



Term 2 Week 3

Friday 16 May 2025

Namadgi School Newsletter

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Namadgi Families,

Welcome to Term 2! Looking ahead on the calendar we have a busy schedule with athletics and sporting competitions, camps, Information Night, Preschool Information sessions, Stay and Play and enrolments opening for 2026. This term we will also be celebrating NAIDOC and Reconciliation Week with assemblies and educational programs across the school.

In keeping with the School Board cycle across ACT Public Schools we will be coming together for the first time with a new Board composition next week. At this meeting a Board Chair will be elected, and I look forward to sharing that result, and the new Board Team, over the coming weeks. On the School Board we will have two student representatives, two staff representatives, a P&C representative alongside a community and parent representative. This panel will meet twice a term with myself to review school plans, policy and governance matters.

As part of the schools ongoing maintenance and improvement plans, we recently retrofitted specially designed doors for the preschool bathrooms. These are colourful and user accessible for our small students and have been a big hit with the team. Thank you to Steve, Anthony, Meghana and Miss Potts for coordinating the refurbishment. When the School Board reconvenes, we will be looking at other refresh opportunities across the school and will communicate these projects once they are ratified.

In 2025, Namadgi School is in its second year of a three-year strategic plan. Previously we have undertaken five-year cycles leading to an external review examining the impact and achievements of students under the plans. Our current strategic plan spans a shorter period, culminating at the end of the 2026 school year. Within the plan, that can be located on the Namadgi School webpage, you will find two strategic priorities focusing on academic growth in literacy goals as well as a focus on wellbeing and Positive Behaviours for Learning (PBL). Whilst these priorities are at the fore of much of our planning and professional development, we also include all curriculum areas within the Australian Curriculum in our planning and implementation. The priorities are set from in-school data (student achievement and standardised assessment tasks), NAPLAN, Satisfaction Survey feedback and system data. Staff have been working hard to disseminate the data into actions to deliver the best outcomes for our students during this period. We look forward to our review at the end of 2026 and reporting to the community the impact and improvements from the past three-year period.

Please keep up to date with school happenings via Facebook or electronic correspondence (email and SMS). 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



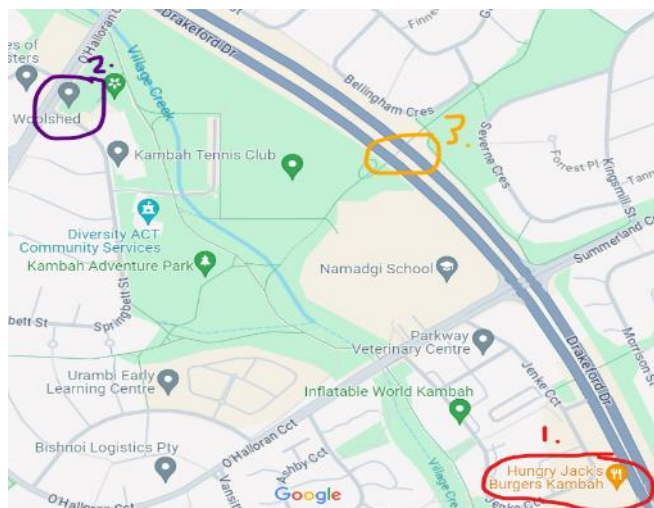
Calendar of Events

Date	Event
Monday 19 May	Year 2 to 10 Athletics Carnival
Tuesday 20 May	Primary Regional Cross Country
Wednesday 21 May	Years 9/10 to National Gallery
Friday 23 May	Secondary Assembly
Monday 26 May	National Sorry Day – Reconciliation Week
Wednesday 28 May	Senior Regional Cross Country
Friday 30 May	Primary Assembly – Year 1/2
Friday 30 May	Walk to School Day
Monday 2 June	Reconciliation Day Public Holiday
Thursday 5 June	Primary Buroinjin
Friday 6 June	Secondary Assembly
Friday 6 June	Secondary Buroinjin
Friday 6 June	9/10 English excursion - 1984
Monday 9 June	King's Birthday Public Holiday
Friday 13 June	Primary Assembly - Year 5/6
Monday 16 June	Preschool Reptile Man
Thursday 19 June	Year 1/2 Dinosaur Museum
Friday 20 June	Preschool Reptile Man
Friday 20 June	Primary Assembly - Years 3/4 and 5/6
Wednesday 25 June	Preschool – Constable Kenny Koala
Monday 30 June to Wednesday 2 July	Year 9/10 Sydney Camp
Wednesday 2 July	Preschool – Constable Kenny Koala
Friday 4 July	Awards Assembly - Years 7 to 10
Friday 4 July	Naidoc Week
Friday 4 July	Last Day of Term
Monday 21 July	Pupil Free Day
Tuesday 22 July	First Day Term 3

Namadgi Walk Safely to School Day, Friday 30th May 2025

Calling for Parents, carers and students to meet us at a designated spot, shown below, for all walk to school together. To help families whose students can't normally walk to school, we will have Executive staff at these places to meet students to walk together for arrival at school at 8.30 or just after.

These are **Hungry Jacks**, **near the Woolshed** and the **footbridge over Drakeford Drive**.



There will be activities when children arrive at school, such as

- Bubbles
- Music/Dancing
- Chalk Drawing
- Skipping Ropes
- Sharing Fruit Platters

Please walk along with us and join in with our community.

The Year 1/2 assembly will follow the morning activities at 9.15.



NAMADGI *Uniform Shop*

FRIDAYS: 3:00 – 3:30 PM



The Lowes supplier who provides their maroon primary jackets are no longer able to supply them. Lowes will continue to sell their remaining stock and currently have approx. 70 units remaining. To assist with stock depletion, they will be reducing the price from \$61.95 to \$44.95.

Namadgi School will continue to sell both maroon primary jackets and high school black NS hoodies for \$35.

We warmly welcome you to
Namadgi School Playgroup
Wednesday Mornings

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


Where: 2A Preschool
Building Namadgi
School

The playgroup has been designed for 3 to 4 year olds although siblings of all ages are welcome to join.

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

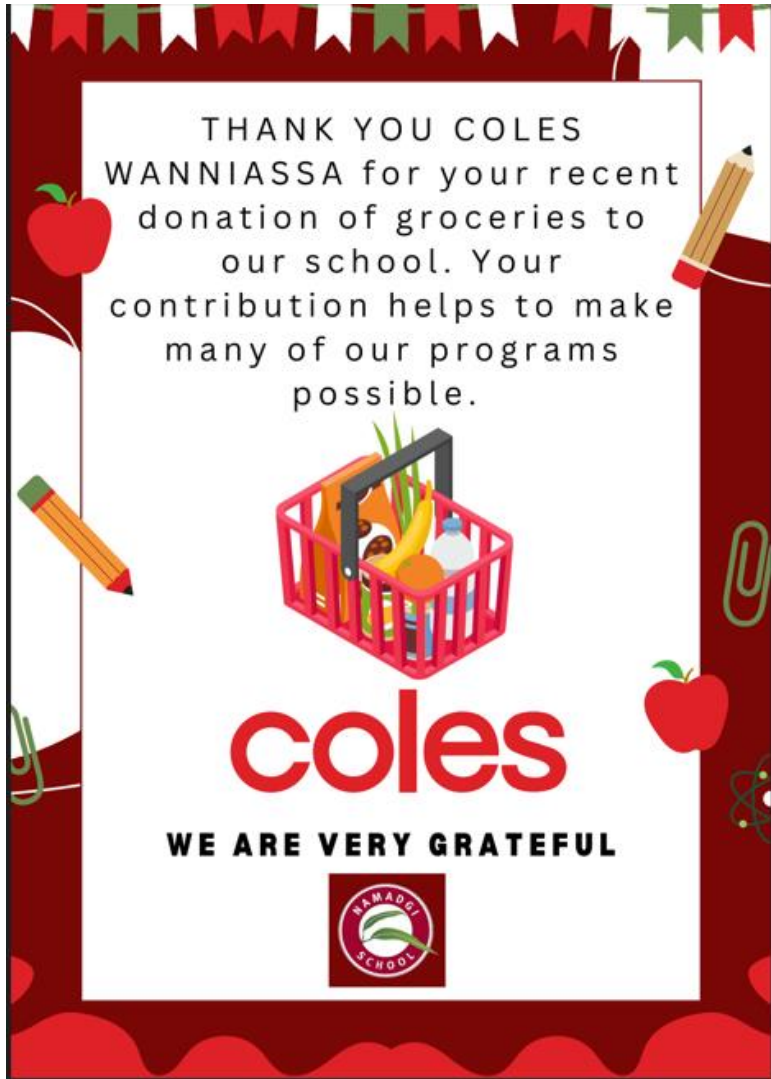



THANK YOU COLES
WANNIASSA for your recent
donation of groceries to
our school. Your
contribution helps to make
many of our programs
possible.



coles

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL






NAMADGI
*Parent Portal
Help Desk*

WEDNESDAYS: 8:30 – 9:00 AM
THURSDAYS: 2:30 – 3:30 PM

If you need help accessing the [Parent Portal](#) please visit an expert during the times above.

Located in the community room
opposite the library



Parent Portal – Changes to ACT Digital Account ID requirements

The ID requirements for accessing Parent Portal have changed to make it easier to register your account. If you have had trouble signing up to Parent Portal because of the ID requirements, we invite you to try again. To access Parent Portal, you need to verify your identity via the ACT Digital Account. Previously you needed two forms of accepted ID and now you only need one.

To register, use the Parent Portal access link, [Parent Portal access link](#), and create or log in to your ACT Digital Account.

Please contact the front office on INFO@NAMADGI.ACT.EDU.AU if you haven't received an access key.



Bounce Back

Bounce Back is a wellbeing and resilience program that Namadgi Primary school has begun implementing this year. Bounce Back teaches the skills to help children be in a positive mood most of the time, get along well with others and become more resilient. The program uses quality literature to begin discussions and teach the ten important coping statements. Each letter in the words BOUNCE BACK stand for a coping statement. There is a modified version for Kindergarten to Year 2 that focuses on the word BOUNCE, with each of the 6 letters representing a coping statement.

Bounce Back at Namadgi

Bounce Acronym - Kinder to Year 2

**B**

Bad feelings go away again.

O

Other people can help you feel better if you talk to them.

U

Unhelpful thinking makes you feel more upset, THINK again.

N

Nobody is perfect - not you and not others.

C

Concentrate on the things that are still good when things go wrong.

E

Everybody has unhappy times sometimes, not just you.



Bounce Back at Namadgi



Bounce Acronym - Year 3 to Year 6

B

Bad times don't last. Things always get better. Stay optimistic.

O

Other people can help if you talk to them. Get a reality check.

U

Unhelpful thinking makes you feel more upset. Think again.

N

Nobody is perfect - not you and not others.

C

Concentrate on the positives (no matter how small) and use laughter.

E

Everybody experiences sadness, failure, hurt, rejection and setbacks sometimes, not just you. They are a normal part of life. Try not to personalise them.

B

Blame fairly. How much of what happened was due to you, to others and to bad luck or circumstances?

A

Accept what can't be changed (but try to change what you can change first).

C

Catastrophising exaggerates your worries. Don't believe the worst possible picture.

K

Keep things in perspective. It's only part of your life.



Preschool



YUMA! Welcome to term 2 at preschool. We love learning at preschool, investigating and having fun 😊. The children have taken great joy in exploring our Autumn landscape and observing the seasonal changes. They have been asking lots of questions: Why are the leaves falling off the trees? They have changed colours! Why did they do that? Why is it cold? To lead on from this, some of our focus books are: We're going on a Leaf Hunt, Leafman and Seasons. The other focus books are See you later Alligator and Macca the Alpaca. These are excellent books to explore rhyme, friendship and science.

We have been talking about families and mothers, and we hope everyone had a marvellous Mother's day or Family Day with their loved ones.



All the preschoolers have started going to library now. It has been such a joy watching them connect with their favourite story and take on the responsibility of taking a book home every fortnight, then returning it so that they can borrow another. REMEMBER that Library Day is every Wednesday when your child is at preschool. REMEMBER your library bag and book 😊

What a fantastic upgrade we have received from Namadgi School in the form of beautiful colourful toilet doors. Don't they look amazing! The children proudly use them sensibly, giving themselves privacy and ownership in their toileting. A huge THANKYOU to everyone involved in this upgrade.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS...

We have 2 public holidays coming up this term. There will be no preschool on Monday 2nd June and Monday 9th June.

'Hats off' starts on the 1st of June - children are NOT required to wear hats in June and July.

Please LABEL all your child's belongings, we have several unclaimed jumpers in lost property.



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

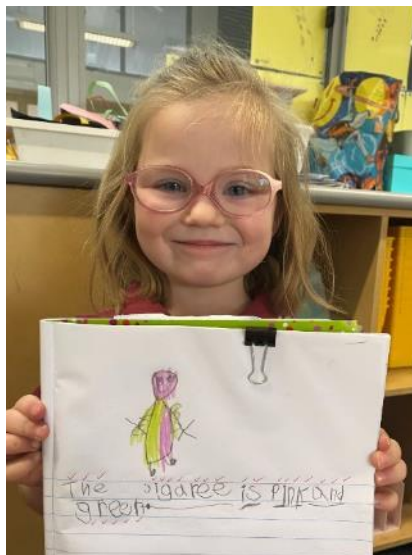
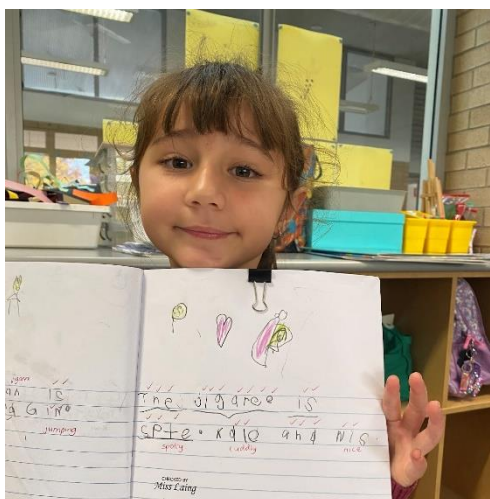
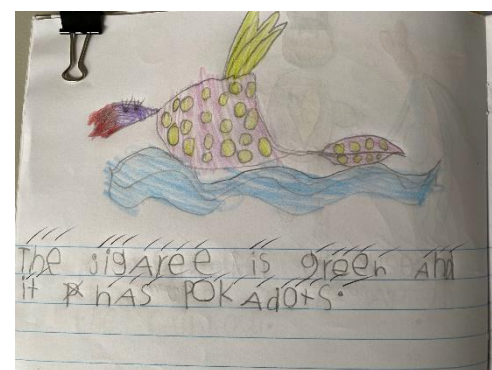
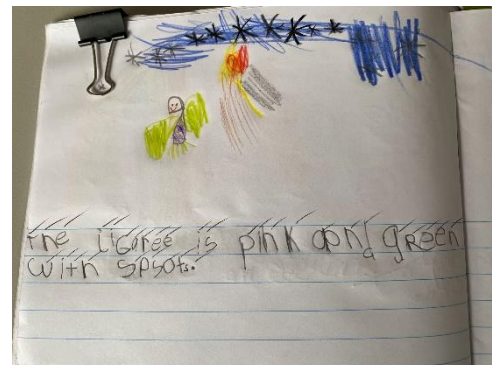


Kindergarten

Literacy

In literacy, we have been exploring 'verbs' and 'adjectives'. In Kindergarten, we know that verbs are action words and adjectives are describing words. We can use these types of words in our writing to describe what someone or something is doing and how they look or feel.

This week in writing, we read the book 'The Jigaree'. We used verbs to explain actions that the Jigaree was doing and adjectives to describe what the Jigaree looks like.



Science

This term we are investigating how the Australian mailing system works.

We will be learning about sending and receiving packages, and how to effectively design a package suitable for the post. This week we began our unit by exploring a variety of recycled materials. We identified the properties of different items, determining if they were shiny, rough, heavy, sharp etc. Over the next few weeks, we will be testing these materials against weights, water, and heat to determine the best materials needed to design the 'perfect package'.



Teachers: Ali Ringland, Jessica Laing
Executive: Kristy Grady



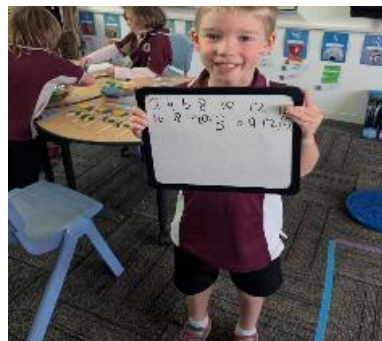
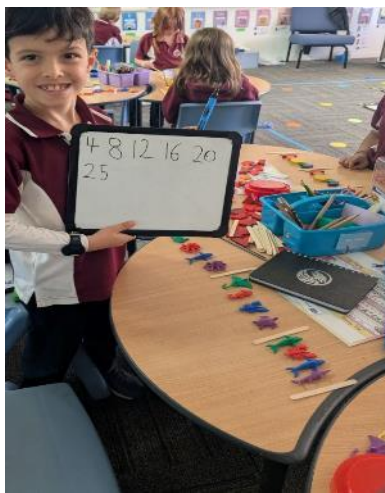
Year 1/2

Welcome new students.

This term the Toucans, Kangaroos and Ladybugs welcomed new students into their classes. Year 1 and Year 2 have done a wonderful job practising kindness, resilience and bravery settling into their new classes. Students focused on social skills and having a growth mindset during the transition process.

Mathematics

This term students have been working on patterns and skip counting. Students made connections between repeating patterns, shape patterns and skip counting. They created their own patterns using shapes, colours and numbers.



Cross Country

Well done to our athletes who gave it their all at Cross Country in Week 1. Students huffed, puffed and raced their way to the finish line and were cheered on by their peers and families.



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



Primary Small Group

We are incredibly proud of our students, who in Week 10 of Term 1, participated in the Lord Taverner's All - Abilities Multi Sports Day. The Lord's Taverners ACT are a charity committed to supporting students to play sport. This inclusive event brought together students from across the school to engage in a variety of fun and challenging sporting activities designed for all abilities. The day was a fantastic celebration of teamwork, resilience and community spirit. Students had the opportunity to try a range of sports - from martial arts to bowls, pickleball, tennis, soccer and cricket. It was inspiring to see students encouraging one another, trying new things and demonstrating great sportsmanship throughout the day. Events like this highlight the importance of inclusion and the joy of participating, regardless of ability. Well done to all students who took part - you represented our school with pride.



From the K-6 Small Group Team:
Belinda Rathborne, Merrilyn Sparks, Cindy Somenek
Executive Teacher: Jessica Potts



Year 5/6

Year 5/6 have started term 2 with a bang. Students started the term with a successful turn out at cross country. All the student's had a great time and tried their best. Good luck to those students who are competing at the Tuggeranong Zone carnival next week. A big thanks goes to Miss Walker for organising the carnival and ensuring everything went smoothly.

During literacy lessons students have been looking at how to write an information report for a strange or odd-looking animal. Students have been practicing writing introductions and body paragraphs as well as adding detailed information to enhance their writing.

Each class has delved into a novel study each morning using this as a basis for our readers workshop lessons. The children are enjoying *Wonder*, *The Bride to Terabithia* and *Matilda*.

During Maths lessons, students have been looking at factorisation as a strategy when multiplying and dividing larger numbers. They have been creating factor trees to assist them when problem solving.

We look forward to the next couple of fun packed weeks including the athletics carnival on Monday, sporting gala days and more learning!!

Classroom Teachers: Caitlin Walker, Suzi Foley, David Lindsay, Edward Jones

Executive Teacher: Craig Lambert



Library

National Simultaneous Storytime will be held on Wednesday next week, 21st May. Primary cohorts will get together to take part in listening to/watching the story and complete a reading activity. The book for 2025 is *The Truck Cat* by Deborah Frenkel.

National Simultaneous Storytime 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.

Shannon Black and Darrell Hancox

Learning through art and baking!

Our Kindergarten and Year 1/2 students began the term exploring grasshoppers and locusts, discovering fascinating facts about their anatomy and learning how to tell the difference between the two. They also investigated plague locusts and the impact swarming events have on Australian agriculture. Students put



their colour-matching skills to the test by colouring different species, with their artwork being submitted to the annual ACT Government Science Playing Cards initiative. This exciting project is supported by our STEM in Schools volunteer, Carol—an entomologist! In the kitchen, students practiced their measuring and mixing skills while making delicious rhubarb muffins.



Well done Sarah and Liz.
Last year, we gave our Year 3 students the opportunity to take home pumpkin seeds, and we are excited to see all the results of their backyard gardening efforts!

**KITCHEN GARDEN
WORKING BEE**

When: Saturday 14th June 2025, week 7
Time: 8:00am - 12:30pm

Discovering the secrets of healthy soil!

Students in Year 3/4 have been digging into the science of soil health—literally! As part of their inquiry unit and the *Soil Your Undies* initiative by the Australian Cotton Industry, they unearthed the cotton underwear they buried last term to investigate how soil quality affects decomposition. Through careful observation, students are learning how healthy soil supports ecosystems and food production. They were both excited and amazed to see how quickly some of the fabric had broken down—clear evidence of rich, active soil, boosted by our composting efforts in every primary classroom.



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

Senior Small Group

7/8SGP are learning about Ancient Egypt and we are conducting an experiment on mummification. Over the next 7-8 weeks, using a similar process to that of the Ancient Egyptians, each student will be in charge of their own chicken wing mummification.



9/10 Small Group Program (SGP) students have been busy exploring work options suited to their interests and personalities. We have been fortunate to link in with LEAD agency, a supported work experience program that assist in matching students to a variety of work options. Students went through the experience of filling out applications and really thinking about where they see themselves. They then went through the interview experience. We were so proud of how brave they were and how they conducted themselves in the interviews. Some students have had follow up and are currently being matched to work experience. Students have worked on their resumes, and some are actively looking for part time work.



Katrina Wright
Annie McLoughlin, Janes Hamilton
Executive Teacher: Katie Langridge



Maths and Science

It's been an exciting and engaging start to the term in our science classrooms, with students diving into the fascinating world of biology. Across the school, learners have been developing their scientific knowledge and practical skills through a range of hands-on activities and investigations.

Year 7 students have been exploring ecosystems and classification. They've shown great enthusiasm and curiosity, especially when distinguishing between living and non-living things. In Year 8, students have been learning about cell structures and organelles. They've also had the opportunity to develop their microscopy skills—an exciting step in becoming young scientists.



Meanwhile, Year 9 students have explored specialised cells and how body systems work together; and Year 10 students have been examining the foundations of life through DNA and genetics, deepening their understanding of heredity and genetic traits.

Outside the classroom, ten Year 8 girls were fortunate to attend a special AI excursion at Microsoft in Barton. During the visit, the students took on the roles of app developers and cyber security specialists. They had a fantastic time creating their own AI-powered apps and exploring how technology can be used to solve real-world problems.



With even more engaging practicals and experiments planned for the rest of the term, it's shaping up to be a fantastic time for learning in the Maths and Science faculties!

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



Arts and Tech

Girls Volleyball

On Friday last week, Mrs Borg and Ms Freedman had the pleasure of taking the year 7/8 and 9/10 girls volleyball team to the southside volleyball competition. The girls showed excellent sportsmanship and teamwork throughout the day, continuing to improve as each game progressed. Congratulations to the girls who participated.

Boys Oztag

Last Tuesday, students in Year 9 and 10 represented our school at the Secondary Oztag gala day. All students played exceptionally well, winning 3 of their 5 games. Students showed good leadership and teamwork throughout the day. Congratulations to the boys who participated.

Food technology

This term, our Year 7 students have been introduced to the world of Food Technology with a key focus on kitchen health and safety. They've been learning how to identify hazards, use equipment safely, and maintain good hygiene—valuable life skills that extend beyond the classroom. As part of their learning, students are designing colourful health and safety posters to reinforce key rules and encourage creativity. These early lessons are helping build their confidence and responsibility, setting them up for safe and successful cooking sessions ahead.

Digital Art

Over the past few weeks, students in Year 9/10 Digital Art have been exploring a variety of tools and features within Adobe Creative Cloud, building the skills needed to bring their creative visions to life. With this foundation in place, they are now applying their knowledge to create GIF projects that combine animation with static imagery. Their engagement has been exceptional, and they have shown great enthusiasm while using the software to craft these digital artworks. As part of their learning journey, students are designing their own unique GIFs, drawing on the wide range of skills they have developed.

HPE

Over the past few weeks, high school students have been developing their skills and knowledge in athletics as they prepare for the Athletics Carnival on Monday. Meanwhile, our enthusiastic Year 7 students are getting ready to take part in Jump Rope for Heart—a fun and active way to support heart health while building fitness and teamwork. Watch this space as further information will be available in the coming weeks.

Dance

Elevate – ACT Public Schools Dance Competition

A huge congratulations to the students who represented Namadgi last week at the ACT public school's Dance Competition.

The students were up against 10 other schools and walked away with the "Best Presentation Award" The award encompassed best energy, entertainment, and costumes in the section.

The students were extremely supportive and encouraging of the other schools and absolutely shone onstage. Well done, Dancers!

Upcoming

9/10 Parliamentary Triangle Galleries Excursion for 2D Art, Photography and Digital Arts students. Please ensure notes are returned asap to attend this fun and exciting excursion on Wednesday 21st of May.

Dance Fest Expression of Interest: We are seeking expressions of interest for students to participate in Youth Dance Festival, occurring in Term 4 2025. This will be an exciting opportunity for students to experience a live performance opportunity in a professional theatre space. The proposed performance date would either be the 28th, 29th or 30th October 2025. If there are any students interested in participating, please see Mrs Chard (Gartside) in the PE staffroom for an expression of interest note.



Girls Volleyball Photos
7/8 Team



Dance





Parent and Carer

Online Safety Presentations 2025

Help your family be more confident and safe online by:

- understanding the current online safety issues children and young people are experiencing
- learning how to support your child to be safe online
- finding out about resources for preventing and responding to online issues and where to go for further support.

To register, scan the QR code or use this link
bit.ly/2025_PC_OnlineSafety_RSVP

Afternoon and evening times available.

All RSVPs receive access to video content and resources.



Explore Your Future at Lake Tuggeranong College!

Did you miss the **Lake Tuggeranong College** Information Night? Don't worry! Join here for an exclusive school tour and discover all that Lake Tuggeranong College has to offer.

What to Expect:

- Engage with our dedicated educators & support staff.
- Explore a wide range of diverse courses
- Experience a welcoming environment where every student is valued

Tour Details: Join us for our small group tours on:

- Thursday, May 22, 2025
- Thursday, May 29, 2025
- Tours run every half hour (2.30pm-5.00pm)
- Location: Lake Tuggeranong College, 123 Cowlshaw Street, Greenway

Take the Next Step!

Don't miss this opportunity to shape your future. **Bookings are essential**, so be sure to secure your spot!

[**BOOK NOW**](#)

#LTCTours #YourPathwayYourFuture

