



Calder Chronicle

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THURSDAY, 19TH OCTOBER 2023

CALENDAR

Friday, 20th October

Monday, 23rd October
Tuesday, 24th October

Wednesday, 25th October
Thursday, 26th October
Friday, 27th October

Monday, 30th October

Wednesday, 1st November

Thursday, 2nd November

Monday, 6th November

Tuesday, 7th November

Friday, 10th 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

Friday, 1st December

Tuesday, 5th December
Monday, 11th December
Tuesday, 12th December

P&F Mango Drive orders due at the Office-9am

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

Division Cricket Carnival – selected Year 5/6 students

FS / JU Swimming continues

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

FS / JU Swimming continues

DAY FOR DANIEL – WALK/SCOOT TO SCHOOL OR WALK ON OVAL

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

Second Hand Uniform Shop open 3pm – 3:30pm all items \$2

Payment of \$43 due for First Steps Kyabram Fauna Park Excursion

First Steps Kyabram Fauna Park Excursion

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

Second Hand Uniform Shop open 3pm – 3:30pm all items \$2

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

Second Hand Uniform Shop open 3pm – 3:30pm all items \$2

CURRICULUM DAY – no students at school

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

School Council Meeting

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

LAST Second Hand Uniform Shop for 2023 open 3pm–3:30pm items \$2

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

Year 6 Graduation – more details to follow

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,

As we navigate Week 3 of Term 4, we cross the invisible 1/4 line of the term! With a mere 8 1/2 weeks of the year left, it's going to get very busy indeed... and let me assure you... it's been super busy at school!

COVID

Just advising that we are seeing quite a few cases of COVID in the school currently. If you suspect your child is unwell, out-of-sorts etc, please test using a RAT. If positive, please endeavour to isolate until a negative result is returned. Current infections are high in the Middle Unit, so take particular notice if your child is in that Unit... although there are cases reported across other Units also. If you are out of RATs, please contact the Office and we will send home a box.

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 until the works are complete.

BANDANNAS FOR CANTEEN CANCER FOUNDATION

We now have bandannas for sale at the Office for \$5 each. We also have a fundraising page if you would like to donate: <https://www.bandannaday.org.au/s/17848/20562/e>.

STAFFING

Dean has returned to his class this week after a well-earned rest. His students have been glad to see him back in front of the class. Illness continues to move through the school this week, with Catherine being a way a few days, Pam away for another week and a couple of staff away to look after sick children at home. With the warmer weather, hopefully illness settles down, although navigating another wave of COVID seems to be upon us currently. This week we successfully filled our FAMILY LEAVE POSITION, created by Leisha's impending motherhood. We welcome to the school Emma Tuckwell, who currently teaches at Kennington PS and is based at Melton Primary School. Emma is a very competent, compassionate and highly regarded teacher and we look forward to welcoming her aboard next year. I also thought it was time to announce that Jen Nicholls is moving on next year... taking on a position at Eaglehawk Primary School. At this stage Jen remains ongoing at Big Hill PS, but is released for a year to teach in a different setting. We wish her all the best and will enjoy the coming weeks together before her departure in December.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

We had a very productive meeting on Tuesday night, with the council welcoming Steve Penno to the group. Business covered included the revised school budget, approving Parent Payment Plans for next year, unpacking the ATTITUDES TO SCHOOL SURVEY DATA (Year 4-6), updating ourselves with potential OSHC independent providers, curriculum updates for each Unit and much more. Our final School Council Meeting is on Thursday, 21st November... one for your calendar councilors 😊

MAINTENANCE AROUND THE SCHOOL - GRASS, SNAKES, SIP ETC

Our maintenance of grounds and surrounds has gone up a notch with the warm and wet weather. Mowing, whipper-snipping, weeding etc, have been done and will be on high rotation in coming weeks. Sticks and debris are being removed from the grounds and cubby-making abandoned for now due to the risks of snakes. We do get snakes, being close to the bush and from time to time, see them not far from the school. With this in mind, it is good to remind children of looking where they are walking, stepping back / not forward when they see a snake, remaining calm, telling an adult straight away etc. With all of the impending warm weather, we also did our SHELTER IN PLACE (SIP) drill last week... with children moving to our main building and practicing sheltering from a fire if we had short notice. It's important for us all to know what to do in the event of an emergency, particularly in the instances of fire, snake bite etc, as we lead into the warmer months.

BUSHFIRE & CATASTROPHIC DAYS (Formerly CODE RED DAYS)

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life. Schools and children's services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a CATASTROPHIC danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days notice of a potential CATASTROPHIC day closure through COMPASS, the Big Hill PS website, Big Hill PS and P&F Facebook pages. A CATASTROPHIC day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1:00pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Catastrophic Day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

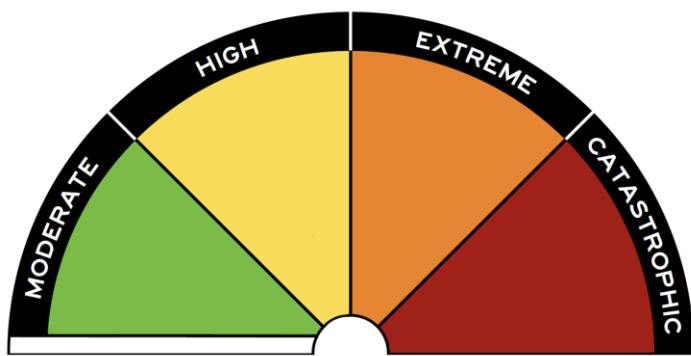
Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that: No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast CATASTROPHIC day. Out of School Hours Care will also be cancelled on these days. School camps will be cancelled if a CATASTROPHIC fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.

As a bus coordinating school, all bus routes will be cancelled, ie: Ravenswood bus run. Depending on which Bureau of Meteorology district is impacted other bus route (not coordinated by Big Hill PS) cancellations may affect the Kangaroo Flat bus.

On these CATASTROPHIC days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children. For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the CFA advise that when CATASTROPHIC days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the CATASTROPHIC day. As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan, reprioritised any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire and cleared our facility's grounds and gutters.

What can parents do? Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed. Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, looking on COMPASS, checking our website <https://www.bighillps.vic.edu.au/> or Facebook pages and by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan. Most importantly at this time of year, if you're planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay. If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires & your family's bushfire survival plan.

You can access more information about children's services closures on the Department of Education and Training website – see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>. For up-to-date information on this year's fire season see: <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/> Facebook (facebook.com/cfavic) Twitter (twitter.com/CFA_Updates) ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters and the VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226).



MODERATE

Plan and prepare

HIGH

Be ready to act

EXTREME

Take action now to protect life and property

CATASTROPHIC

For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas

SWIMMING - FIRST STEPS AND JUNIOR UNIT

Next week our Prep to Year 2's from First Steps and the Junior Unit will take part in their swimming program. Each day staff and students will head to the indoor pool and undertake a lesson with a trained instructor. Hopefully, by the end of the week, your child has made significant progress, that you can capitalize on by continuing your own formal swimming lessons before the summer well-and-truly hits! Water safety and confidence are so important, so if you are looking for an activity for your child to do, please consider additional swimming lessons. Due to the change in programs and times for 5 of our 11 classes, the specialist classes will change for the whole school, meaning normal lessons will run possibly at different times.

CRICKET

Next Tuesday, 24th October, selected students from Year 5/6 will compete in the local CRICKET TOURNAMENT against other students from neighbouring Bendigo schools. This will be a great day out for students - so please ensure they come to school in full uniform and are SunSmart with their broad-brimmed hat and sunscreen to reapply. Brett and Leisha will be attending on the day to supervise and assist with the event.

SENIOR PRODUCTION

MISSION IMPLAUSIBLE, the Senior Production is well-underway, with Nick and staff working hard to prepare students for the big show on Thursday, 2nd November – 1:00pm and 6:00pm at the BENDIGO BAPTIST CHURCH, JUNORTOUN. Next week and the week after will be the main focus for our Year 3-6's in the lead up to the big performance. Tickets and USB / DVD's are on sale now!

DAY FOR DANIEL

Next Friday, 27th October is DAY FOR DANIEL. Children are hopefully making the most of fundraising opportunities and will wear red, in support of the day. We will have an active travel from Phillis Street on the day, with children able to meet a staff member at Phillis Street (8:30am) and walk to school. Those already at school can participate in a walk around the Tiger Turf. Just wanted to give you warning of wearing RED for Daniel Morcombe next Friday!

CURRICULUM DAY AND PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE DAYS – PUPIL FREE DAYS

Our first Pupil Free Day for Term 4 is on Monday, 6th November - the day before Melbourne Cup Day. 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 as a holiday, 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 we hope to see everyone here for a day of fun at Big Hill PS for the Melbourne Cup Family Fun Day!

PLC COACHING

On Monday Ainsley, Jen, Kate, Nicole and Catherine will take part in Day 1 of PLC Coaching. This will be done at school with their classes covered by Casual Relief Teachers. We are pleased that our leaders are able to have access to this top-quality coaching to continue our focus on improving school outcomes for our students.

MONDAY AND TUESDAY – MATT OFF SITE

I will be off site Monday due to working with another school to help them appoint a new Principal. On Tuesday I will be attending our REGIONAL DIRECTORS MEETING for the day also, so will return on site Wednesday. If you require support during this time, I will endeavour to call you back if you ring the school and ask for contact. Of course, Sharyn Burnett, our Assistant Principal, will be on site Monday and Tuesday to field issues or assist where required.

SCHOOL PAYMENTS – CSEF / CREDIT

If you are unsure if you have either, when going to pay on Compass, please click the circle that says: Pay with CSEF or Credit balance and the Office can check when the notification comes through to us. We will then be in touch to advise you if you don't have any or enough CSEF / Credit. Thank you.

MCKERNS FRESH FRUIT

Thank you once again for our great selection of fruit that was delivered yesterday. Here are Mitchell & Ava enjoying their mandarin and pear 😊.



BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to Harmony N, Franklin B, Jarryn S, Ethan M, Oli M, Eden M & Logan H.

The weather is amazing at the moment, so please enjoy before a cool change over the weekend. Stay safe and I look forward to seeing many of you in the coming weeks at events,

Matt Pearce, Principal

FIRST STEPS NEWS

SWIMMING PROGRAM

Next week First Steps classes will take part in swimming lessons at the Gurri Wanyarra Wellbeing Centre in Browning Street, Kangaroo Flat.



Both classes will be swimming together from 12:00pm – 12:45pm. Thank you to those families who have completed the consent form and made payment.

Children can wear their bathers under their school uniform to school and bring along underwear to put on after their lesson, or there is plenty of time to change into their bathers when we arrive at the pool. Children need to wear their school shoes to school but they can bring their thongs to school to wear to and from the pool.

Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled so that misplaced items can be returned to their owners.

STARS OF THE WEEK

For being a responsible learner by putting in an exceptional effort with their home reading:

FSN Wade G
FSJ Seth P

Nicole, Nick & Jayden

JUNIOR UNIT NEWS

SWIMMING

Next week will see the commencement of our swimming program at Gurri Wanyarra in Kangaroo Flat. Students will need bathers, towel, thongs, goggles and a rash vest (if preferred, and all items named) each day next week. Students will need to wear their uniform and have their bathers in their bags, ready to change before their session rather than under their uniforms please.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For demonstrating gratitude through being a kind and generous friend:

JA/R Harry E
JW Rhemmi C
JJ Malachi B

Ainsley, Roberta, Wendy & Jen

MIDDLE UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For displaying the School Value of 'Responsibility':

MD Avery F
MC Isabella G
MP Abigail H

Dean, Catherine & Pauline

SENIOR UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For demonstrating an ability to cooperatively work with a learning partner:

SB Chelsea A
SK Keenan S
SL Thalia M

Brett, Kate & Leisha

PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS

MANGO DRIVE

Thank you to those who have already ordered. Just a friendly reminder to get your orders in by **9AM TOMORROW, FRIDAY, 20TH OCTOBER!**

If you place an order using Qkr, could you please still send your order form into the Office? That way we have contact details of who is making the purchase. Thank you.

Thanks for your ongoing support

PRODUCTION NEWS

The Junior Production DVD / USB orders are NOW AVAILABLE TO COLLECT FROM THE OFFICE.

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.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

FROM JUDO VICTORIA:

'We are pleased to let you know that Vincenzo P has passed a Judo practical and knowledge test called a grading at the Judo Bendigo Club.

This is no easy task and requires a great deal of practice. The grade is awarded by the presentation of a coloured Judo belt.

Junior Judo belts are in varying colours signifying age and expertise. Vincenzo has been awarded a Yellow-Orange-Black belt.'

CONGRATULATIONS VINCENZO, WELL DONE 😊

COMMUNITY NEWS



FUNLOONG FUN DAY!

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

Saturday October 28
11am to 2pm
Hargreaves Mall and
Williamson Street

Join us to celebrate Children's Week with a range of FREE fun activities and live entertainment for children and families to enjoy! Scan the QR code to follow this inclusive event on Facebook.

This event is proudly sponsored by:

AGNICO EAGLE FOOTBYLLE
freeza www.freeza.vic.gov.au
VIC
ONE FUN DAY
VICTORIA State Government
CITY OF GREATER BENDIGO



National Bandanna Day
Friday 27 October 2023



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 