our Foundation students who this week finish their first term at school, a wonderful achievement. I have enjoyed seeing them develop their confidence and routines around our school.

As we conclude the term, I would like to thank our students, families, and staff for their ongoing commitment to our school community. I hope everyone enjoys a safe and restful Easter holiday break, and we look forward to seeing you all in Term 2! School returns on Tuesday 22nd April, 2025. This will be a short week, with Friday 25th April being a Public Holiday for Anzac Day.

Kind Regards

Cassy Hoggins

Coming Together To Learn

ASSEMBLY DATES 2025

We extend a warm invitation to join us at our upcoming school assembly! As we gather together, we'll celebrate our students' achievements, share important updates, and foster a sense of community. Your presence enriches our school culture, and we look forward to seeing you there.

Please note that we hold three assemblies each term: two throughout and a final one which reviews our successes for the term. Below are the dates and times of our assemblies for the year.

Term 1

Friday 4th April - End of term 1:30pm

Term 2

Monday 12th May - 2:30pm

Monday 16th June - 2:30pm

Friday 4th July - End of term 1:30pm

Term 3

Monday 11th August - 2:30pm

Monday 8th September - 2:30pm

Friday 19th September - End of term 1:30pm

Term 4

Monday 27th October - 2:30pm

Monday 24th November - 2:30pm

Friday 19th December - End of Year 2:30pm



Coming Together To Learn

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TERM 1

Dates	Event
Tuesday 1st April	School Cross Country - Y3 - 6
Friday 4th April	Hat Day Party - Parade 9.00am Assembly 1.30pm
Friday 4th April	LAST DAY OF TERM - DISMISSAL 2.10pm

TERM 2

Date	Event
Monday 21st April	PUBLIC HOLIDAY - NO SCHOOL
Tuesday 22nd April	Students return to school
Thursday 24th April	ANZAC Assembly
Friday 25th April	PUBLIC HOLIDAY - NO SCHOOL
Monday 28th April	School Photos
Wednesday 7th May	Year 4 Sea Life Aquarium Excursion
Thursday 8th May	Mothers Day Stall
Monday 12th May	Maths Mania - 5pm-6pm

Coming Together To Learn

YOU AND YOUR
HAT ARE INVITED

GYPS HAT DAY PARTY

4 APRIL | 9:00am

We are excited to host a Hat Parade to celebrate the end of our school term and Easter.

Students will be creating their hats at school.

If families would like to design a hat at home with their child, they are welcome to wear it to the parade as well!

Gold coin donation in support of
The Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal



Celebrating the Many New Years Ahead

As we enter April, we acknowledge and celebrate the many cultural New Year traditions observed by communities within our school and beyond. Across various cultures, the New Year is a time for reflection, renewal, and coming together with family and friends.

Between April 13 and 16, several New Year celebrations will take place, each rich in tradition and significance. Songkran (Thai New Year) is marked by vibrant festivities, including water fights symbolising renewal and purification. Similarly, Thingyan (Burmese New Year) celebrates life and rebirth, marking the start of Myanmar's lunar calendar.

Choul Chnam Thmey (Khmer New Year) and Pii Mai (Lao New Year) coincide with these celebrations, signifying the end of the harvest season and the beginning of a new cycle. These festivals include traditional rituals such as washing Buddha statues and building sand stupas for merit-making.

On April 14, Aluth Avurudda (Sinhalese New Year) and Puthandu (Tamil New Year) bring families together for festivities rooted in Sri Lankan and Tamil traditions based around the Solar New Year. The same day also marks Vaisakhi, an important harvest festival widely celebrated by the Sikh community, as well as Navavarsha (Nepalese New Year) and Maithil New Year, both observed with prayers, celebrations, and cultural traditions.

April 15 brings Pohela Boishakh (Bengali New Year), a time when homes are cleaned and decorated, families visit temples, and people welcome prosperity for the year ahead.

At Gaayip-Yagila Primary School, we are proud to recognise and celebrate the cultural diversity within our community. We extend our best wishes to all those celebrating these New Year traditions—may they bring joy, happiness, and success to you and your families!

Wishing everyone a wonderful start to the New Year!



School Council Update

Thank you to those additional parents who have nominated to be a part of our School Council for 2025.

We have one final vacancy. If you are interested in joining our school council, please email gaayip.yagila.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Our current 2025 School Council members are as follows:

Parent Members	School Employee Members	Community Members
Vicki Fontaine Manjot Kaur Amanda MacGregor <i>Irene Nesci</i> <i>Carena Pool</i> <i>Fatou Bitaye</i> <i>Vacant position (1 year)</i>	Katrina Lamers Amanda Frittolini Hanna Spark Cassandra Hoggins – Executive Officer	Simone Evans

Dates for future meetings:

- Wednesday 23rd April (onsite)
- Wednesday 21st May (onsite)
- Wednesday 18th June (online)
- Wednesday 23rd July (onsite)
- Wednesday 20th August (online)
- Wednesday 17th September (online)
- Wednesday 22nd October (onsite)
- Wednesday 19th November (online)
- Wednesday 10th December (onsite - dinner meeting)

Coming Together To Learn



GAAYIP-YAGILA
PRIMARY SCHOOL



ENROLMENTS OPEN 2026

SCHOOL TOURS

☀ **Tuesday 18th March**
9.30am and 4.30pm

☀ **Thursday 1st May**
9.30am and 4.00pm

☀ **Monday 26th May**
9.30am and 4.00pm

☀ **Wednesday 2nd April**
9.30am and 4.30pm

☀ **Wednesday 14th May**
9.30am and 4.30pm

☀ **Friday 13th June**
9.30am and 4.00pm

ENROLMENT FORMS DUE BY 25TH OF JULY

BOOK A TOUR NOW

Scan the QR code below or visit
signup.com/go/uiGvzvN



CONTACT US

(03) 9216 3200
gyps.vic.edu.au
gaayip.yagila.ps@education.vic.gov.au

INFO EVENING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7TH
Scan the QR code below or visit
signup.com/go/MAEWfxg



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

CURRICULUM UPDATE

Teaching Reading:

As we reach the end of our first term, we are excited to share the progress of our new literacy teaching structures. This term, we have focused on developing students' reading comprehension through engaging read-alouds and exposure to high-quality texts suited to their age and interests.

Each year level has explored carefully selected texts that support comprehension strategies and encourage rich discussions:

- **Foundation** students examined the works of Mo Willems, particularly his well-loved 'Pigeon' books, sparking joy and engagement in early reading experiences.
- **Year 1** students explored character emotions through texts such as *My Mouth is a Volcano*, *The Dot*, and *Stellarphant*, helping them connect with characters and their feelings.
- **Year 2** students delved into the imaginative and detailed worlds of Graeme Base, reading *The Eleventh Hour* and *The Last King of Angkor Wat*.
- **Year 3** students studied the works of Anthony Browne, engaging with *Piggy Book* and *Silly Billy* to explore deeper meanings in storytelling.
- **Year 4** students examined personal identity through powerful texts such as *Boy*, *The Proudest Blue*, and *The Boy Who Tried to Shrink His Name*.
- **Year 5** students completed a novel study on *Staying Alive* in Year 5, analysing character development and themes relevant to their own experiences.
- **Year 6** students engaged in a novel study of *Holes*, exploring themes of resilience, justice, and interconnected narratives.

By implementing this approach to reading instruction, all students have had the opportunity to discuss, analyse, and engage with high-quality literature in a supportive learning environment. These shared reading experiences help students develop their comprehension strategies while fostering a love for literature.

We look forward to building on this foundation in Term 2 and continuing to enhance our students' literacy journey!

Coming Together To Learn

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL CURRICULUM UPDATE

Planning For Success:

Over the past week, our dedicated teachers have engaged in planning days to evaluate student learning and prepare for a successful Term 2. These sessions have provided valuable opportunities to analyse student achievement data, reflect on teaching practices, and refine learning programs across key areas, including numeracy, literacy, humanities, and specialist subjects.

By closely examining student progress, teachers have been able to identify strengths and areas for growth, ensuring that learning experiences are targeted and responsive to students' needs. This data-informed approach allows us to refine teaching strategies, implement new initiatives, and enhance student engagement in meaningful ways.

Planning days also provide an opportunity for collaboration, with teachers working together to share insights, resources, and best practices. This ensures a consistent and high-quality learning experience across all year levels.



Coming Together To Learn

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

Our School Photo Day will be held on Monday, April 28th. To order your child's photos visit www.advancedlife.com.au and enter our school's code: **M5C 37K VMP**.

For more information, please see the flyer below.

MONDAY 28th APRIL

order your school photos now

to order visit: www.advancedlife.com.au

enter code: **M5C 37K VMP**



scan to order

**or collect a cash order envelope
from your school office**



advancedlife
school photography & print specialists

HAPPY MOTHER'S



In helping to celebrate the upcoming Mother's Day (or special person day), we will be hosting a Mother's Day stall on **Thursday the 8th of May**. Students will be able to purchase a small gift for mum or someone special in their lives. We recommend that students bring along up to \$10.00 to spend at the stall (for junior students, a clearly marked envelope/bag with their name and class is suggested).

Students will be able to purchase a maximum of 2 gifts each. Gifts will range in price from \$1.00 - \$5.00.

We would be grateful to any parents who may be available to assist during the morning of the stall. If you could spend an hour or two assisting, please complete the following form:

<https://forms.gle/kfmTUDMtDJ6A7XiM8>

Fresh Lunchbox Ideas



A nutritious **lunchbox** will **power up** your child to learn and play all day. To help your child with long lasting energy, try packing food from each of these groups:



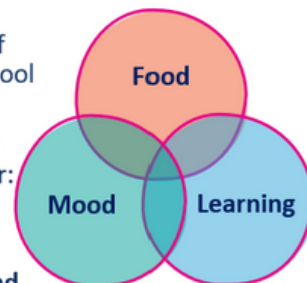
Involve your children.
Take them shopping and let them choose fruits and vegetables for their lunchbox.

POWER UP

A great education starts with kids having the energy and focus to learn at school



- Students consume over 37% of their daily energy intake in school hours
- Providing nutritious food has a positive impact on students for:
 - Physical health
 - Mood and mental health
 - Learning, concentration and memory



For more information on food and mood visit [Nutrition Australia](https://www.nutritionaustralia.gov.au)



Is your child not eating at school?
If you have questions or would like some help, call **1300 234 263** to make an appointment with our trusted **Dietitians**.

Food insecurity



Are you struggling to afford safe, healthy food for your family?

To find food relief near you, please visit Food Bank's **Find Food** page to find support near you.

You can also find more local food relief, food parcels and food vouchers here:



Brushing Teeth Twice Daily



Did you know?

Fluoride help protect teeth against decay



Encourage dental hygiene in children from a young age.

- > Make brushing twice a day part of their daily routine
- > You can be a positive role model by brushing your teeth with your child
- > Children need help to brush teeth up to at least 8 years of age
- > As your child's teeth start to fit closely together (usually between 2 and 6 years old), they should also be taught to floss their teeth daily.



In your community Fluoride is added to our tap water

School Holidays

The school holidays are a great time for families to relax and recharge, here are some tips to keep children engaged and active over the break.

Maintain a routine

- Try to keep consistent wake up/bedtime
- Keep regular mealtimes
- Plan activities throughout the day for some structure



Keep kids active

- Encourage outdoor play: walking, riding, playing local park
- Family friendly activities: walking, swimming, backyard games
- Local school holiday programs



Support relaxation

- Allowing time to unwind with quiet activities: drawing, listening to music



Visit local attractions or parks

- Head to the local library
- Visit the local park
- At home activities: cooking, gardening



Hume Libraries

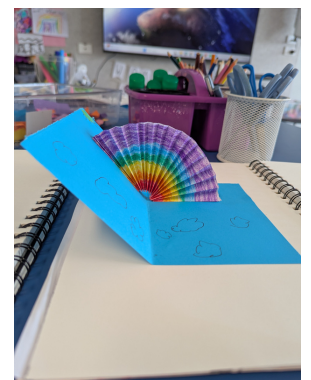


Mickleham North Community
Centre Library Kiosk
Available 24/7

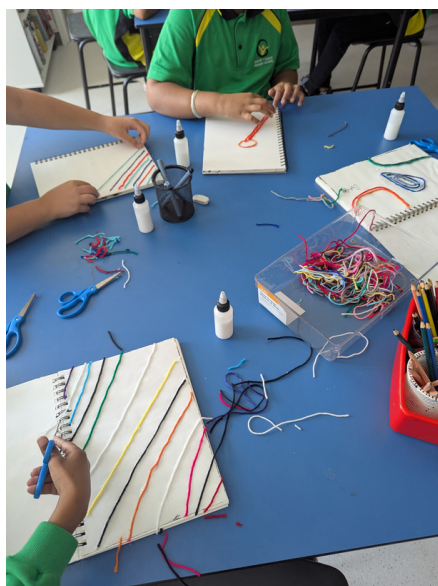


Students have had a blast engaging in a range of workshops exploring the elements of texture, space and form over the past few weeks. We learned about actual and implied texture through the work of Indian-Australian artist Amardeep Shergill and her phulkari-inspired sculptures, with Foundation – Year 2 students creating texture rubbings and Year 3-6 students creating textured wool collages. We experimented with positive and negative space by making stencils and using spray bottle painting to create our own positive and negative shape paintings, and learned about real and implied form by making a range of pop-up artworks.

The Visual Arts Team
Marni Harris and Barbara Zerzouri.



VISUAL ARTS



SCIENCE FUN FROM TERM 1

This term, GYPS students have been learning about Biological Science!

Foundation were learning about living things and found some very nice plants around our school.



Year 1s read about echidnas and made some of their own!



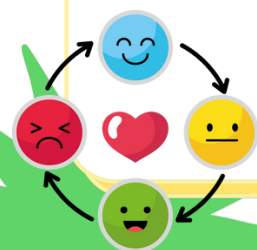
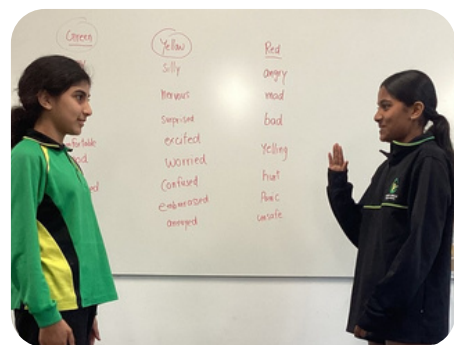
**DINO
DIG!**

Year 3 finished their unit by being archaeologists and searching for fossils hidden in our sandpit! They also made their own fossils and painted them.



Auslan Moments Captured

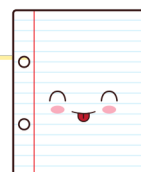
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AUSLAN NEWS

We are incredibly proud of our amazing students for their outstanding Auslan performances this term! A heartfelt thank you to the parents who have attended our assemblies to support and celebrate their achievements. Your encouragement means so much!

What's been happening in Auslan?



Our Foundation students are continuing to build their skills with the Little Learners Love Literacy structure, exploring letters, animals, numbers, and colours in Auslan. It's been wonderful to see their confidence and excitement grow with every new sign!

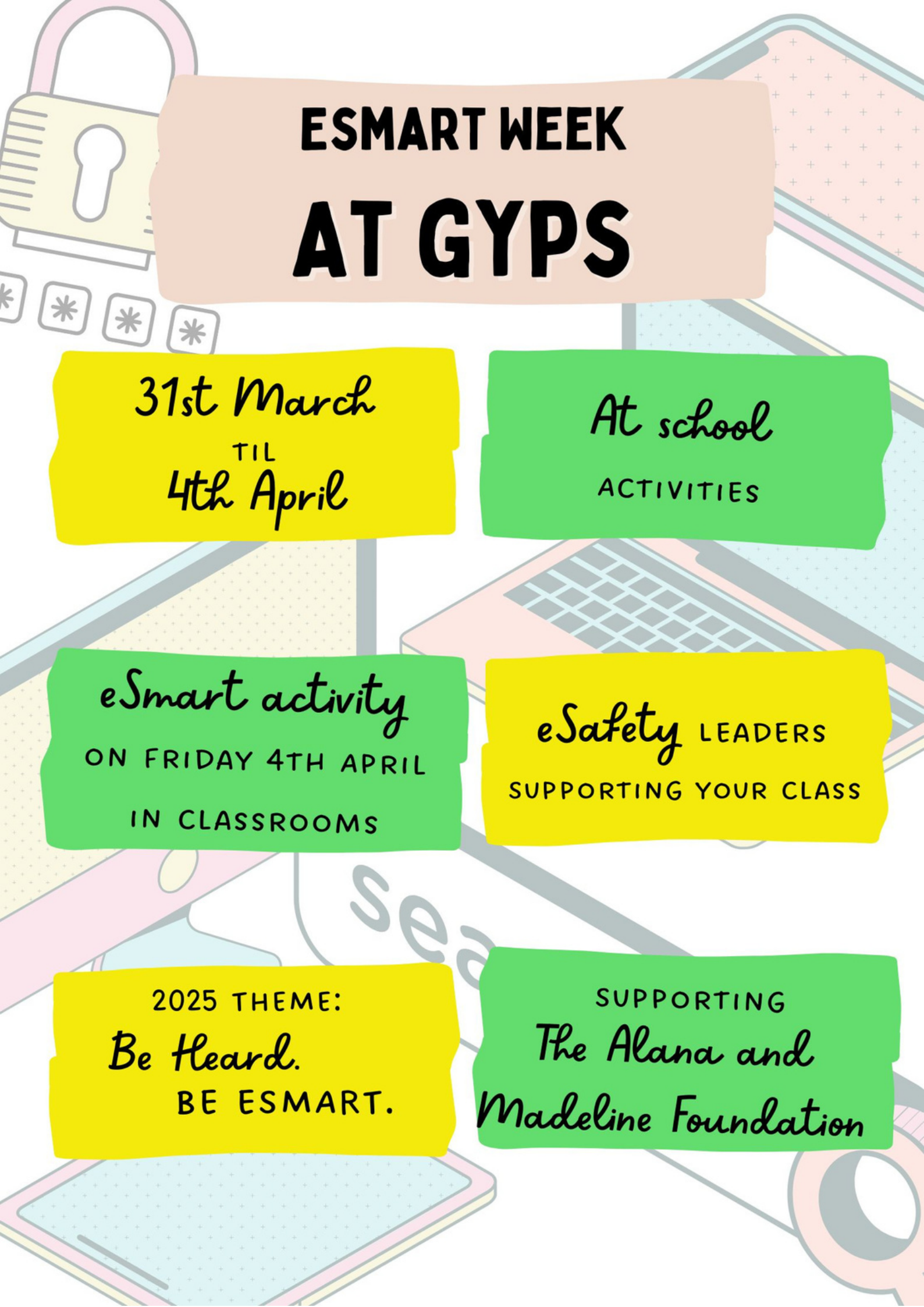
Students in Years 1-2, have been expanding their communication skills, focusing on expressing their interests and preferences. After revising numbers and animals, they've started exploring the Zones of Regulation and learning the signs for different feelings. This has sparked meaningful conversations about emotions while enhancing their signing abilities.

Our students in Years 3-6 have also been diving into the Zones of Regulation, mastering Auslan signs for various feelings. They've started an exciting group project using constructed action to act out a feeling of their choice in short plays. This creative activity is helping them develop both expressive and receptive Auslan skills while fostering teamwork and creativity.

We've had many students express interest in learning more Auslan! If you or your child would like to explore the basics, Auslan Time with Geo on YouTube is a fantastic place to start. The Signbank app is also a great resource for looking up Auslan signs and expanding your knowledge.

GYPS AUSLAN TEAM





ESMART WEEK AT GYPS

31st March
TIL
4th April

At school
ACTIVITIES

eSmart activity
ON FRIDAY 4TH APRIL
IN CLASSROOMS

eSafety LEADERS
SUPPORTING YOUR CLASS

2025 THEME:
Be Heard.
BE ESMART.

SUPPORTING
*The Alana and
Madeline Foundation*

...

Being kind online

If it isn't nice –
don't post it!

Use my
comments to
build other
people up

Check my
comments
are sensitive
to others



THINK before
I click

Never like,
send, share or
post negative
comments

 Be Heard.
Be eSmart.

proudly resourced by
alannah & madeline
foundation





Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge

The Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is now open and Gaayip-Yagila Primary School is excited to be taking part!

The Challenge is open to all Victorian children from birth to Year 10 and aims to help young readers develop a lifelong love of reading. It is not a competition; it is a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by 5 September 2025.

Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or 'experience' 30 books with their parents and teachers. Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read 15 books.

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and former Premiers.

This year, the Challenge is celebrating its 20th anniversary with the theme '20 years of words and wonder' and a year of special activities. For details, follow the [Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge Facebook](#)

Since it began in 2005, more than 4.5 million young readers have taken part and together read more than 63 million books!

To read the Premier's letter to parents, view the booklist and for more information about the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge, visit www.vic.gov.au/premiers-reading-challenge

You can also contact our school's Challenge coordinator at gaayip.yagila.ps@education.vic.gov.au with any questions.

Happy reading!

Mickleham North Community Centre



Easter Hunt

Join us for a word search egg hunt.

Sheets can be collected from Reception at Mickleham North Community Centre.

Find the clues throughout Merrifield Estate and collect your Easter treat.

When: Thursday 3 April until Thursday 17 April 2025
(or until eggs run out)
9am – 5pm

Time:

Location: **Mickleham North Community Centre**
82-90 St Georges Blvd, Mickleham
Free

Cost:

For more information please contact 9356 6440 or
MicklehamNorthCC@hume.vic.gov.au

For information on our programs scan QR code or visit
hume.vic.gov.au/MicklehamNorthCommunityCentre



merrifield

DEVELOPED BY
MAB | GPC



JOIN OUR GIANT

EASTER EGG HUNT

Welcome to the Merrifield & Mickleham North
Community Centre Easter Egg Hunt

The hunt will run from Thursday 3 April to Thursday 17 April 2025

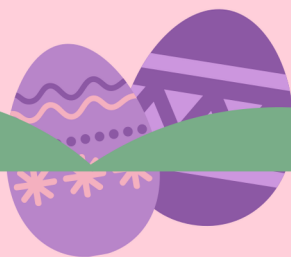
Once you have completed the phrase, please visit Mickleham North
Community Centre to collect your Easter gift

Please note: The centre is open Monday - Friday 9am to 4:45pm

1	2	3	4	5					
6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
13	14	15		16	17	18	19	20	

Complete the Easter Egg Hunt by finding the below tags:

- St Georges Boulevard, Mickleham**
- Mickleham North Community Centre - 2 Tags
- Blackmores Road, Mickleham**
- Mickleham Secondary School - 2 Tags
 - Gaayip-Yagila Primary School - 2 Tags
- Carlingford Road, Mickleham**
- Holy Cross Catholic Primary School - 2 Tags
- Rosehill Boulevard, Mickleham**
- Merrifield Sales Centre (MAB) - 3 Tags
- Balmain Road, Mickleham**
- Metricon Display Homes - 3 Tags
 - Sherridon Display Homes - 2 Tags
 - Simmonds Display Homes - 4 Tags



KIDS

5 TO 13 YEARS
GOLD COIN DONATION



SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN APRIL 2025

7 APRIL

9.30am-12pm
CRAFTY MINDS

9 APRIL

9.30am-12pm
LEGO FUN

10 APRIL

9.30am-12pm
JEWELLERY MAKING

14 APRIL

9.30am-12pm
COOKING FUN

16 APRIL

9.30am-12pm
MOVIE

17 APRIL

9.30am-12pm
**EASTER TREATS
DECORATING**

Each program includes a free breakfast, thanks to our partnership with Meadows Primary School. This ensures participants start their day with a healthy meal to energize them for the activities ahead. During the school holidays, this partnership helps create a supportive and positive environment for our children and families.



Please call Bianca on 9302 2131 to book in.
Bookings will close 2 days before each activity.

180-182 Widford Street,
Broadmeadows

Dallas
Neighbourhood
House.





Meal deals

Toastie meal deal
Pasta meal deals

Hot dog meal deal
Nuggets and chips meal deal

Wednesday special – Chicken Burgers

Thursday special – Pizza



Price		Price	
Hot Food			
\$4	3 pack chicken nuggets	\$6	6 pack chicken nuggets
\$5	Penne <u>napoli</u>		Chicken noodles
\$7.50	Penne <u>bolognese</u>	\$4	3 pack steamed dim sim
	Hot dog - halal available		4 pack cocktail franks
	Large meat pie or sausage roll		6 pack vegetarian cocktail spring <u>roll</u>
\$5	2 pack of sweet chilli tenders or Vegetarian samosas		
	3 pack party pies/sausage rolls	\$0.40	Tomato, sweet chilli or soy sauce
Salads and sandwiches			
From \$3	Sandwiches and croissant– Variety of fillings.	From \$5	Variety of salads
	Toasted panini		
Snacks			
\$1.20	Seasonal fruit piece	\$2	Homemade large choc chip cookie
\$1.50	Diced fruit in juice	\$3	Jelly with a chocolate frog
\$2.50	LCM rice bubble bar, Oreo minis	\$1.50	Popcorn
	Red rock deli chips, noodle snacks	From	Homemade baked goods (muffins large and small, brownies etc)
	Pringles minis - Sour cream and onion	\$1	
\$2	Hot jam donuts	\$2.50	Crackers with carrot sticks
Beverages and Frozen items			
\$3.00	200ml juice and milk box varieties	\$1.50	Frozen orange wedges (seasonal)
\$2	600ml bottled water	\$4	Hot Chocolate/ Milkshake (seasonal)
\$1	<u>Zooper dooper</u>	\$3	Choc coated ice cream
\$2.50	99% fruit juice slushie, lemonade icy pole	\$2	<u>Smooze</u>

View item descriptions, options and place orders using the flexischools app. Dietary requirements, allergy friendly, vegetarian and halal options available.

Skip the canteen line by adding frozen items or hot chocolate/milkshakes to the lunch order. Your student will then bring their lunch order bag back to the express collection line for faster service.



LEARN TO SWIM WITH THE *survival specialists!*

We've been teaching
children and adults
to swim and survive in
deep water since 1972!



BOOK NOW!



PAUL SADLER SWIMLAND

THE SURVIVAL SPECIALISTS™ • SINCE 1972



LITTLE LALA LAND

KIDS GROUPS

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
Wollert, Beveridge and Mickleham
Groups for children aged 0-13



SENSORY GROUPS

MESSY ART GROUPS

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

GIRLS GROUPS

PAPER CRAFT GROUPS

.....
FOR MORE INFO GO TO
LITTLE LALA LAND ON FB AND INSTAGRAM
OR CONTACT RACHELLE ON 0414 565 044



SOFTBALL

School Holiday Program



Locations:

Dandenong Softball Association

Geelong Softball Association

Glen Eira Moorabbin Softball Association

Hume City Softball Association

Melbourne Softball Association

Northern District Softball Association

Sunshine Softball Association

TERM 2 HOLIDAYS

Time: 9am – 1pm

Scan the QR Code for more info and to register



www.softballvic.org.au/events

Cost: \$75.00pp for non members, \$50.00pp for members

Price Includes a glove and ball (or a \$25 Ausport Voucher)

