

Term 2 Week 3
Monday 20 May 2024

Namadgi School Newsletter

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Namadgi Families,

Term 2 is underway with exciting events happening across the school. We had our Year 2 to Year 10 athletics carnival on Thursday last week and it was fantastic to see such a high level of inclusivity for all students to access the events. The weather was very kind to us and ensured the day finished with all events and activities covered off on the schedule.

Back in February our very own Kitchen Garden and volunteer, Carol Quashie-Williams, was filmed for a segment on the ABC show, Gardening Australia. This segment went to air on Friday 17th May at 7:30pm and was repeated on Sunday at 1:30pm. The story has a strong STEM focus and looks at the wonderful work of Carol, the Kitchen Garden Team and our students here at Namadgi. Congratulations to Carol and the team.

I am looking forward to our High School Information Night on Tuesday 21 May and meeting new families for 2025. I extend that welcome to our current Year 6 cohort and welcome current families to walkthrough the High School displays on the night. This is a great introduction to the High School program and a hands-on experience for prospective enrolments. There are snacks and refreshments provided, so come along and enjoy the tour.

Your support for class consumables (supplied backpack cost of \$100 per student), voluntary contributions of \$75 per student and elective contributions in the High School is always appreciated. Thank you to families who have already supported via these contributions in 2024 as these funds support much needed consumables and resources for teaching and learning in classrooms. Band participation is \$200 per year and elective costs for Years 9 and 10 vary depending on subject chosen. Payments can be made through the front office or online through our website.

Over the next few weeks we will have boys and girls teams representing Namadgi at the South Side Volleyball championships. I wish all the players good luck and look forward to seeing the results. On top of this we have had students representing our Tuggeranong zone in swimming, cross country and later in the year athletics. Namadgi has turned out some very competitive athletes at these events recently with some students gaining ACT representative honours. Congratulations to all competitors and to all students participating in carnivals demonstrating school spirit.

Please ensure students continue to come to school prepared for the day with a bag, food, charged Chromebook (high school), learning materials and dressed in school uniform. Sometimes the colder months lead to non-uniform items creeping in. Our front office team are always happy to help size students for jumpers and order as needed to meet your needs.



Whilst the canteen is still out of operation, I urge families to continue to provide nourishing food for students. The school also contributes with a 5 day a week breakfast club run out of the Kitchen Garden, sandwiches and fruit also supplied through the Kitchen Garden and Hub (high school) as well as toasted sandwiches in the Hub for students requiring lunch options. We endeavour to keep seeking options for the canteen service following an unsuccessful procurement process.

Have a great long weekend this week and see you back at school on Tuesday 28th of May.

Kind Regards,
Gareth Richards
Principal



This term we are introducing a new Parent Portal, a secure online platform used to share student information between you and your child's teachers.

Using the Parent Portal on your mobile phone, tablet or computer, you will be able to:

- notify us if your child is sick or explain an absence
- book parent-teacher interviews
- receive academic reports
- receive our school newsletter
- receive messages from your child's teachers
- make payments
- access the school calendar and your child's student timetable.

You can start the sign up and identity verification process now so you're ready to go. Head to the Education Directorate website [Parent Portal page](#) for all the details.



Enrolments for 2025 are now open

For Years Preschool to Year 10

Assembly Dates Term 2

Friday – 9.10am to 10am

Week 4: Whole School - Secondary

Week 6: Secondary

Week 7: Primary Hosted 5/6

Week 8: Whole School – Primary - SAKG

Week 10: NAIDOC WEEK Assembly



Preschool to Year 2 Stay and Play

After school on Monday the 20th of May from 3 - 4pm at our Namadgi Preschool.

Afternoon tea and activities will be provided

Come and meet Sally from the Tuggeranong Child and Family Centre

NAMADGI SCHOOL

The poster features a red background with white and green text. It includes a circular image of children playing with colorful balloons in a grassy field. The Namadgi School logo is visible in the bottom right corner.

Calendar of Events

Date	Event
Tuesday 21 May	High School Open Night 5.30pm – 7pm
Tuesday 21 May	Primary Zone Cross Country
Wednesday 22 May	National Simultaneous Storytime
Friday 24 May	Senior Boys Volleyball
Friday 24 May	Primary Buroinjin Competition
Monday 27 May	Reconciliation Day Public Holiday
Wednesday 29 May	Senior Zone Cross Country
Friday 31 May	Reconciliation ‘Wear it Yellow’ Day
Monday 10 June	King’s Birthday Public Holiday
Thursday 13 June	Board and P&C meeting



Preschool

YUMA! Welcome to term 2 at preschool.

We have been busy co-creating our preschool acknowledgement of country this term. We have read stories and watched clips about acknowledgements and had many



discussions about what they mean and why they are important. We have

talked about creating our own acknowledgement and are brainstorming ideas of what we would like to include. We would love family input into this as well if you would like to contribute, please talk to your child's teacher.



The children were very excited to have the trikes introduced this term. We spoke about bike safety, how to wear helmets and ride bikes safely, how to wait for a turn and where we could ride them. Everyone is doing a great job of always wearing helmets and shoes, following the 'road rules' and sharing nicely.



There are LOTS of exciting things happening this term!

- There are 2 public holidays this term one on 27th of May and one on 10th of June, the Emus and Wallabies will have shorter weeks 5 and 7.
- Cindy is off to Japan for three weeks as of the 20th of May. We hope she has an amazing time and can't wait to hear about her adventures when she returns.
- Reconciliation week is 27th May – 3rd June. The school is holding a 'wear yellow day' to end Reconciliation week on Friday 31 May, a gold coin donation for this will help support Children's Ground.
- The Reptile Zoo is coming to visit on the 17th and 20th of June. Our loved ones are invited to join us and a note will be sent home shortly.
- Kenny Koala is visiting on the 24th of June at 9:30am. Families are also welcome to join us.

We really value our families input into all aspects of preschool and welcome your suggestions, questions, and ideas. You can chat to us at drop off or pick up, leave a note, or send a message on seesaw or via email. We look forward to hearing your ideas.

From the Preschool team

**Cindy Treverrow, Rebecca Buchanan
Puneet Sandhu & Jodie Tolson
Executive Teacher: Jessica Potts**





We warmly welcome you to Namadgi School Playgroup

Wednesday Mornings



When: Each Wednesday
9:00 till 10:30am

Where: Art Studio 2A
Preschool Building
Namadgi School

For more information and
to register contact Aly Cleaver
alison.cleaver@ed.act.edu.au



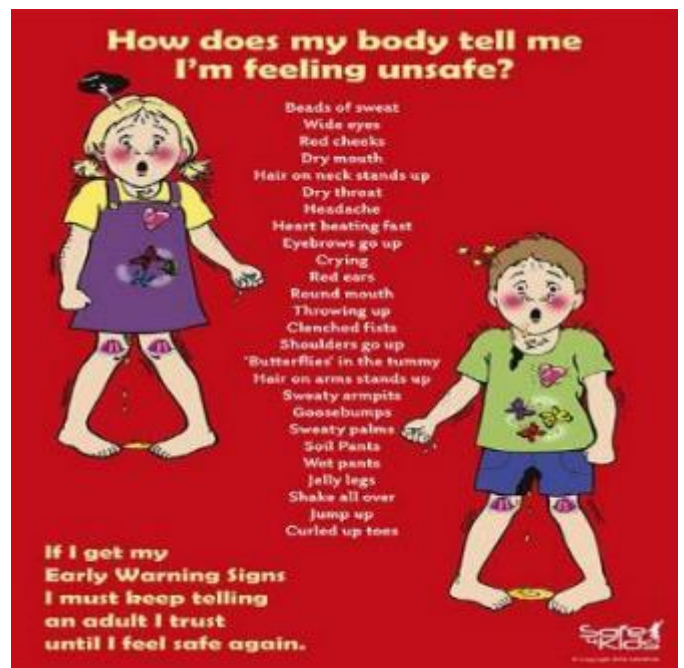
Protective Behaviours

At Namadgi we will be teaching Protective Behaviors to all classes P-6 throughout Term 2 and Term 3.

Protective behaviours is a personal safety and life skill program which enables people of all ages and walks of life to develop skills which empower them to deal with all forms of difficult, unsafe or abusive situations. Protective behaviours are things we say and do to keep ourselves and others safe.

The themes addressed are-

- We all have the right to feel safe all the time
- We can talk about anything with someone we trust
- We also discuss a network of people the children can turn to as needed. A network is a group of people who you can trust.



Protective Behaviours now have guides for parents, if you would like more information see link below

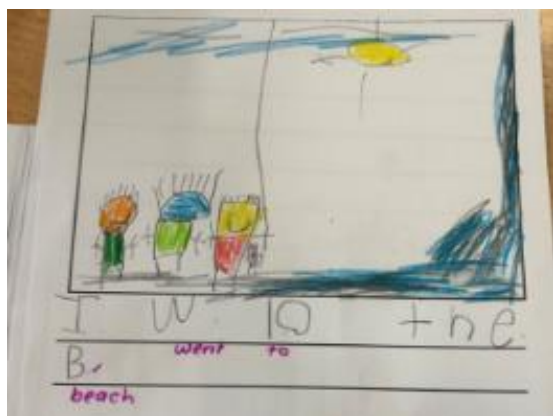
https://www.education.act.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0010/1381996/Protecting-your-kids.-Personal-Safety-Education.pdf



Kindergarten

Welcome back! Students have settled back into Kindergarten routines smoothly and are ready to continue their learning from last term. We are so proud of all students for their efforts in Cross Country last week, cheering each other on and trying their best.

On the first day back, we wrote about our holidays. It sounds like lots of students had some amazing adventures 😊 Students compared their writing from last term to their current piece and were so proud of their achievements, as were the teachers!



We are continuing to count the amount of days we have been at school. This is helping us to extend our understanding of number and place value. Each day a different student is chosen at random to lead our Number of the Day.



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



Year 1 and 2

Cross Country

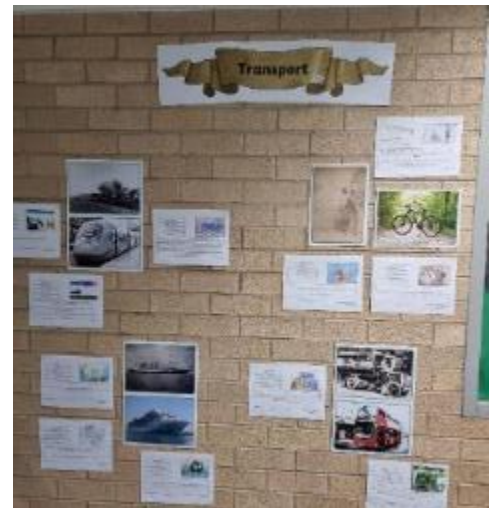


Our students had an amazing day competing in the school's Cross Country. They had been practising hard on making their way around the course and on the day, they put in a fantastic effort. They showed lots of enthusiasm and encouragement for their peers, and were very proud of their efforts.



Year 1 and 2 Museum

As part of our history unit last term students had the opportunity to investigate and research changes in technology. Year 1 and 2 created a museum which featured different aspects of technology and how they have changed over time. In our descriptive writing unit students had the opportunity to create a museum label which contained information about their artefacts. Each class investigated a different aspect of daily life. 1/2TE researched transport, 1JL investigated schools, 2LA learned about toys and entertainment, and 2JG explored different types of communication. Our museum experts showed the kindergarten students around and explained each artefact.



Persuasive Writing

Students have begun to explore persuasive texts, the different features and how these are different to informative and entertaining texts. Students are learning how to be persuasive and what this can look and sound like. We started by organising texts into different piles. Students were able to look at the features of the texts, discuss why the texts were created, and then organise into categories of informative, persuasive and entertaining. Students also used their persuasive writing skills to write a letter to kindergarten convince them to visit our museum.



Year 1/2 Teaching Team: Jessica Laing, Trista Ellison, Jordan Glavinic and Lucy Adams

Year 1/2 Executive Teacher: Kristy Grady



Primary LSU's

We're off to a great start for Term 2! It has been exciting seeing so many of our students engaged with their learning. Congratulations to all those who ran last week at the Cross Country. We are very proud of you for cheering your friends on to the finish line.

In K-2BR we have been busy learners; working independently to sort pictures by sound, trying new tasks like find-a-words and learning about the natural world around us. We have seen some fine learners step up and help their peers when the work has been challenging. We were very excited to paint out pots and plant carrot seeds this week.



In 3-6MS the students have been thriving in their literacy groups, where they are reading, writing, comprehending, working on phonics and developing their spelling skills. The students have also been developing skills in working independently and how to ask for help when they need it.

In maths we have begun our unit of work on time. We are looking at analogue and digital clocks. How to read them, create them and use them to solve problems. While in art the students have been creative in their paper quilling designs.



At the end of last term, the students enjoyed participating in the Lord Taverners All Abilities Multisports day. The students participated in cricket, soccer, tennis, paddleball and other activities with other schools. It was a lot of fun.



In 3-6NO the students have been showing improvement in their reading, writing and spelling skills. The students continue to work on their Word Work and are also looking at Procedures for Literacy this term.

In Mathematics we are continuing to develop our understanding and connections of addition and subtraction, and multiplication and division. We are also solving word problems using the four operations.

This term in Media Arts we are working on 'Stop Motion' and the process of creating a short story and how to make a movie using this program. The students have built Lego pieces and clay figures to use in their stories. They are very excited and have shown great skill in this area.



At the end of last term, the students also participated in Lord Taverners All Abilities Multisports day. The students got to learn skills in cricket, soccer, lawn bowls, tennis, pickleball and hockey. Afterwards the students enjoyed a sausage sizzle.

From the K-6 LSU team

Belinda Rathborne, Narelle O'Callaghan, Merrilyn Sparks

Executive Teacher: Jessica Potts

Year 3 and 4

2B have had a wonderful start to Term 2, with our Cross Country held in our first week back. All students tried their absolute hardest and we wish the best of luck to our students who have gone onto Zone Cross Country to be held in Week 4. It was also fantastic to see our students at our Athletics Carnival as they competed in the different track and field events.

Year 3 spent the first three weeks of term busily preparing for our Assembly, we hope all of our visitors thoroughly enjoyed what we had prepared. From our song to our artworks, to our well-rehearsed speaking parts. We really enjoyed showing our showcasing our different artworks to our families in our Art Gallery.

Year 4 have embarked on an exploration of poetry this term, diving into the fascinating world of onomatopoeia. Our students have unleashed their creativity by inventing their own onomatopoeic word art.





Every Monday, Year 3 and Year 4 participate in 'Minute Monday', which is our version of the TV show 'Minute To Win It'. The students have been split into six groups and each week, one competitor from each group competes. This week, students needed to build and dismantle a tower made from paper cups. Foxy and Michael were keen to have a go too and we're very happy to congratulate Foxy for absolutely smashing Michael!



Congratulations to Elizabeth Foster for her participation at the recently held ACT School swimming championships.

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

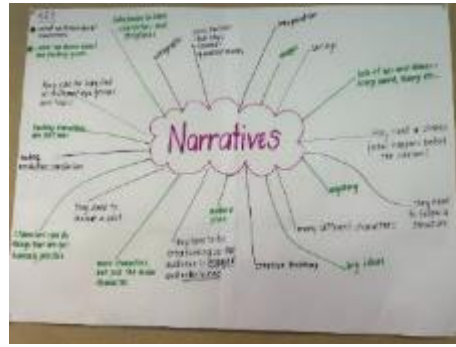
Year 5/6

Year 5/6 have had a productive beginning to Term 2 with a lot of learning and fun happening in each of the four classrooms!

We are excited to have Miss Sammy on the 5 / 6 team this term! She is passionate about the arts and has been busy teaching students' drama throughout the week. Students have been looking at dream time stories and acting out "How the Birds got their Colours"

This term we will be focusing on writing to entertain with the aim to produce a fantasy narrative piece. Students have been engaged in cooperative learning writing activities to help build their understanding of the narrative text type, bounce off each other's ideas and use their imagination to create a shared narrative. Keep an eye on your child's SeeSaw to see updates on how their stories are progressing!





We were lucky enough to be invited up to the high school to participate in the Australian Defence force STEM and Engineering virtual reality experience. Students were able to experience what flying and landing a helicopter in the army would be like through a simulator as well as through a virtual reality headset.



This term in Science, students are exploring adaptations and how they can assist organisms in survival. Students participated in a Science experiment where they tested the importance of our opposable thumbs. We very quickly realised that life would be very difficult if we did not have opposable thumbs. Some tasks we completed included tying shoelaces, picking up coins and zipping up a jacket.



Please remember-

Notes were sent home last week to anyone who wishes to purchase an additional Year 6 shirt. Please return these notes along with payment by next Friday 24th of May.

Please label your child's jumpers, hats and drink bottles as we already have a large pile of lost property. If your child is unwell, please keep them at home.

Emma McLeod, Shannen Talbot, Sammy Grall, David Lindsay and Craig Lambert.



Library

National Simultaneous Storytime will be held on Wednesday week 4 (22nd May). Primary cohorts will get together to take part in listening to/watching the story and complete a reading activity. The book for 2024 is Bowerbird Blues by Aura Park.

National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) is held annually by the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA). Every year a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator, is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, pre-schools, childcare centres, family homes, bookshops and many other places around the country.



KITCHEN GARDEN NEWS



Seeking Donations if you have any of the following that you no longer need or use, please bring them washed/clean to the KG.

- Metal star pickets to support our growing trees.



- Old or unused stockings/tights for tying back tree branches.



- Round Chinese container **lids**/yoghurt **lids**/dip **lids** (for a garden art project later in the term)



- Circular ceramic pots/dishes or mugs that can be used to plant succulents (for our upcoming Election Day plant stall) (i.e. Chris' dip brand pot)



Thanks for your support 😊



We would like to acknowledge and say thanks to the parents of students and volunteers from Southside Bible Church who assisted at our Working Bee on Saturday.



KITCHEN GARDEN NEWS



Gardening Australia, celebrating Carol

A few months ago, we were all very excited to have the film crew from Gardening Australia - ABC, filming a story about Namadgi's wonderful STEM professional in school volunteer Carol Quashie-Williams. The story highlights the inspiring and dedicated work she does at our school as well as the essential role that scientists play in our community. The participation of some of our primary students and our thriving garden add to the story. The segment will go to air tonight (Friday 17th May) on the ABC at 7:30pm.



Carol has been volunteering at Namadgi School for three years, and over 10 years across ACT primary schools.

WORKING BEE TOMMORROW

When: Saturday 18th May
Time: 8:00am - 12:30pm
Where: Namadgi Kitchen Garden, back of school. Park next to the school gym and enter via gym gate.
Contact: Kitchen Garden Team (02) 6142 0934



Light refreshments will be provided.

Garden Lessons

Last week we celebrated *Compost Awareness Week* by racking up our deciduous leaves, creating nature art and monitoring of composting bins. Students enjoyed using the wheelbarrows to transport the leaves to our leaf bays where they will slowly decompose; we will then add them to our composting and worm farms and use as mulch on our gardens in months to come. Year 3 students are diligently practicing navigating the wheelbarrows through the garden and assisting their peers as a 'supervisor' as they work towards gaining their wheelbarrow license.



Behind the scenes of the filming. The students were AMAZING, showing incredible patience and talent through many retakes!

Kitchen Lessons

In honor of *Compost Awareness Week*, our recent recipes focused on using up excess ingredients, including sultana bran slice and spiced apple rice bubble biscuits from breakfast cereals, and banana smoothies. Students can access the recipes by joining the Google Classroom Kitchen Garden class. Code: **hvti4a6**.

Hygiene and safety



For everyone's safety, we request all students securely tie back their hair. Families, please ensure your child has spare hair ties in their school bag. Thank you!

Julie White, Lydia Desmet, Kathryn Glanville & Tamazin McGrath
Executive Teacher: Anthea Theodoridis



Senior School

Maths and Science

Greetings, Namadgi School community! The Maths and Science team is thrilled to share the exciting adventures our students embarked on during the first weeks of this term.

Kicking off the term with a blast, the Australian Defence Force (ADF) graced our school with an enlightening week-long visit on STEM and engineering career pathways. Students from all year groups immersed themselves in a plethora of activities, from donning virtual reality (VR) goggles to piloting helicopter simulators. These hands-on experiences illuminated the practical applications of engineering and STEM within the ADF, sparking curiosity and inspiration among our future innovators.

Continuing the journey into the world of technology, last Monday, a group of 80 enthusiastic Year 7-10 students embarked on an exhilarating Day of AI at Questacon. Beginning at the Deakin site, they delved into the intricacies of artificial intelligence (AI), engaging in activities such as Google Quick Draw and crafting AI algorithms for games like rock-paper-scissors. The excitement didn't stop there; at the Parkes main Questacon site, students were enthralled by the "Friend or Foe" exhibition, showcasing over 100 AI-generated artworks by renowned Australian digital artist Luke Millanta. Exploring themes of copyright, creativity, and bias in AI, our students were prompted to contemplate the evolving landscape of technology and its implications on society.

As we reflect on the dynamic experiences of Term 2 so far, both within and beyond the classroom, the Maths and Science faculty eagerly anticipates the adventures yet to unfold in the coming weeks. Stay tuned for more exhilarating discoveries and enriching learning opportunities as we journey through Term 2 together!

Emily Corke, Amy McFarlane, Jade Payne, Charlie Doherty & Dhanashree Vedanti
Executive Teacher: Stacey Freedman

English/HASS/Language Faculty

We have had a busy start to the term in the English, Humanities and Languages faculty.

We wish to welcome to the team Dr Timb Hoswell, as well as Naomi Goode and Britney Staines. We also welcome back Micky Thomas and in the coming weeks, Masaya Kajitani.

In English, each year group has been busy with new units and are thoroughly engaged in the real-world aspects we try to take in engaging our students in the English curriculum.

The units for study are:

Year 7 - Australian Poetry

Year 8 - Journalism

Year 9 - Young Adult Fiction

Year 10 - Dystopian Genre Study



In Humanities, we are endeavouring to make class work and assessment as practical as possible. As a result, your child may come home saying they made something or played a role play game, so that students can experience their learning rather than just reading about it. In each year, students are studying:

Year 7 - Civics and Citizenship

Year 8 - Business and Economics

Year 9 - Industrial Revolution

Year 10 Geography

In Japanese, Years 7 to 10 have been learning about Japanese food. This has included activities such as making their own burgers, creating a cartoon to sell their food, reading and ordering from menus, as well as comparing Japanese menus with Australian menus of famous chains like McDonalds.

Also on Friday May 17, Namadgi was lucky to have a visit from the Bell Shakespeare company. Year 8, 9 and 10 we were lucky enough to see this performance, funded by the English department. A big thank you to Mr Ben Raven for organising such a wonderful opportunity for our students.

Staff: Ben Raven, Masaya Kajitani, Nathan Kalinowski, Micky Thomas, Naomi Goode, Timb Hoswell, Britney Staines and Claire Cragg .

Executive Staff: Dzintra Jones

Year 9 / 10 Camp: A Memorable Sydney Adventure!

To end Term 1, the Year 9 / 10 camp proved to be a highlight for 30 of our Year 9 and 10 students.

Embarking on a three-day excursion to Sydney, the journey was filled with unforgettable experiences and educational adventures.

Beginning with a scenic train ride to Sydney, our students enjoyed a ferry from Circular Quay to Cockatoo Island, where they were immersed in the rich history of this UNESCO World Heritage Site. Here, amidst stunning landscapes, they engaged in a captivating scavenger hunt, delving deep into the island's intriguing past.

Day two brought further exploration as students ventured to the Maritime Museum and the State Library, culminating in a mesmerizing theatrical performance at the Lyric Theatre with '& Juliet'. Wrapping up their Sydney escapade on day three, students participated in an exhilarating Amazing Race around The Rocks, uncovering the hidden treasures of Australian history along the iconic Sydney Harbour Foreshore.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Mr. Raven for orchestrating such a remarkable camp, fostering camaraderie and learning beyond the classroom walls.

Ben Raven, Stacey Freedman, Jade Payne & James Hamilton

Deputy Principal: Jo McKenzie

Sports Update

In the spirit of sportsmanship and companionship, high school students united for our thrilling Cross Country Carnival during Week 1 of this term. Participants from Years 7 to 10 raced around the course, showcasing their endurance and determination. Setting off in a grand procession, runners led the pack while walkers followed suit, each participant contributing to the vibrant energy of the day. A special mention to our ribbon and medal winners for their outstanding performances. As we celebrate their achievements, we extend our best wishes to those gearing up for the Regional Cross Country Event in the upcoming weeks.



Girl's Volleyball

Ten Year 9 and 10 students showcased their volleyball prowess at the South Side Girls Volleyball Gala Day held at Tuggeranong Stadium. With enthusiasm and skill, our team battled it out on the court, displaying excellent teamwork and sportsmanship. Despite stiff competition, they represented Namadgi School admirably, making us proud with their determination and spirit. Congratulations to all participants for their hard work and dedication. Your commitment to sportsmanship and teamwork is truly commendable. Well done girls!



Athletics Carnival: A Day of Triumph and Team Spirit

The sun smiled upon Namadgi School last Thursday as students flooded Phillip Athletics Park for our annual athletics carnival, and what a spectacular day it was! Participation numbers soared with students from all years enthusiastically joining in the fun.

The camaraderie was palpable as Year 9 and 10 students generously volunteered to support various events alongside our dedicated staff. Many eager faces arrived early and filled the track, seizing the opportunity to showcase their endurance in the 800m event.

As the buses rolled in, the excitement only intensified. Sprint races witnessed students hurtling down the straight, while field events showcased incredible feats of throwing and jumping. A highlight came when the crowd erupted in unified claps as Biar from Year 10, pictured here with his brother Geu, soared over the bar at a staggering 1.56m in high jump, setting a new record for the day.

Behind the scenes, immense gratitude is owed to the tireless efforts of Krystal Coker, Craig Lambert, and Stacey Freedman for orchestrating the day's events seamlessly. Special thanks extend to all staff and students whose contributions ensured the smooth running of the carnival. Mindi White and her students deserve applause for keeping everyone refreshed with tea and coffee, while the P&C team kept spirits high with a well-stocked canteen.

The athletics carnival was not just about competition; it was a celebration of our school community's spirit, sportsmanship, and unwavering support for one another. Let's carry this energy forward as we continue to excel both on and off the track.





Krystal Coker, Craig Lambert, and Stacey Freedman
Executive Teacher: Rob McLachlan