

The Bell Topper

California Gully Primary School 123

Volume 44 No. 27

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Facebook: California Gully Primary School

Thursday August 20th, 2026

HOBBY DAY – FRIDAY AUGUST 14th

Well done to everyone that dressed as something linked to a favourite hobby and donate a gold coin donation. The \$170 raised is being donated to Jirrahlinga Wildlife Sanctuary in Chewton.

BOOK WEEK AND PARADE (NEXT WEDNESDAY AUGUST 26th)



The theme for the 2026 Children's Book Week, which runs from August 22nd to 28th, is 'Symphony of Stories', encouraging young readers to explore new worlds through books.

We will celebrate across the week, with the all-important **Book Parade (weather permitting) taking place on Wednesday August 26th at 9:00 a.m.**

2026 PARENT CAREGIVER AND GUARDIAN OPINION SURVEY

This survey is now open until Friday September 18th, 2026. The survey seeks feedback on school climate, community engagement in learning, teaching practices for student engagement and outcomes, and attitudes towards school attendance.

Links for the survey were emailed to families with the newsletter last week.

ASTHMA & ALLERGIES

If children need medication for Hay Fever and/or allergies through the school day please bring it to the school office, clearly named with pharmacy label attached. Make sure that the medication is in date. Inform the school office if your child has been medicated before school on any particular day. If your child is asthmatic please provide an up-to-date asthma plan, medication available at school and, if appropriate, a spacer.



CALIFORNIA GULLY PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS

A reminder that students are expected to wear the correct school uniform each day. This is particularly important when attending excursions and community events, as students are representing California Gully Primary School. Thank you to families for supporting our students to wear their uniform with pride. If you need support, please reach out to our Well-Being Team or order using www.equalthreads.org.au.

ILLNESS



Unfortunately, we have continued to see high levels of illness with many students, staff and families.

If your child is unwell, please keep them at home and notify the school of their absence.

Illnesses such as the common cold, influenza and RSV spread easily, and we need healthy students and staff at school. Keeping everyone healthy remains a priority.

Respect * Personal Best * Care

To report an absence through the school website you can use this link [Report an Absence](#)



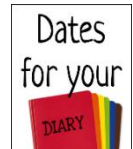
SUN SMART - HATS

We are encouraging all families to start the search to find school hats as the weather (every now and then) starts to warm up and UV index increases. It is extremely important to have hats available at school from mid-August. CGPS support the use of sun protection measures when the **UV index levels are 3 or higher**. In Term 4 the 'No Hat No Play' policy will always be followed. Hats can be purchased from www.equalthreads.org.au, or a Navy Blue Bucket/wide brim is fine.



Andrew Frawley
CGPS Principal

Dates for the Diary



- **Saturday August 22nd to Friday August 28th** - Book Week
- **Wednesday August 26th** - Book Week Parade at 9.00 a.m.
- **Wednesday August 26th** - "The Blurbs" Book Week Performance
- **Thursday September 3rd** - Father's Day Stall
- **Wednesday September 9th** - Hope and Action Student Sustainability Summit – Grades Three and Four
- **Friday September 11th** - Passions and Pathways Session Three – Grades Five and Six
- **Wednesday September 16th** - Eaglehawk Secondary College – Big Day Out (Year Six students only)
- **Thursday September 17th** - 'Room on the Broom' performance – Foundation to Grade Two
- **Friday September 18th** - Last Day of Term Three 2.15 p.m. Dismissal
- **Monday October 5th** - First Day of Term Four
- **Thursday October 29th** - Gym Program (make-up session for week missed in term three due to industrial action)

SCHOOL ARRIVAL TIMES AND EARLY COLLECTION

Morning Drop-off: We remind all families that children should not be onsite prior to the 8.40 a.m. bell. At this point staff are on duty and actively supervising. Please respect this request for the safety of all students, staff and families. *Before School Care is available if dropping off children before 8.40 a.m. Enrolment details are found later in the newsletter.*

Late Arrival: If your child is late arriving at school (any time after 9 a.m.) they must sign in at the office prior to going to the classroom.

Early Collection: If your child needs to be collected early from school, please do not go to the classroom to collect your child. All children must be collected from the office. If you would like to collect your child early from school, please let the office and your child's classroom teacher know at least 30 minutes prior to collection, but preferably before the start of the school day. To support Child Safe and OHS procedures, we ask that everyone respects this request. Thank you for your care and understanding.



FATHER'S DAY STALL— CAN YOU HELP?

The Father's Day Stall is coming up, and we are seeking donations of gifts or a gold coin to go towards the purchase of gifts. If you can help, please leave your donation in the school office.

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California Gully Primary School – School Uniform

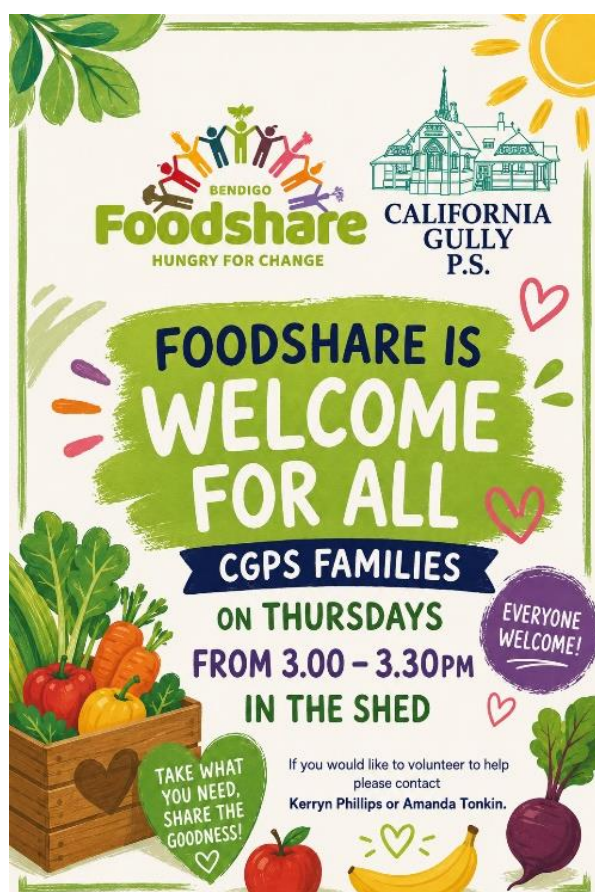
Our school uniform supplier, State Schools Relief (SSR), has rebranded its online store to Equal Threads which will continue to provide quality, affordable uniforms while supporting students across Victoria.

There's nothing you need to do. Our school uniform range, ordering process and service all remain the same. Families can continue to easily find and purchase items using the familiar 'Shop by School' option on the new website.

Every purchase made through Equal Threads helps support students experiencing disadvantage with the essentials they need to feel confident, included, and ready to learn.

Visit the new website at

<https://www.equalthreads.org.au/collections/california-gully-ps>




fresh fruit friday

Running for over a decade, the program now delivers 1,500kg of free fruit to Bendigo school children every week.

mckern steel foundation

Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, @mckernsteelfoundation

Made possible thanks to McKern Foundation and our supporting partners:

BlueScope, King & Co., Bendigo Community Health Services, FURPHY, IMPACTA, Adroit Insurance & Risk, DOBELI, McKean McGregor, AGNICO EAGLE, M'ATE air conditioning, KIESER, Bendigo Telco, DLO, Healthy LONDON CAMPUS, nab, PRIMARY CARE CENTRE, Your business here

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



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FAMILY HUB

As part of our work with The Resilience Project this term, our emphasis has been on **Empathy**. The Family Hub helps build healthy habits – not just for your kids, but for you too.

You will find:

- Bite-sized videos
- Practical tips and ideas
- Family-friendly activities



Empathy

Putting ourselves in the shoes of others to feel and see what they do. We practice this through being kind and compassionate towards other people.



Video

Tips to manage overwhelm as a parent with Dr. Em.

Duration: 5 minutes and 15 seconds



Family Activity

Developing empathy helps us to foster deeper connections, increases our likelihood of acting kindly, and helps us experience positive emotions.

Try practising empathy with our **Family Vocabulary activity**.



theresilienceproject.com.au



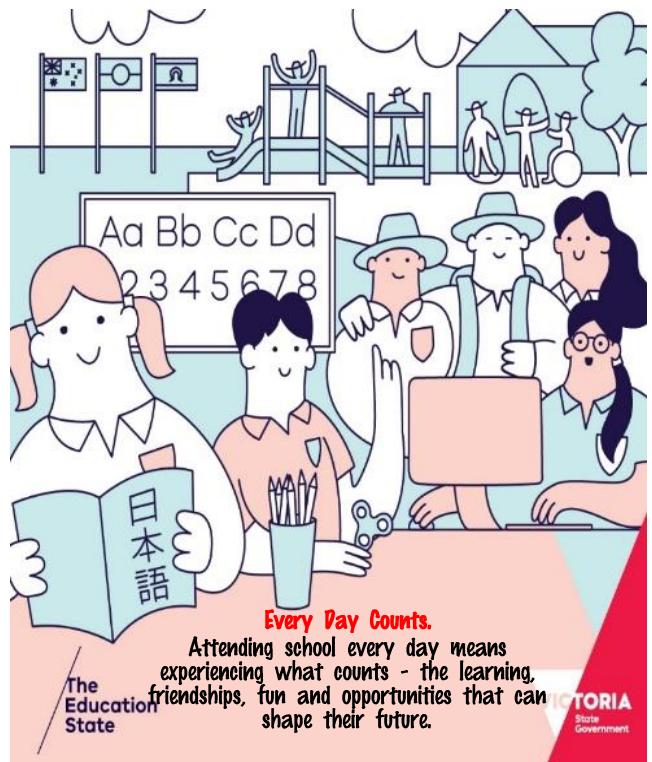
[@theresilienceproject](https://www.instagram.com/theresilienceproject)



[/theresilienceproject](https://www.facebook.com/theresilienceproject)



[/theresilienceproject](https://www.linkedin.com/company/theresilienceproject)



VICTORIA
State Government



Supported playgroup

California Gully Primary School

Fridays
9.30-11.30am
Staley Street, California Gully

Morning tea provided
Enrolments essential

A free, fun playground
for parents/carers and
children to learn together

Contact facilitator
Tiffany Holschier
0498 642 909

tiffanyholschier@bchs.com.au

Our smalltalk playgroups run for two hours a week during school terms. Each session focuses on a different parenting strategy to promote children's learning and development.

bchs.com.au

Are you supporting a family member or friend with disability, mental illness, age or health issues?

Even if it's just for a few hours every week, you could be a **young carer**. This may look like....

Going with them to appointments or helping with medication

Cleaning the house or helping with other chores

Providing emotional support when someone feels sad

Taking care of younger siblings

Being a young carer might feel lonely. But you're not alone.

Carer Gateway has **free support** for **young carers** aged 25 and under.



Scan to learn more

Carer Gateway may support you with things like help at home, young carer social events, counselling or study help.

Free support, call now!
1800 422 737
carergateway.gov.au



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To report an absence through the school website you can use this link [Report an Absence](#)





**Congratulations to the following students
on being named**



Student of The Week

for their positive attitude to school and social values.

Friday August 14th

Foundation A (Hinton):

- Adalyn M. - For writing an impressive retell of The Three Little Pigs.
Clayton S. - For writing a fabulous retell of The Three Little Pigs.

Foundation B (Tonkin):

- Navy G. - For fabulous independent writing.
Shayla P. - For persevering with challenging gym moves.

Grade 1/2 A (Carroll-Dillon):

- Jaxen B. - For his great attitude and participation at Gym. Well Done!
Austin L. - For great work with arrays. Well Done!

Grade 1/C (Leed):

- Ryder J. - For his positive attitude and hard work in all lessons.
Hunter M. - For always being an enthusiastic and inquisitive learner.

Grade 3/4 A (McKerrow):

- Oliver B. - For excellent problem solving in math's.
Hamish J. - For excellent problem solving in math's.

Grade 3/4 B (Ryan):

- Maci H. - For her hard work with our doubling problem solving task.
Opal L. - For consistently completing her home reading and spelling each week. Well done!
Aria T. - For being a kind and caring class member.

Grade 5/6 A (Price):

- Layla B. - For her independence towards division tasks.
Olivia H. - For her great research and creation of a country brochure.

Grade 5/6 B (Reilly-Lee):

- Malik J. - For working well with Kath and enjoying the new book series that he is reading.
Scarlett L. - For always having a bright smile and positive attitude each day in our classroom.



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Which public holiday do you prefer for 2027 and beyond?



Scan

JOIN US!

STRIKERS NETBALL CLUB

TWILIGHT SEASON 2026

LOOKING FOR A FUN, TEAM-BASED SPORT?
COME PLAY NETBALL WITH US IN 2026!
New and experienced players welcome!

TWILIGHT SEASON RUNS OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2026

FOR & FRIENDLY
A supportive environment for all players.

SKILLS & DEVELOPMENT
Regular practice, drills, and coaching to improve your game.

ALL ABILITIES
We welcome players of all abilities to join our team.

TRAVEL & LODGING
We provide transport and accommodation for away games.

BOYS & GIRLS GRADES 3 AND ABOVE

INTERESTED? REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TODAY!
MORE INFORMATION TO COME SOON.

STRIKERS NETBALL CLUB

CONTACT US
EMAIL: info@strikersnetballclub.com.au

FIND US ON FACEBOOK
[strikersnetballclub](https://www.facebook.com/strikersnetballclub)

Be a part of the



SYMPHONY OF STORIES

MAIDENGULLY MARIST CC

JUNIORS COME AND JOIN OUR CLUB!

PLAY. LEARN. GROW. BELONG.
BE PART OF SOMETHING SPECIAL!

LOOKING FOR U11, U12, U14 & U16

ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME!

TRY CRICKET WITH OUR

MASTER BLASTER
FUN, ACTIVE & PERFECT FOR KIDS AGED 6-7

JUNIOR BLAST
GREAT FOR KIDS AGED 7-9 LOOKING TO GIVE CRICKET A GO!

FRIENDSHIPS, CONFIDENCE, TEAMWORK FUN!

CONTACT STEVE! EMAIL: juniorscoordinator@mcmcricкет.club OR TEXT 0419 196 332

ONE CLUB. ONE TEAM. MAIDENGULLY MARIST CRICKET CLUB. EST. 1977

nab AFL Auskick
4-7 YEAR OLDS

Your introduction into Australian football centred around game-based activities kids love.

AFL Superkick
7-12 YEAR OLDS

Designed for any child to give it a go, with a focus on skill development and learning how to play the game.

BENDIGO ALL GIRLS AUSKICK AND SUPERKICK CENTRE

WEEROONA OVAL, BENDIGO

STARTING AUGUST 25TH
TUESDAYS 4:15PM - 5:15PM

Register to go in the draw to win a Richmond AFLW Guernsey!

AUSKICK

SUPERKICK

STEM CLUB

ADVENTURE STARTS AFTER SCHOOL!

PREP – GRADE 6

8 WEEK PROGRAM

Weekly STEM sessions that spark imagination and build real skills.

\$100 PER TERM THURSDAYS | 4-5PM

DISCOVERY CENTRE

Respect * Personal Best * Care

To report an absence through the school website you can use this link [Report an Absence](#)



Looking towards 2027 Term 1

PROPS THEATRE

@propstheatre @ f

Stage One for 5 - 8 years
Stage Two for 9 - 12 years

LOCATION
82A Mitchell Street Studio
www.propstheatre.com.au
Enrolments OPEN

SCAN ME




STRATHFIELDSAYE
STRATH
BASKETBALL CLUB

NEW PLAYERS WELCOME

SUMMER SEASON

Born 2020-2017?
We'd love to hear from you!

Strong interest may help us form additional teams in these age groups.

Older juniors and adults welcome too
Team placement depends on player numbers and available vacancies

REGISTRATIONS AND ENQUIRIES OPEN NOW
strathfieldsayeabc@gmail.com

Strath Starts Here



 Eaglehawk
51 Church Street, Eaglehawk

Free Children's Music

Program Ages 8—13

Come and learn to play a brass instrument
from 30 April 3:45 — 5pm,
Each Thursday during school terms

Contact: 5446 8135 press 1 and leave a message

Afternoon tea will be provided each week.

In partnership with 



LEGO MANIA

BUILD & CREATE

"Friends" LEGO City Community Build

Join us at the Red Door Community Centre for an exciting LEGO building event!

Help us create an amazing community LEGO display that will be showcased in our shop window for all to enjoy.

 ALL ABILITIES WELCOME

SAFE & SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

MAKE NEW FRIENDS

GET CREATIVE

We can't wait to build something incredible with you!

Register your interest now for September school holidays with the QR code.

\$7.50 per hour



(03) 4448 2020  www.sportzrulz.com.au



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EARLY HELP FAMILY SERVICES

Early Help Family Services is here to support you and your family in your community and be available where you live, work, learn and play.

Early Help is available to parents/caregivers and families with children from birth to 18 years.

Early Help can provide;

- Individual support for families and caregivers
- Safe and confidential parenting groups
- Connection to peer support groups
- Support, information and referrals to help with parenting, child/adolescent behaviour, housing, family problems, mental health and disability

**"GETTING THE RIGHT SUPPORT EARLY
CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE"**

Want to know more? Please speak with your Early Help Family Worker or speak with a school staff member who can refer you to the Early Help Family worker.

Early Help Family Worker

Imogyn O'Neill

Contact

0417 189 640

Email

Imogyn.oneill@anglicarevic.org.au

Location

Bendigo

Anglicare Victoria, Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA) and Tweddle Child and Family Health Service deliver Early Help to families in the West Melbourne area.



PARTNERSHIP
LOGOS

PARTNERSHIP
LOGOS

PARTNERSHIP
LOGOS

**BETTER
TOMORROWS**

anglicarevic.org.au

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Up to
90%
of Child Care costs
can be covered
by Child Care
Subsidy!

Enrolments Now Open!

Enrolments are now open for families to enrol.

Enrolments are completed online at
www.theircare.com.au and usually
takes approx. 15 to 20 minutes to
complete.

See FAQs on our website
theircare.com.au/families

Exciting News: OSHC Partnership with TheirCare

We're thrilled to announce a brand-new partnership with **TheirCare**, a leading independent provider of Outside of School Hours Care (OSHC)! Starting July 2026, TheirCare will be joining our school community to deliver exceptional care and unforgettable experiences for our students.

What does this mean for our families?

- **Safe & Supportive:** TheirCare creates a welcoming environment where every child feels valued and secure.
- **Fun & Engaging:** Kids will enjoy a variety of play-based learning programs designed to spark creativity, build friendships, and develop essential life skills.
- **Inclusive & Inspiring:** Every child is encouraged to explore, discover, and grow—together!

As well as offering After School Care, they are also offering Before School Care.

Want to learn more?

Visit theircare.com.au or call TheirCare's friendly support team on **1300 072 410**, alternatively you can email Angela.Waters@education.vic.gov.au.

Gratitude
Empathy
Mindfulness &
Emotional Literacy



Respect * Personal Best * Care

To report an absence through the school website you can use this link [Report an Absence](#)



TheirCare
Where kids love to be!

California Gully 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

Bookings now open!

Program	Monday - Friday Hours of Operation	Price before Child Care Subsidy*	Out-of-pocket fee after Child Care Subsidy**
Before School Care (BSC)	8:00 AM TO 8:30 AM	\$55.00	\$1.00
After School Care (ASC)	3:00 PM TO 6:00 PM	\$55.00	\$1.00
Half Day Program	8:00 AM TO 12:00 PM	\$55.00	\$1.00
Holiday Program	7:00 AM TO 6:00 PM	\$85.00	\$1.00

*Standard fee includes Child Care Subsidy (CCS) for eligible children. **Out-of-pocket fee for non-eligible children.

Cancellation Fee
TheirCare Care Subsidy is applied to Cancellation Fees.
BSC/ASC within 48 hours of session start time: \$5.00
Holiday Program within 5 days of session start time: \$10.00
Same day cancellation fee is out-of-pocket session fee

Late Booking Fee
TheirCare Care Subsidy is applied to Late Booking Fees.
BSC/ASC within 48 hours of session start time: \$5.00
Holiday Program: book less than 5 days from the session start time fee is \$10.00

Late Pick-up Fee
TheirCare Care Subsidy does not apply to Late Pick-up Fees.
\$1 per minute after service close time.

To register visit theircare.com.au

Book Now

Save up to 90% with child care subsidy

Service phone number: 0478 854 327
Your service Coordinator will be available during session times.

TheirCare support team is available between 6.30am - 9pm weekdays (Eastern Standard Time) on 1300 072 410 or info@theircare.com.au

Bendigo Major League MULTISPORTS

TERM 4 2026 + TERM 1 2027

JUNIOR FUTSAL

MONDAY Competition **WEDNESDAY Beginner league**

SCAN QR CODE BELOW TO REGISTER

1-3 Waterson Court, Golden Square VIC 3555
PHONE: 0428 471 077
EMAIL: admin@bendigomajorleague.com.au

AGE GROUPS:
• 5 & UNDER
• 7 & UNDER
• 9 & UNDER
• 11 & UNDER

GAMES FROM 4PM

QR Code

Holiday camps on sale now!

CODECAMP

MINECRAFT

Coding • Animation • Craft & much more

Book now at codecamp.com.au/flyer

SAVE \$25 Use coupon code **FLYER25** at checkout

Supported by **W GROUP**

Artisticat

FANTASTIC ONLINE ART CLASSES

Brilliant artists and instructors take the classes in real-time on Zoom.

- Easy to organise - we make it simple for you.
- The kids produce amazing work and are really proud of their art!
- All age groups covered!
- Super affordable
- To see the activities planned for the classes click visit our website. www.artisticat.com.au There are some amazing art ideas planned!

FIRST CLASS FREE!

Just \$18 a class after the free trial (exc GST)
The full price varies depending on the number of classes in the term.

LIMITED PLACES BOOK NOW!

To book go to www.artisticat.com.au

Illustration of a cat sitting on a paint can, painting on an easel.

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