



# Newsletter

# March 20<sup>th</sup> 2019

Phone 51568220 Mobile 0447 123 744 Fax 5156 8759  
Email: nicholson.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

## Dates to Remember

### MARCH

#### Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>

Harmony Day.  
Sporting Schools  
3.20 - 4.30pm.

#### Monday 25<sup>th</sup>

Cluster Cross Country @  
Nicholson PS.

#### Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>

School Council AGM  
@5.30pm.

#### Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>

Interschool Gymkhana.  
Sporting Schools  
3.20 - 4.30pm.

Last Sporting Schools  
afternoon for Term 1.

### APRIL

#### Monday 1<sup>st</sup>

MARC Van  
Please remember to  
return books

#### Friday 5<sup>th</sup>

Last day for Term 1.  
Wheelbarrow Grand Prix.

#### Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>

Term 2 begins.

#### Thursday 25<sup>th</sup>

ANZAC Day.  
No students at School.

### Metacognition

This year at NPS we have increased our focus and explicit teaching of metacognitive skills for all students across all learning areas.

#### What is it?

Metacognition refers to “thinking about thinking” and was introduced as a concept by John Flavell, who is typically seen as a founding scholar of the field. Flavell said that metacognition is the knowledge you have of your own cognitive processes (your thinking). Flavell (1979).

It generally involves planning how to approach learning tasks, identifying appropriate strategies to complete a task, evaluating progress and monitoring understanding of the learning.

#### Why teach it?

Teaching metacognitive strategies can greatly enhance learning for all students in all subject areas.

Metacognitive strategies empower students to think about their own thinking. Teaching students metacognitive strategies offers students tools to *drive their own brains*.

When students develop strong metacognitive abilities, they develop a deeper awareness of the learning process and gain control over their own learning. It also supports students to become more motivated, independent, life long learners.

### Harmony Day

A reminder to wear orange to school tomorrow as we celebrate Harmony Day and learn a little about the different backgrounds we all come from which make us all unique in some ways but the same in many other ways.

### Mitchell River Cluster Cross Country

This year the cross country event will be held here at Nicholson Primary School. We look forward to hosting our cluster schools, Lindenow South, Clifton Creek and Bairnsdale Christian School.

The day will begin at 10am with the junior races being held first followed by aged events.

We are in the need of some parent helpers to assist on the day. If you are available to help please see Lyn Gamble.

### School Council

School Council AGM is next Tuesday 26th March. Thank you to those parents who have nominated to either re-join, or come onto school council for the first time. Your support of our school through being a member of school council is much appreciated.

### Sporting Schools

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March will be the last Sporting Schools afternoon for Term 1.

Kind Regards

*Sue Laague*

Principal



# Classroom News

## Effective Learner Quality :Persistent

To be a persistent learner means you think positively, see learning as a challenge and show patience when things don't go right . It also means trying your best all the time, make mistakes but try again anyway and understand that learning will be frustrating some of the time.

### Grade P/1

**Reading** Students are really enjoying choosing a library book for take home reading and to use in partner reading/ independent reading tasks. Please remember that for many children library books are "Too hard" books. They are not expected to read these books independently.

**Writing** In the last two weeks we have been responding to reading by writing a letter. Students have been learning to use the 'Dear..... From.....' format and include ideas about the book we have read.

**Spelling** Some students are powering through the alphabet learning the Soundwaves chants and actions for the letters. The older students are learning spelling choices for the short 'i' sound- 'in the igloo i'.

**Maths** Last week our topic was length, practicing measuring using objects such as sticks, counters or blocks. We discovered the importance of choosing appropriate objects- it's not a good idea to measure the length of the classroom with small counters! We related this to the metric system, distance to Melbourne in km not metres.

### Grade 2/3

**Reading** We have been focusing on how to use sticky notes to track our thinking while reading. We have also been learning about how to complete a story retell with a focus on the characters and the events that happen in the beginning, middle and end of a story.

**Writing** Over the past few weeks, we have been looking at using transition words in our recount writing. We have also begun exploring what adjectives are and how they relate to nouns by describing them. We have begun focusing on simple sentences and what to include in them.

**Spelling** Last week, we were focusing on the sound 'e' in Soundwaves. We explored the letter combinations that are used to make the 'e' sound, which were the combinations "e" and "ea".

**Maths** Our focus over the last few weeks has been number patterns and addition. We had been practicing skip counting by 2's, 3's, 5's and 10's from any starting point. We have also been exploring our 'friends of 10' facts for addition and have begun looking at doubling as an addition strategy.

### Grade 3/4

**Reading** focus has been on exploring authors' purpose while continuing to build our decoding and fluency skills. Responding to texts through purposeful tasks and tracking our thinking through the use of sticky notes continues to be a focus of our workshops.

**Writing** personal narratives continues to be our focus genre. We will move into persuasive writing next week. We are focusing on paragraphing and capital letters for proper nouns as well as practicing forming our letters correctly to ensure our written work is legible and attractive to read.

**Spelling** our fast and furious words takes place every day at school. we are also revisiting adding -ed to words and looking at different strategies to assist us with our spelling.

**Maths** focus is moving to addition this week as we have begun to pre-explore what we already know about addition and what strategies we use when solving addition problems . Over the coming weeks while revisiting skip counting and place value we will be exploring and explicitly learning and practicing new strategies to use when faced with addition problems.

# Classroom News

## Grade 5/6

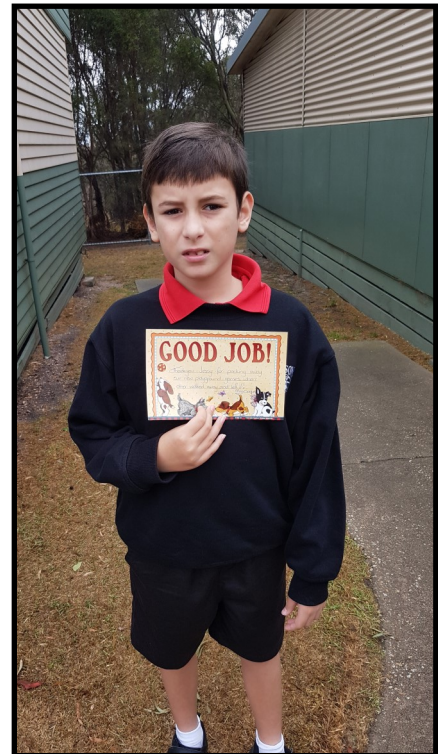
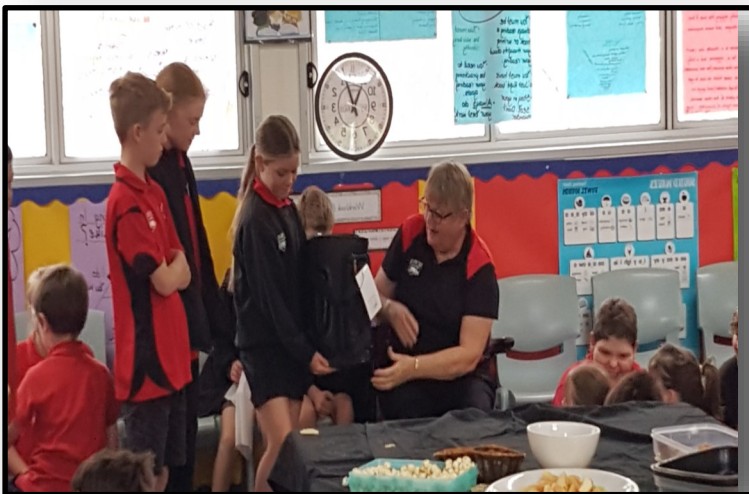
Last week grade 5/6 students participated in the GRIP Leadership Conference with a number of schools from across Gippsland. Students learnt about how to lead using the “people pathway,” that is, by developing their own character; ways to contribute and make a difference to their team; making a difference to the culture of the school through influence; and connecting when choosing a cause to make a difference in the community. The day involved meeting many students from other schools, swapping and comparing ideas and lots of “LOUD NOISES”!

**Reading** We are learning to make inferences by using our prior knowledge and clues in the text. Students are practising inferring predictions, the meaning of unknown words, author’s purpose, underlying themes and character traits during reading.

**Writing** Students are working on the presentation of their memoirs as the final stage of the writing cycle. We are beginning to learn about biography and using research to write about someone who inspires us.

**Spelling** This fortnight we have not introduced a new sound as students revealed they had not been practising their words for homework. They have received some tasks they can use to practise their words at home. Please help them to remember to practise these. In class we have also looked at 3 different sounds ‘ed’ makes on the end of words and will be learning a rule to help us spell accurately when adding the ‘ed’ suffix.

**Maths** Our focus for number is developing mental and written addition strategies that help us to subtract multi-digit numbers easily and efficiently. Grade 6 students are also learning to add and subtract negative numbers known as integers. Students are also learning to convert units of measurement. Students have chosen a times table to practise each week at home and are required to practise these until they are automatic. Please help them to practise these as it helps them solve problems with greater ease and efficiency. ‘Studyladder’ is a great resource they can use to practise online at home- please see separate note with your child’s login details.



'Look over the farm gate'  
Look out for them, look out for you...  
**Bruthen & District  
Neighbourhood House  
Family Fun Day**

**FREE BBQ DINNER**  
FREE Activities during the afternoon include...  
face painting, crazy hair booth, craft tables, scarecrow building  
competition, egg and spoon race, 3-legged race, sack race, blindfolded  
team cake decorating competition, best milk moustache, family  
scavenger hunt, worst dressed fashion parade, environmental art  
competition, photo booth, funniest family photo competition, live  
music, jumping castles and much more.

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME**  
Save the date people, you do not want to miss this!

When: **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 3:00 – 7:00 pm**

Where: Bruthen Mechanics Hall and Market area

Cost: **FREE**

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[www.lookoverthefarmgate.org.au](http://www.lookoverthefarmgate.org.au)



## April School Holiday Table Tennis Program

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

Of both weeks

from Mon 8<sup>th</sup> April – Wed 17<sup>th</sup> April

11am until 3pm each day

Light lunch provided

Booking essential for catering

\$25 per day (child must be 9 years old or above)

Contact Brian 0439488822

### East Gippsland Gymnastics Club

We know that children who are physically active do better in all areas of life. We also know to encourage children to be physically active they need to have fun and be engaged so at East Gippsland Gymnastics club we are offering several active sessions during the school holidays to promote being active as a fun and important thing for a healthy life.

East Gippsland Gymnastics Club School holiday  
programs

Wednesday 10th and 17th of April at 10am and 1pm both days.

Gymnastics - Ninja - Circus.

Information & bookings at <https://www.trybooking.com/BBOUU>

We have children from almost every school in our region who enjoy attending regular gymnastics classes and we receive feedback on how these classes have helped develop children's strength, coordination, balance etc. but also in areas less expected like confidence, self esteem & social skills which we think is fantastic. Gymnastics is a sport for all and the teaches the foundation of all movement, we believe all children should have the opportunity to participate.

**East Gippsland Gymnastics Club Inc.**  
[www.eastgippslandgymnastics.com.au](http://www.eastgippslandgymnastics.com.au)  
Find us on **Facebook**  
Phone: **0491 106 584**

**Growth Honesty & Trust Respect Connectedness Inclusiveness**