



Calder Chronicle

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THURSDAY, 6TH AUGUST 2026

CALENDAR

Friday, 7th August

Tuesday, 7th August

Wednesday, 12th August

Thursday, 13th August

FRIDAY, 14TH AUGUST

MONDAY, 17TH AUGUST

Tuesday, 18th 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

PRINCIPALS DAY

FREE Earth Ed Incursion for Foundation & Junior Unit

Chinese Student Ambassador Training – selected students only

School Council 7:00pm

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

School Review commences

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

Junior Unit Gym commences

BOOK FAIR COMMENCES –after school in Multi-classroom next to Wendy's

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,

Welcome to Week 4. This week has been very busy indeed with a variety of excursions and incursions adding to the normal business of day-to-day classroom programs. By now our students are settled back into routines and are producing some wonderful work in class. A walk around classes is a highlight, as I get to see so much talent across the school.

STAFFING

A little bit of sick leave this week has seen Jayden and Alice away Tuesday, Ainsley at Professional Development Tuesday and I was absent yesterday whilst attending the AREA FORUM with Principals and key regional staff for a day of updates, training and networking.

CLUSTER ATHLETICS

Yesterday, Brett, Jayden, Roberta, Wendy and Amy took a large group of Year 4 – 6's to the Flora Hill Athletics Track to compete in our Cluster Athletics against a group of local Bendigo schools. These children had qualified for particular events and if successful on the day, get to move through to the DIVISION ATHLETICS. The staff involved reported favourably on the day, including how well our students represented Big Hill PS.

A big thank you to the staff involved and to families who were able to drop in and share some of the fun. A big pat on the back to all students who attended and did their best.

CURRICULUM DAY NEXT FRIDAY

Just a reminder to families that next Friday, 14th August, our staff will take part in the third of our curriculum days planned for this year. Due to this there will be no school for students and other care arrangements will need to be made. TheirCare also offer an onsite program for families who might need to book into the service due to no school.

CHINESE AMBASSADOR TRAINING

The Confucious Classroom (based at Bendigo Senior Secondary College) and our Chinese teacher, Yuzi, have organised a great opportunity for some of our students to attend a full day's training in the CHINESE AMBASSADOR PROGRAM. Well done to Jade, Vincenzo, Mason and Abigail H. The 4 students will join around 20 student ambassadors from primary schools across the Bendigo region. Throughout the day, students will take part in leadership activities, team-building games, and hands-on Chinese cultural workshops at the Victorian Academy of Teaching on Level 1, 360 Hargreaves St. They will also have the opportunity to have authentic Chinese food for lunch and a guided tour of the Golden Dragon Museum in the afternoon. Pick up will be from the Museum by 3:15pm. Such a great opportunity and honour for these talented students 😊.

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEXT WEEK

A reminder to families that next Tuesday, 11th August, our School Council will meet for our August meeting. This is a week earlier than first planned due to the upcoming School Review. My Principals Report and other documentation will go out to School Council members by Friday in preparation for our 7:00pm meeting. Finance will also run at 6:30pm. Preference is for members to be onsite in the library, however, am happy to offer Webex for those who can't get away from home. Details of how to meet will be shared in my email to members when I send out my report.

GYM PROGRAMS STARTING SOON

The Junior and Senior Units will soon have their PALMERS GYM program starting each Monday (Junior) and Wednesday (Senior) – commencing on the 17th/19th, and the Foundation Gym starting on the 27th at Summersalt (formerly Jets Gym). Consent and payment are via COMPASS, so please attend to this before the first visit. A reminder that the gym program is an excursion and it is user pays... the school does not get any funding to cover the costs.

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 tomorrow, 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.

END OF DAY DUTIES

We have both buses departing from the top car park each day now, 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, 18th and Tuesday, 19th 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, 18th 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 parent / 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 in your calendar and the Reviewers hope to see you there.

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 Zaylan and Chloe with their pear and mandarin.



BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to Abigail H & Levi K.

In the lead up to the weekend, here's hoping you have a productive Friday and a restful weekend. I look forward to seeing continued hard work in classes as we work towards the middle of Term 3. Until next week,

Matt Pearce, Principal

FOUNDATION NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For listening and being respectful during the First Aid Incursion:

FC Jax E-H
FN Addison M

Catherine, Nicole & Nick

JUNIOR UNIT NEWS

GYM SESSION 24TH AUG

Students will need to bring their uniform to change into after participating in the Book Week Parade.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For being a curious learner by asking questions:

JAR Oliver T
JJ Nixon L

Ainsley, Roberta & Lauren

MIDDLE UNIT NEWS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For showing improvements in their spelling results:

MED Blake M
MP Callum V
MWA Lewis T

Emma, Dean, Pauline, Wendy & Amanda

SENIOR UNIT NEWS

YEAR 5 FREE FISHING KIT

The kits have now arrived at school and will be sent home shortly.

More information

For instructional videos and online resources about where and how to fish, visit the [Little Angler hub](https://www.littleanglerhub.com.au/).

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For contributing positively to their class and helping others without being asked:

SB Vincenzo P
SJ Abby M
SK Christopher W

Brett, Jayden & Kate

BOOK FAIR FROM TUES 18TH

This year the Book Fair will be held from Tuesday, 18th August to Friday, 21st August.

It will be open from 3:30pm – 4:00pm in the classroom next to Wendy's at the Multipurpose Building. There will be a wide range of books and stationery items available to purchase.

What a great opportunity to buy that favourite book you've had your eye on, encourage the joy of reading, and support the school at the same time!

See you at the Book Fair!!

PRINCIPALS DAY

TOMORROW!!

On Principals Day we will recognise Matt's dedication, resilience, compassion, & leadership.

We will celebrate Matt's invaluable contribution to our school community as our Principal, with each class making him a gift; and there will be a morning tea, and general appreciation all day with high fives abound.

If you'd like to say Happy Principals Day to Matt, feel free to come see him in the morning, or catch up at assembly at 2:55pm.

The school just wouldn't be the same without him, so tomorrow will be a special day just for him 😊.

THE RESILIENCE PROJECT

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

Gratitude

Foundation	Cash J
Junior Unit	Oaklynn V
Middle Unit	Emma P
Senior Unit	Mason P
Specialist	Jade L

BIG REWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to the following student who has received 15 big rewards, well done 😊:

🌈 Huxley T

THEIR CARE (OSHC) NEWS



TheiCare
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/>

SOCIAL MEDIA & CYBER SAFETY

Navigating the Digital World: Your GPS for the Online Adventure

Keeping Our Kids SAFE ONLINE

As technology continues to evolve, so do the challenges around keeping children safe online. Recent media coverage has highlighted how easily photographs can now be manipulated or misused using artificial intelligence and other digital tools.

At Big Hill Primary School, the safety and wellbeing of our students will always come first.

While we will continue to celebrate the wonderful learning, events and achievements happening at our school through our Facebook page, we have made the decision to no longer publish identifiable photographs of individual students.

This includes photos of students receiving awards and participating in special events such as camps, sporting events, excursions, athletics days and other school celebrations.

Student awards and achievements will continue to be recognised on our Facebook page by name only, allowing us to celebrate their success while taking an extra step to protect their privacy and digital safety.

Where available, photographs of these events will be shared with families via Compass, our password protected platform that is accessible only to our parent community and staff.

This provides a more secure way to celebrate our students' experiences while protecting their privacy.

This change reflects our commitment to adapting to an ever-changing digital landscape and ensuring we do everything we can to safeguard the children in our care.

Thank you for your understanding and ongoing support as we continue to celebrate our students while placing their safety and wellbeing at the heart of every decision we make.

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

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Protecting today. Empowering tomorrow.

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SAFE HEARTS **KIND ACTIONS** **BRIGHT FUTURES**

Kate Dole

COMMUNITY NEWS

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



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: _____

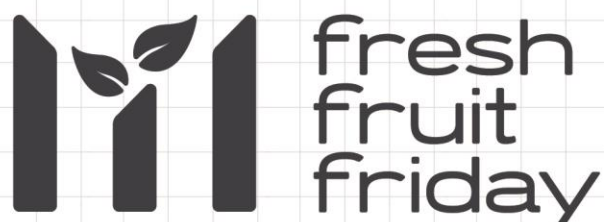
Student/Customer Name	Class	Jam pack \$24.00	Custard/Cream pack \$24.00	Total
Example: John Smith	5B	1	2	\$ 72.00
1.				\$
2.				\$
3.				\$
4.				\$
5.				\$
6.				\$
7.				\$
8.				\$
9.				\$
10.				\$
Total Packs				\$

Payment: ☐ Compass

☐ Cash

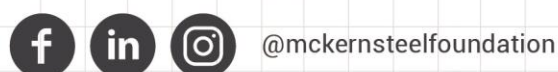
☐ EFT on ____/____/2026

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 🍏