



Calder Chronicle

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THURSDAY, 4TH MAY 2023

CALENDAR

Friday, 5th May
Tuesday, 9th May
Friday, 12th May
Monday, 15th May
Tuesday, 16th May
Wednesday, 17th May

Thursday, 18th May
Friday, 19th May
Monday, 22nd May
Friday, 27th May
Monday, 29th May

FRIDAY, 9TH JUNE
Monday, 12th June

Scholastic orders due both online or at the Office
Mother's Day Stall / Raffle – tickets due in by 9:00am
Payment of \$5 due for the Middle & Senior Units Chinese Incursion
Education Week commences – see back page for more information
Somers Camp departs – selected students only
Payment of \$17.50 due for Whole School Let's Get Moving
Orders due in for the P&F Picture Products Fundraiser
Middle & Senior Units Chinese Incursion
Middle & Senior Units Chinese Incursion
Whole School Let's Get Moving commences
2:15pm Whole School Performance – Let's Get Moving – all welcome
Cluster Athletics – selected students only – Year 4-6

CURRICULUM DAY
King's Birthday Public Holiday

School Organisation

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

Our second week of term has run smoothly, with a few events making the week interesting and some wet weather to change things up. The Winter cold seems to have arrived, so please adjust student uniforms to reflect the weather.

CROSS COUNTRY

Yesterday we had a large group of students from Year 3-6 attend the Division Cross Country at the Bendigo Racecourse. Our children were extremely well-behaved, did their best... and represented our school with pride. Quite a few students also placed high, with a couple in the Top 10 – impressive! From here, those whom placed high may have qualified to go to the next level. Congratulations to all students who competed, did their best and excelled. Thanks also to Brett for his coordination, Pam for her marshalling on the day and Dean, Leisha, Chris, Amy M and Jo for helping ensure our cohorts got to and from the event... and were expertly cared for whilst at the Racecourse. It's always a great day and whilst the weather wasn't the best, it didn't dampen the overall experience of students and staff.

PERCEPTUAL MOTOR PROGRAM

It's been great to see so many classes heading over to our Multipurpose Room to participate in the PERCEPTUAL MOTOR PROGRAM (PMP). The Multipurpose Room is set up as a course of different tasks that the children rotate through whilst visiting, with each station focusing on improving a different area... such as balance, fine-motor skills, rolling etc. As the weeks ahead pass, you can expect to hear a lot about PMP from the students in Prep – Year 2.

STAFFING

It's been lovely to have Leisha back on deck this week... and in front of her class. I know they were very pleased to see her. Sharyn Burnett has been absent this week and will also be away next, due to some carer's leave being taken. We'll welcome Sharyn back in Week 4. Tomorrow is the final day of work at Big Hill PS for our Chinese teacher, Wendy Hung. On behalf of the school, I wish Wendy all the very best... and hope that her future is bright as she locates closer to home, at a school in Melbourne.

NEW TEACHER

As Wendy Hung departs, we welcome in her replacement! Welcome to Yilin Lewis, whom will join Big Hill PS next week as our Chinese teacher. Yilin visited today and did a handover with Wendy... so is ready to roll in our Chinese room next week. As Yilin transitions from her current employer to Big Hill PS, we will also have Shengjie from Bendigo Senior Secondary School covering a couple of Fridays until Yilin is able to work both Thursdays and Fridays.

CURRICULUM DAY THIS TERM – repeated from last week

Our School Council has selected and set Friday, 9th June as our Term 2 Curriculum Day (Pupil Free). This will align with the June Long Weekend, giving families a chance to get away from Friday to Monday, with Monday being the King's Birthday Public Holiday. As some families will still have work commitments on the Friday, I have announced this early to enable families to begin planning alternative care arrangements for Friday, 9th June.

ATTENDANCE – repeated from last week

The object for each parent / carer is to have their child at school as much as possible. Children should be at school every day in the ideal world... and only miss school when they are really unwell. In the State of Victoria, the average days of absence last year was 20 days – which is pretty high and due to the nature of COVID isolation rules in 2022 and a nasty flu season. This year, we expect the State average to be much less. If you worked on 10 days away for the year and achieved this, your child will make very good progress with their learning. More days than this starts to affect learning. To help you, please only have your child at home when they are quite unwell. Please avoid days off for birthdays, if possible – holidays, rest days etc, as they really do add up. **Moving forward, if your child is absent for more than 2 days consecutive, we need you to provide us with a medical certificate**, so please visit the doctor if your child is very unwell and home for more than 2 days. On COMPASS, you can track your child's percentage rate of attendance. The goal is to have attendance in the 90 – 100% bracket, so if your child is below this level now, really work on school every day (when they are well) to get attendance rates back in the "green". Of course there are always going to be one-off-situations where a child is hospitalised, or really unwell for an extended period... and this is both a fact of life and something we do understand. All you do in this situation is provide a certificate. The DEPARTMENT has once again resumed the expectation that schools must follow up every absence and that parents / carers must have their children at school. With this in mind, please understand us contacting you about absences is part of the role expected of us by the DEPARTMENT. We also have a duty of care, along with families, to make sure each child is given access to education and does not miss out / fall behind.

LYN SHARRAT VISITING BENDIGO

International Education Expert, Lyn Sharrat, is visiting Bendigo on Monday, with learning walks occurring at Lockwood Primary School. Ainsley Stanley and I have been invited to attend the day and see Lyn's work in action, as well as spending an afternoon working with her. Exciting times and I'm sure a great opportunity for us to get ideas to further improve our wonderful school.

GRIP LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Next Wednesday, 10th May, our 4 School Leaders will attend the GRIP LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE at the Bendigo Stadium. Notes and information will be sent home shortly for Sam, Zoe, Harley and Alexis... but wanting to alert families to this exciting day focused around STUDENT LEADERSHIP.

PHOENIX FM

Next Friday, 12th May, our 4 School Leaders will visit Phoenix FM to talk about their Leadership journey, Big Hill Primary School and much more! Next week I will share times to tune in, however, wanted to again alert everyone to this exciting on-air event.

SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Annette Robinson is our School Council President and she has asked us to put her contact details in the newsletter so that if you wish to contact her, please feel free. Her email address is: annette.robinson@education.vic.gov.au.

SCHOOL BUS PROGRAM

Important update for students who are approved for travel on the School Bus Program: Upgrades are being made to the School Bus Management System (SBMS). To make this important change, the SBMS will be unavailable from COB Friday, 5th May for a period of time. If you need help during this time, you can email the School Bus Program team on schoolbus@education.vic.gov.au or call on 1800 338 663.

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

Thank you to those families who are eagerly taking part in the Premier's Reading Challenge. It's not too late to register your interest as the challenge continues until early September. If you would like to be involved, please see your classroom teacher or get in contact with Jen or Ainsley who can also assist you with your registration. Happy Reading!

MCKERNS FRESH FRUIT



Thank you once again, a lovely big selection delivered yesterday. Here are Dante, Brady & Vincenzo showing the great variety we received.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to Elena T, Connie P, Patrick T, Bonnie S & Poppy S.

As we come towards the end of Week 2, it's a little unnerving to think that we have 7 weeks to go of this term. As always... a reminder to make the most of every day. School every day is the only way 😊.

Kind regards,

Matt Pearce, Principal

FIRST STEPS NEWS

STARS OF THE WEEK

For showing persistence with sounding out unknown words during writing:

FSN Otis J
FSJ Winston

Nicole, Nick & Jayden

JUNIOR UNIT NEWS

READING SUPERSTARS!

Well done to these champions who continued with their reading during the holidays!

50 nights

JA/R Phoenix B

JJ Hunter G, Elias S, Haize W

JW Memphis J, Levi S

75 Nights

JA/R Anna S, Jade L, Harry E, Logan H

JJ Malachi B, Ava C, Sofia D, Jake F, Lucy H, Blake M, Connie P

JW Ezra B, Zoe B, Valentine J, Hendrix M, Cooper M, Vincenzo P, Lucas Q, Ruby S

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For being a good friend through showing the School Value of 'Respect' to their peers:

JA/R Edward M
JW Bentley G
JJ Elias S

Ainsley, Roberta, Wendy & Jen

MIDDLE UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For displaying the School Value of 'Respect':

MD Mason P
MC Archie M
MP Evelynne K

Dean, Catherine & Pauline

SENIOR UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For showing empathy and kindness at school:

SB Olivia K
SK Jack E
SL Alissa M

Last week:

SL Sophie B

Brett, Kate & Leisha

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Issue 3 brochures were handed out last week. Please have orders in (either online or at school) by TOMORROW Friday, 5th May. Thank you 😊.

PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS

MOTHER'S DAY STALL / RAFFLE

The Mother's Day Stall will be held next Tuesday, 9th May. Items range from 50c to \$10 and please bring a bag for your child to place their purchases in. Thank you to all the families who donated towards the raffle, we really appreciate it. Raffle tickets are due back by 9:00am on Tuesday, 9th May.

PICTURE PRODUCTS FUNDRAISER

Notes went home yesterday about a new fundraiser we are trying this year – it is a keepsake that your child can design in either a plate or a mug.

You will need to come to the Office to place and pay for your order, and then you will be given a template to draw your design onto. Please note that any crease or mark will be printed onto the plate/mug, so please do not fold the templates. Unfortunately, we cannot offer Qkr as a payment method, as we would like to take care with the templates and not send them home in student bags where they could be damaged. Thank you.

Orders/templates are due in by Wednesday, 17th May.

LOTS OF SOCKS

If you are interested in supporting Down Syndrome Australia and love your socks, please order online at:

<https://dsa.promogearonline.com.au/site/product/socks-single-pair/>



At only \$12.50 per pair in adults and kids sizes, it's a great way to help raise funds and look cool 😊

COMMUNITY NEWS

2023 Grade 6 Information Evening Wednesday 10th May 2023

2024 Year 7 Information Sessions
at the following
Bendigo Secondary Colleges



6.30 - 8.00pm
Location: Performing Arts Centre
EAGLEHAWK
5446 8099
eaglehawksc.vic.edu.au



6.30pm - 8.00pm
Location: Global Learning Centre
WEEROONA
5443 2133
weeroona.vic.edu.au



6.00pm - 7.00pm
Location: Year 7 Building (B1 and B7)
Bendigo South East
5443 4522
bse.vic.edu.au



6.30 pm - 8.30pm
Location: College Gymnasium
CRUSOE
5447 7722
crusoe.vic.edu.au





BIG HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Web: www.bighillps.vic.edu.au

Principal: **Matt Pearce**



EDUCATION WEEK AT BIG HILL

This year's theme is "Active Learners: Move, Make, Motivate" which celebrates physical activity, hands-on learning and student voice in Education. Our programs this week showcase all of these elements and the community is welcome to come and watch our activities in action during the week. Sign in at the office.

MONDAY MAY 15

9am Normal School Assembly – open Education Week, student awards

2.20pm Student Representative Council meeting – see Student Voice in action with Chaplain, Chris

All day – school leaders visit Gisborne PS to explore PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES

TUESDAY MAY 16

10am School tour for Kinder/Prep 2024 parents/carers. Meet at the General office

Somers Campers leave for 9 days of fun

12 – 1.40pm Perceptual Motor Program (PMP) for Prep classes, Multipurpose

5.30 – 6.30pm Information Evening for Kinder/Prep 2024 parents/carers. Meet at General office

WEDNESDAY MAY 17

All day – RACV SAFETY SQUAD visit for P/1/2 classes

THURSDAY MAY 18

9 – 11.30am Chinese Kungfu/Dragon Dance incursion for Middle Unit classes

9.30am Lisa Chesters MP visit to Big Hill, meet School Captains

FRIDAY 18 MAY

9 – 12.30 Chinese Kungfu incursion for Senior Unit classes

Football clinic P/1/2/3/4 classes – all day

10 – 11am School tour for Kinder/Prep 2024 parents/carers. Meet at the General office

9 – 11.20am Junior Unit PMP classes, multipurpose

Our beloved GRANDPARENTS/SPECIAL VISITORS event will happen the Friday following Education Week (26 May), including a performance by the whole school of LET'S GET MOVING. Communication direct to families in the coming weeks.