

There are lots of lost unnamed uniform items in the Lost Property Basket!
Please regularly rename all items including
HATS & plastic containers! Thank you!



We learn. We show respect.
We are safe.

Thursday 19th December 2024 Term 4 Week 11

"Golden Past, Bright Futures"

Canterbury Street, Vic. 3370

Telephone (03) 5345 3182

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

Clunes Primary School Newsletter



UPCOMING EVENTS

Merry Christmas 2024!



*In 2024 we have a student who has a severe allergy to NUTS!
We will need to do our best to be a NO NUTS school, as our students mix with and play with each other across the school day. Our junior school Buddies will meet for learning activities with our senior school Buddies. Thank you sincerely for considering the safety of our students as you choose what food is placed in your child's daily snack and lunch box.
***There are still some cases of Slapped Cheek in the school. Please refer to the slap cheek information in our previous newsletters!**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We welcome the safe and joyous arrival of
Aura Prebble into the world.
Congratulations to Alia and Connor on
behalf of the Clunes
Primary School community.



SCHOOL SAVING BONUS – Families will find the easiest way to spend the School Saving Bonus will be to allocate the funds in the School Saving Bonus portal to "School Activities". Families will then be able to let the office know when they would like to order uniform or pay for activities using the SSB funds. If you are still having issues with the School Saving Bonus please contact

school.saving.bonus@education.vic.gov.au

We sincerely congratulate our year 6 Graduating class of 2024!
Best wishes to you all for a smooth, happy and successful transition to your multiple secondary settings.
Please see the back page of this Newsletter for 'less formal' photos of our gorgeous graduating group! 😊

2025

Staff officially begin- Tuesday 28th & Wednesday 29th January 2025

ALL Students begin- Thursday 30th January 2025 at 8.45am.

Prep/ Foundation students have a Rest/Assessment Day each Wednesday for the first 7 Weeks of Term 1, 2025. Wednesday 5th February is the first designated Wednesday Prep Rest/ Assessment Day.

Despite the excessive heat we all thoroughly enjoyed our Christmas Focus Day and our Christmas Concert. Thank you Santa and Elf for your surprise visits too! Thank you families! Our Multi-Purpose Hall was jam packed with special visitors, and they loved every minute of the afternoon.

Thank you, Clunes PS families, for an incredibly busy yet successful year.
Wishing you all a happy, prosperous, and safe festive season and holiday period.

Kind regards, Sonia & the staff of CPS. 😊

Merry Christmas Everyone



STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS FOR TERM 4

Our School Values Awards focus on:

We Learn

We Show Respect

We are Safe

Our Term 4 You Can Do It focus is:
Confidence

Our Resilience Project foci are:
Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness

Performing Arts- Larissa, Benji

Visual Arts- Phoebe

5/6B- Elsie

4 /5S- Alex

P/ 1D- Dakota

1 /2MJ- Aoife

Principal's Award- Arielle, Charlie E, Phoebe, Logan, Dakota, Noa, Isabelle, Elara, Dex, Raven, Ethan, Braxton, Charlie R, Deni, Spencer, RJ, Henry, Patrick

LOTE-Japanese- Nellie, Akir, Meg, Pepper

Physical Education - Alex

The entire 2 /3P class

All Year 6 students!

Congratulations! Congratulations!

Hayden Cole

receiving the **2024 Clunes PS Student Citizenship Award** (formerly the Hepburn Shire Award)



James Weston

receiving the Martha Haylett MP for Ripon **2024 Courage Award**



Anastasia Jones

receiving the **2024 Catherine King Clunes PS Community Volunteer Award**



2024 School Captains

I would sincerely like to thank our **2024 School Captains – Brock and Chloe** and our **School Vice - Captains –Xavier and Dyllan**, for their strong and engaging leadership throughout the 2024 school year. Thank you for the very fine role models you have been, and for the effort you have each put into your roles. We wish you all the very best for the future!



2025 School Captains

Our 2025 School Captains are:

Isla Henderson-Drife and Jacus Henderson

Our 2025 School Vice-Captains are:

Elsie Clark and Alex Taylor

Year 6 Graduation 2024

Every one of our Year 6 students is important to us and has brought something unique to our school. Congratulations to each of you on all of your achievements whilst you have been a student at Clunes Primary School.

Our Year 6 Graduation Dinner was a lovely evening last Thursday and our students thoroughly enjoyed themselves!

Our 2025 School Captains provided table service. Our families and special guests gave our graduating students a resounding standing ovation as they entered the MP Hall ready for the formal part of the evening to begin. Whilst waiting, our families were mesmerised by the 2024 'Unchartered' video, showcasing the skills and abilities of our Year 6s during their Creative Victoria Grant funded, transition to secondary school focus. Thank you, Asking for Trouble team – Christy, Luke and Bec!

Our heartfelt thanks is given to Julie Leech and her team from The Neighbourhood House, & School Council (supported in part) by the Top Shop, for providing the delicious meal and to our volunteer student; Reece for providing table service leadership and support for our 2025 Captains. Sincere thanks to Mr Ash Burke and our staff support team for all of the planning and organisation that ensured the evening was such a success. Thanks to our School Council President, Mrs Jo Henderson-Drife for her heartfelt speech. Finally thank you to our families and friends and to all of our Year 6 students for your brilliant confidence demonstrated in running the evening.

Thanks also is extended to All Nations Masonic Lodge Clunes, Clunes RSL, Kaye & Neil Leckie, All Nations Masonic Lodge Maryborough, Clunes Football and Netball Club and our district Bendigo Community Bank for supporting our students with fantastic achievement awards.

During the evening the following awards were presented:

Academic Awards- Bendigo Community Bank – Nellie Duffy and Brock Booth

Presented by Stephen Kinnersly

All Nations Masonic Lodge Clunes Citizenship Awards – Riley Bright and Feather Decker

Presented by David Law

RSL Incentive Awards – Lacey Duggan and Isaac Sacco

Presented by Ash Burke on behalf of RSL President Lindsay Pritchard.

Andrea Leckie Memorial Reading Awards- Pepper van Geloven and Duke Twentyman

Presented by Mrs. Kaye Leckie and Mr. Neil Leckie.

All Nations Masonic Lodge Maryborough – Xavier Featherston

Presented by David Law

Maryborough Education Centre Award – Cruz McKee

Presented by Ash Burke on behalf of MEC

Clunes Football & Netball Club – Sportsperson Award – Chloe Velden

Presented by Jacqui Featherston

Congratulations to all of our Year 6 students. All the very best for the future! Enjoy Secondary School and remember that you're always welcome to come back and visit. We will miss every one of you.



Clunes Green Grocer
Welcome- Gladys!

Thank you Gladys and Jess for continuing with supplying the fruit and vegies for our Friday Fruit Platters as our new local Green Grocers! Thank you Wesley @ Clunes for continuing to fund this invaluable service!



Christmas Concert 2024



2025
Prep
Transition
Day!



SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

FUNDRAISING 2024 – REPORT

Fundraising at Clunes Primary School contributes greatly in enabling us to complete projects and purchase resources for the benefit of our students. As Government funding will only stretch so far, a significant amount of School Council contribution is required to complete both the major works, and running repairs required.

We can proudly share the final profits made from our 2024 fundraising events:

EVENT	PROFIT
Truck Show	\$ 743.00
Book Town	\$ 2,346.00
Mother's Day Stall	\$ 488.00
Father's Day Stall	\$ 329.00
Clunes Show	\$ 3,313.00
Tomato Seed Drive	\$ 630.00
Christmas Raffle	\$350.00

From 2024 fundraising revenue, we have completed the refurbishment of the internal student toilets and made repairs to the external toilets. Further flood mitigation works and ground maintenance programs have been carried out by Fordham Landscaping. Painting and repairs of external buildings has been continued. The foundations for a new "four-square" ball court have been laid. There are still so many projects on our "To-Do List", but your continued support of our fundraising program will enable us to continue working towards making Clunes Primary School the best it can be.

FAREWELL

Last Thursday evening our Year 6's, together with their teachers and support staff, parents and loved ones, had the opportunity to reflect upon their time at Clunes Primary School and celebrate the successes they have all experienced during their primary school days. Each student has contributed to our School and shaped it for the better, and we are grateful for the legacy they leave.

We farewell a number of families from our School community at this time each year. To those families whose journeys have ended as their Year 6 student moves onto secondary school and to those families leaving the area:

Beth & Lachie; Belinda; Tanya & Nathan; Emma & Trevor; Melissa & Shawn; Sue & Peter; Rachael & Michael; Yonke & Steve; Aaron & Sally; Rebecca & Ricky.

We would like to pass on our gratitude to you for all you have contributed to the school throughout your time with us. We hope you remain connected to the School, and we hope to see you all back at our 150th Anniversary celebrations in July! To our incredible Principal, teaching and support staff, bus drivers, School Councilors, volunteers and classroom helpers, we appreciate all that you do every day to support and enhance the learning and development of our students.

I would like to thank our students and families for your continued support and commitment to Clunes Primary School, and wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

Class/classroom and teaching structure in 2025

2025 Teaching Staff and Staff Class/ Specialist Allocations

I am pleased to be able to announce to the school community that our 2025 Teaching Staff and Class/ Specialist allocations are:

Prep/ 1P- Jordyn Purdie (formerly Dargaville) supported by Tanya Ingram

2/3AK- Vicki Anderson (4 days- Mon- Thurs) & Ash-Leigh Keating (1 day- Fri) supported by Jan Miles and Alicia Brown

3/4MJ-Cassie Mitchell (3 days) & Paul James (2 days) supported by Liz Garth and Val McNeight

5/6 B- Ash Burke

Physical Education Specialist P- 6 & 3/4MJ- Paul James

Performing Arts Specialist- Ash Keating

Visual Arts Specialist- Ash Keating

Environmental Education & Kitchen Garden Program Specialist – Cassie Mitchell

Japanese Specialist teacher- Sensei Tomomi Mori

The Resilience Project, Respectful Relationships & Values & ESmart Specialists – will be integrated into our regular learning & wellbeing programs

Disability Inclusion/ Diverse Learners coordination- Jane Thompson- for one day per week Term 1, (as in Semester 2 2024)

Di Bongiorno will continue to implement the Tutor Learning Initiative in 2025. (mornings)

Jesse Parker- will continue as our Business Manager for 5 days per week.

Library- all class teachers & Jan Miles & Liz Garth will continue as Library support Technicians. Weekly borrowing.

Tanya Ingram will fulfil an Education Support – Aide position for 5 days each week in 2024.

Alicia Brown will fulfil an Education Support- Aide position for 5 days each week in 2024.

Jan Miles will fulfil an Education Support- Aide position for 3 days each week in 2024.

Val McNeight will fulfil an Education Support- Aide Position for 3 days each week in 2024.

Liz Garth will fulfil an Education Support- Aide Position for 3 days each week in 2024.

Michelle (Shell) O'Brien will return for our School Wellbeing Support - 2 days per week. (Mon & Thurs in 2025)

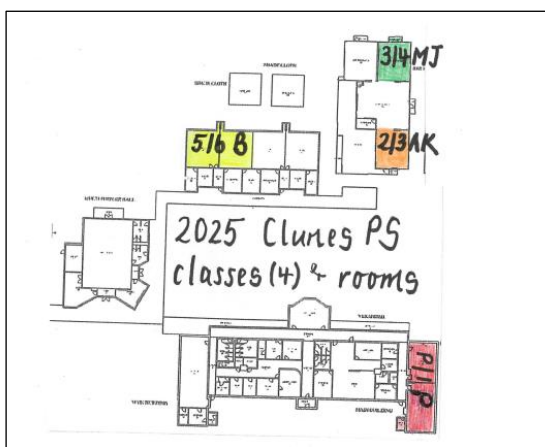
Adam Smilevski will return as our IT Technician. (Fridays am)

We will have 4 classes in 2025. (4 composite classes)

You can be assured that teacher knowledge, planning, teacher curriculum delivery and assessment and reporting will remain of a very high quality.

Please make an appointment to meet with me, with your concern, in writing, should you have any issue about the structure.

2025 classrooms. Please see the map below.



You will see above that we have moved the 5/6B class to allow for more space. Specialists' classrooms will remain as in 2024.



We sadly farewell Miss **Courtney Surkitt** who will be leaving Clunes Primary School and will take up a teaching position at Snake Valley Primary School in 2025. We wish Courtney absolutely every success in the future.



Mr Ross Adams has announced that he will retire at the end of this year after 12 years at Clunes Primary School. Happy Retirement Ross!



Mrs. Vicki Anderson

Mr Tim McKenzie & Ms Jayde Garth are leaving Clunes Primary School. We sincerely thank them for supporting the students at Clunes PS.



Last day of Breakfast Club for 2024 - Pancake Day!

Special thanks to Denise, Kylie and Barb for their tireless efforts in leading and supporting our Breakfast Club program for this year! As an annual special final day treat, the ladies made **200 pancakes** and students were able to choose multiple toppings! Most popular toppings included: jam, maple syrup and lemon and sugar. For those that didn't like pancakes our regular options remained available. Wishing our wonderful Helpers a magnificent break over the Summer.





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ALWAYS HERE

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Some of our Christmas Letters from Japan.

Our 5 /6B class sent letters to a school in Japan too.



Fire Safety- Our relocation drill to Clunes' 'Place of Last Resort' with wonderful support from our local volunteer Clunes CFA members.

Thank you Graham, Adam and Justin! (many more photos at school)



Prep /1D Champions– Levi and Patrick Year 1 /2MJ Champion– Duke W

Year 2 /3P Champion– Arlo

2024 GaGa Competition

Year 4 /5S Champion– Chloe B

Year 5 /6B Champion– Brock B

Staff Champion– Mr Burke

Champion of champions– Chloe B

2024 Impressive Values Award– Mrs Mitchell





CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY PROGRAM



We will be offering the Holiday Program for the below dates. We are unable to confirm the excursion dates at this stage as we are still awaiting confirmation on the bus hire during this period.

Please let us know what days you require we can book you in. Days will NOT run if we don't get enough interest.

DECEMBER DATES

Friday 20th December		SHORT DAY		8.30am to 1pm	
MON 23RD	TUES 24TH	PUBLIC HOLIDAY	PUBLIC HOLIDAY	FRI 27TH	

NEW YEAR DATES

MON 30TH	NOT RUNNING	PUBLIC HOLIDAY	THUR 2ND	FRI 3RD
MON 6TH	TUES 7TH	WED 8TH	THUR 9TH	FRI 10TH
MON 13TH	TUES 14TH	WED 15TH	THUR 16TH	FRI 17TH
MON 20TH	TUES 21ST	WED 22ND	THUR 23RD	FRI 24TH

- ALL accounts MUST be up to date or on an approved payment plan.
- 8.30am to 6pm (9.5hrs), in the MP Hall. (with the exception of Fri 20th Nov).
- Don't forget to pack, lunch, snacks, drink bottle, sunscreen and a hat. (we have generic sunscreen).
- Care is charged at your usual hourly rate, x9.5hrs. (Excursions incur additional fees, updated calendar will show fees).
- Please check your allocated fortnightly hours. (I can help you find this out).
- Happy for you to bring your bikes, scooters and any other toys or games you would like.
- On excursion days, please don't pack food that will need to be heated.

Liz 0429 453 808 OR elizabethgarth@outlook.com

Jayde 0429 092 808 OR jayde.garth@outlook.com

Schools in Category 3 on the Bushfire At-Risk Register and the Category 4 list.

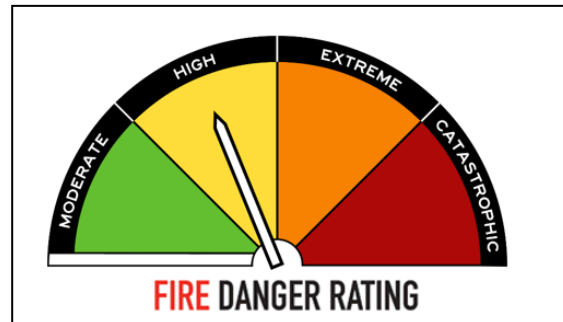
Clunes Primary School is a Category 4 school.

School preparations for the bushfire season

Each year, to prepare for bushfires and grassfires, schools and early childhood services complete a range of activities.

The Department of Education runs an annual fire risk assessment of schools and early childhood services.

They are allocated a category of risk (categories 0 to 4) and are published on the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR).



All schools and early childhood services listed on the BARR and Category 4 list will **also close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district.**

When the Bureau of Meteorology provides public fire danger rating forecasts or fire weather warnings, they use fire weather district areas. In Victoria, there are 9 fire weather districts, which are based on Local Government Area boundaries. Our school is in the **Central fire weather district.**

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

What does this mean for our school?

Our school has been identified as being at risk of bushfire or grassfire and is a **Category 4 school.**

Our school will **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating** in **Central fire district.**

What is the department's policy?

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.

When will our school be closed due to Catastrophic fire danger?

Our school will **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating** in the **Central fire district.**

Closure of the school due to a forecast Catastrophic day will be confirmed on the day prior and we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day. Any information regarding

potential or confirmed Catastrophic fire danger days will be communicated to you by email and by a hard copy note.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, even if the weather forecast changes. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. 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 (After School 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.

Families are encouraged to action their Bushfire Survival Plan on Catastrophic fire danger rating days. **On such days, children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Catastrophic days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Catastrophic day.

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 reading our newsletters, 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 in the event that our school is closed due to a 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.

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



Grade 6 - 2024

