

GRAHAMVALE NEWSLETTER



Week 4 – 29th October 2026

Hi families,

We are well into planning mode for 2027. Items such as staffing, pupil free days and other events locked in for next year will be shared in the coming month to help you plan for the beginning of the year.

All students will begin school on Friday 29th January.

Our Year 3 students are currently enjoying themselves at Camp Kookaburra and in Week 6 our Year 6 students and Year 4 students will be attending their camps. I am looking forward to attending Melbourne Camp.

Class structures for 2027

Every year, possible class structures are discussed with our teaching staff through a consultative process. When making decisions on structures, some of the things we consider are:

- Number of students in each year level
- Number of students with additional needs across the school
- Funding available to our school for staffing from the Department of Education

From these discussions, the following class structures will be in place for 2027:

3 x Foundation

3 x Year 1

2 x Year 2

2 x Year 3

2 x Year 4

2 x Year 5

2 x Year 6

We will continue to provide one hour sessions of specialist subjects in Performing Arts, Physical Education, STEM and Visual Art. Staffing arrangements will be shared when finalised.

Transition to 2027 classes

Tuesday 8th December is Statewide Transition Day. We have our 2027 Foundation students attending school 9am-1pm, which will be an exciting day for them. They will also meet their 2027 Year 6 buddy. Our current Year 6 students will spend the day at their secondary school. All other current students in Foundation to Year 5 will spend the entire day with their 2027 classroom teacher and group of future classmates. The aim of this transition day is to begin building relationships within the room and for students to be aware of who their new teacher will be. We have some staff joining us from other schools in 2027 and most of these teachers will attend GPS for this day in the classrooms. Your child will find out their 2027 classroom teacher prior to this day in writing.

End of year activities

Teachers in most year levels are currently planning end of year activities that will take place in the final two weeks of this term. Some of these activities may take place out of school and some will happen on school grounds. Over the next couple of weeks, you will receive Compass notifications for consent & payment. Please monitor Compass, to alleviate our admin staff contacting you personally.



Term 4 Assembly dates

- Friday 6th November
- Friday 20th November
- Thursday 3rd December – 2027 Leaders Assembly
- Friday 11th December – Final Assembly

Regional Athletics Results

Congratulations to Cooper Ryan (Year 6), Kamsi Ozoh (Year 6), Jacob Crifo (Year 5) & Scarlett Pearce (Year 4) for competing at the Regional Athletics Competition recently.

Competitors must finish in the top 2 to make it to state. What an awesome effort & we wish you all the best for the State competition!

- Cooper Ryan – 100m (3rd place). 200m (1st place)
- Kamsi Ozoh– Triple jump (1st place) & Hurdles 91st place)
- Jacob Crifo – Shot put (1st place)
- Scarlett Pearce – 800m (4th place)

All the best to Cooper, Kamsi & Jacob as they compete against other athletes from around Victoria at the State Athletics Championships today!

Mobile Phone Policy

Recently the Department of Education has made changes to all school's Mobile Phone Policies. Mobile phones and smart devices such as smart watches are now included in our policy under the direction from the Department of Education. If your child currently wears a smart watch to school, please discuss this and direct them to leave it at home. If students are regularly seen wearing a smart watch, parents/carers will be contacted to collect it from the office at the end of day pick up time. Please see our Mobile Phone Policy on the next pages.

Thank you in advance for your support of us managing smart devices in school.



GPS Colour Run

Please see flyer later in this newsletter advertising our Colour run. This biannual event is a free event, organised and supported by our Junior School Council. This will be another fun event for our staff, students and parents (we encourage you to come and watch if you can).





MOBILE PHONES – STUDENT USE



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the Grahamvale Primary School on 03 58 214219.

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department's and Grahamvale Primary School's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones and smartwatches during school hours.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Grahamvale Primary School and
2. Students' personal mobile phones, including smartwatches brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.

DEFINITIONS

A **mobile phone** is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network. "For the purpose of this policy, "mobile phone" refers to mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as smart watches."

POLICY

Grahamvale Primary School understands that students may need to bring a personal mobile phone to school for medical purposes or if they are travelling independently to and from school (for example in a taxi). Approval to bring a personal mobile phone must be granted by the principal.

At Grahamvale Primary School:

- Unless prior approval is arranged by the principal, mobile phones brought to school by a student will be securely stored during school hours at the front office, then returned to the students on their departure.
- Exceptions to this policy may be applied if certain conditions are met (see below for further information)
- When emergencies occur, parents or carers should reach their child by calling the school's office.

Personal mobile phone use

In accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones – Student Use Policy](#) issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used at Grahamvale Primary School during school hours, including lunchtime and recess, unless an exception has been granted.



Where a student has been granted an exception, the student must use their mobile phone for the purpose for which the exception was granted, and in a safe, ethical and responsible manner.

Secure storage

Mobile phones owned by students at Grahamvale Primary School are considered valuable items and are brought to school at the owner's (student's or parent/carer's) risk. Please note that Grahamvale Primary School does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage or theft. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items.

Where students need to bring a mobile phone to school, Grahamvale Primary School will provide secure storage. Students are required to hand their mobile phone into the school administration office to be placed in a secure storage area. This storage cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so.

Exceptions

Exceptions to the policy:

- may be applied during school hours if certain conditions are met, specifically,
 - Health related exceptions; and
 - Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite.
- can be granted by the Principal, in accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy](#).

The three categories of exceptions allowed under the Department's [Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy](#) are:

1. Learning-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
For specific learning activities (class-based exception)	Student Mobile Phones not permitted.

2. Health and wellbeing-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
Students with a health condition	Student Health Support Plan for Diabetes requiring third party monitoring.

3. Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite

Specific exception	Documentation
When students are offsite (not on school grounds) and unsupervised with parental permission	Excursion/Camp Risk Assessment Student Mobiles Phones not permitted. When offsite, where necessary students can be contacted through the supervising teacher or school.

Where an exception is granted, the student can only use the mobile phone for the purpose for which it was granted.

Camps, excursions and extracurricular activities

Grahamvale Primary School will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can or cannot be brought to camps, excursions, special activities and events, including personal mobile phones.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- [Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	July 2026
Consultation	School Improvement Team School Council
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	July 2029

Dates to Remember

October	Wed 28 Thu 29 Fri 30	Year 3 Camp – Camp Kookaburra
November	Monday 2	Pupil Free Day
	Tuesday 3	Public Holiday - Melbourne Cup
	Wednesday 4	House Lunch
	Thursday 5	Year 1 & 2 Late Stay/Sleepover
	Mon 9 Tue 10 Wed 11	Year 6 Camp
	Wed 11 Thu 12 Fri 13	Year 4 Camp - Phillip Island
	Monday 16	Year 6 Graduation Photo
	Friday 27	Colour Run
December	Thursday 3	2027 Student Leaders Assembly
	Tuesday 8	Statewide Transition Day
	Friday 11	Final Assembly
		Year 5 Aspirations Day at GSSC
	Tuesday 15	Year 6 Graduation – GV Hotel
	Friday 18	Last day Term 4 - 1:20pm dismissal

Values Awards



Congratulations to these students who received a Values Awards.



Congratulations to Evie, Kamsi & Oliver who are the winners of the National Water Week competition.



Grahamvale

is excited to be hosting another

COLOUR RUN!

Friday 27th November 2026

This fun-filled event encourages students to be active, enjoy time with their classmates and participate in a memorable whole-school experience.



WHAT HAPPENS?

Students will run or walk around a designated circuit for approximately **20 minutes**. During this time, they will have water sprayed on them and coloured powder squirted at them from bottles.

The powder is made from high-quality corn starch and permitted food colours. It is non-toxic, biodegradable, skin-safe and environmentally friendly.



WHEN WILL THE COLOUR RUN TAKE PLACE?

The Colour Run will take place in the afternoon, commencing at approximately **2.00 pm**.

Students will participate in the following groups:

First session: Foundation (short course) and Years 3/4 (longer course).

Second session: Years 1/2 (short course) and Years 5/6 (longer course).

Each group will participate for approximately **20 minutes**, with coloured powder squirted at students as they complete the circuit.



WHAT SHOULD STUDENTS WEAR?

The Colour Run will be a **casual clothes day**. Students are encouraged to wear a **white T-shirt** (no singlet tops), along with bright-coloured clothing and accessories to make the event even more colourful!

Please avoid sending students in their best clothes or shoes, as the coloured powder may leave stains. While the colour will generally wash out after a few washes, this is not guaranteed.



All students must wear a broad-brimmed hat.
Their usual school hat is suitable.



Caps are not permitted.



WHAT ELSE DO WE NEED TO KNOW?



Water will be sprayed from a hose prior to the race to help the coloured powder stick to students' clothing. The powder will be aimed at students' torsos.



Students may choose to wear sunglasses or other suitable eye protection if they wish.



Students will be dismissed at the usual pick-up times. Families may wish to bring a change of clothes for their child to wear home, along with a towel to sit on or wrap around themselves before getting into the car.



The Colour Run has been funded through money raised by the **Junior School Council**, allowing all students to participate in this fun-filled event

free of charge!

We look forward to a fantastic afternoon of colour, fun and school spirit!



Shepparton Soccer Club 2027 JUNIOR SOCCER EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Are you ready to be part of our junior soccer family in 2027?  

-  All skill levels welcome
-  A supportive & inclusive club environment
-  Development, teamwork & fun
-  Opportunities to learn, grow & compete

 Whether you're a returning player or new to the club complete our 2027 Junior Player Expression of Interest form below

<https://form.jotform.com/262671273767871>

Further information regarding teams, training and the 2027 season will be provided once details are confirmed.



Build Skills
Make Friends
Have Fun!

GIRLS ONLY
PLAYERS WANTED!

SHEPPARTON SOCCER CLUB
SEEKING PLAYERS FOR
GIRLS-ONLY COMPETITION
ALL AGE GROUPS
WITH LIMITED POSITIONS AVAILABLE
FOR OUR BOYS TEAMS

ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME
FUN & COMPETITIVE ENVIRONMENT
SKILLED COACHES
FAMILY FRIENDLY CLUB

JOIN OUR SQUAD!

CONTACT US AT:
<https://form.jotform.com/262671273767871>

Same Club
Bigger Dreams

