

# The Creek This Week

Andrews Creek Primary School



## Upcoming events

- Friday 5 December**  
LHS Orientation Day
- Thursday 11 December**  
Christmas Concert 5-7pm
- Friday 12 December**  
G6 Big Day Out  
EOY Reports home
- Monday 15 December**  
School Picnic K-6
- Wednesday 17 December**  
Shining STAR Assembly
- Thursday 18 December**  
Grade 6 Assembly  
Last day Term 4
- Thursday 29 January**  
Uniform Collection Day
- Thursday 5 February**  
First day Term 1 2026

## Principal's Message

With the final 2 weeks of school for 2025 now upon us it's a great opportunity to reflect on the year. During this time, we will be celebrating achievements of our students at our Shining Star and Year 6 assemblies. The first event however is our Christmas Concert next Thursday. The event will begin with a BBQ organised by the School Association from 5pm, followed by concert items from approximately 6pm. We look forward to seeing you all there and fingers crossed for good weather!

As we celebrate the year it has been great to reflect on the results of our students in their testing conducted earlier in the term. Progressive Achievement Tests for Reading and Mathematics are conducted in every school in the state and gives us a really great idea of how our students are faring compared to other students across the state and probably more importantly how each individual student is improving from year to year. Over the past few weeks teachers have been review this data as a part of our ongoing monitoring of student progress. During this review it was so pleasing to see 90% of our students achieved our benchmark goal while 84% of our students made medium or high gains in both reading and mathematics.

I'd like to also thank all our families for their support around students attendance this year. You would have seen in our fortnightly newsletters that our goal was to achieve an attendance rate of 91%. We just scraped in and met this goal which means that on average every student attended 4 more days of school than they did in 2024.

Teachers are currently busy finalising end of year reports, and these will be sent home next Friday. Included with these will be an evidence of learning sample and information about which class your child is in for 2026.

In this newsletter you will see our class structures and teachers for 2026. As you will see there will be numerous changes next year. While change can sometimes make us nervous it is also an exciting opportunity. Students will get an opportunity to go to their new classroom and meet their new teacher on the afternoon of Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>.

Yours in partnership,

Nathan Rockliff

### Attendance

School Goal  
91%  
Current  
rate  
91%

# School Association News

## ACPS Christmas Raffle – Not long left!

The Andrews Creek Primary School Association Christmas Raffle is still open so don't miss out!

With over \$4,900 worth of prizes up for grabs (including a Vuly Ultra 2 Trampoline, PitBoss Pellet Grill, kids' kayaks, photography vouchers, and so much more) this is our biggest raffle yet!

Tickets are just \$5 each, and all proceeds go directly back to supporting our school.

**Raffle will be drawn on Friday, 12th December 2025. Please send your tickets to the school office no later than 9am Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December.**

Buy online or share the link:

<https://events.humanitix.com/creekxmasraffle>

Let's make this our most successful raffle yet..

You've gotta be in it to win it!

## Buddy Bench Winner!

Please congratulate our Buddy bench competition winner pictured left! Her class will get to paint the buddy bench in her winning design!



**WINNER**

## ANDREWS CREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL Christmas RAFFLE

with over \$4900  
worth of prizes

Vuly Ultra 2 Trampoline with Basketball Hoop,  
Tent and Ladder  
PitBoss Pellet Grill Set  
2 x Kids Kayak  
\$750 photography Voucher with Maddie Paige  
and much more



RAFFLE DRAWN 12TH DECEMBER 2025

Grab your tickets now! Just scan the QR code or head to:  
<https://events.humanitix.com/creekxmasraffle>

## Prizes

Vuly Ultra 2 trampoline with Basketball Hoop, Cover and Ladder  
PitBoss Pellet Grill + Cover and Set  
Kids Kayak, Paddle and Life Jacket  
Kids Kayak, Paddle and Life Jacket  
\$750.00 Photography Voucher with Maddie Paige Photography  
\$350.00 Photography Voucher with Maddie Paige Photography  
Beach Cart + Beach Toys + Umbrella  
Cool Cabana and Beach Mat  
Pickle Ball Set  
SUP board, Paddle and Life Jacket  
Body Board  
Body Board  
Cricket Set  
Triple Waterslide  
Kids 16-inch Bike and Helmet  
Local Tasmanian Hamper  
Face Bar Gift Pack  
\$500 Tamar Blinds Voucher  
\$100 Dig This Voucher  
\$100 Cove Accommodation Voucher  
\$100 Tenpin Bowling Voucher  
\$100 Page Hire Voucher  
\$50 Page Hire Voucher

## \$5 tickets!!!

You've gotta be in it, to win it!

All proceeds go back to the Andrews Creek Primary School

# End Of Year Activities

## School Picnic

### **Monday 15 December**

Our picnic will be held in the last week of term on Monday, 15 December. Could all parents/carers please make sure that students have packed the following for the day:

- Morning tea & lunch as there is no canteen
- Big drink bottle of water
- Towel
- Bathers
- Sun safe hat
- Sunscreen
- Warm change of clothes; and
- Plastic bag.

Students are not required to wear school uniform but are to wear sun safe clothes on the day (eg no singlet tops). Grade 1 - 6 students will be at the pool between 9:30am and 2:15pm, and our Kinder/Prep students will be there from 9.30am - 1pm.

**The Major excursion form will be sent via email tomorrow and must be completed as a matter of urgency, otherwise your child will not be permitted to attend.**

## Shining STAR Assembly

### **Wednesday 17 December 9.15am**

This assembly is to celebrate our Kinder - Grade 5 students, will be held on Wednesday 17 December at 9.15am and hosted by our Grade 6 Student Council. Parents/carers of students receiving an award have now received an invitation via email. This assembly is open to any of our K-5 families who would like to attend however please be mindful that we have limited seating capacity. The choir will be performing two songs at this assembly and our Kinder students will also be performing their Christmas concert item.

## Grade 6 Celebration Assembly

### **Thursday 18 December 11.30am**

Last week parents/carers of our Grade 6 students received an invitation to the Celebration Assembly held on Thursday 18 December. This assembly is only for our Grade 6 families due to limited seating. **RSVP's are required no later than today, 4 December.** Seating labels with your child's name will be allocated according to the number of guests you RSVP'd for with a maximum of **4 guests per student.** Doors will open at 11.15am for an 11.30am start and the assembly will finish approximately 12.45pm.



**Festivities kick off at 5pm  
Concert starts at 6pm  
BBQ hosted by Port Sorell Lions Club  
Special guest Santa  
Blizzard Crew Coffee Van**



## Christmas Concert

### **Thursday 11 December 5.00pm**

Only 7 more sleeps until our Christmas Concert! Our students (and staff) have been practicing their acts very hard and can't wait to perform for you. The Port Sorell Lions Club will be hosting a BBQ from 5pm so come along for a sausage before the show kicks off at 6pm. Blizzard Crew Coffee Van will also be joining us from 5pm. The School Association Committee have organised Santa to visit us from 5.15-6pm and they will have a photo booth set up for parents to take photos if they wish (no charge).

Our concert will start at 6pm. Please make sure your child is sitting with their class at the front of the stage by 6pm. We will be starting with Kinder and then working our way through the classes, with Mr Wallace's class last. The evening will finish with our famous staff act.

**Please BYO chairs and enjoy the evening.** We are hoping for good weather. If we need to postpone the event, we will let the school community know via text message and Facebook on Thursday afternoon. **Our back-up day is scheduled for Friday 12 December.** If there is bad weather on Friday we will have to cancel our event. A reminder to parents this is a smoke, alcohol and pet free event. A very big thank you to Jaytric Logistics for again lending us a truck trailer as our stage.

## Grade 6 Big Day Out

### **Friday 12 December**

Our Grade 6's are heading to Launceston for the day as their celebration for completing Primary School. Students are heading to Hollybank to participate in tree rope climbing, to Hogs Breath for a Leavers Lunch and finishing with a play at Riverbend Park.

We are aware of some uncertainty around this excursion, and we will communicate updates to Grade 6 families as we receive them from DECYP.





## ACPS Basketball Tops

The basketball season has wrapped up for 2025 so please ensure you have returned all ACPS tops before Monday 8 December.

**Un-returned tops will incur a \$30 fee.**

## Schools Triathlon

Students arrived early on the day to prepare for the exhilarating races ahead of them. Once we arrived at the Bluff, students stared out the windows amazed by the 2000 kids ahead of them. As we clambered off the bus we split into two groups, one to put bikes away and one to set up the tent.

After we finished, we all sat down to have a snack before the grade 3 boys and girls began the individual. Not to forget Jack was the only grade 3 boy individual. As we all waited for the next race, we went off to explore boards with motivational speech and modified twister to win prizes (the prize was jellybeans).

As the day rolled on, we saw exhausted children. When the grade 4's, 5's and 6's finished it was time to have a quick break before the teams started. Finally, the exhausted children were finished, we rallied on to the bus to go home and end our day of racing and excitement.

*By Evie & Oliver*

Pictures on next page.

## Chess Competition

On Monday 14 of our students went to East Devonport Primary to participate in our second Chess tournament of the year. This was a fantastic opportunity for these students to build on their chess skills and build new friendships.

All our students (pictured above) were keen to improve from last tournament with many great celebrations from just being able to draw a game. With just two rounds remaining we were neck and neck in the race for top spot. In the end the team with greater tournament experience kicked away leaving us to take out second spot.

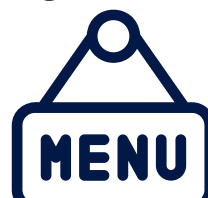
There were many great individual achievements with many of our players making it to the top ranked table through the day. Congratulations to Angus for finishing the day at the top ranked player's table. Onward to 2026 where with more training and experience we look forward to further tournaments.

## Creek Cafe

Our last Creek Cafe is happening next Wednesday with orders due tomorrow Friday 5 December.

Alana has prepared a "Special Canteen" menu for the end of the year which has both recess and lunch options!

**Due to the menu size no late orders will be accepted so don't forget to get them in by Friday!**







# Parent Handbook

Our 2026 parent handbook has been uploaded to our ACPS website for parents/carers to take a look. It has important information about our school here.

**Click the link below:**

<https://andrewscreekprimary.education.tas.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Parent-Handbook-2026.pdf>

# Class Structures & Staffing

Student will receive their 2026 class placement letters next Friday and met their new teachers and classmates on December 16 during our class transition session.

**Acting Principal:** Mr Nathan Rockliff

**Advanced Skills Teacher:** Ms Andrea Foster

**Support Teacher, Instructional Specialist and DT Teacher:** Mrs Serena Hinds

**Health & PE Teacher:** Mrs Courtney Hayes

**LIL and Pre-Kinder:** Mrs Sonya O'Toole

**Kinder:** Mrs Sonya O'Toole

**Prep:** Mrs April Bishop (4 days) & Miss Jessica Finch (1 days)

**Grade 1:** Mrs Debbie Bishop

**Grade 2:** Mrs Aimee Sayers (4 days) & Mrs Courtney Hardy (1 day)

**Grade 3/4A:** Mrs Abbie Bellchambers

**Grade 3/4B:** Ms Andrea Foster 2.5 days & Mrs Liz Griffiths 2.5 days

**Grade 4/5:** Mrs Jodie Gausden

**Grade 6:** Mr Phil Wallace

# School Levies

In 2026 our ACPS levy payments will be:

**Kinder : \$180**

**Prep-Grade 6: \$230**

Invoices will be sent out in late February 2026 and will be due by the end of March.

Financial Assistance is available to families on a health care card. For more information, please click here:

<https://www.decyp.tas.gov.au/learning/enrolment/student-assistance-scheme-stas-and-financial-help/>



# Uniform Collection

Only parents/carers who have uniform pre-ordered will need to come this day as levy invoices will be posted out in February, books and stationery will be handed out on the first day of school and validation forms will be done electronically next year. Please see the next page for more information on this.

If you did not place a back-to-school order in September there will be extra uniform items available however it is not guaranteed.

**Please visit our uniform shop on this day rather than waiting for day one of Term 1 as the office will be very busy.**

ANDREWS CREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL

**UNIFORM COLLECTION**

Validation Forms - will be sent via email on January 19

School Levies - will be posted out late February and due on 31 March

Book & Stationery will be handed to students on first day of Term 1

**THURSDAY 29 JANUARY 2026**  
**9AM-3PM**

LOCATION  
School Courtyard  
Please park on tennis court

MORE INFORMATION  
6428 4088  
megan.yasui@decyp.tas.gov.au

# Library Books

Library books were due back to school this week. Please check and make sure all ACPS library books are returned to school no later than tomorrow Friday 5 December.



# Validation Forms



## **Digitising our Student Information Forms**

ACPS is changing the way we collect and confirm important student information for 2026. This process was previously known as student information validation and required a paper form to be completed.

For 2026, we are trying a digital process to collect this information. This change is designed to make this process easier for parents and carers, whilst making sure we have accurate information to best support every student.

We are going digital by using EdSmart, a secure online platform used by schools across Australia.

EdSmart makes communication with parents and carers easier and quicker. EdSmart will be used to send digital forms (called Parent Slips) to collect information or permissions from you. We have started using these parent slips in Term 4 for Major Excursion Forms for excursions.

Our school is implementing a new digitised Student Information Update process. All families will receive digital forms via EdSmart unless a paper version is specifically requested. This change is designed to make updating student information easier and more efficient for everyone.

### ***How it works***

- You will receive an email notification with a link to a secure webpage to fill out a digital form.
- You can complete the digital form using a computer or mobile device.
- EdSmart uses a variety of security technologies and procedures to help protect your personal information from unauthorised access, use, or disclosure. For example, it stores the personal information you provide on computer systems with limited access, which are in controlled facilities. For more information, please view EdSmart's privacy policy.
- It is important that the school has your current email address so you can receive these notifications and access the digital forms.
- At this stage, EdSmart forms will only be sent to the parent/carer listed as the Main Contact in our school records. If you are not listed as the Main Contact, you will not receive the digital form at this time.

**Important - Please contact the school office if you would like to check or update your contact details.**

### ***Why we are making this change***

Student and family details can change over time. Having the most up to date information helps us:

- Keep students safe and well,
- Manage student medical needs appropriately, and
- Provide learning experiences that reflect your preferences and consent.

### ***What is changing***

ACPS is moving to a more flexible, digital process for updating your child's details.

- Easier and more convenient: Forms will now be available online (with paper copies still available if you prefer).
- Simpler and shorter: Instead of one large form each year, you'll receive smaller, topic-specific forms at different points during the year. This means you can provide updates when you need to without feeling overwhelmed by having to complete one long document.
- More meaningful: We have carefully reviewed what information we ask for to make sure we are only collecting information that we need.

### ***What this means for you***

This new approach should save you time, make information updates easier to complete, and ensure that the information we hold is accurate and up to date. This helps us to better support your child's learning, safety, and wellbeing.

If you would prefer to still receive paper forms, or if you have any questions about this information, please contact the school office.

# New Staff

# 2026

## **Sonya O'Toole (Kinder & LIL Teacher)**

Hello everyone,  
My name is Sonya O'Toole, and I'm thrilled to be joining Andrews Creek Primary School as the Kindergarten teacher in 2026. I have spent most of my teaching career working in Kindergarten, and I absolutely love helping our youngest learners begin their school journey with curiosity, confidence, and excitement.  
I live in Devonport and enjoy spending time in my garden. I also love trying new things — this summer, I'm planning to give painting a go! In my spare time, you'll often find me reading a good book or tackling a 1000-piece puzzle.  
I'm really looking forward to all the wonderful adventures ahead in 2026. It will be such a joy to teach your children and watch them grow as they play, explore, create, investigate, and have fun.



## **Liz Griffiths (3/4 Teacher)**

Hi everyone!  
My name is Liz Griffiths. I grew up in the North East of Tasmania and completed my schooling in the north of the state.  
I have been teaching for 16 years in Tasmania and East Gippsland in Victoria. For the majority of my career, I have worked at an independent school in Hobart but I have been lucky enough to spend time working in Catholic schools as well as for DECYP.  
Our family has recently relocated from Howden (South of Hobart) to Shearwater. My husband Dave and I have two young children, Elka and Noah. We like to travel, explore the outdoors, go camping and visit the beach with our dog, Loaki. I enjoy baking and playing sports socially, particularly basketball and netball.  
I'm really looking forward to working with you and being a part of the Andrews Creek School Community in 2026.



## **Jodie Gausden (4/5 Teacher)**

Hi, my name is Jodie Gausden, I am a creative and dedicated teacher committed to achieving strong student outcomes. With a passion for craft and a love for inspiring young minds, I bring both creativity and experience to the classroom. I graduated in 2013 and spent four years teaching in Devonport across Catholic and Department schools before moving to Circular Head, where I have enjoyed teaching for the past eight years. Outside of work, I cherish my role as a proud Nanma to a beautiful granddaughter Laila. I am excited to join the Andrews Creek Primary School team and look forward to contributing to a positive and engaging learning environment.

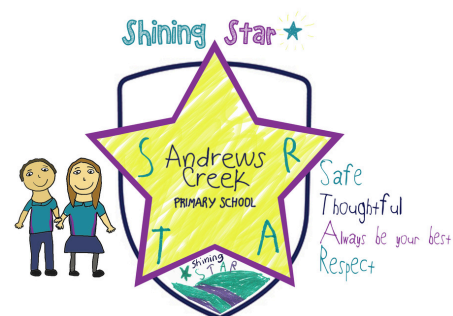




# STAR Cards

- Rhyan, Ivahna, Oliver P, Tarkine, Chelsea, Jack S**, - for perfect attendance in Dig Tech.
- Maci S**, - for respecting our new school equipment by working hard to keep our mud kitchen clean.
- Elizabeth** - for making incredible progress in her reading fluency.
- Brooklyn** - for working quietly today.
- Bella A**, - you're in the green zone.
- Evie** - Magnanimous improvements in one minute read.
- Oakley S**, - for incredible progress in his reading fluency.
- Jobe** - for setting a fine example for others to follow in the TRP.
- Kyle** - for helping a peer pack-up.
- Lincoln R** - enjoying games safely with peers at lunch time.
- Phoenix** - for having a fantastic day, showing kindness and care to our friends.
- Elliott** - for always being an Andrews Creek star in every way.
- Florence** - for reading quietly during partner reading time.
- Esther** - for always being a thoughtful and quiet class member.
- Lexi** - for putting your best effort into your artwork.
- Maeve** - for helping to keep our classroom clean and safe.

- Albie** - for being a super star listener.
- Jack** - for sharing and being a kind friend.
- Lexi** - for caring for someone who was feeling sad in the classroom.
- Kade** - Magnanimous improvements in MAZE assessment scores.
- Freya** - for tidying Mrs Hinds room and finding important resources.
- Nevae** - for asking respectful questions.
- Jack G** - for following instructions swiftly.
- Kayden R** - for safely dancing in the library during our music lesson.
- Hallie B** - amazing participation during music on Wednesday.
- Josh B** - for using amazing manners.
- Jimmy** - solid start to term 4 with his attendance.
- Archie J** - solid start to term 4 with his attendance.
- Eden** - solid start to term 4 with her attendance.
- Lyla** - for always including others in her play.
- Boston** - Well done on ten fabulous talking jobs for term 4.



Meet most of the friendly faces joining us next year in Kindergarten.

♥ Welcome to the Creek Family ♥



# Community News



## Lady Gowrie Tasmania is delighted to announce our intention to provide long day care services in Latrobe in 2026!

We're deeply committed to the Latrobe community and ensuring continuity of critical services for local children and families and job security in the region.

What's happening:

✨ An interim service on Gilbert Street will open in February 2026

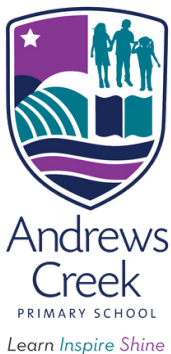
✨ A new purpose-built service on Cotton Street will open late next year

### Questions or want to stay informed?

Email: [latrobe@gowrie-tas.com.au](mailto:latrobe@gowrie-tas.com.au)

Learn more: <https://gowrie-tas.com.au>

Lady Gowrie Tasmania – 'Children First'.



## Contact



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(03) 6428 4088



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<https://andrewscreekprimary.education.tas.edu.au>



Tasmanian  
Government