



Calder Chronicle

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THURSDAY, 6TH MAY 2021

CALENDAR

Tuesday, 11th May

Wednesday, 12th May

Thursday 13th May

Friday, 14th 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

Monday, 7th June

Thursday, 10th June

NAPLAN (Years 3 & 5)

School Council Meeting 7:00pm

NAPLAN (Years 3 & 5)

NAPLAN (Years 3 & 5)

2022 YEAR 7 APPLICATION FORMS DUE AT THE OFFICE

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

Payment due for Middle Unit Melbourne Museum Excursion

Middle Unit Melbourne Museum Excursion (cost \$45, notes going home shortly)

School Organisation

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Week 3 has been a busy one, with lots happening at the school... including a Mothers Day Stall, Division Cross Country and more! As we head deeper into the term, we have some busy weeks ahead, including next week with NAPLAN testing.

CURRENT COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

I continue to run this information at the front of the newsletter for your quick reference... enabling you to keep up-to-date with ever-changing information. For now, things remain similar to recent weeks...

- 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.

YEAR 3/4 CAMP TO BILLABONG RANCH, ECHUCA

Last week's Year 3/4 Billabong Ranch Camp was a complete success! The girls and boys were so well-behaved and coped extremely well – there was hardly a homesick tear. Thursday was action packed with camp-based activities such as paddle boats, archery, mini golf, bouldering and a low ropes course. The children even got to hand-feed the variety of animals in the on site petting zoo. Because Thursday was so action-packed, going to sleep was not too much of a problem for the girls and boys. Friday was again busy with a camp-based activity to set the scene, then a tour of the Echuca Wharf, a paddle steamer ride on the Murray River, a picnic lunch in Echuca and Twisted Science to top it all off! A big thank you to the staff who attended and to Dean who did the bulk of organisation for this event.

P&F MOTHERS DAY STALL

Today our girls and boys were treated to an amazing stall in our new multipurpose room (please see photos included in this week's newsletter) thanks to the hard working P&F. A variety of gifts were on offer, and with so many choices, the children really had to take their time to choose that perfect gift. A big thank you and congratulations to our P&F for another successful Mothers Day stall. I'm sure all of you would be most appreciative of their efforts and the time taken to make, buy and present suitable gifts for children to buy for their loved ones.

MOTHERS DAY

Here's hoping all of our special mothers, grandmothers, aunts and special friends enjoy a lovely Mothers Day on Sunday ☺.

DIVISION CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to all of our students who attended yesterday's Division Cross Country at the Bendigo Racecourse. All of our students participated in either the BLUE or RED divisions – the most competitive of the four divisions on offer for each age group. Our students should be proud of their placement whether it be 2nd in Blue (we had a student achieve this) or 100+. We are so proud of our girls and boys and their behaviour on the day. If your child went, please praise them up for representing the school so well! A big thank you to staff who attended and supervised on the day, parents who came along to cheer and Pam who worked hard as an official for Big Hill PS. Lastly, it would not be possible without the coordination and hard work of Brett Strange – thanks for making it happen for our students Brett.

YEAR 6-7 TRANSITION UPDATE

This week, each of the 7-10 Secondary Schools ran their Parent Information Evenings – Crusoe held theirs last night at 6:30pm. These sessions are the starting point for families to find out about their child's future school. If you missed the session, you may need to contact your 2022 school directly to find out what you missed. The process to follow to enrol your child into Year 7 for 2022 has commenced. By now, you should have received a pre-populated YEAR 7 PLACEMENT PACK, that outlines 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. All forms are due back to BIG HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL by **Friday, 14th May** – please do not send them to your 2022 school, they have to come to us. Thanks for your cooperation. Parents are reminded to visit the FIND MY SCHOOL website (<https://www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au/>) to find out what school they are zoned to in 2022.

NAPLAN – NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM LITERACY AND NUMERACY... NEXT WEEK!

As outlined over the last few newsletters, NAPLAN testing for all Year 3 and 5 students will occur next Tuesday, 11th, Wednesday, 12th and Thursday, 13th May. Tests administered this year include 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 – you need to sign an official form that I have to keep on record. On Tuesday, the Year 5's will finish testing by 11:25am. Year 3's will finish testing at 1:00pm. On Wednesday, both Year 3 and 5's will finish testing by 11:00am. On Thursday, Year 5's will finish testing by 11:00am, whereas the Year 3's will finish by 1:00pm. Hope this helps with preparing your child. It's very helpful to keep your child well-rested in the testing week and give them lots of encouragement. They will all be tired by Friday of course!

CRUSOE COLLEGE EXTENSION AFTERNOON

Tomorrow, selected Year 5 students will travel to Crusoe College by bus to participate in an extension afternoon with myself. The girls and boys will be picked up by bus, experience a music or drama lesson at Crusoe College (with other local primary students visiting) and return to school before the end of the day. Please ensure your child, if chosen, has returned their permission form to the Office.

SCHOOL COUNCIL – NEXT TUESDAY

Just a reminder to all School Councillors that our May meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday night – 6:30pm Finance Committee and 7:00pm for School Council. The meeting will be offered in both Webex and on site forms – if coming on site, the meeting will run in our staff room. Webex link is <https://eduvic.webex.com/meet/pearce.matthew.d>. Please ensure you have Webex downloaded onto your device before trying to join. Information for next week's meeting will be sent home OR emailed by tomorrow afternoon.

AEDC – AUSTRALIAN EARLY DEVELOPMENT CENSUS – PLAYING OUR PART TO BUILD A NATIONAL PICTURE OF CHILD HEALTH

In early 2021, our school, along with thousands of others across the country will begin preparations for the fifth Australian Early Development Census (AEDC). The AEDC gives us a national picture of the development, health and wellbeing of children in their first year of full-time school. Since 2009, the census results have helped communities, schools and governments plan services and develop better policies to target support for children and families. Children don't miss any class time, and parents / carers don't need to supply schools with any new information for the census. The AEDC gives us data at a school and community level - it isn't an assessment of individual children. In the past we have used the results to help us target additional supports to groups of children who needed it, such as the provision of a special program, specific language lessons etc. Our teachers have also noticed in the past that completing the assessments made them more aware of the needs of individual children and the class as a whole and that the census results are useful in planning for transitions to Year 1 and developing class programs. Participation in the AEDC is voluntary. Parents / carers don't need to take any action unless they choose not to include their children in the census. To find out more about the census and how communities are using the data to help children and families visit the AEDC website: www.aedc.gov.au. If you have any questions, you can contact me at school. If you do not want your child to take part, please also contact me to sign an opt-out form. Nicole, Pauline and Josh will begin the AEDC from Monday, 10th May, with all testing complete by the end of term.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to Blaik Y, Bonnie S, Poppy S, Chloe V, Nash B, Dexter L & Henry P.

As we approach Week 4, we are now past the quarter point of Term... and moving into the middle. With this in mind, children are well into their routines and working hard. Testing is also starting shortly in preparation for Semester 1 reports. The remainder of the Term has some interesting events occurring, so please keep track of what's happening in the coming weeks by checking the CALENDAR at the start of our newsletter each week. The sun's out for some of the weekend, so why not make the most of it before we plunge into cold days and nights over the winter period. Have a lovely weekend...

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 should have brought home a permission note. 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.

LABELLED JUMPERS

We are getting quite a collection of jumpers in each of our rooms. Please make sure that your jumpers are labelled so that we can return them when we find them. Thank you.

NEW HOMEWORK ACTIVITIES

This week, we have put new alphabet letters and heart words in everybody's take home books. With regular daily practice your child will be able to automatically identify these words, sounds and letter names.

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 being a responsible class member who asks for help with work when they need it:

FSN Max B
FSP Christopher W
FSJ Arlow D

Nicole, Leisha, Pauline & Josh

JUNIOR UNIT NEWS

THANK YOU

A big thank you to the Parents & Friends for all of their hard work this week in preparation for their Mothers Day stall today. We would also like to wish all of our families a Happy Mothers Day and hope you enjoy your day on Sunday.

EXCURSION

This week we have been learning all about the rainforest habitat and the Orangutan for our science lessons. This is part of the lead up for our excursion to Ballarat Wildlife Park on Wednesday, 2nd June. Thank you to those families who have already returned their note and payment, these are due by Friday, 21st May. If there are any parents who are interested in attending can you please send a message through Dojo or email to your classroom teacher indicating your availability? Thank you.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

For being kind and responsible and always trying their best:

JC Ryan W
JJ Abigail H

Catherine, Jen & Zoe

MIDDLE UNIT NEWS

BILLABONG RANCH CAMP

Last Friday afternoon the Year 3 & 4 students returned from the Billabong Ranch Camp near Echuca. We would like to commend all the students on their behaviour and participation in the activities. The camp highlights included mini golf, pedal boats, bouldering, a whip cracking demonstration and a trip down the Murray River aboard a paddle steamer. Many thanks to Dean for his time and effort in organising this camp.

BOOK COVERING

The Middle Unit has purchased new book sets for their classroom libraries. We would appreciate any volunteers who could cover these books. Please contact your child's teacher if you are able to assist.

MELBOURNE MUSEUM EXCURSION

Today, all students were given a note regarding our Middle Unit excursion to the Melbourne Museum on Thursday, 10th June. It will link in with our History, Geography and Science topics this term. Please return the permission form and payment of \$45.00 to the Office by Monday, 7th June. If you have any questions about this upcoming excursion please contact your child's teacher.

MOTHERS DAY STALL

The students attended the Mothers Stall today and spent time selecting the perfect gifts. Happy Mothers Day and enjoy your presents.

NAPLAN TESTS

Next week the Year 3 students will be completing four NAPLAN Tests – Reading, Writing, Language Conventions and Numeracy. The results from these tests will be available later in the year. The tests are not intended to cause stress, however, if you have concerns, please contact your child's teacher.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

For displaying the School Values of 'Respect', 'Responsibility' and 'Safety' on the Year 3/4 Camp:

MW Xavier P
MR Chelsea B
MD Keenan S

Renae, Leisha, Wendy & Dean

SENIOR UNIT NEWS

LEARNING QUESTIONS

As we are getting further into Term 2, a way that parents can connect with their child and their learning at school, is by asking questions similar to:

- * What did you learn today?
- * How do you think you went in the learning?
- * What did you do if you didn't understand?
- * How can you improve your learning?
- * What are you most proud of?

In doing this, it can support our learning program and ensure that we are targeting all students and their learning needs.

NAPLAN

NAPLAN will be taking place next week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for our Year 5 students. If you have any questions in relation to NAPLAN, please contact your child's teacher. Normal programs will be running for Years 4 and 6.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For safe participation in the Division Cross Country:

SA **Brodie H**
SB **Owen G**
SK **Asha M**
SL **RJ T**

Ainsley, Brett, Kate, Lauren & Roberta

PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS

MOTHERS DAY STALL & RAFFLE

We would like to thank all families so much for your support with our fundraisers, we couldn't do it without you!

Congratulations to all our raffle winners ☺

Thank you so much to those who donated items, and we hope you have a lovely day on Sunday.

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

OSHC NEWS

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.

Another option is to pay in advance. You are most welcome to pay in advance instead of waiting for accounts to be emailed, and the money will sit there to be used on the OSHC fees as your child/ren attends.

You will still receive accounts so you can keep track of how much credit you have, and should you cease your child/s enrolment, we can refund any remaining credit.

Apologies for the mistake of some accounts being sent out without the receipting having been completed. Thank you all for your understanding.

Janet Dean
OSHC Admin



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.

COMMUNITY NEWS







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.



Now in its 77th year, Education Week aims to positively profile and celebrate the strengths and achievements of Victoria's government education sector.

This year Education Week runs from 23-29 May. The theme 'Building Connections' focuses on how the community can act as a support network, support students' learning and development and enhance social inclusion.

Education Week is an opportunity for all primary and secondary schools, higher education, and early childhood services to showcase how they are building connections with the community around them.

Big Hill PS will be celebrating Education Week. Please look at calendar of events below and see if there is an event for you. Masks must be worn when a person is unable to maintain 1.5m social distance.

Bookings are required for the FREE breakfast only by calling the Office on 5447 7022

<u>Monday, 24th May</u>	9:00am	Education Week launch Assembly. There will be several items presented
	9:30am	School Tour for 2022 Foundation parents with Matt (Principal) and student leaders.
<u>Tuesday, 25th May</u>	5:30pm	School tour for Foundation 2022, followed by a Prep/Foundation Information Session
<u>Wednesday, 26th May</u>	9:30am	School tour for current parents who missed out due to COVID last year with Matt (Principal) and student leaders
<u>Thursday, 27th May</u>	8:30am	ACTIVE TRAVEL TO SCHOOL and FREE breakfast club on arrival. Please book for this event as we will need to know numbers so we can cater for breakfast Please call the Office on 5447 7022 (limit 50 adults).

8:30am onwards Parents and Friends Cake Stall for the community under the pavilion (assembly area) TBC

Apologies, but there will be no GRANDPARENTS DAY or visits to classrooms due to DENSITY LIMITS imposed by the DET operations guide.