



Calder Chronicle

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THURSDAY, 21ST MAY 2020

CALENDAR

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

Pupil Free Day
On site schooling resumes for Prep, Year 1 & Year 2
Year 6-7 application forms due to Janet
Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
On site schooling resumes for Years 3-6
Canteen reopens (to be confirmed)
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,

Week 6 has been very busy indeed, with on site supervision, remote learning and preparations for the return of Prep, Year 1 & Year 2 students on Tuesday keeping us very busy! The focus of today's newsletter is to keep everyone informed of what we have been asked to have in place for the next few weeks. I do apologise if this sounds drastic... however, I am merely putting in place the requirements asked of me by the *Department of Education and Training (DET)* and The Chief Medical Advisor of Victoria. Essentially, the procedures and processes we will follow are there to reduce the risk of adults transmitting COVID-19 to one another and to our staff. Whilst children are generally not vulnerable to COVID-19, we can never be sure, so we need to keep our students safe also. When we think of it like that... we are protecting our kids and each other... so I'm sure everyone won't mind making adjustments. If everyone follows the processes effectively, we will have a safe environment for all at Big Hill Primary School.

MONDAY, 25TH MAY

State wide Pupil Free Day – no students on site. No classes or supervision occurring. All staff return to Big Hill PS to prepare for the commencement of on site learning (Prep – Year 2) and Years 3 – 6 from Tuesday, 9th June.

TUESDAY, 26TH MAY

All Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 students return to Big Hill Primary School to attend normal classes with their teacher/s. Children from Years 3 – 6 who are booked into the on site service (bookings close today at 4:00pm) will continue to be supervised in the new Multipurpose room. Just like in Weeks 1 – 6 of Term 2, students are supervised, not taught by their teachers. Teachers will continue to run remote teaching and learning in Years 3 – 6. The great majority of Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 students will remain at home, working remotely as they have since the beginning of Term 2. This arrangement will continue until Tuesday, 9th June.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE RETURN OF STUDENTS – PREP, YEAR 1 & 2 AND STUDENTS UTILISING ON SITE SUPERVISION

- Following the advice of the Victorian Chief Medical Advisor, ONLY students and staff are to be physically on the grounds of our school. Due to this, parents are asked to drop their child/ren off and allow their child/ren to walk into the school grounds to their classrooms unaccompanied. Signage at gates will remind parents of this requirement to stay off site.
- If your child is very upset, you may choose to walk them to classrooms, but please note, no adults other than staff are allowed indoors... unless invited. Do try and encourage your child to enter the grounds alone where possible.
- Generally, staff will have doors locked to monitor entry to and from learning areas.
- All children are required to wash hands regularly at school – before and after eating and toileting, at the start and end of play breaks, and after coughing, sneezing or using a tissue / handkerchief.
- Sanitiser is available at school, but to make it easier for your child, perhaps send them to school with their own. The lunchbox is a great spot for it!
- Bubble taps are not to be used for drinking – so please ensure your child is sent to school each day with a drink bottle that can be filled up. Where a child does not have a drink bottle, a plastic cup will be offered to them until one is provided.

- There is no designated time to drop students off in the morning – please just drop off at school as normal between 8:45am and 9:00am. If we don't have adults congregating around exit points, drop-offs and pick-ups will be much easier. Remember there are 5 entry points into the school – Calder Highway gate off path, McInnes Street, rotunda / office, between the administration building and Senior Unit, and Multipurpose / Art Room. Spread out where you can.
- Whilst we only have Prep, Year 1 & 2 on site (and the on site supervision), pick-ups will work in a similar way as normal... with a 3:15pm dismissal. Please let your child know where you will meet them – ie: what exit point of the school, and ensure you are nearby to meet them when dismissed. First Steps and Junior Catherine will dismiss from external doors, in fact, all entry to and from these classrooms will be from the external door. Access to Nicole and Jen's room will not be available from the Office foyer, nor will entry to Pauline and Catherine's class through the end double doors. The majority of our Year 1 and 2 students should be more than capable of leaving the classroom and walking to their parent/s without adults having to come on site.
- Staff will continue to provide end of day supervision as students exit the yard from McInnes Street / rotunda, Ravenswood bus and Kangaroo Flat bus duties – by 3:30pm all children must be collected by their parents. Children are not to be playing in the yard at the end of the day.
- The Canteen will remain closed until further notice. We anticipate it will most likely resume on Friday, 12th June. Stay tuned for more information.
- Our *Out of School Hours Care* (OSHC) program resumes as of Tuesday, 26th May for those children in Prep, Year 1 & 2 who require it. Could families who have a permanent booking please contact Janet to confirm if said booking is still current from next Tuesday please? Students using the on site supervision may also book into the OSHC service if required. **Please contact dean.janet.i@edumail.vic.gov to make a booking.** Our OSHC service will have altered approaches to keep children and staff safe also, including a sign in / out table at the back porch. No adults are to enter the OSHC building please.
- If your child is unwell, please do not send them to school. All children who are unwell, must stay home as directed by DET and DHHS. If your child becomes unwell at school, you will be contacted to collect your child. Please ensure this is done as swiftly as possible.
- Again – maintain social distancing when waiting outside the school grounds. It's important that we remain infection free... whilst modelling to our students correct and safe behaviours during such trying times. As adults, we play an important role in showing our students what is required.
- If you need to attend the Office, please take note of the signage as you enter. Ideally, no more than two families in the Office foyer at one time... retain social distancing etc. If the foyer is full, please line up – distanced – and enter as the foyer becomes quieter. Hand sanitiser will be made available on entry. Please note also that visitors will not be able to approach the usual counter, rather a table in the foyer with a bell to get the attention of those in the Office. This keeps adult visitors away from children and staff in the first aid area.

ONLINE PLATFORMS

Next week, only Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 are working remotely. Online platforms continue to operate for these year levels:

<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.

MONDAY, 8TH JUNE (WEEK 9)

Monday, 8th June (the beginning of Week 9) is a Public Holiday in Victoria in observance of the Queen's birthday. Due to this, there will be no students or staff on site on Monday, 8th June. Enjoy a bit of a break.

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. Further details of return arrangements of Years 3 – 6 will be provided as we get closer to the 9th.

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 want our school and OSHC program to continue servicing our community. 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 attendance is made as safe as possible, but with outbreaks still occurring in Victoria (eg: Kyabram Health, McDonalds Melbourne), 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. Parents, as outlined above, are not to be on site unless it's absolutely unavoidable. Visits to the Office need to be distanced and safe. Adults that need to escort a child into the school must not enter learning spaces as of Tuesday please.

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 showing 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

Whilst we have not been given advice that camps can't go ahead in Term 3, I suspect that they may not. At the present time, we are watching and waiting for more clarification... however, we have been told that the last thing to return to normal schooling will be camps and excursions. We will make a decision by our June School Council meeting as to whether camps for Years 3/4 and 5/6 will go ahead.

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 ensure your child is marked present each day, ensure you are responding to teacher emails, answering phone calls, Webex meetings OR return completed work to teachers when requested. The Middle Unit are using Class Dojo to communicate – whereas the Senior Unit have the children working on Showbie and submitting work there. 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. If your child is in Prep, Year 1 or 2 as of next Tuesday, the advice is that they should be at school because it is safe. If you are not returning your child to school because of COVID-19 concerns, please advise the office or email Janet (dean.janet.j@edumail.vic.gov.au). The school does not have to provide work for home schooling, unless medical advice suggests that the child is at risk attending school. Parents choosing to keep a child home would need to prepare work, however, your child's teacher may be able to guide you with some tasks to complete.

YEAR 6 – YEAR 7 APPLICATIONS

By now, all current Year 6 students would have been contacted by Janet Dean outlining the process to enrol for Year 7 at a local State Secondary School. Please direct all your queries to Janet via email – she will be able to help you with any questions you might have. Applications are due in by Friday, 29th May.

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 – Bendigo Advertiser EDUCATION WEEK 2020 lift-out, May 15. 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 it 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

We had a great virtual meeting on Tuesday evening, running through Finance, Principals Report, Education, OSHC and Buildings / Grounds. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 16th June – 5:30pm Finance and 6:00pm June meeting. Options to attend on site or via Webex will be available.

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.

IPADS, SCHOOL RESOURCES ETC

With the return of on site learning for Prep, Year 1 & 2, could all iPads loaned to these students be returned to the Office on Tuesday morning please? Your child might even be able to do this for you to save you coming into the Office. Children with borrowed iPads from Years 3 – 6 can continue to use the iPad at home until their return on Tuesday, 9th June. During the remote and flexible learning period, children may have also taken homework books (examples like Sound Waves, Handwriting, Mental Maths), readers, pencil cases etc. These also need to be returned when your child resumes normal classes please.

Next week is presenting as strange indeed, with three pathways before us... on site for Prep, Year 1 & 2, remote for Year 3, 4, 5 & 6, and on site for those needing supervision. As this will continue for the next two weeks, I will hold off advising changes for whole school return for another week or so. Until then, thanks for continuing to do your best, supporting your child/ren, our staff and the school in general.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to Jaylen J, Brodie H, Lacey J, Ethan J, James G & Eli A.

Kind regards,

Matt Pearce, Principal

FIRST STEPS NEWS

RETURNING TO SCHOOL

First Steps teachers would like to congratulate our learners for their resilience and persistence with their remote learning tasks and to our wonderful families who have dedicated their time to delivering our program. We hope that you have enjoyed working with your children and have enjoyed their successes or as we call them, their "lightbulb" moments. Can you also please begin to organise their work samples, readers, exercise books and handwriting books to return to school with them on Tuesday? Thank you.

BRING YOUR TEDDY TO SCHOOL DAY

On Tuesday, 26th May upon return to school, we would like everyone to bring in their favourite teddy to introduce to their classmates and spend a day with them at school. We are hoping that this little comforting piece of home will help our students make an easier transition back to school.

REMOTE LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

For their outstanding contribution to our Remote Learning program:

FSN Ryan W & Allyera G
FSJ Nathaniel S & Imogen K
FSP Jake W & Isabella G

Nicole, Jen, Pauline & Sharyn

JUNIOR UNIT NEWS

RETURN TO SCHOOL

We are very excited to have everyone back at school next Tuesday, 26th May. Just a reminder that Monday, 25th May is a Pupil Free Day as staff get prepared for return to on site learning. This means that there will be no remote learning provided or supervision offered on Monday.

Starting from Tuesday, there will be no parents on school grounds during pick-up and drop-off unless invited by their classroom teacher. If you have concerns about your child coming into the classroom by themselves, please contact your child's teacher to discuss or make arrangements for them to be collected at the gate by a member of staff.

RETURNING OF SCHOOL ITEMS

Please ensure that your child returns to school on Tuesday with **all items** from school that have been taken home as they will be needed in the classroom when students return.

These include:

- Handwriting book,
- Work book,
- Maths book,
- Take home readers,
- iPads with chargers / cords / headphones.

REPORTS

Reports are currently being written for Semester 1. These reports will reflect your child's learning in Term 1 and their experience of remote learning this term.

REMOTE LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

These awards go to students who have shown a commitment to their learning, completing all tasks and trying their best while working remotely:

JR – Eli V
JC – Hope G

Catherine & Rhys

MIDDLE UNIT NEWS

REMOTE LEARNING

As we come to the end of another week of remote learning, teachers would again like to thank parents for their amazing assistance and support. Your efforts have been greatly appreciated. Keep uploading photos of students work and messaging teachers about the daily lessons with comments or queries.

WEEK 7

Next week, will be a four day remote learning week as Monday, 25th May has been allocated as a Pupil Free Day. During Week 7 Literacy lessons, students will be reading and writing a range of different poems. Our CAFÉ focus is Punky Pelican who reminds us to read aloud with fluency and phrasing, which is very important when working on poems. In the area of Mathematics, students will be working on Unit 14 in their New Wave Mentals Maths book and learning about angles including acute, right and obtuse angles. Just a reminder that the weekly schedule is sent via email or Dojo every Friday.

All the daily lessons can also be accessed on the 3/4 Blog: 34bighill.edublogs.org.

2020 CAMP

Thank you to the parents who completed Survey Monkey this week. This has assisted teachers in the planning and organisation of our Term 3 Billabong Ranch Camp. At this stage, we still await further advice from the Department of Education. Please check the newsletter for updates on our camp.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For effort and great work during remote learning:

3/4D Mileah G
3/4R Olivia K
3/4W Sienna H

Renae, Sandra, Wendy & Dean

SENIOR UNIT NEWS

STUDENT MOTIVATION

Well done to all the Senior Unit students who are consistently completing set tasks each day and week. We know it can be hard to stay motivated especially on these cold mornings, but we want to encourage you all to keep going, you can do it! Now that we have a return to school date, it is important that your child continues to work hard from home to ensure a smooth transition back into the classroom. Keep up your daily routine, make sure your child is getting a good nights rest each night in preparation for the return.

SHOWBIE TASKS

As your child is required to work from home for the next two weeks, we continue to ask that you support your child to ensure they are submitting the required daily tasks to Showbie. As teachers are currently working through report writing, it is essential that we have all of your child's hard work to review.

PRE / POST TESTING

Although it is tempting to assist your child when they ask for help, can we please ask that no support is given to your child during the pre and post testing phase. We need to assess if your child has been making steady progress whilst working from home.

When they are supported during this phase, results will not be accurate. We need to know what we are required to work on with your child when they return to school. If they are having support and getting full marks, this can make it misleading for us when determining what they actually know. Thank you for your understanding with this.

PUPIL FREE DAY

Next Monday is a Pupil Free Day. Your child will not be required to complete any set tasks for Monday. Please log back onto Showbie Tuesday to commence the week.

Brett, Kate, Lauren, Roberta & Zoe

CANTEEN NEWS

At this stage, the canteen will reopen from Friday, 12th June (to be confirmed closer to that date).

Due to current circumstances, we do not want to be handling any cash. It is preferred that all orders be placed on the Qkr app, or, if unable to use the app, paid by EFTPOS via the phone to the Office.

The menu remains the same, so students are still able to order their favourite lunches.

**Please remember to add a paper bag
for each order placed on the app.**

Thank you.

**Tammy Fear
Canteen Manager**

OSHC NEWS

Due to increased costs and the fact that the OSHC program is running at a major loss, we are forced to increase our fees.

From the start of Term 4, fees will increase by \$2 per session, then they will increase again by another \$2 per session in Term 1, 2021.

We understand that this is a valued service to our community and we always endeavour to keep costs at a minimum. The increase in fees is unfortunate but necessary, if we are to continue the service.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

BOOK CLUB
ISSUE 4 IS **Running!**

Click on this link to take a look
scholastic.com.au/book-club/book-club-parents

45 titles @ \$5 or UNDER

BOOK CLUB BROCHURES ARE BACK!

SCHOLASTIC

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>

Parenting Conversations Parenting During Change



Isolation has been a difficult time for families to navigate and the step back into education and community will bring its own unique challenges for many parents and children alike.

We are hosting online Zoom parent groups to support you through this time. Whether the challenge is worry, separation anxiety, frequent conflict or managing difficult behaviours, these sessions will give you the opportunity to gain information and strategies from our experienced Parenting Educators.

Sessions for parents of 12-18 y/o	Morning: Thursday 28th May 10.0am - 11.30am or Evening: Thursday 11th June 7.00pm - 8.30pm
Sessions for parents of 4-11 y/o	Afternoon: Wednesday 27th May 1.00pm - 2.30pm or Morning: Thursday 11th June 10.00am - 11.30am
Sessions for parents of 0 - 3 y/o	Evening: Tuesday 9th June 7.00pm - 8.30pm or Afternoon: Tuesday 2nd June 1.00pm - 2.30pm

Each session will have 8 participants. Bookings are essential



For bookings and enquiries contact Jennifer on Ph: 5438 1100 or email jccs@ccs.org.au

Groups are subject to maximum and minimum numbers determined seven working days prior to the commencement date. Early registration is encouraged