Term 3 Week 9

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Namadgi Families,

As Term 3 wraps up I would like to acknowledge the following staff for their contributions and leadership to our school community. They have been acknowledged by colleagues in their respective fields in the 2025 Public Education Awards.

Nominee	Award Category
Liz Baker-Matterson	School Leader of the Year
Charlie Beard	Learning Support Person of the Year
Riley Loughlin	Learning Support Person of the Year
Wendy Tipping	Learning Support Person of the Year
Steve and Anthony	School Support Person of the Year
Lydia Desmet	Primary Teacher of the year
Katrina Wright	Secondary teacher of the year
Wellbeing Team	Excellence in diversity and inclusion
Kyleigh Howell	Primary Teacher of the year
Jade Payne	New educator of the year
Gai & Sam	Learning Support Person of the Year
Aly Cleaver	Outstanding Partnership of the Year
Kathy Parker	Learning Support Person of the Year

Please join me in congratulating these Namadgi staff members. We wish them good luck as the awards panel starts shortlisting for the Big Night.

Congratulations to our Limelight performers who rocked the AIS Arena last Thursday and Friday night. In celebration of the Arts in Public Education the nights were a huge success. Thank you to Mrs. Chard, Ms. Freedman, Ms. Foley and Miss. Somenek for leading and supporting the students in practise sessions and the performance nights.

Voluntary contribution payments in 2025 are still welcomed to support resourcing consumables and materials that directly benefit students. Information can be found on the school web page under 8Recent School Notes9 or reach out to the front office on 61420900 or via email at **info@namadgi.act.edu.au** for assistance with payments.

With school holidays approaching please help us to help the community by reporting any suspicious behaviours in and around the school to ACT Police on 131 444. Some

administrative staff will be on site during the holiday period to ensure maintenance work is completed and times of attendance will fluctuate.

I am looking forward to another busy term ahead when school resumes on Tuesday 14th of October. Monday has been assigned to a student free day across all ACT Public Schools and staff will be onsite planning, setting up, undertaking professional learning tasks.

Have a great break.

Kind Regards,

Gareth Richards

Principal 3 Namadgi School









PRESCHOOL

Yuma Preschool Families! What a fabulous term of Wonder and Learning at preschool!!

We celebrated Science week by becoming scientists and exploring how and why things happen. This included our Hatching Chicks and Ducklings as well as exploration of how we care for different types of

animals at zoos and in nature. We conducted experiments and predicted, created hypotheses and observed and evaluated. We have continued to extend this in our classes by creating different types of slime and doughs. We have been having lots of fun!

We celebrated book week by dressing up as our favourite book character and parading around for our families, we did lots of dancing and enjoyed sharing our books with our friends throughout the day. A BIG THANKYOU to all of the families who were able to join us, we love sharing our learning and fun with you at preschool.

We have also been enjoying the early spring sunshine and spending time learning outside, exploring the environment and working out ways that we can respect and care for Country.













We are always excited when it9s warm enough to add water to the sand! We have also been exploring some new sports equipment and are particularly enjoying the tumble mats and the trikes. We are learning how to throw, catch and

kick balls of varying sizes and shapes. This has increased our

coordination and gross motor skills. What fun ways to develop our social skills, problem solving and patience.

Have a wonderful beak with your families and we will see you 14th Oct for the Emus and Wallabies and 16th Oct for the Wombats.

A few reminders:

*Please send a hat that can be left at school. Make sure it has your **child's name** on it.*

Please send a WATER bottle to school each day, make sure it has your child's name on it. Juice boxes are an ok treat, but a water bottle still needs to be sent each day.

Rebecca Buchanan

Puneet Sandhu, Lesley Charlton & Jodie Tolson

Executive Teacher: Emma Vince

K-6 Small Group Program

K-2LSUBR

This term, our junior small group program has been buzzing with curiosity and creativity as students explored the theme of *spring*. Together, they investigated the signs of seasonal change and discovered how the environment comes alive at this time of year. Students created a variety of artworks inspired by spring, using bright colours, different textures, and natural patterns to capture the beauty of blooming flowers, fresh leaves, and sunshine-filled days. Their artworks show not only their creativity but also their developing understanding of how the seasons shape our world.

Alongside their artmaking, students have been busy researching insects and animals that become more active in spring. From butterflies fluttering through gardens to ants working busily in their colonies, students investigated the life cycles, habitats and behaviours of these creatures. They enjoyed making connections between their research and what they have noticed in the playground and their own backyards, building a stronger appreciation of the natural environment around them.

A highlight for many was the visit from the *Reptile Man*. This experience provided students with the unique opportunity to get up close to a variety of reptiles, from snakes and lizards to turtles. While some students felt nervous at first, they showed great resilience and courage by facing their fears and choosing to engage with the animals. With gentle encouragement, many discovered that stepping outside their comfort zone could lead to a sense of pride and accomplishment. The experience reminded us all that challenges often bring the most memorable learning moments.






As Term 3 draws to a close, we would like to thank our families for their continued support. We wish everyone a safe, happy and restful holiday break, and we look forward to welcoming students back for another exciting term of learning in Term 4.

3-6LSUCS & 3-6LSUMS

Here we are, nearly at the end of Term 3! It has been a busy and productive term, and we are so proud of the way our students have continued to show persistence, resilience and enthusiasm in their learning. As the weather is finally warming up, we kindly remind families to ensure students bring a SunSmart hat to school each day and a labelled drink bottle to keep hydrated throughout the day.

A huge congratulations to all of our students on their hard work this term. We have seen growth across all areas of learning and it has been wonderful to celebrate achievements both big and small. Their effort and positive attitude towards challenges is something to be commended.

Thank you to the families who joined us for our Learning Journey. It was wonderful to see students so excited to share their learning with you, proudly guiding you through their classroom and books, and showing the interests and skills they have been developing this year. We know that these moments of sharing are incredibly valuable for children as they build confidence and ownership of their learning.

We were also very fortunate to welcome the Reptile Man to our school. The students were captivated by the wide variety of animals he brought, including lizards, turtles, snakes and even a crocodile. For many, the highlight was being brave enough to touch or hold one of the reptiles, showing courage and curiosity. This was a fantastic hands-on learning experience that sparked many great discussions back in the classroom.

As we move towards the end of the term, we look forward to finishing strongly and celebrating the wonderful efforts of our students.



Have a restful and enjoyable break!

K-6 Small Group Team:

Belinda Rathborne, Merrilyn Sparks, Cindy Somenek Executive Teacher: Emma Vince

KINDERGARTEN

Last Friday Kindergarten students visited the National Zoo and Aquarium. We first went on a tour where we patted a blue tongue lizard and walked around in the aquarium. We then saw some monkeys, a honey bear, tigers, the lions (and we were SUPER lucky to see the new baby lion cub), otters, koalas, llamas and of course Moo the emu. Students were able to feed the llamas and Moo . We then had a snack break and went on a big group walk to visit all the other animals. We had our lunch and a play on the playground and then headed back

through the zoo to see the rest of the animals. Again, we were super lucky to see the brand new baby zebra!












Kindergarten Team
Jessica Laing and Ali Ringland

K-2 Executive Teacher: Kristy Grady

YEAR 1 and 2

Thanks to our SRC members on Wednesday 17th September students in Kindergarten to Year 6 took part in Jump Off Day, for Jump Rope for Heart. This was a fun and skip filled event with a range of skipping rotations for our primary students.

Our SRC members worked hard to bring awareness to this amazing Heart Foundation fundraiser and with their efforts and the amazing Namadgi School community we were able to triple our fundraising goal and raised $3,102!

Thank you to everyone who was able to donate.



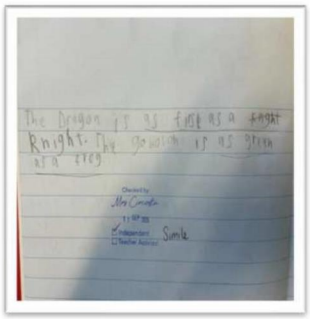


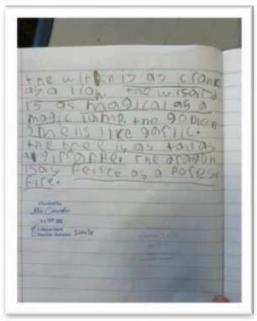
This term has flown by, can you believe it9s almost the holidays? We have had lots of fun events and worked really hard in all areas.

Literacy: Throughout this term we have been learning how to write a narrative. Over the last few weeks we have focused on using speech marks, similes, onomatopoeia and editing our writing.







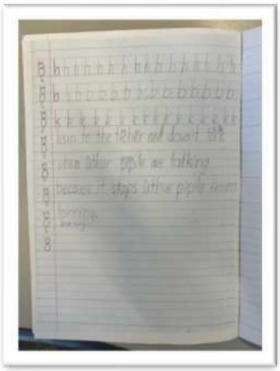
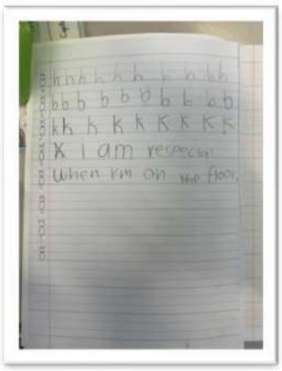


Hand and Heart: This term we had a focus on handwriting. We used our handwriting language of smiling letters (u, v, w, y), raining letters (i, l, t, f, j), bouncing letters (b, h, m, n, r, k, p), tricky letters (s, x,e, z) and

magic letters (c, o, a, d, g, q) to support students' handwriting. We have seen some great improvements

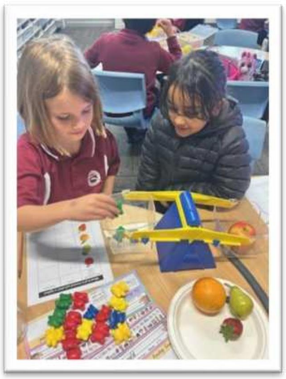
with letter formation and writing on the lines. Incorporated into these lessons is a social and emotional

focus. This week we read the book A Bug and a Wish, it helped give us words to use when we felt frustrated, for example <It bugs me when you …. I wish you would ….= We made a display for our classroom to help remind us of the words we can use when we are feeling annoyed.



Maths: Last week we started our unit on Mass. Students had the opportunity to use the balance scales to measure the mass of different objects, using uniform informal units to measure and place them in order from the lightest to the heaviest.




Year 1 and 2 Team

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

YEAR 3 and 4

What a term we have had! The students have been very busy with drama, limelight, making bouncing bubbles and of course all the Maths they have been learning! Each week the students get involved in some math games where they practise the skills they have been working on throughout the year. These games allow the students to practise how to take turns, be respectful, be a good sport and learn more about the Math concept. If you would like to know about any of them, please contact your child9s teacher.









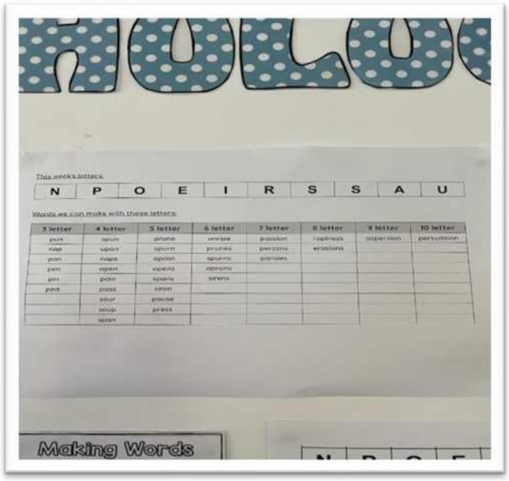



YEAR 5 and 6

Literacy

In Literacy, we9ve been getting creative with words! Students have been given different sets of 10 letters and had to see how many different words they could make, with the challenge being to find what the 10 letter word is. Some of the words were amazing and the students have been a bit competitive! We9ve also been exploring spelling patterns and rules, like how certain letters can change the sound of a word, with vowel teams and diphthongs, or how adding a suffix and prefix can transform it. It9s been a fun way to become word detectives while building strong spelling skills.





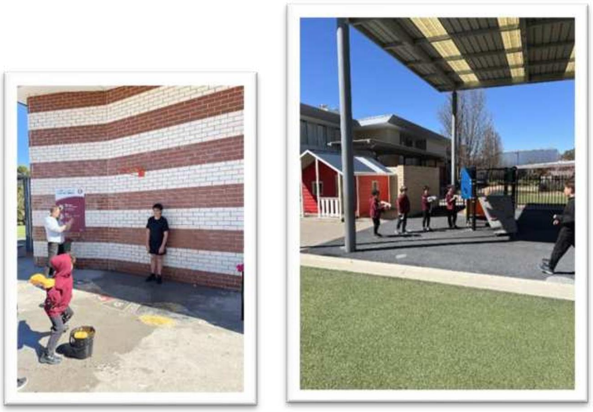
Mathematics

In Maths, our focus has been multiplication and solving multi-step word problems. Students have been practising their multiplication and then using their knowledge to tackle trickier equations. A big part of this has been learning how to use the order of operations. At first it was a challenge, but everyone has been working really hard and showing great persistence. It9s been exciting to see students grow in confidence as they <crack the code= of multi-step equations!

Year 6 Fun Day

The Year 6 Fun Day was an absolute hit! Our Year 6 students took the lead, planning and running exciting stalls for the whole school to enjoy. From the Bean Bag Toss and Laser Tag to Tattoos, Guess the Drink, and even a spooky Haunted House, there was something for everyone. Students from every grade had a blast joining in the fun and trying out all the activities. The Year 6s showed incredible teamwork, creativity, and energy, making the day unforgettable. We9re so proud of their effort, it was truly a day full of smiles, laughter, and memories to last a lifetime! We would like to thank all families who contributed to providing lollies, prizes and toys for the younger students to enjoy.





Year 5/6 Team

Suzi Foley, Shannon Black, Caitlin Walker, Edward Jones, and Craig Lambert

Namadgi School KITCHEN GARDEN PROGRAM

KITCHEN GARDEN NEWS

Message from the Green Force Team

Our primary students are excited to be taking part in the **Planet Ark Schools Recycle Right Challenge** throughout October and November! To show our commitment to sustainability, our **Green Force Team** has some exciting initiatives planned for next term.

Book swap!

In Term 4, the Green Force Team will be hosting a whole-school **Book Swap**. This is a wonderful way to give pre-loved stories a new home while reducing waste. Over the holidays, we encourage families to sort through their book collections. If you have any high-quality books, you no longer need, please bring them along in Week 1 to contribute to the swap

Waste Free Wednesday!

Each Wednesday, students are encouraged to bring a lunch box that is free from soft plastic waste.

Tips of success: Use bento or compartment-style lunchboxes, try beeswax wraps instead of cling wrap, pack a reusable drink bottle, bake your own healthy snacks at home.




Science excursion

During Week 7, a group of Year 6 students had the incredible opportunity to take part in a two-day science excursion at the Australian National University (ANU). Students gained a glimpse into university life as they explored the science precinct and discovered the wide range of opportunities that come with studying

science. They then spent a full day in the laboratory, where they conducted hands-on experiments4 creating natural dyes from fruit and investigating local water samples. Using microscopes, they examined water quality and identified the tiny organisms living within, gaining real-world insights into scientific research

Pasta making





Students have loved getting hands-on in the kitchen, exploring the art of making fresh, handmade pasta. Our K32 students rolled and cut their own fettuccine, serving it with a delicious homemade tomato sauce. Students in Years 336 took on the challenge of creating spinach, feta, and ricotta tortellini, beautifully paired with a fresh rocket, carrot, and pear salad.

Kitchen Garden Team

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

Kitchen Garden Assistant Julie

Executive Teacher Anthea Theodoridis



WINNERS OF THE MOVIE

VOUCHERS

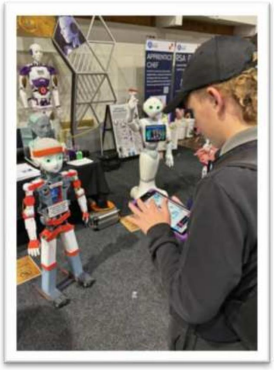
Micah Mootoosamy & Mia

Williams



Year 9/10 Small Group Students have been very busy this term, getting out and about on work experience, attendance at the Work Expo Day and working hard on learning tasks in the classroom. In HASS, students have been learning about Biomes and Food Security and working together on group research tasks. In Maths, they have been doing all things Geometry, Measurement, Angles and Pythagoras! We are so proud of our students as they rise to the challenge each day and demonstrate their abilities and understanding.

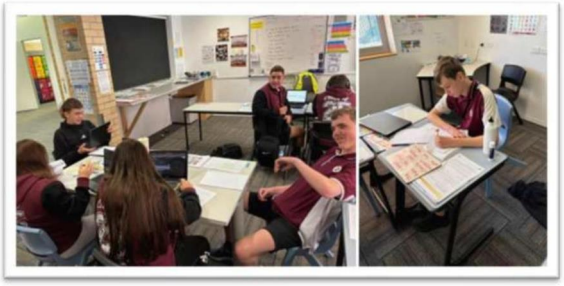
Careers Expo:





Biomes Group Work



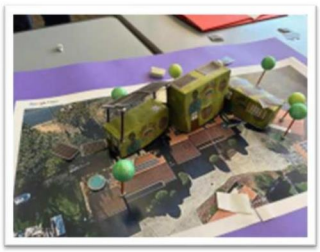


Sustainable Living Models







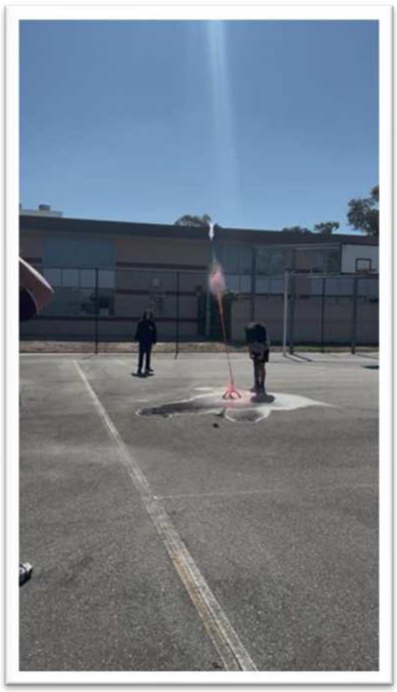


Small Group Program 3 Ms Wright, Mr. H , Ms McLoughlin, Ms. Burn, Gai, Mani, Sam, Hawani and Kelly.

Maths and Science

Following on from energy transfer with our Year 8 students in the last newsletter, they are now creating Rube Goldberg machines. It has been amazing to see the students design these complex machines for simple tasks such as giving a high five or handing over a piece of paper and then bring their ideas to life through building. Keep up the great work, Year 8 scientists!

Our Year 7 science students have just completed an assignment on friction, testing different surfaces and materials to determine which creates the most and least friction. Year 9 students are beginning a practical experiment with solar panels, investigating what type of light is the most efficient, while our Year 10s are diving into the important topic of climate change. *Fun fact: Did you know that climate change is causing seas to rise at nearly double the rate they were in the 20th century.* Our Year 7/8 small group science students have also been investigating forces by testing out our water bottle rocket4imagine how high that bottle went! (See pic)





In Week 7, 12 of our high school senior students attended the ANU for two days to mentor Year 5 and 6 students from numerous public primary schools, including our own. It was fantastic to see our students share their passion for science and inquiry while supporting younger students in their learning.







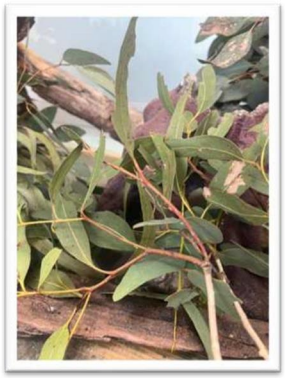






Finally, we would like to welcome four new additions to our maths and science team4our very own goliath stick insects! At the moment, they are only young and small, known as nymphs, but they will eventually grow into some of the largest stick insects in the world. *Fun fact: Adult goliath stick insects can reach up to 25 cm in length, making them one of the biggest insects on Earth!*







Over in maths, our Year 7 students have been investigating circles. During the week they calculated pi by measuring the diameter and circumference of different circles. *Fun fact: Pi is the ratio between a circle's circumference and its diameter, a relationship first studied by the ancient Greek mathematician Archimedes more than 2,000 years ago!* Year 8 students just completed a bake sale task, putting their learning of percentages, rates, and ratios into practice in a fun and meaningful way. Meanwhile, our Year 9 and 10 students are exploring graphs4both linear and non-linear4and discovering how these models can represent real-world applications.

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

HPE, Arts & Tech - ACT Athletics Championship

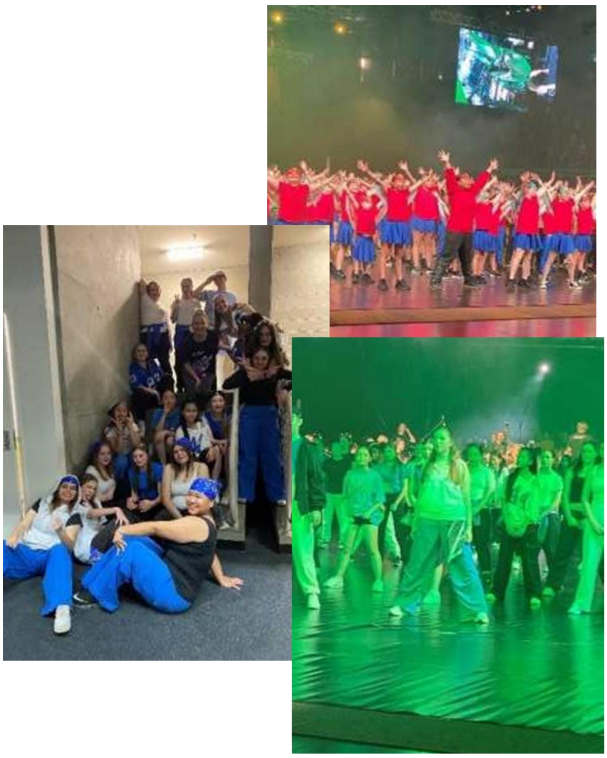
Tuesday 23rd September!

Health and Physical Education

It9s been a busy and productive term in HPE, with students actively participating in both Physical Education and Health programs. Throughout this time, they9ve developed important skills in sportsmanship, fair play, and teamwork, while also refining their skills in their allocated sports. In Health lessons, students are currently working on creating educational campaigns designed to communicate and inform their audiences about key health topics. These projects encourage creativity, critical thinking, and a deeper understanding of healthrelated issues. **Music**

This term, our music students have been diving deep into the art of composition, building a strong foundation in music theory while honing their instrumental skills. A wide range of theory topics have been covered including how to build scales and chords, how notes sound against certain chord progressions and listening and analysing music. Students have also been participating in small group jam sessions, exploring skills in how to play, listen and interact with other musicians. They are looking forward to putting together some pieces to perform later in the year!

Sports Update



In Week 7, Mrs Borg and Miss Payne had the pleasure of accompanying the Year 7/8 and Year 9/10 girls9 netball teams as they proudly represented our school. The students played incredibly well, demonstrating sportsmanship, teamwork, and determination throughout the day. Their commitment and positive attitude were a credit to themselves and our school community.

Dance – Limelight 2025

Wow what a week Limelight dancers had in Week 8, rehearsing and performing at the AIS Arena for the 2025 Step Into the Limelight Gala <Enter the Unknown=. Secondary students in years 7-10 represented the school with such great attitude, respect and positive behaviours it was amazing to see them performing on stage in front of an audience of 1,500 people each night. Students performed in a number of showstopping routines showing their versatility as performers. The items included: <Into the Unknown= a powerful movement piece that closed Act 1. <Lose Yourself= an exciting Hip Hop piece, <Express This Way= a sassy jazz performance

and then finishing with <Viva La Vida= and <Get Up and Dance= 3 the high energy finale that got the audience up and dancing in their seats.

A special shout out to four secondary students: Zharlene, Ione, Evelyn and Nicola who supported the primary massed dance item <It9s a Jungle Out There= which was a crowd favourite. A big THANK YOU to the Namadgi School P&C who sponsored the cost of student travel to ensure that we had maximum student participation, we really appreciate your continued support of Dance at Namadgi School. And thank you to the parents and carers who travelled to the AIS for drop off / pick ups and to watch the show.

It was a pleasure to take the students on this excursion, and I hope it has inspired them to continue to keep performing. - Lauren Chard

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

VET Hospitality & Food Tech

VET Hospitality and Food Technology students have been busy in the kitchen, whipping up an incredible *500 vanilla cupcakes*, topped with traditional buttercream, in support of Namadgi's fundraising efforts for the *World's Greatest Shave*. Their delicious contribution helped raise awareness and funds for a cause close to many hearts.



In addition to their cupcake success, the VET Hospitality team continues to shine through the *Busy Bean CafØ*, which has become a popular spot among staff and secondary students. Offering a range of hot and cold beverages, tasty toasties, and the occasional sweet or savoury treat, the café is a testament to the students9 hard work, skills, and dedication to providing quality service. Well done to all involved!

Aliena van den Boogard, Kylie McClung **Executive Teacher – Mindi White**

ENGLISH & HUMANITIES

English

What a fun and creative term we9ve had in 7 and 8 English.

Our grade 7 students have been exploring all things poetry, whether is the rhythm, the rhyme, ways to use words that create sounds (onomatopoeia) or words that create images by comparison (simile and metaphor). We9ve also had the opportunity to have Mr Wagner from University of New England run some of our unit, introducing students to excellent skills

that enabled them to dive deeper into their imagery and descriptive and creative language. With his guidance our classes produced their major poetry piece and a rationale, a piece of writing that explains the influence, purpose, and elements of a creative work. A rationale is a big leap in writing for our year 7s and brings in yet another written communication skill they can take with them into adulthood. Well done grade 7!

Our grade 8 students have been working their way through different ways stories have been told over the millennia. We9ve looked at Dreaming Stories and Creation myths from all over the world. We9ve explored basic frameworks such as the 4-Steps Story (Introduction, Problem, Solution, Resolution) and the Story Mountain (Exposition, Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action, Resolution/Denouement). Students have had the exciting opportunity to create their own origin stories, whether it9s the origin of the first musical or the origin of redheads from ancient leprechaun tribes. Well done Year 8s, it9s been an incredibly fun and creative term!

Humanities

All of our classes have had a good start to Term Three. Year 7 students have been exploring Water in the World. Students have been engaged in learning about where our water supply comes from and the meaning of Water Scarcity.

Year 8 students have moved on in their study of Geography and have started a unit on 8Changing Nations.9 We have looked at Megacities and are starting to examine migration. The students will end the term with a hike up Urambi Hills to learn about our local area so can all parents/carers ensure permission notes have been sent into the front office.

The students in Year 9 are looking at Biomes and Food Security. This unit looks at what a Biome is and how our food comes from within each Biome. Students will end the term with some fun activities run by Joe Chapman-Freedman who is our Indigenous Education Officer.

Year 10s are working on finishing their unit to do with Human Wellbeing. They will be finishing their major assignment next Tuesday before ending the unit with some fun activities.

Across all year groups, students have been engaged in deep discussions about the world around them. We are looking forward to having more fun next term.

Ben Raven, Mickey Thomas, Masaya Kajitani **Executive Teacher : Bea Hale**

TEXTILES

This term in Year 8 Textiles, students have truly impressed us with their creativity and determination as they designed and created their own soft toys. Working through each stage of the design process, they showed resilience and problem-solving skills as they learned to sew by hand and on the machine. The final products have been wonderful,

ranging from ducks and birds to monsters, plushies, and unique characters. Most importantly, students should feel proud of their teamwork, perseverance, and the confidence they have built in their sewing skills.



In Year 9 and 10 Textiles, students have been exploring sustainability and the important <R9s= of the textiles industry 3 Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repair, Rethink and Recycle. To put this into practice, they took on an upcycling challenge, transforming old denim jeans into creative new products. The results were fantastic, with students working on producing a range of items including bags, shorts, pants, and even dog toys. This project not only developed their sewing and design skills but also encouraged them to think critically about the impact of fast fashion and the value of giving new life to old materials.

Executive Teacher: Bea Hale

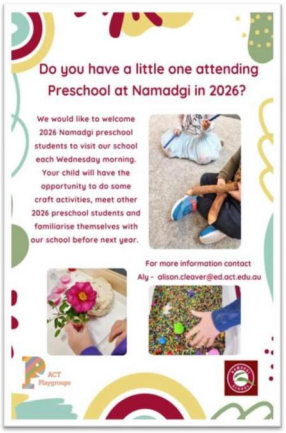
IMPORTANT INFORMATION













YWCA CANBERRA YOUTH PROGRAMS

SPRING SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM, 2025





The YWCA Canberra Youth Programs Team provides a FREE school holiday program to young people aged 10 to 25 in Tuggeranong.

Email to register activities will be run from the Mura Lanyon Youth and Community Centre, 22 Sidney Nolan Street, Conder. You must email us to register to attend, youth@ywca-canberra.org.au.

For excursions, the bus will pick up and drop off at the Mura Lanyon Youth and Community Centre. Excursions require a signed permission form, which are available on the website.

Get in contact for more information:
www.ywca-canberra.org.au
youth@ywca-canberra.org.au
(02) 6185 2090
ywcacanberra_youth YWCAClubhouse

SPRING SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

MON 29 SEPT	TUE 30 SEPT	WED 1 OCT	THU 2 OCT	FRI 3 OCT
DROP-IN & CHILL @MLYCC Games, music, chill vibes. Perfect way to relax and have fun! 1:00pm - 4:00pm	**MUESUM OF DEMOCRACY** *Excursion @ OLD PARLIAMENT HOUSE Exciting excursion to the Museum of Australian Democracy 1:00pm - 4:00pm	**BAKING COMPETITION & DROP-IN** @MLYCC Show off your cupcake baking skills and decoration! 1:00pm - 4:00pm	**OUTDOOR SPORTS DAY & BBQ** *Excursion @Yerrabi Ponds Come play sports and meet young people from other youth services 10:00am - 3:00pm	**ZONE BOWLING** *Excursion @Tuggeranong Knock down some pins with us. 11am - 3:00pm
MON 6 OCT	**TUE 7 OCT**	**WED 8 OCT**	**THU 9 OCT**	**FRI 10 OCT**
PUBLIC HOLIDAY	**FLORIADE VISIT** *Excursion A day of colour, creativity, & fun at Floriade, Australia's biggest spring festival 9:30am - 2:00pm	**CIRCUS WORKSHOP** @MLYCC Circus Time! learn to juggle, flip, and spin in our fun! No experience needed, just bring your energy! 1:30pm - 4:00pm	**INDOOR SPORTS DAY** *Excursion *Belconnen Youth Centre Come play sports and meet young people from other youth services 10:00am - 3:00pm	**FUN & FOOD DAY** @MLYCC Movie, Dancing and Karaoke 11:30am - 3:30pm

*Excursions require a signed permission form. These are available on our website, www.ywca-canberra.org.au