

# GRAHAMVALE NEWSLETTER



**Week Three – 12<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

Welcome back GPS families to our 2026 school year!

In only a matter of days, our students are into routine and displaying great attitudes towards their learning and each other as they begin to develop relationships with their new class groups. Our Foundation students have settled beautifully, and this was demonstrated by their attention and focus during our first assembly last Friday. We look forward to a fantastic year of supporting our students and working together to achieve great things.

## **2026 parent contributions**

Last week families received information about our 2026 parent contributions. Payment instructions were on this letter, or you can head to your child's Compass page and click on the payments tab. Thank you to those families who have already made their contribution. We thank you for supporting our school and your child's education.

## **The GPS Way!**

We were very excited to announce at last week's assembly the launch of our GPS Way! This is based on the culture that we will embed across all aspects of our school. This cannot be achieved in isolation, so we ask that you too ask your child/ren how they can display our school values of Respect, Personal Best and Inclusive.

When a staff member notices a student displaying positive behaviours, students are awarded a Values Raffle Ticket. Students earn points towards their House (Doyle, Hick, James & McDermott), with every classroom also having their own class incentive to work towards.

Our staff will explicitly explain to a student why they have earned the Values Raffle Ticket, to ensure they can identify the positive behaviour they have demonstrated.

Our GPS Way! is closely linked to our School Wide Positive Behaviour Support framework which is aimed at providing consistency amongst our students, staff and community with a strong focus being on positive behaviours and the expectations that we set for all students. Since the first week of school, our teachers have begun explicitly teaching lessons from our Matrix across all seven areas: ALWAYS, LEARNING SPACES, OUTSIDE, EATING TIME, TOILETS, COMMUNITY AND ONLINE. We have developed a scope and sequence of lessons to work through over the term and if expectations are not being met by individual students, then our teachers will re-teach the expected behaviour and have restorative conversations with students.



I have encouraged our teachers and Education Support staff to be on the front foot and inform parents when students are not meeting our expected behaviours with the aim of working together for all children to experience success in the classroom and yard. This is a proactive step to ensure a strong partnership between school & home. In the next newsletter, I will share the processes we follow when students do not meet our expectations.

Please see our Matrix and raffle tickets on page 2.

If you have any queries about the GPS Way! please see Suzanne Watts (Wellbeing Leader), Karen Mellington (Assistant Principal) or myself.



## GPS Matrix

	<b>RESPECT</b>	<b>PERSONAL BEST</b>	<b>INCLUSIVE</b>
<b>ALWAYS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We respect ourselves, others and the environment around us</li> <li>We use manners</li> <li>We follow before and after school routines</li> <li>We follow instructions promptly</li> <li>We are honest</li> <li>We are attentive listeners</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We make positive choices</li> <li>We are engaged</li> <li>We display a positive attitude</li> <li>We are upstanders</li> <li>We problem solve and challenge ourselves</li> <li>We are proud of our achievements</li> <li>We follow before and after school routines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We show kindness</li> <li>We encourage and uplift others</li> <li>We work together responsibly</li> <li>We are considerate</li> <li>We learn and play as part of a team</li> <li>We value everyone's right to participate</li> <li>We include the wider community</li> <li>We care for and support each other</li> </ul> 
<b>LEARNING SPACES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We wait for our turn to talk</li> <li>We use the learning time productively</li> <li>We speak in full sentences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We show on task behaviours</li> <li>We use an inside voice</li> <li>We allow others to do their personal best</li> <li>We manage our distractions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are a team</li> <li>We show attentive listening</li> <li>We give and receive feedback</li> <li>We share classroom resources</li> </ul>
<b>OUTSIDE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We self-umpire</li> <li>We follow the playtime timetables</li> <li>We care for equipment</li> <li>We protect the environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We move promptly between areas when we hear the music</li> <li>We walk in walkways</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We use teamwork</li> <li>We play fairly</li> <li>We share equipment</li> </ul> 
<b>EATING TIME</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We use trolleys in the appropriate way</li> <li>We use manners</li> <li>We put our rubbish in bins</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We sit quietly while eating</li> <li>We eat quietly &amp; quickly</li> <li>We stop eating at the bell</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We invite others to join us</li> <li>We eat our own food</li> </ul> 
<b>TOILETS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We give others privacy</li> <li>We use quiet voices</li> <li>We keep the area clean and tidy</li> <li>We report issues to the office</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We go during break times</li> <li>We use toilets for correct purpose</li> <li>We leave when finished</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We wait our turn</li> <li>We seek help for others who need assistance</li> </ul>
<b>COMMUNITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We actively engage in school events and follow expectations</li> <li>We represent our school with pride and high expectations</li> <li>We give our full attention to whoever is speaking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We make the most of opportunities</li> <li>We attempt all tasks and experiences</li> <li>We wear our school uniform with pride</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We celebrate others' achievements</li> <li>We give back to our community</li> <li>We make everyone feel welcome</li> <li>We are safe and stay with our group</li> </ul>
<b>ONLINE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We return borrowed devices in the same, or better, condition</li> <li>We communicate in a positive manner</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We use our device correctly</li> <li>We follow the eSafety rules</li> <li>We use educational apps</li> <li>We stay on task</li> <li>We are proud of what we say and write</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are responsible digital citizens</li> <li>We ask before we take photos of others</li> </ul>

## GPS Way Raffle Tickets!



**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class:** \_\_\_\_\_

**House:** \_\_\_\_\_

Value: Respect Personal Best Inclusive

No. of House points: \_\_\_\_\_ / 10

Teacher Initials: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## What a wonderful community we have at GPS!

I feel so lucky to have such a helpful and resourceful wider school community whom I can reach out to when needed. We recently had a new sign for our Digger James playground installed and it looks great! Thanks to Nathan Sali (GPS parent) and the team at Goulburn Valley Signmakers for donating this.



Over the holiday break we had the north side of our main building internally painted by Sinclair & Rooney. Thank you to Jonse Palmer (ex GPS parent) and his team for getting this done efficiently so our teachers had time to move back into their classrooms before the start of the school year. Rooms 1-6 and the shared spaces in between look so bright and fresh now!

For those who have been around our asphalt area in the past week have noticed works taking place, including pressure washing of existing concrete areas, asphalt dug out and refilled and new concreting around our new drains near the art room. Thanks to Procrete for this work and especially to Paul Blake (ex GPS parent) for getting these jobs done to make our grounds safe again.



If you need any painting, concreting or signage made for your home or business, please consider these businesses closely linked to GPS.

Thanks also to Nihar Shah (GPS parent) for taking the time to replace our sprinkler controller in our veggie garden. It is all up and running now and ready for Mrs Cursio and our community group to begin planting fruits and vegetables.

## Container Deposit Scheme

Our Community Leaders have set our school community the goal of reaching \$500 in Terms 1 & 2 through the CDS.

All money raised will go towards equipment that we can use during lunch and recess in the sports trolleys. The bins and big collecting bags are kept near my office window for parents and students to fill in the morning or afternoons. If you have a bag of containers, feel free to leave them next to the bins and we will store straight in our shed.



To reach \$500, we need to receive 5000 eligible containers. This is only 15 containers per student, which equates to only \$1.50 per student – It sounds like a very achievable target when we break it down like this. So please get collecting!

## 2026 Fun Run

Planning is well underway for our 2026 Fun Run. More details will follow next week when we plan to launch it to our community, but we can confirm our date is Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March, taking place at the Victoria Park Lake in the morning.



Mr Simo

## House Points

In 4<sup>th</sup> place was **HICK** on 370 points.

In 3<sup>rd</sup> place was **DOYLE** House with 700 points.

In 2<sup>nd</sup> place was **JAMES** House with 755 points

In 1<sup>st</sup> place was **MCDERMOTT** House with 775 points.

Congratulations to **MCDERMOTT** House!

## Harmony Day

Please note we have changed the date on our calendar to now celebrate Harmony Day with our community on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March.



## Values Awards

Congratulations to these students who received the first Values Awards of the year!



## Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

CSEF payments of \$400.00 for each eligible child, is provided by the Victorian Government to assist families to cover the costs of school trips, camps, and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card, you may be eligible for CSEF. All payments are made directly to the school and allocated to your child/ren's charges for activities.

### HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

## Dates to Remember

<b>Feb</b>	Tuesday 17	Parents Club AGM
	Wednesday 18	No Foundation Students
	Thursday 19	Bullying Incursion
	Wednesday 25	No Foundation Students
<b>March</b>	Wednesday 4	House Lunch
	Monday 9	Public Holiday – Labour Day
	Friday 13	School Photos
	Monday 16	School Council AGM
	Wednesday 25	Harmony Day
	Friday 27	Fun Run – Victoria Park Lake
<b>April</b>	Wednesday 1	Easter Hat parade & Easter raffle
	Thursday 2	Pupil Free Day/Last Day Term 1
	Monday 20	First Day Term 2
	Friday 24	Cross Country – Year 3, 4, 5 & 6
<b>May</b>	Mon 4 Tue 5 Wed 6 Thu 7 Fri 8	Swimming Program- Years 3, 4, 5 & 6
	Mon 11 Tue 12 Wed 13 Thu 14 Fri 15	Swimming Program- Foundation, Year 1 & 2
	Tuesday 19	Cultural Incursion
	Wednesday 20	Pupil Free Day
	Thursday 21	Grandparents Morning 9am-10am
	Wednesday 27	F-2 Alpha Show & House Lunch
		Division Cross Country
<b>June</b>	Monday 8	Public Holiday- King's Birthday
	Friday 12	Region Cross County
	Friday 26	Last Day Term 2 – 2:20pm dismissal
<b>July</b>	Monday 13	First Day Term 3
<b>August</b>	Thursday 13	Author Visit Incursion
	Friday 14	House Athletics Day- McEwen Reserve
	Wednesday 19	House Lunch
<b>September</b>	Thursday 17	School Concert - Eastbank
	Friday 18	Last Day Term 3 - 2:20pm dismissal
<b>October</b>	Monday 5	First Day Term 4
	Tuesday 6	Interschool Aths- Year 6
	Wednesday 7	Interschool Aths- Year 5
	Thursday 8	Interschool Aths- Year 4
	Friday 9	Interschool Aths- Year 3
	Monday 12	Division Athletics
	Mon 19 Tue 20 Wed 21	Year 5 Camp – Sovereign Hill Ballarat
	Wed 28 Thu 29 Fri 30	Year 3 Camp – Camp Kookaburra
<b>November</b>	Monday 2	Pupil Free Day
	Tuesday 3	Public Holiday- Melbourne Cup
	Mon 9 Tue 10 Wed 11	Year 6 Camp- Melbourne
	Wed 11 Thu 12 Fri 13	Year 4 Camp- Camp Wyuna
<b>December</b>	Thursday 3	2027 Student Leaders Assembly
	Tuesday 8	Statewide Transition Day
	Friday 11	Final Assembly
	Tuesday 15	Year 6 Graduation
	Friday 18	Last day Term 4 – 1:20pm dismissal

'Together since Year 7'  
Mortaza and mates

'More special with friends'  
Vera

'We're insanely close'  
Lincoln

'Choice of what you want to be'  
Mouneeb

'Help along the way'  
Klara

# Resilient, united and unstoppable

**The more than 300 Year 12 students who make up GSSC's Class of 2026 have seen it all.**

They entered high school in the damaging wake of COVID-19, were temporarily taught at the ageing McGuire campus in Year 7 and then transitioned into the most transformational development in the history of public education in Greater Shepparton.

The Class of 2026 got on with their learning – from teamwork to time management, to tolerance and taking advantage of all that was “new” at one of the country’s most contemporary schools. They shared a journey of ups and downs together.

Now in their final year, these GSSC seniors are an incredibly diverse and exceptionally close cohort. They have only known GSSC – and they’ve developed an awesome pride in themselves, their collective experience and their school.

Scan to hear from some of the students who know the college best - the Class of 2026.

## SHEPPARTON EDUCATION PLAN

The Shepparton Education Plan  
Improving education outcomes & life opportunities from early years to adulthood  
[www.vic.gov.au/education-plans](http://www.vic.gov.au/education-plans)

# GRAHAMVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL SONG

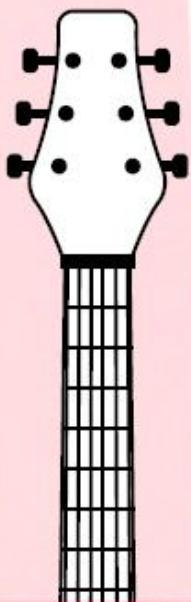
Across the railway line and round the bend  
Surrounded by fruit trees and fruit pickers' sheds  
From the colourful playground to the Digger James  
Welcome to Grahamvale. Welcome to Grahamvale

The friends we have made at school  
In our blue and yellow we think we're cool  
Our teachers care and we all know  
Together everyone achieves more  
As soon as we all walk through the doors  
We appreciate each other so  
The friends we've made at our school  
In our blue and yellow we think we're cool  
Our teachers care we know  
The support from home it rules

Well we read and write and count some too  
We do our best in whatever we do  
You don't have to be fooled  
We know the Arts rule

Across the railway line and round the bend  
Surrounded by fruit trees and fruit picker's sheds  
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## Grahamvale Sports Club – Netball & Soccer Registrations Opening Soon!

Is your child interested in playing netball or soccer for the Grahamvale Sports Club? We'd love to welcome new and returning players for the upcoming season!

Netball is open to students in Year 2 through to Year 6. The season begins on Saturday 2nd May, with games played on Saturday mornings at the Shepparton Netball Courts (Brauman Street). The registration cost is \$210, which includes the use of a dress for the season.

Soccer is open to children from Foundation to Year 6. The season also begins on Saturday 2nd May, with games played on Saturdays at the Soccer Precinct in North Shepparton. The registration cost is \$160, which includes a soccer jersey. Please note, the soccer uniform will be changing this coming season, with more details to come.

Our Sports Club is built on the support of our families. If your child is registering to play, we encourage you to consider volunteering as a coach or team manager — your support makes a big difference!

Registrations open the week beginning Monday 23rd February.

Follow our Facebook page [@GrahamvaleSportsClubInc](#) for updates or email us at: [grahamvalesportsclub1@gmail.com](mailto:grahamvalesportsclub1@gmail.com) for more information.

**TheirCare**

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