

Term 4 Week 10

Monday 14 December 2020



Namadgi School Newsletter

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers,

Yuma (hello).

Dhawura nguna dhawura Ngunnawal (This is Ngunnawal Country).

Welcome to Week 10! The place has been a little quieter without our Year 10's around ... there seems to be more space too! In this edition I would like to recognise staff exiting the Namadgi community who have worked hard to achieve results and connections with students and families during their time with us. In a school of over 95 adults employed on site we often have to say goodbye to dear friends and long-time staff members as they look towards their next professional career challenges or the quiet life. I would like to thank the following staff for their contributions in the growth and development of Namadgi School during their time with our community.

Outgoing Staff:

Andrew Jacobson (Chisholm School)
Joseph Nadler (Erindale College)
Dr. Roisin Boadle (Erindale College)
Dan Greene (Muliyan Program)
Kylie Hennock (Theodore Primary)
Elissa Sharpe (Malkara School)
Cathie Williamson (Retirement)
Sarah O'Rourke (maternity leave)



I would like to recognise Mr Nadler and Mr Greene who have been with the school almost to its tenth year! As foundation staff members at Namadgi they will be greatly missed by our community. Thank you to Dr. Boadle, winner of the High School Educator of the Year Award this year, for her contributions and we wish her well in the college system.

To Mrs. Hennock we will miss your cool cars rolling into the school car park and your enthusiasm for learning. Miss. Sharpe will be missed by her beautiful LSU class who have come such a long way under her guidance. Thank you to Mrs. Williamson for running our library and working across our Primary School. Miss. O'Rourke will hopefully be coming back to school later in the year and we wish her all the best with her little bundle of joy!

I would also like to thank and acknowledge Mr Jacobson who has been with our Primary School team as Deputy Principal for the last 12 months. Andrew has established great relationships with parents, students and staff leading the Primary Team into the next phase of our school plans. I would like to wish Andrew all the best and hopefully we will get to work with him again in the future.

As we develop new plans and look to continue to grow in 2021, we also welcome new staff to Namadgi School. We have maternity leave cover, permanent transitions, and staff away from school heading into 2021 and I would like to welcome the following members.

New Staff:

Liz Baker-Matterson (Deputy Principal – Primary)
Carmen Jobe (Primary)
Danielle Couzins (Primary)
Rosie Allen (returning from Maternity Leave)
Alka Gaur (LSU – small group program)
Ivan Diaz (PE – High School)
Kieran Sands (PE and other subjects High School)
Kimberley Circosta (Primary)



These staff members will be more formally welcomed and acknowledged as we start Term 1, 2021. All staff currently on contract have attended meetings with Gareth to discuss their ongoing employment and student support into 2021 at Namadgi School with the majority of these staff members choosing to stay on with Team Namadgi.

I would also like to congratulate Jacob McLachlan, Sophie Fisher and Sophia Sanchez Parer from Year 6 for their participation in the Primary Concert Band and Choir this year, as well as their outstanding performance in the Primary Concert end of year Summer Winds concert and Choir concert. They were our only representatives from Namadgi School performing with over 60 others students from other ACT Government primary schools. They did Namadgi proud!

Thank you to our fantastic school community who have rallied behind us throughout the year. There were some tricky moments to navigate and many times where we were uncertain how each week would unfold. I enjoyed delivering the informative and somewhat humorous “No Assembly Fridays”, and I am hoping for a return to face to face meetings and assemblies in 2021.

Please take care during the summer break and use this time to re-energise and reunite with families and friends. The Namadgi community are truly a remarkable and resilient group of people and I am delighted to be able to work in our school every day.

Whatever 2021 brings I am sure we will be ready, and in all honesty, I hope we get a return to some level of normal.

Have a great Christmas and New Year!

Thank you,

Gareth Richards
Principal Namadgi School



Year 10 Formal



Primary School

Message from Mr Jacobson

2020 has been a difficult year for all, facing challenges like never before. While the focus this year has been on supporting the wellbeing of all students, staff and school community during this challenging time, I would also like to acknowledge the contributions that everyone in the Namadgi community has made.

The tireless work that the teachers at Namadgi have expended throughout the year ensuring the successful learning experiences all students have been immersed in is a credit to all of them. Thank you to all the teachers, and support staff for their ongoing efforts, you are a great team to work alongside. We have welcomed new staff and families into our community and they have made an excellent contribution to enrich the learning for all students. Firstly, the amazing virtual whole school events where we have celebrated learning and shared practices to support children's learning at home. We value the partnership between teachers and parents and the positive impact this relationship has on all learners, particularly during the period of home learning.

Watching our Year 5 students graduate is always both a happy and sad moment. It is a great privilege to watch a student grow and mature over the years they are with us and then be able to follow them through their transition to high school to become lifelong learners, leaders and members of our community. While we know that this marks the start of an exciting new chapter in their lives, we will miss their presence as leaders in the primary sector. I congratulate the graduating class of 2020 and wish them all the best in their future endeavours in high school.

I will also be embarking on a new chapter of my career and unfortunately will not be at Namadgi school in 2021. I would like to thank the community for making me feel so welcome over the last 12 months. It has been an exciting and unprecedented year and I have enjoyed getting to know you all and working with the amazing staff and students at Namadgi. I know the school is in safe hands and will continue to grow and prosper in the future and I feel privileged to have played a small part in that journey.

Just a reminder that our Kindergarten students and new enrolments will have their first day for 2021 on Monday 1st February. On that Monday, students and their families should come to the school library ready for an 8:55am start. The rest of the school will return on Tuesday 2nd February and we will begin the day with an assembly in the VPAC.



I wish you all a wonderful holiday season and Happy New Year. I hope you all a restful and safe break – ready to come back for a fresh start to learning in 2021!

Andrew Jacobson

Deputy Principal – Primary

Secondary School

Message from Ms Mahon



It has been another invigorating, busy and rewarding Term 4 in the secondary sector of Namadgi school. It is always an exciting time of year as we farewell year 10 students, attend their formal and walkout assembly and watch them successfully graduate after all the years of hard work and support our staff and parents have provided. It is also a great time of year as we welcome the new team of student leaders for 2021. Congratulations to our newly elected **School Captains**: Charlie Orman and Oliver Johnson and **Vice Captains**: Charlotte Hermes, Daniel Da Silva and Jesse Fualalo. I am

confident the new student leadership team will provide strong student voice to our school executive alongside a passion for social and environmental causes and a strong agenda to make Namadgi School an even kinder, more inclusive and engaging place for all our students in 2021.

Our student voice and engagement at Namadgi School just continue to grow and strengthen every year. It was wonderful to see so many dedicated student helpers working alongside staff on the very successful and positive year 7 Transition day as well as strong student involvement and support for our NAIDOC Assembly, Bandanna day, Wear it Purple day and go Blue for Autism day!

Our students from year 6-10 have again been involved in several social emotional, wellbeing and financial literacy partnerships and programs this term including UC Career Pathways Program, Flexible Minds Mental Health Program, Beacon Program, Love Bites, and CommBank Start Smart. Our SAGA group has also continued to action inclusivity objectives working with our LGBTQIA+ community. A recent guest speaker with a degree in theology joined the Namadgi School SAGA group to discuss the intersection of religion and sexuality during a B2 this term.

It was exciting to see our students reengaging with sporting and Physical education opportunities this term. Outdoor Education camps resumed with a 3-day-camp to Wee Jasper and our Namadgi School boys Volleyball team won the Southside volleyball championship. It was a close 3-setter in the Grand Final against Alfred Deakin. After 2 sets, the teams were one-set each and had to play a 3rd deciding set to determine the overall winner. In the last set the boys kept their cool and came back from behind to win by 3 points. It was a great example of the resilience, goal setting and team work our staff and students continue to build in secondary by working together, listening to each other, applying ourselves, training hard to be the best we can be and building positive relationships.

This term we achieved a long-term strategic goal to build a performing arts team and culture who could work together to showcase the talents, commitment, resilience, and hard work of our students within a performing art showcase for our community. I would like to congratulate Lauren Gartside, Josh Hart, Stephanie Johnstone, and Lisa Wilson for a stunning inaugural Arts Showcase. The showcase was well organised with outstanding Visual Art and Performing Art displays for our community. This type of showcase invites our community into our school to see the excellence being achieved in these important Australian Curriculum Subject Areas. They also inspire, motivate, and engage our students in real life learning experiences. It was a truly wonderful example of Namadgi School and a great example in action of our staff being a powerful force for change in our community.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Gareth Richards and Roisin Boadle for achieving huge public recognition as Public School Leader of the Year and Secondary Teacher of the Year for 2021. A truly remarkable achievement for these individuals and another accolade to the team work and success Namadgi School is continuously growing.

Tiffany Mahon
Deputy Principal - Secondary



Message from the School Board

The Namadgi School Board would like to acknowledge the efforts of our teachers, students and families for the incredible way they approached the changes we had to make this year, for the safety of our community; while prioritising the education of our students. It has been incredible being part of the Namadgi school community in what has been a most challenging year, as students and families adapted to new ways of learning, connecting and sharing.

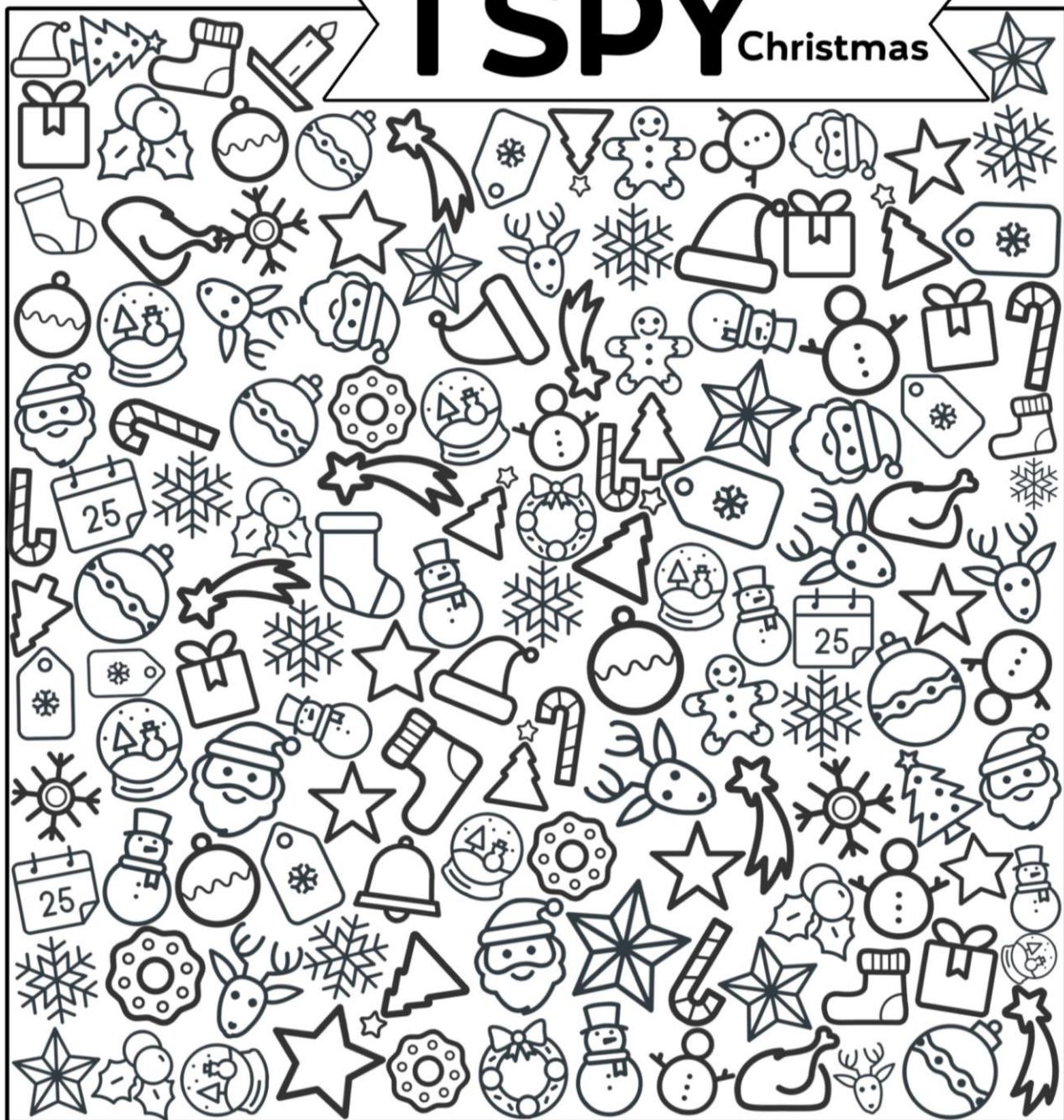
In 2021, the Board will continue with our focus on continuous improvement, financial stewardship and positive growth in our Namadgi community. We have recently begun putting together our action plan for next year, complimenting the school's strategic plan, and supporting the Executive to achieve sustained outcomes for our students. We are especially looking forward to the 10th birthday celebrations planned for 2021. We look forward to sharing more with you all in the annual Board report available early next year, and in other updates during the year.

Finally, we would like to wish you all a happy and safe festive season as well as a wonderful school holiday period. We look forward to seeing our community back in 2021.

Catherine McLachlan
Board Chair

KIDS CORNER

I SPY Christmas



2	sock	4	ornament	4	boot	2	tree	4	hat	5	gift	7	tag	4	star	6	reindeer	5	ball
1	candle	6	candy cane	7	snow globe	1	bell	3	gingerbread man	6	snowman	7	angry bird	4	star	7	reindeer head	4	group of people
3	calendar	2	wreath	4	donut	6	tree	2	tree	7	santa	3	starburst	9	snowflake	6	star	3	chicken

Key Information

Change of Contact Details?

- Have you changed your email address or phone number? Has your family situation changed?
- Please remember to let the front office know immediately if your contact details change.
- In the event of an emergency with your children at Namadgi School, it's critical that our records are up to date so that we can reach you quickly.
- Please contact front office staff to check details and make changes.
6142 0900
info@namadgi.act.edu.au

Keep up to date!

Like us on Facebook or Follow us on Twitter to keep up to date with event reminders, and pictures of what students are up to at school.



If your child is sick

Please phone 6142 0900 and leave a message or email info@namadgi.act.edu.au

Students will still need a written note from parents to explain the absence on return to school.

Namadgi School Uniform Shop

The Namadgi School uniform shop is up and running again this year, with new and second hand uniforms available. The uniform shop will be open

**Tuesdays 8:30-9:15am
Thursdays 2:45-3:30pm**

Finance News

At Namadgi School, we deeply appreciate the valuable support of our school community. Your voluntary contributions made each year enable us to provide an enriched learning environment for all of our children.

Information on various ways of paying your Voluntary Contributions. Eg: QuickWeb (is an online payment service which will enable families/communities to make payment via a secure portal on your school's website www.namadgi.act.edu.au) OR

Visa/MasterCard credit or debit card (Bank: Westpac, A/C Name: Namadgi School Management Account, BSB: 032777, Account Number: 001690).

Please remember we also accept cash, cheque, credit card and EFTPOS payments through the Front Office.