

GRAHAMVALE NEWSLETTER



Week Three- 8th May 2025

Hi families,

Welcome back for Term 3. This term is 11 weeks long, with a variety of learning and extra-curricular activities taking place. We have been spoilt by the wonderful autumn weather in the past few weeks!

Mother's Day

We wish all the mothers in our wider school community a happy Mother's Day for this Sunday. We hope it is a relaxing day with time spent with family members. Tomorrow morning is our Mother's Day stall, taking place in the library. Thanks to our Parent's Club for organising the gifts and manning the stall.

Pupil free day

There is no school for students on Monday 12th May as our staff join all other public education staff in the Shepparton area at Eastbank for a day of learning together. Our office will be open 8am-4pm as usual if you need. Their Care are also running a program if you need your children in supervised care.

Leigh Johnson visit

Constable Leigh Johnson visited GPS last week and had sessions with our Year 5/6 students. The topics in these sessions included online behaviours, bullying and racism. I encourage parents and carers of our Year 3-6 students to have conversations with their children at home around these three areas. If anyone is experiencing issues in the abovementioned areas, your first port of call is your child's classroom teacher. I remind families that online issues are not a school issue, and should be managed by parents outside of school.

State swimming championship

Last week our 'Swimming Sisters' of Fatima (Yr 6) & Maryam (Yr 4) Elmahi competed at the State Swimming Championships at the Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre (MSAC) in Melbourne. The girls competed against other students from all areas of Victoria and did themselves and our school proud.

Author visit



Indigenous author, artist and song writer Gregg Dreise entertained our students from F-6 last week during three separate workshops.

We have many of Gregg's books in our library and I'm sure these will be constantly borrowed by our students over the next month. Gregg was super engaging for our students as he shared his passion for writing and stories from the Dreamtime.

We organised this visit in conjunction with Gowrie St PS.

Rice drive

GPS has signed up to participate in The Great Rice Drive. This is run by Shepparton FoodShare. The rice drive aims to collect enough rice to provide 25,000 meals to people in need. Rice is an important food that provides nutrition in meals. FoodShare struggles to source rice, and they need our help to reach their target. A 1kg bag of rice, that costs under \$2, will provide 8 meals. Families can donate bags of rice to The Great Rice Drive by dropping off bags of rice at our school office anytime during May. The more bags of rice our school donates, the closer Foodshare will be to reaching the goal of 25,000 meals.



Cross Country

Our GPS Cross Country event was a fantastic morning at the Congupna Recreation Reserve in Week 1. We have many students representing our school at the Division Cross Country at Princess Park on Friday 16th May. We look forward to hearing how they go at our next assembly. Thanks to Mrs Thompson for her organisation of the event and our parent helpers.

Bunnings BBQ



Our Parents Club organised our annual Bunnings BBQ on Sunday 27th April. Thank you to our wonderful parents who gave up a few hours of their long weekend to help be part of the cooking and serving of sausages.

Our school raised just over \$1000. Part of these funds will be going towards our Wellbeing Courtyard and some towards purchasing class novel sets for our senior classrooms.

Thank you to Bunnings Shepparton and our families for their support.

Fun Run prizes ordered

Fun Run prize orders have been placed with Rebel Shepparton and these should arrive at school in the next few weeks. When these have been distributed to students, a Compass notification will be sent.

Compass events

There have been many events placed on Compass for payment & consent. Please check this regularly as it will save our office staff making unnecessary phone calls. Consent & payment dates are set and once these dates pass, parents will have to come into school to approve and pay.

Mr Simo

Dates to Remember

May	Mon 5 Tue 6 Wed 7 Thu 8 Fri 9	Swimming Program- Years 3, 4, 5 and 6
	Monday 12	Pupil Free Day
	Tue 13 Wed 14 Thu 15 Fri 16	Swimming Program- Foundation, Year 1 and 2
	Monday 26	House Lunch
June	Wednesday 4	Junk Yard Beats- Year 3, 4, 5 and 6
	Monday 9	Public Holiday- King's Birthday
	Friday 16	Region Cross Country
July	Friday 4	Last Day Term 2 – 2:20pm dismissal
	Monday 21	First Day Term 3
August	Wednesday 6	Pupil Free Day
	Friday 22	House Athletics Day- McEwen Reserve
September	Thursday 18	School Concert - Eastbank
	Friday 19	Last Day Term 3 - 2:20pm dismissal
October	Monday 6	First Day Term 4
	Tuesday 7	Interschool Aths- Year 6
	Wednesday 8	Interschool Aths- Year 5
	Thursday 9	Interschool Aths- Year 4
	Friday 10	Interschool Aths- Year 3
	Monday 13	Division Athletics
	Wed 15 Thu 16 Fri 17	Year 3 Camp – Camp Kookaburra
	Wed 15 Thu 16 Fri 17	Year 4 Camp – Camp Wyuna
	Mon 20 Tue 21 Wed 22	Year 5 Camp- Sovereign Hill Ballarat
November	Monday 3	Pupil Free Day
	Tuesday 4	Public Holiday- Melbourne Cup
	Thursday 6	House Lunch
	Mon 10 Tue 11 Wed 12	Year 6 Camp- Melbourne
	Thursday 13	Year 1 Late Stay
		Year 2 Sleepover
December	Friday 12	Final Assembly
	Friday 19	Last day Term 4 – 1:20pm dismissal

Students of the week

Congratulations to last week's students of the week. Keep setting great examples for our school!



Label your uniforms!

A reminder to parents.

Please label you child/rens uniform and articles sent to school e.g. Lunch box, hat.

Items found unnamed are placed in 'Lost Property'.

From time to time there are quite a few items which are not claimed, therefore they are placed in the 'Second Hand Uniform' store. They then become available for anyone to purchase.





Sports Club Merchandise Pre-orders now Open

Our 2025 merchandise is here!

Support the Grahamvale Sports Club and stay warm this season with our stylish new hoodies and beanies.

Perfect for players, families, and supporters — grab yours before they sell out!

**Prices and order from
<https://grahamvalesportsclub.com/merch-order-form>**



School Reporters

Dear Parents / Guardians and Students,

On 24th April last month our school came together for our annual ANZAC Day assembly. We would like to thank those of you who came to our school and thanked the soldiers that fought for our country that we now live in today.

Benjamin, a loyal ANZAC during World War 1, discovered that the Turks had destroyed the original lone pine tree. They had been using the branches as wooden planks to cover their trenches for extra protection from gunfire. During the war, Benjamin plucked three pinecones from the remains of the tree and sent them back to his mother in Cardiff. She planted the three pinecones in Inverell, a high school, and at the Australian war memorial.

Many new trees have been grown from seeds collected from pinecones at Canberra and Inverell. In 1990, a group of ANZAC Veterans returned from Gallipoli Peninsula with two of these trees, which were planted during a special ceremony. Trees continued to be planted in memorial gardens and school grounds all over Australia.

On the 21st April 2005 Major General Digger James and his great nephew Bradley James (Son of Krissy James) held a planting ceremony for the Lone Pine Tree that stands proudly in our school yard. This year was the 20th Anniversary since it was planted.



Digger James and Bradley James
planting the Lone Pine Tree in April 2005



Indiana and Remi standing next to the
Lone Pine Tree today May 2025

Sincerely,

Remi and Indiana

ART & CRAFT CLASSES FOR KIDS

EVERY FRIDAY & SATURDAY

@ Mooroopna Education & Activity Centre
(23 Alexandra Street, Mooropna)

Catering for 18 months to 14 years

\$20 per class (sibling discount available)



Booking required, find out more at:
matildasshepparton.squarespace.com

In the spirit of reconciliation, TheirCare acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country in Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.



Hello!

We've had a great return back to school after a very eventful holiday program! Some highlights definitely including the silent disco we attended at Guthrie Street, animal visits, and lots of messy fun including bubbles, painting, and visit to Kidstown.

The children have settled in beautifully and we've already enjoyed a variety of fun and creative activities. From making all kinds of slime and trying out ice painting, to folding origami, creating heartfelt Mother's Day cards, and spending lots of time playing outdoors

We are open on Monday for the pupil free day, and we're turning it into a special Art Day! We'll be exploring different types of painting and sculpting, giving the kids a chance to get creative and express themselves through art. We're looking forward to another great week!

