



Allendale East Area School Newsletter

Courage Excellence Respect



To build strong, diverse futures for all of our young people by providing quality education driven by needs, skill and aspirations.

LOWLANDS FEEDLOT

Term 1 Week 10

2026

On Friday March 20, the Year 10 Agriculture class, along with Ryleigh Atchison from AIF, attended an excursion to Lowlands Feedlot at Burrungle. Students were taken on an informative tour by Shaun Beard, who provided valuable insights into the day-to-day operations of a large-scale feedlot. He explained the size and scale of the property, how cattle are bought and sold, and the different rations used to meet the nutritional needs of cattle at various stages of production. Students also gained an understanding of the beef supply chain, from feedlot through to processing and market. Lowlands Feedlot supplies cattle to its parent company, The Midfield Group, a major Australian meat processing company based in Victoria that exports beef to markets around the world. This excursion provided students with a real-world look at the beef industry and helped to strengthen their understanding of concepts studied in class. We thank Shaun Beard and the team at Lowlands Feedlot for their time and generosity in sharing their knowledge with our students.



IMPORTANT DATES

- | | | | |
|--------------|--|--------------|--|
| MARCH | | APRIL | |
| 31 | Year 7 & 10 Immunisation | 27 | Student Free Day - OSHC Available |
| APRIL | | 28 | First Day of Term 2 |
| 2 | Glow and Grow Day - Celebrating Neurodiversity
Easter Thursday - Early Dismissal - 2:15pm | MAY | |
| 3 | Good Friday - Public Holiday | 4 | GRIP - Student Leadership Conference |
| 6 | Easter Monday - Public Holiday | 5 | Year 10-12 Integrated Learning |
| 7 | Walking the Seasons Excursion - Year 7 | 6 | Walking the Seasons |
| 7/8 | Outdoor Ed - Great South West Walk Camp | 8 | South East Cross County - Naracoorte Primary |
| 10 | Youth in Ag - Mount Gambier Saleyards Excursion
Last Day of Term 1 - Early Dismissal - 2:15pm | 19 | Intergrated Learning |
| | | 20 | Governing Council Meeting - 5:30pm |
| | | 27 | National Simultanenous Storytime |

Allendale Contact Information

Principal - Ms Kylie Smith

Assistant Principal - Ms Suzie Mitchell

Governing Council Chairperson - Lisa McGregor

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Office Hours: 8:15am - 4:00pm

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FOUNDATION / YEAR 1

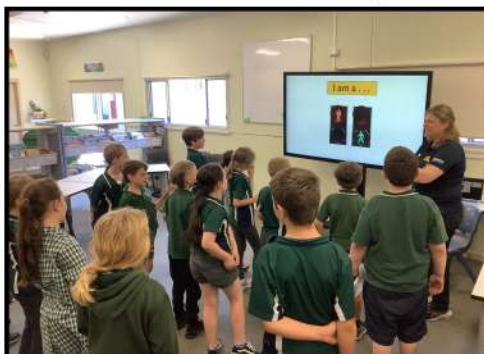
What a fantastic excursion the F/1 class had in Week 9!

The day began with an inspiring visit to an art exhibition at the gallery, showcasing “Animalia” by young Mount Gambier artist, Amaya Gamage. Amaya’s digital animal portraits, inspired by her experiences living with autism, were both beautiful and motivational. The artworks encouraged our students to dream big and appreciate creativity. After the gallery, students took part in an interactive session with well-known author and illustrator, Jonathan Bentley. Jonathan captivated the class with stories, including the popular “Bad Bunny” – a clear favourite, read twice by request! He also invited students to help with ideas and illustrations for his new book, sparking a high level of creative energy and participation. The day was topped off with the special gift of a signed book, which we enjoyed reading together upon our return to school. Students then created their own “Bad Bunny” drawings, making a wonderful connection between the excursion and our upcoming Easter celebrations.



STREET SMART

As part of the recent Street Smart incursion facilitated by the RAA, students from Foundation to Year 6 at our school engaged in tailored sessions designed to promote road safety awareness. Each year level took part in activities and discussions appropriate for their age, ensuring students gained relevant and meaningful knowledge. In particular, our Year 3-4 students actively participated in a session where they explored important safety principles, such as the correct way to wear seatbelts and helmets. They deepened their understanding of Australian traffic lights and road rules, and learned how to identify and use various types of safe road crossings, including koala, emu, and school crossings. Students also practised the “Stop, Look, Listen, Think” approach, equipping them with practical strategies for making safe choices around roads. We are grateful to the RAA for providing these informative and interactive experiences, which have empowered our students to be more aware and responsible road users.



SAPSASA ATHLETICS

In perfect weather conditions, 11 AEAS students, accompanied by Ms Mitchell, travelled to Mount Gambier High School to participate in the regional Primary Schools Athletics Day. This event serves as a selection trial for the Lower South East SAPSASA Athletics team, which will compete in Adelaide later in the year. Students were permitted to enter up to four events each, competing in their age groups rather than year levels. Throughout the day, each age group was chaperoned by staff who guided them to their scheduled events in a rotational manner. Other staff, assisted by Mount Gambier High School senior students, remained stationed at individual events to help with their smooth running. Our students thoroughly enjoyed the day and competed with great enthusiasm, achieving the following outstanding results:

- Eva Hape: 3rd in Year 2014 Girls Long Jump.
- Chelsea Grosvenor: 3rd in Year 2016 800m.
- Asta Staples: 3rd in Year 2017 Shot Put.
- Zaylee Welsh: Made the final in 200m.
- Liam Tulak: Reached the final six in the Year 2017 100m sprint, placing 5th overall.

Congratulations to all 11 AEAS students—Cora, Will, Leo, Zarli, Asta, Liam, Harry GB, Chelsea, Eva, Hunter and Zaylee—for showing courage and determination in entering this event and competing against students from other schools, often in groups of up to 30. All participants demonstrated excellent behaviour and gave their best effort throughout the day. Thank you also to the parents who provided transport and supported our students on the day. Your involvement in our school community is greatly appreciated. Well done to everyone for representing AEAS with pride and respect!



MUSIC CHOIR

On Tuesday, 24 March, the Allendale East Festival of Music Choir attended a combined schools' choir rehearsal at McDonald Park Primary School. Our students joined forces with five other schools from the South East for this special event. Under the guidance of our facilitator, Robyn, the students worked through eight out of the twelve songs planned for this year's performance. Robyn provided expert tuition, focusing on the lyrics, pitch, and rhythm of each piece.

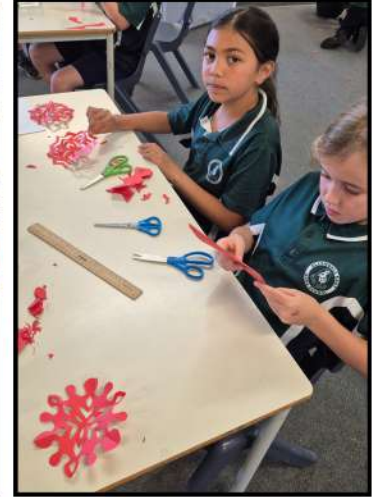
The Allendale East students were excellent representatives of our school and sang wonderfully throughout the rehearsal. Our group of 16 students continues to work diligently in our weekly rehearsals, building their skills and preparing for the Festival of Music performance in Mount Gambier in Term 3.

Mrs Maidment and Mr Thomas



CHINESE TEACHER VISIT

During Lan's visit, our Junior Primary students explored the rich diversity of China's many ethnic groups as part of Harmony Week. They enthusiastically coloured and created traditional hats and clothing inspired by a range of cultural groups, celebrating diversity through art and creativity. The Year 3/4 students delved into the history and cultural significance of Chinese paper cutting. Building on their understanding, they applied their knowledge by crafting a variety of intricate paper artworks to celebrate Chinese New Year. Our Year 5/6 students engaged in a hands-on cultural experience, making traditional Chinese knots and adding coins to symbolise good luck and prosperity. They also enjoyed tasting fortune cookies, drawing meaningful connections between cultural traditions and celebrations.



INTERSCHOOL

On Friday, 13 March 2026, Allendale East Area School proudly hosted the annual Interschool Sports Day, welcoming Kangaroo Inn Area School, Kingston Community School and Lucindale Area School to its vibrant grounds. Students competed across a range of track and field events, fostering a friendly rivalry and showcasing their athletic skills. In addition to the traditional sports, the day featured a new Headspace Marquee and novelty chicken toss event, providing students with diverse activities and opportunities to connect with friends. The grounds looked exceptional—a testament to the dedication and hard work of staff and students who collaborated to ensure the event ran smoothly. Competition among schools was fierce, with Kingston Community School taking home the overall victory, followed by Lucindale Area School in second place, Kangaroo Inn Area School in third, and Allendale East Area School in fourth. Allendale was honoured to receive the Senior Improvement Shield, a reflection of the determination and progress shown by its senior students. A notable highlight of the day was Zaria Shephard's outstanding achievement, finishing second overall in the Senior Girls division. The staff of Allendale East Area School would like to thank all visiting schools, volunteers, parents and supporters for their participation and enthusiasm, which once again demonstrates the power of community, teamwork, and spirit of Area Schools.

Below is a list of Individual Award winners on the day.

Sub Junior

Chelsea Grosvenor: 3rd High Jump, 3rd in 400.

Zarli Noble: 2nd Shotput.

Cora Hape: 100m 2nd.

Junior

Sophia Bramley: 2nd in Long Jump.

Alyirah Kayee: 1st in 100m, 1st in Shotput, 3rd in Hurdles.

Intermediate

Ava Spencer: 3rd in 800m, 3rd in 1500m.

Sienna Black: 2nd in Long Jump.

Ryleigh Virgo: 1st in High Jump, 1st in Javelin.

Senior

Zaria Shephard: 3rd in 1500m, 3rd in 200m, 3rd in Hurdles.

Declan Kain: 3rd in Hurdles.

Open

Joshua Virgo: 3rd in Long Jump.

Ryleigh Atchison: 2nd in Discus.

Photos included in the Term 1 Week 8 Newsletter.