

Calder Chronicle

NUMBER 25

Phone (03) 5447 7022

Email: <u>big.hill.ps@education.vic.gov.au</u>
Website: <u>www.bighillps.vic.edu.au</u>

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BigHillPrimarySchool/

THURSDAY, 24TH AUGUST 2023

CALENDAR

FRIDAY, 25TH AUGUST Monday, 28th August Tuesday, 29th August

Thursday, 31st August **Friday, 1st September** Thursday, 7th September

Friday, 8th September

Monday, 11th September Thursday, 14th September Friday, 15th September BOOK WEEK DRESS UP PARADE 9:00AM – ALL WELCOME 😊

Junior Unit Excursion to Kangaroo Flat Library

Father's Day Stall & Raffle drawn - tickets due by 9:00am

First Steps Gym continues

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP OPEN FROM 3PM TO 3:30PM

First Steps Gym concludes

Smile Squad return for fluoride treatments – see inside for more information/consent

Final Instalment of \$65 due for Year 5/6 Camp

Last day to complete the 2023 Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey

Division Athletics - selected students only

Junior Production - Matinee & Evening Tickets on sale NOW-Qkr & Office

Last Day for Term 3 - early dismissal 2:20pm

No Second Hand Uniform Shop today - apologies

School Organisation

Dear School Community,

And just like that... we are almost at the end of another week and only 3 left ahead of us before the holidays. Students continue to work hard, but weariness is creeping in, particularly so for those whom have been unwell throughout the winter period. I think a good dose of sunny days is in order for all

VPA CONFERENCE

As mentioned last week, I am offsite at the VPA conference today (Thursday) and tomorrow. If you have any concerns tomorrow (Friday), please contact the school and speak to Ainsley Stanley, whom is leading the school until my return Monday. If it can wait, I can catch up with you next week.

MAINTENANCE TO OSHC - NO CHANGE SINCE LAST WEEK

Planned maintenance continues around our OSHC building with children working in the two portables adjacent to OSHC (our STEM / Chinese Rooms). Parents are to drop off and pick up from the portables for the time being.

BOOK WEEK / BOOK FAIR

Thank you to all of the families who have come along and supported the school through our Book Fair. It will be running each night after school this week, and continue into early next week. There is a variety of books – picture story, early readers and senior fiction, plus many non-fiction texts, book kits, posters and stationary. This is a worthwhile fundraiser that helps to contribute to building a collection of quality books in our school library and classrooms. A big thank you to Jen Nicholls (and the staff whom supported with supervision) for organising and giving up time after school to ensure it runs smoothly. After the fair, we hope to have a large profit (ie. a percentage of sales) to purchase books for our students to use in our library and classroom programs.

BOOK WEEK DRESS UP PARADE

Don't forget that we will be holding a book week dress up parade tomorrow morning, Friday, 25th August, just after 9:00am. The weather is looking terrific, so it should be full steam ahead outdoors. Encourage your child to come dressed up as their favourite book character... and if possible, bring along a copy of the book to show others. Better still, come along with your child to enjoy the event - which is always a favourite of our students.

Our staff are coming as characters from Mem Fox's 'Where is the Green Sheep?', so have a look out for a real team effort tomorrow, and make sure to look out for our mysterious GREEN sheep! Very sad that I will miss this due to the conference!

GISBORNE PS SPECIALIST VISIT

Yesterday we sent our specialist team of Roberta, Alice, Nick, Sharyn and Giovanna (Jo) to Gisborne PS, along with other local primary school specialists, to look at the way they run PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES (PLC's) in their setting. As our Regional LINK SCHOOL, Gisborne provides schools the chance to look, listen and learn from their approaches. PLC's is the best and most effective way to improve student outcomes, which is of course close to our heart and most important for our students.

PARENT OPINION SURVEY -

WE WANT OUR PARENTS / CAREGIVERS / GUARDIANS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK!

Thanks to the 10 families whom have taken the time to do this. There's still time in the coming week to tell us what you think . Whilst it says it will take 20 minutes, reports from parents who have done it is that the timing is more like 5 minutes ②. Our school is conducting a survey to find out what parents / caregivers / guardians think of our school. The Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey is an annual survey offered by the Department of Education that is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behaviour, and student engagement. The survey is optional but we encourage all families to participate. Our school will use the survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies. All families are invited to participate in the survey. The Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey opened on Monday 7 August and is open to each family until Friday 8th September 2023. The survey will be conducted online, only takes 20 minutes to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time within the survey period on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones. The online survey will be available in English and 10 other languages including Arabic, Greek, Hakha Chin, Hindi, Japanese, Punjabi, Simplified Chinese, Somali, Turkish, and Vietnamese. Each year our survey results will be communicated to parents / caregivers / quardians through annual reporting, through our newsletter and directly to our School Council and Staff. Last year we used the survey results to plan wellbeing programs to support the needs of our students, as well as to make improvements in classes to enhance student voice and build positive relationships between students and with our staff. Please feel free to make contact with me via email, phone or in person if you would like more information.

FATHER'S DAY - RAFFLE AND STALL NEXT TUESDAY

Our P&F are running a fantastic raffle at the moment for Father's Day. We have some great donations of prizes, however, would love some more... so if you could please consider a donation of a prize / item for the raffle, please send along to the Office by next Monday. This will be drawn next Tuesday, so don't forget to return your tickets ASAP. If you need more, drop into the Office or let the school know ... Our P&F will set up our FATHER'S DAY STALL on Monday, with the stall open to class visits on Tuesday... so send your child along with some money Tuesday if you want them to get something special for Dad, Grandpa / Pop, Uncle etc.

ILLNESS / ABSENCES

Please remember that children can come to school with a sniffle etc, as long as they aren't really unwell or COVID POSITIVE. If you need additional COVID tests (RAT's) please let the Office know and we will send home a box. As we navigate getting children back to school as much as possible, we continue to try and use common sense with illness... if really unwell, stay home... if showing mild symptoms / recurring cough come to school. Always let the school know when your child is away and why. Where there is an illness exceeding 2 consecutive days, please see a doctor and get a medical certificate. This can be sent to school to explain the absence. Absences can be reported through COMPASS.

SMILE SQUAD SIX MONTH FLUORIDE VARNISH VISIT

The Bendigo Health Smile Squad team are heading back to our school on Thursday, 7th September to complete sixmonthly fluoride varnish applications for those students who have provided consent. Fluoride varnish applications help make sure students have the best chance of preventing tooth decay, so we're excited Smile Squad are coming back. Consent for this fluoride varnish application was provided when students' initial consent forms were returned. However, if anyone has changed their mind and do not wish to receive a fluoride varnish application, they can contact Bendigo Health directly to let them know. Please contact the Smile Squad team via: 0460 419 200 or email dental@bendigohealth.org.au. The Smile Squad team look forward to returning to our school.

EXCURSIONS / INCURSIONS

We love providing excursions (ie: trips offsite to learn) or incursions (ie: visits to the school from performers or experts to enrich learning). These experiences come at a cost to families, as schools are not funded for them – therefore we appreciate families paying upfront for each excursion / incursion. This week we had a BRICKS 4 KIDS Incursion for our FIRST STEPS, JUNIOR and SENIOR UNIT's, with all children enjoying activities around Lego use and technology. Next week, on Monday, our JUNIOR UNIT are off on an excursion to the KANGAROO FLAT LIBRARY to explore the great facility on offer and even set up library memberships for students to visit out of school times with their families and borrow extra reading materials. Have you been to the new library in town?

MCKERNS FRESH FRUIT

Thank you once again for our great selection of fruit that was delivered yesterday. Here are Franklin & Evlyn enjoying their mandarin and apple 😊.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to Jade L, Lacey B, Elisabeth A, Sophie B & Lyla E.

Here's hoping tomorrow is a great day of fun and celebration for Book Week... which in turn becomes the perfect segway into an awesome weekend for you and your family.

Until next week,

Mall Pearce, Principal

FIRST STEPS NEWS

STARS OF THE WEEK

For showing persistence when following Lego instructions during the Bricks 4 Kidz Incursion:

FSN Teddy R FSJ Harvey B

Nicole, Nick & Jayden

JUNIOR UNIT NEWS

BRICKS 4 KIDZ

Our students had a great time yesterday with their Bricks 4 Kidz incursion. They were able to use Lego Technics to create moving and spinning robots and learned a lot about teamwork, design and technology and creative thinking. Please see Compass for some photos of these fun sessions.

KANGAROO FLAT LIBRARY EXCURSION

On Monday we will be attending a session at the Kangaroo Flat Library. This is to continue our celebration of books and reading after Book Week concludes. We have sent home membership forms for those students who wish to have their very own library cards, if these are handed in by tomorrow, I can drop them off at the library, ready for Monday. These membership forms need to have a photocopy / printed photo of their parent's ID (the Office can make a copy for you if needed) in order to receive their cards on the day, without ID they will remain at the library and can be picked up in person. Please see Compass to complete your permission form and \$4 payment for the travel expenses.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For showing the School Value of 'Responsibility' during our Bricks 4 Kidz Incursion:

JA/R Tyler H JW Cooper M JJ Jack L

Ainsley, Roberta, Wendy & Jen

MIDDLE UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For showing the School Value of 'Responsibility':

MD Linken A
MC Bonnie S
MP Gabrielle B

Dean, Catherine & Pauline

SENIOR UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For showing initiative and helping others:

SB Harley N SK Evie S SL Indigo B

Brett, Kate & Leisha

PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS

FATHER'S DAY STALL

We are running the Father's Day Stall next **Tuesday**, **29**th **August** in the Multipurpose room. Items available range from 50c to \$10. Please bring a bag along on the day to take your special things home in. We look forward to seeing all the students there on the day! Donations of items for the stall or raffle would be greatly appreciated.

Some items which would be helpful include:

- Blocks or boxes of chocolates
- Wrapped Iollies
- > Fishing/camping, sporting, gardening items
- Mugs
- Gift vouchers / cards
- Tissue paper, curling ribbon, clear cellophane
- Raffle prizes

Thanks again for your ongoing support

COMMUNITY NEWS









2023 Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey

WE WANT OUR PARENTS / CAREGIVERS / GUARDIANS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK!

Our school is conducting a survey to find out what parents / caregivers / guardians think of our school.

The Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey is an annual survey offered by the Department of Education that is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behavior, and student engagement.

The survey is optional, but we encourage all families to participate. Our school will use the survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies.

All families are invited to participate in the survey, and an invite was sent out via Compass.

The Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey will be open until Friday, 8th September 2023.

The survey will be conducted **online**, only takes **10 minutes** to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time within the survey period on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones.

The online survey will be available in English and 10 other languages including Arabic, Greek, Hakha Chin, Hindi, Japanese, Punjabi, Simplified Chinese, Somali, Turkish, and Vietnamese.