

5th February 2026



Issue 1

Principals Report

Paul Marshall



Welcome back to all our students and families. We are looking forward to an exciting year with many activities and learning already planned. We hope you had a relaxing and restful break and are ready to jump into 2026.

SSG day

Our SSG day will be Friday 20th February. SSG's focus specifically on learning goals, however the first meeting is always a great opportunity to get to know each other. Students (and younger siblings) are welcome to attend. If you cannot make it in person, we are happy to complete the meeting via phone or online.

Curriculum day- student free

There will be a student free curriculum day on Friday 20th March. The staff will be learning about Aboriginal perspectives and culture. 30% of our student population are Aboriginal. We are proud of our connection with community and always want to improve the way we teach Aboriginal perspectives.

Social media

The law regarding social media use by young people has recently changed. Students under the age of 16 are not permitted to access social media platforms.

I have already been contacted by parents in relation to incidents of online bullying involving students. These situations are occurring outside of school hours and are linked to social media use.

Parents are asked to support their child in complying with the law by ensuring they are not using social media. These laws have been introduced in Australia to protect young people from harm, including bullying and inappropriate online behaviour.

When students are accessing social media contrary to the law, it can result in issues that impact learning time at school. Your support in addressing this at home is appreciated.

If concerns continue to arise, parents may be contacted to discuss why their child is still accessing social media platforms that are restricted for those under 16.

Thank you for your cooperation.



FEBRUARY

19th School Council—
5pm

20th SSG Meetings—
Student Free

MARCH

9th Labour Day Public
Holiday—Student
Free

19th School Council 5pm

20th Curriculum Day—
Student Free

APRIL

2nd End of Term 1—
Dismissal at 2:00pm

20th Term 2 starts

Willow the Wellbeing Dog



Lunch orders

Lunch orders are Monday, Wednesday and Friday. These are completed online. Information is included in this newsletter and on Facebook. The menu is amazing, fresh and is reasonably priced.

Start times

Students can be on site from 8:45am. This is when staff go on duty. The health and safety of students is paramount to us, as it is to you. Please do not drop off students before this time.

New staff

We are excited to announce several new staff, along with some returning staff members. Mitch- Teacher 7-9, Maddie- Trainee 7-9, Shannon- ES 7-9, Jemma- ES VL, Lili- ES F-2, Archie- ES 3-6 , Shiv- Wellbeing officer, Katie M- Teacher 7-9 and Michele - Teacher 3-6.

Swimming sports

We will be holding our swimming sports in Cohuna again this year. Cohuna is the perfect setting for our sports because many of our students come from there, it is quiet and we can book out the entire pool area. Plus, there is a water slide! The sports will be held on Tuesday 24th February for 3-6 and Thursday 26th February for 7-9 & VPC.

Buses

A reminder to call the bus and school if your child is absent. The numbers are always available on the newsletter. Also, contact the school and the bus if your address changes.

School council

Shortly we will be holding school council elections. Contact me if you would like to be on school council. We meet twice a term to discuss the running of the school. It is wonderful to get parent involvement to shape our amazing school.

Annual privacy reminder for our school community

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' privacy policy](#) and the [Schools' privacy collection notice](#).

Our Photographing, Filming and Recording Students policy describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn.

We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use our programs safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using our programs please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' privacy policy: information for parents](#). This information is also available in eleven community languages:

Our Vision

To provide inclusive and engaging learning that empowers all students for life

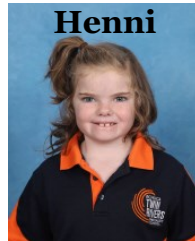
Our Values

Be Respectful
Be Inclusive
Be Responsible

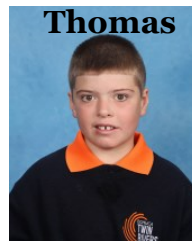


2026 School Captains

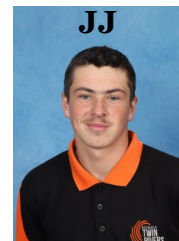
Captains



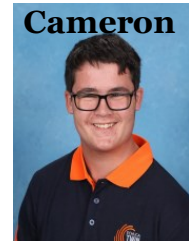
Henni



Thomas

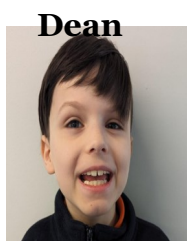


JJ



Cameron

Vice Captains



Dean



Liam



Blake

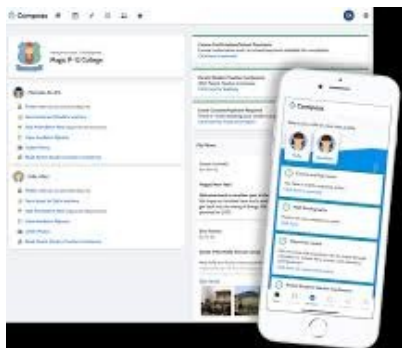


Archer



Levi

Beacon Leader



At Echuca Twin Rivers Specialist School would like to encourage all parent/carers to log into the Compass Parent Portal. All excursion will require you to give consent via the portal. Families can add absences, read the newsletter, view reports at end of Semester 1 & 2, contact your child's teacher, and look at your child schedule. It is a great resource.

2025 BUS STAFF

Rushworth:

0418 322 861

Neil, Anne & Sharon

Cohuna:

0418 847 627

**Alan & Lorraine &
Kylie**

Elmore:

0427 685 124

**Bill, Kevin, Jan,
Judy & Zoe**

Kyabram:

0448 981 278

Russell & Barb



Bus News



If your child is not on the bus can you please text the bus as early as possible .



Please be at your child's allocated bus stop 5 mins prior to the allocated time



The bus will wait 3mins at each stop after this time the bus will leave to keep to their schedule

**THIS SCHOOL IS
NUT FREE**



Echuca Twin Rivers Specialist School is a NUT FREE school due to staff and students having a high intolerance to nuts. Please avoid send your child to school with any nut items in their lunchbox.

Rugby Jumpers

In February we will send home orders forms for Rugby Jumpers. These are not compulsory. Rugby jumpers will be \$80 each

Primary School

Secondary School



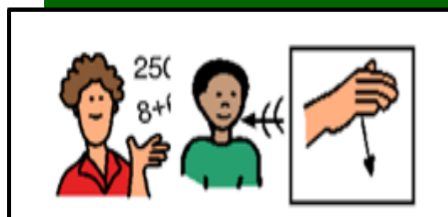
SWPBS Teaching Schedule 2026

Week	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
1	Classroom Systems	We take turns	We look after our belongings	We follow directions from staff
2	We follow directions from all staff	We use all equipment for its purpose	We share equipment	We ask for help when we need it
3	We ask for help when we need it	We keep our school clean and tidy	We use our manners and speak kindly	We support each other to learn
4	We support each other to learn	We help others when they need it	We communicate how we are feeling	We keep our hands and feet to ourselves
5	We keep our hands and feet to ourselves	We appreciate the diversity of others	We ask to join in	We look after our belongings
6	We look after our belongings	We do our work	We use all equipment for its purpose	We share equipment
7	We share equipment	We follow directions from all staff	We keep our school clean and tidy	We use manners and speak kindly
8	We use our manners and speak kindly	We ask for help when we need it	We help others when they need it	We communicate how we are feeling
9	We communicate how we are feeling	We support each other to learn	We appreciate the diversity of others	We ask to join in
10	We ask to join in	We keep our hands and feet to ourselves	We communicate how we are feeling	We follow directions from staff
11				We follow directions from staff



Be Responsible	Be Respectful	Be Inclusive
 We keep our school clean and tidy	 We use our manners and speak kindly	 We ask to join in
 We ask for help when we need it	 We appreciate the diversity of others	 We support each other to learn
 We look after our belongings	 We keep our hands and feet to ourselves	 We take turns
 We communicate how we are feeling	 We use all equipment for its purpose	 We share equipment
 We do our work	 We follow directions from all staff	 We help others when they need it

PBS Targeted Behaviour



We follow directions from all staff



Our school photos for 2026 will be held on Friday 22nd May. MSP Photography will be utilising our Compass Parent Portal sending links to families via the portal to order and pay for photo. We are encouraging all families to make sure they can access their portal. If you are having trouble please contact the office and we can help you.

Conveyance Allowance Applications

The conveyance allowance is a contribution towards transport costs and is not intended to cover the full cost of transporting children to and from school.

Eligibility:

An application on behalf of a student may be submitted if the student is:

- a Victorian resident;
- school aged and enrolled three or more days per week at a school; and
- attends a specialist school

A student who meets the above requirements may be eligible if they:

- reside 4.8km or more by the shortest practicable route from the school attended by private car from home to nearest bus stop or to school

If you reside 4.8km from your nearest bus stop & you think you may be eligible for the Conveyance Allowance, please contact Tracey or Jenni for an application form.

Application forms need to be in no later than 9th March 2026

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund [helps](#) ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's financial circumstances and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS and EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school excursions, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card [or](#) [succeed](#) an out of home care [student](#) you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid directly to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is \$400 for all school students.

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments:** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances:** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:
<https://www.vic.gov.au/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund>

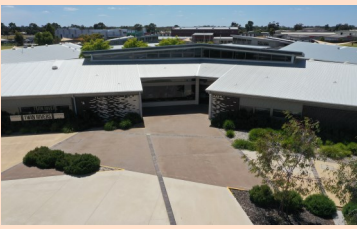
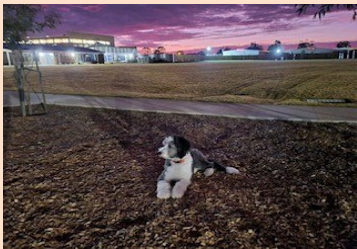


COMMUNITY NEWS

OUR SCHOOL

Echuca Twin Rivers Specialist School provides education for children ages 5-18 years with intellectual and associated disabilities. It services the Campaspe and Murray Shire area.

The school prides itself on having an open and welcoming environment that encourages



SCHOOL'S OUT! Quality Before and After School Care

BEFORE SCHOOL VACATION CARE AFTER SCHOOL

TAKING BOOKINGS NOW!
for more info
www.schoolsout.net.au

Why choose School's OUT!
Our Outside of School Hours Program is popular with both parents and children, the before and after school programs are not only educational but they are fun!
We pride ourselves on working with the local community, supporting businesses and giving your child positive experiences they will remember for a lifetime.
Children are given the chance to learn through play, nurture their artistic side, explore the world of sports or even sit quietly and watch a movie.
Every day we provide delicious and nutritious food for everyone to snack on and even give the children the chance to help prepare the food.
Our cooking lessons are wildly popular and will often yield yummy treats to be taken home. Perfect for the following days lunch box!

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFO
1300 329 106

**\$5 DONATED
BACK TO
YOUR SCHOOL?**
Ask one of our FIT EXPERTS in-store



Schnitz Echuca is doing a low Sensory hour

What to expect!
The store will turn down the music volume, the lighting will be reduced.

When is this happening?
It will happen every weekday between the hours of **3pm to 4:30pm** (hours can be adjusted, please contact the store if you would like to arrange this).

If we can make any adjustment of if there are any questions, please come into the store or call 03 4410 8901 or email echuca@schnitz.com.au



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ECHUCA VIC 3564
Phone: (03) 5410 7700 press 1

echuca.twin.rivers.ss@education.vic.gov.au
<https://www.echucass.vic.edu.au>