

## Week 3 Term 1

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Namadgi Families,

Welcome to the 2026 School Year! On behalf of our community, I would like to extend a welcome to new families and those students transitioning from Mt Taylor Primary School into our Year 7 program. When visiting classrooms across the last couple of weeks I have seen engaged and settled students, working on educative and wellbeing programs planned by our Namadgi staff. As we advance our routines from Preschool to Year 10, I am confident we are set for another productive school year. I encourage families to reach out to the school if you have any concerns and we can guide your enquiry to the appropriate staff member for support. Please contact [info@namadgi.act.edu.au](mailto:info@namadgi.act.edu.au) to lodge your enquiry and we will respond as soon as we can.

In 2026, our Year 9 and 10 Japanese staff are preparing another exciting trip to Japan scheduled to launch later in the year. For those families supporting this trip I would just like to re-emphasise the importance of securing a spot with a deposit and making sure regular payments are made as the year progresses. This is a totally pay for use experience and full payment is required on the due dates prior to departure. More information will circulate with meetings at school being arranged to keep families informed.

Throughout the year, students will get opportunities to be part of excursions, camps, sports carnivals, special events and incursions. These all have risk assessments, are meticulously planned with notes and information out to families and require the return of permissions and money by a due date. In order to ensure these extracurricular activities go ahead, and for your child to participate fully, we require your attention to return these components by the due dates. Each activity requires venue bookings, buses, staffing ratios to be met and an assurance of risk mitigation by finalising numbers. As such, no payments or notes can be accepted on the day of the activities as duty of care ratios, catering or activity specific numbers need to be communicated and secured prior to attendance.

If you haven't already downloaded the App, please remember there is now Sentral for Parents (Parent Portal). Communications have already been sent to families outlining where to download the App, how to set it up and how to use the App components. This App allows parents to communicate absences with the school, check attendance, make payments and much, much more. For further information please contact the front office for instructions on how to access Sentral for Parents or book a time to access the Parent Portal help desk run by our friendly staff.

I urge families to support voluntary contribution payments in 2026 in order to support resourcing consumables and materials that directly benefit students. From Preschool to Year 10, voluntary contributions ensure supplementary funding goes directly back to the students. Information can be found on the school web page under 'Recent School Notes'. The information online contains more detailed accounts of how the contributions are spent, what the direct costs are and how you can make a payment. Every contribution is greatly appreciated.

When starting a new school year it is important to establish routines, boundaries and expectations early on with all students. Part of the Namadgi School values and expectations is that students wear the school uniform. The ACT Education Directorate and Namadgi School have policies on uniform and we ask all students to dress in the uniform to help promote positive identity, pride in our school and looking smart when we attend excursions or events. The uniform order form can be found on our school web page under 'Recent School Notes' and our uniform shop will operate every Tuesday (8:30am-9am) and Friday (3pm-3:30pm). Pop in if you need any uniform purchases or contact the front office for support. If payment plans or assistance are required, the front office team can help with this too.

NAPLAN preparation for 2026 is already underway. Families with students undertaking NAPLAN this year will receive information soon outlining the dates and how the online assessment platform will work in 2026. Staff will keep you updated as we progress closer to the assessment weeks with the NAPLAN window being the 11<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> of March.

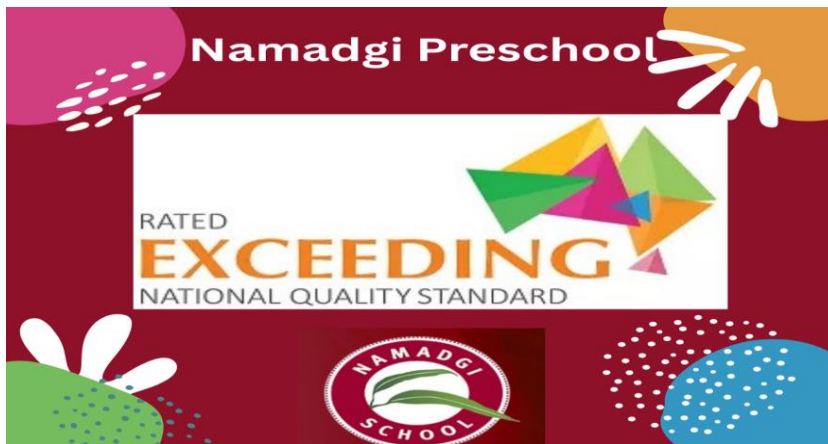
In order to minimise interruptions to classes and teaching our administration team will no longer be using the school-wide broadcast PA system to announce students to the front office. If you need your child to attend the administration building for early departures or appointments, please inform our administration team via [info@namadgi.act.edu.au](mailto:info@namadgi.act.edu.au) in the morning and this will be relayed to staff. You can also convey such requests via the Sentral for Parents App (Parent Portal). Other communication methods can be used for emergency situations, but to avoid the interruptions across the school we will now be following this protocol. We thank you in advance for your support.

Please keep up to date with school happenings via Facebook or electronic correspondence (email and SMS). To ensure we can contact you effectively, please update your details with the front office team, particularly if you have recently changed your email or mobile phone number. This can be done through email correspondence at [info@namadgi.act.edu.au](mailto:info@namadgi.act.edu.au).

At Namadgi School, we believe it is important to have open communication and positive relationships between school and home and I invite parents and carers seeking to be more involved to contact our school P&C President, Mrs. Rhodina Ellison, and join the P&C team. As parents come and go from this important association with school, the P&C are looking for interested community members to come on board. Please contact Rhodina through the association Facebook page or via email at [namadgischool.pandc@gmail.com](mailto:namadgischool.pandc@gmail.com). Our School Board and P&C will meet every week 8 after school hours and I encourage families to get involved and be part of the Namadgi School community. Have a great weekend and start to the 2026 school year.

Kind Regards,  
Gareth Richards  
Principal – Namadgi School

## Preschool



### Yuma Everyone!

What a brilliant start to the year we have had! The Preschool Team were so excited to meet our new preschoolers and are having a lovely time getting to know these amazing young people.

Preschool has been filled with fun and discovery as the children explore and make new friends and develop caring relationships with their teachers and educators.

Focusses at this time of the year revolve around supporting children as they get used to their surroundings and develop confidence in themselves navigating new environments. It has been wonderful to see the enjoyment shared as the Namadgi preschoolers get used to routines and develop their already impressive curiosity for learning and experiencing their world. 😊 😊 😊

Seesaw is now all set up as our main source of communicating with families. If you have not yet connected or are having trouble, please talk to your child's teacher.

We are looking forward to a fantastic year of wonder and learning with you all and welcome your input, questions and suggestions.

**Teachers: Cindy Treverrow, Rebecca Buchanan, Mel Goodridge**

**LSAs: Puneet Sandhu, Jodie Tolson and Lesley Charlton**

**Executive Teacher: Emma Vince**



## REMINDERS:

- Personal mobile phones and digital devices may not be used on preschool grounds.
- Please make sure all clothing and belongings are clearly labelled
- Please make sure there is a spare set of clothes in your child's back pack



## K-6 Small Group Program

Welcome back everyone! We are excited to see so many returning - and new- faces joining us in the small group program this year. Thank you to all the parents and guardians who have diligently written names on hats, drink bottles, bags and lunch boxes - we really appreciate it!

In SGPBR we have been exploring our new classroom and learning how to move safely throughout the space. We have been discovering items of interest and finding new ways to make them move in creative play. We are learning that the new adults in our lives are here to help and keep us safe. Learning is tailored to each child in our classroom and students have begun to engage with a wide range of play based learning and individual learning for Literacy and Numeracy.



SGPCS have come back to school happy and excited! We have loved exploring our new room and discovering new things to engage with and making new friends. We have jumped straight into our learning with reading, handwriting, writing, comprehension and numeracy. We had our first visit up to kitchen/garden and enjoyed seeing Squirtle the turtle. A busy week which has seen many tired bodies!





What a fantastic start to the new year for SGPLW! We have hit the ground running with an incredibly productive first week back.

It's been all hands (and fingers!) on deck as we kicked off the term by creating a collection of fine motor activities, whipping up fresh batches of playdough on day 1 — the perfect way to get our fingers primed and ready for writing.

Our learning is already in full swing:

- **Fresh Tastes Inquiry:** We began exploring the five food groups, focusing first on **grains**. We discussed how carbohydrates and fibre act as the fuel our bodies need to function at their best.
- **Literacy & Numeracy:** Between practising our reading and diving into new maths games, our "memory bank" of number strategies is already in motion!
- **The Breakout Space:** Our new area has been a huge hit. Whether it's being used for indoor breaks, cosy story sessions, small group work, or a quiet spot to recharge, it's quickly becoming a favourite classroom feature.

To top it all off, we enjoyed our regular visits to the **Kitchen Garden, PE,** and the **Library.** It has been a fun, high-energy, and joyful week. We can't wait to see what the rest of the term holds!



**Class:** SGPLW **Teacher:** Miss Lindel **LSA Staff:** Riley, Priya / Foxy

**Executive Teacher:** Emma Vince

## KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten students have made a wonderful start to the school year. They're settling into new routines with growing confidence and are already busy mastering important early-school skills, like packing and unpacking their bags, using scissors and glue safely, and beginning to explore early numeracy and literacy learning. It's been a joy watching them grow more independent each day.

### Maths and Data

Maths in Kindergarten begins with something very familiar... themselves!

This week, the students explored their ages and helped create a class graph to show how old everyone is. Many are already excited for their birthdays so they can move their photo to the next number on the chart.

They also looked at another big Kindergarten milestone, losing teeth! The class graphed how many teeth have been lost so far, and are looking forward to moving their tooth when they lose their next tooth!

Alongside these everyday moments, students have been engaging in number games and hands-on activities to practise counting and recording numbers.



### Literacy



## Welcome to 1/2 at Namadgi!

Year 1 and 2 have had a wonderful start to 2026. This year each class in the 2C Villa has been named after animals from the ocean.

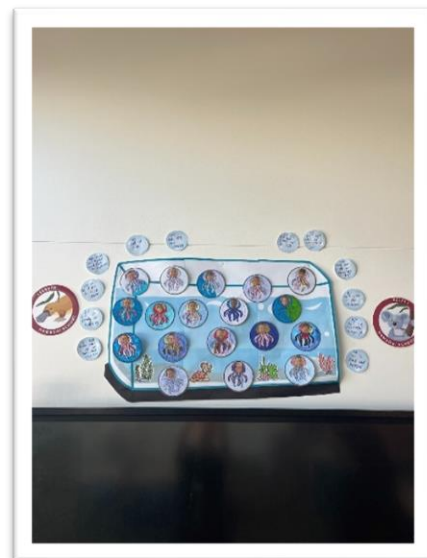
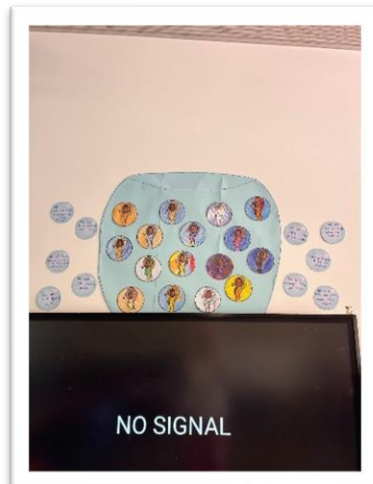
This year, the classes and teachers are:

- 1/2 Dugongs - Mrs Deards
- 1/2 Jellyfish - Miss Laing
- 1/2 Stingrays - Ms Gracie
- 1/2 Seahorses - Miss Glavinic

### Code of Cooperation

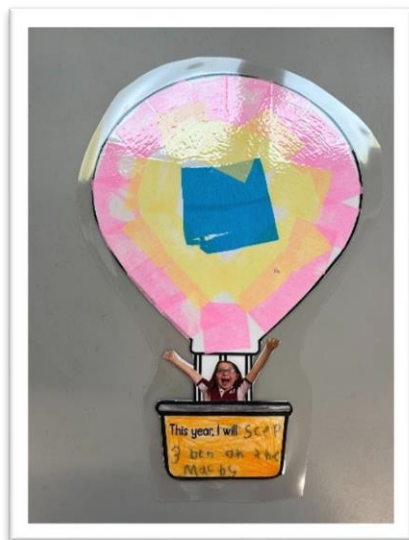
Each class created its own code of cooperation to set shared expectations for both students and teachers. Students led the discussion, showing strong ownership as they identified what matters most for maintaining a safe and supportive classroom environment. To finalise the agreement, each student “signed” it by adding their chosen class animal alongside their name.

At the beginning of the year it is important for students to feel safe and connected. Many lessons in the first few weeks focus on developing a sense of belonging, and celebrating diversity. In order to promote togetherness, Year 1 and 2 students read *Our Class is a Family* and talked about the ways in which they are similar and different to their peers. They then explored why it is important to work together with others no matter their differences.



### Goal Setting

To begin the year, our classes read *Oh, the Places You'll Go!* and used it as a springboard for conversations about personal growth and setting meaningful goals. Students reflected on what they hope to achieve this year and discussed the small steps that help us move toward those goals. Each child then created a colourful hot air balloon to represent their aspirations, writing their individual goal inside. These balloons are now displayed in our classrooms as a reminder of the exciting journeys each student is embarking on.



## Number of the Day

This year we launched our first Number of the Day routine as a whole year group. Each day, students gather in the shared space for a number talk, led by one of the children as we count through the days of school. Throughout these sessions, we explore a range of mathematical ideas, including correct number formation, tally marks, ten frames, place value, counting forwards and backwards, numbers before and after, skip counting, and recognising number names and numerals.

## Year 1 and 2 Team

Susie Deards, Jordan Glavinic, Briana Gracie, Jessica Laing  
K-2 Executive Teacher: Kristy Grady

## YEAR 3 and 4

We warmly welcome all of our Year 3 and 4 students and families as we begin another exciting school year together. We've had a wonderful start, spending time getting to know one another and building strong, supportive relationships within our classes. The classrooms have been full of enthusiasm as we work together to create positive and inclusive learning environments.

One of our first meaningful projects involved collaborating on an Acknowledgement of Country. The 3/4 Villa went and sat 'On Country' to reflect on the land on which we learn and to deepen their understanding of the rich culture and history of First Nations peoples. It has been fantastic to see students sharing ideas, working together, and developing a strong sense of respect and inclusion.



In addition, we have been busy setting up our classrooms and establishing daily routines. Students have shown great responsibility and teamwork, helping to create spaces that are organised, welcoming, and ready for learning.

We are very much looking forward to the year ahead and can't wait to share more of our learning. Thank you for your continued support as we work together to make this a successful and enjoyable year for all.

The Year 3/4 Team

Ms Cintha, Mrs Roseler, Mrs Howell and Mrs Theo (Executive Teacher)



The Year 3/4 Team

Ms Cintha, Mrs Roseler, Mrs Howell and Mrs Theo (Executive Teacher)

## YEAR 5 and 6

Welcome to 2026!

We would like to warmly welcome all families to the new school year. We already have a very busy and exciting year planned in years 5/6 and the students have settled in well.

In Literacy, we are focusing on *microbiographies* while refreshing our understanding of the writing process. We have also begun our morphology unit and are enjoying exploring how words are built and connected. Thanks to our consistent whole-school approach to Reader's Workshop, students have quickly settled into familiar routines.

In Mathematics, students have been reviewing multiplication strategies as we prepare for a big year of new learning ahead.

In HASS, we are exploring the Australian Government and have been having lots of fun discussing some rules we absolutely *would not* want to have in our classrooms!

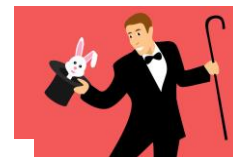
Students have also enjoyed participating in joint class PE/board/card games and will continue to build on their skills and resilience throughout the year through collaboration with other classes.

### Reminders

- Please ensure all students' clothing and hats are clearly labelled.
- **5/6EJ and 5/6CW Assembly:** Friday of Week 5
- **School Swimming Carnival:** Thursday of Week 6

As always, please reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions. We're looking forward to a fantastic year

Caitlin Walker, Edward Jones, Femke Matthews & Emma McLeod  
**Executive Teacher:** Craig Lambert



have any concerns or questions, please reach out to your child's teacher if you have any concerns or together! 😊

**Classroom Teachers:**





## KITCHEN GARDEN NEWS



### Welcome Back – Let the Learning Grow!

We hope everyone enjoyed a relaxing break and is ready to jump back into learning and routines! Students wasted no time getting back into the garden, eagerly exploring all the changes and new growth, lending a hand with weeding and observing what's been happening while they were away.

In K–2, students have been learning all about waste and recycling, making sure they know exactly which bins to use around the school. In the kitchen this week, they put their grating skills to work to make delicious zucchini brownies.

Students in Years 3–6 have been busy sharpening their knife skills, preparing a fresh cucumber and dill salad, dehydrating zucchini to make crunchy chips, and cutting produce for our preserves — | which will soon be entered into the Royal Canberra Show.



#### Kitchen Garden Team

K-2 Teacher Kathryn Glanville,

3-6 Teacher Lydia Desmet

Kitchen Garden Assistant Julie White

Executive Teacher Anthea Theodoridis

## SENIOR SCHOOL

### Small Group

Welcome to 2026 and to our 2 SGP classes 7/8KW and 7/8BC. We have had a great start to term 1 with the students settling into routines and building relationships with staff and peers. We have been impressed by the effort and resilience shown by the students as they begin the year, and we look forward to supporting their learning and wellbeing as the year progresses.



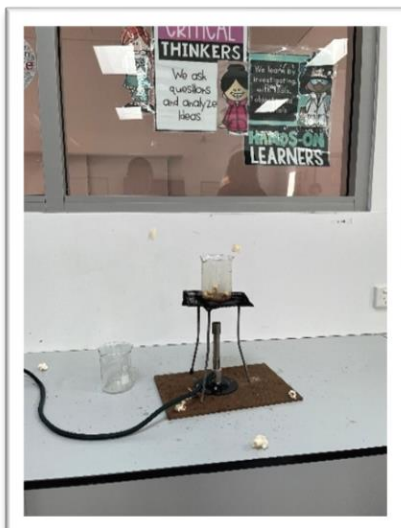
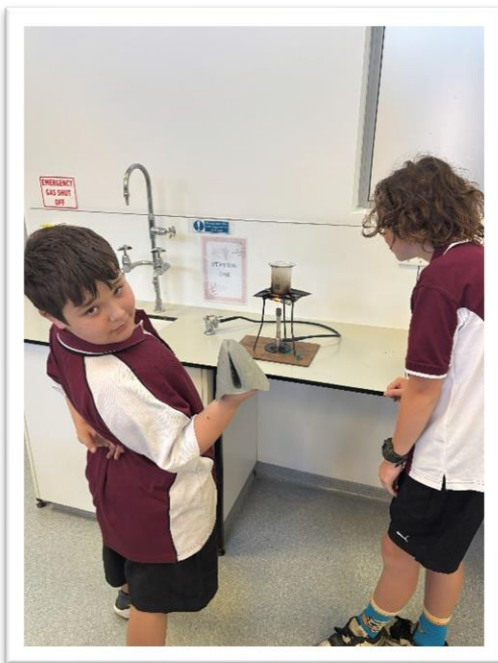
**Small Group Program – Ms Wright, Mr. H, Ms McLoughlin, Ms. Cameron, Gai, Sam, Hawani and Kelly.**

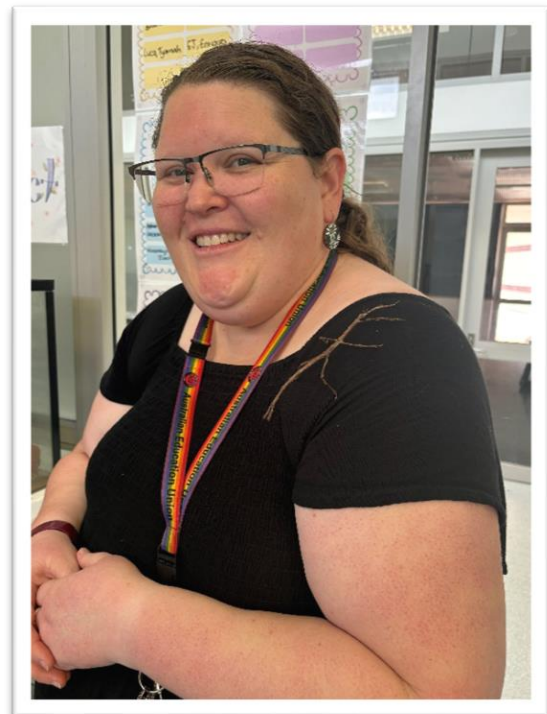
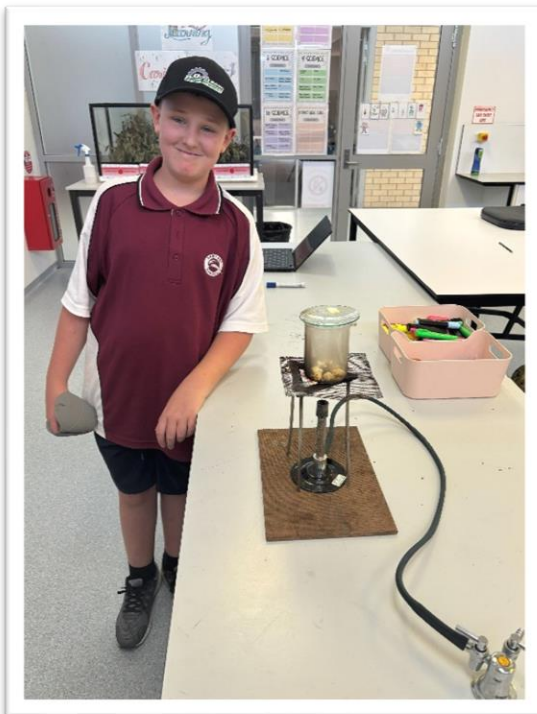
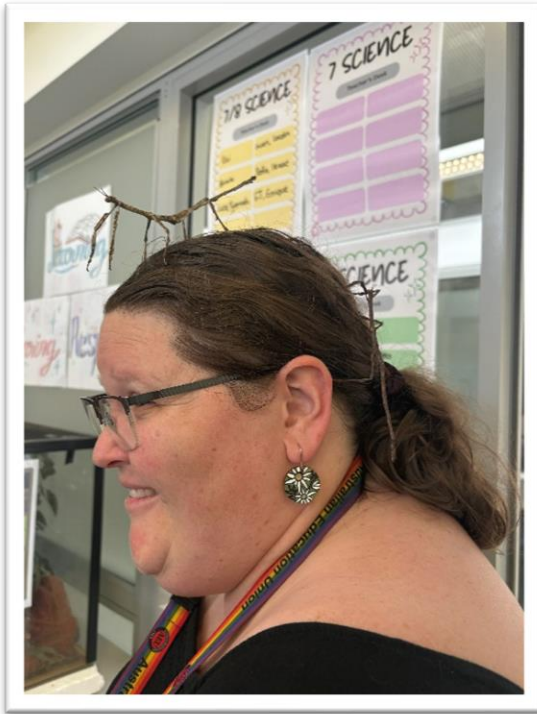
## Maths and Science

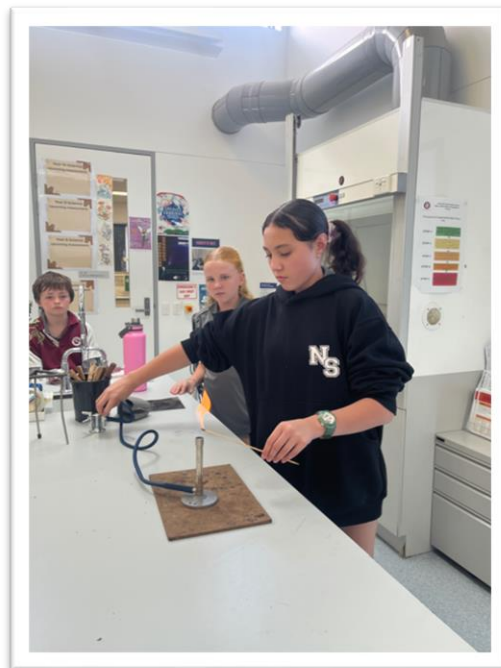
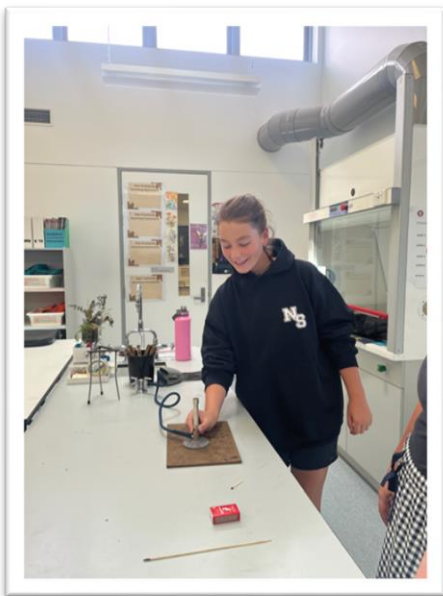
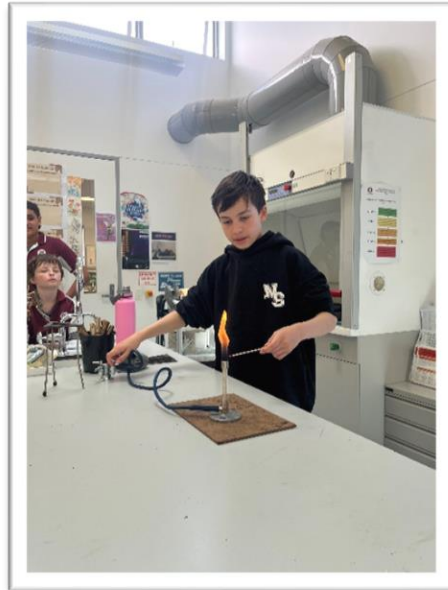
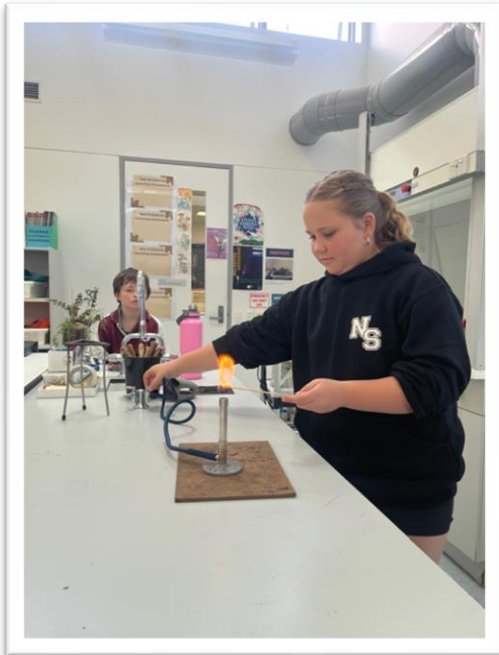
### Welcome to 2026!

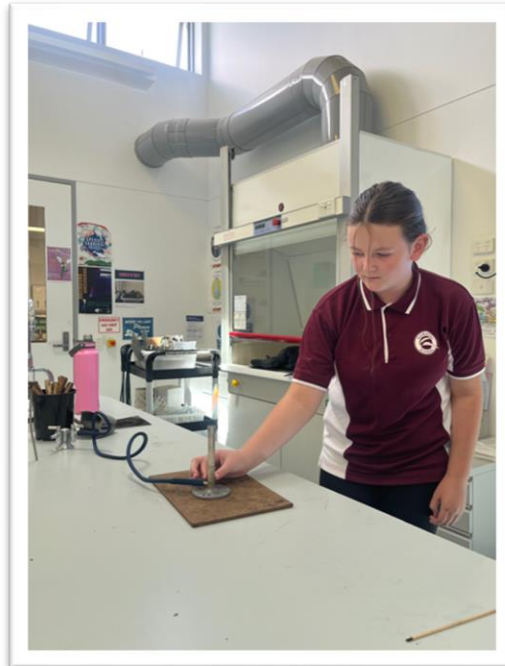
The Maths and Science team would like to warmly welcome everyone to the 2026 school year. We are looking forward to a fantastic year of curiosity, challenge and discovery!

Our Year 7 scientists have started the year learning about lab safety and correct Bunsen burner use, proudly earning their Bunsen Burner Licences a big milestone in high school science! Year 8 students have been practising their Bunsen burner skills through a popcorn practical, observing changes in states of matter. It's a fantastic real-world example of solids, liquids and gases in action (and definitely a class favourite!). In Year 9, students are exploring the Periodic Table and discovering the patterns that help scientists predict how elements behave. Meanwhile, Year 10 students are investigating Newton's Laws of Motion, building their understanding of how forces affect movement in everyday life.









In Mathematics, our Year 7 students began with prime factorisation, showing off their strong times table knowledge, and are now learning about perfect square numbers — numbers formed by multiplying a whole number by itself (such as  $6 \times 6 = 36$ ). Fun fact: the first ten perfect squares are 1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, 49, 64, 81 and 100 — many students quickly recognise these patterns once they start looking for them! Year 8 students are being introduced to Pythagoras' Theorem, learning how to calculate missing side lengths in right-angled triangles. And finally, our Year 9 and 10 students have revised Pythagoras and are now moving into trigonometry, confidently solving right-angled triangle problems using sine (sin), cosine (cos) and tangent (tan).

To finish on a lighter note, our classroom stick insects have grown significantly over the holidays and are continuing to thrive. Students have loved checking in on their progress — they are a wonderful reminder that science is happening all around us!

We are proud of the strong start students have made and are excited for a wonderful year ahead!

**Emily Corke, Amy McFarlane, Jade Payne, Charlie Bradshaw, Alicia Nguyen & Dhanashree Vedanti**  
**Executive Teacher: Stacey Freedman**

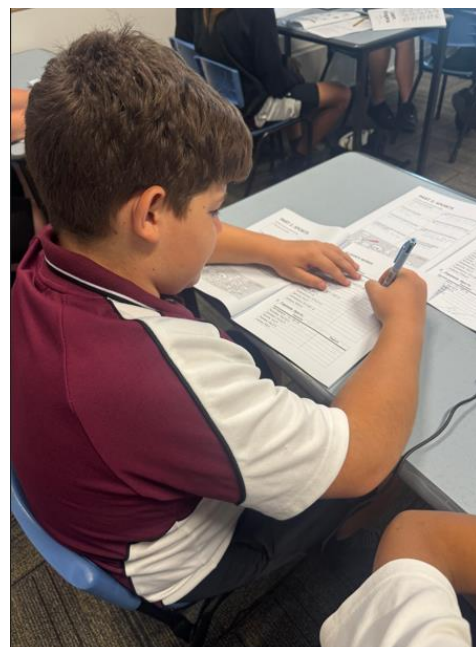
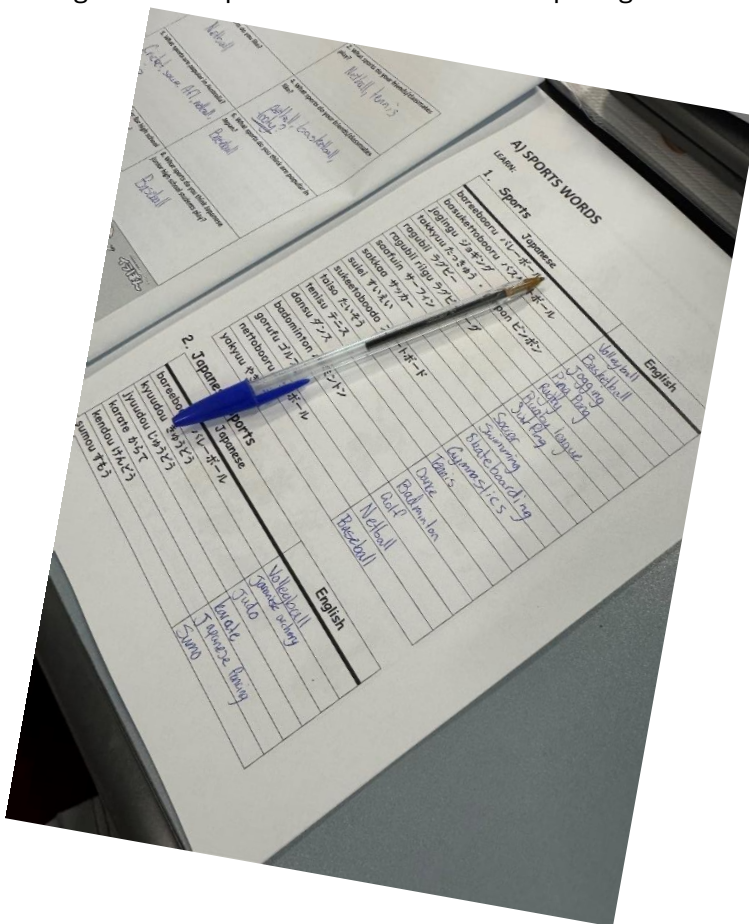
## English, Humanities & Languages

A Strong Start to Learning at Namadgi

The year is off to a vibrant start across the English, Humanities and Languages faculties at Namadgi, with students engaging in rich, creative, and challenging learning experiences.

In English, our focus this term is on building core communication skills through engaging units. Year 7 students are exploring life writing, reflecting on their own experiences, and developing confidence as writers. Year 8 is diving into journalism, including an exciting whodunit style investigation that builds critical thinking and inquiry skills. Year 9 students are learning the art of persuasion, analysing how ethos, pathos and logos can be used to influence audiences, while Year 10 is developing visual literacy by creating children's books that explore sensitive and important topics for young audiences with care and creativity.

In Humanities, students are examining the world from multiple perspectives. Year 7 is learning about civics and citizenship, and how laws are made in Australia, Year 8 is investigating the impact of the Conquistadors in the medieval period, and Year 9 is studying biomes and food security. Year 10 is developing practical life skills through a unit on personal finance and comparing Australia's living standards to other countries.



In Japanese, students are actively building their language skills through real-world communication. Year 7 is learning Hiragana and practising self-introductions, Year 8 is discussing sports and hobbies, and the combined Year 9/10 class is conducting interviews in Japanese, developing both confidence and cultural understanding.

It's been wonderful to see students engaged, curious and enthusiastic in their learning as we begin another exciting Namagical year!

[Photos a year 8 student at work in Japanese and some year 8 Japanese work]

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION



NAPLAN testing will occur in our school between **11 and 23 March 2026** for students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

Online NAPLAN tests provide more precise results and are engaging for students. The tests are tailored (or adaptive), which means that each test presents questions that may be more or less difficult depending on a student's responses. This helps students remain engaged with the assessment.

Tailored testing allows a wider range of student abilities to be assessed and measures student achievement more precisely. A student's overall NAPLAN result is based on both the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions challenging; they may be taking a more complex test pathway.

All Year 3 students will complete the writing assessment on paper.

NAPLAN provides valuable information to schools and parents about literacy and numeracy achievement. It supports school improvement processes by enabling teachers to monitor student progress over time and to identify areas of strength and development.

All eligible students are encouraged and supported to participate in NAPLAN testing. Visit [www.nap.edu.au](http://www.nap.edu.au) to see interactive versions of the test and for more information.

## Medical Plans – Urgent Reminder

For families who have indicated their child has an allergy, anaphylaxis, or a medical condition requiring a management plan.

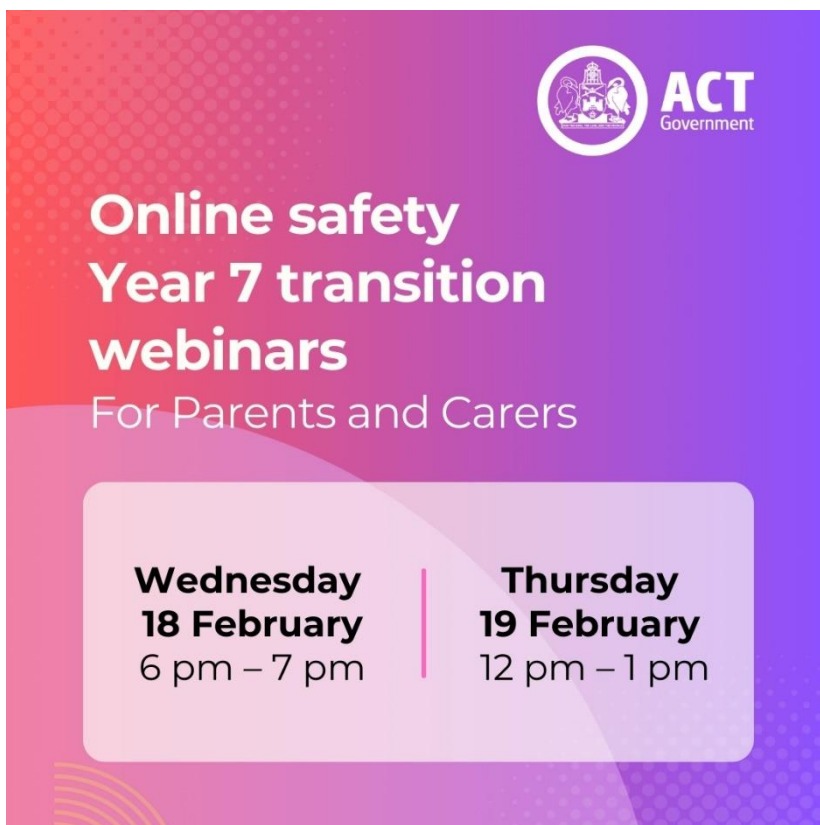
We kindly request that all required medical forms be completed and returned to the front office by close of business on Monday 16 Feb 2026.

Notes and forms will be sent home today. Please treat this as urgent and return the completed documents promptly.

If you require assistance completing the forms, the front office team is available to support you.

## Parent Portal Help Desk

Please ask for Alex or Meghana at the front desk who will support you with registering on Parent Portal



The poster features a purple and pink gradient background with a grid pattern. At the top right is the ACT Government logo. The main text reads 'Online safety Year 7 transition webinars For Parents and Carers'. Below this, two white rounded rectangles contain the dates and times: 'Wednesday 18 February 6 pm – 7 pm' and 'Thursday 19 February 12 pm – 1 pm'.

**All Year 7 parents and carers are invited to attend an online safety webinar to:**

- discover and respond to current online safety issues
- help your child be safe online
- learn where to get more resources and support.

Families are invited to attend **one** of these sessions:

Wednesday 18 February 6pm-7pm OR  
Thursday 19 February 12pm-1pm.

To RSVP please go to [www.bit.ly/2026\\_Parent\\_OSE\\_RSVP](http://www.bit.ly/2026_Parent_OSE_RSVP)

## Christian Education In Schools

Dear Parents/Carers,

Christian Education is available as a curriculum option at your child's school because parents have requested it. This is based on provisions in the *Education Act, 2004*. The Christian Education In Schools (CEIS) project provides a coordinated service to fulfil such requests for all Christian Religious Education with a coordinated program of four sessions each year (one per term) in a 3-year curriculum cycle. Each session:

- is modern, interactive and age-appropriate
- runs for about one hour in a group setting
- explores a new topic each term
- is prepared professionally and presented by trained, endorsed staff and volunteers.

Parent permission is essential for children to participate in CEIS. Please use the section below if you would like to request this for your child. Please note:

- Permission usually remains active while your child is at the school.
- You can change your request at any time by contacting the front office.
- Some schools also include reminders about upcoming sessions in their newsletters.

If you would like your child to take part, please complete the permission section below and return it to the front office, or complete the online form at [ceis.org.au/parents](http://ceis.org.au/parents).

For further information, please contact your school or visit [www.ceis.org.au](http://www.ceis.org.au).

Kind regards,

Jessica Fields

CEIS Coordinator



**Namadgi Breakfast Club**

Every Morning  
8:30 till 8:50am  
in our Kitchen Garden

*Sandwiches*  
*Fruit*  
*Toast*  
*Cereals*





**NAMADGI**  
*Uniform Shop*

FRIDAYS: 3:00 – 3:30 PM

**We collect second hand uniforms  
that are in good condition**

Please drop donations to  
the Front Office





**NAMADGI COMMUNITY PRODUCE**

Each week Namadgi School receives fresh produce for our community from One Box.

**THE ONE BOX**

You can collect **FREE** fresh produce from outside the front office each Thursday





**Help Our Kambah Community**

We are collecting donations of pantry items to gift to our community

**PLEASE DROP DONATIONS OFF TO OUR SCHOOL FRONT OFFICE**

ITEMS YOU CAN DONATE:

- RICE
- CANNED FOOD
- CANNED FRUIT
- NOODLE
- CRACKERS
- PASTA SAUCE




## ACTION

TAE KWON-DO

### MARTIAL ARTS CLASSES IN YOUR SCHOOL!

**BOOK A FREE TRIAL NOW!**

**NAMADGI SCHOOL**

**HURRY!**  
LIMIT SLOTS AVAILABLE

**THURSDAYS**  
CHILDREN 6PM & ADULTS 7PM

**KIDS DEVELOP**

- ✓ DISCIPLINE
- ✓ CONFIDENCE
- ✓ FOCUS

AND LOTS OF...

**FUN!**

**SCAN TO BOOK**



0498 006 006  
Info@actiontkd.com.au  
Actiontkd.com.au