

Introducing the Galilee Staff

Amy Burns



Hi Everyone,

I am Amy Burns and I am very excited to be Acting Principal at Galilee this year.

I started at Galilee in 2017 as Deputy Principal. I took Maternity Leave in 2018 - 2020 to look after my two boys; Archie and John. Archie is now 6 years old and in Year 1 at Galilee and Johnny is now 5 years old and has started Prep this year at Galilee.

I have been teaching for 19 years and I have held a range of leadership positions in the three different schools. I have been a Mathematics Leader, Learning and Teaching Leader, Religious Education Leader and Deputy Principal. I have taught all year levels from Prep - Year 6. This year I will complete my Masters of Educational Leadership in Mathematics from Monash University.

I love to swim and try to get to the pool or down to the beach as often as I can. I also love the footy, especially if Geelong are playing. Over the Christmas break I enjoyed spending time with my extended family at my Mum's farm in Western Victoria. We also went to Torquay for a family holiday.

I am excited about the year ahead and I look forward to working with you all.

Harvey Bidmade



Hello all,

This is my first year teaching at Galilee and I am super excited to be working as part of the Grade 5 team. After completing my final placement last year within the school I am stoked to be starting my teaching career within this school community. I have had a wide range of different teaching opportunities in both primary and secondary schools. Last year I also spent a period of time in the Solomon Islands working with their education system to provide students to achieve and be pushed to their potentials.

Being born and bred in Warrnambool I love the ocean, running and spending time with my friends/family. Outside of school I love heading to football and support Richmond.

I am looking forward to meeting all my students, their families and the wider school community.

Helen Borger
(nee
Rochecouste)



G'day Galilee Community!

I'm Helen Borger, and I'm thrilled to be part of this wonderful school for another year! Originally from England, I've been living in Australia for over 50 years, having moved here with my family as '10 pound poms.' What an adventure it's been!

This is my ninth year teaching at Galilee, and over the years, I've had the pleasure of working with students in Years 3, 4, and 5. It's such a special place, and I'm so grateful for the amazing students, dedicated staff, and supportive families that make it such a wonderful community.

I have two incredible adult daughters. One is married, so I'm lucky to have a fantastic son-in-law (still waiting for grandchildren though!). My youngest daughter is a singer, songwriter, music producer living in London, while my eldest daughter is here in Melbourne with her husband, and they run their own speech pathology business. I'm so proud of them both!

When I'm not teaching, you'll often find me enjoying the great outdoors. I love bush walking and bike riding, and I especially enjoy riding my bike to work. After work on Fridays, I like to head to the South Melbourne market to pick up some fresh produce. I'm also a supporter of Hawthorn in the AFL and Arsenal in the Premier League.

In the kitchen, I love cooking and eating mainly plant-based meals. I'm always up for trying new recipes! I also feel very blessed to be active in my church, where I continue to grow in my faith.

This year, I'm excited to be working with Adrian Webster in Year 3, and I know it's going to be a fantastic year filled with lots of learning and fun!

Looking forward to another wonderful year with you all!

Warm regards,
Helen Borger

Paddy Edwards



G'day everyone,

This year marks my third at Galilee, where I'll be teaching Grade 6 with Mr. Pensini and Mr. Kelly, and also working as the Wellbeing Leader alongside Julie Ferguson.

I'm in my 13th year of teaching, having started in London with relief teaching and later working at a Behaviour Referral Unit. After returning to Melbourne, I spent 8 years at St Andrew's Primary School in Clayton South.

Outside of school, I'm an Essendon fan (so, heartbreak is inevitable), a keen fisherman, and enjoy early morning snapper fishing off Sandringham. I also like to give the vocal cords a workout at karaoke every now and then.

I'm engaged to my fiancé Steph, and we're busy planning our May wedding while caring for our 8-month-old son, Jude.

I'm excited for the year ahead and look forward to seeing you all around the yard at pick-up.

Caleb Knappett



Hi everyone,

My name is Caleb, I am one of the Year 4 teachers at Galilee this year. This is my third year at Galilee. I live in West Footscray with my wife Karissa, my new baby daughter Perry and our two cats, Billy and Greg.

Outside of school I enjoy cooking and travelling. I love working at Galilee and I look forward to seeing you all soon, when I return from paternity leave.

Richard Harding



Hello everyone 😊

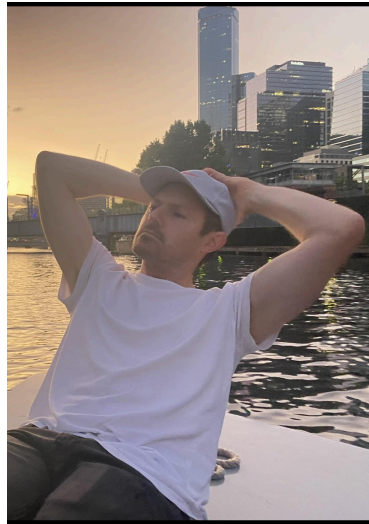
I'm Richard, one of the Deputy Principals here at Galilee. This is my third year here. I'm originally from the UK but have been here long enough to speak with a twang every now and again!

I live around the corner so I may well see you out and about. Please say hello! I don't mind. I'm an Evertonian by heart (Football is a round ball game to me!), and love to follow the England football, rugby, cricket teams.

You'll find me out and about with my three boys and wife Chenelle, going for coffee or venturing to a park. We've also started caravanning, which has been amazing.

See you around the school, or on the gate!

Marcus Page



Hello my name is Marcus and I'm a grade 2 classroom teacher and Digital Technology Leader here at Galilee.

In 2024, I graduated from the Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership and aim to build upon my learning by undertaking a technology driven research project in 2025.

I am dedicated to working hard and continually seeking new and innovative ways to enhance my teaching practice, ensuring I can support my students in achieving their best learning outcomes.

I have been a qualified teacher for 16 years and worked in both the primary and secondary sector. During this time, I also founded my own tutoring center and authored a book designed to help children develop greater creativity and purpose in their writing.

I enjoy all types of board sports, including skating, snowboarding, and surfing. I also have a passion for living off the land and practicing primitive survival skills, such as fishing, building shelters, and starting fires from scratch.

Nelson Perrott



G'day, I am one of the Learning Support Officers here at Galilee. I began placement for my Certificate III in Education Support at the end of term 2 of 2022. I started working here immediately after the completion of my course.

I have thoroughly enjoyed learning and developing in my role and I look forward to continuing to do so as I undertake my diploma this year.

I was a student here from 2006 - 2012, so it's been a great pleasure to reconnect with the school as well as its wonderful staff and community. I worked primarily with the year ones and preps last year and believe I will be continuing to work in a similar capacity this year.

A little about me, I love basketball, surfing, bouldering and of course Footy (Go Dogs!). I also really enjoy hands-on learning, particularly Lego Club, a Lego based social development program that myself and some of the other LSOs run week to week.

Finally, I'd like to think of myself as approachable so if you see me around feel free to say hello I'm more than happy to help however I can or just have a chat.

Rebecca McCormack



Hello, my name is Rebecca McCormack and this is my third year teaching at Galilee. I am excited to be teaching Year One again this year alongside Mr. Gethings and Mr. Daly.

I moved to Australia in July 2022 and have loved travelling around this beautiful country. I am originally from Ireland, where I taught in my primary school for six years.

In my spare time I enjoy travelling, reading, cooking and spending time with my friends. I am a member of a triathlon club and spend my evenings and weekends training for upcoming events.

I am looking forward to an exciting year ahead and meeting you all.

Rachel Leahy



My name is Rachel Leahy, and I'm excited to be starting my third year at Galilee! I'm thrilled to be teaching Year 4 again this year—there are so many fun and exciting things planned for our students.

I'm also continuing in my role as STEM Leader for the second year. Last year, we had a fantastic time in Brisbane with our STEM MAD finalists, and I'm hopeful we can take things to the national level again this year!

Originally from Ireland, I've lived and taught in both New Zealand and Melbourne since leaving in 2018.

When I'm not at school, I enjoy hiking, running, pilates, experimenting with new recipes, and planning trips away with friends.

I'm always happy to chat, so feel free to reach out!

Julianne Price



Hi everyone!

This is my 26th year at Galilee & as you can imagine I have seen many changes in that time. I have been privileged to work with many dedicated and wonderful teachers and seen our students flourish in Secondary schools and beyond.

I have loved my time here and managed to continue studying throughout the years, mainly in Special Education, Literacy & completed the Masters in Education - Student Wellbeing. I have had many varying roles - mainly in Leadership Roles - Deputy Principal - 8yrs, Student Wellbeing & Diversity/NCCCD, Literacy & varying classroom roles.

We have a wonderful community at Galilee and our parents have always played a very important role.

I am now in my twilight years of education, so this year I am working here on a Wednesday in Yr. 3W replacing the Mathematics Leader, Adrian Webster and I am thoroughly looking forward to it.

Seb Greene



Hello everyone!

My name is Seb Greene and I am the school's Physical Education (PE) teacher as well as the Sports Coordinator, Parent Liaison Leader and I also coordinate the Emergency Teachers. You'll see me in the gym, out in the school yard and at other sporting events throughout the year!

Always up for a chat, so please introduce yourself.

This will be my third year at Galilee and cannot wait to get into the sporting year again.

I watch a lot of sports myself and play football on the weekends.

I know how to use Canva too.

		<p>I support Liverpool, North Melbourne Kangaroos and GreenBay Packers. My supporting calendar year has a lot of ups and downs.</p>
<p>Ricky Daly</p>		<p>Hi everyone!</p> <p>My Name is Ricky Daly and I will be working in 1D this year.</p> <p>Prior to working at Galilee, I was teaching in Perth, Western Australia for 4 years. After making the move to Melbourne I was lucky enough to find myself teaching Performing Arts at Galilee, beginning Semester Two of 2024.</p> <p>Outside of teaching, I enjoy all things sport. A hopeful West Coast Eagles supporter and frustrated golfer are two things you could describe me as.</p> <p>I'm looking forward to teaching the Year 1 this year and look forward to meeting everyone.</p>
<p>Holly Evans</p>		<p>Hi! My name is Holly Evans and I am the Literacy Leader, Learning Diversity Leader, Early Years Leader and Acting Deputy.</p> <p>In 2025, I will be working with students and teachers from Prep to Year 6 to help enhance literacy and language skills and continue to develop student growth in English.</p> <p>In my Learning Diversity role, I have the privilege of getting to know each student's unique learning profile and learning more about their strengths, interests and challenges.</p>

		<p>I have a passion for early years education and was a Prep teacher at Galilee for 9 years. I developed the 'Seeds and Sprouts' program and love helping students with their transition from kindergarten to school.</p> <p>I am a proud puppy mum to Kobe Eugene, we spend our free time throwing the ball and going on beach walks. I enjoy cooking, visiting vintage markets, playing board games with my partner Mark and spending time with family and friends.</p>
<p>Adrian Webster</p>		<p>G'day! I'm Adrian and I am the Year 3 Classroom teacher and Maths Leader at Galilee for 2025!</p> <p>I started at Galilee in 2023 as the Year 5 classroom teacher and STEM Leader. This is my 14th year teaching and I am very happy to be back in a Catholic School community. I have spent the past few years at Geelong Grammar School and at Xi'an Liangjiatan International School in China. My particular passions are in the International Baccalaureate and Inquiry learning.</p> <p>In 2025 at Galilee we have a big focus on Learning and Teaching of Mathematics. I am looking forward to doing all the little things to facilitate success for students, teachers and leaders at Galilee in Mathematics.</p> <p>My wife Iris and I have a daughter Dorothy (4). You'll most likely find me cycling on Beach rd most weekends, riding in the bunch. I also like going to the gym and doing a bit of boxing during the week.</p> <p>I'm looking forward to meeting you all and having a chat.</p>

Brian Kelly



Hello everyone. My name is Brian Kelly and this year I am working as one of the Year 6 teacher and for half a day in Prep B and Prep C. It will be exciting working at different ends of the school, helping the Preps to get settled and started in primary education and at the other end, facilitating the sixth graders to become leaders of the school.

I was born and raised in Roscommon in Ireland. I graduated from St Patrick's teaching college in 2019 and taught in Dublin for 4.5 years before moving to Melbourne in January 2024. I worked as a CRT in different schools in the Melbourne area last year and was delighted to be offered full time work in Galilee for 2025.

I love playing and watching sports. I played various sports from a young age and presently I play Gaelic football with a club based here in Melbourne. I am a big fan of Liverpool, American Sports and the Western Bulldogs too.

I look forward to meeting you all through the school year.

Alex Pensini



Hello all, my name is Alex Pensini and I will be one of the Year 6 teachers at Galilee and I am the Religious Education Leader for 2025.

Originally from the sunny state of Western Australia, I made the move to Victoria in 2022 and haven't looked back. This is my third year at Galilee and I have loved every minute working here.

A bit more about me, I love all things sport! In my spare time I love watching any form of sport, but in particular, watching the mighty Richmond Tigers play.

I am also a bit of a foodie and love cooking up a variety of succulent delicious meals on the weekend, but mainly stick to my famous Pesto Pasta.

I'm very excited to start the school year and I look forward to getting to know you all.

Rosa Serratore




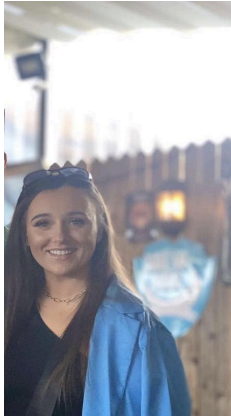

Hey everyone!



I am Rosa, one of the Learning Support Officers at Galilee and have been working here for 23 years.

I have worked in all year levels but mostly in the junior classes. Last year I assisted Holly Evans with the readiness program Seeds and Sprouts, which supports the transition from kindergarten to School. Looking forward to assisting with the program in 2025. My role is very rewarding and fulfilling, especially watching the students' growth and progress throughout the year.

I am married with 2 adult twin boys. I enjoy music/dancing and follow the Carlton a Footy Club.

		<p>I look forward to another year at Galilee and to all the opportunities it may present.</p>
<p>Connie Gargano</p>		<p>Hi everyone!</p> <p>I am one of the Learning Support Officers here at Galilee. I began my placement in 2022, after completing my Certificate III in Education Support during lockdown. With a Bachelor of Arts in Communications and Visual Arts and a career in HR, I was very excited to join the Learning and Diversity Team, following my passion for supporting children with special needs in Education.</p> <p>Having lived in the area for the past 26 years I feel extremely fortunate to be working with children and families from our local community,</p> <p>I am a proud mum of 2 teenage boys and spend most weekends as a team manager for their domestic basketball team and also watching them play footy, rowing and volleyball. In my own time I enjoy catching up with friends, walking, reading, music, hiking and am guilty of bingeing on the odd Netflix etc. series.</p> <p>I'm really looking forward to getting to know and working with all our lovely new staff, students and school community at large.</p>
<p>Julie Ferguson</p>		<p>Hello Everyone!</p> <p>I was born and raised in Dublin, Ireland and have been teaching since 2013. In 2016, I moved to Melbourne with my Australian husband, Scott.</p> <p>I joined the Galilee community in 2018 and spent much of my time here working alongside our wonderful Year Sixes, an experience I've thoroughly enjoyed. Last year, I stepped into the role of Wellbeing Leader alongside Paddy Edwards, where I've found great fulfilment in supporting the overall wellbeing of our students.</p>

		<p>In 2023, I began studying counselling and successfully completed my coursework in June of 2024. Since then, I've had the privilege of working with Tal Silverstein to provide counselling services and wellbeing programmes for our community.</p> <p>Outside of work, I love spending weekends baking in the kitchen with my two-and-a-half-year-old daughter, Delaney, cycling around Melbourne on our family tandem bicycle and playing netball – sometimes even against some of the Galilee mums!</p> <p>I'm excited about the year ahead and look forward to getting to know all of you better.</p>
Olwyn Bergin		<p>Hello everyone,</p> <p>I'm Olwyn, I began working at Galilee in July 2024 as an LSO. I'm from Kilkenny, a small town in Ireland. I moved to Melbourne in March of last year.</p> <p>Outside of school, I enjoy traveling, taking day trips to the beach, and spending time with friends.</p> <p>I'm excited for the year ahead and look forward to meeting everyone!</p>
Rachel Keenan		<p>Hello everyone</p> <p>My name is Rachel and I have travelled from Ireland to Melbourne. I will be working as a learning support officer this year.</p> <p>During my free time I enjoy running, playing Gaelic football and going for an almond croissant and coffee.</p>

		I look forward to meeting everyone throughout the year!
Shane Gethings		<p>Hello everyone,</p> <p>My name is Shane Gethings and this is my third year teaching at Galilee. This year, I will be teaching in year one alongside Miss. McCormack and Mr. Daly.</p> <p>A little about myself, I am from tropical Dublin, Ireland and I moved to Melbourne in September 2022. I previously taught in an inner city school in Dublin before making the big move down under.</p> <p>I am really interested in all things sport and keeping active. I play Gaelic football for St. Kevin's GAA club Melbourne and you will often find me losing golf balls at Albert Park. Please reach out if you have any golfing tips.</p> <p>I'm very excited to start the new school year and I look forward to getting to know you all.</p>
Daniel Booth		<p>Hola!</p> <p>I'm Dan, and I'm teaching in grade 2 this year. I love learning and teaching in general and always look for innovative ways to make my teaching fun and engaging. I'm looking forward to another fantastic year at Galilee with my new class. This is me in my natural habitat, otherwise I can be found around watering holes rehydrating or on some sort of sports field. I love a chat so please stop and say G'day!</p>

Linda
Florenca-Grillo



Hi All,

I am Mrs Linda Grillo and this is my 19th year at Galilee; prior to this I worked at various schools in the Northern Region (15 years).

During my time at GRCPS I have fulfilled the roles of Prep Classroom Teacher, Literacy Leader/Literacy Intervention and Reading Recovery Teacher.

Since mid 2021, my main position at the school has been Visual Arts Teacher; a role which I thoroughly enjoy teaching and sharing my love for all things 'arts and crafts', with the students of Galilee.

Outside of school, I like to cook/bake, read, craft, catch up with friends/family and go to the footy to watch my beloved Bombers! During the past 12 years I have been lucky enough to annually visit my elderly parents who live in Madeira, Portugal (that's right - Cristiano Ronaldo's homeland!).

My husband and I have been blessed with a wonderful daughter, who currently works as an Occupational Therapist.

I look forward to supporting your children throughout the year, in their creation of amazing masterpieces!

Anna Petrarca





Salve! Buongiorno!

My name is Anna Petrarca, the children know me as 'Signora Petrarca', I teach Italian.

I have been teaching for 30 plus years. Before coming to Galilee, I taught in the Government School.

Over the years I have been fortunate to work as a classroom teacher in Prep to 6, Reading Recovery, P.E and Italian.

		<p>I enjoy spending time with family and friends, keeping fit, exploring art and architecture, new cafes, galleries and places with my husband and love a good Italian coffee.</p> <p>I also have a passion for wellbeing, psychology and learning.</p> <p>Last year I travelled overseas with my husband and had the best time visiting Italy, Paris and Switzerland and spending some time with family.</p> <p>I look forward to working with the children and continuing to develop their love and enjoyment of Italian.</p>
Paul Mapley		<p>Hi Everyone, I'm Paul.</p> <p>I have two major roles at Galilee - LSO and Facilities Leader. I have been connected to Galilee for some time as a parent and now staff member. I love working with the students, staff and the entire community.</p> <p>I look forward to working with everyone this year for what promises to be another brilliant year at Galilee.</p>
Wendy Dalton		<p>Hello everyone and welcome to Galilee in 2025.</p> <p>I am in the office with Cate and Adrienne and together we make a terrific team!</p> <p>I look forward to seeing you throughout the year and hope that it is a fabulous one for us all.</p>

Cate James



Hi everyone

My name is Cate, and you will find me in the office with Wendy and Adrienne on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

I love working in our busy school office.

Out of work I enjoy swimming, SUP, and a bit of cooking. I have two sons and two grandchildren, and a new Jack Russell puppy.



I'm looking forward to seeing you all this year.

Adrienne Dalton
de Burgh



Hello :D, I am in the office three days a week (Wed/Thurs/ Fri) with Wendy and Cate.

I love cooking, eating and very much enjoy being at Galilee.

<p>Leagh O'Byrne</p>		<p>Hi everyone,</p> <p>My name is Leagh and I am one of the prep teachers this year at Galilee. This will be my second year working as part of the Galilee community.</p> <p>I'm originally from County Wexford, which is in the south-east of Ireland. I went to university in Dublin where I graduated as a teacher in 2014. I spent the first 4 years of my teaching career in a beautiful school in Wexford, until I moved to Australia in 2019. Since moving here, I have done a combination of casual relief teaching and travelling around as much of Australia as I could! Last year I returned to the classroom full time and thoroughly enjoyed my first year here at Galilee.</p> <p>Outside of school, I love to travel and keep active through running and swimming.</p> <p>I'm really looking forward to a great year in Prep and to meeting you all.</p>
<p>Carlo Martello</p>		<p>Ciao!</p> <p>My name is Carlo Martello. I am so happy to be back at Galilee after being on Long Service Leave in 2024.</p> <p>I'm excited to announce that Galilee will have a whole school concert this year. More information about auditions and rehearsals will be coming out soon. I am looking forward to working with students and the community.</p> <p>Outside of school, my family has a new addition. His name is Fernando, my Golden Retriever.</p> <p>I can't wait to take Galilee to the Disco this year.</p>

Mikaila Greenan



Happy 2025 to all!

My name is Mikaila Greenan and this is my fourth year at Galilee. You may recognise me as Book Day's 'Gangsta Greenan', Professor Umbridge or Thelma the Unicorn.

This year I will be teaching Year 5 which I am thrilled about! I am also co-leading Digital Technology here at Galilee where we aim to promote Digital Literacy for our students, empower our staff and families to embrace the Digital Era and promote an open attitude to Cyber Safety.

This is my fifth year living in Australia, as I am also originally from Ireland. I have lived and worked as a teacher in QLD, NSW and Victoria. I am currently in the process of obtaining my Australian Citizenship, which I feel eternally grateful for as Australia means so much to me. I have been blessed to have become part of such a wonderful school community at Galilee. I have gotten to know a huge number of families and made strong connections with staff, students and parents.

Outside of school, I love camping, keeping active, socialising, travel and being creative. Please come say hello! :)

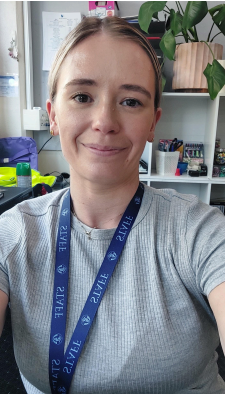

Becky Kavanagh



Hi, I'm Becky.

I am one of the Prep Teachers for the 2025 school year. This is my 8th year teaching and my 3rd here in Galilee. I am really looking forward to teaching this year alongside my fellow Irish cailini (girls!).

I moved to Australia three years ago and have loved every moment of it, however I miss my family and my puppy in Ireland a lot.

		<p>After school I usually head to the beach for a swim, go for a run or I enjoy baking something tasty to have as a dessert after my dinner.</p> <p>I am really looking forward to another year here in Galilee.</p>
<p>Caoimhe Kennedy</p>		<p>Hello! My name is Caoimhe, and I'm the Prep C teacher for 2025. This is my third year teaching Prep at Galilee, and I'm so excited to be working with the Preppies again this year! We've got lots of exciting experiences to look forward to together.</p> <p>Originally from Cork, Ireland, I've been teaching for 7 years in Australia, New Zealand, and Ireland. I love making learning fun for the children through crafts, STEM exploration, singing, and dancing.</p> <p>I enjoy riding my bike to school in the mornings and swimming at the beach on weekends. If it's not too windy, I'll take out the stand-up paddle. In the evenings, you'll usually find me reading a good book.</p> <p>I can't wait to see how much this year's Preps will learn and grow at Galilee!</p>
<p>Tal Silverstein</p>		<p>Hi!</p> <p>My name is Tal, and I am the school counsellor at Galilee PS.</p> <p>Originally from Israel, I am married to Michael and together we are proud parents to our three lovely young adults. In my free time I love practicing Yoga, I go for runs, I also love walking, singing and I am always happy to cook a healthy meal!</p> <p>With many years of experience working with children and specializing in parenting support, I am here every Monday, to support your child and assist you with any concerns or questions regarding their well-being, behavior, or development.</p> <p>Please feel free to reach out if you ever need guidance or support. I look forward to working together to ensure the best for your child.</p>

