



Calder Chronicle

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THURSDAY, 25TH NOVEMBER 2021

CALENDAR

Thursday, 25th November

Monday, 29th November

Friday, 3rd December

Monday, 6th December

Wednesday, 8th December

Thursday, 9th December

Friday, 10th December

Monday, 13th December

Tuesday, 14th December

Wednesday, 15th December

Thursday, 16th December

Friday, 17th December

Year 2 Pizza Party – arrive at Discovery 4:30pm, collect at 8:30pm

Mango Orders delivered this week (tbc)

Payment due for Senior Unit Breakup

Senior Unit Swimming Program commences

Payment due for Junior Unit Breakup

Senior Unit Swimming Program continues (NO CANTEEN ORDERS)

Pizza Day orders due in by 9:00am

Senior Unit Swimming Program continues

Senior Unit Swimming Program concludes (NO CANTEEN / PIZZA DAY ORDERS)

PIZZA DAY – no normal food items available but iced treats will be

Year 6 Graduation – Meal Deal ordering on Qkr available now, see inside for more information

Payment due for Middle Unit Breakup

Junior Unit Breakup

P&F Christmas Raffle Tickets due back at the Office

Middle Unit Breakup

P&F Christmas Raffle drawn

Senior Unit Breakup

LAST DAY FOR 2021 – early dismissal of 1:30pm

School Organisation

Dear Parent/s, Guardian/s and Carer/s,

Week 8 has been perhaps our most settled of the term (at the time of writing). The children have been working really well in class, settling back into routines. I know several teachers have spoken to me and stated that they can see the children getting into routine and seeing improvement and growth. To keep this going, where possible, I have staffed May McLean to work with some of our Preps that just need that little bit extra to get them under way. In addition to this, May has been supporting some of our Year 1's too who are making good progress. It's important that families keep up the good work at home... and support with nightly reading and spelling practice to reinforce the excellent work happening on site. It becomes so powerful when this occurs. Zoe Wright has also been a huge support in the last few weeks, releasing teachers to undertake important testing, whilst also endeavouring to wind up the mammoth amount of work done during her time as tutor. As we move forward into the final three weeks, we will still be working hard to make the most of the time for children to progress. Celebrations generally won't begin until the last week of school – we need to get as much work done as possible!

STAYING SAFE – INFECTIONS STILL IN BENDIGO SCHOOLS

Fortunately we have continued to avoid new infections, however, local schools are still getting their fair share, so let's not get complacent. We want Big Hill PS on deck every day if we can, so every little thing each of us does helps. To keep everyone safe, we need to be aware of the following:

- Children to wear masks at school – recommended for Prep – Year 1/2 and mandatory for Years 3-6. All adults on site to wear masks at all times, unless outdoors and socially distanced,
- Children and adults do not come to school with even the mildest of symptoms – test and isolate until a negative result is received. If testing positive, please notify the school immediately. Thank you,
- Visits to the Office or indoors require you to scan the QR code and show proof of vaccination on entry. If you are not double-vaccinated, please do not come inside school buildings,
- Hand sanitise or wash your hands regularly to keep everyone safe.

END OF THE YEAR – FORE WARNING, EARLY DISMISSAL, NO BUS

By now you would be aware that the final day of the year is Friday, 17th December. What you may not be aware of is that we dismiss quite early on the final day. Each year Big Hill Primary School dismisses at **1:30pm**. The Ravenswood bus will run at this earlier time, however, the Kangaroo Flat bus probably will not. Due to this, families are advised to ensure they are ready to pick their child up at this earlier time (1:30pm) and not rely on the Kangaroo Flat bus to get home.

START OF THE 2022 SCHOOL YEAR

In addition to the end of the year, I thought families might like to know the return date for 2022. To make it easy for all, we will return in 2022, **Prep – Year 6 on Monday, 31st January**. This is the return date for most schools across the state. Unlike other years, we will not be having two curriculum days to start the year... and plan on commencing Preps straight away also as the commencement date next year is quite late. To help new Preps settle in during Term 1, 2022... There will be no Wednesdays at school during the month of February for all Preps.

SCHOOL COUNCIL END OF YEAR DINNER

We will be having an end of year School Council dinner on Tuesday, 14th December at 7:00pm. Could School Council members please email me to register a place at the table? – Matthew.Pearce@education.vic.gov.au.

FUNDRAISING – PARENTS AND FRIENDS

The LUCKY NUMBERS COMPETITION has continued to be popular, with numbers going quickly. Don't miss out is my advice! For \$20 a number (limit of 3 per family), you could win prizes up to the value of \$500. These prizes were to be auctioned at our TRIVIA NIGHT, however, due to lockdown, this could not go ahead. To ensure the prizes are utilised to fundraise, a lucky number competition is underway. The Christmas Raffle is also well-underway now, with donations sought from our families and tickets sent home to sell. If your family can donate some items to be used as prizes, the P&F would really appreciate it. Already, we have had a few items come in – chocolate, lollies, shortbread, biscuits, decorations etc, just some of the great ideas that can be donated to create amazing prizes for this raffle. Tickets went home to each family this week, so please check your child's bag. We have many extra books at the Office too – so don't be shy if you can sell additional tickets!

CAN I COME ON SITE AS A PARENT?

VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PARENTS / CARERS ATTENDING SCHOOLS – repeated

All parents and carers attending schools, including for drop off and pick up must adhere to physical distancing, density limits, face mask requirements and practise respiratory etiquette and good hand hygiene. Whilst it is now possible for visitors to come on site, you do need to be aware of the following requirements to keep all of our unvaccinated students safe:

- Parents and carers who enter school buildings must check in using the QR code,
- Parents and carers who enter school buildings must also have had at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine and must have had two doses of COVID-19 vaccine by 29 November 2021 or have a valid medical exception (evidence to be provided on entry).

The only occasions where a parent or carer can be on site unvaccinated is:

- when attending to administer medical treatment to their own child when the treatment cannot be administered by the school,
- when attending to collect their child who is unwell and cannot leave the school building unaccompanied by their parent/carer,
- when attending for a momentary period that does not involve any sustained contact with staff or students, for example, to collect a completed art project or similar.

Parents and carers attending any event or activity **inside** a school building including, but not limited to tours, graduations, kindergarten transition, whole of school events are required to show evidence of vaccination. Meetings and other discussions (such as Student Support Group meetings) with parents and carers who do not meet vaccination requirements must be held virtually. Parents and carers attending school sites for drop off and pick up who do not enter school buildings do not need to comply with vaccination requirements.

YEAR 2 LATE NIGHT – PIZZA PARTY!

Tonight our Year 2's will head to the Discovery Centre for an exciting LATE NIGHT celebration and PIZZA PARTY. Girls and boys from Year 2 attending will need to be dropped off at the Discovery Centre at 4:30pm and picked up at 8:30pm. A night of fun is scheduled, with our Year 2's enjoying delicious pizza, use of the vertical slide, time to explore all of the exhibits and much more. It's bound to be a great night – looking forward to seeing our Year 2's tonight at The Discovery Science Centre. A big thank you to Catherine, Jen and Wendy for their organisation and participation to make this possible 😊.

STAFFING

As advised earlier, we will be saying goodbye to Renae Westley and Lauren Adcock at the end of the year. The girls and boys working with Renae and Lauren have a few weeks yet to enjoy time with their teacher before they begin the next stage of their career at another school. To fill the roles that Renae and Lauren hold in our school, a selection process is well-underway to select suitable replacements. As soon as we know the outcome of these processes, we will let you know.

TRANSITION

Next Tuesday will be the second of our KINDER – PREP transition visits, with the girls and boys once again returning Tuesday morning for a school visit. From 10:00am – 12:15pm, our new students will have another chance to explore Big Hill PS and have time in classes. All part of the move towards attending school next year 😊. The final transition visit for our KINDER children coincides with the YEAR 7 STATEWIDE TRANSITION DAY and our Big Hill PS Transition Morning on Tuesday, 7th December. On this day, our Kinder children will come for one last visit in the morning. Our current Prep – Year 5 will step up to their 2022 class for the morning, meeting their teacher and classmates early, whilst our Year 6's head off to Crusoe College and Bendigo South East College for a full day of being in Year 7. Exciting, but busy times on the 7th of December for all!

PHOENIX FM – TOMORROW!

Tomorrow, Friday, 26th November, tune into Phoenix FM at 1:00pm to hear our School Leaders (Connor, Charlotte, Ben and Matilda) interviewed on radio. The leaders and I will head across to Phoenix and be peppered with all number of questions about our school, being a leader etc.

MOVING ON NEXT YEAR? FUTURE ENROLMENT?

If a change calls and you are leaving the area, moving to the other side of Bendigo etc, please advise us as early as possible. We are collating numbers of students to begin organising class structures for 2022, so knowing if a child is leaving is really helpful. Please don't feel embarrassed to ring the Office and advise. Additionally, if you know of family, friends etc intending on enrolling at Big Hill PS next year, please encourage them to make contact now, rather than wait to avoid disappointment. It's also extremely important to remind all families that Prep enrolments for 2022 should already be in place – if you have a preschool aged child who is coming to school next year AND you have not yet enrolled them at Big Hill PS, please attend to this ASAP 😊.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION

Details of our Year 6 Graduation have been shared this week. We look forward to having a COVID-SAFE ceremony occurring on Monday, 13th December, on site, at 12:15pm. Fully vaccinated adults are invited to attend, however, as this is outdoors, visitors must bring a seat and hat to ensure protection if in a sunny position. A drink bottle is also advised. Our Year 6's will be showered publicly with certificates and awards, before stepping away for their own private GRADUATION EVENT – where they will be seated for a special lunch and waited on by some of our staff. To conclude, the Year 6's will dance away the afternoon in the multi at their own private disco. The event will conclude by the end of the school day to ensure families can commit to other events at this busy time of year. We are also ensuring we have the best chance of having this event proceed by having it on site. As part of requesting vaccination certificates, please follow the directions given by the Senior Unit to either show vaccination certificates on the day to the two COVID MARSHALS (Matt Pearce and Ainsley Stanley) or prior by emailing to Ainsley.Stanley@education.vic.gov.au.

GROUNDS IMPROVEMENTS

We now have a lovely new turf area for the children to enjoy, adjacent to the First Steps building. Stage One is done and we await Stage Two in the coming months, where we hope to extend with another shade sail and finish with additional turf seating for the girls and boys. Other planned works include landscaping from the front gate / letterbox across to the rotunda and down to the First Steps classes. This area will be weed matted, planted with hardy species of plants and stoned to ensure the area adjacent to our Bushfire Shelter In Place is further protected.

CRUSOE COLLEGE BAND VISIT – NEXT WEDNESDAY

Next Wednesday around lunch time, the Crusoe College band will visit Big Hill PS and play a short set to our students during their lunch break. Initially, it was going to be a sit-down affair, however, the young band have requested a less formal audience as they work through the nerves of performing in front of others after such a long time of not being able to perform. From around 1:45pm, the band will entertain girls and boys who choose to watch the performance under the outdoor shelter. The band will perform from our new stage area. Exciting times ahead... and if I'm right, I think we will see a few past students of Big Hill PS starring on stage!

BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to Mackenzie L, Hunter G & Rydder G.

Three busy weeks to go! Best advice I can give families is to keep children rested – early to bed in the coming weeks to ensure a happy and settled time in the lead up to the holidays.

Until next week...

Matt Pearce, Principal

FIRST STEPS NEWS

FIRST STEPS END OF YEAR CELEBRATION



The First Steps Unit will be holding an end of year breakup on Wednesday, 15th December at school. We will be having a Teddy Bears Picnic to celebrate a year of learning achievements and friendships. Students will bring their favourite teddy bear to school and together they will participate in lots of fun activities.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for volunteers to help contact some new readers we have recently purchased. If you are able to help out, please speak to your child's teacher. Thank you.

225 NIGHTS OF READING

Our goal this year is for students to have read 225 nights. It's fantastic to see that so many children have already achieved this goal. Remember it's not too late! We still have 3 more weeks to go, so please keep on encouraging your child to read at home each night so they can receive a special award at our whole school assembly.

TRANSITION

Last Tuesday we had our first Prep Transition Day. It was an exciting time as the kinder children visited the school in preparation for their first year of school in 2021. The children enjoyed a tour of the school, developmental play, story time and craft.

STARS OF THE WEEK

For displaying the School Value of 'Responsibility' by promptly following instructions:

FSJ *Macy F*
FSN *Jade L*
FSP *Celeste N*

Nicole, Leisha, Pauline & Josh

JUNIOR UNIT NEWS

YEAR 2 PIZZA PARTY

We are excited to be taking part in our Year 2 Pizza Party tonight at the Discovery Centre Bendigo. Students are to arrive at 4:30pm for a fun night of pizza, planetarium and play. The night will conclude at 8:30pm where students will need to be signed out by their parent or guardian.

Thank you to everyone who has been involved in making this night a success and we look forward to resuming our camps program next year.

Parents will need to sign in their children upon arrival and sign out at pick up using the forms provided. Any parents entering the Discovery Centre will need to check-in as required.

JUNIOR UNIT BREAK UP

GOLDEN SQUARE SWIMMING POOL

On Tuesday, 14th December the Junior Unit will be celebrating the end of our year together by having a Breakup party at the Golden Square swimming pool.

The cost of this excursion is \$11.00, which covers the entry cost of the pool for the 4 hours plus the hiring of 2 qualified lifeguards.

Thank you to those parents who have volunteered their time to assist with the day, we really appreciate your generosity and could not operate the day without you.

Students will need sunscreen, hat, bathers (with rash vest or T-shirt if possible), drink bottle, towel, goggles and snacks. They will also need a change of underwear and a plastic bag to place their wet bathers and towel into after swimming.

Lunch will be provided as a sausage sizzle with order forms going home next week and students will be able to order a sausage in bread, with or without sauce. The kiosk will not be open on the day so students will not need any spending money.

I know our students are looking forward to this exciting day and thank you to those parents who have already returned their notes and payment.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For displaying the School Value of 'Respect' by being organised with her belongings and packing up her activities quietly:

JC *Addi H*
JJ *Lyla E*

Catherine, Jen & Zoe

MIDDLE UNIT NEWS

LONG DISTANCE RACES

Yesterday the Middle Unit students competed in Long Distance Races. Congratulations to the winners in each year level.

YEAR 3 GIRLS

1st Willow W
2nd Hailee H
3rd Mia M

YEAR 3 BOYS

1st Maeson D
2nd Chad S
3rd Rydder G

YEAR 4 GIRLS

1st Mileah G
2nd Addi J
3rd Alissa M

YEAR 4 BOYS

1st Harley N
2nd Ty R
3rd Korbin H

The students also participated in novelty events including skipping, sack and egg and spoon races. We would like to commend the students on their participation and sportsmanship.

YEAR 2 PIZZA PARTY

This afternoon at 4:30pm the Year 2 students will be attending a Pizza Party at the Discovery Centre near the Bendigo Marketplace. The time of pick-up is 8:30pm tonight. Just a reminder that students will need to bring a water bottle. We look forward to seeing everyone at this special event.

END OF YEAR BREAK UP

This year the Middle Unit Breakup will be held at 'Jumpz' on Wednesday, 15th December. A note will be sent home today with all the details. Please check with the Office in case you have some credit on your school account from the cancelled excursions before paying.

NO HOMEWORK

Students are no longer required to complete Homework Booklets this term. However, there is still an expectation that students will read for at least 20-30 minutes a night.

KRIS KRINGLE

Each Middle Unit class has decided to go ahead with Kris Kringle this year. A note will go home with all the information regarding Kris Kringle.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For displaying the School Value of 'Respect':

MW *Jack E*
MR *Harley N*
MD *Max W*

Renae, Leisha, Wendy & Dean

SENIOR UNIT NEWS

PREP PHOTOS

Please email these to Brett at:
Brett.Strange@education.vic.gov.au

SWIMMING NOTES

Please return these forms including the swimming levels and make payment ASAP.

SENIOR UNIT BREAK UP

Please return form and make payment ASAP.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION

Monday, 13th December
Awards will commence 12:15pm.
Students on site by 12:00pm.
We will be running the Graduation similar to last year's format.

Year 6 Meal Deal information

Available to order on Qkr NOW. Closing dates for orders is Monday, 6th December.

Choices are:

- 1) 6 Chicken Nuggets, Chips & a Juice \$7.50
- 2) Chips and gravy & a Juice \$5.50
- 3) Burger and chips & a Juice \$8.50 (burger has lettuce, cheese & tomato and your choice of tomato or BBQ sauce)

DIARIES

Diaries are expected to be at school every day - these are checked weekly to see that all reading, GEM tasks and spelling has been filled out.

HELMETS

It's been great to see so many active students with their helmets on – well done!

SWIMMING – NO CANTEEN

NO PIZZA DAY ORDERS or normal lunch orders during our Swimming Program – apologies.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For demonstrating 'Responsibility' during class:

SA *Issy B*
SB *Melia H*
SK *Ruby H*
SL *Remy W*

Ainsley, Brett, Kate, Lauren & Roberta

PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS

LUCKY NUMBERS FUNDRAISER

Our Lucky Numbers fundraiser is still running. There are still a few numbers to be purchased if you haven't already got one and wanted to be a part of the FUN! You can Purchase a Lucky Number/s via the Qkr App or at the Office (maximum 3 per family).

We will draw the Lucky Numbers Competition when all the numbers have been purchased or at the end of Term 4.

Good luck to everyone who is already in the competition, there are LOTS of FANTASTIC PRIZES to be WON!!!

MANGO DRIVE

Thank you to everyone who order a tray of mangoes. Our Order has been put in and waiting on collection date. It will be an earlier collection (week commencing Monday 29th November tbc) due to the mango season starting earlier than normal. We will keep you updated with more information as soon as we can. Thank you all again for your ongoing support with Parents & Friends, we really appreciate it.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

We are running our annual Christmas Raffle again this term. A book of raffle tickets will be sent home with your child on Monday, 22nd November. They will be due back to the Office by Tuesday, 14th December and we will draw the raffle on Wednesday, 15th December. If you would like extra raffle tickets there will be spare books at the Office to collect and sell.

If you can make any kind of donation towards our Xmas Raffle we would greatly appreciate anything. If you are stuck for donation items here's a few things that could help out.....

- ❖ Chocolates & Lollies
- ❖ Biscuits
- ❖ Xmas Decorations
- ❖ Cellophane & Wrapping Paper
- ❖ Gift Cards
- ❖ Baskets

We thank you all for your ongoing support with P&F activities/fundraises we couldn't do it without you.

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.

CANTEEN NEWS

SENIOR UNIT – NO LUNCH / PIZZA DAY ORDERS

Please note that the Senior Unit will be unable to have lunch orders **OR** take part in Pizza Day due to their Swimming Program. Apologies for any inconvenience.

Tammy Fear
Canteen Manager

CRUSOE PERFORMANCE

CRUSOE COLLEGE ROCK BAND LUNCH TIME CONCERT

On Wednesday, 1st December the Year 8 Rock Band from Crusoe College will be performing a free concert during lunch time on the steps of the Multipurpose Room. Between 1:45pm and 2:15pm students are invited to watch the band perform, however viewing is optional, as children can play outside as they normally would if they prefer.

It is exciting that BHPS students will finally get to watch a musical performance since our School Concert was unfortunately postponed to 2022!

Please note that all Crusoe College visitors have been double vaccinated.

FRIDAY, 10TH DECEMBER

PIZZA DAY MEAL

\$5.00

HAWAIIAN

OR



MEATLOVERS



OR

VEGETARIAN

WITH PRIMA OR MILK

(No choice in flavours, sorry, can only choose between prima or milk)

- + If you wish to order an extra slice, the cost is \$2.00 per slice
- + Orders can be put in an envelope, or ordered on our Qkr app
- + **Orders are to be placed using the Qkr app by 9:00am Wednesday, 8th December. Late orders cannot be accepted.**
- + Ice creams will be available as normal,
- + **AND YOU CAN ORDER ICED TREATS ON QKR!**

**THE CANTEEN'S NORMAL FOOD MENU
IS NOT AVAILABLE ON THIS DAY**