# St Brendan's Primary School 1581

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Internet Banking: BSB 083 879 A/C 695096861 Account Name: St Brendan's School Newsletter No 36

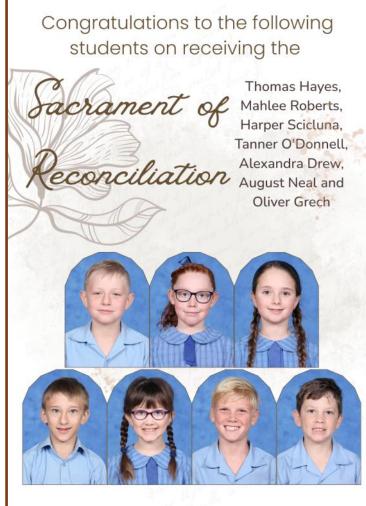
November 21, 2025



We gather on Gunaikurnai Country. We pay our respects to their Elders; past, present and emerging. We also acknowledge the ongoing living culture and connection to Country of all First Peoples.









# **Collaborative Conferences**

Monday 1st, Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd

Wednesday 3rd, Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th (Year 5 Blue only)

Collaborative Conference times have been sent out.

Please check your child's bag for the note.

If you are unable to make the meeting or will not be attending, please let the office know and we will do our best to arrange another time.

Dear Families and Friends,

I have been incredibly pleased to see quite a bit of **tactile learning taking place** around school, particularly late in the year. Year Two's Mini-beasts display was well-attended by parents and other classes last week and provided high interest on a number of levels. The Year Ones have been learning about frogs and have created a frog habitat at the bottom of the property. Across the school, teachers have been using tactile resources to engage students and consolidate learning experiences particularly in Numeracy and the Humanities.

The **Book Fair** has been a big hit with families this week. Thank you for making the time and effort to support reading and the efforts that Katrina goes to make this event happen.

Recently, you may have seen the recall notice for children's **coloured sand products** that may contain asbestos. I can inform you that St Brendan's have never purchased the products in question and on inspection of our resources we have not located any of the harmful coloured sand. We have informed our governing body of this information.

Understanding and managing emotions: why it's important: <a href="https://raisingchildren.net.au/">https://raisingchildren.net.au/</a> Understanding and managing emotions is important for development and wellbeing during childhood and adolescence. Children and teenagers who can understand and manage their emotions are more likely to:

- express emotions by speaking calmly or in other appropriate ways
- · bounce back after feeling strong emotions like disappointment, frustration or excitement
- control impulses
- behave positively that is, in ways that help with getting along with others, staying safe and developing well.

And this is good for children because it helps them learn, make friends, become independent and more. Your child's ability to understand and manage emotions develops over time. When your child is young, they'll need help with understanding emotions. This mostly involves recognising and naming emotions, which lays the groundwork for managing emotions as your child gets older.

As your child grows, they'll learn more strategies to manage their emotions without your help. Understanding and managing emotions is also called emotional regulation. It's an important part of your child's <u>self-regulation</u>.

Our last **Foundation Orientation day** takes place next week. What a joy it has been to see our new students attend St Brendan's and learn of our expectations. The foundation staff have been so professional and explicit in their teaching, they really do set students up for success. Our 2026 student school leaders have also stepped up to the plate and helped to settle out new students in. It is remarkable the growth you see in students when responsibilities such as this arise.

If you have an hour to spare, we are asking for help to **spread the playground mulch** around our play equipment on Friday, 28 November at 3.30pm. Please bring a shovel and a wheelbarrow if possible.

We are looking forward to the conversations and celebrations of learning that will take place next week during **Collaborative Conferences**. If for some reason you are unable to attend your meeting please phone our office.

Kind Regards, Matthew Hamer

		Up Coming Events		
	NOVEMBER	Term 4		
Week 7	Friday 21st	Book Fair (8.40am—9.00am & 3.00pm-3.30pm) in the Library 2.30pm Assembly – Year One		
Week 8	Monday 24th	Book Fair (8.40am—9.00am & 3.00pm-3.30pm) in the Library Year 2 Camp Experience		
	Tuesday 25th	Book Fair (8.40am—9.00am & 3.00pm-3.30pm) in the Library Year 6—Gippsland Grammar Transition		
	Wednesday 26th	Book Fair (8.40am—9.00am & 3.00pm-3.30pm) in the Library Year 2 Camp Experience  Book Fair (8.40am—9.00am & 3.00pm-3.30pm) in the Library Year 6—Gippsland Grammar Transition  Book Fair (8.40am—9.00am & 3.00pm-3.30pm) in the Library *LAST DAY* 2026 Foundation Orientation (9.00am-2.00pm) Year 6—Gippsland Grammar Transition		
	Thursday 27th Year 6—Gippsland Grammar Transition			
	Friday 28th	Year 1 Camp Experience Year 6—Gippsland Grammar Transition		
	DECEMBER			
Week 9	Monday 1st	3.30pm Collaborative Conferences		
	Tuesday 2nd	Year 6 Orientation Day Nagle College 3.30pm Collaborative Conferences		
	Wednesday 3rd	Year 6 Transition—St Paul's Warragul 3.30pm Collaborative Conferences		
	Thursday 4th	ear 6 Transition—St Paul's Warragul		
	Friday 5th	Year 6 Transition—St Paul's Warragul 9.10am End of Year Mass		
Week 10	Tuesday 9th	Year 6 Transition—BSC		
	Wednesday 10th	Year 6 Transition—BSC School Captain Speeches		
	Thursday 11th	House Captain Speeches Orientation Day for NEW 2026 students		
	Friday 12th	2.20pm GCH Assembly 4.30pm Family BBQ		
Week 11	Monday 15th	Year 6 Graduation Mass		
	Tuesday 16th	3.15 Final day Term 4—HOLIDAYS!		

# REMINDER: NO SMART WATCHES AND DEVICES AT SCHOOL

Smart watches that allow communication via SMS, email or phone call cannot be worn at school with the same rules applying as with a mobile phone.

At St Brendan's students may only bring mobile phones/devices/ SMART Watches to school if there is a need for them to contact their parents either before arriving at school or in the afternoon after leaving school. Upon arrival at school the phone/ device/ SMART Watch is to be checked in at the school office where it will be turned off and kept securely for the day. It is the child's responsibility to collect the

phone/ device/ SMART Watch at the end of the day. Parents with an urgent need to be in contact with their child during the day should contact the school office and appropriate steps will be taken to pass on the message.



	NA IN	FA VO	
Mon 24th Nov:	St Brendan's Whole School Praye	Lakes Entrance er for Advent all welcome	9.10 am
Tues 25th Nov:	St. Brendan's	Lakes Entrance	9.30 am
Wed 26th Nov:	St.Colman's	Orbost	9.30 am
Fri 28th Nov:	St Brendan's	Lakes Entrance	9.30 am
Sat 29th Nov:	St. Brendan's St. Joseph's	Lakes Entrance Swan Reach	9.30 am 5.00 pm
Sun 30th Nov:	St. Brendan's St. Colman's	Lakes Entrance Orbost	9.00 am 11.00 am

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**NOVEMBER** 

DON'T MISS OUT!

2025



# YEAR TWO EASTERN BEACH CAMP EXPERIENCE

Pick up from Eastern Beach playground at 5:30pm

3:15pm - 5:30pm





# YEAR ONE EASTERN BEACH CAMP EXPERIENCE

Pick up from Eastern Beach playground at 5:30pm

3:15pm - 5:30pm

## **DECEMBER**



# **FAMILY BARBECUE**

On Friday, 12 December, St Brendan's will host our Family Barbecue. The afternoon will be a great chance for our community to get together and participate in some family activities. The outline for the afternoon is as listed below:

4.30pm: Art show in hall

5.00pm: Carols and singing group performances

**5.30pm:** Parent/Teacher versus Grade Six Students Soccer Match **5.30 to 7.00pm:** Dinner available - Shared Barbecue Dinner

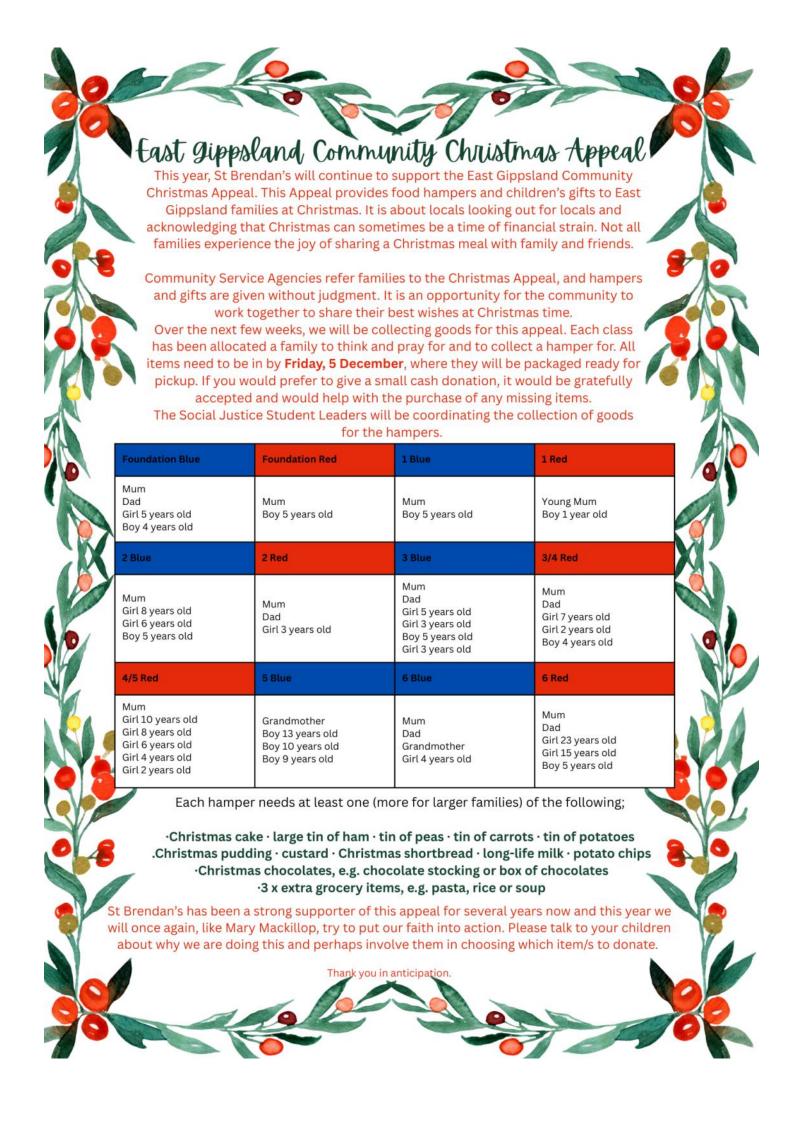


We are looking to recruit Year Six parents for the soccer match. Please advise your child if you can play. It should be a lot of fun.

St Brendan's Primary School



4:30am - 7:00pm





This term, 2 Red have been busy exploring the fascinating world of minibeasts through our inquiry unit. We've been asking questions, investigating habitats, and discovering how these tiny creatures play a big role in our environment.





We've also been getting crafty by following the design process to plan, create, and decorate our own minibeast habitat dioramas. Alongside this, we have been researching and writing information reports to share what we have learned about our chosen minibeasts.





On the 13th of November Year Two celebrated their learning of Minibeasts. First, I showed my parents my diorama and my infomration report all about Rosemary Beetles. Then, we did some craft and read minibeast books. There were so many amazing activities such as foody fun with Gabby and Dan, the estimation station and a competitive Kahoot full of tricky questions. Everyone had a smile on their face all afternoon and I can't wait to share my learning again.

Phoebe Strong









At our 'Celebration of Learning' I got to show my Nan my work about Lady Bugs. I felt very happy and very proud of myself. Abbey Lawrence

When the Year 2 celebration began I took my Mum to show her my habitiat and taught her about butterflies. Then we went to the minibeast craft and afterwards we went to the Who Am I?. I felt proud of myself and I learnt that it is not so scary to share your learning.

Sadie Morrison



On the 13th of November,
Year Two shared their
learning with their
parents and special
friends. I was feeling a
bit nervous and
afterwards I felt proud. I
made my Mum feel proud
because I shared my
thinking. I enjoyed
making apples with
gummy worms and the
Kahoot. Oscar Kenny





I celebrated my learning last week by inviting my family to the grade 2 classroom. I showed them my learning about stick insects. I was excited to show my Mum my diorama. I felt proud of myself because I did good work. It was a special time because because I had so much fun with my family in the classroom, Ethan Wright



Through research, creativity, and hands-on learning we have developed curiosity, critical thinking and appreciation for the natural world.





FIRE SAFETY SESSION

By Sunny & Nate

On the 14th of November Bob and Ian from the Lakes Entrance CFA came to our school and taught us about fire safety. They provided an education session for each class and it was lots of fun. Bob and Ian gave each class a range of information sheets and lots of fun fire safety stickers.

We would really like to thank Bob and Ian for coming to St Brendan's to share their fire safety message and experiences with us. We have learnt lots of new and important things to keep us 'fire safe!'

These are some of the things classes learnt about fire safety

Yr 6 Hunta Smethurst - We learnt how to crawl safely when there is a fire in the house and the house is filled with smoke - get down low and GO GO GO!

Yr 6 Olivia Cheng - You have to discuss with your family and develop a fire safety plan so everyone knows where to go when there is a fire.

Aaliyah D (Year 4) - Fire fighters sleep with walkie talkies and most of the volunteers are older community members.

Tahlia W (Year 5) - When smoke goes up, you go down and crawl.

Brooklyn R (Year 3) - Stop drop and roll!

Lucas R (Year 4) - I found out what to do if you house is on fire, such as have a meeting place, try to get everyone out and let the firefighters do their job.

Lottie & Theo (Foundation) - The firefighters rescued a dog.

Archie & Lincoln (Year 1) - They have done over 1000 rescues.





# HEALTH BODY SAFETY

This term, students have been involved in Body Safety Education. The aim has been to empower and teach students about personal body safety, feelings, safe and unsafe touch, private parts, secrets and surprises, consent and respectful relationships.

Over the past few weeks year six have been learning about unsafe and safe situations and the early warning signs your body gives you when something is wrong. We have also been learning strategies to use when you are getting peer-pressured to do something you don't want to do.

-I and I, year 6

You have the right to say NO and tell a trusted adult if someone makes you feel unsafe.

- 0, year 2

You should say
NO to people
touching places
that you don't
feel comfortable
with them
touching.

- P, year 2

This term in health we have been learning about safe and unsafe secrets and how there is a difference. An unsafe secret is like if people are tickling you in areas you don't want to be touched. A safe secret is like if your parents or friends are throwing a surprise party or getting really cool presents.

- K, year 4

In health we have been learning about safe secrets and unsafe secrets and what secrets should be kept and shouldn't be kept. Safe secrets will be revealed, for example they could be for a surprise party or presents. Unsafe secrets are secrets that shouldn't be kept because they could make you feel uncomfortable and like you're not safe.

- L, year 4

Don't touch other people's private parts and it's OK to say no if someone makes you feel comfortable.

E, year 2

My body parts are private.

S, year 2

Don't show anyone pictures of private parts or show pictures of other people's.

M, year 2

Always use correct names for your private parts.

A, year 2

On the following page, are Body Safety Rules which encompasses key areas taught.

# MY BODY SAFETY RULES



by Jayneen Sanders

## I have a body boundary

My body boundary is the invisible space around my body. No one can enter my body boundary without my permission or consent.

Consent is an important word. It means asking if something is okay or not okay. It means one person asks for permission and another person happily gives permission or they don't.





### My body is my body and it belongs to me!

I can say 'No!' if I don't want to kiss or hug someone. I can give them a high five, shake their hand

or elbow bump instead. I am the boss of my body and what I say goes!

### I have a safety team

These are 3 to 5 adults that make me feel safe and who I trust. If I feel worried, scared or unsafe, I can tell an adult on my safety team how I am feeling and why I am feeling that way. They will listen to me. believe me and help me. It is always my choice who is on my safety team. One adult should not be a family member.

## **Early warning signs**

If I feel frightened or unsafe I may sweat a lot, get a sick tummy, become shaky all over and my heart might beat really fast. These feelings are called my Early Warning Signs.

If I feel this way about anything, I need to tell a safe adult on my safety team straight away.

# **Private parts**

My private parts are the parts of my body under my swimwear. My mouth is a private part too. I always call my private parts by their correct name. No one can touch my private parts, ask me to touch or look at their private parts or show me pictures of private parts. If any of these things happen, I need to tell a trusted adult on my safety team straight away.

## Secrets

I never keep secrets, I only keep surprises because they will always be told. If anyone asks me to keep a secret that makes me

> feel bad or unsafe. I need to tell an adult on my safety team straight away.







ww.ChildSafety.gov.au/one-talk-time

www.e2epublishing.info

# Social media age restrictions



What you need to know

From 10 December 2025 Australian young people under 16 will not be allowed to create or hold accounts on certain social media platforms.

Delaying account access allows more time for young people to build digital literacy and greater resilience.

### How will it work?

Under the law, the responsibility lies with the age-restricted platforms to find and deactivate existing accounts held by under-16s and to prevent under-16s from creating new accounts.

There are no penalties for under-16s who access an age-restricted social media platform, or for their parents or carers.

### Social media platforms

Online services are constantly evolving but at this stage the restrictions are likely to apply to **Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, X (formerly Twitter) and YouTube,** among other platforms.

Online gaming and standalone messaging apps are among a number of types of services that have been excluded under the legislative rules.

### Teens will still have online access

Under-16s will still be able to see publicly available social media content that doesn't require being logged into an account. For example, most content is currently available to view on YouTube without holding an account.

Having an account increases the likelihood that they'll be exposed to pressures and risks stemming from design features which encourage children to spend more time on screens, while serving up content that can harm their health and wellbeing.







For more **information and resources** to help you prepare, visit **eSafety.gov.au** 





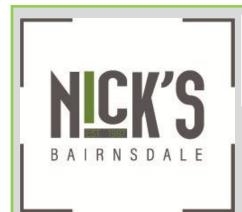
A reminder that the **car park** at the front of the school and the church are **NOT** drop off zones.

If you enter these car parks you **MUST** walk your children into the school.

**DROP OFF ZONE** is via the Mary MacKillop Hall carpark **only**.

The Disabled Parking spaces are for people with permits **only**.

Thank you.





SCHOOL UNIFORM

# St Brendan's School Uniform can be ordered online!

Link to website for St Brendan's Uniform below:

<a href="https://nicksbairnsdale.com.au/product-category/schoolwear/st-brendans-uniform/">https://nicksbairnsdale.com.au/product-category/schoolwear/st-brendans-uniform/</a>

22.75

93 Main Street Bairnsdale Victoria 3875 Phone (03) 5152 1333

# **Uniform Reminders**



**JEWELLERY** is restricted to the following - a wrist watch, no more than **one** small plain matching pair of studs or sleepers in the ear lobe - gold, silver or gemstone, a religious medallion on a chain to be worn under clothing.



Fashion jewellery, make-up and nail polish are not permitted.

<u>HAIR</u> is to be kept neat and tidy at all times. Hair longer than collar length, must be **tied back completely**. This is to help restrict the spread of nits and lice and for student safety. Headband, hair ties, ribbons, scrunchies and clips must be **blue**, **black or brown**.

It is not appropriate for children to come to school with dyed or inappropriate hair styles as deemed by the Principal.





When picking up and dropping off your child we ask all parents to observe the following procedures at St Brendan's CPS.

Collecting Students from School Grounds – Child Safety As you would understand, child safety is the number one priority for schools. As circumstances evolve, we want to ensure we have the best possible practice in place. Please note the following requirements for collecting students at the end of the day.

### Collecting from the church gate -

Students in years Foundation, One and Two will remain with their class teacher at the end of the day just outside their classroom. The church gates will be open at 3.15pm, at which time parents are required to enter the school grounds to collect their children from the class teachers. This action is in place to avoid situations where students leave the school grounds and run into the church gate car park area without an adult being present.

Please use the appropriate car park entry and exit. Please do not drive across the footpath to enter or exit the car park. We have students and other pedestrians using the footpath.

#### Collecting from the administration office

Please enter the gates and collect your child from the junior classroom area or your child from years Three to Six may meet you just inside the gates. Students are not to leave the grounds and cross the car park area without an adult walking with them.

If dropping students off in the morning, you must also walk them into school. Please do not use the disabled parking bay without permission to do so.

### **Collecting from car line**

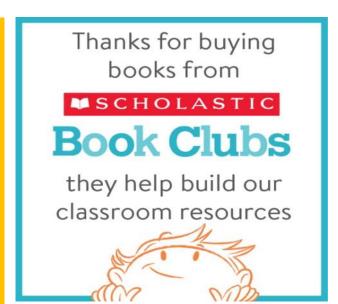
Typically, St Brendan's staff are there to organise students into cars at the end of the day. If you wish to park and collect your child, please use the crosswalk and an adult must walk with their child/ren. Drop off at the beginning of the day should take place at the bus stop area.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Regards,

Matthew Hamer

Principal



St Brendan's Op Shop has second hand school uniform available.

St Brendan's School uniform available \$3.00 per item unless otherwise marked.

Open 10am-3pm Tuesday,
Wednesday & Thursday.

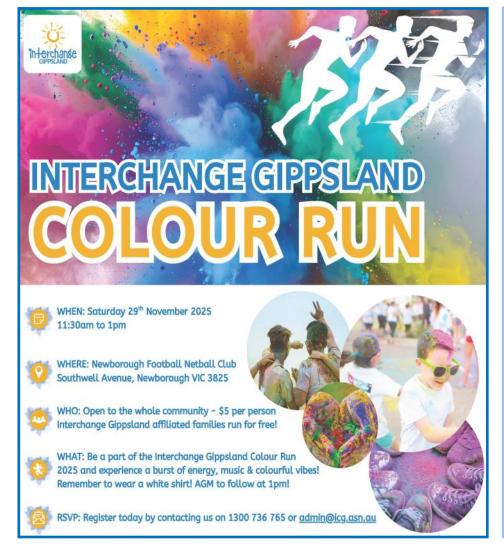




Please remember to have your notifications on to receive the latest posts.





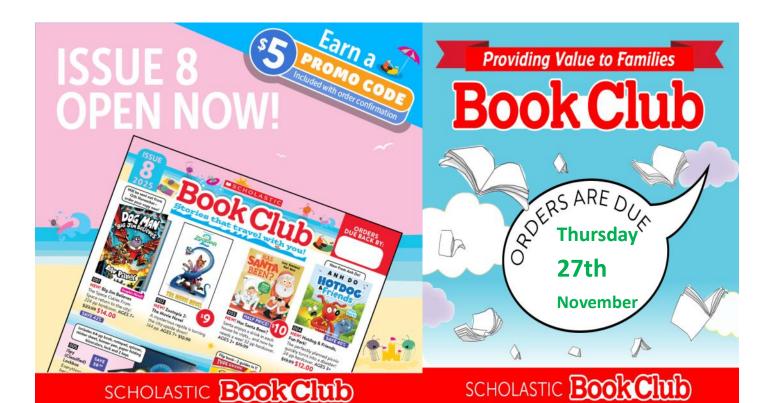


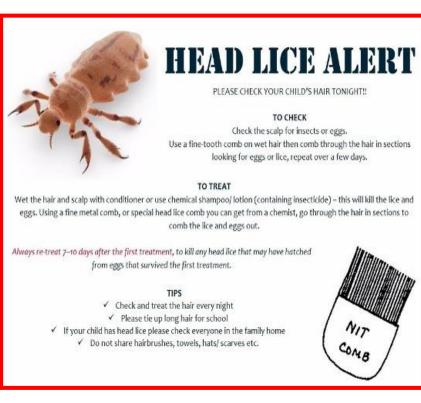
# School Crossing Assessment

Council have been asked to conduct a school crossing inspection on behalf of the "Department of Transport" Victoria. This inspection will be completed at a random date during term 3 or 4 at morning drop off and afternoon pickup. During these inspections, Council officers will be required to take photos and measurements of existing school crossings and road infrastructure. There will be no facial recognition in any of these photos as all faces will be blurred

EAST GIPPSLAND

out.







# **EVERYDAY COUNTS**

Being at school every day helps students benefit from learning, friendships and opportunities that shape their future.

#### 80% ATTENDANCE = 1 DAY A WEEK

An 80% attendance rate puts your child at risk of falling behind.



### 1 DAY A WEEK = 40 DAYS A YEAR



That's almost a full term of lost learning. Every day counts, even small absences make a big difference.

40 DAYS A YEAR = MISSING MORE THAN I YEAR OF PRIMARY SCHOOL IN 7 YEARS

Attendance matters.

The more days missed, the harder it is to catch up.



### **₩**SCHOLASTIC

# **Book Club LOOP**

for Parents

LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club
Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for parents.

To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit: www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP







# **EGUFC** 2026 U15 **GIRLS TEAM**

# John usfor Team Selections

Dates: 19th & 26th November Venue: Howitt Park, Bairnsdale

Time: 6.15 - 7.30pm

Age Eligibility: Born between 1 January 2011 &

Contact: egufcjuniors@outlook.com Find us on Facebook!

FREE | BOOKINGS NOT REQUIRED AGES 5 -12

### LEGO Club 2025



**EAST GIPPSLAND** 



### Junior LEGO enthusiasts are invited to attend our after-school **LEGO Club sessions**

Head into your local library and flex your creative muscles making the LEGO builds of your dreams!

Donations welcome: the library will gladly accept donations of old or new LEGO brand pieces for our LEGO Club collection.

This is an unsupervised event - attendees must be accompanied by an adult.

### **Bairnsdale Library** 4.00 pm - 5.00 pm

**Lakes Entrance Service Centre** Wednesdays 3.30 pm - 4.30 pm

Orbost **Service Centre** Mondays 3.30 pm - 4.30 pm

**Paynesville Service Centre** Wednesdays 3.30 pm - 4.30 pm

Omeo **Service Centre** Wednesdays 3.30 pm - 4.30 pm

Mallacoota **Service Centre** Wednesdays FREE NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED



## We're Back!



## **Rhymetime Returns**



### Join us for our first Rhymetime session of 2025!

This is a wonderful opportunity for children to explore the magic of stories and the joy of reading. Enjoy engaging tales that inspire creativity and imagination, along with fun songs and rhymes!

Rhymetime sessions are designed for children under 2 years and their parent/carers and run for approximately 30 minutes.

**Bairnsdale Library** Wednesday 5 February 10.30 am - 11.00 am

**Lakes Entrance Service Centre** 

Wednesday 5 February 11.00 am - 11.30 am

**Service Centre** 

Thursday 6 February 10.00 am - 10.30 am

**Paynesville Service Centre** Monday 3 February 10.30 am - 11.00 am

Mallacoota **Service Centre** Tuesday 4 February

10.00 am - 10.30 am





