



Calder Chronicle

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THURSDAY, 5TH OCTOBER 2023

CALENDAR

Friday, 6th October

Thursday, 12th October

Friday, 13th October

SATURDAY, 14TH OCTOBER

Tuesday, 17th October

Friday, 20th October

Monday, 23rd October

Tuesday, 24th October

Wednesday, 25th October

Thursday, 26th October

Friday, 27th October

Wednesday, 1st November

Thursday, 2nd November

Monday, 6th November

Tuesday, 7th November

Monday, 13th November

Tuesday, 14th November

Wednesday, 15th November

Thursday, 16th November

Friday, 17th November

Monday, 20th November

Tuesday, 21st November

Tuesday, 28th November

Tuesday, 5th December

Tuesday, 12th December

Class Placement Requests for 2024 due at the Office

Shelter in Place Emergency Evacuation Drill (see inside for full information)

Items due for the plastics collection for the Art Room (see inside for information)

POLLING PLACE FOR THE VOICE REFERENDUM

School Council Meeting 7:00pm

P&F Mango Drive orders due at the Office

Payment of \$20 due for First Steps / Junior Unit Swimming

FS / JU Swimming commences

FS / JU Swimming continues

FS / JU Swimming continues – **NO LUNCH ORDERS FOR JUNIOR UNIT**

FS / JU Swimming continues

FS / JU Swimming concludes – **NO LUNCH ORDERS FOR JUNIOR UNIT**

Bendigo Cup Day PUBLIC HOLIDAY – no students at school

Senior Production Mission Implausible (tickets & DVD/USB's on sale now)

Professional Practice Day – no students at school

Melbourne Cup Family Fun Day – all welcome

Middle Unit Swimming commences (consent/payment available on Compass soon)

Middle Unit Swimming continues

Middle Unit Swimming continues

Middle Unit Swimming continues

FINAL DAY TO ORDER JUNIOR & SENIOR PRODUCTION DVD/USB's

Middle Unit Swimming concludes

CURRICULUM DAY – no students at school

First Kinder to Foundation (Prep) Transition Day Visit 10:00am – 11:00am

Evening Kinder to Foundation (Prep) Transition Visit 5:00pm – 6:00pm

Second Kinder to Foundation (Prep) Transition Day Visit 10:30am – 12:15pm

Final Kinder to Foundation (Prep) Transition Day Visit 10:30am – 12:15pm

WHOLE SCHOOL TRANSITION, INCLUDING YEAR 6-7 SECONDARY VISITS

School Organisation

Dear School Community,

Welcome to Term 4. I say it every year, but it is hard to believe that we are once again beginning the final term of another year. Time just goes too fast - particularly when children are working so hard and life is so busy! As we head into Term 4, we tackle perhaps the busiest of all school periods. So many events happen this term, including the Year 5/6 Camp (underway), Year 2 Sleepover, Melbourne Cup Family Fun Day, Swimming Programs, sporting days, report writing, class placement, transitions (Kinder – Foundation/Prep, Year Six - Year 7 and whole school), Year 6 Graduation, End of Term breakups, End of Year Picnic and much more!

YEAR 5/6 CAMP – COASTAL FOREST LODGE

At the time of publishing, the Year 5/6's, Senior Unit Staff and I are down at the Coastal Forest Lodge near Anglesea. The weather sadly hasn't been warm and sunny, rather cold, however, children make the most out of any weather and have been loving being down near the coast. More about the camp next week, but for now, thanks to Kate, Leisha and Brett for their organisation of such a wonderful outing... and to all staff who have assisted with supervision and attended (Clare Grant, Chris Powers, Stacey Murtagh and the Senior Unit teachers). Thanks also to Sharyn and Ainsley who are taking care of Big Hill PS in my absence.

STAFFING

This week and next Dean White is on Long Service Leave. During Dean's time away, Eve Acquisto is working in Dean's class. It's been lovely to welcome Leisha Morrison back this week... just in time for camp! Leisha will work right up until the end of October, before taking leave to have her baby. I'm sure she will be busy in the coming weeks with camp and spending time working with her class before her departure. At this stage, Eve Acquisto will work in Leisha's class for the final 6 weeks of the school year.

MAINTENANCE TO OSHC

No word yet as to when this work will be complete. For now, we will continue to run our OSHC program from the portables.

SHELTER IN PLACE (SIP) DRILL

Next Thursday at 11:00am, we will do a whole school SIP Emergency Evacuation Drill. Classes will move into the main building (First Steps, Middle Unit Catherine, Tutoring Room, Office, Library and Staffroom) to mimic what we would do as a school if threatened by unexpected bushfires in the area. Our SIP building has heightened protective features such as safety glass, fire retardant materials, gutter guard etc, to give us the best protection possible against assault by unexpected fire. In the event of a forecast fire, we would relocate offsite, or on a CATASTROPHIC forecasted day close as a precaution. Just advising families of this drill in case children come home confused or concerned. Families can then reassure that it was a practice - which is of course what we will be saying during the event.

AEC USE OF THE MULTIPURPOSE ROOM

Our Government School facilities are often used during elections to provide spaces for voting. On Saturday, 14th October, this will once again occur with the school's Multipurpose Room being used by the AUSTRALIAN ELECTORAL COMMISSION (AEC) for the VOICE REFERENDUM. Beginning late next week, the AEC will begin to set up in the Multipurpose Room for the voting day. Just making you all aware of this change in the coming weeks and perhaps you may choose to come to Big Hill PS to do your vote now that you know that it is an official site.

GARDENING

I did ask before the holidays, but didn't find any volunteers, so ask again... if you ever feel like you'd like to do something for the school, but can't find the time... how about coming to school and doing some gardening at your leisure? We would love some volunteers to water if hot, pull weeds, sweep stones into gardens, remove rocks from grassed areas (these are smaller drain stones) and put them back in the swail drain, collect fallen sticks etc and return to bushland. We have mowing scheduled during the coming months to keep the children safe and the grounds attractive... however, would encourage any family who might like to spend an hour to come and work your magic in the garden to please do so!

CLASS PLACEMENT POLICY – FINAL CHANCE TO SEND IN A REQUEST

Each year families have the chance to indicate where they think their child might be best suited class-wise in 2024. It is not to pick the teacher, rather, a chance to advise us of special friendships or relationships that don't work. Sometimes a parent might signal the child has enjoyed a teacher and would love to have them again OR would love a female teacher after a few years with a male. Overall, we make the best choice for your child however, if you wish to put in a request, I encourage you to stick within the policy (attached) to ensure your requests are correctly worded and respectful of others. Class placement requests are due by **TOMORROW, FRIDAY, 6TH OCTOBER**. Next year we anticipate a FIRST STEPS UNIT (Foundation, possibly Foundation / Year 1), JUNIOR UNIT (Year 1/2), MIDDLE UNIT (Year 3/4, possibly a Year 2/3) and SENIOR UNIT (Year 5/6). We don't know who is teaching at what level as yet, however, hope that there isn't too much change to this year. Requests must be in writing to me, via email Matthew.Pearce@education.vic.gov.au or handed in at the Office (paper copy).

HATS / SUNSCREEN

Term 4 means HATS on at school. From day 1 of Term 4, all children must wear our broad-brimmed black school hat when outdoors. These are sold at the Office if you have misplaced your child's for \$10 each, and can also be ordered via the Qkr app under the donations tab. Children without hats will play undercover following our SunSmart Policy - this is to keep children safe from harmful UV rays and exposure. To help on hot days, please ensure you send along a roll-on sunscreen that your child can apply at breaks. This can be kept in their bag.

REGIONAL ATHLETICS

All the best to Beau (1500m), Indigo (Triple Jump), Chase D (Long Jump) and Sonny D (High Jump and Hurdles) who will represent the school on Monday at the Regional Athletics Carnival at the Flora Hill Athletics Track. Parents are reminded to please make arrangements to take their child to and from the event. We can't wait to hear how they go!

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Just a reminder to School Council members that our October meeting is being held on Tuesday, 17th October at 7:00pm.

CURRICULUM DAY AND PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE DAYS – PUPIL FREE DAYS

As always, I like to give families as much notice as possible of upcoming Pupil Free Days. We have two this Term, with the first on **Monday, 6th November** - the day before Melbourne Cup. This date is the combined PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE DAY for teachers for Semester 2. The second pupil free day is our final Curriculum Day and will occur on **Monday, 20th November** - this date is set aside for teachers to work on reporting requirements.

BENDIGO CUP HOLIDAY & MELBOURNE CUP FAMILY FUN DAY

As we are a Bendigo School, our Shire Holiday is taken as Bendigo Cup Day, which is on Wednesday, 1st November. We do not get Melbourne Cup Day as a Public Holiday, so instead we run a FAMILY FUN DAY at school, which is a morning of fashions on the field and hats... and an afternoon of races (our sports day). It's lots of fun and details will be shared with families in the coming weeks. Pencil in Tuesday, 7th November as a day of fun at Big Hill PS for the Melbourne Cup Family Fun Day!

MCKERNS FRESH FRUIT

Thank you once again for our great selection of fruit that was delivered yesterday. Here are Hudson & Harper enjoying their pear and orange 😊.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to Dustan H & Sofia D.

Until next week,

Matt Pearce, Principal



FIRST STEPS NEWS

STARS OF THE WEEK

For having a positive attitude every day and for giving everything a go:

FSN Harper W
FSJ Ash W

Nicole, Nick & Jayden

JUNIOR UNIT NEWS

SWIMMING PROGRAM – NO CANTEEN

On Wednesday, 25th and Friday, 27th October we will not be able to have lunch orders due to the timing of our swimming program. We apologise for any inconvenience.

3 STRIKE POLICY

Dear Families,

To support students in making positive choices and to be able to attend extra-curricular events, we will be implementing our 3 Strike Policy. This means that students who are struggling to make positive choices in class, the yard or in specialist will be placed on a behaviour chart and will have their behaviour monitored to support positive choices to ensure their attendance to special events (Year 2 Sleepover, Year 1 Stay and Play and the end of year celebration).

If your child receives a strike, we will be endeavoring to support them to redeem themselves. If your child has been placed on a chart, please expect an email from their classroom teacher.

If you have any questions, please get in contact with your child's classroom teacher.

Thanks, Junior Unit Staff

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For showing the School Value of 'Responsibility' and taking pride in their handwritten work:

JA/R Diamond T
JW Harmony N
JJ Jax N

Ainsley, Roberta, Wendy & Jen

MIDDLE UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For displaying the School Value of "Respect":

MD Harper O
MC Benji S
MP Hannah G

Dean, Catherine & Pauline

PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS

MANGO DRIVE

Thank you to those who have already ordered. Just a friendly reminder to get your orders in by Friday, 20th October, and if you order on Qkr, please still send your order form in to the Office. Thank you.

Thanks for your ongoing support

PRODUCTION NEWS

The Junior Production DVD / USB's are being made now, and will hopefully be available within the next week or so – we will advise once they are ready. They will remain on sale via Qkr or at the Office until Friday, 17th November.

The Senior Production tickets are now available on Qkr or at the Office - \$15 per ticket for secondary aged and over, with Primary aged and under needing a free ticket to keep track of numbers.

The DVD / USB's are also available to preorder now on Qkr or at the Office for \$15 each and the cutoff date for ordering is Friday, 17th November.

All orders for both Junior and Senior Productions will hopefully be fulfilled by Friday, 1st December.

ART ROOM NEWS

PLASTICS COLLECTION FOR THE ART ROOM!

Hello everyone, could we please save some plastic items for the art room?

They can be any colour plastic, soft or hard and mostly bottles or lids would be terrific.

Don't worry about the labels, but a quick wash would be great!

Could they please be dropped at the Office by next Friday, 13th October? Thank you.

Alice





CLASS PLACEMENT POLICY

Purpose

To create the best possible learning environment, which is equitable, to all students and their families.

Guidelines

1. *That the underlying principles are educational and in the best interests of all children,*
2. *That involvement in the process is within the framework of specified criteria,*
3. *That the final responsibility for class placement and / or pupil movement remains primarily with the Principal / delegate.*

Implementation

1. The specified criteria for movement of a child from one class to another are as follows:
 - Special needs of children (ie: emotional, psychological, behavioural, disabilities),
 - Equitable distribution of children (ie: learning, gender, behaviour considerations),
 - Within Unit requests (ie: for children to be placed or not placed within a class for family groupings),
 - Flexibility in grouping will be encouraged in movement between Units or Year levels,
 - Children should have at least one friend accompany him or her to the next class,
 - Parents of a Preschool child are provided with the opportunity to indicate a friend with whom they would like their child placed as part of the enrolment process.
2. People who may be involved in the class selection process are as follows:
 - The child's class teacher,
 - The school's transition teachers,
 - Parent(s) of a special needs child,
 - Parent(s) who have views regarding family grouping,
 - Other staff involved in the child's education, such as specialists who have specific special needs information,
 - Preschool staff,
 - First Steps, Junior Unit, Middle Unit and Senior Unit staff,
 - The Principal.
3. Parents are to write to the Principal stating any educational considerations by **TOMORROW, FRIDAY, 6TH OCTOBER.**
 - Records of decisions which have been made regarding placement of children for various reasons, especially behaviour, will be kept,
 - The Principal / delegate will be responsible for keeping this information,
 - All requests will receive either a verbal or written reply so parents understand staff reasons for student placement.
4. If there has been an ongoing concern during the year and there has been contact between the parent, teacher and Principal, a child could be moved to another class in the following year. This action should take place only after discussions with the Principal / delegate and the involved parties.
5. In the event of new students altering the class structure or dynamics, some children may need to be moved to another class early in the school year.

Student enrolment numbers will be a major factor in determining class structures.

Day for Daniel



We will be holding the *Day for Daniel FUNraiser* again this year on Friday, 27th October. We're doing it in support of the Daniel Morcombe Foundation, with funds helping them achieve their mission of keeping kids safe in Australia!

Big Hill PS Day for Daniel Friday 27th October

Wear Red and Walk, Scoot and Ride to School

Event is only open to students from Big Hill PS

Or Wear Red and Walk AT School – 13 laps of the Oval

- Organisation is the same as last year.
- Wear red on the day and make a gold coin donation.
- Meet at Phillis St from 8:30 – 8:45am and walk, scoot and ride to school.
- Or arrive at school and join in the walk on the oval 13 laps is approximately the same distance (only walking on the oval).
- Classroom activities centred around child safety thanks to the Foundation.

How Does My Child Fundraise?

Fundraising for prizes is completed online, so if you'd like to, please create your profile at d4dFUNraiser.com.au. Share your link through social media, email and even text. As a bonus, all donations are tax deductible! For raising just \$10, students will receive a reward for their effort. The more they raise, the better the reward! Remember, the money raised will help the Daniel Morcombe Foundation raise awareness, so please share your fundraising link far, wide and often! It will guarantee the best results.

About the Day for Daniel FUNraiser

The *Day for Daniel FUNraiser* promotes awareness for child safety while raising funds for the Daniel Morcombe Foundation. The Foundation works tirelessly to educate communities on child safety strategies and support victims of crime involving children. We're supporting by holding a *Day for Daniel FUNraiser* and we hope you will support us by participating in the fundraising and organise for children to wear red on Friday, 27th October.

What will the money raised go towards?

This year the Foundation is hoping to raise \$200,000, which will allow them to create new educational programs to keep kids safe. It also means that no child victim of crime will need to pay for counselling through the Foundation. This program can educate millions of Australian children, so we hope we can help them get there! If not, the money raised certainly won't be wasted. In fact, \$1,000 provides counselling for one young victim of crime, \$2,000 - funds 20 schools with resources to help Keep Kids Safe and \$25,000 funds the creation of one Australia's Biggest Child Safety Lesson, which is free for everyone and educates children on relevant child safety.

Ordering Prizes – ALL PRIZES MUST BE ORDERED ONLINE

Make sure you keep an eye on the website, as it will tell you when to order your prizes. If you have any questions, please call the FUNraiser team on 1800 386 786.

Thank you, good luck and happy fundraising!

OUR WEEKLY FREE FRESH FRUIT IS MADE POSSIBLE BY:

 **mckern steel**TM
foundation

Benefitting the health and wellbeing of our Bendigo school children

School visits coming
in TERM 4

Proudly funded by:



@mckernsteelfoundation

THANK YOU TO MCKERN STEEL FOUNDATION & SPONSORS
WE ARE SO GRATEFUL TO BE A PART OF THIS WONDERFUL PROGRAM 