



Namadgi School Newsletter

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Namadgi Families,

Kitchen Garden 10 Year Anniversary!

It was fantastic to see so many familiar and friendly faces at the 10 Year celebration of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program at Namadgi School this week. On Thursday, our Kitchen Garden team welcomed retired Principals, teachers, volunteers, P&C members and School Board representatives hosting an afternoon tea. 10 Years ago, the Kitchen Garden commenced as a small operation teaching students about sustainable waste programs, how to grow foods in the garden and prepare food from the garden. Today it has grown to an award winning program with an orchard, chickens, STEM connections with the CSIRO, all year round crop rotations, sustainable composting and waste management programs, food preparation and cooking education classes, prize winning fruit and vegetables at the Canberra Show, Bush Tucker Garden, wicking beds, worm beds and worm wee fertilising liquids, a place to nurture curious minds and a corner stone of our school community.

On behalf of the Namadgi community I would like to thank all our teachers, volunteers, school leaders and students who have played a big hand in shaping the Kitchen Garden program over the last 10 years and turning our program into the biggest Kitchen Garden in the ACT Public School System. Meeting Stephanie Alexander herself this year was a massive bucket item tick for Julie White and Lydia Desmet winning the STEM award at Parliament House. To have such a successful program running at our school is a testament to our team and students over the years. Our BSO teams are also acknowledged for their time and toil helping to move mulch, fertiliser, garden beds and tidying up leaves and debris as needed. Without their support, the Kitchen Garden would not thrive as well as it does.

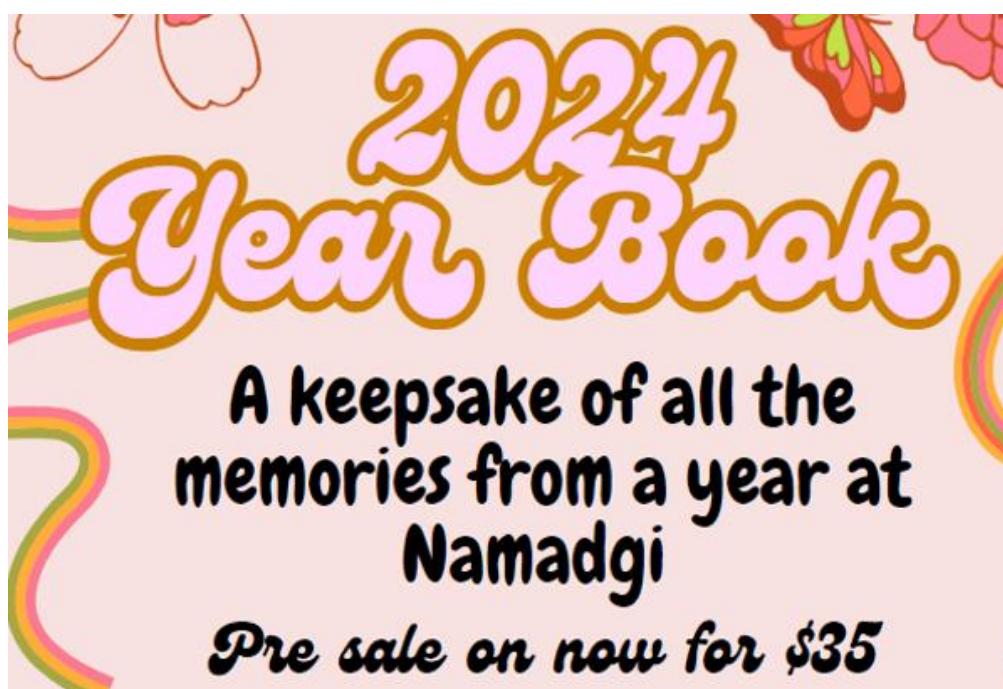
Our School P&C has also been an influential financial supporter over the years and has purchased fruit trees for the orchard, tools and equipment for the students, mulch and countless hours of help during working bee's. The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program has certainly impacted all students who have attended our school at some stage across Primary and High School. It is a privilege to have seen the garden grow over my 7 years as Principal at Namadgi School and I congratulate everyone who has played a part in the evolution of such a fantastic and educative program.

Kind Regards,
Gareth Richards
Principal



Calendar of Events

Date	Event
Monday 4 to Friday 8 November	Book Fair
Monday 4 November	Year 5/6 Soccer Gala Day
Thursday 7 November	Years 7 to 10 Boys Basketball
Friday 8 November	Year 7 Orientation Day
Friday 8 November	Year 1/2 Assembly
Monday 11 to Friday 16 November	Year 2 Aqua Safe
Thursday 14 November	Years 7 to 10 Girl's Basketball
Friday 15 November	Whole School Assembly
Wednesday 20 November	Dear Evan Hansen Sydney theatre
Tuesday 26 November	Year 10 immunisations
Wednesday 27 November	Kindy Arboretum



The Salvation Army Christmas Assistance Program starts again in November, through this program we can support many families who need some extra support during this time of year. Due to the increase of requests, we are unable to provide prepacked hampers and toys to families.

However, there is the option for families to lodge an application directly to The Salvation Army Tuggeranong Corps. Collection of assistance will be in December, dates to be confirmed. Families will receive notice of their time and dates early in the month.

This process has advantages that prepacked hampers do not, these include.

- Monetary assistance for groceries
- Teenager gift cards 13 years +
- Ability to choose their own gifts for those twelve and under
- Ability to pick small gifts for themselves or adult children.
- There are also 'help yourselves' tables of Christmas food, decorations, stocking stuffers etc.

To lodge an application – <https://salvationarmy.typeform.com/to/lpTFFEbA>

For further information or assistance please contact 6293 3262 or email tuggeranong@salvationarmy.org.au



Preschool



Yuma! What an amazing start to our last term of preschool! We are all super excited to have tadpoles in our classrooms! We have been learning about the life cycle of tadpoles to frogs and know lots of interesting information about them both, ask us what we know as we love to share our knowledge. We are counting the tadpoles each day and recording our observations. When the tadpoles are grown we will return them to the Frogwatch program and they will be released back in to the wild.



Grandfriends day was SO much fun!! A huge thankyou to all our loved ones who were able to join us for a play in the classrooms, we loved showing you what we do at school, and for our "eco Koala" visit where we learnt about where some of our food comes from and got to have a taste test of some fruit and vegetables. Since this experience there have been lots of discussions about where the fruit and vegetables in our lunch box grow...underground, on a bush vine or cane or in a tree.



As you know one of the big benefits of a P-10 school is that we are fortunate to have access to a wide range of experiences and spaces to visit and explore. This term we will increase our involvement with the primary school in preparation of starting Kindergarten. We have already visited the "Big Library" and will borrow books from there for the next three Wednesdays.

We also started our formal Kindy transitions! We went over to the kindergarten classroom and met the current kindy teachers and had a tour of all the different spaces we might use, including the wet area for messy learning, the bathrooms, office and eating areas. We will continue to have transition visits each Wednesday this term.



A few reminders:

We are HATS ON again Please send a hat that can be left at school. Make sure it has your child's name on it.

Wednesdays are library days, please remember your library bag and any books to return so your child can borrow another one.

Please LABEL all your child's clothes as we are still collecting unnamed hats and jumpers each day.

Make sure you **check Seesaw** to see our fortnightly learning plans, shared learning and any important reminders. Please feel free to leave comments, questions and suggestions here too.

**Cindy Treverrow, Rebecca Buchanan, Mel Goodridge,
Lesley Charlton, Puneet Sandhu and Jodie Tolson**

Executive Teacher: Jessica Potts



Join Libraries ACT for a Speechie Library Talk in November

Do you have a child between the ages of 0 and 5? Are you interested in supporting their language and literacy development? Libraries ACT has an exciting event coming up you won't want to miss.

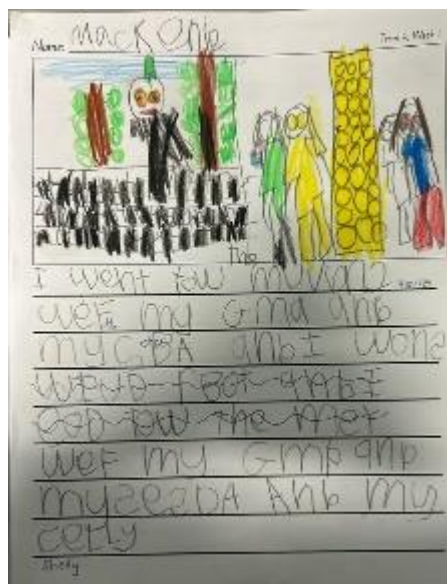
[Speech Pathology Australia's](#) (SPA) Speechie Library Talks (SLTs) will be held in November, connecting libraries and their communities with local speech pathologists, or "Speechies." These free presentations are designed to assist parents and caregivers in building their child's language and literacy skills. They will also share practical tips and strategies that can be used at home.

For more information, a presentation outline and to secure your spots visit the [Libraries ACT website](#).

Kindergarten

Kindergarten Health Program is offering a kindergarten catch-up appointment for those children who missed the health check at school. The catch-up appointments are available at City Health Centre, 1 Moore Street Canberra City on the second floor. Appointments can be made by ringing Community Health Intake on 51249977.

If parents have any questions, they can ring the School Health Team office on 51241585.



Kindergarten Team:
Dannielle Smith, Ali

Ringland and Kimberly Circosta
Executive Teacher: Kristy Grady



Year 1 and 2

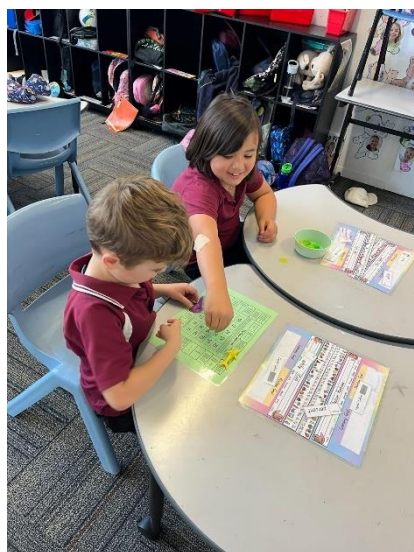
Questacon

As part of our science unit, year 1 and 2 went on an excursion to Questacon. We had a blast exploring all things space and science!



Maths

We started the term by looking at place value. We explored the value of numbers through hands-on activities, and used manipulatives to build a strong understanding.



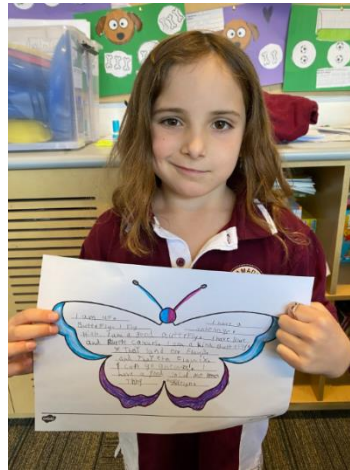
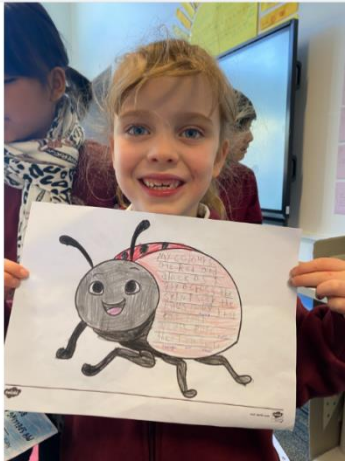
Sport

In physical education this term we are exploring a variety of different sports. We have learned how to play seated volleyball, and netball so far.



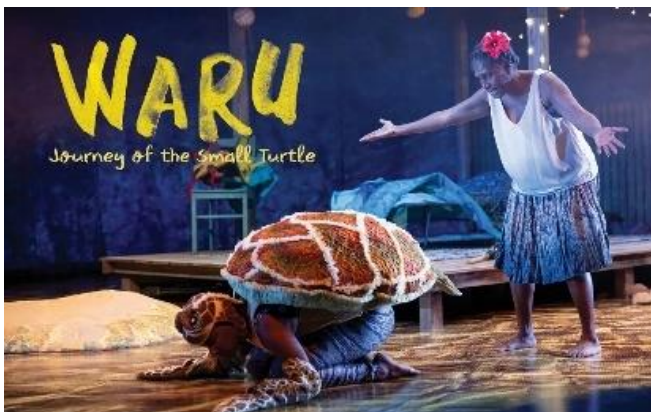
Writing

We have started looking at narratives for our writing unit this term. We started by exploring creative writing through poetry and now we are learning all about narrative structures.



Jessica Laing, Trista Ellison,
Jordan Glavinic and Lucy Adams
Year 1/2 Executive Teacher: Kristy Grady

Year 3



Welcome to Term 4! This year has absolutely flown by and we have a very busy term ahead of us.

Students have already begun practising their carols for our Christmas Carol concert in Week 9 – we have some pretty impressive singers in Year 3!

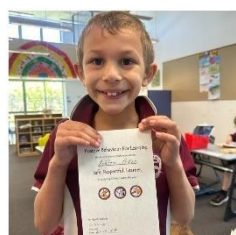
Next Friday, students are heading to the Canberra Theatre to watch 'Waru' in alignment with their Dance unit this term.

In Mathematics, students have been focussing on Mapping and 3D shapes. Students have enjoyed doing lots of hands on investigating of shapes.





The Junior Small Group were very fortunate to have 2JG come into their learning space for Learning Through Play! They had a wonderful afternoon cooperating, investigating and working as a team. Here is a snapshot of our learning in the Small Group - we hope you enjoy our photo collage!



From the K-6 LSU team
Belinda Rathborne, Narelle O'Callaghan,
Merrilyn Sparks and Mel Goodridge
 Executive Teacher: Jessica Potts



Year 4

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

We have had a busy and productive week in Year 4! It's been great having students back ready to learn.

This term, students have been diving into the concepts of length and area. They are learning to measure lengths accurately using rulers and metre sticks and exploring how to calculate the area of simple shapes by counting units or using formulas. It's been wonderful to see them applying their new skills in hands-on activities and problem-solving tasks!



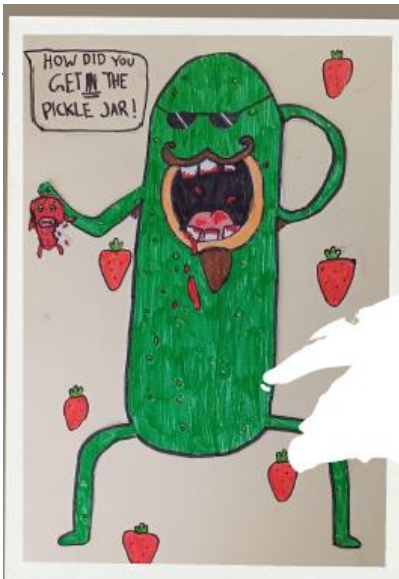
In Literacy, our class has been exploring different types of poems. Students are discovering how to write and appreciate various poetry styles, such as acrostic, haiku, and narrative poems. Through these activities, they are developing a love for creative expression and refining their understanding of rhyme, rhythm, and word choice. Ask your child to share a poem they've written—they've been quite creative!



As we enjoy the sunny weather, it's essential for all students to wear a hat during outdoor breaks. This helps protect them from harmful UV rays and keeps them safe while they have fun. Please ensure your child brings their hat to school every day, as it is part of our SunSmart policy.

Thank you for your ongoing support! If you have any questions, feel free to reach out through email, seesaw or a phone call.

Cintha Thompson, Sammy Grall, Shannon Kumar
Executive Teacher: Anthea Theodoridis



**What's been
happening in
5/6...**





Library

Scholastic Book Fair

Week 4 (4th – 8th November)
Community Room

Opening Hours

Monday – Friday

8.30 - 8.55am & 3.10 – 3.30pm

CLOSED TUESDAY



Successful plant and produce sale

Throughout the year, students and staff were hard at work preparing preserves, lavender bags, seed packets, gift cards, and potting various herbs, plants, and succulents to support the P&C at the recent ACT Election Day event. We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the families and community members who visited and made purchases. Many guests also enjoyed a tour of our garden, discovering its impressive scale and learning about our awards and sustainability practices.



Thank you to the Carey family for donating seedlings.



Dehydrated Fruit Delights: A Sweet Success!

Students have loved chopping and slicing a variety of fruits to use in our new dehydrator, creating healthy snacks to enjoy and we have also stored some for end-of-year activities. We extend our appreciation to the P&C for generously purchasing this fantastic piece of equipment for our program!

Our Year 6 'scientists' who took part in the ANU STEM excursion at the end of term 3 shared their research findings and experiences with their classmates.



Students in 5/6EM have set a record with a remarkable weed measuring 2.6 meters long!



SunSmart and hydration Reminder:

Kindly ensure your child brings a hat and water bottle daily. These items are essential for their protection and safety during the school day and during their Kitchen Garden sessions.



Our bounty of silver beet was transformed into delicious spanakopita!

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

Senior School

HPE, Arts and Tech

Our sports uniform shirt is now back in stock at Lowes in Southpoint Shopping Centre.

HPE:

In HPE this term, Year 9/10 students are wrapping up their SofCrosse unit, mastering new techniques and gameplay strategies. Up next, they'll be sharpening their skills in Badminton and Soccer, exploring team dynamics and improving agility. Year 8 students have been working hard in AFL and European Handball, strengthening their coordination and teamwork. They're now preparing to dive into their health unit on "Drugs, Risks, and Reality," where they'll learn critical decision-making skills about health and safety.

Our Year 7 students have enjoyed their time with Basketball and NFL, focusing on foundational movements and tactical play. Their next unit, "Healthy Choices," introduces nutrition and exercise, equipping them with valuable knowledge for lifelong health. We're excited to see the continued growth of our students both in and out of the classroom!



NRL Mixed Tag

On Thursday the 24th of October we had ten students from Years 7 and 8 represent Namadgi School at the Raiders Southside NRL Mixed Tag day. We had fantastic games against some tough opponents and got a few wins on the day. It was a great day and Namadgi School was represented well.

Student representees: Narelle. B, Issi. C, Braithyn. D, Bailey. H, Arliah. M, Shiloh. R, Sienna. V, Abby. W, Aisha. W & Ollie. W

Steph Johnston, Hayley Borg, Josh Hart, James Hamilton, Micky Thomas, Mindi White, Jade Payne, Charlie Doherty & Steve Rudic

Executive Teacher: Maddie Clayden



Maths and Science

It's been an exciting and productive term for our students across both maths and science! With great focus and enthusiasm, students are engaging with their lessons, building new skills, and showing promising progress. Teachers have been impressed with the students' hard work and look forward to even more achievements as the term continues.

In maths, all classes have already completed one topic and their first test for the term. A highlight has been the outstanding results from the Year 9 students, who just wrapped up their unit on parabolas. A parabola is a symmetrical, U-shaped curve that appears in everything from satellite dishes to the paths of basketball shots. Through this topic, students learned how to plot quadratic equations on a graph and understand their applications in real-world situations. Their strong results reflect not only their grasp of complex concepts but also their commitment to improving their mathematical skills.

In science, Year 9 students have been learning about human activities and their impact on the carbon cycle, focusing on how our actions influence carbon emissions and global carbon footprints. To explore these concepts further, students built their own terrariums—miniature, enclosed ecosystems that mimic natural environments. The terrariums allow students to observe the greenhouse effect in action, helping them see how heat and moisture are trapped inside, just like in our atmosphere. This hands-on project has provided valuable insights into how delicate ecosystems respond to environmental changes, reinforcing the importance of sustainability. We're proud of the effort and enthusiasm students have shown so far and look forward to seeing how they continue to grow in both maths and science throughout the rest of the term!



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





The hub has been bustling this term with a diverse array of programs. Students have been enjoying the sunshine, particularly with the addition of our new ping pong table. As always, The Hub remains dedicated to supporting students, providing a cool space to relax as the temperatures rise, as well as offering toasties and hot meals for those who forget their lunch. We would like to introduce our newest edition to the Hub, Kevin, who is our student support Koala. We would also like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to Chantelle and Mrs. Bea for their unwavering support over the past years.



Care Academy

The CARE (Confidence and Resilience Enrichment) ACADEMY aims to empower young women through resilience and physical literacy, providing them with the tools, skillsets and resources needed to achieve their full potential during and after their school years are completed.



Young Women's Business

The Girls in Young Woman's Group had a wonderful opportunity to head to Ainslie art centre to work on structures that will be showcased in the venue. This is an opportunity for the young ladies to learn more about creating artworks and telling stories through art and their culture. Huge thanks to Soward consultancy for continuing to run this amazing program.

Boys Junction

Anglicare is a non-for-profit organisation providing many services to create an inclusive society. The program will target a small group, around 10 - 15 students. The Junction runs a 6-week outreach program at schools that focus on health-related topics. These groups are tailored to the needs of the participants/school and cover topics such as healthy relationships, body confidence, mental health and other similar topics.

