

Guthrie Street GAZETTE

13th February 2025

Message from Mr.B!

Dear Parents,

There's always so much to celebrate and look forward to, so let's dive right in!

Friday Assemblies: A Celebration of Student Achievement

Our weekly Friday assemblies have become a fantastic tradition, bringing students, staff, and families together to celebrate the achievements of our students. These assemblies are a great opportunity to acknowledge the hard work, dedication, and positive behaviour displayed by our students throughout the week. Whether it's recognising academic excellence, sporting achievements, or acts of kindness, our Friday assemblies help foster a sense of pride and unity within the school community. We encourage parents and families to join us as we celebrate our students every Friday morning.

Year 3-6 Swimming Carnival Friday 14th February

We are thrilled that the Swimming Carnival for Years 3-6 will be taking place this Friday 14th February at the Mooroopna Outdoor Pool! This event is always one of the highlights of the school year for our older students, with students showcasing their swimming skills and participating in a variety of fun and competitive races. It's a wonderful opportunity for students to get active, show their school spirit, and support one another in a friendly and inclusive environment. We encourage all students to participate and give their best effort, regardless of their swimming ability. Details for this event have been shared with families Compass. We also encourage all students to dress in their school house colours.

Due to the Swimming Carnival, there will be no assembly tomorrow. All EQ awards from the last couple of weeks will be handed out at next week's assembly.

School Saver Bonus: A Great Opportunity for Families

We're excited by the School Saver Bonus, a one-off initiative by the Department of Education designed to support families with their school-related expenses. The \$400 School Saver Bonus can be allocated to school activities like camps and excursions or even school uniforms. This is just one of the ways we strive to make school more accessible for everyone, ensuring that all students

have the resources they need to succeed. We encourage all families to take advantage of this fantastic opportunity, and more information on how to access this was sent out to all students on Monday just gone. If you need further information, please contact the office.

School Council Elections: Get Involved!

At our school, we believe in giving students a voice and involving them in the decision-making process. School Council members play a key role in shaping our school's policies and initiatives, and they work closely with staff and parents to help make our school the best it can be. If you are interested in running for a position, then contact the office for a nomination form. More information about school council can be located below. The nomination period is open from tomorrow, Thursday 13th February and closes next Wednesday 19th February.

National Sorry Day

National Sorry Day, the National Day of Healing, is an important day in Australia, observed annually. It is a day of remembrance and reflection for the Stolen Generations—Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who were forcibly removed from their families and communities by government policies and practices between the late 1800s and the 1970s.

On National Sorry Day, Australians reflect on the impact of these policies and the ongoing effects on Indigenous communities. It is a time to honour the stories of those who were affected, and to promote healing, understanding, and reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. The day was first observed in 1998, following the findings of the Bringing Them Home report, which documented the experiences of the Stolen Generations. Mr. Kop is representing the school at the local National Sorry Day Breakfast in Shepparton this Thursday and will no doubt share this experience.

Please remember to look after each other and Treat Others The Way You Would Like to Be Treated!

Mr B

Calendar - Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY

Thursday 13th

- National Apology Day

Friday 14th

- Year 3 - 6 students Swimming Carnival

- No school assembly

Wednesday 19th

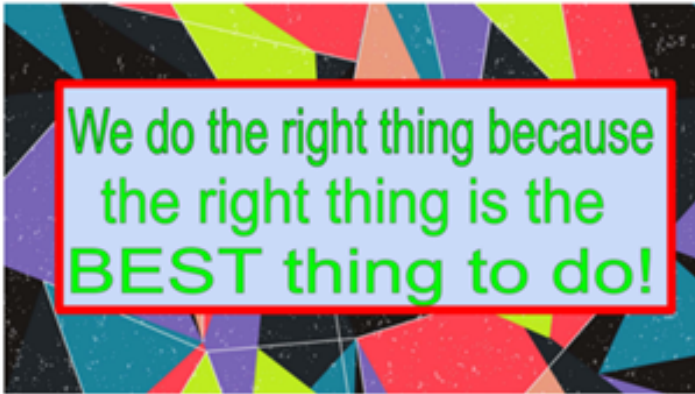
- No school for Foundation students

- Division swimming carnival

Wednesday 26th

- No school for Foundation students

On the LOOKOUT



We use this closed statement with our students to remind and to recognise when they make great choices.

It is a quick beginning and end to behaviour we do and don't want to see continuing.

E.g. In the yard if kids are climbing on the poles a quick statement is 'We do the right thing because the right things is the best thing to do'.

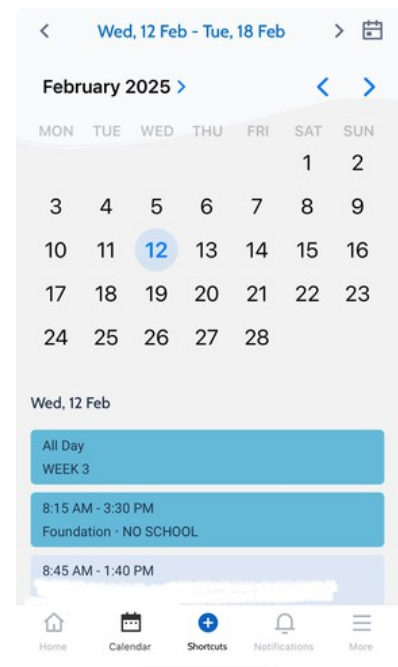
In Other News

Compass Calendar

Please be advised that all 2025 important dates and events have been added to the COMPASS Calendar.

If any changes occur or new dates are added, you will be advised by COMPASS. Other ways of keeping you up to date are also shared in our GSPS Gazette and our Facebook page.

Please see an example below.



Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Submitting an application

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) system is open for schools to enter applications from 29 January 2024. Parents/carers wishing to apply for CSEF payments for 2024 must submit their application form to the relevant school before 28 June 2024.

However, a parent/carer will only be required to submit an application form to the school in the following circumstances:

- the parent/carer is applying for the CSEF payment for the first time – i.e. an application form was not lodged with the school in the previous year, or
- circumstances have changed – for example, there has been a change in the care arrangement of the student, a change of name or CRN, or a new sibling has started at the school and the parent/carer wishes to apply for the CSEF payment for the new sibling also.

Where a parent/carer is not required to submit a new application, schools can rollover/copy the previous year's application on the CSEF system to the current school year.

Application forms

Schools are able to accept and process applications up until 28 June.

- [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund application form 2025 \(DOCX\)](#)

Applications are also available at our school office.

If there's shared custody

The CSEF system only allows one application per student. Where there are parents/carers in shared custody situations (who both hold a concession card) the parent/carer who submits the eligible card first will be the parent/carer who is to receive the payment.

School Council Information

For those interested in joining School Council or wish to know more information, please see the below information. For a hard copy, please collect from our school office.

FACT SHEET 4. INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN SEEKING ELECTION TO SCHOOL COUNCIL

WHAT IS A SCHOOL COUNCIL AND WHAT DOES IT DO?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. School councils are legal entities that are given powers to set the broad directions of a school in accordance with their constituting Orders and the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

WHO IS ON THE SCHOOL COUNCIL?

For all schools with a student cohort of Year 7 and above, there are several possible categories of school council membership:

- A mandated elected parent member category** – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Parents and Guardians of children attending the school are eligible for membership in this category.
 - A mandated elected school employee member category** – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically a member of this category.
 - A mandated elected student member category (two positions)** – members of this category are enrolled at the school and in Year 7 or above.
 - An optional community member category** – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or expertise. DET employees are not eligible to be a Community member.
- A small number of school councils have Nominee members.

HOW LONG IS THE TERM OF OFFICE?

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

WHY IS STUDENT MEMBERSHIP SO IMPORTANT?

Students have a unique perspective on learning, teaching and schooling. Electing Student members onto school council allows all students to have a say in the future direction of their school and ensures student input into decision making.

Student representation on secondary school councils will assist in the development of students' skills, including leadership skills, and communication skills.

DOES MY CHILD NEED SPECIAL EXPERIENCE TO BE ON SCHOOL COUNCIL?

Each member brings their own valuable skills and knowledge to the role. However, councillors may need to develop skills and acquire knowledge in areas that are unfamiliar to them in order to perform their duties as a councillor.

Student members are encouraged to attend the Department's free, face-to-face school council training, using the Improving School Governance modules to support them to undertake their role. Training is also available online.

WHAT DOES MY CHILD NEED TO DO TO STAND FOR ELECTION?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the start of Term 1 each year.

If your child decides to stand for election, they can arrange for a student in Year 7 or above to nominate them as a candidate or they can nominate themselves for the Student member category.

Once the nomination form is completed, it should be returned to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. A Nomination Form Receipt will be issued following the receipt of the completed nomination.

If one student vacancy is available and one student nominates, then the student is duly elected.

Unlike the parent or school employee member categories, if two student member positions are available and in the first call for nominations only one nomination is received, the student is not automatically declared elected. The principal will immediately post, in a prominent place in the school, a notice calling for further nominations. These nominations are to be received within three school days from the closing of the first call for nominations.

If after the second call for nominations one other nomination is received, then both students are appointed to council.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

The principal will distribute ballot papers and will provide clear instructions to the voters and candidates. Voters may only vote once in a ballot. The two candidates with the highest number of votes will be elected to council.

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETINGS

School councils must meet at least eight times a year and at least once per school term. The president chairs all meetings and all members of the council are expected to attend.

Councillors can attend meetings in person or by videoconferencing or teleconferencing.

Following the school council elections, council members will determine an appropriate time and location to hold meetings throughout the year. For example, council may agree that meetings will take place on the first Wednesday of each month in the school library.

For most school councils, meetings are located at the school and are held in the evening to ensure the majority of members can attend. Meetings typically last for around 2.5 hours.

You will need to discuss and arrange transport options to and from the meeting with your child. The school council does not provide transport.

The principal, in consultation with the school council president, will ensure an agenda is prepared for each regular meeting and will distribute the agenda, draft minutes from the previous meeting and meeting papers such as subcommittee reports, principal's and president's report to school council members. These documents will be distributed approximately five days before the meeting. All members, including Student members are expected to read all documents and prepare in advance of each meeting.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

If your child, as a member of council, or their immediate family has a direct conflict of interest, including a pecuniary* interest, in a matter under discussion at a school council meeting, that member must declare the conflict of interest and must not be present during the discussion unless invited to do so by the person presiding at the meeting. The member will not be involved in any voting associated with the matter at hand.

*For this purpose, pecuniary is defined as: relating to or consisting of money.

CAN I ATTEND COUNCIL MEETINGS WITH MY CHILD?

School council meetings are normally open to the school community. Visitors or observers can be present at a council meeting with prior agreement of the principal and a decision of council. A request to attend must be forwarded either to the principal or president.

There may be times when, for the purpose of confidentiality or other reasons, a council meeting needs to be closed and only the appointed members can attend.

I AM A PARENT MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL. CAN I BE A MEMBER OF THE SAME COUNCIL AS MY CHILD(REN)?

Yes, relatives are allowed to be members of the same council.

WHAT IF MY CHILD CANNOT ATTEND A COUNCIL MEETING?

If a member is unable to attend a meeting, an apology should be submitted to the principal prior to the meeting.

A member of the school council may apply in writing to the president for extended leave of up to three consecutive meetings.

WHAT IF MY CHILD DECIDES THEY NO LONGER WANT TO BE A MEMBER OF COUNCIL?

The Department strongly encourages students to consider the time commitment of being on council prior to running for election.

Your child should discuss resigning from council with the principal or school council president.

A school councillor is required to formally submit their resignation from council, in writing to the principal, in order to no longer be considered a member.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR SCHOOL COUNCILLORS

School councils in Victoria are public entities as defined by the *Public Administration Act 2004*. School councillors must abide by the Code of Conduct issued by the Victorian Public Sector Commission. The Code of Conduct is based on the Victorian public sector values and requires councillors to:

act with honesty and integrity (be truthful, open and clear about their motives and declare any real, potential or perceived conflict of interest and duty)

act in good faith in the best interests of the school (work cooperatively with other councillors and the school community, be reasonable, and make all decisions with the best interests of students foremost in their minds)

act fairly and impartially (consider all relevant facts of an issue before making a decision, seek to have a balanced view, never give special treatment to a person or group and never act from self-interest)

use information appropriately (respect confidentiality and use information for the purpose for which it was made available)

use the position appropriately (not use the position as a councillor to gain an advantage)

act in a financially responsible manner (observe all the above principles when making financial decisions)

exercise due care, diligence and skill (accept responsibility for decisions and do what is best for the school)

comply with relevant legislation and policies (know what legislation and policies are relevant for which decisions and obey the law)

demonstrate leadership and stewardship (set a good example, encourage a culture of accountability, manage risks effectively, exercise care and responsibility to keep the school strong and sustainable).

INDEMNITY FOR SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERS

School councillors are indemnified against any liability in respect of any loss or damage suffered by the council or any other person in respect of anything necessarily or reasonably done, or omitted to be done by the councillor in good faith in:

a) the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a councillor, or

the reasonable belief that the act or omission was in the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a council.

In other words, school councillors are not legally liable for any loss or damage suffered by council or others as a result of reasonable actions taken in good faith.

For further information please contact the school principal.

SCHOOL COUNCIL INDUCTION VIDEO

The school council induction video provides a summary of the purpose and responsibilities of school councils as well as the roles and responsibilities of school councillors. The video can be viewed on the [Department's school Policy and Advisory Library – School Council Training](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/school-council-training/policy). <
<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/school-council-training/policy>>

Upcoming Events



NAGAMBIE'S COOLEST FESTIVAL
SAT 22ND FEB 2025, 11AM - 6PM
BUCKLEY PARK | JACOBSONS OUTLOOK | BLAYNEY RESERVE



Girls Cricket

Calling all girls or women interested in playing cricket!! No cost to register!!!!

Get to know the fun and excitement involved in female cricket.

- Meet local coaches and senior female players
- Get involved and learn new cricket skills through a skills and game session - NO EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

SESSION Four:

Sunday 9th February 9:00 - 10:30 am

Ages:

7 - 11 years - Junior
12 - 17 years - Youth

Location:

Princess Park, Shepparton

Register for free - <https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/d3cd33>

SESSION Five:

Sunday 16th February 9:00 - 10:30 am

Ages:

7 - 11 years - Junior
12 - 17 years - Youth

Location:

Princess Park, Shepparton

Final Two Rounds for Season 24/25

Bring a smile, water bottles and sun smart clothing/ suncream.

Stick around for Round 14 action of the GMC Senior Women's season Shepparton United vs Nagambie



Contact Andrew Hawker for more information: 0439 428 030

FREE COMMUNITY OUTDOOR CINEMA SERIES

Join us this February for a night under the stars across 3 towns in the Strathbogie Shire.

Featuring
limited number of bean bags, food vendors and popcorn
BYO chairs, rugs, and cushions.



Strathbogie
Recreation Reserve
Thursday 20 February
6pm community pizza
Movie starts after
sunset

Nagambie
Buckley Park
Friday 21 February
7pm Food Trucks |
Movie starts after
sunset

Euroa
Seven Creeks Park
Saturday 22 February
7pm Food Trucks |
Movie starts after
sunset



No bookings required
For further information contact Strathbogie Shire Council
on 1800 065 993 or visit www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au



Strathbogie
SHIRE COUNCIL



Become a Berry Street foster carer

In our community, some children are not always able to live with their family.

Become a foster carer and support a local child at a crucial moment in their life.

Enquire today
berrystreet.org.au/fostercare
Ph. 1800 816 037



BERRY STREET



We're Getting Ready for Fun!

Any questions or queries regarding bookings or cancellations
please contact Michael Wilson on 0497 781 120

Now accepting bookings!
Register today at www.theircare.com.au or call 1300 072 410



TheirCare
Where Kids love to be!

Guthrie Street Primary School

- Social, enjoyable & fun experiences for children
- Develop creativity, life skills & confidence through play
- Qualified, caring & engaged staff
- Exciting & thoughtfully developed programs
- Healthy & Yummy food provided each day

Bookings now open!

	Monday - Friday Hours of Operation	Fees before Child Care Subsidy*	Out-of-pocket fees after Child Care Subsidy**
Before School Care (BSC)	6:30 AM to 8:45 AM	\$22.95	\$2.29
After School Care (ASC)	3:15 PM to 6:00 PM	\$27.54	\$2.75
Pupil Free Day	7:00 AM to 6:00 PM	\$80.33	\$8.03
Holiday Program***	7:00 AM to 6:00 PM	\$74.60	\$7.46

*Standard fee costs before Child Care Subsidy | ** Standard fee costs after maximum Child Care Subsidy | *** Standard fee costs excluding incursions/extracurriculars

Cancellation Fees
(No Child Care Subsidy applied to Cancellation Fees)
BSC/ASC within 48 hours of session start time: **\$5.00**
Holiday Program within 5 days of session start time: **\$10.00**
 Same day cancellation fee is out-of-pocket session fee.

Late Booking Fees
(Child Care Subsidy is applied to Late Booking Fees)
BSC/ASC within 48 hours of session start time: **\$5.00**
Holiday Program: book less than 5 days from the session start time fee is **\$10.00**

Late Pick-up Fees
(Child Care Subsidy will not apply to Late Pick-up Fees)
\$1 per minute after service close time.

Service Phone Number:
01437 981 330
Your service Coordinator will be available during session times.

Save up to 90% with the Child Care Subsidy!



To register visit theircare.com.au

TheirCare support team is available between 6.30am - 9pm weekdays (Eastern Standard Time) on 1300 072 410 or info@theircare.com.au



Want \$500 to help you with school costs?

saverplus

Saver Plus is a financial education program for families and individuals on a tight budget to develop life-long savings habits.

To join Saver Plus, you must:

- ✓ Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card **AND** an eligible Centrelink payment*
- ✓ Be studying yourself **OR** have a child in school (can be starting school next year)
- ✓ Have regular income from work (either yourself or your partner)*
- ✓ Be 18+ years old

*Many types of income and Centrelink payments are eligible

Here are some of the school costs the \$500 can be used for:

- laptops & tablets
- uniforms & shoes
- books & supplies
- sports fees & gear
- lessons & activities
- camps & excursion

For more information, please contact your local Saver Plus coordinator:

 Richard Pemberton

 enquiriesSP@berrystreet.org.au

 0407 567 312

DELIVERED BY **BERRY STREET**

Find out more at saverplus.org.au

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ and delivered in partnership with local community organisations. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services.

Guthrie St 2nd Hand Uniform Shop

If you would like any pre-loved Guthrie St uniforms please ring Ronika on 0458 281 833.



Guthrie St IRON ON TRANSFERS

Iron on transfers are now available from the School Office.
Red for Polo Shirts and Blue for windcheaters - \$2.50 each



Guthrie Street Primary School

Please contact the office if you have any queries. You can also follow us on Facebook and Instagram @guthriestreetps

Email: guthrie.street.ps.shepparton@education.vic.gov.au

Website: <http://www.guthriestps.vic.edu.au>

Location: [33-69 Guthrie Street, Shepparton VIC, Australia](#)

Phone: (03) 58211944

Facebook: [facebook.com/guthriestreetps](https://www.facebook.com/guthriestreetps)

Twitter: [@guthriestps](https://twitter.com/guthriestps)



Guthrie Street

Guthrie is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

