

Week 3 Term 4

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Namadgi Families,

As we move into Week 3 of Term 4, we have a few reminders and important dates to consider for your calendars. Found within this week's newsletter will be dates for end of year celebrations like graduation, formal, Christmas Carols and more. Term 4 is always a busy term, and for our Year 10 students finishing up in Week 8, I challenge you to remain focussed on learning and completing your time at Namadgi School in a positive way. Please ensure any notes and money for excursions and events coming up in Term 4 are submitted on time to ensure viability.

The ACT Public Education Awards were run on Friday 24 October. Our very own Charlie Beard was shortlisted for Education Support Person of the Year. We wish Charlie the best of luck with the awards and recognise the dedication and support of all staff nominated in 2025. In previous years the school and community have won awards at the Public Education Awards Ceremony in various categories including High School Teacher of the Year, Education Support Person of the Year, Volunteer of the Year and School Leader of the Year. This is reflective of the quality of staff we have at Namadgi School.

Each year we welcome prospective families to Namadgi School from Preschool to Year 10. Recently we welcomed families due to commence Kindergarten in 2026 and families enrolling in Preschool in 2026. 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, to 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.

Our committee are keen to welcome new faces, share our knowledge and grow our connections with the community. In 2025 the P&C have met twice per term in weeks 4 and 8, meetings are held on Thursday evenings from 6pm in the admin building. Meetings are semi-formal and fun, we hear from Mr Richards on key school matters, we discuss spending proposals submitted by the school, issues raised by members, outcomes from recent events and make plans for future events. In addition to meetings, we have an active chat group so that we can keep in touch outside of meetings. Mrs. Rhodina Ellison.

Please remember that Namadgi Staff are Government employees, mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters and community members. As such please be reminded to treat staff with respect, be courteous and positive with your engagement. If there is an issue to resolve, we will always extend this courtesy to you and we expect the same in return. Parents/caregivers and community members are expected to;

- Work positively in partnership with the school
- Contribute positively to behaviour, academic and other personalised support plans that relate to their child to enhance learning outcomes
- Support the well-being and conduct of their child

- Support staff in maintaining a safe, secure and respectful learning environment for all students
- Respect and comply with reasonable requests or directions of the principal or other members of staff
- Agree to abide by the requirements for access and acceptable use of information communication technology in relation to the school.

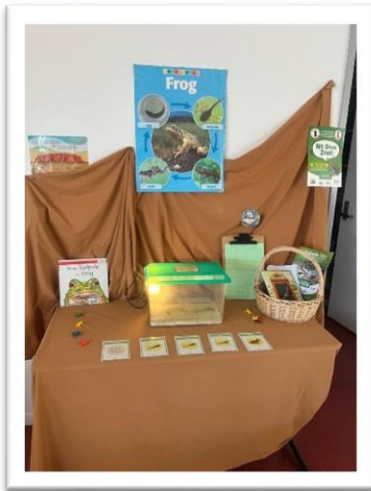
This commitment to supporting your child at school extends to email correspondence and phone calls with staff. We will always endeavour to find a solution that works for families and school, but as always, we need your support to work with us to achieve these outcomes successfully.

Please keep up to date with school happenings via Facebook or electronic correspondence (email, SMS or SeeSaw). 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 or pop in and update the records with our front office team in person.

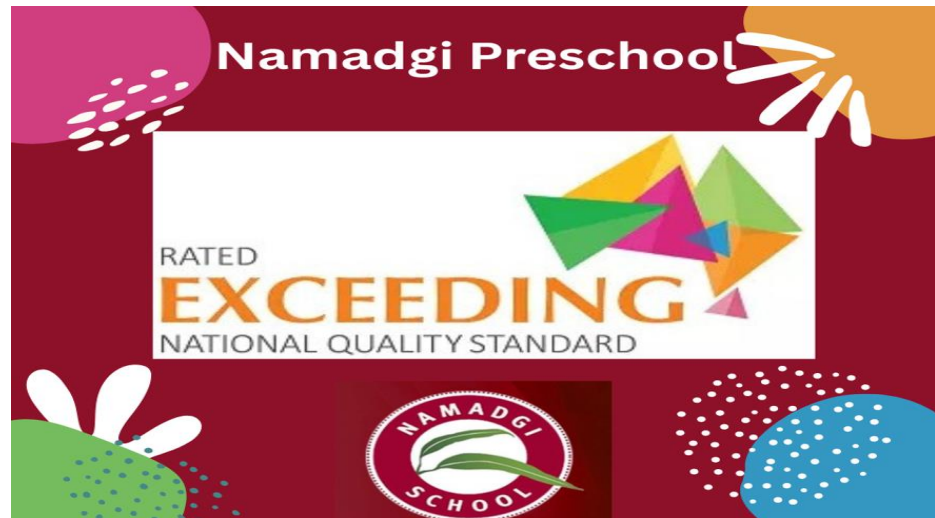
Kind Regards,
Gareth Richards
Principal – Namadgi School

Calendar of events

Date	Event
04 -08 Nov	Book Fair
10-Nov	Wallabies Preschool 2026 Interviews
11-Nov	Wallabies Preschool 2026 Interviews
13-Nov	Wombats Preschool 2026 Interviews
14-Nov	Wombats Preschool 2026 Interviews
17-Nov	Emus Preschool 2026 Interviews
18-Nov	Emus Preschool 2026 Interviews
13-Nov	6/7 Transition Day
24-Nov	Year 10 LTC & Erindale Visit (11.50a.m -3p.m)
27-Nov	Volunteer Morning tea
03-Dec	Year 10 Walkout assembly
03-Dec	Yr 10 Formal
08-Dec	Christmas Carols
10-Dec	Year 10 Graduation
11-Dec	Year 6 Graduation
12-Dec	Year 6 end of year celebrations
16-Dec	Jamberoo
18-Dec	Last Day of school



Preschool



Yuma! What an amazing start to our last term of preschool!

Tadpoles in Our Classrooms

We are all super excited to have tadpoles in our classrooms! We have been learning about the **life cycle of tadpoles and frogs** and have discovered lots of interesting facts.

- Ask us what we know—we love sharing our knowledge!
- Once the tadpoles are fully grown, we will return them to the **Frogwatch program**, where they will be released back into the wild.



Watching Silkworms Grow



Our silkworms have just started to **emerge from their eggs** and are beginning to grow.

- Silkworms only eat **mulberry leaves**, so if you have some growing near your home, please carefully pick a few and bring them in.

Exploring the P-10 School

One of the wonderful benefits of being part of a **P-10 school** is the range of experiences and spaces our children can explore. This term, we are increasing our involvement with the primary school in preparation for **Kindergarten**.

- **Library Visits:** We are visiting the "Big Library" and will be borrowing books for the next three Wednesdays.



- **Kindy Transitions:** On upcoming Wednesdays, we visit the Kindergarten classrooms to:
 - Meet the current Kindy teachers
 - Explore different areas in the Kindergarten Villa
 - Experience what it is like to learn in a Kindergarten classroom

These experiences are valuable and fun, and it's so wonderful to watch our preschoolers' knowledge and learning skills grow. 😊

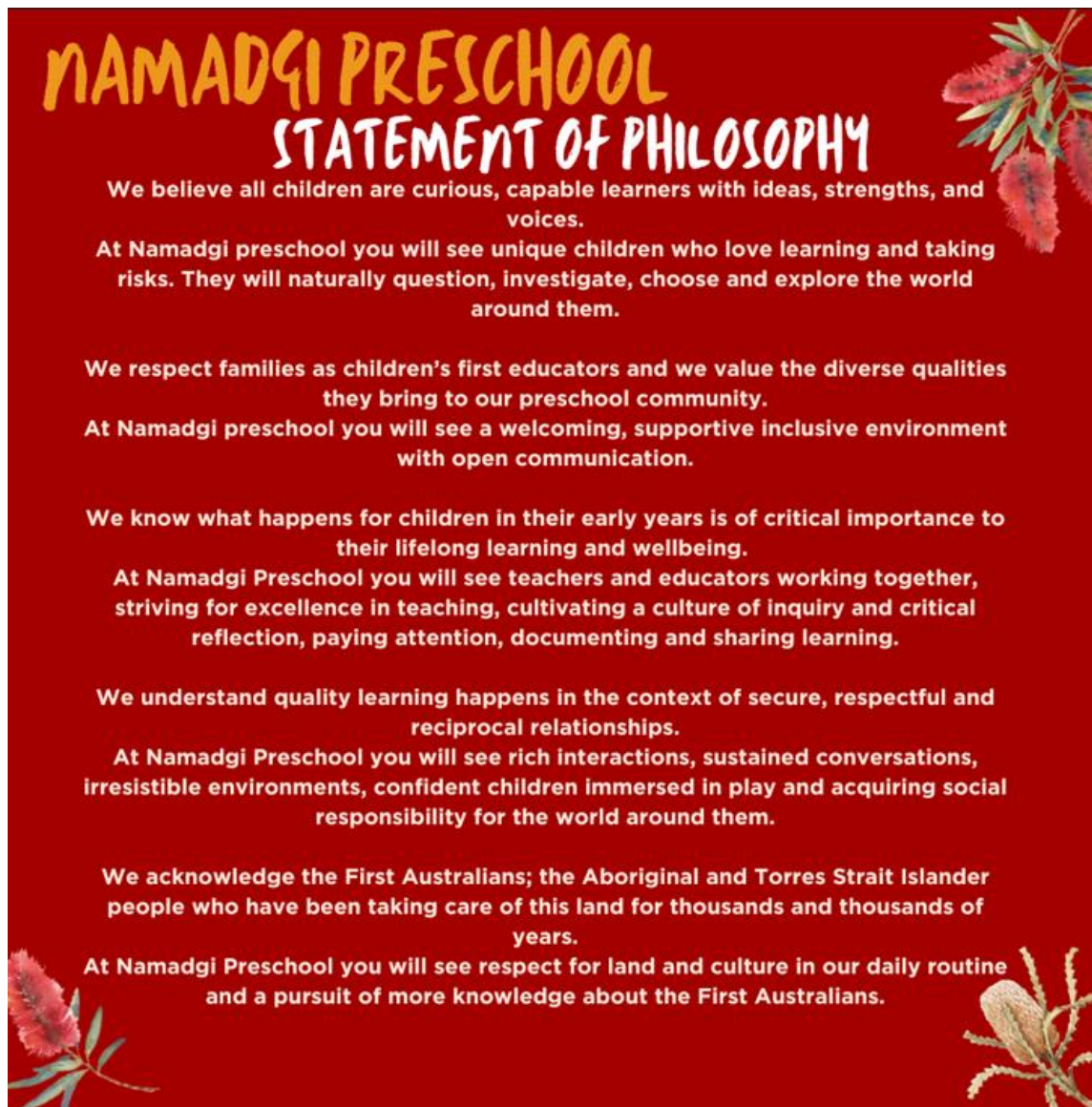
Keep smiling!

The Preschool Team

Rebecca Buchanan, Cindy Treverrow

Puneet Sandhu, Lesley Charlton & Jodie Tolson

Executive Teacher: Emma Vince



NAMADGI PRESCHOOL
STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

We believe all children are curious, capable learners with ideas, strengths, and voices.

At Namadgi preschool you will see unique children who love learning and taking risks. They will naturally question, investigate, choose and explore the world around them.

We respect families as children's first educators and we value the diverse qualities they bring to our preschool community.

At Namadgi preschool you will see a welcoming, supportive inclusive environment with open communication.

We know what happens for children in their early years is of critical importance to their lifelong learning and wellbeing.

At Namadgi Preschool you will see teachers and educators working together, striving for excellence in teaching, cultivating a culture of inquiry and critical reflection, paying attention, documenting and sharing learning.

We understand quality learning happens in the context of secure, respectful and reciprocal relationships.

At Namadgi Preschool you will see rich interactions, sustained conversations, irresistible environments, confident children immersed in play and acquiring social responsibility for the world around them.

We acknowledge the First Australians; the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have been taking care of this land for thousands and thousands of years.

At Namadgi Preschool you will see respect for land and culture in our daily routine and a pursuit of more knowledge about the First Australians.

Namadgi Preschool Statement of Philosophy Consultation 2025

Each year, Namadgi Preschool invites families and community members to share their thoughts on our Preschool Philosophy.

We'd love to hear your feedback, suggestions, and ideas to ensure our philosophy continues to reflect the values and aspirations of our children, families, and community. Your input helps us recognise what's working well and identify what we could include or improve.

Please share your thoughts by emailing your responses to emma.vince@ed.act.edu.au

You might like to consider:

- What aspects of our Preschool Philosophy reflect your family's values and beliefs?
- Is there anything we could add or change to better represent our preschool community?
- Do you have any suggestions to help our philosophy better reflect truth-telling, inclusion, or belonging?

Emma Vince
Preschool and Small Group Executive Teacher

K-6 Small Group Program K-2LSUBR, 3-6LSUCS & 3-6LSUMS

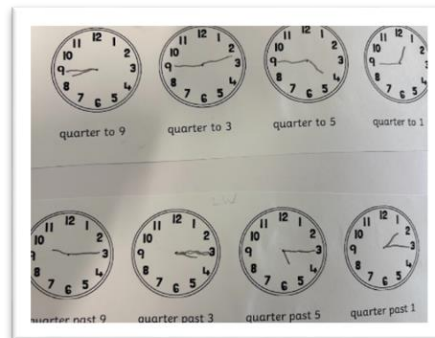
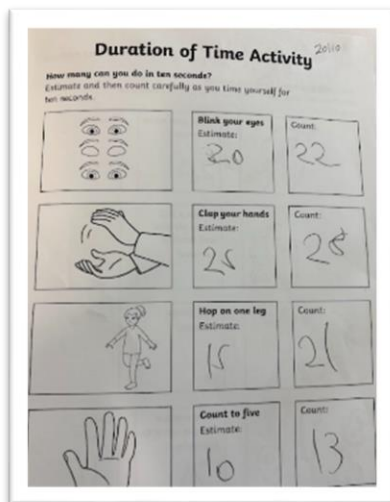
Welcome to the Final Term!

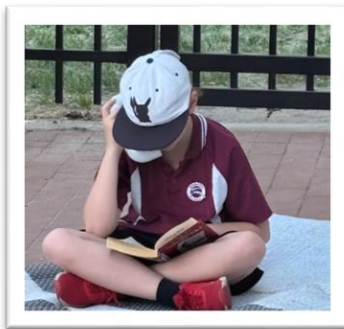
It's wonderful to see so many of our students back and diving straight into learning! Just a quick reminder to please send your child with a labelled **sun smart hat** and a full **water bottle** each day.

In K-2, students have been exploring **Division**—sharing things evenly into smaller groups. They've been busy practising with counters to make sure every group gets the right amount. Our reading focus is the **questioning strategy**, where students ask who, what, where, why, and how questions about the stories and pictures they read. For example, while reading *Elipop*, Leo asked, "Why is the elephant rainbow?" and Xavier asked, "What makes her bubbles colourful?" These are exactly the kinds of curious questions we love to see in class!

In 3-6, students have been investigating **time**, including telling the time to the minute, matching analog and digital clocks, and discovering what 10 seconds and 60 seconds really feel like. In HASS, we've been exploring **rules and contributions**, thinking about why rules are important and what might happen without them. Students laughed along with a story about a school with no rules and reflected on the lessons it taught. Reading has also been fun, with students using **whisper phones** to listen to themselves read and build confidence.

It's been a fantastic start to the term, and we're excited to keep learning, exploring, and having fun together!





K-6 Small Group Team:
Belinda Rathborne, Merrilyn Sparks, Cindy Somenek
Executive Teacher: Emma Vince

KINDERGARTEN



In Literacy Kindergarten have created a 'writing garden'. The garden is a tool for students to use to improve their writing and set new goals for themselves. We chatted about how to 'grow' in their writing and looked at work samples that demonstrated different stages of writing.

Last Friday Kindergarten participated in the Namadgi Book Swap. Students picked a book and then sat outside and read and chatted to a friend about their new book. Thank you to the families that sent books in



Kindergarten Team

Jessica Laing and Ali Ringland

K-2 Executive Teacher: Kristy Grady

YEAR 1 and 2

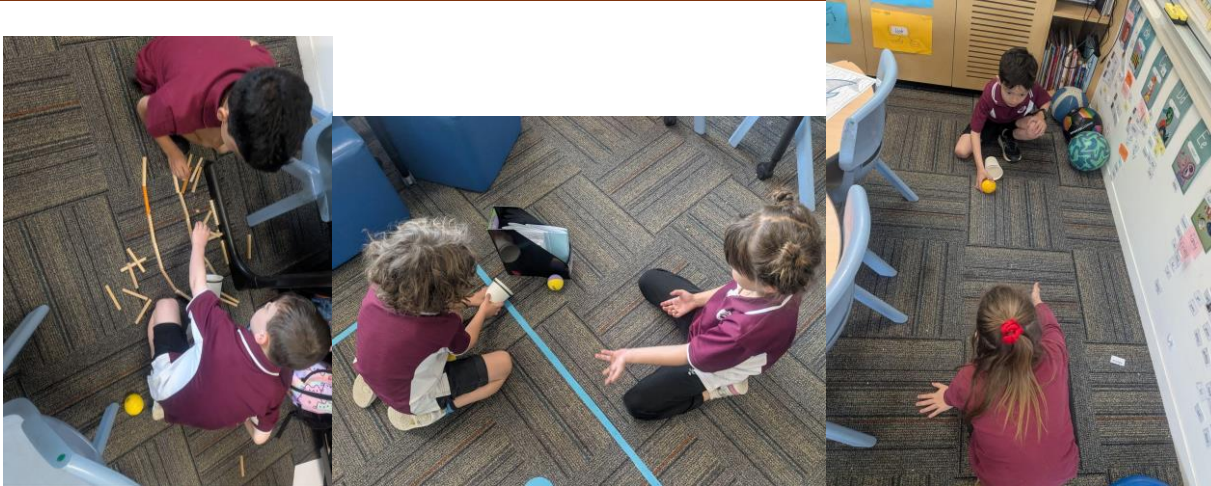
Gymnastics

This term Namadgi School secured a sporting grant to engage Gecko Sports to run a specialised Gymnastics program for Year 1 and 2. We had our first session in Week 2 and students had a fantastic time! Students worked in teams and individually to make different shapes with their bodies and learned fundamental gymnastics skills all while having fun.



Science

This week in Science and Technology, students explored the concept of forces through hands-on learning. They designed and built their own mini putt putt courses, then investigated how a push made the ball move in a specific direction. Students also identified how a secondary force, like friction or a bump, could change the ball's motion. Through drawing, labeling, and experimenting, they deepened their understanding of how pushes and pulls affect objects in motion.



Year 1 and 2 Team

Trista Ellison, Jordan Glavinic, and Kimberly Circosta
K-2 Executive Teacher: Kristy Grady

YEAR 3 and 4

From Posters to Pixels: Year 3/4 become media makers!

Students in 3/4 have recently finished a mini unit diving into the world of Media Arts. We have been exploring how media can be used to tell stories and share messages, through concepts such as, colour, font, salience, and contrast.

Students began by considering how they interact with media in their daily lives – from advertisements and movie posters to online videos and news images – and discussed how each uses design and language to influence an audience.

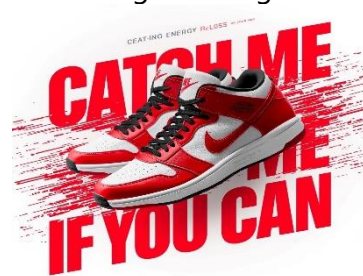
We learnt about simple media techniques and then experimented with these techniques to create posters that shared a message. We used Canva AI to produce our posters, taking the opportunity to learn how to safely use technology to be creative. The posters reflected a range of themes, from being sun smart to caring for others, showing how creators can communicate positive messages through media.



By Chloe Carey



By Klayton Youn

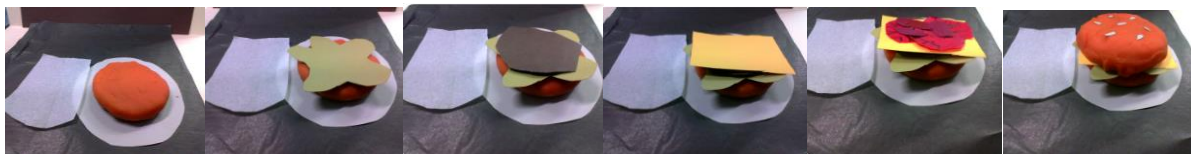


By Leon Pio

We love watching short stop-motion videos and the final lessons gave us an opportunity to experience the planning and problem-solving skills required to create these entertaining little gems. We planned our

stories using storyboards and considered what resources we would need, before using Google Slides to take photos and Auto-play to create short animations.

Photos for stop motion animation: How to Make a Cheese Burger - By Annalise Bennet and Evie Archer



The students showed enthusiasm, creativity, and thoughtful reflection during this unit. Their growing understanding of how media works – and their ability to use it responsibly – shows that they are developing as confident and capable digital citizens.

Year 3/4 Team –

Kyleigh Howell, Mandy Roseler, Cintha Thompson, Lindel Warry

3/4 Executive Teacher: Anthea Theodoridis

YEAR 5 and 6

We've had a fantastic start to Term 4, with students settling back into routines and engaging enthusiastically in their learning. Here's an overview of what our Year 5/6 students have been working on to start the term.

Literacy

In Literacy, students are focusing on persuasive writing. They are learning how to construct well organised arguments, use emotive and persuasive language, and write with purpose and audience in mind. 5/6EJ and 5/6CW have been creating travel destinations to persuade people to travel to, while 5/6SF and 5/6EM have been working to persuade students to come to a theme park. Students are also continuing to build their understanding of letter-sound correspondences, which supports their spelling, reading, and overall confidence as writers.



Mathematics

In maths, we have been centred on geometry and measurement. Students are learning to identify and plot coordinates on a Cartesian plane, helping them describe positions and movements in two dimensions. They are also developing their skills in measuring and categorising angles, learning to recognise different types of angles such as acute, right, obtuse, straight, and reflex. Students have also been learning to accurately measure angles using protractors. These concepts help students deepen their spatial reasoning and geometric understanding.

Science

This term in Science, our focus is on energy and electricity. Students are exploring how electrical circuits work and experimenting with ways to make simple circuits function effectively. They are also learning about different sources of energy, including renewable options such as solar, wind, and hydro power. Through a variety of activities and investigations, students are gaining a practical understanding of how energy can be transferred and used in everyday life.

Looking Ahead

Coming up the rest of the term 5/6 will remain busy with Year 6 graduation on the 11th of December at 1pm. Also coming into the later months, things are heating up and the UV is rising also. Please remind your kids to wear appropriate clothing for the weather and to bring a hat for break times.

Lastly a big shout out to our very own Charlie Beard who was a Finalist at the Public Education Awards in Week 2 for the Learning Support Person of the Year. It's amazing to have such a dedicated and skilled member of the team. Well done, Charlie!



Year 5/6 Team

Suzi Foley, Shannon Black, Caitlin Walker, Edward Jones, Emma McLeod,
Year 5/6 Executive Teacher- Craig Lambert



Message from the Green Force Team

Thank you to all the families and staff who kindly donated books for our book swap – we had a large collection of books with each primary student selecting a new book to call their own!



Cooking

Students in Years 3/4 have begun testing their solar ovens! Despite a few passing clouds, they were excited to see solar energy in action while making delicious s'mores (melted chocolate and marshmallow on a biscuit). Students thoughtfully selected materials to ensure their oven designs could absorb, reflect, or transmit sunlight effectively. It was a fun and tasty way to explore science, technology, and sustainability!

Kitchen Garden Team

K-2 Teacher Kathryn Glanville, 3-6 Teacher Lydia Desmet

Kitchen Garden Assistant Julie

Executive Teacher Anthea Theodoridis



Spring Cooking!

K – 2 students have started the term with lots of busy work in the kitchen, they prepared an assortment of sweet and savory treats which were served at the Kindy information session in week 1. Recently, they enjoyed the sticky process of making pumpkin scones.

Students in years 3 – 6 recently prepared a crunchy snow pea, couscous & crouton salad along with French toast.

with Solar!



WASTE FREE WEDNESDAY

Every Wednesday, we encourage students to bring a lunchbox with no soft plastic waste.

Together, we can make small changes that create a big impact for our planet.



Thank you for supporting this initiative!
— The Green Force Team

Namadgi School
KITCHEN GARDEN PROGRAM



Waste Free Wednesday - A Kitchen Garden Program Initiative

SENIOR SCHOOL

Small Group

Students in the 7/8 SGP have been busy exploring the world of STEM through a series of exciting hands-on challenges. Working in pairs, they have designed and built towers, bridges, and boats using everyday materials. These activities have encouraged creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration as students planned, tested, and refined their designs to solve real-world problems.





MEET FRED THE TURTLE

Senior SGP students had the opportunity this term to get up close and learn about 'Bingings' (turtles) from First Nations Artist and Storyteller, William Walker. William is from the Wahluwal Tribe (Bundjalung Nation). His tribe are known as 'The Turtle Divers'. He explained to students "My tribe live alongside the Rocky River. All my Ancestors were born along the Rocky and Clarence river.

They lived in harmony with the land and the animals. The animals share the land with us, and we share the land with them. My people hunted for many years on these rivers, and still hunt today, passing down their knowledge to the younger generations. The freshwater Turtle 'Binging' in my language, is one of my tribe's favourite Bush Tucker. We hunt for 'Binging' in summertime. The female 'Binging', we call 'Mammy' and the male turtle we call 'Buck'. The Mammy is bigger than the Buck because she carries the eggs; she can carry up to 16 eggs. We hunt for them by diving in the river and catching them with our hands. We cook them on the fire or roast them in the oven.

We still go turtle diving today. We also hunt for freshwater catfish (Wajun), perch, mullet, eel and cod. We take our catch back home and feed the Elders and Jarjums (children) first. Caring and Sharing, that's our Culture". The students were very impressive in their handling of the turtle. They did convince William that Fred should not be eaten so William has promised them that he will bring Fred back to the Rocky River!



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

Maths and Science

It's been an exciting start to Term 4 across the Maths and Science classrooms as students dive into new and fascinating topics!

In Science, our Year 7 students have launched into Term 4 with an exciting start to their Science studies, exploring our Solar System. They've been learning the order of the planets using the fun mnemonic "My Mother Just Served Us Nutri-Grain", helping them remember Mercury through to Neptune with ease. Students are now turning their focus to the phases of the Moon, creating interactive Moon Phase spinners to show how the Moon changes shape over time. To top it off, they took part in a deliciously creative Oreo practical, using the cream filling to model each lunar phase. It's been a hands-on and engaging way to explore the wonders of space!

Our Year 8 scientists are studying the rock cycle, discovering how rocks transform between igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic forms through heat, pressure, and time. (*Fun fact: the oldest known rock on Earth is over 4 billion years old!*) Year 9 Science students are investigating the carbon cycle, learning how carbon moves through the atmosphere, oceans, plants, animals, and the Earth itself. They've explored how this natural process helps regulate our planet's climate and supports life as we know it. Meanwhile, Year 10 Science students have wrapped up their unit on climate change and are now blasting off into the Big Bang Theory, uncovering how the universe began. (*Fun fact: the universe is still expanding — and it's speeding up!*) In Maths, Year 7 students have just completed their unit on statistics, learning how to collect, analyse, and interpret data. Year 8 students have finished a challenging yet rewarding topic on algebra, including expanding and factorising single brackets. Year 9 mathematicians are applying their knowledge of parabolas to real-world situations — like modelling the path of a ball being thrown. And our Year 10 students are starting their final topic in high school, probability — exploring chance and predictions. Doesn't time fly! Keep up the great work everyone, as we reach the final term of 2025!







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

HPE, Arts & Tech

In HPE, Year 9/10 students have spent the first few weeks of term learning about leadership and what it means to be a good leader. During this time, students have collaborated in groups to develop their own sport sessions focused on student-centred learning. They researched their chosen sport, established rules, and devised clear modifications to ensure inclusivity for all. We look forward to seeing them work together over the coming weeks to deliver their sessions.

Year 7 Health students have been learning about water and sun safety. They have been proactive in their discussions, asking insightful questions and demonstrating positive engagement. In PE, they are continuing their rotations of basketball, netball, and futsal. It's been great to get outside as the weather warms up to play these sports.

Design and Technologies

This week in Design, our Year 7 students began their practical projects. They were given a choice between two strands of learning: a traditional woodworking project or a laser cutter project that incorporates emerging technologies. Students have been highly engaged and enthusiastic in this space, and they're excited to bring their practical projects to life.

Cooking with Style

The Year 9/10 Food Technology students are currently working on a five-week food truck assessment. As part of the task, they are required to plan and design a food truck concept, including creating a menu that reflects their chosen theme. Throughout the project, students will explore branding, ingredient selection, and menu planning. To complete the assessment, each student will prepare and cook one of their menu items, putting their practical skills to the test. It's a great opportunity for them to combine creativity with hands-on experience in the kitchen. We look forward to seeing what the students create.

Coming Up!

- Secondary South Basketball Gala Day
 - o 7/8 and 9/10 Boys 6th November 2025
 - o 7/8 Girls 13th November 2025

Steph Johnston, Josh Hart, Lauren Gartside, Charlie Doherty, Aliena van den Boogaard, Maua Tusa
Executive Teacher: Hayley Borg

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



**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





**Do you have a little one attending
Preschool at Namadgi in 2026?**

We would like to welcome 2026 Namadgi preschool students to visit our school each Wednesday morning. Your child will have the opportunity to do some craft activities, meet other 2026 preschool students and familiarise themselves with our school before next year.



For more information contact
Aly - alison.cleaver@ed.act.edu.au




Thank you

coles

*for the generous donation of
pantry goods that will help us
to support our community*





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







SAVE THE DATE

Namadgi School Christmas Concert Evening

Monday the 8th December

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






Think Dance
Think Deanne!

Dancing | Co-ordination | Teamwork | Perform | Fitness | Gymnastics

COME & TRY FOR FREE!

All classes at our Club Hub
St John Vianney's School, Namatjira Drive, Waramanga

TEAM	AGES*	DAY	TIMES	NOVEMBER DATES
Teenies - recreational	2 to 5	Sunday	9:00 – 9:45am	16, 23, 30
Tinies	3 to 7		10:00 – 11:30am	
Sub-Juniors	8 to 10		12:00 – 1:30pm	
Juniors	11 to 13	Tuesday	5:00 – 6:30pm	11, 18 & 25
Intermediates	14 to 17	Wednesday	5:30 – 7:00pm	19 & 26
Seniors	18+	Monday	6:15 – 7:45pm	10, 17 & 24
Masters	26+	Thursday	6:15 – 7:45pm	13 & 20

*Age is at 31 December 2026

Phone **0402 246 930**
 Email **president@deanne.com.au**
 Web **www.deanne.com.au**
 Facebook **www.facebook.com/deannecalisthenics**



2026 Enrolments Early Bird Special
\$100 Discount*

Enter Promo Code **SN100** on the registration form
 * New participants only & excludes Teenies classes. Register by 15 December 2025



Parent Connections

ACT Down Syndrome & Intellectual Disability is a local not-for-profit that provides information and referral advice to the Canberra community. Primarily working with people with an intellectual disability, we strive to support the Canberra community.

The 'Parent Connections' is a **Free** information, referral and support group for parents and carers of children 0 - 9 years, where children can play while parents talk.

This is a space for children and families who may require additional supports or who have developmental concerns.

Term 4, 2025, Tuesdays 10:00-11:30am

October: 21st

November: 4th, 18th

December: 2nd

Mura Lanyon Youth and Community Centre
 22 Sidney Nolan Street, Conder ACT 2906

For more information, please contact us at navigator@actdsid.org.au or call at 02 6290 0656