



Calder Chronicle

NUMBER 21

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THURSDAY, 30TH JULY 2026

CALENDAR

Friday, 31st July

Tuesday, 4th August

Wednesday, 5th August

Friday, 7th August

Wednesday, 12th August

Thursday, 13th August

FRIDAY, 14TH AUGUST

MONDAY, 17TH AUGUST

Wednesday, 19th August

Friday, 21st August

Monday, 24th August

Wednesday, 26th August

Thursday, 27th August

Monday, 31st August

Wednesday, 2nd September

Thursday, 3rd September

Friday, 4th September

Monday, 7th September

Thursday, 10th September

Monday, 14th September

Thursday, 17th September

FRIDAY, 18TH SEPTEMBER

Applications to enrol for Foundation 2027 – non current out of zone families

First Aid in School Session 2 – JJ & all Foundation & Senior Unit classes

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day

Cluster Athletics – selected Year 4/5/6 students only

FREE Earth Ed Incursion for Foundation & Junior Unit

Chinese Student Ambassador Training – selected students only

Payment due for JU Gym

P&F Walker's Doughnut Drive forms / payment due on Compass/Office

CURRICULUM DAY

Payment due for SU Gym

BOOK FAIR commences – more info to follow

Parent / Carer Forum about School Review – 2:15pm to 3:15pm – ALL WELCOME

Junior Unit Gym commences

Senior Unit Gym commences

Payment due for Foundation Gym

P&F Walker's Doughnut Drive COLLECTION DAY

Payment due for Year 3/4 Camp

Book Week Parade 9:00am

Junior Unit Gym continues

Senior Unit Gym continues

Foundation Gym commences

Junior Unit Gym continues

Indigenous Literacy Day

Senior Unit Gym continues

Year 3/4 Camp departs

Foundation Gym continues

Year 3/4 Camp returns

Senior Unit Gym concludes

Junior Unit Gym concludes

Foundation Gym continues

RACV Safety Squad Foundation & Junior Unit

Foundation Gym concludes

LAST DAY FOR TERM 3 – EARLY DISMISSAL 2:30PM

School Organisation

Dear Parents, Carers and Greater Community,

Hello community! It's great to be back on deck after a couple of weeks away travelling in the caravan 😊. The school is running well – Ainsley did a superb job as Acting Principal and the staff have continued to shine in each of their roles. Whilst I returned yesterday, I have already noticed many engaged students and “smiles on dial” as I visited each room throughout the day.

STAFFING

We have had relatively settled staffing this week with everyone falling back into their usual roles on my return 😊. Kate's absent today and replaced by Ebony Davidson and tomorrow Wendy Hicks will work the extra day to cover Amanda Bateman, who is on sick leave. We hope she gets better soon 😊.

DIVISION NETBALL

Yesterday, Brett, Jayden and Jaci took an enthusiastic group of Year 5/6 students to Red Energy Arena to participate in the DIVISION NETBALL EVENT. From all reports the children did really well and represented the school with exceptional behaviour and their best on the court. Well done to students and staff involved!

FIRST AID IN SCHOOLS

Today and tomorrow, we have FIRST AID IN SCHOOLS working across all classes to educate our students about basic first aid needs and tips for responding to injuries and medical issues. This is a wonderful program designed to build the knowledge of students from F – Year 6 in how to use first aid when there is a need.

FOUNDATION APPLICATIONS TO ENROL FOR 2027 CLOSE TOMORROW

If you know of any families not currently at our school that would like to enrol their child in Foundation in 2027, please submit an application by tomorrow, Friday, 31st July.

STONEY CREEK YEAR 5/6 CAMP TO HALLS GAP

A reminder to families that tomorrow is the closing date for EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST and to pay the non-refundable deposit for our Senior Unit camp. We would love to see all of our 5/6s attend, so if there are any barriers to attend, please reach out to me and have a chat. I'm always happy to help where I can.

CLUSTER ATHLETICS

Next Wednesday, 5th August, selected Year 4-6 students will travel by bus to the Flora Hill Athletics track to compete in specific events based on qualification. Families of participants are most welcome to come along and enjoy the day too. Please attend to consent and payment on Compass prior to the day 😊. For those Year 4-6 students not involved, it will be school as normal with merged Middle and Senior classes working onsite.

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, along with loose items. The only favour we ask is that these are collected by adults and not children.

EARTH ED ROBOTICS WORKSHOP

Our Foundation and Junior Unit students have an exciting FREE incursion next Friday, 7th August, with EARTH ED visiting and delivering a robotics workshop across both units. Children really love robotics workshops, so I can't wait to see how they engage with the incursion when they visit next week.

END OF DAY DUTIES

We have both buses departing from the top car park each day, with one staff member assigned to organise travellers and ensure they all get safely onto the bus in an orderly manner. Due to this, we have created a duty person to cover the bike shed and lower grounds and gate. Their role will be to hurry children along to begin their walk / ride home, keep a line of sight over behaviour whilst exiting and to ensure children are not playing on playgrounds unless supervised by a parent / carer. If you want your child to enjoy the playground at the end of the day, please just ensure you come onsite to supervise them. Duty of Care ensures we supervise students from 3:15pm – 3:30pm and after this time the supervision shifts to the parent / carer. If no one is present to take over the Duty of Care, students are asked to come into the Office where a Leadership member of staff will supervise and potentially contact parents to collect. It's a good reminder that all students should be collected before 3:30pm each day.

SCHOOL REVIEW AND PARENT / CARER FORUM

Our School Review is fast approaching, occurring on Monday, 17th & Tuesday, 18th August. These will be normal school days for our students; however some students may be selected to take part in a student focus group session where the review panel ask them questions about Big Hill PS, their classroom, learning and overall social interactions whilst onsite. We are running a PARENT / CARER FORUM on Monday, 17th August from 2:45pm – 3:15pm also and invite you to come along and share your views, via prompt questions from our reviewer etc, during this time. We have ensured the timing is in line with end of day to encourage more parents / carers to come along and share their views. Please note that school staff, including myself, will not be present, enabling families to freely share their thoughts. Please mark this one on your calendar and we hope to see you there.

DONATELIFE WEEK

This is a public awareness week which commenced on Sunday, 26th July and runs until Sunday, 2nd August, encouraging more Australians to support organ and tissue donation. Anyone in Australia aged 16 and over can register on the [Australian Organ Donor Register](https://www.donatelife.gov.au/) to be an organ and tissue donor. It only takes one minute to register. Organ and tissue donation can save and change the lives of people who, in many cases, are seriously ill or dying. To read stories of people who have received donations, refer to [Donation stories](#) on the DonateLife website: <https://www.donatelife.gov.au/>.

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 Jax and Piper with their banana and apple.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to Marcus, Rami, Poppet, Matilda, Avery & Mason P.



As we approach Week 4, we are well into another term and it's great to see our students working so well in class and playing appropriately in the yard. Days are beginning to get a little longer and it won't be long and warmer days will be upon us. Until then, please continue to rug-up your child, especially in the mornings when it is cold and frosty.

Have a wonderful Friday and a terrific weekend. Until next week,

Matt Pearce, Principal

FOUNDATION NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For naming ways to be a good friend during our resilience project lesson:

FC **Evie O**
FN **Bu Gay Paw T**

Catherine, Nicole & Nick

JUNIOR UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

*For being a responsible **independent learner** in the classroom:*

JAR **Parker S**
JJ **Phoebe I**

Ainsley, Roberta & Lauren

MIDDLE UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For working hard in the classroom:

MED **Archer B**
MP **Elaina H**
MWA **Bobby S**

Emma, Dean, Pauline, Wendy & Amanda

SENIOR UNIT NEWS

YEAR 5 FREE FISHING KIT

The Victorian Government is committed to increasing the number and diversity of people fishing and enjoying Victoria's local seafood, growing healthy and sustainable fisheries sectors and contributing to Victoria's social and economic prosperity. This is why the Victorian Government distributed 95,000 Little Angler kits to primary aged students in 2023/24, via the Victorian Fisheries Authority, as part of a \$1.5M election commitment, funded via the sale of Victorian recreational fishing licences, i.e. funded by recreational fishers.

The aim of this election commitment was to continue to grow recreational fishing participation in Victoria, by actively encouraging primary school aged children to learn more about the art of fishing, marine life and the natural environment. Encouraging children to be outside and active aligns with whole of Victorian Government initiatives underway to optimise health, wellbeing, connectedness and inclusiveness in Victoria.

Following the successful implementation of the commitment, the Victorian Government will run the program again in 2026, via the Victorian Fisheries Authority, offering 82,500 Little Angler kits to primary school children in 2026.

The FREE kits provide a wonderful school holiday activity for children with their families and help ease the cost of living, providing a fun activity close to home.

Year 5 students at all Victorian schools, including ours, will be offered the opportunity to receive a FREE Little Angler Kit. Year 5 students have been selected based on the Victorian Curriculum focus, movement and motor development, and safety considerations. The program is entirely voluntary. Schools were provided with the option to opt out of the program. Our school has opted to stay in the program so that parents can decide whether they want their child(ren) to receive a fishing kit.

Opt out

Parents of Year 5 students can advise the school if they do not wish their child(ren) to participate for any reason whatsoever. We support parents in making decisions that align with their family values and beliefs.

Receiving kits

The roll out of kits will occur in August 2026 so that all participating children will have a kit in time for the September school holidays.

The kits include a rod, reel with line, tackle tray, some tackle (including fishing hooks and lead-free sinkers) and information on how to use them to catch a fish. The tackle tray will be wrapped in cardboard and placed inside a pocket inside the fishing kit bag, which will be sealed with a cable tie to discourage students from opening their kits until they are with a parent or carer. The kits will also have a safety label attached to the outside of the kit bag, recommending that students wait to open the kits until they are under the care and supervision of an adult.

Kits will be handed out to students to take home with them as soon as the school receives them. Teachers will tell students not to open the kits until they are safely at home with a parent or carer, however parents can contact the school and request to collect their kit from the school themselves if they prefer.

More information

For instructional videos and online resources about where and how to fish, visit the [Little Angler hub](#).

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For staying focused, calm, and fully engaged in their learning:

SB **Allyera G**
SJ **Logan J**
SK **Mason P**

Brett, Jayden & Kate

THE RESILIENCE PROJECT

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

Mindfulness

Foundation	Willy T
Junior Unit	Chloe V
Middle Unit	Ava M
Senior Unit	Poppy S
Specialist	Phoenix B (SK)

BIG REWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to the following students who have received 15 big rewards, well done 😊:

🌟 Zaylan D

🌟 Harry B

🌟 Rylan E

🌟 Huddy H

🌟 Parker S

SOCIAL MEDIA & CYBER SAFETY

Navigating the Digital World: Your GPS for the Online Adventure

Navigating the Digital World: Sharing Images

With phones in nearly every kid's pocket, sharing photos and screenshots has become second nature. Whether it's Snapchat, Instagram, group chats, or gaming apps, kids are constantly sending images back and forth.

Even with the Australian Government introducing restrictions for under-16s on some platforms, schools are still seeing the same issue, kids are absolutely still using social media and messaging apps to share images. The reality is that the behaviour hasn't stopped... it's just gone a bit more under the radar.

Why Image Sharing Is a Big Deal

To kids, sending a photo can feel harmless, just a quick snap to a mate. But the risks are often underestimated.

Once an image is sent:

- It can be *screenshotted in seconds*
- It can be *shared to other group chats*
- It can spread well beyond the original audience
- It can stick around long after they think it's "gone"

A "private" message isn't always private.

What This Looks Like in Real Life

Schools across Australia are dealing with situations like:

- A student sends a silly or embarrassing photo to a friend → it ends up in the year-level group chat
- A screenshot from a private conversation gets shared → causing fallouts between friendship groups
- Kids sharing photos from sleepovers or parties → without everyone's consent
- Images being used later to tease, exclude or embarrass someone
- Students pressured to send photos to "prove" something or fit in

It's not always malicious at the start, but it can escalate quickly.

The Pressure Factor

A big part of this is *peer pressure*. Kids might:

- Feel like "everyone else is doing it"
- Worry about being left out if they don't share
- Be pushed to send something they're not comfortable with
- Not want to seem "boring" or "uptight"

They're still learning boundaries and the online world moves fast.

What Parents Can Do (Without Going Full Detective Mode)

You don't need to read every message, but you do need to stay in the conversation. Try:

- Keeping chats casual: "What do you usually send in your group chats?"
- Asking about scenarios, not interrogations
- Talking about *real consequences*, not just rules
- Reinforcing: "Once it's sent, it's out of your hands"

A Simple Rule That Works

Give them something easy to remember:

"If you wouldn't be okay with it displayed on the classroom Touch Hub, don't send it."

It sounds simple, but it lands.

If Something Goes Wrong

If your child's involved, whether they sent it or received it, keep it calm.

- Avoid jumping straight to punishment
- Save evidence if needed
- Encourage them to stop the spread (don't forward it on)
- Let the school know if it involves other students
- Focus on support first, consequences second

Kids are far more likely to come to you if they know they won't get their head bitten off.

The Reality Check

The rules and restrictions might be changing, but the behaviour isn't going anywhere. Kids will:

- Find ways around age limits
- Move to different apps
- Keep sharing images

So the goal isn't to stop it completely, it's to *help them make better choices when they're in the moment*.

At the end of the day, it's not about banning tech, it's about giving kids the judgement and confidence to use it safely.

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

Kate Dole



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/>

COMMUNITY NEWS

2020 CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

SYMPHONY OF STORIES



22-28 August

#CBCA2020



COME AND TRY

JUNIOR BADMINTON

WHERE: 140 VICTORIA STREET, EAGLEHAWK

AGES: 7-18

FIRST 3 NIGHTS ARE FREE

SESSION TIMES

WEDNESDAYS

7-10 YEARS OLD : 6:05PM TO 7:00PM
11-14 YEARS OLD : 7:05PM TO 8:00PM
15-18 YEARS OLD : 8:05PM TO 9:00PM

FRIDAYS

JUNIOR COMPETITION 6:45-8:30PM

SCHOOL TERMS ONLY

CALL 0478 435 301 TO ENQUIRE TODAY



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REDEFINING CHILDREN'S WELFARE & COMMUNITIES

COULD YOU FOSTER A CHILD?

We **URGENTLY** need **Foster Carers in your area**. Enquire now on how you can help change a child's life.

Canifoster.com.au | 1800 932 273

Immune Deficiencies Foundation Australia proudly presents

2026 CIRCUS QUIRKUS

Circus Quirkus is a one-hour, animal-free, contemporary take on your favourite, traditional circuses of ages past, with an eclectic and entertaining mix of Circus acts from all over the world.

Enjoy a relaxed theatre experience with a casual attitude toward audience noise and movement in an accessible, inclusive environment where everyone is welcome and free to be themselves without restriction or judgement.

One hour show. Suitable for all ages and accessible for people...

- with diverse abilities and backgrounds (wheelchair accessible)
- who might require a more flexible and inclusive environment when attending the theatre (sensory and neurodiverse friendly).
- who are facing hardship.
- who are without access or opportunity to attend live theatre.

*Featuring moving and flashing lights, and upbeat, sometimes dramatic music.

ALL TICKETS ARE COMPLIMENTARY, including parent, sibling and carer tickets. Thanks to sponsorship from local businesses.

*Bookings from schools, organisations, carers and families are all welcome.



BENDIGO STADIUM (RED ENERGY ARENA)	
91 Inglis Street, West Bendigo, VIC	
SHOW DATE	SHOWTIME
SATURDAY, 8 TH AUGUST 2026	11.00 AM to 12.00 PM

To book your complimentary tickets, please email your name and the number of tickets required to...

meredithnewman@showintent.com.au

or call / text 0404-367-782



Little Steps

— THERAPY CENTRE —

Play Therapy Offer

Term three:

This term we are offering any families who start sessions at

Little Steps Therapy Centre

10% OFF

four Play Therapy appointments.

For more information call 0418272106

Email: madison@littlstepstherapycentre.com.au

Address: 64a Breen Street, Quarry Hill



FUNDRAISER

Jam Pack

Strawberry Jam Ball
Cinnamon Toffee Apple Ball
Blueberry Glaze Ball
Caramel Supreme
Classic Jam Ball
Nutella Ball

yum!



Custard/Cream Pack

Banana Custard Ball
Bronut Cream & Jam Ball
Boston Ball
Cookies & Cream Ball
Classic Custard/Cream Ball
Strawberries & Cream Ball



BIG HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL FUNDRAISER



Please support our Walkers Doughnuts Drive by purchasing delicious doughnuts.

The cost for each pack is \$24.00.

Thanks to Walkers Doughnuts every pack of doughnuts purchased through our drive will raise money for our school.

Simply fill out your order below and return it to school along with your payment by no later than

Thursday 13th August 2026.

Your doughnuts will be ready to collect on the afternoon of Friday 21st August 2026.

Remember to ask family and friends if they would like to order some too.

Thank you for your support!

BHPS Parents and Friends

WALKERS DOUGHNUTS ORDER FORM

Name: _____

Contact Number: _____

Student/Customer Name	Class	Jam pack \$24.00	Custard/Cream pack \$24.00	Total
Example: John Smith	5B	1	2	\$ 72.00
1.				\$
2.				\$
3.				\$
4.				\$
5.				\$
6.				\$
7.				\$
8.				\$
9.				\$
10.				\$
Total Packs				\$

Payment: ☐ Compass

☐ Cash

☐ EFT on ____/____/2026

Re: Show Day Holiday

Dear School staff, Parents, and Carers,

The Bendigo Agricultural Show Society is encouraging families to participate in the City of Greater Bendigo's local public holiday survey and support the return of a Show Day public holiday in lieu of the Bendigo Cup public holiday.

A Show Day public holiday would provide families the opportunity to enjoy a Friday public holiday and long weekend, while making it easier for students, families, and the wider community to experience all that the Bendigo Agricultural Show has to offer.

The Bendigo Agricultural Show is much more than a day of entertainment. It provides children with valuable hands-on learning experiences, allowing them to connect with agriculture, meet farm animals, discover where food and fibre come from, and gain insight into rural life. Alongside educational exhibits, families can enjoy competitions, arts and crafts, rides, live entertainment, and local produce, making it a memorable day out for all ages.

The survey asks the community to choose between:

- Bendigo Agricultural Show Day
- Bendigo Cup Day
- Melbourne Cup Day

We encourage you to share this information with your school community and invite families to have their say.

Scan to have your say.



The survey closes on **Sunday 9th August 2026**.

Thank you for taking the time to participate and have your say.

Sincerely,



Ian Furze
Executive Officer
Bendigo Agricultural Show Society Inc.



Help shape the future of buses in Bendigo

We want to hear from you.
Your feedback will help us
plan bus services that better
meet your needs.

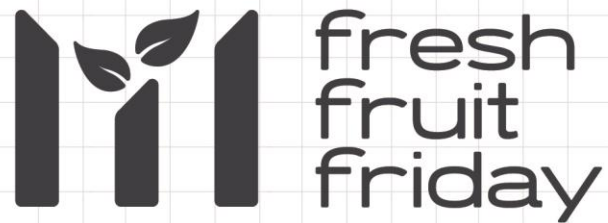
Consultation closes on
23 August 2026.



Scan the QR code or visit
engage.vic.gov.au/Bendigo-Bus
to find out more and have your say.

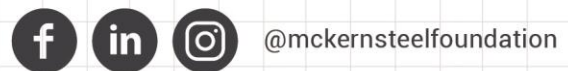


THANK YOU TO MCKERN STEEL FOUNDATION AND SPONSORS



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

 mckern steel™
foundation



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 🥰