



Calder Chronicle

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THURSDAY, 14TH MAY 2020

CALENDAR

Wednesday, 20th May
Monday, 25th May
Tuesday, 26th May
Friday, 29th May
Monday, 8th June
Tuesday, 9th June
Wednesday, 24th June
Friday, 26th June
Monday, 13th July
Wednesday, 22nd July
Wednesday, 12th August
Wednesday, 2nd September

Year 5/6 Camp Deposit of \$100 due
Pupil Free Day
On site school resumes for Prep, Year 1 & Year 2
Year 6-7 application forms due to Janet
Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
On site school resumes for Years 3-6
Year 5/6 Camp Second Instalment of \$80 due
Last day for Term 2
First day for Term 3
Year 5/6 Camp Third Instalment of \$80 due
Year 5/6 Camp Final Instalment of \$60 due
Year 5/6 Camp departs – proposed date, subject to restrictions

School Organisation

Dear Parents / Guardians,

It's been an interesting week, with announcements made signalling the return to on site teaching and learning, in a staged approach. Throughout this newsletter, I will endeavour to spell it out as best I can so it is more digestible for you.

NEXT WEEK, 18TH – 22ND MAY (WEEK 6)

All children continue to work remotely from home, as do classroom teachers and Education Support Officers. The only children on site are those who have booked in for on site supervision next week – bookings for this service have now closed in line with DET guidelines. Apologies, no late applications can be received.

STATEWIDE CURRICULUM DAY, MONDAY, 25TH MAY

Monday, 25th May, the start of Week 7, has been announced across the State of Victoria as a PUPIL FREE / CURRICULUM DAY. Due to this, there will be no school, including remote schooling OR on site supervision on this day. Care arrangements for your child will need to be organised by each household for Monday, 25th May. The purpose of this day is to give all teachers and Education Support Officers the time to prepare for the switch back to on site learning.

TUESDAY, 26TH MAY

On Tuesday, 26th May, all children in Prep, Year 1 & 2 will return to on site learning at Big Hill Primary School. Children in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 remain off site, following remote learning until Tuesday, 9th June. During this period of time (26/05 – 09/06 - Weeks 7 and 8) on site supervision will still be offered to children in Years 3 – 6 who currently use the service OR where a family can demonstrate to the Principal (phone call) that their circumstances have changed. Weekly on site booking forms will still be required for each week, lodged by Close of Business each Thursday (3:15pm). If you also require OSHC for your on site or Prep/Year 1/2 children, please email Janet to book in.

ONLINE PLATFORMS

Next week, all classes continue to follow online learning platforms outlined below. Students using on site supervision also follow the same online platforms. No formal teaching is occurring.

<https://firststepsunitbhps.edublogs.org/>

For children in Pauline, Nicole and Jen's classes – Prep & Year 1

<https://juniorunitbhps.edublogs.org/2020/03/24/welcome-to-our-remote-learning-blog/>

For children in Rhys or Catherine's classes – Year 1 & 2

<https://34bighill.edublogs.org/sample-page/>

For children in Dean, Wendy and Renae/Sandra's classes – Year 3 & 4

<https://sites.google.com/view/learnchinesebendigo/home>

For children Prep – Year 6 to access their Chinese lesson each week

Our Senior Unit Students are working through Showbie – instructions for children and families from Lauren/Roberta, Brett, Zoe and Kate's classes have been shared. If you have access issues, please contact your child's teacher via email.

TUESDAY, 9TH JUNE (WEEK 9)

From Tuesday, 9th June, just after the Queen's Birthday Holiday / June Long Weekend...all students in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 will return to Big Hill Primary School for on site learning. At this stage, all students will have returned and shall be completing normal classroom programs with their teachers.

WEEK 9, 10 & 11 – Tuesday, 9th June – Friday, 26th June

For the remaining three weeks of Term 2, we will run normal classroom programs, however, no formal excursions, gym programs, incursions etc will occur. We are also unable to run whole school assemblies and large Unit meetings until further notice.

UNWELL?

If your child is unwell, you are unwell etc, please act accordingly and get tested... Please do not come on site until you have clearance – and your child is cleared as well. We need to keep our service running. This means we all need to be vigilant. If your child becomes unwell, we will call you to arrange pick up as soon as possible.

On site supervision is made as safe as possible, but with outbreaks still occurring in Victoria (eg McDonalds Fawkner and Abbatoir), you can understand why we want children picked up straight away if they are feeling unwell. Whilst numbers of unwell are lowering across the country, there are still cases and outbreaks... and where outbreaks occur, many exposures occur... so to keep our children on site and staff on site safe... stay home if you are sick and be available to come on site if your child falls ill whilst being supervised on site.

VISITS TO THE SCHOOL

If you have to come on site, please follow social distancing rules to keep our staff safe. Visits should only be to the Office area. General school grounds are out-of-bounds, unless prior arrangement has been made. We need to keep our grounds safe for those limited staff and children on site. As mentioned above, playgrounds are closed, as are drink stations. These are used out-of-hours and can't be hygienically cleaned for the protection of those on site Monday to Friday.

We are preparing also for the return to on site learning, so expect to see some new regulations in place, including the discouraging of adults on site, no adults indoors unless invited, different drop off and pick up times, social distancing reminders, hygiene prompts etc. This will all be in line with what the Department of Education and Training (DET) are directing us to do –whether you agree or not, please follow the rules we are asked to enforce. More details next week.

SOCIAL INTERACTION

Now with the lifting of restrictions, families can organise short playdates at each other's homes if you feel it is safe to do so – just keep social distancing. This might alleviate some of the isolation and sadness your child has experienced and help them to see that life will go back to normal.

THANK YOU!

All I can say is thank you to our Mums, Dads, Grandparents, Carers, Staff and of course children for continuing to do a great job whilst working remote. Yes – it's hard. Working with your own child is not the same as teaching them. It's much harder... so thank you for not giving up! Your child is the beneficiary of your perseverance... so it is so worth pushing through!

Our Staff too, quite often are multi-tasking...running a classroom, supporting homes and often supervising their own children OR at times, supervising children on site. Flexibility has really been developed. With one week of Prep, Year 1 & 2 remote to go, keep up the great work. For Years 3 – 6... you have three more weeks to knuckle down and do your best work!

CHECK IN

Could parents double check that their children are submitting tasks to teachers regularly? A small number of children are not always submitting work or staying in touch with staff... and it is important for them to do so. If you could double check their learning platforms, check your own emails etc and make contact with teachers to ensure children are up-to-date, that would be great. Most staff are ringing families also – often as an unknown number... so please don't ignore these calls. Have a quick conversation to check all is well for your child and their learning.

CAMPS

We have information out about our Senior Camp in early September. Parents have been encouraged to pay a deposit just in case. Presently, we can't go on a camp... but in September... we might be able to. My concern is families not being able to find the money at short notice, so we are suggesting paying off the camp just in case... money will be refunded if the camp is unable to proceed.

Our Middle Unit also has a camp in September... and at the same time as the Senior Unit... again... probably wise to start putting some money away for this.

The Middle Unit have a survey to complete, to gauge interest. Visit: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YKTCRHV> over the next few days to record your thoughts and interest. At this stage, we just can't say without doubt that camps are cancelled over 3 months away – so what's better for you? Having some money put aside or suddenly looking for that \$200 - \$300 with a few week's notice?

ATTENDANCE

We mark the roll each day... however, if a teacher feels a child is not engaging in their work, they may have to mark the roll as an absence. To have your child marked as present each day, please ensure you are responding to teacher emails, answering phone calls, Webex meetings OR return completed work to teachers when requested. The Junior Unit and Middle Unit are using Class Dojo now to communicate – making things easier.... whereas the Senior Unit have the children working on Showbie and submitting work there. For our First Steps children, teachers ask for samples of work to be shared regularly... this also helps us know you are all ok and working effectively at home. Should your child be unwell, please email your child's teacher, myself (pearce.matthew.d@edumail.vic.gov.au) or Janet Dean (dean.janet.j@edumail.vic.gov.au) so the roll can be marked accordingly. When your child is unwell, there is no expectation that they would be working remotely... we just need to mark the roll to reflect this.

YEAR 6-7 APPLICATION FORMS

Just a friendly reminder that the Year 6-7 application forms are due to be emailed back to Janet at dean.janet.j@edumail.vic.gov.au by Friday, 29th May. Thank you to those families who have already returned them. If you need assistance, please do not hesitate to email Janet for advice. Thank you.

KINDER – PREP ENROLMENT

The time is fast approaching where current kinder parents will choose the school of their choice. As we work in partnership with our local primary schools, our enrolment program and processes will be shared on our webpage and in local media in the near future. For parents wanting to organise a tour, we are unable to provide school tours currently due to COVID-19 restrictions. When a time arrives when this can be done safely, we will advise on our website. Our contact for Prep enrolment is Janet Dean, who is able to email our information and enrolment packs when required.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

I have sent our School Council documentation... as well as signalled our meeting at 6:00pm, next Tuesday, 19th May. The meeting will occur through Webex, on site and via phone hook-up. If you prefer to come on site, we will be socially distant when meeting in a large room in front of a Webex board... If you prefer to dial in, please let me know so that I can organise a call to be made to you from the meeting room. This meeting won't be long...and we will actually discuss finance as part of the meeting initially... a quick ten minute share before beginning the May meeting at 6:10pm. Hope to see you there virtually or maybe even in person.

REPORTS – SEMESTER 1

Yes – you will receive a report at the end of Term 2. They will be largely modified in the comments to reflect the remote learning period and difficulty of assessing progress due to not having children on site for such a long period of time. We anticipate sending home reports on the final day of Term 2. Parent Teacher Interviews will occur next Term – more than likely, remotely through Webex etc.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to Grace VS, Otis M, Vienna F, Kobe B, Caleb H, Jesse B, Nate F, Jett E & Jacob W.

I could have shared a lot more information about the return to on site learning, however, feel there's enough information out for you to prepare for now. Rest assured, I will continue to update through Facebook, Flexibuzz and our website in the coming weeks.

Enjoy the easing of restrictions over the weekend – maybe see that family member or friend you've been missing... staying safe of course.

Kind regards,

Matt Pearce, Principal

FIRST STEPS NEWS

WEBEX WHOLE CLASS VIDEO CALL

Today all First Steps classes took part in their first whole class video call. Thank you to the parents that helped assist their child during the video call. It was great to see so many children participating. The children and teachers loved seeing their classmates again.

REMOTE LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

FSN Mia T & Mason P

FSJ John C & Addison H

FSP Riya S & Popsy S

Nicole, Jen, Pauline & Sharyn

JUNIOR UNIT NEWS

RETURN TO LEARNING AT SCHOOL

We will be returning to school on Tuesday, 26th May which is very welcome news. This means that Friday, 22nd May will be the final day of remote learning as Monday is a pupil free day.

THANK YOU

A huge thank you to all families who have been so supportive and committed to their child's learning during this period. We ask that you continue to keep students motivated and on task at home, as there is still lots they can learn between now and the return to on site learning.

We want students used to a routine of learning when they return to school. This will help them to adjust back to the school environment and to hit the ground running for the rest of term. You have all been doing a wonderful job and there is not long to go now, so hang in there.

REMOTE LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

These students have been producing some outstanding work, and have shown great commitment to their learning while learning remotely.

JR – Dexter L

JC – Kohen S

Catherine & Rhys

MIDDLE UNIT NEWS

REMOTE LEARNING

A big thank you to the Middle Unit families for their support and assistance with Remote Learning during Term 2. All efforts with your child's learning are greatly appreciated. This includes: accessing the 3/4 Blog, going through the daily set tasks, checking work and uploading photos for the class teachers. If you have any questions regarding your child's learning at home, please contact us via email or Dojo.

WEEK 6

Next week in Writing, students will be revising procedures and the features of this text. The procedures will focus on craft activities that involve making or creating different items. The students will be provided with a variety of examples so they can write their own 'How to Make' procedures. In Mathematics, students will be revising the times tables, vertical multiplication and the concept of time. When learning time, students will be set activities that focus on telling time to the minute on analogue and digital clocks. They will use language relating to time and investigate the relationship between different units of time.

We would also like to encourage the Middle Unit students to participate in daily PE activities. There are a variety of ideas on the 3/4 Blog. These activities can be used as a break between learning tasks or at the completion of each session.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

This week we welcome back Student of the Week for Term 2. Well done to the following students for their hard work and effort during remote learning.

3/4D Matilda M

3/4R Cordy M

3/4W Sonny D

Rena, Sandra, Wendy & Dean

SENIOR UNIT NEWS

YOU ARE AMAZING

We are so impressed with the resilience that so many of the students are demonstrating at this time. Most have taken "Learning from Home" in their stride and this new way of learning has really tested them in so many ways. They are finding out things about themselves that they never knew. They are extending their learning and using initiative when they are unsure as well as reaching out for assistance. We are super proud of your efforts and we just want to encourage you to keep going. You can do it, you are doing it!

SHOWBIE TASKS

Thank you to all those students who are regularly posting their completed work to Showbie. This allows us to keep track of your progress and provide you with prompt feedback. If you have not been doing this, please make an extra effort to be on top of this throughout next week. Posting your daily tasks enables us to see that you are actively learning and we can then mark the attendance roll accordingly.

LOOK AFTER YOURSELF

It is very important that we all take the time to look after our own wellbeing. The students are required to complete a daily Resilience Project task in their diary which assists them to reflect on their own feelings in addition to activities that we suggest throughout the week. Don't forget to get outside when weather permits and enjoy the sunshine.

YEAR 5/6 CAMP

Thank you to those families that have indicated to their child's classroom teacher if they will be attending camp. If you haven't yet done this, please do so as soon as possible.

Brett, Kate, Lauren, Roberta & Zoe

SRC NEWS

The SRC have been working on their leadership skills by 'caring for individuals' during the remote learning time. They were given a leadership resource with ideas and selected at least 3 of these to do.

Marley K decided to, "Send a card and small present to my grandma, send a surprise gift to my best friend and make some brownie cookies to share". Thank you Marley for being a leader.



Lochie C said, "I have been asked to list some activities that show I have cared for others during isolation. First I have raked up leaves for my elderly next door neighbour. She was very thankful for me doing this. Another one was making my mum and nan a Mother's Day iMovie and they both almost cried it was that good. My mum and I made a hedgehog and I gave some to my nan as she loves hedgehog. This made my nan very happy and loved."

I look forward to seeing more examples of our leaders in action.

Megan Haddon, School Chaplain

CCS NEWS

Dear Families,

If you are eligible to receive payments from Centrelink, such as Child Care Subsidy (CCS) and Family Tax Benefit (FTB), you may be asked to provide your family income estimate for the 2020-21 financial year. You need to do this even though you aren't currently paying child care fees. This is because Centrelink will use this estimate to work out how much CCS and FTB you will get **next financial year**.

There's more information about updating your family income estimate for the 2020-21 financial year on:

<https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/news/update-your-family-income-estimate-2020-21-financial-year>