

NEWSLETTER TERM 1 WEEK 3 2026

Relieving Principal: Helen King

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Welcome back to another term of learning and growing together.

There are a number of new families to our school this year and I know you will make them feel welcome. I encourage parents to regularly discuss their children's progress, both academically and socially throughout the year and encourage parents to become involved with school activities. These include assemblies, sports carnivals, special events, offering assistance in the classroom and by becoming involved with the P&C. Your children are the ones who benefit the most from your involvement.

Please feel welcome to come and say hello. If you have any concerns or worry regarding our school, please come and discuss them with me so I can continue to make this school a happy and rewarding place for your child/ren.

I would also like to warmly welcome four new teachers to Griffith Public School. They are Miss Zarah Sully (Kinder), Mr Cameron Pearce (Yr3), Miss Emma Lassau (Yr5) and Miss Ellie Muller (Yr6).

Updating your Child's Health and other records

We would appreciate information from parents about their child's health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. It is important that you let us know if your child's health care needs change or if a new health condition develops.

Information about allergies, medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes and other health related issues should be provided. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child's health and wellbeing. **Please also remember to notify staff of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts.** We appreciate your assistance in this matter and assure you that any information you provide the school will be stored securely and will only be used or disclosed in order to support your child's health needs or as otherwise required by law.

Asthma Awareness

Does your child suffer from asthma? Asthma affects about 1 in 9 school aged children. The Asthma Foundation has great information for parents of children who suffer from asthma. For more information on how you can support a child with asthma go to: <http://www.asthmafoundation.org.au/>

Attendance

Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximise their potential. Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, school staff, as a part of their duty of care, monitor part or whole day absences. If your child is sick, please send a note, text or phone the office to explain this absence within seven days of returning to school. Notes are required to explain why the child was absent as well as the date or dates this occurred. The note must also be signed by a parent or guardian. Our Cottage staff will also assist in this area this year, so please feel comfortable to talk to staff about any attendance issues. Thank you for your help with this matter.

NAPLAN

Our Year 3 & 5 students will be sitting their NAPLAN assessments in the coming weeks. Like 2025, the assessments will be online. The NAPLAN Online assessment window starts on Wednesday 11th March 2026 and finishes on Monday 23rd March 2026. Students will be assessed in Writing, Reading, Conventions of Language and Numeracy.

The online format is an adaptive program, designed to assess a wider range of student abilities and to measure student achievement more precisely.

All students involved will start their preparations soon, with a note going home to parents on Thursday. If you have any concerns regarding NAPLAN, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Swimming Carnival

Our swimming carnival will take place on Monday 23rd February. Information regarding this activity has been forwarded to parents. Also, feel welcome to drop down to the pool during the day to watch your child's races.

Best Start

The Best Start Kindergarten Assessment will take place at our school in Term 1, over the next few weeks. The Best Start Kindergarten Assessment is a state-wide assessment that helps show teachers the literacy and numeracy skills of each student at the beginning of Kindergarten. This helps teachers to plan lessons to best support the learning needs of every child.

Children come to school with a range of experiences, skills and abilities. Some are familiar with books, can recognise letters of the alphabet or even write their name or count to ten, while others have not yet learned these skills.

The Best Start Kindergarten Assessment provides teachers with the opportunity to sit with a child one on one, focusing on what that child can do. The assessment is not a test but provides teachers with useful information to help support your child's learning at school. If you wish to withdraw your child from participating in the assessment, please contact the school. Please contact the school if you have any questions regarding the Best Start Kindergarten Assessment.

Telephone Interpreter Service. If you need an interpreter to assist you to contact the school, please call the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450 and ask for an interpreter in your language. The interpreter will call the school and will stay on the line to assist with the conversation. You will not be charged for this service.

NSW Department of Education

Applications closing soon!

Apply online in less than 10 minutes



Selective high school or opportunity class entry in 2027

Apply now if your child is currently in:

- Year 4 – for opportunity class entry in Year 5
- Year 6 – for selective high school entry in Year 7.

Applications close 20 February 2026.



End of the day pick up

The end of the school day is 3:05pm. There are many ways your child/ren can get home: bus, back carpark or front gate.

Bus: These students must make their way to our bus line area outside the infants' hallway on Coolah Street where they are asked to sit and wait for their bus. This area has a teacher on duty to ensure the safety of all students.

Back Carpark: This is situated behind the tuck shop and laundromat on Murrumbidgee Avenue. You have the choice to park in one of the parking bays and walk to the gates to pick up your child/ren **or** you can stay in the drive through section and drive up to the gate and pick up your child/ren straight into your car. We ask, to keep the gateway free and to keep all students safe, that parents/carers not stand at the gate when collecting your child, please come in and stand closer to the back of the infant's toilets. This will make it easier for the teacher on duty to see cars and students coming and going from the gate. The car park gate is closed by 3:25pm and students are sent to the front gate to wait for parents/carers to pick them up. **Reminder: this gate is opened at about 8:30am and locked at 9:05am once the morning bell goes for classes to begin.**

Front Gate: Students that walk home leave from the front gate closest to the front office. Those waiting for an older sibling to come down from the high school wait under the covered area in front of the hall. You can pick up your child/ren from this gate. You will need to park across the road (be mindful of disabled parking and no stopping signs) and walk across to collect your child/ren. There is a designated, sign posted school crossing in front of the school and we encourage you all to use this as the safest point to cross a busy road. There is a teacher on duty at this gate as well.

Reminder: the end of the school day is 3:05pm, please collect your child/ren as close to this time as possible.

Selective high school and opportunity class applications are closing soon

Selective high schools and opportunity classes are some of the ways the NSW Department of Education supports high potential and gifted students.

How do I apply? Complete the online application at shsoc.education.nsw.gov.au Once your application has been submitted and processed, your child will need to sit a computer-based placement test. Learn more at [Application process](#). Where can I learn more? Visit [Selective high schools and opportunity classes](#).

Griffith Public School - Term 1 2026						
Term 1	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
Week 3	9 Feb	10 Feb P&C Meeting 5pm	11 Feb	12 Feb Stage 2 Tennis	13 Feb	14/15 Feb
Week 4	16 Feb	17 Feb	18 Feb	19 Feb	20 Feb	21/22 Feb
Week 5	23 Feb Swimming Carnival	24 Feb Student leaders to GCC	25 Feb	26 Feb	27 Feb	28/1 March
Week 6	2 March Zone Swimming Carnival	3 March	4 March	5 March AECG meeting 2pm	6 March	7/8 March

THE RESILIENCE PROJECT.

GEM Chats

Emotional Literacy

CREATING WELLBEING HABITS & CONNECTION

GEM Chats help families practice The Resilience Project's principles, offering a simple wellbeing check-in while **building stronger connections through daily conversations.**

HOW TO USE GEM CHATS

Make GEM Chats a part of your dinner routine to reflect, check in, and practice emotional literacy.

Try these prompts:

- ★ What **emotion** do you feel right now and why?
- ★ What are **some emotions** you have felt today/this week? How did you **identify** them?
- ★ Describe a moment from your day when you **felt excited.**
- ★ What emotions have you noticed today in your **friends, teachers** or **family members**? How did you recognise these emotions?
- ★ What could you do today/tomorrow to **experience a positive emotion**?



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE RESILIENCE PROJECT, HEAD TO:

 @theresilienceproject...
  The Resilience Project
  The Resilience Project
  theresilienceproject.com.au

OUR EMOTIONS

How am I feeling?



RESILIENCE PROJECT.

GPS 2026

EARLY STAGE I & STAGE I TEACHING TEAM



Mrs Helen Lander
KL



Miss Zarah Sully
KS



Mrs Rebecca Zirilli
KZ



Mrs Louise Soligo
K/1S



Mrs Briana Boys
K/1S



Mrs Tracy Carbone
1C



Mrs Melyssa Sarkis
1S



Miss Sophie O'Keefe
1/2K



Miss Daisy Croce
2C



Miss Olivia Scott
2S

GPS 2026

STAGE 2 & STAGE 3 TEACHING TEAM



Mrs Lee Flood
3F



Mr Cameron Pearce
3P



Miss Lisa Sergi
3/4S



Mrs Tina Keen
4K



Mrs Carla Steffania
4K



Mrs Kylie Lethlean
4L



Mr Vince Hellier
5H



Miss Emma Lassau
5L



Miss Lauren Brain
5/6B



Mrs Courtney Williams
5/6B



Miss Emily Barton
6B



Miss Ellie Muller
6M

GPS 2026

LEARNING & SUPPORT



Mrs Jenny Workman
K-2 Support Class



Miss Mel Curran
K-2 Support Class & 3-6 Learning Support



Mrs Amanda Adams
K-2 Learning & Support



Mrs Celeste Irvin
3-6 Support Class



Mrs Angela Catanzariti
K-6 Wellbeing



Mrs Amanda Catanzariti
Hearing Support



Mr Lachlan Date
K-6 EAL/D



Miss Fab Storr
Library



Mrs Virginia Curry
Intervention



Mrs Denise McGann
Intervention



Mrs Hannah Davis
RFF



Mr Paul Bristow
Specialist Teacher



Mr Lal Maharaj
Specialist Teacher

GPS 2026

SLSO TEAM



Laura Bartter



Michelle Bordignon



Alissa Careri



Sonia Careri



Laura Dreyer



Amanda Fiddler



Bernie Halliburton



Liz Hancock



Sandy Miller



Dave Milne



Shawn Pattison



Leonie Penrith



Hayley Perez



Linda Piva



Nicole Plum



Samm Power



Michelle Russell



Lea Salvestro



Alecia Smith



Laretta Zanesco

order your school photos now

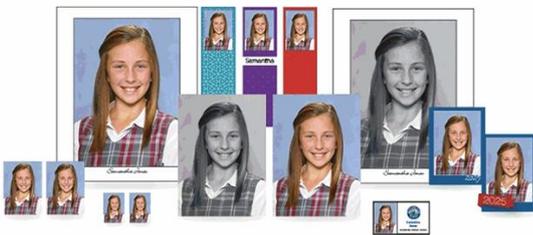
to order visit: www.advancedlife.com.au

enter code: 94E VCH 1QJ



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or collect a cash order envelope from your school office



advancedlife
school photography & print specialists



Settlement Engagement and Transition Support (SETS)

We support newly arrived migrants and refugees who live, work or study in the wider NSW-Victorian border region to become independent and contribute to the Australian community.

How does it work?

- We offer a range of support such as:
- Casework and settlement support
 - Information, advice and referrals
 - Advocacy and support
 - Capacity building sessions
 - Information sessions and workshops

We can help with:

- Practical information about housing, schools, jobs, banking, health, social security
- Citizenship, form filling, and understanding Australian government and legal systems*
- Accessing culturally appropriate physical and mental health services

- Referrals to services (Centrelink, health, childcare, family support)
- Obtaining a driver's licence
- Support to find classes to strengthen your English language skills
- Assistance to find education and training
- Support at school
- Support to build employment readiness
- Social support groups and community activities
- Youth engagement activities and future planning
- Events, info sessions and groups for all ages

Is there a cost?

- SETS is a free and confidential service.

Need assistance to talk to us?

If you are deaf, or have a hearing impairment or speech impairment, contact us through the National Relay Service:

TTY users

Phone 133 677 then ask for 1300 488 226

Voice Relay

Phone 1300 555 727 then ask for 1300 488 226

SMS relay users

SMS 0423 677 767

Need an interpreter?

Phone 131 450 then ask for 1300 488 226



Kids DIY Workshops – Fun, Free & Hands-On!



Join the fun at a FREE DIY workshop and build your skills. Plus, earn a stamp in your DIY Passport and unlock surprise rewards at key milestones.

February	March	April	May
7th - 8th, 14th - 15th 21st - 22nd, 28th - 1st Mar	Sat 14th	Sat 11th	Sat 9th
June	July	August	September
Sat 13th	Sat 11th	Sat 8th	Sat 12th
October	November	December	Scan QR code to book
Sat 10th	Sat 14th	Sat 12th	

Don't miss out. Spots released monthly and fill fast! Scan & Book your spot today

BUNNINGS
warehouse



SPRINKLES multicultural playgroup

Sprinkles Multicultural Playgroup provides a fun and supportive environment for cultural and linguistically diverse (CALD) families and children aged newborn to 5 years in Griffith.

When:
Thursdays and Fridays throughout the school terms.

Time:
10am - 12 noon

Where:
Cubby House, Kuttamulla Ave, Griffith

Cost:
\$2 per session

Please bring along a piece of fruit to share during morning tea.
Parents stay with their children throughout the session.

For more information:
Please call Intereach Sprinkles on 0499 828 741 or 1300 488 226, email family@intereach.com.au or visit the Griffith Intereach office at 2/63 Yambill St, Griffith.



Cubby House building

Sprinkles Multicultural Playgroup is now facilitated by: **intereach**