

EAGLE EXPRESS

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

Thursday, 3rd March 2026



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,

This week marks the first full week for our prep students. Yesterday, they had a fabulous time at the Kids Day Out in Yarram which was a free excursion organised by the Wellington Shire. Thank you to all of the families who were able to join us for the welcome BBQ. It was great to be able to connect with you all.

Connect with Parents Club

This Friday, our parents club are meeting for a social catch up after morning drop off. If you're new to our school community or looking to connect with others, we encourage you to drop by. Racheal, Renee and Jeff will be there to greet you and share a little more information about what parents club entails.

NAPLAN

National Assessment Program - Literacy And Numeracy (NAPLAN) preparation is underway for our grades 3 & 5 students. They have already used the online NAPLAN training platform to become familiar with the online test structure. NAPLAN will take place next week from the 11-14th of March. On these days, our grade 3 & 5 students are able to enjoy a delicious and nutritious breakfast in the morning where we are able to connect and settle our emotions on the day.

Sports

We are looking forward to having GeckoSports joining us again this term. They will be supporting us with our GDPS sports day and also running an AFL clinic for PE for the last 3 weeks of the term.

A reminder that this coming Monday, the 9th of March is a public holiday for Labour Day

Enjoy the long weekend,

Charleigh Williams



WHAT'S COMING UP?

Monday 9th
Labour Day Holiday

Wednesday 11th
NAPLAN
Grades 3 & 5

Thursday 12th
NAPLAN
Grades 3 & 5

Friday 13th
NAPLAN
Grades 3 & 5

Tuesday 17th
GDPS Athletics Afternoon
Whole School

GDPS Bank Details

BSB 033-222
ACC 019138

Gormandale & District PS Council

March

THANK
YOU!
♥

- to all those families who were able to attend our welcome BBQ
- Jeff for bringing his BBQ down
- Jeff and Isea for doing a fantastic job cooking the BBQ
- Tricia for donating her time to make the tasty salads for the BBQ
- those families who continue to collect cans and bottles for our school

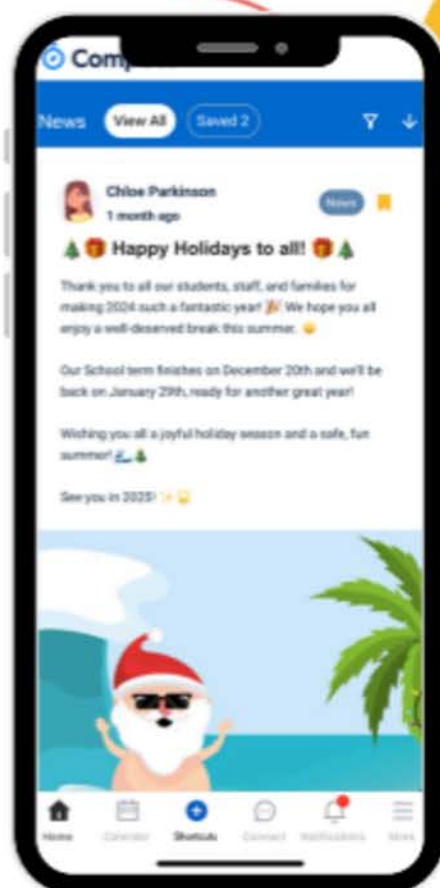
ASSEMBLY AWARD RECIPIENTS



View school news

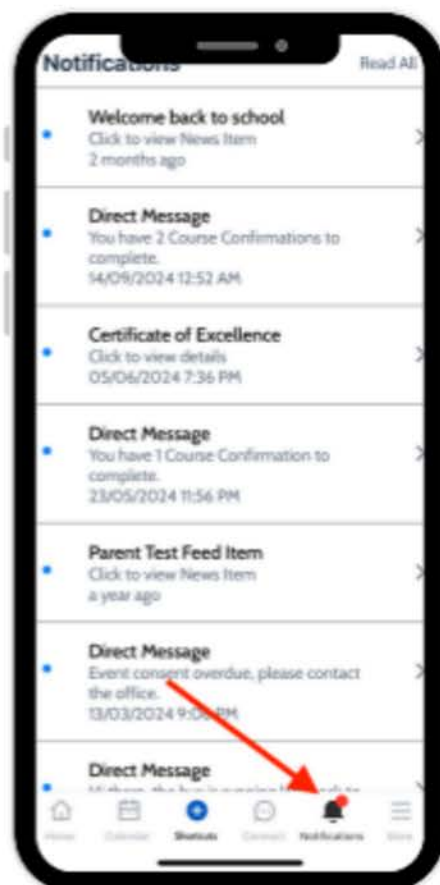
You can find news shared by your school, by going to the app homepage and scrolling down the feed.

Click on the save icon next to a Newsfeed post to save the post. You can quickly find saved news posts by clicking on the 'Saved' button.



View notifications

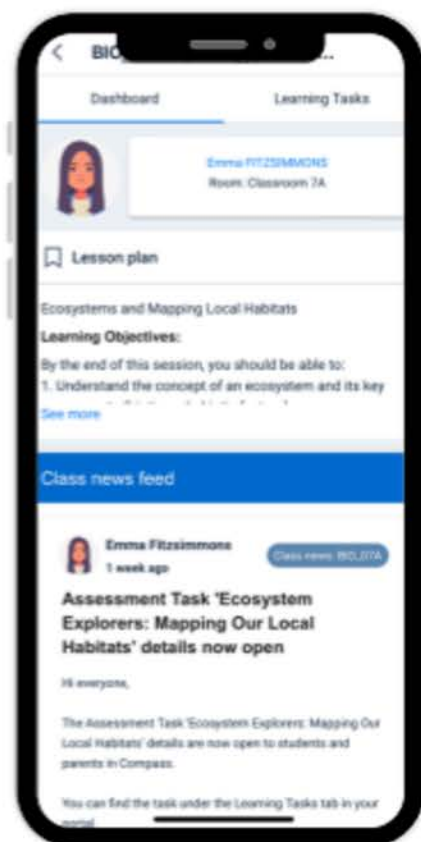
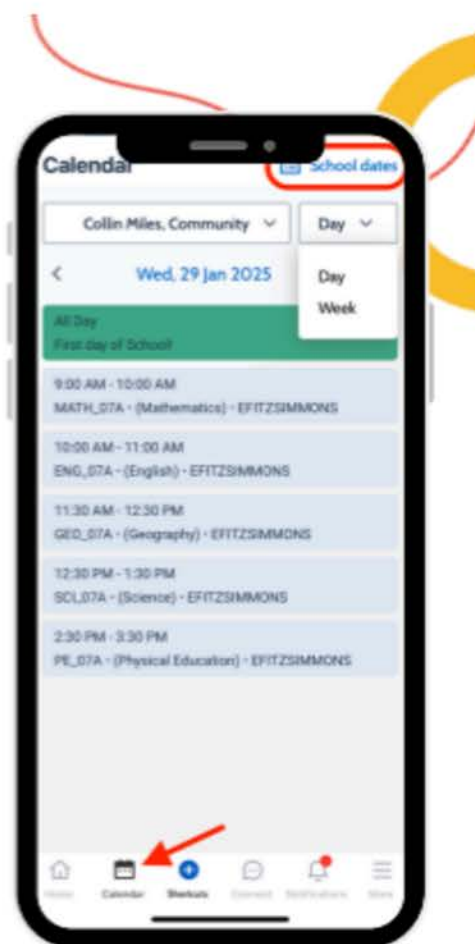
1. Click on the 'Notifications' icon
2. Here you can see push notifications sent by your school
3. Click on a notification to view it in full



View important school dates and upcoming events

Keep track of important dates and upcoming events happening at your school by checking the Calendar.

1. Click on the 'Calendar' icon
2. Use the arrows on the left and right to navigate to a different day or click on the calendar icon and select the day you want to view
3. Change the calendar view by clicking the arrow next to 'Day'
4. Click on 'School dates' to see important school dates



The class page

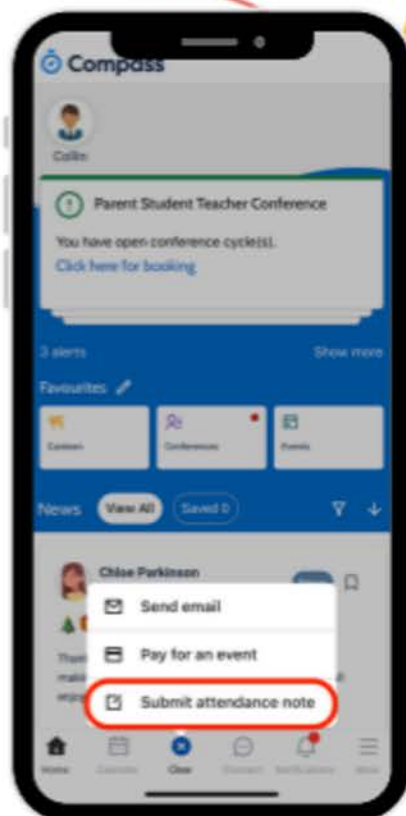
1. From the homepage, select your child's profile picture
2. On the Dashboard tab, refer to the classes on the student's schedule for the day
3. Click on the relevant class from the schedule to go to the class page
4. On the Dashboard tab, view any Lesson Plans and the Class News Feed



Add an Attendance Note

If your child is going to be absent from school, you can add an attendance note to explain their absence.

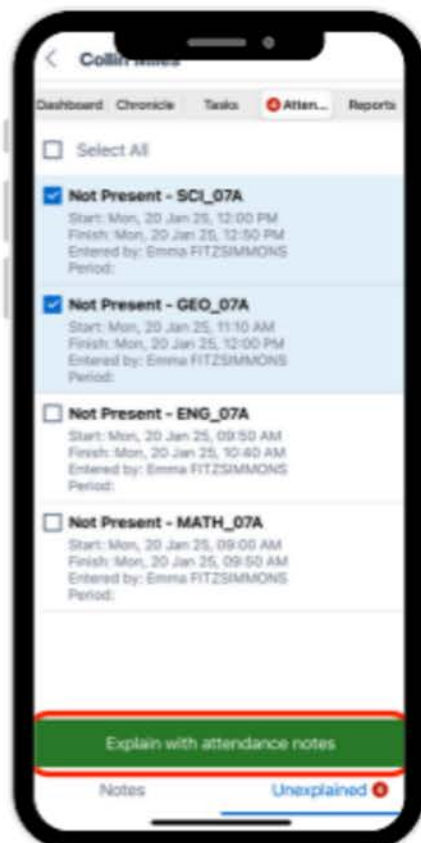
1. Click on the blue 'Shortcuts' button
2. Click on 'Submit attendance note'
3. Select the reason
4. Enter any details and comments
5. Select the start/finish date and time
6. Upload any attachments
7. Click on 'Add Attendance Note' to submit the note



View your child's absences

1. From the homepage, click on your child's profile picture
2. Click on the 'Attendance' tab
3. Click on the 'Unexplained' tab

If you need to explain an absence, click on the checkbox next to the absence and explain with an attendance note.



Schools in Category 3 on the Bushfire At-Risk Register

School preparations for the bushfire season

Each year, we undertake a range of activities to ensure the safety of our school and to prepare for bushfires and grassfires.

An important part of this process is communicating to parents what will happen when certain fire danger ratings are issued to help ensure the safety of students and staff.



Our school has been identified as being at risk of bushfire or grassfire and is a **Category 3** school.

Our school will close on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic** fire danger rating in **West and South Gippsland** fire district.

Closure of the school due to a Catastrophic fire danger rating will be enacted when the Bureau of Meteorology forecast and related public safety messaging are confirmed. Due to uncertainties in the forecast, the timing of this confirmation may vary. Information regarding potential or confirmed Catastrophic fire danger days will be communicated to you by Compass.

It is also important to be aware that:

- No one will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Catastrophic day.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days.
- All bus routes that travel through the Catastrophic area will be cancelled.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast for fire weather district in which the camp is located, or if the travel involves passing through areas that have Catastrophic fire danger.

As part of preparing our school for the fire season, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan and reprioritised any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire and cleared our facility's grounds and gutters.

What can families and the school community do to help us prepare?

- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers.
- Keep in touch with us by compass, reading our newsletters, checking our website [www.gormandale.ps.vic.edu.au], by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements if our school is closed due to Catastrophic fire danger. Further information can be found on the [CFA's website](#).
- Action your family's bushfire survival plan if your own triggers are met. Our school community may be spread out across many areas and some families may be at higher risk than others. Your family's safety is critical, so please let us know if you are actioning your bushfire survival plan and if your children will be absent on these days.

- If your child is old enough, talk to [them about bushfires](#) and your family's bushfire survival plan.

Families are encouraged to action their [Bushfire Survival Plan](#) on Catastrophic fire danger rating days in their district. The safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Catastrophic day. **On such days, children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

You can find more information on emergencies, warnings and preparedness actions here:

- VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)
- Website <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>
- Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency>)
- Twitter (<https://twitter.com/vicemergency>)
- ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the department's policy?

The Department of Education annually assesses the fire risk of all schools and early childhood services with the support of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO). They are allocated a category of risk (categories 0 to 6). Schools and services that are Categories 0-3 are published on the [Bushfire At-Risk Register \(BARR\)](#). Schools at some risk of bushfire and grassfire are published on the [Category 4 List](#).

The department's [Bushfire and Grassfire Preparedness Policy](#) requires all schools and early childhood services on the BARR and the Category 4 List to close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district. All school bus routes which travel in or through a district with Catastrophic fire danger must also be cancelled.

The policy also requires that schools at the highest risk of bushfire (those in Categories 0, 1 and 2 of the Bushfire At-Risk Register) enact pre-emptive action plans based on the fire danger forecast for their Local Government Area (LGA).

Who issues fire danger forecasts?

The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) provides public fire danger rating forecasts each day of the fire danger period using fire weather district areas. In Victoria, there are 9 fire weather districts, which are based on Local Government Area boundaries.

The department uses these forecasts when supporting schools to enact their pre-emptive bushfire actions plans.

GORMANDALE
COMMUNITY

TODDLER TIME PLAYGROUP

TUESDAYS

Gormandale
Community
House

9:30AM
-
11AM



A morning of fun

games to play | arts, crafts & books | community
garden to explore | sandpit & cubbyhouse | fully
fenced with shaded area | kitchenette for parents |

03 5197 7264