



Calder Chronicle

NUMBER 18

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THURSDAY, 18TH JUNE 2026

CALENDAR

Thursday, 18th June

Monday, 22nd June

Tuesday, 23rd June

Wednesday, 24th June

Friday, 26th June

Year 2 Sleepover – DROP OFF AT 5PM, PICK UP 7AM TOMORROW

Parent / Teacher / Student Conference Day – **BOOKINGS CLOSE TODAY!**
NOT A NORMAL SCHOOL DAY

– students only at school for booked conference time

Electric Wonderland colouring competition entries due at the Office

Pizza Day Orders Due 9:00am

LAST DAY OF TERM –

Student Awards Assembly 9:00am / Footsteps Performance 9:45am

Electric Wonderland colouring competition **WINNERS ANNOUNCED** 😊

PIZZA DAY – no normal food items available, iced treats are

EARLY DISMISSAL 2:30PM

Monday, 13th July

FRIDAY, 24TH JULY

Monday, 17th August

Wednesday, 19th August

Thursday, 27th August

First day Term 3

\$100 DEPOSIT DUE FOR SENIOR UNIT CAMP (more info shortly)

Junior Unit Gym commences – event will be on Compass shortly (approx. \$50)

Senior Unit Gym commences – event will be on Compass shortly (approx. \$50)

Foundation Gym commences – event will be on Compass shortly (approx. \$50)

School Organisation

Dear Parents, Carers and Greater Community,

Week 9 has been another busy and wet week with non-stop action leading us towards the end of Term 2 and Semester 1.

STAFFING

Staffing this week has been more settled, thankfully. Roberta remains on LSL for the rest of term and is replaced by Emma each Thursday and Friday. Apart from this we have had the odd staff member away for a day here or there, which has not impacted classroom programs too much.

CLUSTER ATHLETICS

Sadly, due to forecast rain, today's CLUSTER ATHLETICS had to be postponed. This will be rescheduled for early next term, and we will advise families as soon as we are aware. If parents are happy, we'll keep your payment and apply it for the rescheduled date.

YEAR 2 SLEEPOVER

Tonight our Year 2's have their first overnight camp, staying onsite at Big Hill PS for their Sleepover. A lot of fun is set to occur with Kelly Sports running a workshop from 5:00pm and the students setting up their beds in the Multipurpose Room with teachers Ainsley, Wendy and Jen. Drop off is from 5:00pm tonight and children should be collected and taken home in the morning at 7:00am. Families are welcome to return our Year 2's for school at the normal time, however if they are too tired, please submit an attendance note on Compass if your child is not attending school as a result. A huge thank you to Ainsley, Jen & Wendy for their organisation of this event and willingness to sleep over 😊.

FAREWELL CHRIS!

I'm sad to announce that Chris Powers, Big Hill PS Chaplain, is moving on from his position here at the end of term. Chris' life has taken shape away from Bendigo now with family and work commitments mainly based in the Kerang district... due to this, he is unable to continue the commute to Big Hill PS twice a week.

I advise Chris' departure now so that families / children can **say goodbye to Chris next Tuesday and Friday**. Whilst Chris is not usually here on a Friday, he has swapped days next week to avoid Monday's reporting day, enabling him to have a day with students on the Friday instead to farewell them. Chris has been a terrific Chaplain over many years and will be sorely missed. The process to find a replacement for Chris has commenced and we hope to not have too long of a gap in providing the Chaplaincy service to our community.

END OF TERM AWARDS

On the final day of term, Friday, 26th June, we will again be presenting STUDENT AWARDS at our 9:00am assembly (therefore no afternoon assembly). Awards in each classroom will be presented in the following categories: ENGLISH, MATHEMATICS, SPECIALIST and OUTSTANDING DEMONSTRATION OF SCHOOL VALUES. Winners will be announced within Thursday, 25th June's newsletter. At the completion of term awards, we will take a short break and set up for the FOOTSTEPS PERFORMANCE.

FOOTSTEPS DANCE PERFORMANCE – FRIDAY, 26TH JUNE

Next Friday our students will perform their FOOTSTEPS DANCE ROUTINES to the community. We hope to set up at 9:45am and commence shortly after. If you would love to come and watch, please BRING A CHAIR and set up ready to enjoy the show from 9:45am. We hope the weather holds and this will be held outdoors giving us more room if there is a crowd. Due to this, dress for the elements.

FREE COST OF LIVING HAMPERS

Need some additional food items to help at home? No questions asked. We have boxed or bagged hampers of mixed groceries on the table in the foyer. The only favour we ask is that these are collected by adults and not children. If you need one each week, also no questions asked. Let me or the Office know discreetly and we'll be happy to help.

STUDENT SEMESTER 1 REPORTS – AVAILABLE ON COMPASS TOMORROW AFTERNOON

Please note that there may be a rush to download reports once released, so if you are finding download slow, wait an hour or so and try again. If your child is in JAR, JJ, SK, SB or SJ please remember that there will be no personal comment due to the AEU STRIKES earlier in the term. As a result of the action across the state, many students in Victoria will have no personal comments because of the action. To get the finer detail please book in for an interview (bookings close today) to get a complete picture of your child's progress on Monday.

PUPIL FREE DAY – MONDAY, 22ND JUNE (PARENT / TEACHER / STUDENT CONFERENCES)

LAST CHANCE TO BOOK YOUR INTERVIEW TIME – closing today! No classes will be running on this day; therefore, students are only at school for your booked appointment time. This enables staff to meet with you. Bookings are open now on COMPASS and you can choose to meet in person or via Webex or phone.

If a time doesn't suit, rather than not meet, please contact your child's teacher/s to make an alternative time. These conferences are important opportunities to unpack written reports and will provide greater detail, especially if your child had no written comments due to the industrial AEU Strikes (JAR, JJ, SK, SJ and SB).

PIZZA DAY

The final day of school is our Pizza Day for Term 2. Orders must be placed by 9:00am, Wednesday, 24th June.

LAST DAY OF TERM – EARLY DISMISSAL

Next Friday, 26th June is the final day of Term 2. Due to this, we will dismiss one hour earlier in line with other schools. Dismissal will be at 2:30pm, so please organise to pick your child up at this earlier time or book them into TheirCare who run our OSHC Program. The Ravenswood bus will run at this earlier time – with families asked to organise bus pickups 1 hour earlier as a result.

We are awaiting communications about our Kangaroo Flat / Town bus service and whether it will be able to meet the 2:30pm dismissal. More details will be shared soon.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS AND TERM 3

The school holidays will run for two weeks, with school resuming for Term 3 on Monday, 13th July. TheirCare has a fantastic WINTER HOLIDAY PROGRAM on offer, so if you need care arrangements during this break, please support TheirCare by enrolling online. If we want to keep holiday programs running here, we need the community to utilise them to keep it viable 😊.

SCOOTER ED – COMPLETED

Foundation and Junior Unit Scooter Ed has now finished – thank you to all families for the constant drop off and collection of scooters and helmets, the students had a great time.

ELECTRIC WONDERLAND COLOURING COMPETITION

We have 2 options at the Office for students to colour in. They are pictures from Electric Wonderland, and it's open to all Year levels. There will be one winner from each Unit and a couple of honourable mentions that will win entry for both a child and adult! Get colouring and remember to return them to our Office by next Tuesday, 23rd June, with winners being announced at Friday's assembly.

MOBILE PHONE NUMBERS NO LONGER AVAILABLE

The phone numbers used by Janet – 0416 071 247 and Matt – 0438 738 788 are no longer valid for school purposes. Please email them directly: janet.dean@education.vic.gov.au or matthew.pearce@education.vic.gov.au or the school email big.hill.ps@education.vic.gov.au or call the school on 5447 7022.

If it is related to an absence, please submit it on Compass. Thank you.

CHANGES TO KANGAROO FLAT SCHOOL BUS SERVICES

From Term 3, changes are being made to school buses across Bendigo to better connect students in growing communities to their local schools. The changes improve coverage, provide more seats and give students better travel options.

The Kangaroo Flat bus, known as STS 7 Sailors Gully – Jackass Flat – Big Hill Primary School via Bendigo (Previously Myers Flat / Eaglehawk – Big Hill PS via Bendigo and Crusoe College) will have a timetable change. Please see the Compass post with the updated timetable or collect a hard copy from the Office.

MCKERN FRESH FRUIT

We would like to thank the McKern Steel Foundation and sponsors for supplying the fruit, the students love receiving this delivery each week.

Here are Chaz and Evie with their apple and pear.



BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to Cohen B, Axel P, Rylan E & Chad M.

With one week to go it's hard to believe that we are almost at the half-way mark of the year! Time flies when you're working hard 😊. I do hope you have a wonderful Friday and weekend and hopefully we will cross paths with most of you when you visit the school on Monday for your booked PARENT / TEACHER / STUDENT INTERVIEWS.

Until next week...

Matt Pearce, Principal

FOUNDATION NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For working well as part of a small group or partnership:

FC *Austin V*
FN *Evie H*

Catherine, Nicole & Nick

JUNIOR UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For displaying Responsibility by making good choices:

JAR *Charlotte Q*
JJ *Connie M*

Ainsley, Roberta & Jen

MIDDLE UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For demonstrating 'Resilience' in the classroom:

MED *Marlee M*
MP *Diamond T*
MWA *Ash W*

Emma, Dean, Pauline, Wendy & Amanda

SENIOR UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For showing a great attitude towards learning new skills:

SB *Ella M*
SJ *Luka H*
SK *Haize W*

Brett, Jayden & Kate

THE RESILIENCE PROJECT

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

Empathy

Foundation	Bu Gay Paw T
Junior Unit	Huxley T
Middle Unit	Connie P
Senior Unit	Harmony N
Specialist	Abigail H

CANTEEN NEWS

VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME 😊

Helpers are wanted between 9:00am – 10:00am or 12:45pm – 1:45pm on Fridays only, once or twice per term.

If you would like to help, please leave your details at the Office and I will contact you.

A current Working With Children Check is all that is required and can be applied online for free.

We appreciate all offers of help as this enables the continuation of the canteen and assists with economical pricing on our extensive menu.

Thank you,

Tammy Fear
Canteen Manager

SOCIAL MEDIA & CYBER SAFETY

Navigating the Digital World: Your GPS for the Online Adventure

Google Updates, What It Means for Your Kids (and Why You Might Care)

If you're anything like me, you probably skimmed that recent email from Google, thought "that sounds important", and then promptly got distracted by life. Fair enough, it wasn't exactly written in plain English.

So here's the short version, minus the tech jargon, and with a bit of real-world context for families.

Google is changing how it manages your child's search history and personalised content.

In simple terms, they're giving families a bit more control over what gets saved and how content is tailored to kids across services like Search, Maps, YouTube, and more.

Sounds good, right?

Well, yes... but it's also worth understanding what's actually happening behind the scenes.

Previously, everything sat under one setting called "Web and App Activity."

Now, Google is splitting this into two separate controls.

The first is Search Services History, which keeps a record of what your child searches for. This means they can go back and find things they've looked up before, handy for homework, random facts, or that one weird question they asked about sharks at 8:00pm.

The second is Personalised Recommendations, which is what Google uses to decide what to show your child next. Think suggested searches, recommended videos, or "you might also like" content. Basically, it's how the algorithm tries to keep them engaged... sometimes a little too well.

Here's where it gets interesting.

Google is also introducing a new setting that allows it to save media, things like images, voice recordings, and even videos your child interacts with during searches. For example, if they use visual search tools or voice features, that content *can* now be saved to their history.

Now, before anyone panics, this setting is currently turned off by default for kids. But it can be switched on, which is why it's worth knowing it exists.

All of this is managed through Family Link, so parents still have oversight and can adjust settings at any time. You can choose what gets saved, how long it's stored, and even set it to auto delete after a certain period.

So what does this actually mean at home?

Well, it's a bit like this, imagine Google as that mate who remembers everything you've ever said and then uses it to suggest what you should do next.

Sometimes helpful, sometimes a bit much.

For kids, this means their online experience can become more tailored the more they use it. That can be great for learning and discovery, but it can also mean they get nudged toward more of the same content, whether that's educational... or just endless videos about cats doing backflips.

For parents, it's a gentle reminder to check in on settings every now and then. Not in a "drop everything and panic" way, more like a "next time you're waiting at sport or sitting with a cuppa" kind of task.

Take a few minutes to look at your child's account settings in Family Link. See what's on, what's off, and what you're comfortable with.

It's also a great opportunity to have a quick chat with your child. Let them know that what they search and watch can shape what they see next. It's not about scaring them, just helping them understand how the digital world works.

At the end of the day, this update isn't about doing anything drastically different. It's just another example of how quickly things change online, and why staying a little bit curious, and a little bit informed, goes a long way.

Because in the world of algorithms and endless suggestions, a bit of awareness is your best defence... right alongside a good cup of tea and a sense of humour.

Parent Tip Box: Quick Check, Big Difference

*Feeling a bit "I should probably look at that... later"?
You're not alone.*

Here are a few quick, no fuss ways to stay on top of these new Google settings:

- Jump into Family Link next time you've got five minutes, yes, even while waiting in the school pickup line,
- Check what's turned on, especially Search History and Personalised Recommendations,
- Leave media saving off for younger kids unless there's a clear reason to use it,
- Set auto delete, think of it as a regular clean up rather than a digital junk drawer,
- Have a quick chat with your child about how "what you watch shapes what you see".

No need to become a tech expert overnight. Small check ins, every now and then, can make a big difference. And remember, you're allowed to still be figuring this out too... most of us are learning as we go, usually with a cuppa in hand.

Final Thought

The digital world doesn't stand still, and neither do the settings that come with it. While updates like this can feel a bit "here we go again", they're also a chance to pause, check in, and stay just that little bit more informed.

You don't need to know everything, just enough to guide your kids in the right direction. Because in the end, it's not about keeping up with every change, it's about keeping the conversation going.

Big Hill Primary School 1991

Navigating the Digital World: Your GPS for the Online Adventure

GOOGLE UPDATES, WHAT IT MEANS FOR YOUR CHILD (AND WHY YOU MIGHT CARE)

Google is changing how it manages search history and personalised content for kids across Search, Maps, YouTube and more. More control for families, but it's worth knowing what's happening!

TWO NEW SETTINGS

SEARCH SERVICES HISTORY
Keeps a record of what your child searches for so they can revisit it.

PERSONALISED RECOMMENDATIONS
Decides what your child sees next, like suggested searches and videos.

NEW MEDIA SETTING

Google can now save images, voice recordings and videos used in searches (like the visual search or voice features). IF this setting is turned on.

- It's OFF by default for kids.
- You can turn it on or keep it off.
- You can delete media at any time.

YOU'RE IN CONTROL

Manage what's saved, how long it's kept and auto delete options in Family Link. A little check in goes a long way!

PARENT TIP BOX: QUICK CHECK, BIG DIFFERENCE

- Jump into Family Link next time you've got five minutes, yes, even while waiting in the school pickup line
- Check what's turned on, especially Search History and Personalised Recommendations
- Leave media saving off for younger kids unless there's a clear reason to use it
- Set auto delete, think of it as a regular clean up rather than a digital junk drawer
- Have a quick chat with your child about how "what you watch shapes what you see"

Safe Travels on the Internet Highway
Where your data's the passenger and you're the navigator!

BE SMART. STAY SAFE. STAY IN CONTROL.
No need to become a tech expert overnight. Small check ins, every now and then, can make a big difference.

And remember, you're allowed to still be figuring this out too... most of us are learning as we go, usually with a cuppa in hand.

TOGETHER WE GUIDE, SUPPORT & EMPOWER OUR LEARNERS

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

Kate

THEIR CARE (OSHC) NEWS

TheirCare
Where Kids love to be!

Big Hill Primary School

- Social, enjoyable & fun experiences for children
- Develop creativity, life skills & confidence through play
- Qualified, caring & engaged staff
- Exciting & thoughtfully developed programs
- Healthy & Yummy food provided each day

<https://theircare.com.au/>

Book now for the Winter Holiday Program Flyers are available in the Office Foyer or see the Compass post with the full flyer.

Please contact TheirCare to book or if you have any questions.

8:00 am. Pick-up after 3:30 pm - please note this is an indicative time only, check with service coordinator to confirm pick-up times. Wear runners & socks.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
29 JUN Spellbound Kingdom Join us as we explore a world of dragons, fairies, and fantasy through exciting activities. Take part in the thrilling Dragon Crossing group game, get creative with enchanted crown crests, and design your very own nature wand using magical treasures from nature. To finish the day, enjoy a sweet treat with enchanted apple pops. From as low as \$8.99** Full Fee \$95.99**	30 JUN To Infinity and Bounce JUMP into fun times as we head to our favourite indoor trampoline venue! Bounce to new heights of fun as we take on the Indoor Trampoline! Back at service, the fun continues with a snake chain craft activity, and a group game of clap catch. From as low as \$7.77** Full Fee \$70.70**	1 JUL Junior Spies Step into the life of a secret agent! Use the blue light secret pen to reveal hidden messages, see the world in reverse with your spy glasses and unlock the detective within! Then keep the mystery going as you collect. DIT! Detective fingerprints and put your skills to the test in an exciting detective group game! From as low as \$8.18** Full Fee \$70.77**	2 JUL Car-Chow! Get ready for an action-packed day all about cars, speed, and creativity! Kick things off with the traffic lights group game, get crafty and design your own Popcar! Stick Cars and inventive as we build and race balloon powered cars. To finish the day, test your speed in the ultimate challenge, the parking hay dash! From as low as \$8.58** Full Fee \$95.99**	3 JUL Wheels of Wonder Experience double the fun today with a rollercoasting and laser tag double header at The Zone Fun Park! The fun will not stop there - back at service, get creative and design your very own custom mouse headband, and a treasure star shaped window decoration. From as low as \$12.87** Full Fee \$120.87**
6 JUL Heroes v Villains Get ready for an action-packed day of fun and super-sized challenges! Create your very own superheroes mask and design a shield frobe. Bring your character to life with Fun Pipe Cleaner Super Heroes, then test your skills in an exciting game of Hero vs Villain Tag! Will heroes save the day, or will the villains take over? From as low as \$8.58** Full Fee \$85.89**	7 JUL Mad Hatters Lab Step into a curious world where things are not always as they seem. This, silly, and experiment as you create your own peculiar potions. Inspired by topsy-turvy tea parties and mysterious adventures, we will then make our very own Mad Hatter inspired top hat, and play a fun game of free tag and musical hop-scotch. From as low as \$8.24** Full Fee \$83.49**	8 JUL Pass the Popcorn Let's go to the movies and see Toy Story 5! The toys are back and this time, Buzz Lightyear, Woody, Jessie and the rest of the gang jobs are challenged when they come face-to-face with Liquid. Back at service, we will make our own Fork Friend, and compete in a group challenge of Pin the Face on the Potato. From as low as \$8.77** Full Fee \$87.79**	9 JUL Talking T-Rex Let's make our own Talking T-Rex today! Share your camera friend, record a special message and work it inside - will it roar, yell a joke, or share a secret? It's your voice, your choice, and endless fun in one cuddly package! Then, enjoy DIT! slinky dog craft, dinosaur hat craft, and a cozy five eggs STEIN experiment! From as low as \$8.58** Full Fee \$85.89**	10 JUL Animal Sidekick Safari Get ready for a wild adventure today you will create your very own Safari Sidekick to spot creatures up close, then get moving in a safe game of 4500 walk tap. Unleash your creativity with a playful slinky dog craft, and finish the day with the classic favourite game, slinky doggy, where is your bone! From as low as \$8.58** Full Fee \$85.89**

COMMUNITY NEWS

NETSTARS NETBALL CLINIC

TRAIN. PLAY. IMPROVE. HAVE FUN!

DATE: THURSDAY 9th JULY 2026

TIME: 9AM - 3PM

AGES: 7 - 14 YEARS OLD

VENUE: BENDIGO SOUTH EAST COLLEGE
56 ELLIS STREET, FLORA HILL

COST: \$90 PER PARTICIPANT

EVERY PARTICIPATE RECEIVES A NETSTARS T-SHIRT!

HOSTED BY
JULIE PRENDERGAST
3 x WORLD CHAMPION AND
COMMONWEALTH GAMES GOLD MEDALIST

SKILLS
GAMES
FRIENDS
CONFIDENCE

SPACES ARE LIMITED!
BOOK NOW TO AVOID MISSING OUT

BOOK ONLINE
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PIZZA DAY!

FRIDAY 26th JUNE

AT THE SCHOOL CANTEEN

Order Now!

Don't Miss Out!

\$6.00 PIZZA & DRINK COMBO

YOUR CHOICE OF SLICE:

1



MEAT LOVERS

2



HAWAIIAN

3



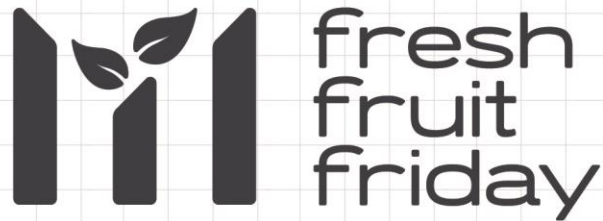
VEGETARIAN

GLUTEN FREE HAWAIIAN AVAILABLE (ADDITIONAL COST)






Orders to be placed on Compass by 9:00am, WEDNESDAY, 24TH JUNE
Additional slices \$2.00 each

THANK YOU TO MCKERN STEEL FOUNDATION AND SPONSORS



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:



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

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