



Calder Chronicle

NUMBER 11

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THURSDAY, 29TH APRIL 2021

CALENDAR

Friday, 30th April

Wednesday, 5th May
Thursday, 6th May

Tuesday, 11th May

Wednesday, 12th May
Thursday 13th May
Friday, 21st May
Monday, 24th May

Tuesday, 25th May
Wednesday, 26th May

Thursday, 27th May
Thursday, 27th May – Thursday, 3rd June
Wednesday, 2nd June
Friday, 4th June

Year 3/4 (including Senior Unit Year 4's) Camp returns approx. 3:30pm
Year 5/6 Camp Deposit of \$100 due to be paid at the Office or via our Qkr app
Division Cross Country – selected Students only
P&F Mother's Day Stall – raffle tickets due in by 9:00am –
Please bring 'green' bags for your child/ren to put their gifts in
Gifts from 50 cents to \$10
NAPLAN (Years 3 & 5)
School Council Meeting 7:00pm
NAPLAN (Years 3 & 5)
NAPLAN (Years 3 & 5)
First Steps/Junior Unit Excursion payment of \$40 due
Education Week commences
Special Assembly at 9:00am
2022 Foundation Parents School Tour at 10:00am
2022 Foundation Information Session / Tour from 5:30pm – 7:30pm
Current families school tour 9:30am – 10:30am –
Especially for those families who missed out due to COVID-19 regulations in 2020
Active Travel to School Day and FREE breakfast
National Reconciliation Week
First Steps / Junior Unit Ballarat Wildlife Excursion
CURRICULUM DAY

School Organisation

Dear Parents / Guardians,

As we move into the latter part of Week 2, our children are back into routines and working hard in classes across the school. Our Preps are now used to full time schooling and are enjoying all of the joys of being at primary school. Overall, it's been settled and productive at Big Hill PS overall.

CURRENT COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

The situation in Perth is a reminder that at any time things can change. With this in mind, here's the current restrictions in place for Term 2:

- Wear a mask when you can't social distance. Preference is to wear a mask in the Office, but you don't have to if there are no others in the foyer and you can social distance,
- Hand sanitise on entry to the school grounds,
- Stay off site if unwell,
- Keep children at home if unwell – sore throat, runny nose, cough, fever/chills etc. Children at school who are unwell have to be sent home – please ensure your emergency contacts are up-to-date,
- If your child has a recurring illness with symptoms similar to COVID-19, such as an allergy, persistent cough etc. the advice is you must take your child to see a GP, get COVID tested and return your child to school with a doctor's certificate and negative test result,
- If you are asked to self-isolate, please advise the Office and do not come on site.

A LETTER TO PARENT / CARERS FROM ADJ CLIN PROF BRETT SUTTON, VIC CHIEF HEALTH OFFICER

I would like to take this opportunity to thank students, staff, teachers, parents, and carers for ensuring a safe and successful start to the 2021 school year and to thank you for your cooperation during the short period of remote learning in February during the circuit breaker restrictions. As Term 2 commences, schools continue to be able to operate with a largely normal program of activity, enabling important on site activities to return, such as school open days and working bees, with appropriate health and safety measures in place. Throughout the pandemic, Victorian schools have rapidly and successfully adapted to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission, embedding COVIDSafe principles by reinforcing good behaviours, creating safe spaces, adapting activities, and responding quickly to COVID-19 risk. While we have seen outbreaks emerge in Victoria, we have also witnessed our capacity to respond quickly to limit the impact of these outbreaks.

Given the current very low risk of COVID-19 transmission in the community, continued high rates of testing and wastewater monitoring, and continued observance of health and safety measures in schools; those with medical vulnerabilities or their carers can feel reassured to continue to safely work and learn on school sites, and enjoy the benefits of doing so.

It is crucial, however, for everyone to remain vigilant by staying home when unwell, performing regular hand hygiene, wearing a mask when required, and maintaining physical distancing from others when practical. Should cases of COVID-19 increase again in the community, I am confident that with COVIDSafe plans in place, alongside our ability to quickly identify and respond to cases, schools remain safe places for all staff and students. I also continue to be reassured by evidence that children are less impacted by the virus and are less likely to develop severe illness.

The school community continues to have an important role to promote COVID-19 testing when a student or staff member has any symptoms, no matter how mild, and ensuring they remain home until they are well. Getting tested and staying home until results are known is critical to limiting community transmission.

YEAR 3/4 CAMP TO BILLABONG RANCH, ECHUCA

By the time you read this, the Year 3/4's will be enjoying their camp at Billabong Ranch, just outside Echuca. Today's schedule involved leaving the school by bus, arriving at camp, participating in a raft of camp-based activities (ropes course, paddle boats etc) and setting up sleeping quarters. Tomorrow we will all be off to Echuca to enjoy some of the exciting tourist attractions on offer. Just a reminder that the bus returns at approximately 3:30pm and you would be best to pick your child up, rather than rely on trying to connect with the Ravenswood or Kangaroo Flat buses.

P&F MOTHERS DAY STALL

Next week will see our P&F working hard to prepare, set-up and run a MOTHERS DAY stall for all of our students to attend... and buy a gift (or two) should they wish. Items are affordable and range from 50c up to \$10. Honestly, lovely gifts can be purchased for under \$10. If you would like your child to purchase from the stall, please send them to school next Thursday, 6th May with some money and a 'green' bag. Those that forget can choose items to set aside. Families can then opt to purchase the following day (or after school Thursday) should they wish. No pressure. A big thank you to our P&F for doing such a great job returning some of our cherished events to the school calendar.

CAMPS – COST... repeat from last week's newsletter

School camps are expensive – the cost of a camp includes bus travel, food, accommodation and activities / tourist attractions etc. Sometimes, if you have more than one attending, this can be just too overwhelming. Can I remind families to apply for Camps Sports Excursions Funding (CSEF) if eligible – it's not too late to apply. This gives each eligible child \$125 of credit to use towards activities like camp. If you are unsure of your entitlement, please contact the Office. In addition to this, we offer part payment options – enabling families to pay off a camp over a long period of time. Our Year 5/6 Camp is in Term 4... so why not start now? As always, if financial difficulty is an issue for a family, I'd prefer you speak to me to see what I can do to help you RATHER than a child miss out. Ultimately, it's your choice of course, but our camping program is designed to foster independence away from home, develop friendships, expose children to new situations, opportunities and much more. If you want your child to attend, but they aren't going due to finance – please speak to me. Your personal situation is always discreetly discussed with school staff or myself. We're here to help – so drop in for a chat if you need.

DIVISION CROSS COUNTRY

A large group of our Year 3, 4, 5 and 6's have been selected to represent Big Hill PS at the Division Cross Country, next Wednesday, 5th May at the Bendigo Racecourse. Brett Strange and Pam Farnell will be working hard on Wednesday as our organisers and officials. As students are transported to and from the event, some of our Middle and Senior Unit staff will travel to the event to ensure the children are organised and ready to do their best. Here's hoping the weather is fine and the children have a great day. Just a reminder no canteen orders for those attending.

YEAR 6-7 TRANSITION AND INFORMATION EVENING (CRUSOE)

The process to follow to enrol your child into Year 7 for 2022 has commenced. Today you should receive an envelope containing information outlining what is required of you to enrol into a State Secondary School in 2022. Please read all of the information carefully and contact either Janet Dean or myself should you have any queries or concerns. Further to that information, please see details of the CRUSOE COLLEGE INFORMATION EVENING below – this is occurring next Wednesday night, so please don't miss out. Parents are reminded to visit the FIND MY SCHOOL website if they are unsure what school they are zoned to in 2022. To do this, visit <https://www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au/>



Pathways in education

Year 6 – 7 Transition Information Night
Wednesday May 5th at 6:30pm JB Osborne
Theatre

CHICKENPOX...repeat from last week's newsletter

If your child is diagnosed with Chickenpox in the coming term, or someone in your home is, please contact the office immediately to advise. We have a child attending school currently who has a compromised immune system and cannot afford to come into contact with Chickenpox. By alerting us to the virus being present in your home, we can discreetly alert the family of this child to keep them at home and safe. Thanks for your cooperation.

ANZAC DAY SERVICE

Our School Leaders and some of our Senior Students did an amazing job of our School ANZAC Day service last Friday. The senior students ran a full service for the whole school, including a guest speaker (thanks to Kellie Dadds), playing of The Last Post and Rouse, a minute's silence undertaken and laying of a wreath. All students respectfully listened and payed their respects. On Sunday, our School Captains (Ben, Charlotte and Matilda) had the honour of raising the flags after THE LAST POST was played at the Kangaroo Flat service. This is the first time our leaders had such an honour! One of our students in attendance (and in uniform) helped me lay a wreath on behalf of the school too – thanks Bailey P.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES FROM SCHOOL, ABSENCES ETC... repeat from last week's newsletter

It's concerning to sometimes see children dropped off at school way too early. By law, your child should not be on site until 8:45am or after. If you need your child to be at school before this time, please enrol your child at our BEFORE school care service by calling the Office. At the end of the day, children need to be promptly collected at 3:15pm, with collection no later than 3:30pm. If you cannot collect your child until after 3:30pm, please enrol your child in our AFTER school care service by calling the Office. When arriving late to school, please sign your child in at the Office. When collecting children early, ensure they are also signed out. Finally, on days where your child is away, either ring the school and talk to us / leave a message OR text 0438 738 788 to advise that your child is away and the reason why – eg: illness, family holiday, appointment etc. Due to Department of Education and Training regulations, we have to code absences, thus the reason why we need to know why they are away. Thanks for your cooperation.

NAPLAN – NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM LITERACY AND NUMERACY... repeat from last week's newsletter

We have the resumption of NAPLAN testing in Week 4 of this term for all Year 3 and 5 students. Last year NAPLAN did not go ahead due to COVID-19 and restrictions / lockdown. Thankfully this year, it resumes for children in Years 3 and 5. Testing dates this year are Tuesday, 11th, Wednesday, 12th and Thursday, 13th of May. Tests occur in the morning blocks and assess READING, WRITING, LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS (spelling, grammar etc) and MATHEMATICS. If you are concerned about your child and NAPLAN testing, please speak to me. Children can be EXEMPT from NAPLAN testing due to a disability or English Language Proficiency issue. They can also be WITHDRAWN by parents if a parent is concerned that the testing may not be in the best interests of the child. Both exemption and withdrawal are a formal process, so contact with myself is required to ensure this occurs.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to Mia T, Xavier P, Dante D.

As I am away on camp and won't be on site tomorrow, I look forward to another week at Big Hill PS as we move into Week 3. Enjoy the beautiful weather over the weekend...

Kind regards,

Matt Pearce, Principal

FIRST STEPS NEWS

BALLARAT WILDLIFE PARK EXCURSION

As part of our Inquiry this term we are going to the Ballarat Wildlife Park to investigate habitats of animals and explore the study of Biology. Your child would have brought home a permission note on Monday. Please return this note and payment by Friday, 21st May. If you have misplaced this permission note please see your child's teacher or the Office for a replacement note.

PREP DEPARTURE

Parents of Prep students have been picking up their child from their classroom at the end of the day. Now that we are in Term 2 and Prep students know the different areas of the school and are aware of the end of day routines, you can arrange a designated pick up area where your child meets you or waits till you arrive.

STARS OF THE WEEK

For always participating safely and enthusiastically in our Perceptual Motor Program (PMP) during PE:

FSN *Conor F*
FSP *Jaxon S*
FSJ *Gabrielle B*

Nicole, Leisha, Pauline & Josh

JUNIOR UNIT NEWS

EXCURSION

Last week we sent a note home regarding our excursion to Ballarat Wildlife Park on Wednesday, 2nd June. As this excursion will be outside in Ballarat in Winter, students will need to be dressed in their school uniform, with a warm, named jacket. Notes and payment of \$40 will need to be returned to the Office by Friday, 21st May.

In the lead up to this excursion we will be discovering different animals and their habitats, so make sure to ask your child what they have learned about the Capybara this week, specifically in regard to their diet.

LOST PROPERTY

We are starting to accumulate items of unnamed lost property such as jumpers, food containers and drink bottles. Please be sure to clearly label your child's items in order for us to return them promptly. Thank you for your support.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

For displaying the school value of Respect by being thoughtful, considerate and encouraging to others:

JC **Bonnie S**
JJ **Caleb H**

Catherine, Jen & Zoe

MIDDLE UNIT NEWS

CURRICULUM NEWS

This term in Writing, the students have been focusing on persuasive texts. They have started writing persuasive pieces with the following structural features: a title, an opening statement, a series of arguments and a concluding statement. In the area of Mathematics, students are learning a variety of multiplication strategies linked to the times tables. We encourage all the students to revise their learning of the 2x, 3x, 5x and 10x tables. Please remember to access our online learning program: Reading Eggs, Sound Waves and Mathletics.

STUDENT WRITING

SAVE WATER

People should save water! Lakes and rivers are disappearing! Here are some reasons why we should save water.

People should have quick showers. I know, I know, most people love to have long showers, but it uses quite a lot of water. If it uses a lot of water, reserves and lakes lose water and frogs and other animals have to move out.

Animals that live in lakes and rivers do a big part of keeping the water clean. For example, some fish clean the lake floor by eating the algae. If we use up the water, all the animals will die! That's not good is it.

Also, when we pollute, the pollution damages the ozone layer that protects us from the sun. That is not good. It means that the sun evaporates much more water. With us using the water too, the future will be very dry. SO STOP POLLUTING!!!

People should save water. Stop having long showers, save the animals that drink out of lakes and that live in lakes and stop polluting.

By Isla G

BILLABONG RANCH CAMP

With clear blue skies, many excited Year 3/4 students departed for camp this morning. All the camp highlights and photos will be included in next week's newsletter. They hope to return tomorrow around 3:30pm. Thank you to all our helpers.

DIVISION CROSS COUNTRY

The Division Cross Country will be held on Wednesday, 5th May. The students who have been selected to attend this event are required to return their permission note and payment of \$10.00 to the Office ASAP. Thank you.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

For displaying the school value of Responsibility:

MW **Sophie B**
MR **Kaylie A**
MD **Caitlyn B**

Renae, Leisha, Wendy & Dean

SENIOR UNIT NEWS

CAMP

If you have not already, please return your child's expression of interest note and please ensure your deposit is paid by TOMORROW.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For demonstrating resilience during class:

SA **Ayla R**
SB **Emily A**
SK **Eliza K**
SL **Mia P**

Ainsley, Brett, Kate, Lauren & Roberta

PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS

MOTHERS DAY STALL AND RAFFLE

We are running our annual Mothers Day Stall and Raffle this year. If you did not receive your raffle tickets, or need more, there are spare books at the Office. Our Raffle will be drawn on the same day as the Mothers Day stall, Thursday 6th May.

Any donations towards our raffle would also be greatly appreciated. If you need some ideas, here are a few things you might like to donate:

- ✚ Blocks / Boxes of Chocolates,
- ✚ Mugs,
- ✚ Biscuits (eg: Tim Tams),
- ✚ Gardening Items,
- ✚ Bathroom accessories (eg: soaps, hand cream, face washers),
- ✚ Cellophane or wrapping paper.

We would like to thank you all again so much for your support with our fundraisers, we couldn't do it without you. Thank you so much to those who have already donated items, we have some prizes on display at the Office if you would like to see what you could win!

P&F FACEBOOK PAGE

Keep up to date with our P&F activities by joining our Facebook Community:

(<http://www.facebook.com/groups/bhpspf/>)

Our page provides reminders and updates on all the activities as well as connecting you with other families at our school.

Thank you all for your support with P&F activities, its really appreciated.

Parents and Friends

HEAD LICE NEWS

There has been quite a number of cases of Head Lice throughout Big Hill PS. Please remember to let the school know if your child has head lice – there is no shame – we just need to know so we can inform everyone from their class that head lice are around, without naming anyone, and advise ways to treat head lice and the eggs. If you do discover head lice, please keep your child home until the day after treatment. Please be vigilant with weekly home checks.

Thank you for your cooperation.

OSHC / CCS NEWS

FEE INCREASE – REMINDER

Just a reminder that the fees have increased this term to \$11 for Before School Care and \$18 for After School Care. Apologies for the increase, but due to ever rising costs, we have had no choice.

ACCOUNTS

Thank you to all families who are keeping up with their payments, remember, we are here to help if you are having trouble with your payments.



Next balancing deadline 30 June

We are reminding families about the next deadline for balancing Child Care Subsidy (CCS).

There are two important deadlines that fall on **30 June 2021**:

- the **second deadline** for confirming **2018–19 income**, and
- the **first deadline** for confirming **2019–20 income**.

Confirming 2018–19 income

Most families confirmed their 2018–19 income before the first deadline on 31 March 2021. Any families who still haven't confirmed their 2018–19 income must do so by the second deadline on 30 June 2021. If they don't, they may need to pay back all the CCS they got in 2018–19.

Confirming 2019–20 income

Many families have confirmed their 2019–20 income already. If they haven't, they must do so by the first deadline on 30 June 2021. If they don't, their CCS will stop and they'll need to pay full fees for child care.

How do families confirm their income?

You confirm your income by:

- lodging your tax return, or
- telling Services Australia you don't need to lodge a tax return. Families can complete an [Advise non-lodgement of tax return](#) using their [Centrelink online account](#) through [myGov](#) or through the [Express Plus Centrelink mobile app](#). You'll need to do this even if you've already told the Australian Taxation Office they don't need to lodge.

If a parent separates from their partner/s, Services Australia will also need their ex-partner's income. If a parent is concerned that their ex-partner/s won't lodge their tax return by the deadline they should call 136150.

Vision Australia
Seeing Eye Dogs

Puppy Carer Information Sessions

Love puppies and supporting your community?
Find out about becoming a puppy carer...

- Come to an ONLINE information session
- Meet our staff, volunteer carers and puppies

See how you can help make a difference to people who are blind or have low vision.

Location: Online via Zoom

Choose your preferred session date and time:

Date: Tuesday, 13 April 2021
Time: 10.30am-11.30am

Date: Tuesday, 11 May 2021
Time: 10.30am-11.30am

Date: Tuesday, 8 June 2021
Time: 10.30am-11.30am

Everyone welcome!

For registration and enquiries:
Email: sedvolunteer@visionaustralia.org
Phone: 1800 03 77 73
Visit: sed.visionaustralia.org

A small white puppy sitting and looking to the left, wearing a blue harness with yellow and red accents.

LOWES

2 DAY VIP EVENT – 6th & 7th MAY
ZERO & REWARDS CARD HOLDERS

20% OFF

SCHOOLWEAR & EVERYTHING ELSE!

DON'T HAVE A CARD? APPLY IN-STORE OR ONLINE & START ENJOYING THE BENEFITS

*Offer available in-store & online until midnight AEST 7th May 2021. Also see how a Rewards Card is more than just a card. It's your key to exclusive benefits. Some items may be excluded. See our website for full terms and conditions. Offer is subject to change without notice.

The poster features the Lowes logo at the top, followed by the event details. The main offer is '20% OFF SCHOOLWEAR & EVERYTHING ELSE!' in large, bold letters. Below this, there are images of the 'LOWES ZERO' and 'LOWES REWARDS CARD' logos. At the bottom, it says 'DON'T HAVE A CARD? APPLY IN-STORE OR ONLINE & START ENJOYING THE BENEFITS'. A small disclaimer is at the very bottom.

2021 Information Evenings

Year 7 Information Sessions and Tours at the following Colleges

Wednesday 5th May starting at:



6pm

Location: Lola Miller Gymnasium

5446 8099

eaglehawksc.vic.edu.au



6:30pm and 7:00pm

Location: WCB Gymnasium

5443 2133

weeroona.vic.edu.au



5pm

School Tours: Ellis Street Car Park

6pm

Information Sessions: BSE Stadium

5443 4522

bse.vic.edu.au



6:30pm and 7:00pm

Location: JB Osborne Theatre

5447 7722

crusoecollege.vic.edu.au





Boys Brains

This workshop aims to help parents better understand their boys; it will provide practical strategies for how to connect with them and support them to succeed.

✓ Understanding

✓ Differences

✓ Practical Strategies

Workshop date & location:

Location Name – Zoom (Bendigo)

Dates: Thurs, 27th May 2021 @ 7:30PM – 9:00PM

Thurs, 17th June 2021 @ 11:00AM – 12:30PM

Please note this is a single session workshop only

There is a no cost for these workshops

RSVP:

Reception | CatholicCare Victoria
T (03) 5438 1300 | E email@ccds.org.au

Please remember your mask. We ask that all participants follow social distancing and face mask regulations.



Boys Brains
176 – 178 McCrae Street, Bendigo VIC 3550
T (03) 5438 1300

www.ccds.org.au

