

# Calder Chronicle

NUMBER 27

Phone (03) 5447 7022

Email: <a href="mailto:big.hill.ps@education.vic.gov.au">big.hill.ps@education.vic.gov.au</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:www.bighillps.vic.edu.au">www.bighillps.vic.edu.au</a>

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

### THURSDAY, 28<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2025

#### **CALENDAR**

Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September Senior Unit Gym concludes **Wednesday**, 3<sup>rd</sup> **September P&F Fathers' Day Stall** 

INDIGENOUS LITERACY DAY "Strength In Our Stories: For Now & Future Generations"

Thursday, 4th September Smile Squad fluoride varnish visit

First Steps Gym continues

Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> September Smile Squad fluoride varnish visit

Wednesday, 10th September Whole School Incursion – Ghana Beat my Drum – consent / pay on Compass

Thursday, 11th September R U OK Day

First Steps Gym continues

Tuesday 16th September Junior Concert - matinee & evening tickets ON SALE NOW

Thursday, 18th September First Steps Gym concludes

Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> September Senior Concert – matinee & evening tickets ON SALE NOW Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> September LAST DAY FOR TERM 3 – early dismissal of 2:30pm

#### **School Organisation**

Dear Parents, Carers and Greater Community,

Week 6 has been a busy one with lots of indoor time due to the changing weather conditions. Intermittent rain has seen us having to adjust eating areas to have children undercover and sometimes moving play indoors. Hopefully with the hint of spring the weather improves  $\bigcirc$ .

#### FIRST STEPS GYM PROGRAM

Our First Steps students got their chance to participate in a Gym program at JETS GYM today. Each Thursday for the next 3 weeks, our First Steps students will head to the gym from 9.30 – 11am.

#### **SCOOTER EDUCATION**

Our First Steps students and Junior Unit have continued to enjoy Scooter Ed, with lessons occurring this week. We have two more weeks for Junior Unit on Monday and First Steps on Thursday before the scooters are returned to Maiden Gully PS. A big thank you to Ainsley for organising the collection and eventual return of the borrowed scooters. Students are encouraged of course to bring their own scooter, we just have spares for those that don't have one to bring  $\bigcirc$ 

#### **LOCK OUT DRILL TOMORROW**

Just advising the community that tomorrow we will have a drill (practise run) to rehearse what we would do if requiring to do a LOCK OUT at the school. We will sound alarms and take students and staff through the steps in preparation for the real event. Hopefully we will never need to use some of our emergency procedures, but we must be ready just in case. Help prepare your child by talking to them about a practise drill tomorrow at 10.45am.

#### SCHOOL CONCERTS - BIG HILL'S GOT TALENT

Nick is hard at work preparing students for our two big events in Week 9 of Term 3 – BIG HILL'S GOT TALENT! We will be holding a matinee and evening performance on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> September for Junior School (F – Year 2) and Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> September for Senior School (Year 3-6). Tickets are on sale now on Compass (via the Canteen tile and choose 12<sup>th</sup> September as the date) or at the Office. If you haven't seen Nick's post on Compass about costumes, song choice etc, please have a look as there's some helpful information there to guide families to prepare. If you have any questions, please reach out to Nick by emailing <a href="Micholas.Reid@education.vic.gov.au">Nicholas.Reid@education.vic.gov.au</a>.

#### PARENT OPINION SURVEY - HAVE YOU HAD YOUR SAY?

Two weeks ago I sent out details on Compass for completing this year's PARENT OPINION SURVEY (POS). If you could take the time on behalf of your household to give honest feedback, that would be much appreciated. We use this to celebrate our successes and look for areas to improve. Please use the PIN 151529 to access.

#### **EDUCATION SUPPORT WEEK!**

Next week is an opportunity to celebrate Education Support Week at Big Hill PS. Collectively it is a time to pause and recognise the valuable contributions our Education Support (ES) make to our school. We couldn't do what we do without Erin, Janet, Tammy, Jenny, Clare, Amy and Stacey... so if you cross paths with one of them next week... feel free to show your appreciation!

#### **FATHERS' DAY STALL**

Our wonderful PARENTS AND FRIENDS will be setting up for the FATHERS' DAY STALL next Monday and Tuesday, with the stall open to students on Wednesday. Our pupils will be able to attend with their teacher throughout the day to purchase a gift or two for their father/s, grandfathers, uncles or special persons in their lives. Pricing of gifts is very reasonable with gifts ranging from \$2 to \$20. Don't forget also to try and sell your book of raffle tickets, with wonderful prizes available, see inside for photo! More books are available from the Office if you feel you could sell more . A big thanks to our P&F for their continued excellent work and service to our community and to those of you who have donated goods for the raffle... or have sold tickets for the raffle. We are fundraising to replace our Tiger Turf, so every cent counts!

#### **SENIOR UNIT GYM RESCHEDULED**

Families of our Senior Unit students are reminded of the rescheduled gym session that didn't occur on the 11<sup>th</sup> August will occur on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September. This is set to occur in the middle block of the day between 11:30am & 1:30pm.

#### INDIGENOUS LITERACY DAY

Next Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September is national INDIGENOUS LITERACY DAY. Staff at school will recognise the day with students and will incorporate rich indigenous texts into their program. Indigenous Literacy Day 2025 will celebrate with the theme "Strength In Our Stories: For Now & Future Generations". Organised by the Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF) each year, in 2025 why not join in by visiting the celebratory ILF CELEBRATION. The event will feature a free film and livestream from the <u>Sydney Opera House</u> at 10:30am to celebrate and share First Nations stories, cultures, and languages. If you are home, why not have a look? I'll also encourage classes to do the same.

#### **VICTORIAN PRINCIPALS ASSOCIATION (VPA) CONFERENCE**

Next week I will attend the VPA Conference in Melbourne with hundreds of principals from across the State. The 2-and-a-half-day conference will provide access to top level speakers in the field of education, teaching and learning, leadership and current challenges. It's also a terrific opportunity to network and learn from colleagues whilst also providing access to many companies who provide services to schools such as landscaping, school photos, IT, signage and much more. I'll be in Melbourne from Wednesday afternoon until Friday (3<sup>rd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> September) – so during this time please contact the Office to be put in touch with a staff member who may help you with your query.

#### **BASKETBALL NEXT FRIDAY**

Next Friday is a grand day out for some of our Year 5/6's selected to participate in the District Basketball at Red Energy Arena. Brett Strange has chosen teams and will run the day with the support of Roberta Mathers. As I will be absent at the conference when this occurs, I wanted to wish our participating students all the very best for their day representing the school.

#### SMILE SQUAD SIX MONTH FLUORIDE VARNISH VISIT

The Bendigo Health Smile Squad team are heading back to our school to complete six-monthly 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 729 200 or <a href="mailto:dental@bendigohealth.org.au">dental@bendigohealth.org.au</a>. The Smile Squad team look forward to visiting soon.

#### CHILD SAFETY POLICY - PARENT FEEDBACK ENCOURAGED

We have updated our Child Safety Policy and it is on our website. Please read and if you have any feedback, let Matt or the Office know. Thank you.

#### MCKERNS FRESH FRUIT

With thanks to McKerns and sponsors, for our beautiful selection of fruit  $\circ$ .

Here is Maisie & Jack enjoying their mandarin and apple.

#### **BIRTHDAYS**

Happy Birthday to Elisabeth A, Ollie C & James W.

As Week 6 comes towards and end, we look towards Week 7 and the realisation that there is only 3 weeks left of the term. With lots occurring before our September/October holidays, it's important to have children in bed early and well rested...particularly as we move into the final weeks of a wet and cold term. Children are tired and the remedy is rest and good patterns of sleep...l'll leave that with you to address...and thanks in advance for your support.

Until next week...

Mall Pearce, Principal

#### FIRST STEPS NEWS

#### **STUDENTS OF THE WEEK**

For displaying the School Value of 'Safety' during Scooter Ed lessons:

FSN Charlotte Q FSJ Oaklynn V

Nicole, Nick & Jen

#### JUNIOR UNIT NEWS

#### STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For demonstrating good manners in the classroom and playground:

JJ Mia M JC Layla R

Giovanna & Catherine

#### MIDDLE UNIT NEWS

#### STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For displaying the School Values at the Earth Ed excursion:

MED Hendrix M MP Arlow D MWA Luka H

Emma, Dean, Pauline, Wendy & Amanda

#### **SENIOR UNIT NEWS**

#### STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For demonstrating responsibility in the yard and in the classroom:

SA/R Ava H SB Bonnie S SK Rami A

Ainsley, Roberta, Brett & Kate

### JUNIOR & SENIOR CONCERT TICKETS ON SALE

You can now purchase tickets for both Concerts on Compass and at the Office.

The cost is \$15 for adults (Secondary Aged & over) and free for Primary Aged & under.

To order on Compass, you will need to go to the Canteen tile, and pick the date as 12<sup>th</sup> September.

Choose Junior or Senior Concert tickets, add the item to cart, proceed to review order, customise and then you can add the free Primary Aged & under tickets.

These will then be sent home with the eldest child in the family within 48 hours of purchase.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Office.

#### Thanks 😊

#### **RESET ZONE / PANTRY NEWS**

With thanks to Stacey & Alice for their hard work to get our reset zone up in action for those students who need a brain break.





Below is our pantry for any family who needs a few essentials to help them out. We encourage anyone who would like something to either come into the Office and select items, or to call or email your request and we can have it sent home. We hope this helps our community when needed.



### **PIZZA DAY PRICE INCREASES**

Hi everyone,

Due to price rises, we have had to increase the price of our Pizza Day meals from \$5.50 to \$6.00 and the Gluten Free option from \$7.50 to \$8.00. Apologies for any inconvenience. Thankyou.

Tammy Fear, Canteen Manager

#### **CHICKEN NEWS**

We have chooks back at school - yes indeed!

We have Nippy, Pancake & Peggy who all have their wings clipped so they hopefully won't go wandering around the schoolyard  $\bigcirc$ 

### SOCIAL MEDIA & CYBER SAFETY

# Navigating the Digital World: Your GPS for the Online Adventure

### Pop-ups and Malware: More Than Just an Annoying Nuisance

Back in my day, the closest thing we had to a "pop-up" was Mum yelling from the kitchen that dinner was ready. Then came the trusty old dial up modem, screeching away as it connected us to the "World Wide Web". Fast forward a few years, and suddenly our computer screens were being hijacked by flashing boxes telling us we'd won a holiday to the Gold Coast. All we had to do was "click here!" Sadly, some of us did. And just like the days when companies like Reef told us that baking in the sun was good for us (a myth many of us are paying for now), we've since learned the hard way that pop-ups are rarely good news.

#### The Pop-Up Problem

For many adults, pop-ups are just irritating, an extra click of the mouse to close the box. But for kids and teens, they can be a gateway to something more sinister. Behind the bright colours and "limited time offers" are often scams, viruses, or malware that can do serious damage.

#### Pop-ups can:

- Trick kids into downloading harmful software,
- Lead to dodgy websites spreading misinformation or scams,
- Collect personal information without consent,
- Open the door to more persistent online threats.

#### Malware: The Invisible Hitchhiker

If pop-ups are the lure, malware is the hook. Malware can sneak onto a device and sit quietly in the background, tracking passwords, reading messages, or even locking up a computer until a ransom is paid. Sounds like a crime thriller, but it's happening every day in Aussie households. And once it's in, it's not as easy as chucking the cricket ball back over the fence, sometimes the damage is long lasting.

#### Teaching Kids to Be Critical

At school, we're working hard to teach kids how to think critically online, just like we teach them to question whether a headline on social media is fact or fiction. A flashing pop-up promising a free iPhone is just another version of the old "stranger offering lollies" scenario, too good to be true, and likely dangerous.

But this job can't be left to schools alone. Home and school need to work hand in hand. Parents can talk openly with their kids about what to do if a pop-up appears, set up adblockers, and remind them never to click on anything suspicious without checking first. It's the modern version of teaching kids to look both ways before crossing the road.

#### **Final Thoughts**

Pop-ups and malware might feel like just another tech headache, but they're also an important teaching moment. We don't want kids growing up scared of technology, but we do want them to grow up smart with it. Just like we finally realised that frying ourselves in the sun wasn't such a bright idea, we need to make sure the next generation knows that clicking random pop-ups can land them in just as much strife. With a bit of teamwork between home and school, we can give our kids the tools to navigate the online world safely, and maybe even save a few computers along the way.

Safe travels on the internet highway, where your data's the passenger, and you're the navigator!

Kate Dole

#### WHOLE SCHOOL SWIMMING

The whole school will be participating in the Swimming Program at the same time this year, commencing on Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> October.

Please consent/pay on Compass. If you can't see an option to pay, it is because we have used the SSB / credit to cover it.

You will need to cut and paste the website address to complete the survey. Once done, select the date under that question and submit. Thank you.

#### PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS

Raffle tickets for the Fathers' Day stall were handed out yesterday. If you didn't receive any, there are spares at the Office.

The stall / raffle will be held on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Raffle tickets (both sold and unsold) are to be returned by 9:00am on this day.



We also have a Walker's Doughnuts voucher, along with a Bunnings voucher up for grabs, thank you so much Walker's & TheirCare (Bunnings) for your kind donation to our raffle, good luck everyone ©

Thanks for your ongoing support





APPLY NOW





Bendigo Mixed Holiday Program
<a href="https://www.playhq.com/afl/org/bendigo-holiday-program/c6dd1171/register">holiday-program/c6dd1171/register</a>

Pondigo All Cirls Holiday

#### Bendigo All Girls Holiday Program

https://www.playhq.com/afl/org/bendigo-all-girls-holiday-program/078ce7f3/register











Elmore Events Centre

There are 4 x Smiggle vouchers to be won – one for each age category – giving the kids plenty of chances to get creative and show off their colouring skills.

It's always a highlight seeing the fantastic effort and imagination that goes into the entries each year!

We can't wait to see the bright and colourful creations that come in, Good Luck to everyone that enters!

Colouring in sheets are available from the Office foyer



# Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge

There is plenty of time to complete this year's Premiers' Reading Challenge.

The challenge ends NEXT FRIDAY, 5th September.

So far Big Hill PS students have read 778 books, with 17 students already completing the challenge.

Use the following website to add your books and finish the challenge.

Https://vprc.eduweb.vic.gov.au/home

If you have any questions, please contact our Premiers' Reading Challenge Coordinators, Emma Tuckwell or Jen Nicholls

Happy reading!

#### **CHINESE NEWS**

Celebrating Chinese Language and Culture

We are excited to share two upcoming opportunities for our students to engage with Chinese language and culture:

- Chinese Language & Culture Online Challenges
   Students can take part in fun, year-level activities such as counting numbers
   (Foundation), character-making & singing (Years 1-2), and kite design & Jianzi
   kick (Years 3-6). Entries are due online by Friday, 17 October 2025.
- 2. Chinese Speech & Singing Competition
  Finalists will represent their schools at the regional event on Saturday, 25 October
  2025 at Bendigo Senior Secondary College. Categories include speech and
  singing, with winners eligible for state-level nomination in 2026.

Student winners' performances will be featured on a dedicated event webpage.

More information: bendigomandarin2025.weebly.com









# SPRING '25 HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

ST LIBORIUS PRIMARY SCHOOL & MERCY JUNORTOUN SPORTING PRECINCT

A timetable and full programme information is available online or at the programme venue.

Who can attend: Boys & Girls aged 5-12 yrs

General information: We believe in giving children opportunities to do the things they love and enjoy in a supportive and encouraging environment. Our friendly staff are passionate about working with children. They are provided with training on behaviour management techniques, first aid and activity planning/delivery.

What do you need to bring: Appropriate clothing, jacket or sweatshirt, hat, drink bottle and food for morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea.

Payment details: Payment is required up-front within 2 hours of your booking. A receipt will be issued when a completed booking is received. All details will be included on the receipt.

Please note: Every care will be taken to ensure the safety of your child/ren and their property. However, organisers of Kelly Sports accept no liability for any injury sustained to your child/ren or any loss or damage to his/her property whilst on the programme.

Prices: (Including GST)

Full Day: \$55
Mon-Fri, 8:30am to 5pm
KS Session Full Day: \$62
Mon-Fri, 8:00am to 5:30pm

Morning Half Day: \$38 Mon-Fri, 8:30am to 12:30pm Afternoon Half Day: \$38 Mon-Fri, 1pm to 5pm

Website: www.kellysports.com.au/bendigo

Contact: Beau Cross

Email: beau@kellysports.com.au

Phone: 0428 326 924
Facebook: Kelly Sports Bendigo

Address: 1 St Vincent's Rd, Junortoun, 3551.

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT **EXCELLYSPORTS.COM.AU** 



SIGN UP AT ANY STAGE & RECEIVE A 40% OFF NEW BALANCE DISCOUNT CODE



# FRIDAY, 19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

PIZZA DAY MEAL \$6.00

HAWAIIAN
OR
MEATLOVERS
OR
VEGETARIAN
OR



## **GLUTEN FREE HAWAIIAN NOW AVAILABLE**

(additional cost)

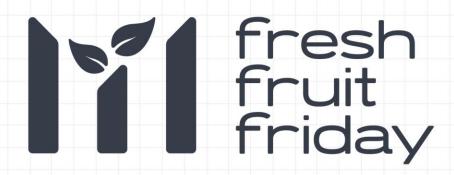
## WITH PRIMA OR MILK

(No choice in flavours, sorry, can only choose between prima or milk)

- If you wish to order an extra slice, the cost is \$2.00 per slice
- Orders can be cash and order details put in an envelope, or ordered on COMPASS
- Orders need to be placed by 9:00am, <u>WEDNESDAY</u>, 17<sup>TH</sup> <u>SEPTEMBER</u>.
   Late orders cannot be accepted.
- Iced treats will be available as normal

# THE CANTEEN'S NORMAL FOOD MENU IS NOT AVAILABLE ON THIS DAY

## OUR WEEKLY FREE FRESH FRUIT IS MADE POSSIBLE BY:





**Delivering** 1,000kg of free fruit to Bendigo school children every week

III mckern steel foundation







@mckernsteelfoundation

# Made possible thanks to our Foundation Partners

























THANK YOU TO MCKERN STEEL FOUNDATION & SPONSORS

WE ARE SO GRATEFUL TO BE A PART OF THIS WONDERFUL PROGRAM 🧐

