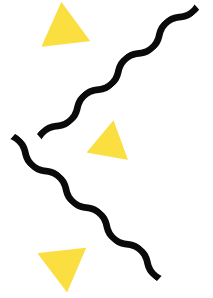


GAAYIP-YAGILA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



THE LATEST EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR
OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

Welcome to Term 3 Week 2.

A huge congratulations to our Year 2 and Year 3 students and teachers for the flexibility and enthusiasm yesterday, participating in their Athletics Day. The weather was not the most pleasant, but the smiles and enjoyment made the decision to alter the format of the day worthwhile. Thanks to Ryan Harris and the teachers for making the day possible.

Student attendance this year has been a little down on our first few years. The Department of Education uses this information amongst other important sets of data to manage a school's success. I would like to encourage our whole school community to consider their children's individual levels of attendance and the potential harm that absenteeism can have on their wellbeing and education.

We have a number of students who have already missed weeks of school and this is of great concern to us. Please make sure your child is attending school at every available opportunity, providing they are well enough to do so.

For parents who can hear the school music, we have recently developed a new soundtrack. Many of these songs have been chosen by our students. We hope you enjoy the new soundtrack.

Have a great week.

KIND REGARDS,

CASSY HOGGINS

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2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday 24th July	Whole School Assembly at 2:30pm
Wednesday 26th July	School Tour at 10:30am & 4:40pm
Friday 28th July	Foundation 100 Days of School
Wednesday 9th August	Year 5/6 Swimming
Thursday 10th August	Year 5/6 Swimming
Friday 11th August	Year 5/6 Swimming
Wednesday 16th August	Year 5/6 Swimming
Thursday 17th August	Year 5/6 Swimming
Friday 18th August	Year 5/6 Swimming
Monday 21st August	Whole School Assembly at 2:30pm Book Week (21st August - 25th August)
Thursday 24th August	Book Character Day Dress Up Parade
Monday 4th September	Student Free Day (Parent Teacher interviews 11- 6.30)
Tuesday 5th September	School Tour at 9:30am & 4:30pm
Friday 15th September	Whole School Assembly at 1:30pm Last Day of Term 3 - 2:10pm Finish
Monday 2nd October	First Day of Term 4
Friday 6th October	Art Show 4pm - 6pm
Monday 30th October	Year 6 Graduation Group Photo
Monday 6th November	Student Free Day (Staff Reporting: VGSA requirement)
Wednesday 20th December	Last Day of Term 4 - 1:00pm Finish

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ENROLMENTS FOR 2024

As a result of the new timeline that has been introduced by the Department of Education, enrolments for 2024 are now due. If you have a child who will be starting Foundation next year it is important that you speak to our administration team this week to complete enrolment forms so that we can plan for anticipated enrolments. If you have a neighbour, friend or relative who lives within our designated neighbourhood (www.findmyschool.gov.au) we ask you to check that they have enrolled their child. Applications are due by 28th July. If you have any questions, please speak with our administration team.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Recently at Gaayip-Yagila Primary School, we have noticed some variations of our school uniform, particularly amongst children in Years 3-6. We would like to remind all parents that our school uniform is compulsory. As per our School Uniform policy that is published on our school website, children should be wearing black pants or shorts, the school polo shirt (with the school logo) in Year F-5 or the Year 6 polo for Year 6 students and black jumper or jacket (with the school logo).

Our Winter Tunic with shirt may also be worn. No black, labelled or free dress jumpers should be worn to school either on top or under the uniform.

Please review your child's school uniform to ensure it fits the above requirements. Items can be purchased from our official uniform supplier Academy Uniforms online at <https://academyuniforms.com.au/login.php>, in person at 238 Wolseley Pl, Thomastown VIC 3074, or contact 9460 8011.

Black pants and shorts can be purchased from all major department stores including Kmart, Target, BigW and Best & Less.

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STAY WELL THIS WINTER

In Victoria, influenza (flu) and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) infection numbers are high among children aged 5 to 11 years, particularly in those in their first few years of school. The Victorian Department of Health expects more respiratory infections over Term 3.

Most children with flu or RSV have a mild fever, runny nose or cough. Some children, particularly babies and children with underlying medical conditions, may have more severe illness.

Keeping our school community well

Parents, carers and students are encouraged to:

- wash and sanitise their hands regularly
- avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- cover their nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing
- stay at home if unwell and consult a general practitioner (GP) or NURSE-ON-CALL as needed
- stay up to date with flu and COVID-19 vaccinations.

Our school has masks for staff, students and visitors if they want to wear them.

Flu vaccinations

Vaccination is the best way to protect yourself and your family from getting the flu. Annual flu vaccination is recommended for everyone aged 6 months and older. As part of the National Immunisation Program, it is free for:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 6 months and older
- children aged 6 months to under 5 years
- people aged 6 months or older with underlying medical conditions.

Flu vaccinations can be booked through GPs, pharmacies or your local council immunisation service.

Find out more

For more information about staying safe this winter, refer to:

- Stay well this winter on the Better Health Channel, translated into 16 languages
- Influenza and immunisation on the Better Health Channel
- Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) on the Better Health Channel
- Getting vaccinated against influenza.

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UPCOMING CHANGES TO NAPLAN REPORTING – YEAR 3 AND YEAR 5

Ahead of NAPLAN results for students being released from Monday 17 July 2023, I am writing to inform you of some changes to this year's reporting. These are changes being introduced nationally by the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA).

NAPLAN will continue to measure student achievement in numeracy, reading, writing, spelling, and grammar and punctuation but the results will now be presented in 4 proficiency levels:

These are:

- exceeding
- strong
- developing
- needs additional support.

This change will give schools, parents and carers clearer information that details student achievement against new proficiency levels.

Students' NAPLAN reports will continue to show how they are tracking against their peers and provide an indication of their skill levels against national averages and where we would expect them to be in order to get the most out of schooling. This provides valuable information to teachers about how we can continue to support your child.

Each set of NAPLAN results is an important milestone but it's also important that students know that one result does not define them – these results are about making sure every student gets the support they need so they can continue to get the best from their learning.

When we provide you with your results, you will also receive information about what the new proficiency levels mean.

As ever, you are welcome to speak to our administration team, or your child's teacher with any questions about these changes.

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INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FRIENDSHIP

When is International Friendship Day 2023?

International Friendship Day 2023 is celebrated on 30th July, and it's recognised on the same day every year.

What is International Friendship Day?

In 2011, the UN declared the 30th of July as International Friendship Day. Celebrations of friendship are held across Australia to mark this special day each year.

The UN felt that friendship between peoples, countries, cultures and individuals could be a source of inspiration. Focusing on friendship and human solidarity, they hope to foster peace and build bridges where needed within communities.

Sharing the human spirit through friendship

Friendship is regarded as the important gateway that builds bonds and develops camaraderie and trust between people.

The simple action of building friendships is seen as the shift that is urgently needed in society to achieve lasting peace. The UN and UNESCO believe this would put an end to division, poverty, violence, and human rights abuses.

How to celebrate International Friendship Day 2023

It's such an important day to take part in. Plus, it's powerful to know that you're contributing towards positive change for everyone.

- Celebrate your friends - Show existing friends how special they are. Your children might like to send their pals a personalised card or a note. Your students could even make some friendship bracelets to gift to their friends.
- Socialise - You could set aside time during the school day for your students to spend quality time together. Children could hang out with their existing friends or chat with new people. Use resources such as our Ice Breaker Game Cards and Conversation Starter Dice Activity to help your young learners along.
- What makes a good friend? - Talk about what it means to be a good friend. Use this worksheet to help your children think about the qualities they appreciate in their friends. Do they have those qualities too? How do they think they could be a better friend?

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- Visit someone - You could link up with a group in the local community, such as a charity or a retirement home. Some of your students could visit them to celebrate International Friendship Day 2023 together, spreading joy within the community.

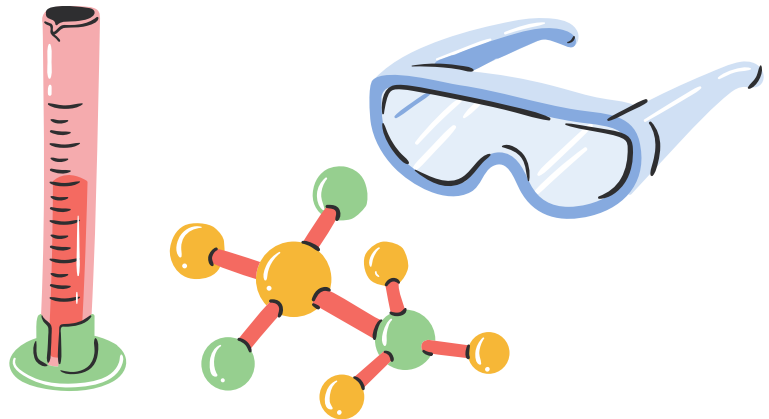
2024 STUDENT TRANSFER

As we begin to look ahead to 2024, we ask that if you are intending to relocate schools at the end of the year that you please let us know at the below form. This includes if you intend to enrol at Merrifield South PS (interim name). This really helps to assist us with our forward planning:

<https://forms.office.com/r/LqYHBUcrwK>



The STEMgineers After School Club will be running at Gaayip-Yagila Primary School on Mondays. If your child is interested in attending, please register at www.stemgineers.com.au



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VISUAL ART NEWS

Term 3 has been shaping up to be a very busy term here in Visual Arts! We've been spending the last couple of weeks wrapping up our weaving projects and starting our term 3 topic, Street Art and Graffiti.

This term, students are going to be examining the art of street artists such as Keith Haring, Jean-Michel Basquiat and Reko Rennie, and creating a range of artworks inspired by their art. Students are currently learning about graffiti lettering and symbols, and have been coming up with their own street art sticker designs for our whole school graffiti art sticker competition.

Finally, we are so excited to announce the first ever GYPS Art Show, a showcase of the masterpieces students have been creating throughout 2023. The Art Show will be on the 6th of October, 2023, from 4-6pm in the gymnasium. There will be over 3000 artworks to experience, as well as art making stations, a barbeque and other food and drinks to purchase. More details will be sent out closer to the date, but we forward to seeing you all there!



VISUAL ARTS TEAM
MARNI HARRIS & ILKAY YAGCIOGLU

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SCIENCE NEWS – GYPS DINO DAY YEAR 1 AND YEAR 2

It was a day filled with exploration, discovery, and the fascinating world of palaeontology!

There were reports of a HUGE blue dinosaur roaming the school grounds on Tuesday and Thursday last week! Did you see this dinosaur on our school grounds?

Last Tuesday and Thursday, our year 1 and 2 students transformed into junior palaeontologists as they embarked on a thrilling adventure, digging up fossils in our very own GYPS sandpit. Equipped with brushes and shovels their eyes sparkled with curiosity and wonder as they delved into the mysteries of the prehistoric era.

The sandpit became a portal to the ancient past, with each scoop of sand revealing hidden treasures from millions of years ago. Our young palaeontologists meticulously brushed away the grains, carefully uncovering fossilized remains of long-extinct creatures. The excitement and joy on their faces were simply priceless.

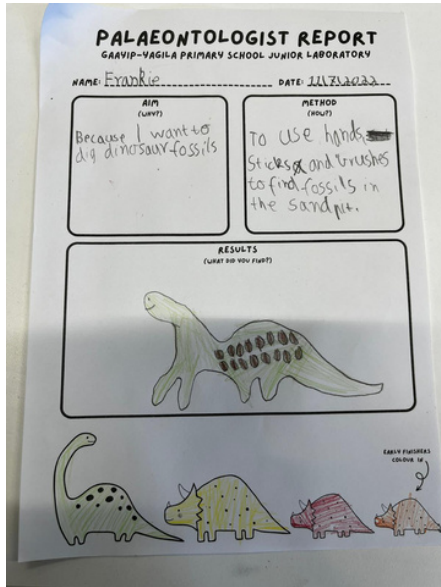
The activity allowed our Year 1 and Year 2 students to develop a range of skills. They honed their observation skills, analysing the shapes of the fossils to identify the types of dinosaurs they belonged to. They also practiced patience and perseverance as they carefully unearthed each fossil, fostering a sense of determination and resilience.

As you can imagine, the day was a roaring success, sparking a deep interest in palaeontology among our learners across the school as many fossils were yet to be found.

We look forward to building upon the excitement generated by Dino Day and exploring more fascinating subjects that captivate the minds of our students. This semester we will be travelling into space and our foundation students will discover the way in which objects can move!

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If you have any questions or would like to share any feedback about our Dino Day or any other aspect of our curriculum, please feel free to reach out to us.



GYPS SCIENCE TEAM
SALLY HILL, MELISSA PONGRAC, AMY HICKS,
LAUREN HOGG

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BOOK WEEK



CHILDREN'S
BOOK WEEK®

#CBCA2023

READ
GROW
Inspire

19 to 25 AUGUST



PARADE

THURSDAY 24TH AUGUST

More details to come...