Calder Chronicle

NUMBER 12

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THURSDAY, 7TH MAY 2026

CALENDAR

Thursday, 7th May	**Scholastic Book Club Orders due online via LOOP or at the Office**
Friday, 8th May	**Year 7 Placement Applications due at our Office**
Tuesday, 12th May	Footsteps Whole School Continues
Thursday, 14th May	GRIP Leadership – Senior Unit SRC / leaders – please consent / pay on Compass
MONDAY, 18TH MAY	**EDUCATION WEEK COMMENCES – more info to follow**
	Ed Week Performance and Grandparent/Special Friend visit / morning tea
Tuesday, 19th May	Footsteps Whole School Continues
	School Council Meeting
Friday, 22nd May	Division Cross Country – selected students only – please consent / pay on Compass
	Walk Safely to School Day
Monday, 25th May	Junior Unit Kyabram Fauna Park Excursion – please consent / pay on Compass
Tuesday, 26th May	Footsteps Whole School Continues
Thursday, 28th May	Middle Unit Gym Program commences – please consent / pay on Compass
Monday, 1st June	**Pupil Free Day (Combined PPD)**
Tuesday, 26th May	Footsteps Whole School Continues
Monday, 8th June	**King's Birthday Public Holiday**
Monday, 22nd June	**Parent / Teacher / Student Conference Day – more info to follow**
Friday, 26th June	**LAST DAY OF TERM – EARLY DISMISSAL 2:30PM**

School Organisation

Dear Parents, Carers and Greater Community,

The arrival of cold weather has been the theme for Week 3 in addition to all things Mother's Day 😊.

SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE

School and Vice Captains travelled to the SHRINE OF REMEMBRANCE in Melbourne on Tuesday to attend the VICTORIAN SCHOOL ANZAC COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE. Bonnie, Ryan, Mila, Oli and I were off on the bus with Legacy and many local state Primary Schools to represent Bendigo at the service. Mila and Oli laid a wreath on our behalf and collectively we enjoyed a massive service at the foot of the Shrine. Our leaders did us proud once again with their representation and behaviour and I thank them for their excellence 😊. Thanks also to families who got students to and from the pickup / drop off point and also to LEGACY BENDIGO, who ensured this was a free excursion for our students.

MOTHER'S DAY STALL

Yesterday the Multipurpose Room was alive with the hum of children excitedly choosing beautiful gifts for their loved ones. Our PARENTS AND FRIENDS (P&F) spent several days setting up and then worked throughout Wednesday to sell items to our students who visited with their classmates and teacher. Once again, the standard of gifts was very high and the service impeccable. A big thank you to the P&F for their huge effort for the children and our school. Thanks also to you for supporting the stall, selling tickets, or donating prizes for our raffle. Winners were announced yesterday and prizes collected. Congratulations if you were lucky enough to score a prize in this popular raffle.

STAFFING

It has been lovely to welcome Amy Mountjoy back to her EDUCATION SUPPORT role this week after being away for many weeks on teaching rounds. Amy resumes her support in the classroom and important MULTILIT READING INTERVENTION small group tutoring. Dean White commenced sick leave Tuesday and won't return for a few weeks. During his time away Emma Tuckwell will teach the class full time instead of three days a week. Kate Dole has been away sick from Tuesday this week also with her class supported by a couple of Casual Relief Teachers Wednesday – Friday. With rest we hope to see Kate back on Monday, fingers crossed! Next Thursday and Friday Jayden is on some Long Service Leave, and we welcome Tracy Pengelly into his class during his absence.

KINDER – FOUNDATION ENROLMENTS FOR 2027

Apply now to enrol your child in Foundation for 2027. If you have a child starting primary school in 2027, **it's time to enrol**. Make sure to submit your application (out of zone) **by Friday, 31st July**. If you are enrolling a sibling of a student at our school for Foundation in 2027, and both children will be attending our school at the same time, your child is prioritised for a place at our school. It is important to submit your application to us on time as it will ensure your child is included in all transition activities if offered enrolment at our school.

This also allows us to plan our classrooms, staffing and transition activities, and ensures your child has the best start to school. For more information, please read about how to enrol your child in Foundation at vic.gov.au/enrolling-foundation-prep. If you would like to enrol your child in Foundation in 2027, we have tours planned for Education Week on Wednesday, 20th and Friday, 22nd May. If these days / times don't suit, please contact our Office on 5447 7022 to book a school tour or request an application or enrolment form.

HEAVE HO, OFF WE GO

Today our students enjoyed a performance of HEAVE HO, OFF WE GO in our Multipurpose Room as part of the PERFORMING ARTS. This performance brings theatre directly to our students and is cost effective as there is no bus travel required. From all reports the children loved the show. Thanks again to Nick Reid and our Office ladies for organising the show. If your child participated but you haven't paid on COMPASS, please attend to payment ASAP. As we are not funded to run these exciting incursions, we do rely on families paying for them, so your attention to payment is greatly appreciated.

DAY FOR DOLLY

TOMORROW, Friday, 8th May is DO IT FOR DOLLY DAY. We are allowing children to come to school OUT OF UNIFORM and dressed in blue – a gold coin donation is requested for DO IT FOR DOLLY FOUNDATION. Some families may like to donate more to this ANTI-BULLYING / CYBERSAFETY CAUSE by scanning the QR CODE sent out on COMPASS, further in the newsletter, or on posters around the school. Please don't go to trouble buying blue clothes though if that is too costly…ideas to participate include spraying hair blue, painting your face blue, blue makeup, blue wig, blue shoes / cap / scarf etc. Be creative, but don't break the budget. Looking forward to seeing our students in blue TOMORROW. Please note this will be our only fundraiser for charity this term with no further gold coin donations requested in Term 2 due to the cost of living.

ASSEMBLY REMINDER FOR TERM 2

Don't forget that in Term 2 our assemblies will occur Friday afternoons at 2:55pm. Our first two have ran well, so we will continue until the end of term and make a decision for Term 3 and 4 at a later date, depending on how we find the use of time and how our children handle either time slot.

WEDNESDAY, 13TH MAY

Families were contacted this week via COMPASS that the STOP WORK ACTION by the AUSTRALIAN EDUCATION UNION (AEU) on the morning of Wednesday, 13th May has been suspended. This will mean that it will be school as normal for all classes that day.

GRIP LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Next Thursday, 14th May our four School Leaders and six SRC representatives from the Senior Unit will attend the annual GRIP LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE at Red Energy Arena. Brett Strange will be in attendance to supervise our students for the day. Consent and payment is on COMPASS now for those students lucky enough to be selected. If families could attend to this ASAP, that would be much appreciated.

MCKERNS FRESH FRUIT

We would like to thank the McKern Foundation and sponsors for supplying the fruit, the students love receiving this delivery each week.
Here are Will & Piper with their mandarin & apple 😊.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to Elena T, Connie P, Chaz G, Phoenix B, Patrick T, Bonnie S, Poppy S & Noah A.

With a fun day in blue tomorrow to finish off the week… then a weekend to rest, I do hope your Friday and weekend are wonderful. Happy Mother's Day also to all who celebrate 😊

Until next week…

Matt Pearce, Principal

FOUNDATION NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For great listening at the Heave Ho Incursion today:

FC ***Karsyn C***
FN ***Charlie M***

Catherine, Nicole & Nick

JUNIOR UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For being a respectful classmate by ***taking turns*** *during partner activities:*

JAR ***Abby v***
JJ ***Lyvia H***

Ainsley, Roberta & Jen

MIDDLE UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK
For being focused during independent learning time:

MED ***Layla R***
MP ***Zelda L***
MWA ***Archer M***

Emma, Dean, Pauline, Wendy & Amanda

SENIOR UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK
For being responsible with their work and classroom routines:

SB ***Axel N***
SJ ***Jax N***
SK ***Christopher W***

Brett, Jayden & Kate

THE RESILIENCE PROJECT

Staff have chosen the following students to receive this week's GEM award for:

Empathy

Foundation	Jax W
Junior Unit	Phoebe I
Middle Unit	Hudson M
Senior Unit	Linken A
Specialist	Heath B

PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS

Thanks to everyone who donated items, your generosity was amazing, thank you so much! We hope you enjoy your gifts and have a lovely day.

CAKE STALL FOR GRANDPARENT'S DAY
We have plates at the Office for any families wishing to bake something for us to sell on Monday, 18th May.

Thank you so much for your support

SOCIAL MEDIA & CYBER SAFETY

Navigating the Digital World: Your GPS for the Online Adventure

Be Kind Online,
It Matters More Than You Think

Every May, across Australia, plenty of us chuck on a bit of blue and take a moment to stop and think about how we treat each other, especially online.

Do It For Dolly Day isn't just another awareness day that comes and goes, it's a quiet but powerful reminder that kindness actually counts, even behind a screen.

The day honours Dolly Everett, a young girl from the Northern Territory whose life was tragically cut short after experiencing ongoing bullying and cyberbullying. Her story deeply moved Australians right across the country and sparked a national conversation about the impact of bullying, both in person and online.

Since then, Dolly's family have shared her message in a way that focuses on hope and change. One of the most powerful symbols linked to her story is the butterfly. It represents transformation, new life, and the idea that something beautiful can come from something incredibly difficult. It's a gentle reminder to "be kind," a message that has now become central to Do It For Dolly Day.

And that's exactly why cyber safety matters more than ever. Let's be honest, these days kids are growing up online just as much as they are in the real world. Group chats, gaming lobbies, social media, videos, it's all part of everyday life. There's a lot of good in it too, mateship, creativity, laughs, and connection. But like anything, there's a flip side if we're not switched on.

Cyberbullying can be sneaky. It's not always the obvious insults. Sometimes it's being left out of group chats, anonymous comments that sting a bit too much, fake accounts stirring the pot, or having things shared without permission. And because it's digital, it can spread faster than a bushfire on a hot summer day.

So, what do we actually do about it? First up, keep talking. Real conversations matter. Kids need to know they can have a yarn with a teacher, a parent, or a mate if something online doesn't feel right. No tough-it-out mentality needed here.

Then there's the basics, but they're important. Be kind. If you wouldn't say it sitting across from someone at lunch, don't type it. Simple rule, but it goes a long way.

We also need to teach kids how to look after themselves online, proper digital smarts. Blocking, reporting, stepping away when things get toxic, it's all part of the toolkit. Most apps have the safety features, but they only work if we USE them.

And for the grown-ups, it's about staying involved without hovering like a helicopter parent. Know what platforms are being used, keep the chat open, and make it normal to talk about what's happening online, the good and the not-so-good.

Days like Do It For Dolly Day give us a chance to reset and remind ourselves that a bit of kindness can genuinely change things. The butterfly reminds us of that too, small acts of care can grow into something bigger, lighter, and more hopeful.

So, this May, wear a bit of blue, check in with your kids or students, and keep the conversation going.

Because at the end of the day, behind every username is a real person, and a bit of Aussie kindness goes a long way!

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

Kate

2ND HAND UNIFORM NEWS

We have restocked the rack in the Office foyer with trackpants, jumpers and jackets – ALL $2 EACH 😊.

GO BLUE TO END BULLYING

On Do It For Dolly Day, Friday May 8th, Australians across the country are coming together to Go Blue to End Bullying, raise awareness, and support young people impacted by bullying. We will hold a Wear Blue day to raise awareness and also to raise some funds for this Charity.

Funds raised help Dolly's Dream provide vital programs and support services, including 24/7 guidance, school workshops, and resources that give families, schools, and communities the tools to prevent bullying and promote kindness.

When: On Friday, 8th May
Where: At our school and online via website below.
How: Access the website below to donate and bring along a gold coin on the day
What: Wear blue clothes, spray your hair blue, blue face paint the bluer the better!

https://support.dollysdream.org.au/fundraisers/bighillprimaryschool/do-it-for-dolly-day

Every contribution makes a difference. Click above to donate and show support for a kinder, safer future for all young people.

#DoItForDollyDay #GoBlueToEndBullying #BeKind

THEIR CARE (OSHC) NEWS

https://theircare.com.au/

COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY NEWS

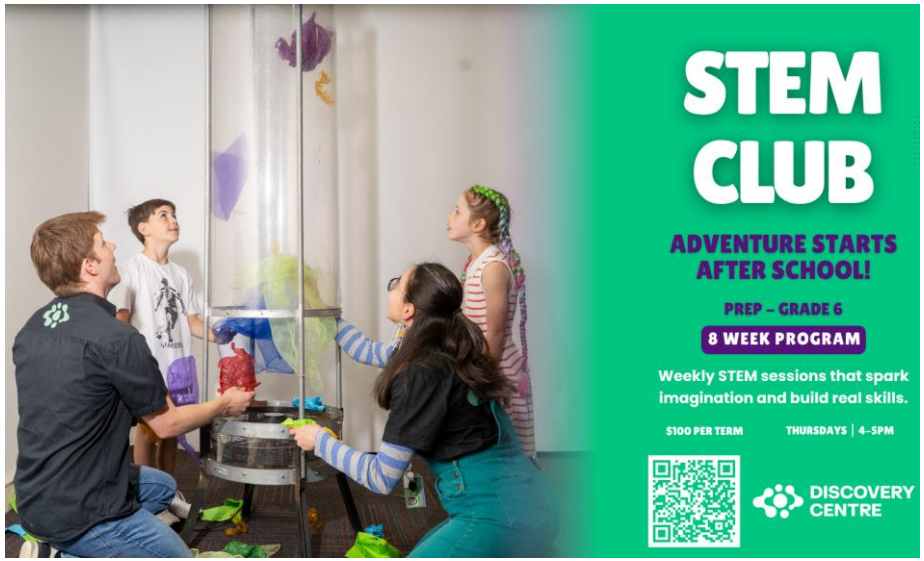
$405,556 raised

90%

Harcourt Progress Relief Fund

Donate now!

gofund.me/bonnie-thus-12jan



SUPPORTING NEURODIVERGENT CHILDREN IN COMMUNITY SPORT

FREE WORKSHOP

FOR SPORTS COACHES & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PROVIDERS IN GREATER BENDIGO

Monday 11th May, 6pm-8.30pm
@ Epsom Huntly Recreation Reserve

or

Sunday 21st June, 2pm-4.30pm
@ Lake Weeroona Pavilion

or

Wednesday 8th July, 6pm-8.30pm
@ Lake Weeroona Pavilion

Light refreshments provided

Scan the QR code to register for the workshop or visit: https://www.trybooking.com/DKRWV

This FREE workshop will help community sports clubs and physical activity providers understand neurodiversity and how to implement practical strategies to create inclusive, supportive environments for neurodivergent children. This interactive workshop is a neuro-affirming session developed and facilitated by people with lived experience

Contact Jo at Sports Focus for further information on 5442 3101 or joc@sportsfocus.com.au

Benefit Bendigo · treehouse · SPORTS FOCUS SAFE • WELCOMING • INCLUSIVE

KIDS LOVE BEING OUTDOORS?
THERE'S GOLF FOR THAT.

MyGolf powered by Ripper GC is Australia's beginner golf program that introduces kids to golf through games-based activities in a safe and friendly environment. Participants learn new skills, make new friends and most importantly, have fun!

Sessions are run by PGA Professionals and National Program Deliverers Australia-wide.

BELVOIR PARK GOLF CLUB

Time: Thursdays 4pm-4:45pm (5-9 year olds) 5pm-5:45pm (10-14 Year olds)
Dates: 14th August – 18th September (6 Sessions)
Cost: $60
Registration: https://tinyurl.com/fxc6z2fw

Enquiries: Dave Griffin – 0407 422 845

RIPPER MyGolf · BELVOIR PARK GOLF CLUB

Find your nearest MyGolf powered by Ripper GC program at golf.org.au/mygolf

OUR WEEKLY FREE FRESH FRUIT IS MADE POSSIBLE BY:

fresh fruit friday

Running for over a decade, the program now delivers 1,300kg of free fruit to Bendigo school children every week.

mckern steel™ foundation

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Made possible thanks to McKern Foundation and our supporting partners:

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Your business here

Want to support the program? Contact us to sponsor and provide more fruit to your school.

THANK YOU TO MCKERN STEEL FOUNDATION AND SPONSORS

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