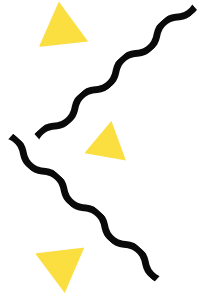


GAAYIP-YAGILA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



THE LATEST EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR
OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

Welcome to Term 1, Week 6. The past two weeks have been filled with exciting activities and valuable learning experiences at Gaayip-Yagila Primary School. Our Foundation students enjoyed their Teddy Bear's Picnic on Monday, creating special memories as they continue to settle into school life. Yesterday we conducted our first emergency evacuation drill of the year, ensuring our students and staff are well-prepared in case of an emergency. Additionally, we have had a small group of students engage in virtual learning through the Department of Education's online programs, expanding their learning in new and innovative ways.

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 have received one nomination to fill our 2025 School Council vacancies. We are putting out a further call for nominations and these will close at 10.00am on Tuesday 11th March. If the number of nominations is more than required, steps will be taken to commence the ballot requirements.

Wishing you all a fantastic long weekend.

Kind Regards

Cassy Hoggins

Coming Together To Learn

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TERM 1

Fri 28th Feb – Sun 30th March	Ramadan
Wed 12th – Mon 24th March	NAPLAN
Friday 14th March	Holi
Thursday 20th March	National Ride to School Day
Friday 21st March	Harmony Day
Mon 24th – Wed 26th March	Year 6 Camp
Tuesday 1st April 2025	School Cross Country
Friday 4th April	Hat Parade
Friday 4th April	LAST DAY OF TERM ASSEMBLY 1:30
FRIDAY 4TH APRIL	LAST DAY OF TERM – DISMISSAL 2:10PM



Coming Together To Learn

NAPLAN

Next week students in Years 3 & 5 will take part in the 2025 National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). Please see the below schedule for NAPLAN.

Test	Year 3	Year 5
Writing	Wednesday 12 March 09:00am	Wednesday 12 March 9:00am
Reading	Thursday 13 March 9:00am	Thursday 13 March 12:00pm
Conventions of Language	Monday 17 March 9:00am	Friday 14 March 10:00am
Numeracy	Wednesday 19 March 9:00am	Tuesday 18 March 9:00am
Catch Up (for students absent during test days)	Thursday 20 March Friday 21 March 9:00am	Thursday 20 March Friday 21 March 9:00am

Students who are absent on these dates will have the opportunity to sit catch-up assessments up until Friday 21st of March. Catch-ups for Year 3 Writing must be conducted by Monday 17th of March.



Coming Together To Learn

BUDDIES TEDDY BEAR PICNIC

2025

FOUNDATION AND YEAR 5 STUDENTS

ON MONDAY, OUR GRADE 5 STUDENTS MET THEIR FOUNDATION BUDDIES FOR THE TEDDY BEAR PICNIC! THEY EACH BROUGHT A TEDDY FROM HOME TO SHARE AND WORKED



TOGETHER THEY CREATED A COLORFUL POSTER. THIS POSTER HELPS FOUNDATION PARENTS SEE WHO THEIR CHILD'S BUDDY IS!



IT WAS SO NICE TO SEE THE BUDDIES! THIS IS A SESSION I'M PASSIONATE ABOUT!
-MYRA



THE BUDDIES WERE SUPER SWEET! I LOVED THE SESSION WITH THEM AND FOUND MEETING THE FOUNDATION BUDDIES REALLY FUN!
- NAVANYA (YEAR 5)



"WHEN IT'S RECESS AND LUNCHTIME, LOOK FOR US AND WE WILL PLAY WITH YOU! YOU CAN CHOOSE THE GAME AND EVERYTHING! WE JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE YOU HAVE FUN AT SCHOOL!"
-NATHANIEL (YEAR 5)



"I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE MY BUDDY AGAIN! WHEN WILL WE SEE YOU AGAIN? CAN YOU COME BACK TOMORROW?"
-REBEKAH



BIRTHDAYS



Birthdays are special events for young children and a time of celebration and can be celebrated in the classroom. Parents who wish to provide a small gift for their child to distribute to the class may provide a small individually wrapped treat or non-food items for each student. In the event you intend to supply a treat, parents are requested to contact the classroom teacher prior so that you can be made aware of any allergies or medical conditions in the class and avoid these foods.

Birthday treats will be sent home with students at the end of the day, allowing parents to decide whether or not they wish their child/children to have the item.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

In line with Department of Education guidelines, Gaayip-Yagila Primary School has adopted a Healthy Foods Policy and promotes a 'Healthy Eating' culture. This is reflected in the Schools:

- enforcement of health promotion regulations
- health education programs delivered to students across our school
- provision of foods in the canteen

Therefore, we strongly discourage students consuming 'fast foods' during school hours. We ask parents/guardians to work in partnership with Gaayip-Yagila Primary School by promoting the healthy food message with their children.



Coming Together To Learn

HARMONY DAY

Harmony Day is observed annually on March 21st, a date that also marks the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. For over 20 years, this day has been dedicated to promoting inclusivity, respect, and a sense of belonging for all. While Harmony Week is a uniquely Australian initiative, it aligns with global efforts to celebrate cultural diversity and equality.

At Gaayip-Yagila PS, we will honour Harmony Day through engaging with families in classroom activities and our Harmony Day cross age activities on Friday, March 21st. Harmony Day is an opportunity for students, families and staff to come together and celebrate the rich diversity within our school community. We look forward to celebrating with you!



Coming Together To Learn



HARMONY
DAY
FRIDAY
21 March



WE ALL
*have a
role
to play*



Students are able to come dressed in traditional clothes that represent their culture or the colour orange!

Parents are invited to join classrooms to celebrate Harmony Day from 9.00 - 9.50am.

Students will participate in cross age activities later in the day.

PARENT HELPER/VOLUNTEER INDUCTION

Parents and family members are invited to attend an induction program for volunteers at our school. As you know, volunteers play a vital role in supporting the education and well-being of our students, and we welcome any assistance that parents can provide.

The induction will provide an overview of our school's policies and procedures, as well as the roles and responsibilities of volunteers. It is a great opportunity to meet other parents and school staff, learn about various volunteer opportunities available, and gain an understanding of how you can make a positive impact in the lives of our students.

The induction will be held on March 13th at 2:30pm. Please register to attend the session [here](#). All parents wanting to volunteer at the school in any capacity, including attending events or excursions are required to complete the induction. Please note, you are required to complete the parent helper/volunteer induction every 12 months.



Coming Together To Learn

Student Leadership @ GYPS

On Thursday, 20th Feb 2025 we held our very first Student Leadership Morning aimed at empowering our future leaders.

Students and their mentor teachers came together to foster leadership skills and teamwork. Each student received their badge to represent their unique leadership roles at GYPS. The morning included setting personal leadership goals, meeting their mentor teachers and getting to know each other. Thank you to all who contributed to this event and we look forward to seeing these young leaders in action throughout the year.





SWPBS Leaders



e-Safety Leaders



Peer Mediators

Student Leaders 2025



Art Leaders



Sustainability Leaders



Sport House Captains



Student V.O.I.C.E Leaders

RAMADAN

The holy month of Ramadan has begun, a significant time of reflection, prayer, and fasting for many in our community. During this month, those who observe Ramadan fast from dawn until sunset.

At Gaayip-Yagila Primary School, we recognise and support our students and staff who are participating in Ramadan. A prayer space will be available for students from the beginning of lunch eating time. Students are to meet at Miss D's room in the new learning neighbourhood.

If you would like to share a greeting with those observing Ramadan, you can say "Ramadan Mubarak," which means wishing you a blessed Ramadan.



HOLI

Also known as the Festival of Colours, Holi is a vibrant Hindu festival that signifies the arrival of spring (northern hemisphere), the triumph of good over evil, and unity among people. Celebrated with music, dancing, and throwing coloured powders, Holi is a joyous occasion that brings communities together. This year, Holi falls on Friday, 14th March.



Coming Together To Learn



On Thursday 20th March 2025 we will be celebrating National Ride2School Day.

Join in the fun by riding, walking, skating or scooting to school.

We will be meeting at the **Merrifield Recreation Reserve Pavillion at 8am**, enjoying a ride around the ovals, before making our way to school and enjoying breakfast provided by the Breakfast Club outside the gym.

At Gaayip-Yagila PS, we encourage all families to walk, scoot or ride to school as often as possible every day. Please don't forget your helmets! Please keep an eye open on Xuno for further details about how you can join in the fun on Ride2School Day.



Coming Together To Learn

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2025

MARCH FORWARD

On Saturday, March 8, we join people across the globe in celebrating International Women's Day. Thirty years ago, the world committed to a bold vision for gender equality through the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. Adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995, this landmark document outlined 12 critical areas where progress was urgently needed, from economic empowerment and leadership to media representation and climate justice. It remains the most progressive and widely endorsed blueprint for women's and girls' rights worldwide. Since 1995, we've seen women break barriers, reshape policies, and ignite movements worldwide.

This year's theme, "March Forward," is a call to action—encouraging us all to continue pushing for progress, equality, and opportunities for women and girls everywhere. It is also an opportunity to celebrate the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women across the globe. Women's achievements, leadership and innovation are woven through the history of our education sector – in schools and in early childhood education and care services.

We invite families to support positive conversations at home by sharing stories of inspiring women, discussing what fairness and opportunity look like, and encouraging all children—regardless of gender—to dream big and strive for their goals.

By working together, we can march forward towards a future where everyone has the chance to thrive. Happy International Women's Day!



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

FREE
ENTRY!

Let's celebrate unity on International Women's Day with our empowering event, with the themed:

Thrive as a Woman in the Modern Era



WHAT WE WILL DISCUSS:

- Guide to cultivating inner strength to overcome obstacles.
- Tips for juggling career, family, and personal well-being.

**SATURDAY
8 MARCH
2025**

From 10am - 12pm

**Mickleham South
Community Centre**

125 Brossard Road, Mickleham

GUEST SPEAKERS

- **Cr. Ally Watson**
Hume City Council
- **Elizabeth & Lucy**
DPV Health
- **Manasi Wagh**
Women's Health In the North

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL!

Scan QR code to register



FOR MORE INFORMATION: **93566540**

Email: MicklehamsouthCC@hume.vic.gov.au

ST PATRICK'S DAY



St Patrick's Day is a cultural and religious celebration held on March 17 each year, recognising the heritage and traditions of the Irish community. It marks the feast day of St Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, and is widely celebrated with parades, wearing green, and enjoying Irish music and dance.

The day is an opportunity to appreciate Irish culture and history while embracing the diversity within our school community. We are fortunate to have 4 teachers at Gaayip-Yagila Primary School from Ireland. Happy St Patrick's Day to all who celebrate!



Coming Together To Learn

VISUAL ARTS NEWS

We've hit the ground running in Visual Arts this term, kicking off the year with a move into the new building, and welcoming Barbara Zerzouri to the Visual Arts team. Barbara comes to us with a wealth of experience teaching in the arts as well as the classroom, and has taught in both Australia and New Zealand.

Students have started the term with a unit on the elements of art – line, colour, shape, form, tone, texture and space. These elements are the basic building blocks of art that all artists use to create visual effects and emotional responses from viewers. Each week students create a new artwork, exploring a new element of art through a different medium, inspired by different artists. So far students have learned how artists Marta Minujin and Otis Hope Carey use line and colour, Henri Matisse and Adia Millett use shape and how Anna Petyarre and Christopher Wool use tone in their artworks, and have completed workshops in drawing, watercolour painting, collage and acrylic painting.

There's a lot to be excited about coming out of visual arts this year, including our biannual GYPS Art Showcase in Term 4, and we can't wait to share the incredible art our GYPS artists are creating.

The Visual Arts Team

Marni Harris and Barbara Zerzouri.



SCIENCE NEWS

What an exciting start of the year in Science! Our students are engaging in experiences to explore various aspects of biological science. Below is an overview of what each year level is currently investigating.

Foundation - What Do Living Things Need?

Our Foundation students are learning about the needs of living things. Through engaging discussions and activities, they are investigating what pets need to survive and thrive.

Year 1 - The External Features of Animals and Plants

Year 1 students are exploring the physical features of animals and plants. They are examining features such as eyes, ears, tails, skin coverings, and noses. Additionally, students are being introduced to the classification of vertebrates and invertebrates.

Year 2 - Surviving in a Habitat

In Year 2, students are taking a closer look at the external features of animals and plants and how these features help them survive in their habitats.

Year 3 - Life Cycles and Offspring

Year 3 students are exploring the life cycles of different plants and animals. They are learning that all living things grow and change, though their life cycles can vary significantly. Students are understanding the difference between a metamorphic and non metamorphic lifecycle.



Coming Together To Learn

Year 4 - Producers, Consumers, and Decomposers

This term, Year 4 students are diving into ecosystems by exploring producers, consumers, and decomposers. They are investigating how producers make their own food, how consumers rely on plants or other animals for energy, and how decomposers recycle nutrients back into the environment. Students are also learning about food chains and the movement of energy through an ecosystem.

Year 5 - Habitats and Adaptations

Year 5 students are studying how animals and plants adapt to survive in different environments. They are learning about camouflage, mimicry, bird beaks, plant adaptations, and First Nations perspectives on biomimicry.

Year 6 - The Impact of Environmental Conditions

In Year 6, students are examining different habitats and how conditions such as temperature, light, and rainfall affect the survival of plants and animals. They are also investigating the impact of human activity on habitats and animal populations, fostering discussions around conservation and environmental responsibility.



Coming Together To Learn

Auslan Moments Captured

M



ALL ABOUT ME	
MY NAME: Anasha Kumar YAY 4A	
MY HAIR IS:	
EYE COLOUR:	
GLASSES/NO GLASSES:	

AUSLAN NEWS

What's been happening in Auslan?



It's been an exciting start to Term One in our Auslan classrooms, with students across all year levels making wonderful progress in their learning. Here's a quick look at what each group has been focusing on:

Our Foundation students have been exploring the world of letters, animals, colours, and numbers through the Little Learners Love Literacy model.

In Years 1-2, students have been revising their learning from last year. They've been practicing greetings, discussing their favourite colours, and learning to use pronouns in Auslan. It's been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they express themselves!

Students in Years 3-6 have been focusing on describing themselves in Auslan. They've been learning signs for body parts.

We are so proud of all our students for their enthusiasm and dedication to learning Auslan. Keep an eye out for updates as we continue to develop our skills and deepen our understanding of this beautiful language.

GYPs AUSLAN TEAM



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.



Coming Together To Learn

Free workshop

2 Day Autism Workshop for Parents and Carers

Epping, VIC



Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to register



This workshop is for parents, full time carers and grandparents.



Tuesday & Wednesday
4 & 5 March, 2025
9:30am - 2:30pm



Mantra Melbourne Epping
250 Cooper Street
EPPING VIC 3076

Morning tea and a light lunch will be provided



Interpreters available upon request

During the workshop you will learn about:

- The diversity of autism
- Sensory processing
- Understanding behaviour
- Working together with your child's school.

Learn more about autism and ways to strengthen the partnership between home and school.

For more information or to register visit:

 <https://www.positivepartnerships.com.au/PC>

 smidwood@positivepartnerships.com.au



0461 324 758



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>

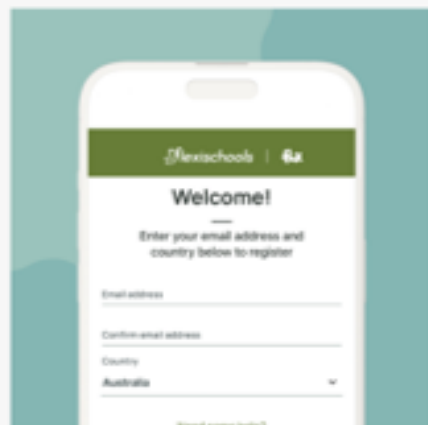
View item descriptions, options and place orders using the flexischools app.
Dietary requirements, allergy friendly, vegetarian and halal options available.

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.





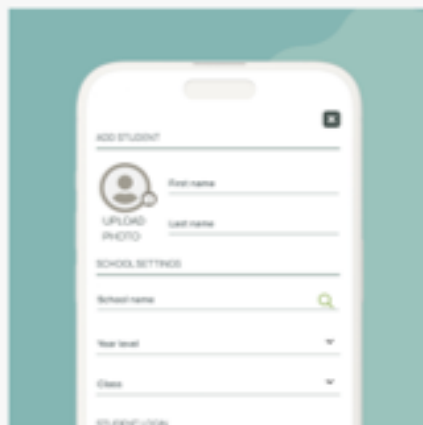
How to set up your Flexischools account



1. Register with Flexischools

Open your Flexischools app and click **'Register'**.

1. Submit your email to create an account.
2. In your inbox, open the registration email.
3. Click the link within and follow registration prompts in app.



2. Enter your child's details

Once your account is set up, log into your Flexischools app

1. Select **'Profile'** icon on the navigation bar.
2. Under **'Students'**, click **'Add new'**.
3. Enter your child's name, school, year level, and class. Click **'Submit'**.



3. Order and pay with ease!

Here's how to order food on Flexischools

1. Click **'Order food'** - top of app home screen
2. Select the student you'd like to order for
3. Choose a service (e.g. lunch) and order date
4. Select any items you'd like to order
5. Once finished, click **'View order'**
6. Select **'Checkout & pay'** to place your order

Placing multiple orders

A recent update to the desktop platform of flexischools has included the function to 'add another order' at checkout, allowing you to include multiple orders for the same day and only pay 1 order fee. You must use the desktop flexischools website to access this.

When this function is included on the app, a notification will be sent to families. Ensure your mobile phone has notifications enabled for your flexischools app to avoid missing canteen announcements.

My child is sick, what should I do?

If it is before the order cut off time of 9am, you are able to log in and cancel the order yourself. If it is after the 9am cutoff time, but before 10:30am, contact the school on 9216 3200 and ask to be transferred to the canteen. Your child's order can be moved to a later date by canteen staff.

How does my child receive frozen or specialty items?

Frozen items, milkshakes, hot chocolates and slushies are to be picked up from the canteen counter. They will be highlighted on the lunch order bag. Your child simply brings the lunch order bag back and lunch playtime and it will be swapped for the required items.

