



## **Principal Report**

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2026**

**NAPLAN results were posted home to families in Years 3, 5, 7, 9, this week**, with individual student brochures demonstrating achievement in the areas of reading, writing, spelling, language conventions and numeracy. While NAPLAN is an important annual measure of student learning achievement at a particular point in time, class and subject teachers regularly conduct assessments to measure learning progress across the entire year - please contact your level coordinators or primary class teachers if you would like to discuss NAPLAN results or classroom learning progress further.

**It is worth highlighting the range of strong NAPLAN results achieved by students in 2026 at our school.** The top two proficiency levels in NAPLAN results are Strong and Exceeding, and this year:

- 83% of Year 5 students demonstrated strong and exceeding proficiency in reading in comparison to 69% of Year 5 students in similar schools
- 100% of Year 5 students demonstrated strong and exceeding proficiency in numeracy in comparison to 70% of Year 5 students in similar schools
- 61% of Year 7 students demonstrated strong and exceeding proficiency in reading in comparison to 54% of Year 7 students in similar schools
- 56% of Year 7 students demonstrated strong and exceeding proficiency in writing in comparison to 48% of Year 7 students in similar schools
- 60% of Year 9 students demonstrated strong and exceeding proficiency in writing in comparison to 55% of Year 9 students in similar schools

**There is also some very pleasing data about student learning growth across the two-year NAPLAN cycle.** 83% of our Year 5 students this year achieved high and medium growth in reading across the two years since their Year 3 results, in comparison to 73% of Year 5 students in similar schools. 74% of our Year 9 students this year achieved high and medium growth in writing across the two years since their Year 7 results, in comparison to 68% of Year 9 students in similar schools. 80% of our Year 9 students this year achieved high and medium growth in numeracy across the two years since their Year 7 results, in comparison to 77% of Year 9 students in similar schools. These results represent value adding by teaching staff and some hard work in improving learning outcomes from students. Well done!

**Congratulations to Aden in Year 10**, who was presented last week with a Lions Club of Koroit Community Service Award. This award recognised the ongoing efforts of Aden in fundraising for farmers affected by drought and bushfire, and in particular the Koroit Cares and Need for Feed events. Very pleasing to see one of our students so engaged with his local community and in support of others in need.



**Well done to Tiori in Year 9**, who is now in her second week at the Don Valley campus of the School for Student Leadership, where she is taking part in a range of leadership, outdoor education, personal development and adventure activities during this residential eight-week program.



**It is hard to believe that the 100 days of schooling for our youngest students has finally rolled around**, with the Prep-One class celebrating this milestone by dressing up as elderly people and decorating cupcakes. There were plenty of walking sticks, grey wigs, a wheeled walking frame, braces holding pants up, assorted woollen cardigans and even a glimpse at what the future may hold for Mrs Davey and Mrs

Lehmann as they approach their golden years.

**I enjoyed supervising a cooking class with our Year 8 class earlier in the week**, and observing their skills with knives, cutting boards, graters, and puff pastry as they followed a recipe to create sausage rolls. Food Studies is always a great subject to build organisational, measuring, life skills literacy and problem-solving abilities - and the finished products were delicious. Well done Year 8's and Liana!



**Our Hands on Learning students have been busy creating furniture again**, building a substantial picnic table for the grassed space between the pizza oven and the Hands on Learning shed. There are some impressive cutting measuring and joining skills on display in this hefty piece of seating, which will be well-used at break times once warmer weather starts to appear.

**A number of families have experienced difficulty in receiving emails generated by Compass over the last few weeks**, and I note that Microsoft and Compass are working together to solve a connectivity issue with some Outlook, Live and Hotmail email accounts. I will update families about a resolution to this issue when it becomes known to me.

**Please note that a rehearsal test of AusAlert will happen across Australia on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July at 2 pm.** AusAlert is a new, national emergency warning system that sends warning messages to compatible mobile devices during emergencies to keep people informed so they can act quickly. The Australian Government plans to officially launch AusAlert in October of 2026, with several rehearsal tests beforehand to sort out any issues that may arise.

It is worth noting that on Monday 27th July, all compatible mobile devices will receive a Critical Alert at 2pm; devices will include phones, tablets, smart watches, safety watches and some vehicle devices. These will vibrate and make a loud, siren-like warning sound for about 10 seconds once the test is initiated, and this will happen even if devices are in silent mode. A test message will clearly state that it is a rehearsal, and no action is required from the test. While student phones will of course be locked away in secure storage at this time of the afternoon, the noise from staff and school-based devices has the potential to create some anxiety for students; we will manage this carefully as we do whenever there is an emergency drill at our school. Families can learn more at [AusAlert: children and teens](#).

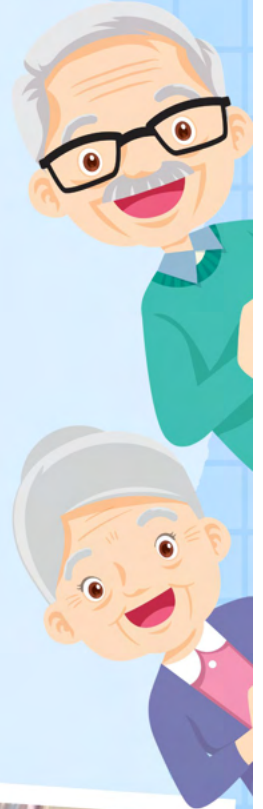


**Our Year 10 and 11 students return from busy and successful Melbourne camps this week, while our Year 9 students are preparing to head to the Rubicon outdoor education camp next week. Year 10 students will also be involved in local work experience placements in the coming week.** It certainly has been a busy start to Term 3!

Have a great weekend everyone ...

Regards,

**John Ralph**  
**Principal**



# 100 days of school





100 days of school





# 100 days of school



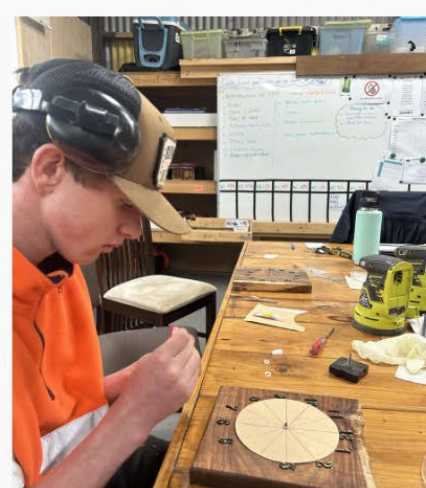


100  
days  
of  
school



**Our Hands On Learning students designed and created their own unique timber clocks using wood that was salvaged from a tree previously removed from our school grounds.**

**Each student carefully selected their own piece of timber before spending plenty of time sanding it smooth, applying oil to enhance the natural grain, gluing on the numbers, and routing out a space in the back to neatly fit the clock mechanism. The finished products are not only practical but also showcase the students' patience, craftsmanship and creativity. The clocks look fantastic, and the students should be incredibly proud of what they have created!**



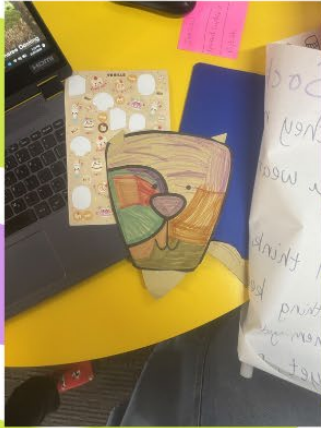


HANDSON LEARNING



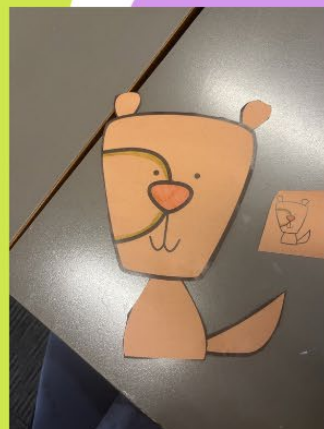
Shannon  
Drysdale ES





## PREP 1 MUSIC

**During Term 3 we will be focusing on singing. These last two weeks we have sung two songs called Who's That Doggie in the Window and Black Socks. We will sing these songs at our Primary assembly today.**





PREP 1 ART

# PLASTICINE

art

Students used rollers and  
ceramic tools  
to make bowls, cups and ornaments.

MODELLING AND SCULPTING





*Social Innovators*

# Library News

It's been a busy few weeks in the library, with Mrs Rafferty and Shon from Ecolinc bringing learning to life for our students. We are learning about the native plants that are being planted around the multi-use track to soften the edges and create ecosystems for native animals and insects to thrive.



Primary students enjoyed learning about how native plants can be used in baking and getting to try some delicious lemon myrtle cake. We made insect homes and birds nests and even made delicious native flavoured icecreams!! Year 8 students learned how to test soil to ensure the plants will grow and got hands on, planting around near the watertanks. Marshall in year 8 has also been assisting in primary library periods.



What a great start to term!







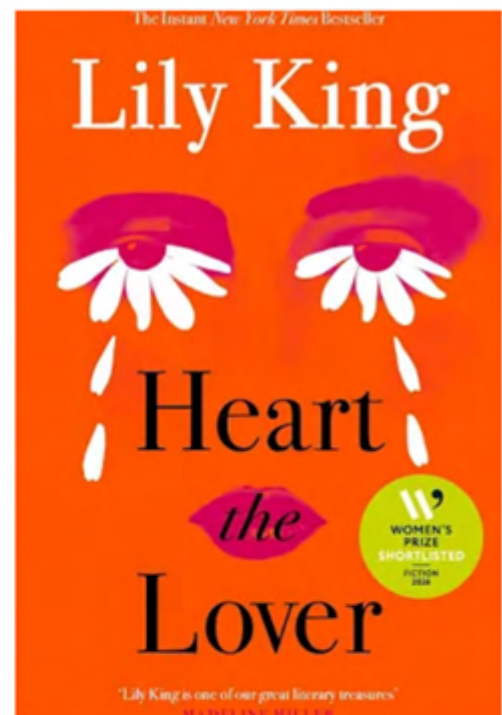


# Hawkesdale Community Book Club

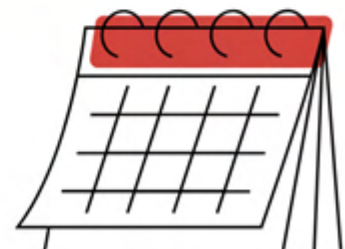
We have chosen two books for our upcoming book club meeting. Come along and join the fun! You don't need to have read both of the books - or even either of them! New members and children are welcome 😊



Join here



Save the date: Wed  
Aug 19, 5-6pm in the  
college library





## MEET OUR WELLBEING TEAM



**Felicity**

**Wednesday**  
**All Students Welcome**



**Tracy**

**Monday & Thursday**  
**Secondary Students Only**



**Cindy**

**Tuesday, Thursday & Friday**  
**Secondary students Only**  
**Referral Needed**



**Mrs Dart**

**Please reach out to Mrs Dart  
via the front office if you are  
looking for some support for  
your young person.**



## School Wide Positive Behaviour Expectations



Next week our behaviour focus is:  
**RESPONSIBILITY FOR OWN LEARNING AND BEHAVIOUR**

This includes:

Staying focused and not distracting others from learning

Following teacher instructions

Following classroom procedures and routines

Using study time well

Staying in your allocated study location



Congratulations to the following students for receiving  
nominations for demonstrating our school value, Responsibility:  
Luke, Bailey, Charlotte, Phoebe, Loralie, Jeff, and Indiana

**RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY RESILIENCE**



## **A SPECIAL REPORT: Wellbeing Barometer Survey - 2026**

The Wellbeing Barometer survey is an important annual check-in that helps our school better understand the wellbeing of our students. Each year, the survey provides valuable insights into young people's experiences, highlighting areas of concern, recognising strengths and resilience and reinforcing the importance of early, preventative support.

This year, the survey has been reviewed and refreshed to further refine the information shared by parents and adult carers, helping provide a clearer and more meaningful overview of wellbeing across our school community. These updates support more accurate insights while maintaining the same commitment to privacy and confidentiality.

Your participation is strongly encouraged. We ask that you take a few moments to complete the survey for each of your children, based on your observations from the past 12 months. All responses remain anonymous and are reported only in aggregate.

By capturing a broad picture of students' emotional, social and mental wellbeing, the survey helps us respond more effectively to the evolving needs of our school community. The insights gathered assist in identifying emerging trends, areas of strength, and opportunities for early intervention, ensuring support can be targeted where it is needed most.

If any of the content raises concerns for you or your child, please contact the school or seek professional medical advice.

We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this Special Report, and as always, we welcome your feedback.

**If you do have any concerns about the wellbeing of your child, please contact the school for further information or seek medical or professional help.**

Here is the link to your special report:

[https://hawkesdalecol.vic.schooltv.me/wellbeing\\_news/special-report-wellbeing-barometer-survey-2026-au](https://hawkesdalecol.vic.schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-wellbeing-barometer-survey-2026-au)

SPECIAL REPORT



## **Wellbeing Barometer Survey 2026**

A SchoolTV topic supporting  
modern-day parenting





## **A SPECIAL REPORT: RESPONDING TO PEER PRESSURE**

Peer pressure is a natural part of growing up. As children and adolescents place greater importance on friendships and belonging, the influence of peers can shape their choices, behaviour and sense of identity. While this influence can be positive, it can also create pressure to conform or take risks, particularly during adolescence.

In today's digitally connected world, peer pressure extends beyond face-to-face interactions. Social media and online communication expose young people to constant comparison and unspoken expectations about how they should look, act and perform. Understanding how peer pressure works, both on and offline, helps families support young people to build confidence, make healthy decisions and stay connected to their own values.

We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this Special Report, and as always, we welcome your feedback.

**If you do have any concerns about the wellbeing of your child, please contact the school for further information or seek medical or professional help.**

Here is the link to your special report:

[https://hawkesdalecol.vic.schooltv.me/wellbeing\\_news/special-report-responding-peer-pressure-au](https://hawkesdalecol.vic.schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-responding-peer-pressure-au)



# Travel Freeeeeeeeee

From 1 January 2026, all young people under 18 travel free on all Victorian public transport (trains, trams, and buses) across the state using a \$5 Youth myki card. For more information visit this link:

<https://transport.vic.gov.au/tickets-and-myki/>



Dear Parents and Carers,

Our school library is a special place where students can discover new stories, explore their interests, and develop a lifelong love of reading. To help keep our library collection available for everyone to enjoy, we're asking for your support in returning any overdue library books your child may have at home.



We know that library books can sometimes find their way onto bedroom bookshelves, into school bags, or under the couch, so we'd be grateful if you could have a quick look around with your child. Once they have finished enjoying their library books, we ask that they are returned to the school library so that other students can borrow and enjoy them too. If your child is still reading a book, that's absolutely fine—we're thrilled they're enjoying it!

We simply ask that books are returned as soon as they have finished with them.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's library books, or you're unsure which books are currently on loan, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

You can contact me at

[Samantha.Young@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Samantha.Young@education.vic.gov.au),

Thank you for your continued support in encouraging reading and helping us look after our wonderful library collection. Together, we can make sure there are plenty of great books available for every student to discover.

Kind regards, Samantha



Now open for Year 4 students.

# GLASSES FOR KIDS IS COMING TO YOUR SCHOOL!

Your child is eligible to receive **FREE** vision screening, testing and glasses through the Glasses for Kids program—available to **Foundation (Prep) to Year 3** students. This service is provided at no cost and takes place at school.



## How does the Glasses for Kids program work?

- GFK partners with qualified optometrists who will visit your child's school and offer your child initial vision screening and if required, further testing and glasses at no cost.
- All screening and testing sessions will be completed during school hours.

## Who can participate?

- Primary Schools: Prep – Year 3 students.
- Specialist Schools: Students aged 5 to 10 years old.

## How can my child be part of the program?

- Please complete the online consent form using the QR code. If preferred, simply complete the attached consent form and return it to your school by the due date.

## Can children who currently wear glasses be part of GFK?

- Yes, they can. If their glasses are less than 12 months old, please provide a copy of their latest prescription if available.
- If your child is already under the care of another optometrist, please share any relevant information on the Optometrist Questionnaire.

## What if my child is nonverbal or a non-English speaker?

- They can still participate; the optometrists we partner with have resources and techniques to work with nonverbal or non-English speaking students.

## Do I have to complete a separate form for each child?

- Yes, each student must have a completed Consent Form

## How do I get the results for my child?

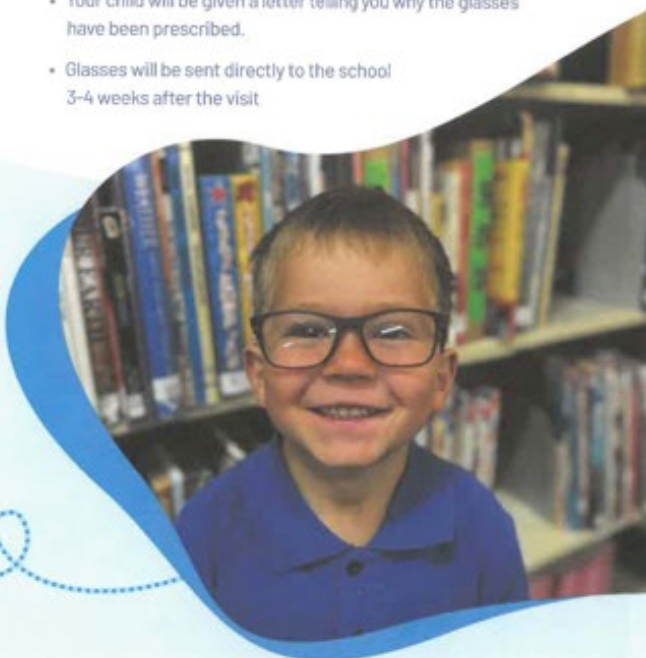
- Your child will receive a letter about their vision screening outcome to bring home at the conclusion of our visit.

## What if my child needs glasses?

- If the optometrist prescribes glasses for your child, GFK will provide them at no cost.
- Your child will have the chance to choose their glasses and be fitted on the day.
- Your child will be given a letter telling you why the glasses have been prescribed.
- Glasses will be sent directly to the school 3–4 weeks after the visit

## Sign up today by scanning the QR code below

If preferred, you can also complete the attached consent form which must be returned to your school by the due date.



Need help? For more information, or if you have problems accessing the consent form please get in touch with us.

[www.stateschoolsrelief.org.au](http://www.stateschoolsrelief.org.au) | [www.glassesforkids.com.au](http://www.glassesforkids.com.au)  
[info@glassesforkids.com.au](mailto:info@glassesforkids.com.au) | (03) 8769 8400



## Canteen Menu – 2026

|                                                                                         |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Mini Chicken Wrap -                                                                     | \$2.50 |
| Chicken Mini Muffin Pizza                                                               | \$2.00 |
| Ham, Cheese Mini Muffin Pizza                                                           | \$2.00 |
| Ham, Cheese, Pineapple Mini Muffin Pizza                                                | \$2.00 |
| Egg and Bacon Muffin                                                                    | \$3.50 |
| Hash Browns                                                                             | \$1.00 |
| Sweet Chilli Chicken Tender                                                             | \$2.00 |
| Toastie                                                                                 | \$3.50 |
| Party Pies / Sausage Rolls                                                              | \$2.00 |
| Homemade Slices / Muffins / Banana Bread                                                | \$2.00 |
| Homemade Biscuits                                                                       | \$1.50 |
| Truffles                                                                                | \$0.80 |
| Banana bread - (gluten free) must be pre-ordered                                        | \$2.00 |
| Brunch Pies                                                                             | \$3.50 |
| Angel Bay Light Beef Burgers with Salad - must be pre ordered                           | \$6.50 |
| 85gm Canteen Approved Chicken Burger with Salad- must be pre ordered                    | \$6.50 |
| Salad Roll or Sandwich with or without Meat                                             | \$6.50 |
| Salad Tubs with or without Meat                                                         | \$6.50 |
| Sandwiches - selected fillings eg: egg & lettuce / ham & pickles (must be pre ordered)  | \$3.50 |
| Veggie Burger with lettuce, tomato, beetroot, cheese, mayo on a wholemeal roll          | \$6.50 |
| Sweet Chilli Chicken Wrap - with lettuce, tomato, mayo and cheese – must be pre ordered | \$6.50 |
| Dino Nuggets & Wedges                                                                   | \$4.50 |
| <b>Meat Pie</b>                                                                         | \$5.00 |
| (gluten free) Party pies                                                                | \$3.50 |
| (gluten free) Sausage rolls                                                             | \$4.00 |
| (gluten free) Pie                                                                       | \$8.00 |

While canteen staff will take all reasonable precautions to prevent the cross-contact of gluten free and gluten containing food products, it is important to be aware that we cannot guarantee that any item prepared and served from our canteen is going to be completely free of allergens.

## Drinks

|                                                                          |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Water – 600 ml                                                           | \$2.00 |
| Nippy's Milk – 250 ml – Strawberry, Honeycomb, Chocolate, Coffee         | \$2.50 |
| Fresha Juice – 250 ml - Apple or Apple & Blackcurrant or Orange          | \$2.50 |
| Nippy's Milk – 375 ml – Strawberry, Honeycomb, Chocolate, Coffee, Banana | \$3.70 |
| Fresha Juice – 500 ml - Apple & Blackcurrant or Orange                   | \$3.70 |

## Frozen Yoghurt or Icy Poles – break 2 only

|                                                       |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Lemonade Icy Poles (gluten free)                      | \$1.60 |
| Zooper Dooper – Maximum of 2 – Temp must be over 25°C | \$0.50 |
| Dixie Cups (gluten free)                              | \$2.50 |
| Frozen Yoghurt                                        | \$2.50 |

## Chips

|                                                                      |        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Chips (28 g) - Honey Soy or Sea Salt or Salt & Vinegar (gluten free) | \$1.50 |
| Snaps (28 g) (gluten free)                                           | \$1.50 |