

EAGLE EXPRESS

Email: gormandale.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Thursday, 21st May 2026



SAFE RESPECTFUL LEARNER

Gormandale and District Primary School fosters a community learning environment in which each and every member is nurtured to become a confident lifelong learner.



We acknowledge the Gunaikurnai people as the traditional custodians of the land upon which we meet. We pay our respects to the Elders of the past, present and future.



Principal's Report

Dear GDPS Community,

We have officially reached the halfway mark of term 2, which sadly means that it is not long until I head off on family leave. It is bittersweet as I am looking forward to beginning this exciting next stage in my life, but will certainly miss our amazing school community.

Acting Principal

As previously shared on compass, Mark Andrew will be stepping into the acting principal role whilst I am on leave. Mark's first day will be Monday the 1st of June and he is looking forward to joining our school community. I feel very confident that our amazing staff and Mark will do a wonderful job leading our school in my absence.

Education Support Staff Day

Last week, we celebrated and acknowledged our amazing ES staff. We are so lucky to have so many wonderful individuals as part of our team and our school would not run as seamlessly as it does without them. Keenan, Mackenzie, Michelle, Monique, Naomi, Rob, Sam, Tricia & Troy, thank you for helping our school be a place where our students are nurtured and can thrive.

Last week we had 6 students who qualified for and attended division cross country. A huge congratulations to Belinda, Charlotte, Erica, Hazel, Oscar and Reece for this achievement.

5/6 Camp

Next week our grade 5 & 6 students head off with Ms Elrick and Keenan to Woorabinda Camp. Woorabinda camp prefers for students to share with their families once they get back from camp before schools share any updates on social media.

Until next time,
Charleigh Williams



WHAT'S COMING UP?

Friday 22nd

Proactive Policing Visit

Monday 25th - 27th

Woorabinda Camp 5/6

Thursday 28th

Gormandale General Store Lunch Orders

Monday 8th

Kings Birthday
Public Holiday

Friday 12th

Mindfull Aus Incursion

Thursday 18th

Gormandale General Store Lunch Orders

GDPS Bank Details

BSB 033-222

ACC 019138

Gormandale & District PS Council

May

June

Parents Club

Hi Parents and Families,

The GDPS Parents Club is a small group of parents and together we co-ordinate some fun events and fundraising for all our families to benefit.

We would like to thank everyone who participated in the Mothers Day Stall held on 8th May. We hope the mums and special people enjoyed their gifts and everyone had a wonderful day celebrating with loved ones.

Parents Club will soon be running a Firewood Raffle with raffle tickets to be sent home late this term and the raffle being drawn early Term 3.

We would like to send a huge shout out to some local businesses who have supported us with donations for our fundraising this term. These include Rosedale BP, Smokehouse 81, The Rosedale Pub and Wallaby Way Flower Farm. If you can, support them, and please mention to them you appreciate their support to our school.

Lastly, a huge than you to Tim and Kim Morley for donating and delivering a trailer load of wood for our recent GFNC gate raffle.

We have a goal this year to make a contribution towards the school bike track. We appreciate everyone's support throughout the year.

Thanks everyone,
Brooke Trewin

This week is National Volunteer Week.

We just want to take the time to thank all of our school community members who volunteer a helping hand to help make our school a better place. Whether that be taking on an official role on School Council or Parents Club, or those that help out with the odd jobs as they arise, we want to say

THANK YOU!



- to those who continue to donate their cans and bottles to us
- to Mohamed and the Thexton family for moving our burn pile to an off school site for burning
- thanks to the Gormandale CFA for using the pile as a practice burn!
- to Mohamed, Michelle, Renee and Jeff for volunteering their time on the gate at the Gormandale V Sale City game. Once again, we had a rewarding time giving back to the community and raised funds for our community bike track. Reach out if you would like to volunteer for future raffles

NAIDOC Week 2026

For NAIDOC Week 2026, which we will be celebrating in the last week of term 2, we are asking that families bring in a photo of a place where they feel connected to Country. Being connected to Country is not just for First Nations peoples, it is something that many of us can connect with, especially living in Gippsland where we are only a short drive from wonderful national parks, the ocean and the hills. A place where you feel connected to Country could be where you live, somewhere you go on holidays or camping, or somewhere you just enjoy being in the outdoors.

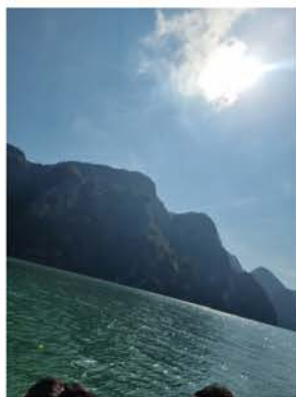
If you cannot bring in a physical photo, you are welcome to provide it via Class Dojo or send it to the school phone, and we will be happy to print it off for your child/ren.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or queries.

Thank you for your support, Sam!

GDPS Staff Connection to Country

Below, staff at GDPS have shared some of the beautiful places where they feel connected to Country.



Drew

I feel deeply connected to water as a source of life, healing, and reflection. I acknowledge the rivers, oceans, creeks, and waterways that have sustained Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and peoples for tens of thousands of years.

Jamee
"I feel connected to Country at the beach with my family, particularly Wilson's Promontory (Gunaikurnai land)."



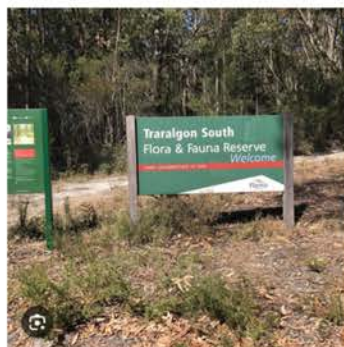
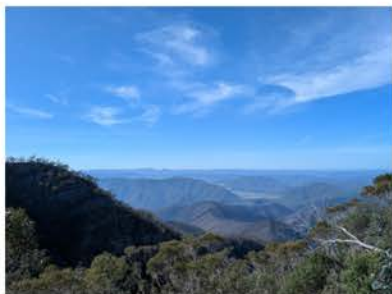
Mackenzie

"I feel connected to country when I'm at the beach, surrounded by the open space, nature, the water and the calming sounds of the ocean."



Sam

"I feel connected to Country when I am in the hills, whether its the foothills of the Great Dividing Range or the Strzelecki Ranges."



Sarah

"This is a picture of the Traralgon South Flora and Fauna reserve. It's where my family like to take walks together with our dogs. We often see kangaroos, echidnas, and wombats when we are exploring."



Charleigh

"I feel very privileged to live in such a beautiful place in the world, where we have so many diverse types of landscapes just on our door step! I feel most connected to country where I can stand on the green grass, under the blue sky looking out at the blue ocean."

Mon
"I feel connected to Country when I'm travelling as it unfolds different life styles, and I enjoy doing the activities while travelling such as paddle boarding, canoeing and cultural dancing."



Michelle

"I feel most connected to Country when I am at the beach. One of my favourites is Waratah Bay."



SALTBUSH Performance - May 15th

"Saltbush centres on the journey of two friends and their spiritual guide on foot as they cross Australian landscapes – river country, an urban landscape, desert, and the sea. The journey is one of discovering the land, growing an understanding, and acknowledging how it shapes and inspires personal journeys.

Saltbush is a plant that can be found across Australia and so it represents a common thread between Indigenous nations and First Nations peoples. This shared idea acted as a point of inspiration for the narrative, contemporary painting, dance, and instrumental music created by First Nations artists. These artistic forms were used as a means of interpreting the natural features of the landscape.

Through its use of sensor and infrared cameras, Saltbush allows young audiences to interact, play and perform in the show. It also provides a unique experience for parents and teachers as they witness the children become involved." - The Wedge Performing Arts Centre, Sale VIC 3850

Harry - "I enjoyed going up on stage and getting to join in. I liked the projectors, and the moves were good too."

Student Reviews

Addisyn - under the stars "I felt calm and happy".

Oscar - "I liked the city landscape and dodging the cars on the road (as part of the performance)."

Archer - "I want to erase my memory so I can experience it again".

Charlotte - "I enjoyed the dancing and going on stage with the performers."

Anastasia - "It was great, and my favourite parts were dancing and going underneath the stars."

Dana - "I really liked it, umm, it was cool, and I really liked the lily pads. 5 stars!"

Erica - "It was fun and enjoyable. It was a nice experience and peaceful."

Jax - "I enjoyed lying under the stars, and the city landscape."

Evie - "I really, really, really liked it, and I enjoyed trying to stay on the lily pads."

Leroy - "Great."

Hunter - "It was fun and I liked the stars. It was really calming and peaceful."



Lucy R - "I liked going on the magic mat and doing the actions, and chasing the stars."

We would also like to say a huge thank you to The Wedge Performing Arts Centre for hosting our school, and the beautiful feedback we received regarding our students outstanding behaviour!

GDPS OSHC

We have had a wonderful time at OSHC so far this term with lots of fun, learning, and laughter shared between the kids.

Our program continues to provide a safe, inclusive, and engaging environment where children can build friendships, develop confidence, and enjoy a variety of experiences before and after school.

Over the past few weeks, we have made Mother's Day craft items, built our own burgers and created fruit platters to share!

