



Term 1 Week 6

Friday 8 March 2024

# Namadgi School Newsletter

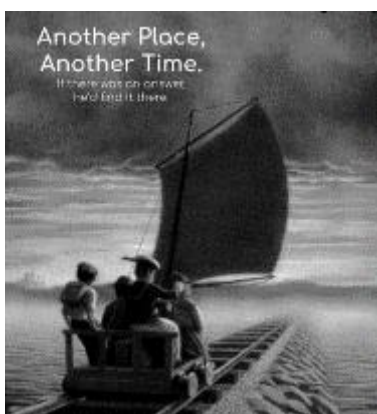
## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers,

And just like that we have finished Week 6 of Term 1 and are looking forward to the long weekend. Our new students and families have settled in, and we are still welcoming new enrolments as our total numbers increase from previous years. I would also like to welcome our new international students as they not only navigate a new school but a new country and culture as well.

Congratulations to our award recipients winning ribbons at the recent swimming carnival. Participation was strong in the events, and it was great to see parents supporting on the day. We always look to maximise participation from all students attending and it would be great to see more numbers at our next event. Our next carnival is the Cross Country, it is a great way to get outdoors and enjoy a jog or walk with friends. More information will come out closer to the day.

Please be reminded the new mobile phone policy is now in action. Students have supported the changes and the school has a few exemptions in place. These are recorded and monitored as per the policy, and we will follow up on students who breach the policy during school hours by contacting parents/carers and if needed put in place affirmative actions to reinforce the behaviours we need to see.



Our High School English faculty are currently holding a creative writing competition! The theme is, "Another Place, Another Time". Students are being given a visual stimulus and are encouraged to write around 1200 words with a \$30 prize up for grabs.

So get thinking and typing as you plan your creative response.

**How do you enter?**  
Write a short story with the theme  
"Another place, another time".  
Please look at the image below.  
The short story has to be less than 1200 words.

Send your entries to:  
[Dzintre.Jones@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Dzintre.Jones@ed.act.edu.au) by  
5pm Friday March 15.

Winners will be announced at  
Friday's assembly March 22.

Thank you to our families who support the Book Fair. Money raised goes back to our library to help purchase resources for students and continue our collection of books for students and families to enjoy. Thank you to Miss Black and Darrell for coordinating the Book Fair for Term 1.

Have a great long weekend and we will see everyone on Tuesday in Week 7 ready to go.

Kind Regards,  
**Gareth Richards**  
Principal



Please note Assembly change from Week 8 to Week 11

Assembly Dates	
Friday – 9.10am to 10am	
<b>Term 1</b> <b>Week 4:</b> Whole School- Secondary <b>Week 5:</b> Primary Hosted by 5/6 <b>Week 6:</b> Secondary <b>Week 8:</b> <b>Week 9:</b> GOOD FRIDAY <b>Week 10:</b> Primary Hosted by Year 4 <b>Week 11:</b> Whole School – Primary - Arts	<b>Term 2</b> <b>Week 1:</b> Anzac Assembly <b>Week 2:</b> Secondary <b>Week 3:</b> Primary Hosted by Year 3 <b>Week 6:</b> Secondary <b>Week 7:</b> Primary Hosted 5/6 <b>Week 8:</b> Whole School- Primary-SAKG <b>Week 10:</b> NAIDOC WEEK Assembly
Date	Event
Monday 11 March	Canberra Day Holiday
Tuesday 12 – Friday 15 March	Book Fair
Tuesday 13 to 22 March	NAPLAN
Thursday 14 March	Board meeting 5-6pm, P&C 6 to 7pm
Monday 18 March	Year 7 immunisation
Monday 25 – Wed 27 March	Outdoor Ed camp
Friday 29 March	Good Friday
Monday 1 April	Easter Monday
Friday 5 April	Primary Assembly by Year 4
Monday 8 to Wednesday 10 April	9/10 Sydney Camp
Wednesday 10 to Friday 12 April	7/8 Kianinny Camp
Friday 12 April	Whole School Assembly – Primary - Arts
Monday 29 April	Pupil Free Day
Friday 3 May	School Cross Country
Thursday 16 May	School Athletics Carnival
Monday 27 May	Reconciliation Day

#### Wanted

Small pots and pans for Junior School sandpit play.

#### Free period products in ACT public schools

In 2023 the ACT Government passed new legislation to make free period products available at a range of community locations across the ACT for anyone who needs them.

This is already something we do in ACT public schools and will continue to do so for free. Pads and tampons are available in ACT public high schools, colleges, and combined schools. Pads are available in ACT public primary schools.

They can be accessed at any time during the school day from the front office for staff, students, and visitors. If you have any questions, please speak to your school front office. You can read more about the initiative at: <https://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/women/period-products-access-project>



# Preschool

## Yuma Preschool Families!



What a fun and exciting time the Namadgi preschoolers have had so far!

We have enjoyed lots of water play fun in the hot weather and are looking forward to some more nature orientated activities as the weather gets cooler.

The children had a marvellous time starting to borrow books in our preschool library. It was so great to see them all looking through books with interest and enthusiasm. This is an excellent step in the right direction as they begin their reading learning journey.

We had our photos taken in week 4, it was so much fun posing for the photos! They did a great job for Jenny, our preschool photographer. Remember to register and pay for photos BEFORE 15<sup>th</sup> MARCH.

There have been many friendships growing, and the children have been developing their sense of belonging as they explore preschool, learning how to cooperate and enjoy being in a bigger social environment. This emphasis on developing belonging and being creates a starting point for fun and learning as they expand and grow as people, becoming who they are in the world.



Harmony Week 2024 sees preschool celebrating the theme of 'Everyone Belongs' with an afternoon of games from around the world, where parents and younger sisters and brothers are invited. For the Wallabies and Emus, this date will be Monday 18<sup>th</sup> of March, and for the Wombats it will be Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> of March. Look out for notes and Seesaw notifications.

The children have embraced learning, friendship and fun whole heartedly and the Preschool Team are looking forward to extending their learning even further as the year progresses.

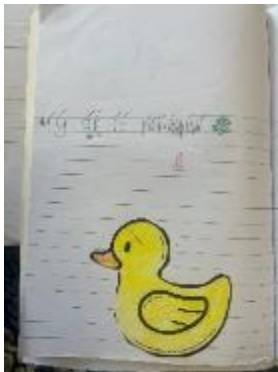
**Cindy Treverrow, Rebecca Buchanan  
Puneet Sandhu and Jodie Tolson  
Executive Teacher: Shannon Birch**





# Kindergarten

In Kindergarten we have started learning letter names and the most common sound they make. On Monday mornings all of Kindy join together to participate in a 'mystery box'. In the mystery box there are items that start with the letter focus for that week. Below are some pictures of when we introduced the letter /m/ and the letter /a/. We discuss the items and make predictions for what we think the focus will be. Our Literacy blocks for the whole week are then centred around the new letter/sound. Students engage with a focus text during Readers Workshop where we pull out new words that start with the letter focus and identify new 'high frequency words'. We then base our writing around these words. Check out some of our amazing work!



In Mathematics we are continuing to build our number knowledge through our daily 'Number of the Day' experience. We are also working on matching numbers with their names and corresponding quantities.



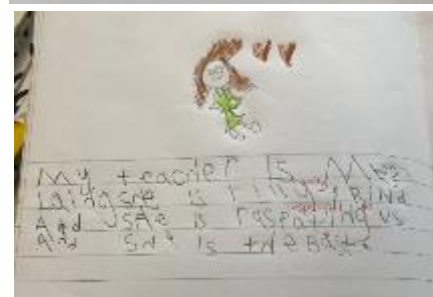
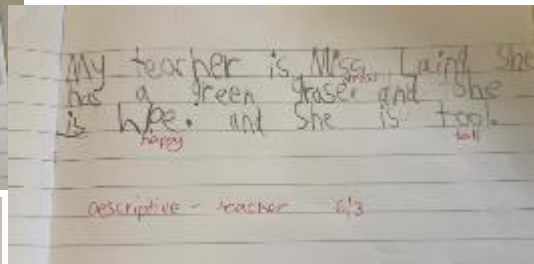
Kindergarten Team: Dannielle Smith, Ali Ringland,  
Danielle Couzens and Kimberly Circosta  
Kindergarten Executive Teacher: Kristy Grady





## Year 1 and 2

Year 1 and 2 have been working very hard at making their writing more exciting for the reader by including adjectives! Year 1 and 2 students had lots of fun investigating what an adjective is through experimenting with our 5 senses (sight, touch, smell, taste and hearing). Students completed a reader's response to the text 'Sunday Chutney' where they described her location. Check out their work below.



Congratulations Year 2 on a wonderful swimming carnival! Well done to the competitors who entered in the race events. In addition, Year 2 did a wonderful job joining in with lots of novelty events both in and out of the pool! It was lovely to see great teamwork and sportsmanship!



**Year 1/2 Teaching Team: Jessica Laing, Trista Ellison,  
Jordan Glavinic and Lucy Adams**  
**Year 1/2 Executive Teacher: Kristy Grady**





# Primary LSU's

Hello and welcome to week 6.

We are excited to introduce our executive Jessica Potts. She has already been able to come and visit our classes and has been so impressed with our students welcoming her and showing great work habits. Jess can be found in our classrooms or in her office in Villa 2A.



In K-2BR the students have been working hard on learning how to listen for the initial sound in words. We have been sorting pictures, creating lists and practising to write our letters of the week.



In the afternoon we've been very lucky to have some special visitors sneak into our room... beebots! Our little friends are helping us investigate push and pull. Sometimes they explore a map while other times they help us move heavy objects, like books, from one place to another.

In 3-6MS the students have been creative in the design and construction of paper bridges.



It has been exciting to regularly go to the library and borrow books. The students even had a chance to visit the Book fair, parents be aware that they may come home with all sorts of books on their wish list.



In 3-6NO we have been working on our descriptive language in Literacy as well as improving our spelling with Words Their Way. During Mathematics, the students have been learning the jump strategy for both addition and subtraction. The highlight for our week was the swimming carnival, getting to play in the water park and cheer on the competitors.



From the K-6 LSU team

**Belinda Rathborne, Narelle O'Callaghan, Merrilyn Sparks**  
**Executive Teacher : Jessica Potts**



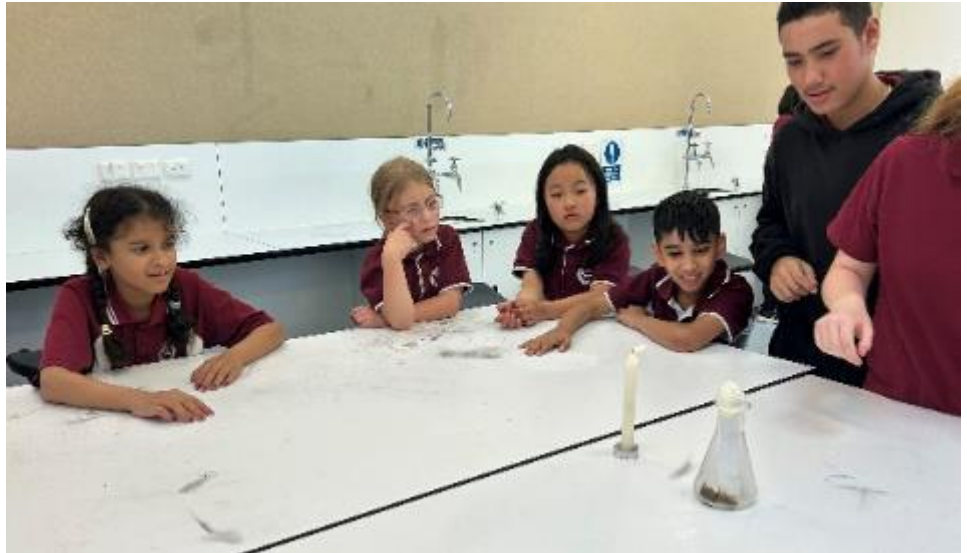
# Year 3

Year 3 have been very busy over the past six weeks; can you believe we are now halfway through term 1?!

We want to congratulate all year 3 students for their participation in the recent swimming carnival. Students who competed showcased their amazing swimming skills and team spirit and students who participated in the novelty events showed great turn-taking and sportsmanship throughout the day.

In the classroom, students have been focussing on various addition strategies during our Mathematics unit and have been exploring persuasive texts, learning how to effectively communicate their ideas and opinions in a compelling manner during Literacy.

3CW visited the high school science labs (NASA) to explore the fascinating world of 'heat'. Students got to watch high school students use heat to fit an egg into a flask and then use water to get the egg back out. All students had an egg-cellent time and are grateful for opportunities to collaborate with our high school.



We look forward to the second half of our term!

## Dates to remember:

Week 7 & 8 – NAPLAN

Week 7 – Book Fair

Week 9 – Friday (Good Friday)

Week 10 – Monday (Easter Monday)

## Other reminders:

Please label all clothing/drink bottles – we already have a large pile of lost property!

Please send your child to school with a hat if possible. Students not wearing a hat will be encouraged to play in the shade.

Please keep your child home if they are sick.

As always, please reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions or queries.



Caitlin Walker, Jiayi Gu and Brielle Riley  
Executive Teacher: Anthea Theodoridis

3CW students completing donut pop-art.





## Award winning fruit and vegetables

We had a very successful outcome at the recent Royal Canberra Show. We won four prestigious ribbons; 'Most Successful Junior Exhibitor for Garden produce', 'Most Successful Junior Exhibitor for jams, spreads & preserves', our capsicums won the 'Champion Garden produce - best in student section' and our apples won the 'Champion Garden produce – best fruit entry'. As a result of our produces success, we were invited to enter The Horticulture Society of Canberra Autumn flower and vegetable show which was held last weekend. Once again, we had winning produce with our cucumber, squash, zucchini and tomatoes coming in first place. We also won the Rosette ribbon.



## Thank you for pantry donations.

We are so grateful to our families for kindly donating pantry items which support our program. Every two weeks children in K – 6 participate in a cooking lesson using produce from the garden as well as using many staple food items. Thank you for your support and donations! If you would like to donate there is a display board at the front office listing the requested items or feel free to bring in any non-perishable food items.

Recently, students in K – 2 turned the award-winning apples into mini apple pies and students in 3 – 6 turned the zucchini into Rosti served with cucumber raita. This was a very popular recipe with the students! This recipe is a great way to use up any vegetables in the fridge as well as a quick lunch box option or family meal (try it with a combination of potato, sweet potato, corn and peas).



Join the Kitchen Garden google classroom to access the recipes, code: **hvti4a6**.



**Years K – 2 Specialist Teacher Kathryn Glanville**  
**Years 3 – 6 Specialist Teacher Lydia Desmet**  
**Kitchen Garden Assistant Julie White**

## Volunteer in the Kitchen or Garden

We would love to have volunteers to help during your child's kitchen or garden class or do gardening at a time that suits you.

To arrange a time to volunteer or for more information please contact Lydia Desmet [lydia.desmet@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:lydia.desmet@ed.act.edu.au) or call (02) 6142 0934.



# Library

## Book Fair

Next week (12<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> March)

Community Room

## Opening Hours

Tuesday – Friday

8.30 -8.55am & 3.10 – 3.30pm

Shannon Black and Darrell Hancox

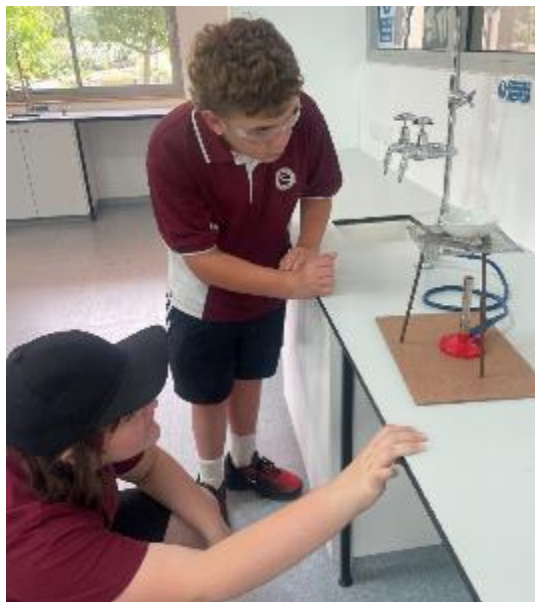
# Senior School

## Student Identification Cards

These are issued a few weeks after the school photo are taken. These cards are made of a strong plastic and are used by students for proof of identity and age in the community. While the initial card is issued to all senior students for free, replacement cards will cost \$10 each.

# Small Group Learning

In the Year 7/8 Small Group Program we have been deep diving into Chemical Sciences this term. Students have explored Particle Theory by testing and observing chemical changes using heat, such as making popcorn using Bunsen Burners! Understanding of chemical and physical changes has also been consolidated through the Tim Tam experiment and Ballon Pop test. We are having so much fun and look forward to more experimentation throughout the term!



Teachers: Amelia McAfee, Rosie Allen, Prue Fabian

LSAs Samantha Merryfull, Gai Masters, Josh Billing and Manni.

SGP Executive Teacher Jo McKenzie,



# Maths and Science

## Exciting Start for Year 7's in Maths and Science

What a fantastic start to the year it has been for our new Year 7 students! In the Science classes, they have been fully engaged in an intriguing clean water enquiry assignment. From the previous newsletter, you might recall their analysis of dirty water samples. Over the past three weeks, these budding scientists have diligently applied various separation techniques, resulting in the transformation of their water samples into clear, drinkable (potable) liquids. Congratulations to our Year 7's for their impressive efforts and commitment to scientific inquiry!

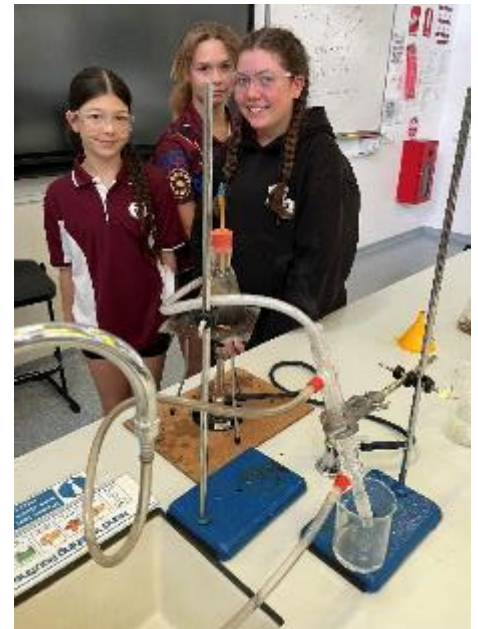


Meanwhile, in Mathematics, our Year 7 cohort has been immersing themselves in the study of integers. Understanding that integers encompass both positive and negative whole numbers, students have been actively honing their skills in adding and subtracting integers using visual aids such as number lines. Notably, they even constructed life-sized number lines outdoors to deepen their comprehension.

As we continue to witness the enthusiasm and dedication of our Year 7 students, we present you with a challenge: can you solve this problem?  $-2 + (-4) = \dots$



Let's keep encouraging and supporting our up-and-coming mathematicians and scientists as they embark on this exciting academic journey!



Emily Corke, Daniel Marriott, Amy McFarlane, Jade Payne & Dhanashree Vedanti  
Executive Teacher: Stacey Freedman





# English

## CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION

All Namadgi students are encouraged to participate in the Term 1 Creative Writing Competition.

There is a \$30 gift voucher for the winner of each year level.

### How do you enter?

Write a short story with the theme *"Another place, another time"*.

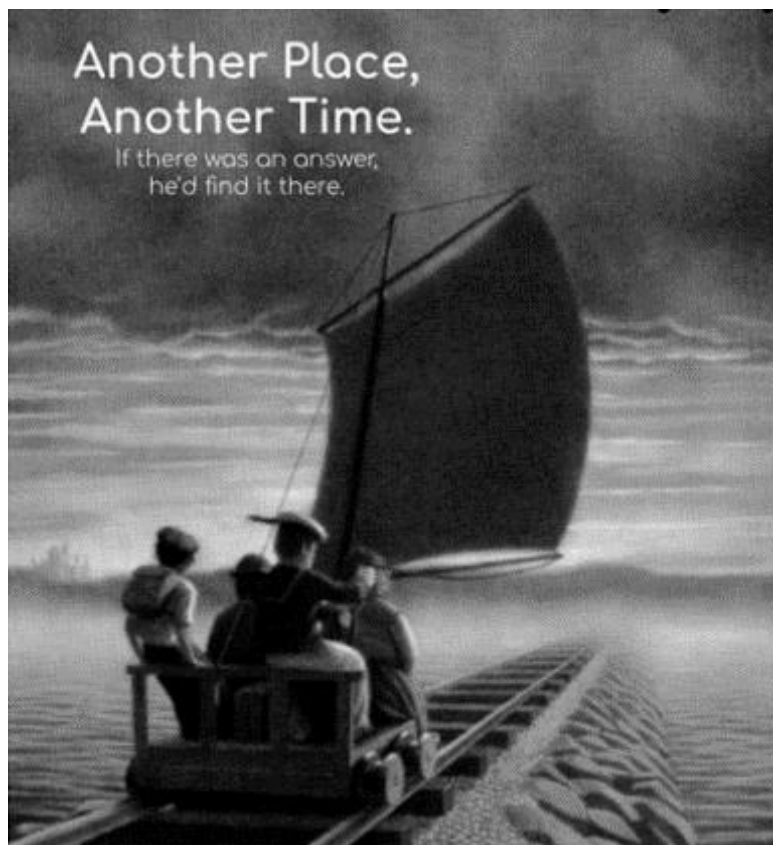
Please look at the image. The short story has to be less than 1200 words.

Send your entries to:

[Dzintra.Jones@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Dzintra.Jones@ed.act.edu.au)

by **5pm Friday 15 March**.

Winners will be announced at **Friday's assembly, 22 March**.



We have had a whirl wind start to the year within the English and Humanities faculty. We are having a strong push on literacy skills in both subjects. Our initial focus has been spelling for the first half of the term, to solidify a base with us now branching out into literacy skills including reading comprehension and literacy conventions.

We are also working on our school wide goal of improving student writing with a year-long focus of breaking down the writing process and explicitly teaching students how to write, including greater use of adjectives, adverbs and formulation of student opinion. As a part of this process, students will have noticed that there has been an increased use of workbooks within English and Humanities classrooms. The purpose of this is based in current research that has highlighted that there is significant growth and improvement in student writing and comprehension skills through the use of physical handwriting within the learning environment.

## Extra

### Recap of the School Swimming Carnival

The recent school swimming carnival, held on Monday, was a resounding success, thanks to the enthusiastic participation of students, dedicated teachers, and supportive parents. The day was filled with excitement as students dove into both traditional races and fun-filled novelty events, showcasing their swimming prowess and sportsmanship.

One of the highlights of the carnival was the spirited relay races, which brought together students and even a team of teachers, adding an extra layer of competitiveness and camaraderie to the event. The cheers and encouragement from the spectators echoed throughout the venue, creating an electrifying atmosphere.

Ribbons have already been distributed to acknowledge individual achievements, with age champion medals and the house champion yet to be announced. These accolades will recognize the outstanding performances and contributions of our students and houses.



A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who played a part in making the swimming carnival a memorable day. Whether it was through competing, officiating, or cheering from the sidelines, each contribution contributed to the overall success of the event.

As we reflect on the triumphs of the swimming carnival, let's also look forward to the upcoming cross-country and athletics carnivals next term. With the same spirit of enthusiasm and sportsmanship, we're poised to make these events equally memorable and enjoyable for all involved.





