



Term 3 Week 3

Friday 9 August 2024

Namadgi School Newsletter

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Namadgi Families

As part of our secondary school languages program Namadgi School has offered overseas educational excursions when conditions have permitted. This year Namadgi staff are hoping to take 39 students to Japan during the next school holidays to participate in a cultural exchange. Students will participate in school visits, viewing cultural attractions and prominent landmarks as well as using their Japanese language skills to order food, navigate transportation and engage with students in visiting classrooms. Can I ask families with attending students to continue payments and return any outstanding information or notes to school as Mr. Raven requires this information to keep plans proceeding and on schedule.

From time-to-time communities and families work through various forms of grievance or wellbeing issues. Please note the below contacts are available to talk and help you no matter your circumstance. Talking is a significant and positive component towards recovering from troubling situations or circumstances and free services (such as presented below) are there to offer support.

- 13 YARN – is run by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. It's a free, confidential and culturally safe service available 24/7.
- eHeadspace 1800 650 890 - open 9am-1am daily (AEST).
- Mindmap 1800 862 111 phone support all day, and every day from 11am to 10pm online at www.mindmap@act.gov.au
- Lifeline 13 11 14 - phone support all day, every day and online support 7pm-4am daily (AEST).
- Beyondblue 1300 22 4636 - phone support all day, every day and online support 3pm-midnight every day.
- Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800 - phone support all day, every day and online support from 8am-midnight every day (AEST).

During the last school holidays Namadgi School had covered walkways added to the external environment between buildings and across open pedestrian access areas. The walkways will provide an element of rain and sun protection when moving between buildings for students, staff and families. Please be careful of the structural poles when walking across the site. High visibility tape has been stuck to the poles to help avoid collisions. We also installed a drink bottle water station in the High School near the astro as per student requests along with a beautiful indigenous mural created and painted by our very own IEO Tahnia. The school and surrounds are looking great, and I look forward to the blossoms that will soon be out across the front of the school.

Congratulations to Fiona and Madelaine who will be representing Namadgi School at the 2024 'Step Into the Limelight' ACT Government School Arts spectacular this September. Both students will be representing Namadgi and ACT Schools in the senior and junior Concert Choir. Staff from Namadgi will be attending to



cheer our students on as they perform. Congratulations are also in order for James who will also represent Namadgi as a member of the ACT Primary Concert Band. This band is a compilation of students from the ACT region who will be participating in a day tour in September and usually followed up by performances at Floriade in Spring. We wish all our performers the best of luck.

Our School Board and P&C met last night, and I was impressed hearing from students (student report), our Board Chair and feedback on some of the exiting things that have been undertaken at Namadgi recently. We also unpacked school data, highlighting the success of recent NAPLAN information when we compare our school against statistically similar schools. Being part of the P&C is a great way to get to know our school plans and matters being addressed within our community and I invite you to contact Rhodina Ellison via the Namadgi School P&C Facebook page or in writing at hello@namadgi.org.au

Have a great weekend and enjoy the sun while it lasts!

Kind Regards,
Gareth Richards
Principal

2024 School Satisfaction & Climate Survey

Each year, the Directorate surveys all parents and carers, school staff and students in Years 4 to 12 about their experience of public education. The *2024 School Satisfaction & Climate Survey* will be available online from **16 August to 6 September**. The survey results will help us to continue to make quality informed decisions about how to improve our school. No personal identifying information will be provided to any school or college.

For each child in their family who attends an ACT public school, parents and carers will receive:

- A letter about the **student survey** outlining the reasons for collection and privacy provision for the data; and
- An email about the **parent survey**, including a unique link to access the survey. **Genuine survey invitation emails will have the title "The 2024 School Satisfaction & Climate Survey is now open!" and will be sent from EDU Surveys & Evaluation with 'from' address EDUSurveys@act.gov.au.**

If you do not receive the survey invitation, please check your Junk email folder; if it is not there, please contact your school. If you do not have an email listed with the school, please contact the front office for a paper copy.

The Parents and Carers Survey will be available online in other languages: Arabic, Chinese, Hindi, Korean, Urdu, Vietnamese, Punjabi, Bengali, Spanish, Telugu, French and Italian. Respondents can select their preferred language when they start the survey. A shortened paper-version of the Parents and Carers Survey is also available in the following 5 languages: Dari, Dinka, Farsi, Karen and Mon. These surveys are available at the Front Office.

For the results to reflect the opinions of our whole school community, we need as many parents and carers, staff and students as possible to complete the survey. Your feedback is important, and we hope you will take part. For more information, visit: <https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/school-satisfaction-and-climate-survey>



CHILDREN'S WEEK 2024

Children's Week will happen this year in Term 4, Week 2 (17-23 October).

AWARDS: If someone in your organisation or community makes a difference for children and young people in the ACT, why not recognise their efforts through an ACT Children's Week Award?

ACT Children's Week is keen to acknowledge:



CONTRIBUTIONS TO ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CHILDREN –

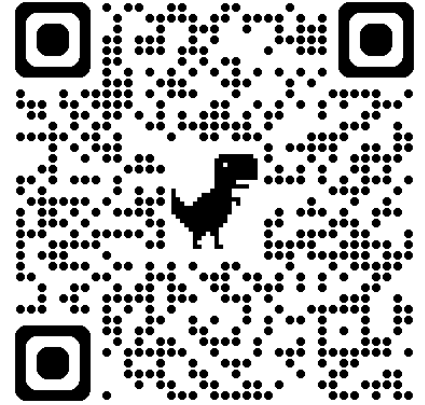
for individuals, groups, or organisations who have worked to improve outcomes for Indigenous children and young people, or who have worked to improve understanding between Indigenous and non-Indigenous groups within the community.

Online Award Nominations can be made between

July 1 – 15 September.

For more information, go to: actchildrensweek.org:

You can also Like / Follow us on Facebook: Children's Week ACT



Calendar of Events

Date	Event
Monday 12 to Friday 16 August	Work Experience for Year 10
Monday 12 to Friday 16 August	National Science Week
Monday 12 to Friday 16 August	Bullying No Way Week
Tuesday 13 August	Year 7/8 Soccer
Wednesday 14 August	CSIRO tour for Senior students
Friday 16 August	Secondary Assembly
Monday 19 to Friday 23 August	Children's Book Week
Monday 19 August	Year 9/10 Soccer
Friday 23 August	Whole School Assembly and Book Week Parade
Monday 26 August	Primary Regional Athletics Carnival
Wednesday 28 August	Senior Regional Athletics Carnival
Wednesday 28 August	Year 10 RSA at Erindale College
Friday 30 August	Secondary Assembly
Friday 30 August	Wear it Purple Day
Tuesday 3 September	Kindergarten Zoo and Aquarium
Tuesday 3 September	Year 7/10 Netball
Tuesday 3 and Wednesday 4 September	Limelight
Friday 6 September	Primary Assembly - Kindergarten hosting
Monday 9 and Tuesday 10 September	ANU Science event Year 6 and 9/10
Wednesday 11 to Friday 13	Year 5/6 Camp
Thursday 12 September	R U OK? Day
Friday 13 September	Whole School Assembly
Monday 16 September	Year 9/10 First Aid
Tuesday 17 September	Year 4 Birrigai
Wednesday 18 and Thursday 19	Primary Learning Journey



Preschool

Yuma Preschool Families 😊



Welcome to Term 3! Who would believe we are halfway through the year? It is wonderful to see the bright faces of our growing preschool students coming into the preschool and having a great time learning!

Our hatching chicks and ducklings have arrived for weeks 3 and 4. The preschoolers are fascinated with the process of watching a baby chick or duckling hatch. Their understanding of the world around them is growing as they talk, learn, draw and wonder about concepts related to this educational program.



Our classrooms are a rainbow of learning experiences.



The Emus have been discussing the Olympics, talking about different countries, sports, pursuits and talents. This has inspired the Emus to create their own flags using inspiration from flags around the world.

The Wallabies and Wombats have been learning about each other and building a classroom book all about themselves and their friends! As a form of show and tell, the children talk in front of the class about themselves, using their page made at home with their family to talk about what they like, what they do and who their family is. It's wonderful to see the children develop their confidence to speak in front of a large group and listen respectfully to each other.

BOOK WEEK is always a fun time at Namadgi Preschool and we look forward to seeing the children dressed as one of their favourite book characters.

- The **Emus** and the **Wallabies** will be having a Book Parade on the preschool grounds in **WEEK 5** on Wednesday 21st of August at 9.15am.
- Also in **WEEK 5**, the Wombats will be having their Book Parade with Namadgi Primary School on Friday 23rd August in the VPAC building at 9.15am.



Families are invited to stay afterward and read with the children and enjoy a delicious morning tea provided by the school.

Friendly reminder:

The beginning of August is when we start wearing our hats again. Please make sure your child comes to school with a hat with their name on it.



From the Preschool team

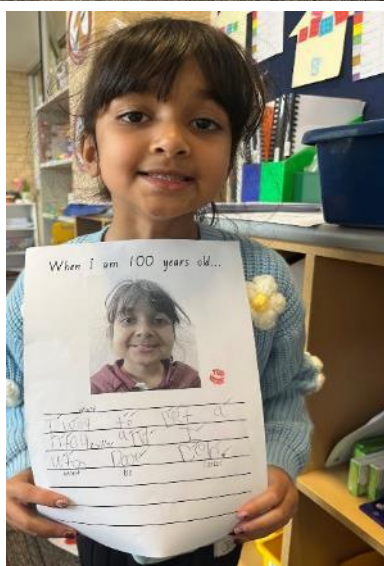
**Cindy Treverrow, Rebecca Buchanan, Mel Goodridge,
Lesley Charlton, Puneet Sandhu and Jodie Tolson**
Executive Teacher: Jessica Potts



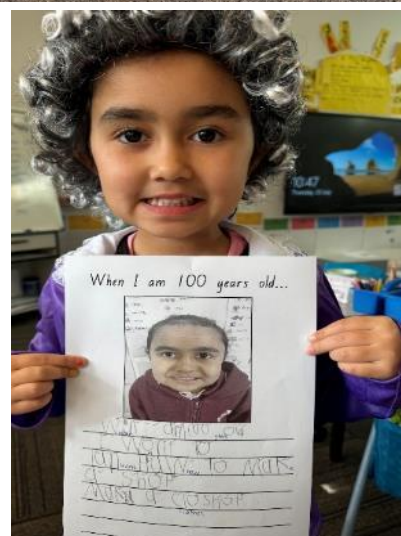
Kindergarten

Kindergarten students have had a very fun and exciting return to school this term.

In the first week back, we celebrated 100 days of school. Students dressed as old people and had a fun filled day focusing on the number 100.



One activity on the day was to write about what they thought they might be doing when they turn 100.



Kindergarten Team:

Dannielle Smith, Ali Ringland and Kimberly Circosta

Executive Teacher: Kristy Grady

Year 1 and 2

100s and 1000s Day

Year 1 and 2 celebrated their 100th day at school with a '100s and 1000s Day'. Students participated in reading, writing, maths, cooking and craft activities linked to our theme. Many students challenged themselves to: read for 1000 seconds, play Maths games racing to 100 or 1000, make headbands and glasses symbolising 100, and

we all enjoyed making Fairy Bread!





The Olympics - History, Geography, PE and Health

This term, students are studying the Olympics as part of an integrated unit covering aspects of History, Geography, PE and Health. We started our unit this week by exploring the history of the Olympic Games, learning about Cathy Freeman and holding our own Mini Olympics and Opening Ceremony. Each class drew a different country out of a hat to follow throughout the Olympics. Our focus countries are:



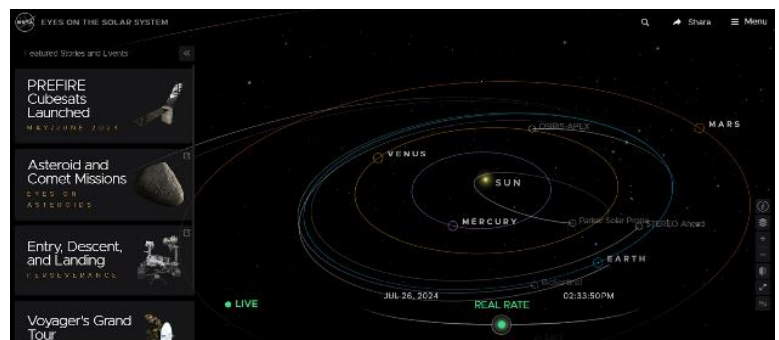
- 2JG – Canada
- 2LA – Brazil
- 1JL - South Korea
- 1/2TE - France
- Teachers – Australia
- Ms Grady – Kenya



We then explored the continents represented by the Olympic Rings and located our selected countries on a map.

Space - Writing and Science

This term, Year 1 and 2 teachers are working in partnership with the Australian Academy of Science to explore Space for our writing and Science units. Students will participate in a range of activities including planetarium and telescope incursions, robotics, design and make challenges, and other experiments to explore Earth and Space. Students will also be learning about the planets in our Solar System as part of our Informative Writing Unit. We started our unit by exploring the skies through digital technology using the virtual planetarium 'Stellarium' and NASA's 'Eyes on The Solar System' 3D modelling tools.



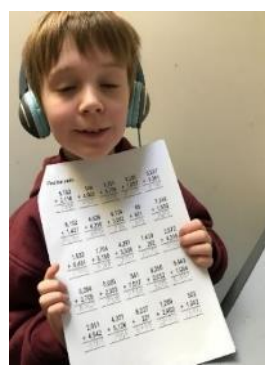
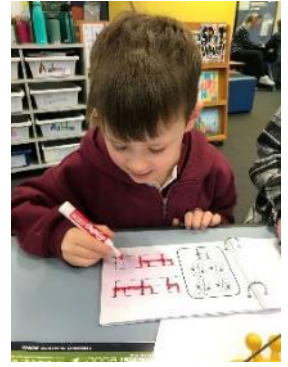
Year 1/2 Teaching Team:
**Jessica Laing, Trista Ellison,
 Jordan Glavinic and Lucy Adams**
 Year 1/2 Executive Teacher: **Kristy Grady**



Primary Small Group

Welcome back to Term Three! We hope everyone had a relaxing holiday and that all students are ready to dive back into learning from 9am each day.

In K-2BR we have delved back into the world of numerals with a passion! As we work from our individual point of need, our lessons are delivered as a mixture of individual and paired lessons. In the pictures you will see the range of work we do on number; from practising forming the letters through tracing, identifying numerals on a number chart to actively solving vertical addition without trading. We also incorporate technology through Prodigy and other chosen numeracy games as a reward for excellent effort. Beyond number, we are also exploring measurement using informal units, such as our feet, as well as rulers. You might notice our language change as we use terminology like 'larger than', 'smaller than', 'taller', 'shorter' or 'longer' when solving measurement challenges.



In 2-6 the students have jumped into their work with much enthusiasm. In literacy the students are creating stories that have been inspired by the book "Do Pirates Take Baths" by Kathy Tucker. They have planned, drafted and are currently writing their final copy and adding illustrations. It has been exciting to see what crazy things some of these professionals do such as the Toothfairy who likes to sleep on people's faces or the Builder who dreams about playing computer games.



While in maths we are working on the concept of money. We've looked at the coins and notes and what makes them wonderful. Now we are discovering how to add and subtract money and work out change.



It has been exciting to see the students plan, design and begin to create soft toys. This week the students have begun to sew (with not much pricking) their designs that had been cut out of felt.



With the Olympics, students have created their own version of hammer throw and have been practising their throwing skills.



From the K-6 LSU team

Belinda Rathborne, Narelle O'Callaghan, Merrilyn Sparks and Mel Goodridge
Executive Teacher: Jessica Potts



Year 3 and 4

Welcome to Term 3!

Year 3 and 4 have had a very busy start to our term.

Year 3:

In Year 3, there has been lots of excitement around the Olympic games. We have been tallying our Australian medals each day and 3CW had a mini-Olympics to celebrate Green & Gold Day on Friday where students had to participate in teams to complete different activities.

In Maths, students have begun their unit on time. They have made their own clocks and been challenged each day using analogue clocks to manipulate different times to the minute.



In Literacy, students have been exploring synonyms (or 'cinnamons' as the students call them!) and antonyms and are continuing their morphology journey in the mornings. Next week, students will begin their unit focussing on narrative writing.

In Geography last week, each class made their own 'yarning stick' as we begin to explore the connections First Nations Peoples have with Country. Each student contributed to the class yarning stick which will help guide our conversations throughout this unit of learning.



Year 4:

In Year 4, students have been focusing heavily on literacy by completing spelling tasks and word work. They have enjoyed the challenges of each word and have made an effort to incorporate them into their writing. The students have also become enthusiastic about persuasive texts through engaging in debates. Recently, there was a lively debate between Miss Kumar and the class about whether laws and rules should exist. This sparked great interest among the students, who are now keen to persuade us that laws and rules should not exist.



In Maths, the focus has been on angles. To make learning fun, we created an exciting game where students made their own angle cards and decorated them for a memory game. They worked in pairs to match different types of angles such as acute, obtuse, and right angles. This activity not only helped them recognize and differentiate between the angles but also allowed them to practice their creativity and collaboration skills. The students thoroughly enjoyed the process of creating the cards and playing the game, making the learning experience both educational and enjoyable.



Year 4 students need 1.25 or 2-litre bottles for our science experiment next week.

Thank you for all your support.

Year 3

Caitlin Walker and Brielle Riley,
Executive Teacher: Anthea Theodoridis

Year 4

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





National Tree Day

On Thursday 25th of July we celebrated National Tree Day. Year 9/10 representatives supported students from years 3 – 6 with planting a variety of trees including mountain pepper, olive trees, plum trees, old man salt bush and a few other plants to add to our beautiful garden. Thank you to staff from National Capital Toyota Tuggerangong and Bunnings Tuggerangong for joining us to celebrate this special day! They enjoyed a tasty afternoon tea prepared by our students.



Kitchen and garden fun

Students have kicked off the term by wrapping up their Health unit and crafting some fantastic and informative health messages. They've also been exploring new flavors and enjoying adding more vegetables into their meals and drinks! Students pleasantly enjoyed experimenting and tasting healthy smoothies which featured zucchini and spinach along with berries, banana, and milk. Students were also excited to dive back into garden activities, including weeding, propagating rosemary, and potting succulents for upcoming events—stay tuned for more details! We encourage families to join their children in preparing and cooking our recipes at home. Please join the Kitchen Garden class via Google Classroom. Code: **hvti4a6**.



Design and Technology – Food Waste Unit

Students in Years 3-6 have just started their design and technology unit, focusing on food and fibre production. This semester, they will engage in the Oz Harvest FEAST program (Food, Education, and Sustainability Training). FEAST is designed to inspire students to make healthy food choices, reduce waste, and become local change-makers. They will also explore the significant national and global impacts of food waste. Students will have the chance to try new recipes from Oz Harvest. We are grateful to Oz Harvest and their sponsors and partners, whose support has provided our school with new cooking equipment, including electric fry pans, kid-safe knives, and various small utensils.



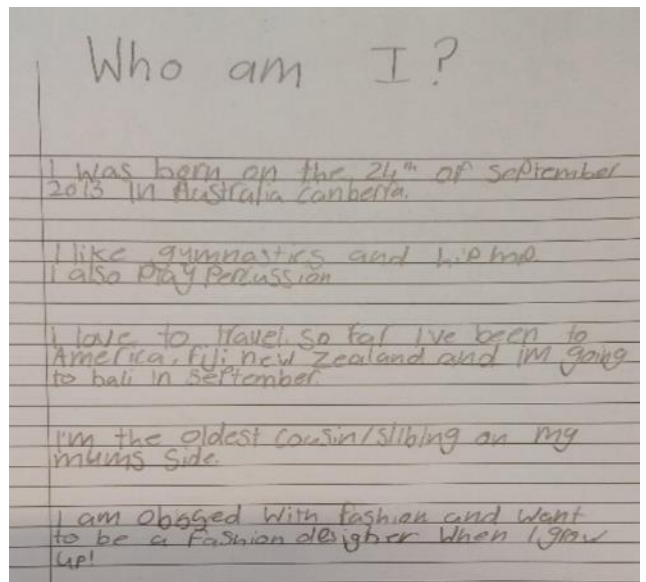
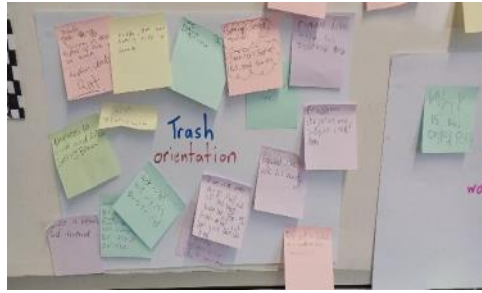
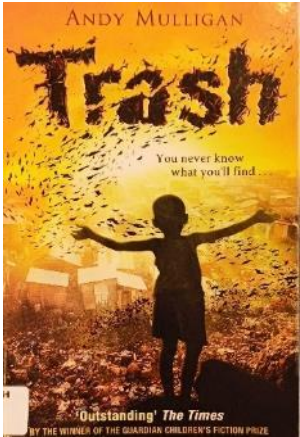
Julie White, Lydia Desmet, Kathryn Glanville
Executive Teacher: **Anthea Theodoridis**

Year 5/6

Literacy

Welcome back to Term 3, it's been a busy few weeks in the 5/6 classes! We have started a new writing unit with the focus this term on informative writing. Students will be learning about biographical texts and will research and create a biography of a famous person. Part of this process involves students refining their research skills and applying a critical lens to information regarding their subject.

Reader's Workshop



During Reader's Workshop, all classes have started new class novels such as *Charlotte's Web*, *Trash*, and further exploration of the *Figgy* series in 5/6 EM. These books are an essential part of teaching comprehension and expanding vocabulary. Students participate in a range of reading strategies such as shared reading, reading to self, and conferencing with teachers. They demonstrate their understanding of the text through a range of activities such as summarising, making connections, and comparing elements of the text to similar text types.

Maths

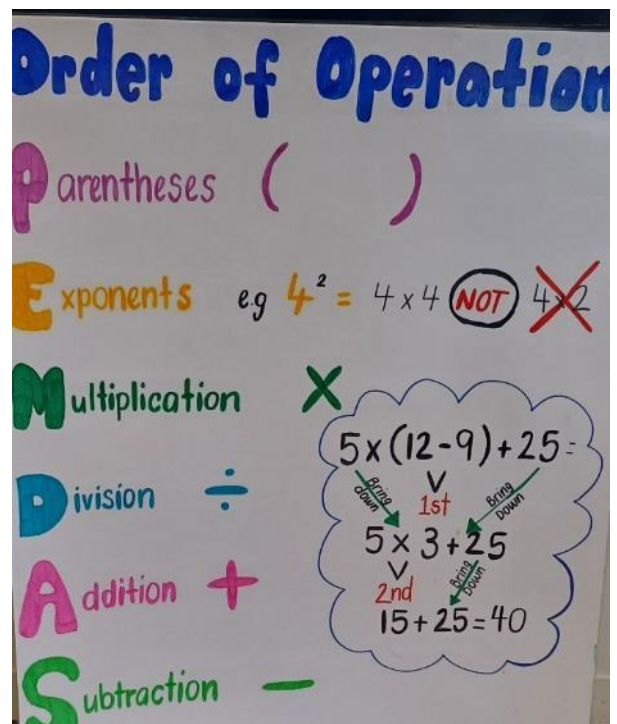
Students have been revising key mathematical understandings such as the *order of operations* (Please Excuse My Dear Aunt Sally) and working on solving some complex equations using this knowledge. We are beginning to learn about unknown variables and solving equations with missing numbers. This is one of the building blocks for algebraic and computational thinking which will assist students when they transition to secondary school.

Health

Years 5/6 have been learning about puberty. Students are learning about the physical, social and emotional changes that happen to them as they enter this life phase. We began by discussing the physical changes that happen during puberty for males and females. Although there were a few embarrassed looks, it was great to see students able to sensibly discuss the physical changes that happen during puberty using correct terminology. We will also be learning about the social and emotional changes that will be happening too.

Physical Education

We are excited to welcome Tom Murdoch (Mr M) to teach PE with the 5/6 students. Mr M takes all of the 5/6 classes each week. He has utilised interest around the Olympics to introduce students to a range of sports and skill sets.



The Arts



For The Arts this term, students are learning about dance and how dance communicates ideas and emotions across different cultures, times, and places. By examining various dance elements, students will gain an appreciation for how this art form connects us and tells powerful stories.

Reminders


Although we are still in the grip of winter, it can still surprisingly warm up on the playground during sunny days. Please remind your child to pack a hat and ensure that they have a drink bottle when at school.




Year 5/6

Emma McLeod, Shannen Talbot, Tamazin McGrath and David Lindsay
Executive Teacher: Shannon Black

ACT BOARD OF SENIOR SECONDARY STUDIES (BSSS)




- ARE YOU RELIABLE?
- DO YOU HAVE AN EYE FOR DETAIL?
- HAVE A CURRENT WWVP CARD (OR WILLING TO APPLY)?





EXAM SUPERVISORS NEEDED

JOIN THE TEAM FOR THE
**2024 ACT SCALING
TEST**

- BSSS TEST FOR ATAR ELIGIBILITY
- CASUAL PAID WORK
- 12 HRS OVER 1.5 DAYS
- TARGETED TRAINING
- EXAM DATES - 3 & 4 SEPTEMBER 2024



POSITIONS ACROSS ACT SECONDARY SCHOOLS
EXPRESS INTEREST NOW!

BSSSenquiries@act.gov.au 
62057181 

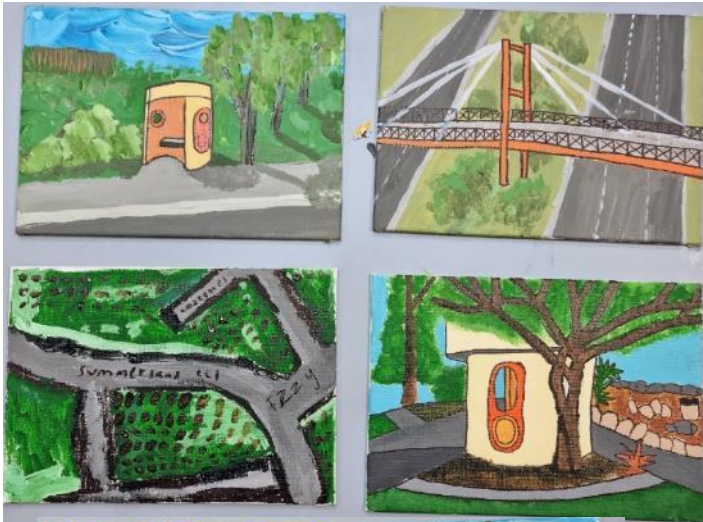


Senior School

HPE, Arts and Tech

As part of Kambah's 50th anniversary this year, art students from years 8-10 completed postcard sized artworks depicting parts of Kambah. These will be exhibited at an exhibition at Tuggeranong Arts Centre in September. More information will be coming soon. Here is a sample of the artworks that were completed.

Stephanie Johnston



CareersXpo

Year 9 and 10 students recently attended the CareersXpo at Exhibition Park (EPIC), an event designed to open doors to a myriad of career opportunities. The CareersXpo provided our students with a unique chance to explore various career paths, connect with industry professionals, and gain valuable insights into future job prospects.

Students had a fantastic time engaging with exhibitors, participating in interactive sessions, and collecting information to help guide their future decisions. Many students also came away with some exciting goodies, adding to the overall experience.

The CareersXpo was an enriching event that sparked curiosity and inspired our students to think about their futures in new and exciting ways. We look forward to supporting them as they continue their journey toward successful and fulfilling careers.



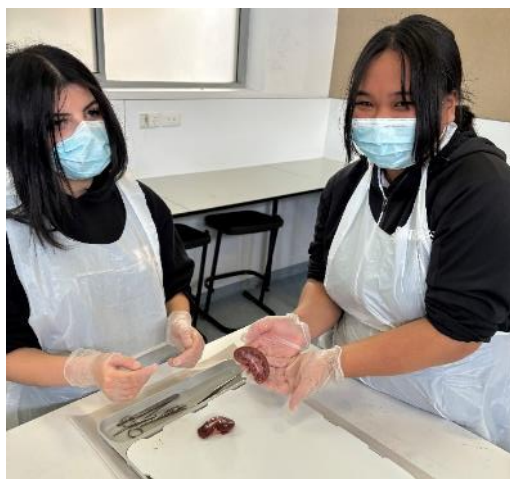
Stacey Freedman and Hayley Borg



Maths and Science

Welcome Back to Term 3!

We hope everyone had a restful break and is ready for another exciting term full of learning and discovery. The Maths and Science teams have an array of activities and lessons planned, and we can't wait to dive in! Last term ended on a high note with some thrilling hands-on experiences. Our Year 8 Science students had the opportunity to dissect a squid. This fascinating activity allowed them to explore the squid's unique anatomical features, such as its beak, ink sac, and the quill, also known as the gladius. It was a wonderful chance for students to see firsthand the complexities of marine biology.



Meanwhile, Year 9 students were immersed in the intricacies of human biology. They performed kidney dissections, which complemented their studies on body systems. This practical experience gave them a closer look at the kidney's internal structures, helping them understand how it filters blood and produces urine.



In Week 10 of last term, we were thrilled to host Questacon from Australia's National Science and Technology Centre. Year 7, 8, and 9 students participated in hands-on workshops that challenged them to explore STEM through the process of innovation. The interactive sessions were a hit, sparking curiosity and creativity among our young scientists.



Looking Ahead: National Science Week

We are excited to announce that National Science Week is just around the corner, taking place from the 10th to the 18th of August. This year's theme is "Species Survival – More Than Sustainability." It's a perfect opportunity for students to delve into topics related to species, their survival, and the broader concept of sustainability.

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

