

# Glen Huntly Primary School

## Prep Parent Information Session 2024

**Learning today.  
Leading tomorrow.**

A caring place for learning and growth



# Acknowledgement of Country



We wish to acknowledge the Bunurong peoples of the Eastern Kulin Nation as Traditional Owners and Custodians of this area, and pay respect to their Elders past, present and future. We wish to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we are meeting. We extend that respect to First Nation and Torres Strait Islander people here today.

# School Vision

- Be a high performing school with embedded evidence informed best practice, that is visible in each classroom
- To nurture respectful, positive, informed and caring global citizens
- To help develop children who are happy, confident and who love school and learning



# New Facilities and Programs



# School Staff

<b>Current Principal</b>	Mrs Libby Alessi	<b>Prep A</b>	Zoe Marini
<b>2024 Principal</b>	Nerida Burns	<b>Prep B</b>	Ryan Bowden
<b>Assistant Principal</b>	Mr Cameron White	<b>Prep C</b>	Carly Draper
<b>Learning Specialist</b>	Mel Oldham	<b>Science specialist</b>	Mel Oldham
<b>Business Manager</b>	Liz Howard	<b>P.E. specialist</b>	Sarah Price
<b>Reception</b>	Laura James-Clark	<b>Art specialist</b>	Justine de Bruyn
		<b>Music specialist</b>	Claire Piscioneri
		<b>Japanese specialist</b>	Lexie Boomsma

# Our school values

**Pride** in our actions and striving for personal best

**Respect** and care for each other and the environment

**Creativity** to allow us to view and develop new possibilities

**Resilience** to accept and adapt to challenges

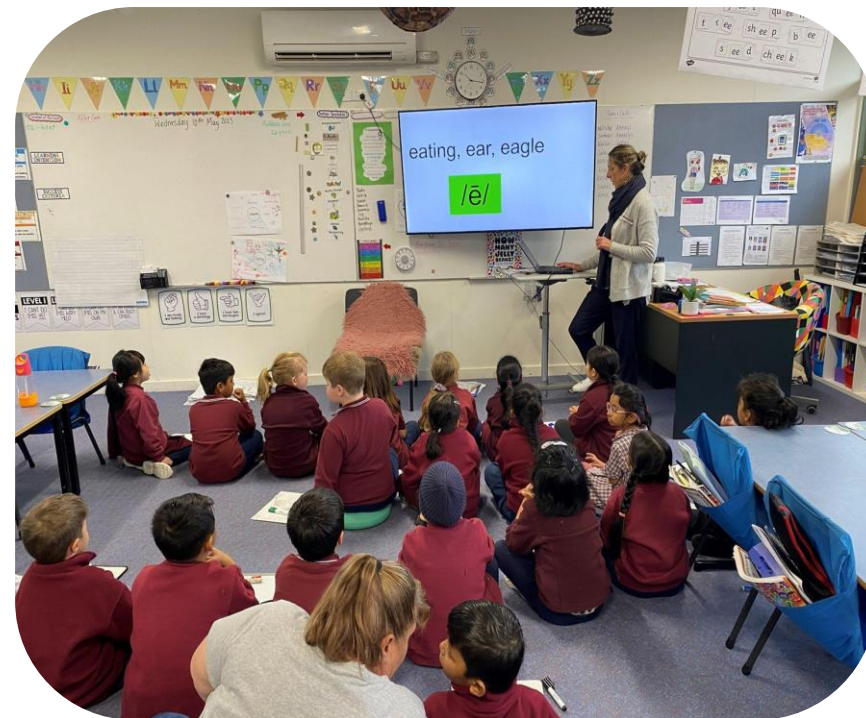
**Teamwork** and learning together





# Weekly Timetable

- 5 hours of numeracy (1 hour per day)
- 10 hours of literacy (2 hours per day)
- 5 hours of inquiry/history/geography/civics
- 30 minutes of Library
- 1 hour of PE and Health
- 1 hour of Art
- 1 hour of Music
- 1 hour of Japanese or Science each semester
- 1 hour of Wellbeing (Rights Resilience Respectful Relations)
- 30 mins for Assembly on Friday after lunch
- 5-10 minutes of community circles (twice a week)



# Daily Timetable - Example

7.00am - TheirCare opens (if required)



8.50am - Classrooms doors open

9.00am - **Session 1** Literacy block Reading

10.00am - Brain food break

- **Session 2** Literacy block Writing

11.00am - **Recess**

11.30am - **Session 3** Maths

12.30pm - **Session 4** Specialist lesson (Music, Japanese, Art, PE or Science)

1.30pm - Lunch eating time

1.45pm - **Lunchtime play**

2.30pm - **Session 5** Inquiry learning (History, Geography or Civics)

3.30pm - End of school

6.30pm - TheirCare ends (if required)



# Importance of school attendance

**Going to school every day** is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day and not being at school every day puts students behind.

There are **NO** safe number of days to be absent from school  
A student who is absent one day a week misses the equivalent of 40 days of learning each year.

Each day a student misses puts them behind and can affect their educational outcomes.

**Arriving to school on time** is also very important. A student who is half an hour late each day misses the equivalent of 16.6 days of learning each year.

Parents are required to ensure their child attends school and to provide an explanation for their child's absence from school.



**EVERY  
DAY  
COUNTS**  
Primary school attendance

# School times and absences

Students should not be on school grounds before 8.45am as there is no teacher on duty supervising students.

School supervision starts at **8.45am** and a teacher will be on yard duty wearing an orange vest.

Classroom doors open at **8.50am** and teachers will come outside to meet the students and bring them in.

School and lessons start at **9.00am**, please be on time as the teacher will be marking attendance.

If your child is going to be away, you can log this on Compass or ring the office.

If you are planning an extended holiday during the year, please ensure you let your child's teacher and the staff in the office know well in advance. A written and signed note is required to officially explain your child's absence from school and needs to be approved by the Principal.

It is **HIGHLY** recommended that you only book your family holidays during school holidays **NOT** during term time



# Gradual Release Model

Our school uses the Gradual Release Instructional Model (GRM).

This structure allows for students to be scaffolded and supported in their learning.

This model begins with explicit instruction from the teacher, then a guided practise to support student understanding and finally an activity where students can work independently.

During this process, the teacher will work with a small focus groups to support or extend learning.

We also use Daily Reviews and Multiple Exposures to support and revise previously taught concepts and oral language skills for all students.

## Gradual Release of Responsibility

### I do

teacher explicitly models and teaches  
informing - explaining - modeling - direct teaching

### we do

guided practice with students  
provide immediate and corrective feedback

### you do

independent application and practice  
monitor - clarify - reteach



# Literacy

Literacy includes the skills of reading, spelling, writing, grammar, punctuation, speaking and listening. Students have explicit teaching in literacy for 2 hours every day.

We use a **Structured Synthetic Phonic (SSP)** approach to teaching student's letters and sounds using the **Little Learners Love Literacy (LLLL)** program. Our teachers explicitly teach phonemes (speech sounds), graphemes (print) and vocabulary (meaning) to build neural connections in the brain that are needed for automatic reading. We address the **Big 6** (Konza, 2014) components of reading instruction and integrate a structured and systematic approach to teaching reading.

These components are:

- **Phonemic awareness**
- **Phonics**
- **Fluency**
- **Vocabulary**
- **Comprehension**
- **Explicit and Systematic teaching - revise, teach, practise, apply and assess**
- **Writing - handwriting and spelling**





# Numeracy

Students have a Numeracy lesson for 1 hour every day.

The lessons includes both explicit instruction, collaborative learning and independent practice.

Numeracy includes the skills of number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability.

We place a strong emphasis on Numeracy vocabulary and hands on activities to boost understanding of number concepts.



# Numeracy at Home

You can support your child's development at home by making numeracy fun!. You can play games with dice, look for patterns in real life or count objects at home such as toys.

Practising and understanding concepts like the days of the week, months of the year, measuring, weighing, skip counting, having analogue and digital clocks around the house can all help.

**Find daily applications** - Involve your child when it comes to activities like shopping, cooking, or gardening! Each of these real-world applications involve numbers, vocabulary and concepts which can help solidify knowledge and understanding, as well as enjoyment in Numeracy.

**Practice with your child daily** - Set aside time to practice numeracy for as little as 10 minutes each night. This will help reinforce what they're learning in class and keep foundational concepts front-of-mind as teachers introduce them to more advanced concepts in class.

# Preparing your child for school

- Set a daily routine for your child and stick to it.
- Have your child carry their bag to school each day and put it in their bag box.
- Aim to arrive at school at 8.45am to give your child a chance to play before school starts.
- **Name everything**, including hats, clothes, drink bottles and lunch boxes.
- Don't send anything valuable to school like jewellery or special toys.
- Ensure your child focuses on the positive things that occur at school and not on negatives.



# Home Learning

Home learning is intended to develop effective routines, time-management, revise concepts learnt at school and to share learning with families.

In prep, students are given a fortnightly activity booklet to complete at home starting from term 2.

These booklets will include a reading, writing and numeracy task. The reading activity will focus on current sounds that the students are learning in class. Writing tasks will be centred around letter formation, tracing skills and print concepts. Numeracy tasks will also be directly related to weekly concepts taught in the classroom to consolidate learning.

It is recommended that parents try to set aside time for completing home learning tasks each week and aim to have a place set up in the home to complete home learning.

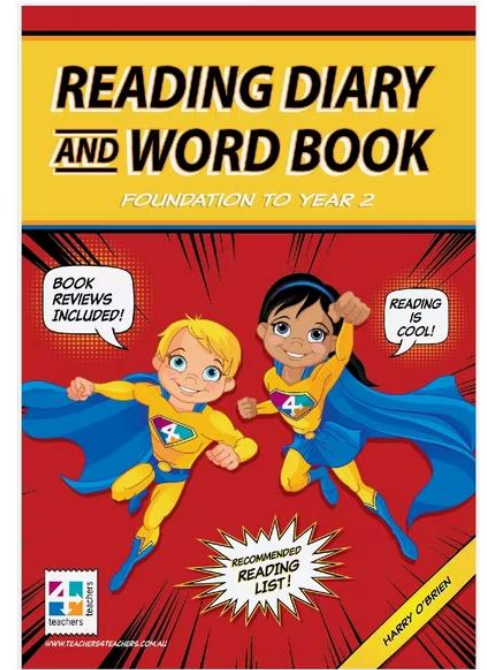


# Reading at home

We encourage all students to read every day, either by themselves or with the support of a parent. Having your child listen to audio books is another great way to support your child's learning.

Students in prep will have take-home readers that they can change over in the morning before school. These readers are used to build comprehension and understanding of sounds. Students are not expected to be able to read these by themselves straight away, these skills will develop through the year as they build their sound knowledge and confidence.

Prep students have reading logs books that need to be filled out each night and signed by the parent.





# Prep Focus

Fostering a love of learning  
Encouraging curiosity  
Trying new things  
Building self confidence  
Making new friends  
Communicating with others  
Regulating emotions  
Learning new strategies  
Persisting with tasks  
Developing independence  
Working as a team





# Digital Technology



Students will take part in Digital Technology lessons throughout the week, these are often integrated into other learning areas. The students learn a range of skills related to Digital technology including plugging in headphones, navigating an iPad and basic coding skills. They will use beetbots during semester 2 where they will learn how to make the robot move from one place to another.





# Science/STEM

Students have science for 1 hour a week during Term 1 and 2.

Science is held on the Senior Campus (east side) in the Science Room.

There is also a STEM room that the students may sometimes utilise. Students undertake a range of experiments, investigations and learn how to be curious about the world around them.





# Art

Students have Art class once a week for one hour.

Our Art program is centred around the exploration of the children's creativity in a respectful and safe environment. They will investigate a variety of art mediums, artists and styles.

They will learn to develop their growth mindset, through understanding that the creative process is not just about building our artistic skills, but our problem-solving skills and resilience for positive mental health. Students will not need to bring an art smock; these will be provided by the art teacher.



# Music

Students have music once a week. The music room is located on the Senior Campus (east side) next to the gym. In Music, students explore ways of manipulating the elements of music and develop ideas using a range of instruments.

Students will develop practices that build knowledge, techniques and understanding to listen to, create and perform music from a variety of different cultures.



# Inquiry

Students have Inquiry sessions once a week to explore new and interesting topics. Excursions and incursions often relate to the inquiry topic that the students are learning about in class to strengthen the students understanding. In Prep these are our four Inquiry topics:

## **Term 1** – ‘Marvellous Me’

This unit looks at family history and knowing yourself.

## **Term 2** – ‘Our Place’

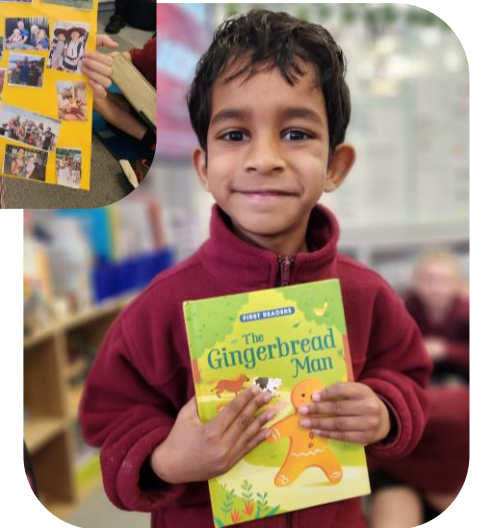
This unit covers community, places and connection to place.

## **Term 3** – ‘Fairy Tales’

This unit allows students to develop stories and learn morals.

## **Term 4** – ‘Digital Software’

This unit explores digital systems and their purpose.





# Physical Education

Students have P.E. once a week. Physical Education classes are held in the gym, on the oval or the synthetic turf on the Junior Campus (west side). The focus of P.E. is centred around developing fine and gross motor skills, teamwork, invasion games, learning rules and displaying sportsmanship.

P.E. also includes a 'Learn to Swim' program which takes place in Term 4.





# Japanese

Students have Japanese once a week in Semester 2 (Term3 and 4).  
Japanese classes are held in the Japanese room which is located on the Senior Campus (east side).

In Japanese, students learn about cultural dress, traditions, language, art, customs and we have been lucky enough to have Japanese incursions for the older students.



# Library

Students attend Library with their classroom teacher once a week.

Lisa is our librarian and is happy to provide advice around suitable books for students to read.

The library club is open every Tuesday at lunchtime.

Students can borrow one book at time from the library each week.

Library time allows for students to foster a love of reading, borrow and understand many different text types and explore topics that interest them. Students will receive a **red library bag** at the beginning of the year which they need to bring to every library session to borrow.



# Student Wellbeing

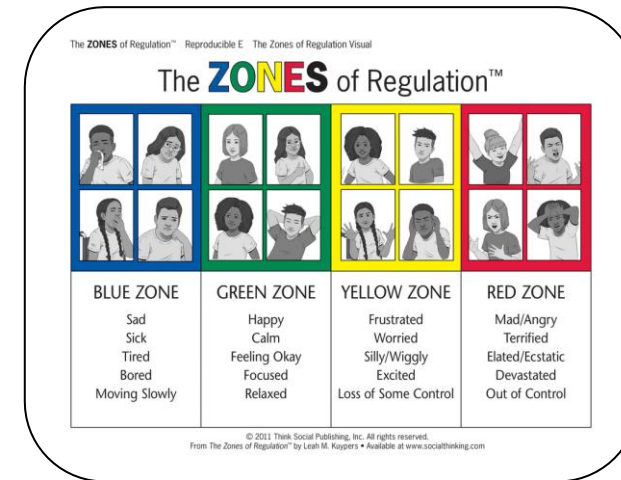
Student Welfare is a priority at Glen Huntly Primary School

All classes will have a dedicate one hour focus on wellbeing and resilience each week

These sessions include activities designed to promote student resilience, positivity, wellbeing and self-respect.

The school is following the Department of Education's RRRR Program. Resilience, Rights, Respectful Relationships Program and uses the Zones of Regulation in the classroom.

The school is currently developing a wellbeing sensory room and plans to have this up and running in early 2024





# Prep Buddies

All Prep students are matched with a Grade 5 student at the start of the year.

This relationship continues into Year 1 when the older buddy is in Grade 6.

Buddy activities may include:

- Story writing
- Reading together
- Lunch meetings
- Celebrating special events
- Craft activities
- Sports or games





# How you can support your child at home

- Encourage borrowing from the school and local library and reading every night
- Develop routines such as a consistent bedtime routine and have your child help pack their own school bag
- Promoting a healthy lifestyle by being active, walking or riding to school and visiting parks regularly
- Reducing screen time
- Going to bed early. Health practitioners recommend as a general guide that students' bedtimes for 5 to 6 years olds should be 7.00 pm.



# GPA

## Glen Huntly Parents Association

The Parents Association goal is to fundraise for our school to improve the facilities and experiences for our children; organise fun, social events that bring our wonderful school community together; and to build strong links between our school and the wider community.

Ways you can help:

- Selling icy poles at lunchtime on Friday
- Working bees
- Helping with Mother's or Father's Day store
- Special Lunch Days
- Helping at events like the school picnic
- Baking Cakes for the weekly cake raffle

GPA Newsletters come out each fortnight



# First week of school

Preps commence on Tuesday the 30th January 9.00am.

Classrooms are open at 8.50am each morning and we encourage the prep students to line up and their teacher will bring them inside.

When the bell rings at 9am, it marks the start of instruction, and all teachers mark the roll and start their teaching for the day.

On the first day, parents are invited to come to the Library where GPA will put on a welcome morning tea.

For the first week of school the preps will finish at the early time of 2.30pm. A reminder that they will not be attending school for the first 5 Wednesdays, as these are days assigned for EOI and MOI assessments.

# Assessment days - Wednesday

For the first 5 weeks of school, there will be no prep classes on Wednesdays as students will be doing their English Online Interview (EOI) and Maths Online Interview (MOI).

Parents will be able to make bookings on compass once classes are assigned and times are made available. A compass email will go out to families once these times are open.

Assessments will take place on the following dates:

- Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January
- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February
- Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February

Wednesday March 6<sup>th</sup> will be a normal school day for Preps .



# Questions you can ask your children

Parents are critical partners in knowing and understanding how their child learns.

Parents have the biggest academic impact on a child's success.

Parents are our learner's first teacher.

*6 Questions parents can ask their children:*

1. What were 3 things you enjoyed at school today? (positive mindset)
2. What did you learn today?
3. How did you do?
4. What did you do if you didn't understand?
5. How can you improve on your learning?
6. What are you most proud of?

# School Uniform

The school is in the process of transiting to a new school uniform with the new school logo.

The older style uniform can still be worn until the end of 2024.

The new uniform can be purchased online or in person at PSW Retail Outlet located at 1/596 North Road Ormond, phone 9768 0387.

The older style uniform will be sold at school on Monday 29th of January and Tuesday 30th of January 2024 and then once a month from then on.

# Parent Communication

Compass is the main form of communication between parents used at the school.

A year level newsletter will be sent out once a term which outlines what the learning focus is and provides an overview of the curriculum content and the important upcoming events.

We want to make sure that we keep the lines of communication open between you and the school.

If for any reason you need to contact us, please contact the office via email at

[glenhuntly.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:glenhuntly.ps@education.vic.gov.au) or by phone on 9571 2931.



# 2024 Prep Family Catch Up

The school has planned two family catch ups for parents and families to connect.

The catch ups will be at the Garden Ave Reserve, opposite 14 Garden Ave Glen Huntly.

The park is just 100 meters west from the school.

These will be unstructured events so just turn up

## The dates are:

Sunday December 3rd 10:00 - 11.30am

Sunday December 17th 10am - 11.30am





# Parent Information Packs

At the end of this presentation, you will receive a parent information pack. Inside these packs will include:

- Information booklet
- Compass login information
- EOI and MOI information
- GPA information
- Meet the teacher
- Resources for students including:
  - 100s chart
  - Laminated alphabet
  - Laminated name on dotted thirds

# Any questions?



# Thank you for coming