



Calder Chronicle

NUMBER 20

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THURSDAY, 1ST AUGUST 2024

CALENDAR

Wednesday, 7th August

Friday, 9th August

FRIDAY, 16TH AUGUST

Monday, 19th August

Tuesday, 20th August

Thursday, 22nd August

Friday, 23rd August

Thursday, 29th August

Friday, 30th August

Thursday, 5th September

Friday, 6th September

Thursday, 12th September

Friday, 13th September

Friday, 20th September

Year 7 Placement Acceptance Slips due at the Office

PAYMENT OF \$40 DUE FOR MIDDLE UNIT GYM

CURRICULUM DAY – PUPIL FREE DAY

Book Week Parade – all welcome 9:00AM

Book Fair delivered to school – open from 3:25pm to 4pm daily 19th – 23rd

PAYMENT OF \$40 DUE FOR FIRST STEPS GYM

PAYMENT OF \$16.50 DUE FOR JUNIOR UNIT DISCOVERY CTR EXCUR

First Steps Gym commences

Junior Unit Discovery Centre excursion

Middle Unit Gym commences – NO LUNCH ORDERS, apologies

First Steps Gym continues

Middle Unit Gym continues – NO LUNCH ORDERS, apologies

First Steps Gym continues

Middle Unit Gym continues – NO LUNCH ORDERS, apologies

First Steps Gym concludes

Middle Unit Gym concludes – NO LUNCH ORDERS, apologies

LAST DAY OF TERM 3

School Organisation

Hello Big Hill Community,

Welcome to Week 3... which has been extremely productive and busy all in one! Did you know we passed the ¼ mark of this Term yesterday? Crazy! A good reminder to us all to make the most of each day. Every day counts 😊.

STAFFING

Unfortunately Kate Dole has continued to be unwell and not at work this week. Covering her class each day has been difficult due to lack of Casual Relief Teachers... we've done it though thanks to flexibility of staff, including our tutor Giovanna. Whilst having different teachers each day is not ideal I can assure you that this is better than splitting a class – which I haven't had to do with Kate's yet. I'm not able to predict when Kate is back, however hoping this is soon. I will keep you posted.

Ainsley has worked through week 3 of her 4 week placement and her class has been in good hands with Roberta Mathers and Cameron Salmon once again sharing the class between them. This will continue next week until Ainsley's return in Week 5.

Tomorrow Pam commences LSL for a few weeks and we welcome back Amy Grimes into our Senior Unit to assist teachers in her role as Education Support.

Finally, Caleb Barras is away for the next 4 weeks, commencing teaching rounds at another school. During this time Caleb's duties as Education Support will be picked up by some of our other Education Support staff including Clare and Amy M (meaning the MACLIT sessions will be paused for a few weeks on particular days).

FOOTBALL HEROES

Tuesday and Wednesday of this week saw Brett Strange, Caleb Barras and Pam Farnell (Wednesday only) out of the school with two groups of energetic Year 5/6 students who competed at the Division Football (AFL). Our girls played first on Tuesday (made the FINAL), with the boys following on Wednesday and whilst neither team won the competition, they all played well and as teams on each day. From all reports it was a great day for both with excellent behaviour and representation once again. Thanks again to Brett for organising and to Caleb and Pam for assisting.

STATE PRINCIPALS CONFERENCE

On Monday I joined over 90% of our State Principals at the Melbourne Convention Centre for our annual STATE PRINCIPALS CONFERENCE. It's quite overwhelming to see so many leaders from right across the state in one location – however this provides a wonderful chance to network and attend top level Professional Learning... ensuring that I, as the leader of our school, am up to date with the latest and greatest approaches in our educational leadership space – which then means that Big Hill PS is going in the right direction too. I thank our staff for holding fort on Monday whilst I was out of the school.

PARENT / CARER OPINION SURVEY

On Monday each family was sent a link to our PARENT / CARER OPINION SURVEY via COMPASS. Please locate this update and follow the links and use your code to enter and complete the survey. This survey gathers your opinions on how we are doing as a school, and we use the data collected each year to celebrate successes and improve. If you could take 20 minutes out of your busy schedule to complete the survey, we would really appreciate it. Remember one person from each household does the survey. You have a few weeks ahead of you to complete this too before it closes. If you can't access COMPASS, please contact me to discuss getting the link sent to you via email so you can complete the survey. Phone the school or email Matthew.Pearce@education.vic.gov.au.

KINDER / FOUNDATION ENROLMENT FOR 2025

For current families, have you contacted the school to advise of your younger child starting school next year? We understand that most families will of course send their children to school with their siblings, but we still need to have them listed and enrolled, so if you could contact the school ASAP, that would be much appreciated. Tours can be arranged also!

PARENTS & FRIENDS PIE DRIVE

I just wanted to congratulate our Parents and Friends club for doing a great job of another fundraiser. All members of the P&F are volunteers and do this work in their own time, often after their day-to-day job. From all reports the pie drive was a great success – well done! For a couple of families that had mixed up orders, our apologies 😊. This is the first time we have used a local bakery, and it was their first time doing a drive too... and overall, there were only a few hiccups. Thanks for your understanding and support of our magnificent P&F who we couldn't do without... as they raise funds for our school programs and grounds that we wouldn't normally get from the basic state funding. If you would like to join the P&F at any time, please reach out by contacting our Office. We can link you to the team!

NO DROP OFFS BEFORE 8:45AM

Do you have to be at work early? Please book into our Before School Care program. THEIR CARE have space for those who have an early start. Failing this, drop children off at Phillis Street and encourage them to walk to school with many others along the path, which is very safe and a great way to get some exercise in 😊.

SOCIAL MEDIA / APPS WARNING

I've reached out to families of the Senior Unit to ask them to keep an eye on children when online. TikTok and other apps are for 13+. Sadly, we have many children on these apps when at home... which teach children to be anti-social if used incorrectly. There is a rise in violent behaviours across the country and access to social media, apps and games that are inappropriate are the main offenders. This week we had unsupervised students at home watching how to remove blades from a classroom pencil sharpener to make a weapon – this was TikTok. I write because many families think TikTok and others are all fun and exciting – but the rabbit hole goes deep and dark. PLEASE... watch your children if you allow them to use such apps. Fortunately our values of SAFE, RESPECTFUL and RESPONSIBLE have created students who tell adults when something is up... which is also attributed to many of you at home doing the same when reinforcing the importance of speaking up, knowing right from wrong, being kind / not violent, seeking help when something is confronting etc 😊. If asked by your child if they can have INSTAGRAM, TikTok and SNAP CHAT... try hard to resist. It's opening your child to a world you want to protect them from until they are mature enough to filter through what is right and wrong. Thanks for your support!

CURRICULUM DAY FRIDAY, 16TH AUGUST

Our Curriculum / Pupil Free Day for Term 3 is fast approaching. To enable you to prepare, I'll remind you that Friday, 16th August is pupil free, therefore no students at school on this day. Alternative care arrangements will need to be made. THEIR CARE are most likely providing their service on the 16th if you would like to explore the possibility of booking in via their website 😊.

MCKERNS FRESH FRUIT

Thank you so much for our latest mix of yummy fruit.

Here are Zara and Harlem enjoying their orange and pear 😊



BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to Bonnie E, Mason P & Jack E.

It's been lovely to have some winter sun this week! As we head into August, Spring isn't too far away and hopefully that brings the promise of warmer weather. Have a lovely Friday and an even better weekend beyond.

Until next week...

Matt Pearce, Principal

FIRST STEPS NEWS

STARS OF THE WEEK

For displaying our School Value of 'Be Respectful' by including others when playing in the yard:

FSN Phoenix B
FSJ Harlem D

Nicole, Nick & Jayden

JUNIOR UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For showing resilience in Scooter Education:

JA/R Sienna D
JW/A Hudson W

Ainsley, Roberta, Wendy & Amanda

MIDDLE UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For displaying the School Value of Respect:

MD Ava C
MC Oli M
MP Blake M

Dean, Catherine & Pauline

SENIOR UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For demonstrating outstanding perseverance:

SB Chase L
SK Hailee H
SM Eli V

Brett, Kate & Michelle

COMMUNITY NEWS

CHOOSE YOUR FOOTY ADVENTURE **AFL PLAY**

BENDIGO THUNDER ALL GIRLS AUSKICK AND SUPERKICK

STARTING TUESDAY 6TH AUGUST FOR 5 WEEKS

Bendigo B.W.F.C.
Women's Football Club Inc

nab AFL Auskick
4-8 year olds

Come find your awesome at NAB AFL Auskick. An introductory program to Australian rules football, teaching skills through fun activities and mini games.

AFL Superkick
8-12 year olds

Level up your footy with skills and modified match play in weekly sessions. NAB AFL Superkick is tackle-free and great for Auskick grads and newbies alike.

VISIT PLAY.AFL

ASKA KARATE OPENING BENDIGO DOJO

ENROL NOW AND
RECEIVE YOUR
FREE UNIFORM!



FREE FIRST LESSON
ALL AGES WELCOME

9-11AM

SATURDAY 3RD AUGUST, 2024
BIG HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL
5644 CALDER HIGHWAY, BIG HILL, 3555

SENSEI ALEX CARRASCO
BLACK BELT 4TH DAN
0403 727 129



Keeping kids safe for

2024

Join us on Friday 25th October 2024!

Australia's largest child safety education and awareness day is on Friday 25 October 2024. Support child safety in Australia and help us keep Daniel's memory alive.

WEAR RED educate DONATE

OUR WEEKLY FREE FRESH FRUIT IS MADE POSSIBLE BY:

 **mckern steel**TM
foundation

**Benefitting the health
and wellbeing of our
Bendigo school children**

Fresh Fruit Program

Proudly funded by:



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