

The Bell Topper

California Gully Primary School 123

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P.O. Box 88
California Gully 3556
Phone: 5446-8393
Fax: 5446-3115
Email: california.gully.ps@educationvic.gov.au
Website: www.californiagullyps.vic.edu.au
Facebook: California Gully Primary School

Thursday December 11th 2025

TERM 4 CURRICULUM DAY TOMORROW -

FRIDAY DECEMBER 12th



On Friday December 12th, staff will focus on a range of areas including 2026 planning and the CGPS Teaching models. Please note that students will not attend school on this day. We hope all students enjoy a restful day before returning for the final week for 2025!

TRANSITION PROGRAM—STATEWIDE ORIENTATION DAY

Another successful visit on Tuesday by our 2026 Foundation students, as part of State-wide Orientation Day. Our Year 6 students attended their new secondary schools for 2026, and from all reports, the day went very well. Current CGPS students participated in our whole-school transition, moving into their 2026 classrooms for the morning. Information for parents and carers was sent home on this day, outlining the 2026 grade structure, classroom placements, and allocated teacher/s.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 10th - CALIFORNIA GULLY PRIMARY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2025

What a day of fun! Dancing, singing, class celebration with great company and a really enjoyable afternoon for all that attended the CGPS (Mini) Christmas Celebration on Wednesday. With a mix of carols, student performances had everyone singing and dancing along to a range of popular tunes. It was a wonderful way to come together as a school community and celebrate the festive season.

GRADE SIX GRADUATION - THURSDAY DECEMBER 11th

Our Grade 6 students have spent today celebrating their graduation from primary school. Their special day will include activities in Bendigo, a shared lunch, and a graduation ceremony held at school in the afternoon, beginning at **3.30pm**.

We warmly invite all families and community members to join us for the ceremony as we celebrate this important milestone for our graduating students.

STUDENT REPORTS

Semester 2 Student Reports have been sent home with students today. We encourage all families to take the time to read through the reports together and celebrate the achievements, progress, and hard work demonstrated by your children throughout the semester.

Inside the envelope, you will also find information regarding our 'Start-Up' Interviews for 2026. Please note that the School Interview portal will *not* open until **Friday December 12th at 10am**.



TERM 4 COMPLETION - FRIDAY DECEMBER 19th

As the 2025 school year nudges that little bit closer, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to the CGPS community for your ongoing support and the many positive contributions you make to our school. Our staff and students genuinely appreciate the care, encouragement and engagement shown throughout the year.

In the final days of Term 4, students and staff will be spending time cleaning, organising, and preparing to move into any new learning spaces for 2026.

Please note that the **last day of Term 4 is Friday December 19th**, with a **1.15pm dismissal**.

TERM ONE 2026

Staff Return (Statewide Curriculum Day)

Start Up Interviews (F—6)

All CGPS students start today

Foundation – 12.30pm finish

Tuesday January 27th

Wednesday January 28th

Thursday January 29th

Thursday January 29th and

Friday January 30th

Andrew Frawley
CGPS Principal



How to support your child under 16 with the new social media age restrictions

From 10 December 2025, the *Online Safety Amendment (Social Media Minimum Age) Act 2024* will require social media platforms to:

- prevent children and young people under 16 from having a social media account
- deactivate or freeze existing accounts held by people under 16.

Delaying access to social media protects the health and wellbeing of young people and gives them extra time to build real world connections and digital literacy skills.

The responsibility will be on the social media platforms, not parents, carers, children or schools, to implement these new restrictions.

Most popular social media platforms will be age restricted. These include Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, X (formerly Twitter), Reddit and YouTube.

Messaging services and online games, as well as apps and platforms that support health and education, can still be used.

How to help under 16s prepare for the change

Parents and carers play an important role in supporting their children to be safe online.

To help get under 16s ready for the social media minimum age requirements, you can go to the [eSafety website](#) to learn more about the social media age restrictions and find [tips on how to talk about social media age restrictions with young people](#).

What the change means for our school

At our school, all age-restricted social media platforms are blocked for student use on the school network.

To keep up to date about the new social media age restrictions, visit the [eSafety website](#) and [subscribe](#) to their newsletter.



Dates for the Diary

- **Friday December 12th** - Curriculum Day—No Students Required at School
- **Friday December 12th** - School Interview Portal Opens at 10.00 a.m.
- **Friday December 12th** - 2026 Booklist Portal Orders Close
- **Tuesday December 16th** - School Council Meeting
- **Friday December 19th** - Last Day of 2025 School—Dismissal 1.15 p.m.

2026

- **Monday, January 19th** - School Office is Open for Parent Contribution Payments and Lodging of C.S.E.F. Applications
- **Tuesday, January 20th** - School Office is Open for Parent Contribution Payments and Lodging of C.S.E.F. Applications
- **Wednesday, January 21st** - School Office is Open for Parent Contribution Payments and Lodging of C.S.E.F. Applications
- **Tuesday, January 27th** - Staff Resume for 2026
- **Wednesday, January 28th** - Start-Up Interviews
- **Thursday, January 29th** - All Students (Foundation to Year Six) Resume for 2026
- **Thursday, January 29th** - Foundation Students 12.30 p.m. Finish
- **Friday, January 30th** - Foundation Students 12.30 p.m. Finish

2026 Student Booklists

The Student Booklists for 2026 were sent home on Friday November 7th, the online ordering system opened on Monday November 10th. If your child did not bring home their booklist information please speak to their classroom teacher. Orders are required to be placed on-line with [Education Plus](#) by

Tomorrow - Friday December 12th 2025

Below are the codes for each year level for 2026

Foundation	CGP02026T
Year One	CGP12026V
Year Two	CGP22026R
Year Three	CGP32026G
Year Four	CGP42026Q
Year Five	CGP52026K
Year Six	CGP62026A



CGPS 2026 Start-Up Interviews– Wednesday 28th January

We are asking families to take the time to schedule interviews when it can work for you, using the link and/or QR code found below.

We will be holding our **2026 Start-Up Interviews on Wednesday 28th January**. Teachers look forward to meeting with you to begin the partnership to make for a successful 2026. It is an important opportunity to look at what we (teachers, parent/carer and child) can do together to ensure your child gains the most from the 2026 the school year.

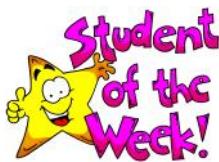
Please note:

Children will only attend school for the designated interview time on this day.

The below link/QR Code will open at 10am on Friday 12th December.

<https://www.schoolinterviews.com.au/code/cjyvg>





Congratulations to the following students on being named
Student of The Week
for their positive attitude to school and social values.

Friday December 5th

Foundation A (Hinton):

Logan B. - For writing some ho his digraphs during spelling.
Koah J. - For reading with expression.

Foundation B (Tonkin):

Evie S.-C. - For demonstrating quick thinking maths skills during our new card game.

Grade 1 (Leed-Martiniello):

Koah K. - For his excellent work during writing this week!
Braylen L. - For being such a helpful student in the classroom this week.
Luke M.-S. - For his great resilience during our mapping of Santa's Village maths activity!

Grade 1/2 A (Carroll-Dillon):

Elleanor G.-W. - For writing great arguments in her persuasive writing.
Well Done!

Charlie P. - For working well on his persuasive writing piece.

Grade 1/2 B (Ennor):

Maci H. - For using great expression on oral reading.
Mirabella N. - For working really hard in her sessions with Chris.

Grade 3/4 A (McKerrow):

Emily C. - For excellent work writing her narrative.
Skylah S. - For excellent work writing her narrative.

Grade 3/4 B (Ryan):

Nate B. - For his positive attitude on our excursion to SeaLife.
Layla B. - For writing excellent persuasive arguments.
Kiriianii B. - For her positive attitude on our excursion to SeaLife.
Scarlett L. - For writing excellent persuasive arguments.

Grade 5/6 A (Price):

Jakobe L. - For raising money for charity by cutting off his mullet.
Harrison R. - For great confidence in reading and comprehension.
Benjamin S. - For great confidence in reading and comprehension.

Grade 5/6 B (Windridge-Lee):

Jack B. - For enthusiastic singing of our Christmas song.
Seth B. - For working well on his book trailer.

SCHOOL ARRIVAL TIMES

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.

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

LOST PROPERTY

We have a large number of jumpers in lost property at the moment, unfortunately many items are un-named so makes it very difficult to return to owners. The Lost Property Basket is located outside the community centre to provide an opportunity for children, parents and carers to collect any missing uniform. We also remind families to please name all lunch boxes, drink bottles and clothing worn to school.





Delivering 1,000kg of free fruit to Bendigo school children every week

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[f](#) [in](#) [@](#)
 @mckernsteelfoundation

Made possible thanks to our Foundation Partners



Do you have a health care card? You could be eligible for Saver Plus.

For every dollar you save, you'll get a dollar from ANZ to spend on educational costs, up to \$500.

To join, you need to meet all of these requirements:

- ✓ Be 18 years or older
- ✓ Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- ✓ Have a child in school, starting school next year, or be studying yourself
- ✓ Get a regular income (can be you or your partner)
- ✓ Agree to join in free online financial education workshops



1300 610 355 saverplus.org.au



California Gully Primary School

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

Fridays
 9.30-11.30am
 Staley Street, California Gully

Morning tea provided
 Enrolments essential

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

SESSION TIMES
WEDNESDAYS
 SESSION 1: 7-10YRS 6:10PM TO 7:00PM
 SESSION 2: 11-14YRS 7:10PM TO 8:00PM
 SESSION 3: 15-18YRS 8:10PM TO 9:00PM
SCHOOL TERMS ONLY
FRIDAYS
JUNIOR COMPETITION 6:45-8:30PM
SCHOOL TERMS ONLY

COME AND TRY

JUNIOR BADMINTON
 WHERE: 140 VICTORIA STREET, EAGLEHAWK
 AGES: 7-18
 FIRST TWO NIGHTS ARE FREE

TEXT 0478 435 301 TO ENQUIRE TODAY

Bendigo Eaglehawk Badminton Association Inc.

Respect * Personal Best * Care

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



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS SORTED



4 - 7 YEAR OLDS

A safe and fun program led by experienced AFL coaches, your child will learn basic footy skills, and enjoy mini-games, all while experiencing NAB AFL Auskick in a supportive environment, leaving with big smiles and a day of Good Clean Fun!

Children who turn 5 in 2026 can register!



8 - 12 YEAR OLDS

Get a taste of NAB AFL Superkick, with a mix of skill development, modified game play. See their confidence grow in a supportive environment where buddies, mud & fun collide!



Bendigo School Holiday Program
Monday 19th January at Harry Trott Oval
9am to 3pm - \$55 which includes a football
A day of footy fun!



**Holiday Camps
on sale now!**

Ages
5-13



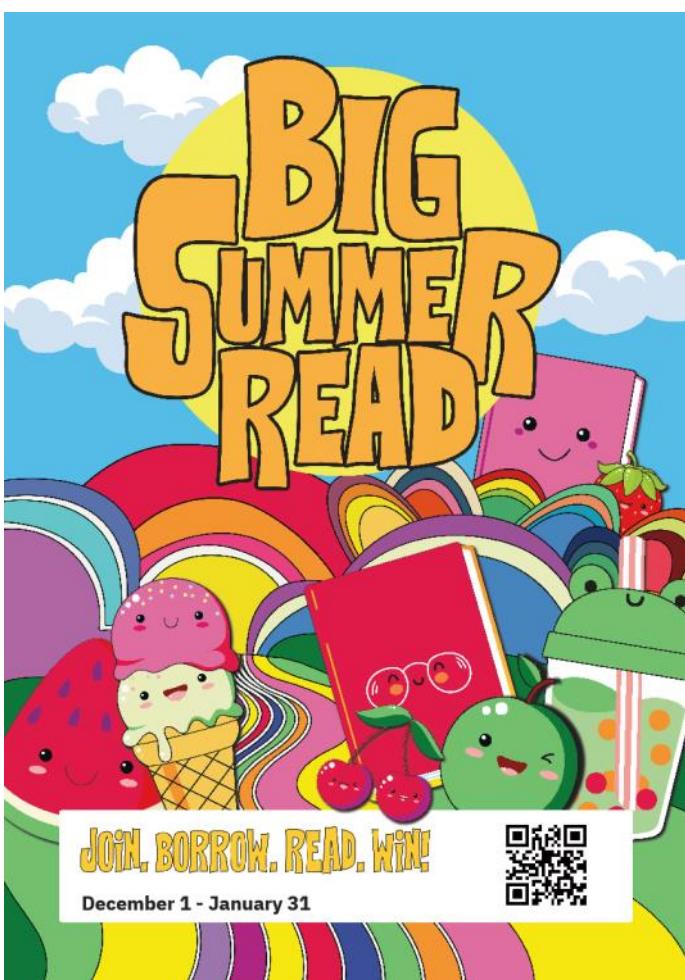
**MINECRAFT • ROBLOX • Coding
Robotics • Animation • Craft & more**

Book now at codecamp.com.au/flyer

SAVE \$25

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FLYER25 at checkout

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 GROUP



**Gratitude
Empathy
Mindfulness &
Emotional Literacy**



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





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CLOTHING

**2/1 Whip Court, Long Gully
California Gully Primary School**

	Garment	Kids Sizing	Adults Sizing
	Teal/Ink Navy/White Short Sleeve Polo	\$30.00	\$32.00
	Teal/Ink Navy/White Long Sleeve Polo	\$33.00	\$35.00
	Ink Navy Rugby Top	\$37.50	\$39.50
	Ink Navy 1/2 Zip Polar Fleece Jumper	\$39.50	\$42.00
	Navy Hooded Windcheater	\$38.00	\$40.00
	Ink Navy Double Knee Hemmed Track Pants	\$28.00	\$30.00
	Navy Bucket Hat		\$15.00
	Navy Broadbrim Hat		\$15.00

Our School Uniform supplier, Centavic Clothing, are pleased to offer an online uniform shop for California Gully Primary School through their website:

<https://www.centavicclothing.com.au/>

Parents can place an order for uniforms, with the option of paying online, over the phone or on the day of collection.

We advise that any students needing to try on uniform items book an appointment as due to the size of the storefront Centavic Clothing will be prioritising those with appointments when needed. This booking system can also be found on the Centavic Clothing website.

LA TROBE SPORT HOLIDAY CAMPS

LA TROBE MULTI-SPORTS CAMPS (AGES 6+)

REGISTER FOR THE SUMMER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS TODAY!

UP! UP! UP!

LA TROBE SPORT

Respect * Personal Best * Care

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





Victoria Summer School Holiday Program

For Young Carers

A Young Carer is a young person aged 4 to 25 who provides or intends to provide care, support or assistance for a family member affected by disability, chronic or mental illness, substance use, or frail age.

FREE

Our School Holiday Programs are designed for Young Carers to enjoy a day of social respite, meet fellow Young Carers and participate in a range of exciting activities. Young Carers must be registered for support with Little Dreamers to attend our Holiday Programs.

Metro West - Brimbank Tuesday 13 January 9:30am - 3:30pm Ages 6-16	Movies, Bowling and Laser Tag Ready to strike up some fun? These school holidays, hit the lanes, lock in your laser tag team, and kick back with the coolest flicks on the big screen – it's the ultimate triple play of excitement! Whether you're chasing strikes, dodging lasers, or diving into cinematic adventures, we've got everything you need for a reel-y good time. Lunch and snacks are supplied. Transport is provided to the activity only. Please bring a filled water bottle and wear clothes that you feel comfortable moving in. Bookings are essential.	
Online Wednesday 14 January 10:00am - 12:00pm Ages 6 - 12 1:00pm - 3:00pm Ages 13 - 17	Feathers, Fur and Scales Jump online and get ready to snap up some knowledge as you meet some scaly, slinky, and sensational animal stars. From turtles with attitude to snakes that steal the show, you'll experience and reconnect with nature through these wildly interactive online sessions. Please note: Young Carers living in Regional Victoria will be given preference. This program is held online over Zoom. You will need access to a computer or laptop and the internet. Bookings are essential.	
Regional - Ballarat Thursday 15 January 9:30am - 2:30pm Ages 6 - 16	Gold Rush Exploration Grab your hats and gold pans – we're heading back to the 1850s for a gold-plated adventure you won't forget! Join us for Gold Rush, where you'll step into a bustling goldfields town full of excitement, exploration, and a little old-time chaos. Lunch and snacks are supplied. Transport NOT provided. Please bring a filled water bottle and wear weather appropriate clothes that you feel comfortable in. Bookings are essential.	

For more information and any access requirements, please email vic@littledreamers.org.au or give us a call on 1800 717 515.



ESCAPE THE VAPE

The City of Greater Bendigo is working with partners on **Escape the Vape**, a project aimed at preventing and reducing the uptake of vaping among young people.

Alongside school-based education sessions delivered by Bendigo Community Health Services, we're developing a video resource to support parents, carers, and educators in helping young people navigate issues around vaping.

Your input is valuable, and we are asking you to please take a moment to complete the survey to help shape the resources.

You can complete the survey via the City's Let's Talk community engagement website at www.letstalkgreaterbendigo.com.au/escape-vape-project-survey or via the QR code below.

SCAN TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY

THE SURVEY IS OPEN UNTIL
FRIDAY DECEMBER 19, 2025



For more information, please contact
the City of Greater Bendigo's Senior
Health Promotion Officer Shannon Lacy
via email to s.lacy@bendigo.vic.gov.au



Respect * Personal Best * Care

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

Victoria Young Carer School Holiday Program

Regional - Bendigo

Tuesday 20 January
9:30am - 2:30pm
Ages 6 - 16

Roller Skating and Laser Tag

Skate your way into a wheely fun day and then tag along for an epic roller skating session! Kick back with roller skating – glide, groove, and maybe even roll into some new tricks. Then dive into a high-energy game of laser tag, where stealth, speed, and sharp aim will make you the MVP (Most Valuable Phaser).

Please note: This program is for Young Carers who live in the Loddon Mallee region. Lunch and snacks are supplied. Transport NOT provided. Please bring a filled water bottle and wear clothes that you feel comfortable moving in. Bookings are essential.



Metro City - Docklands

Wednesday 21 January
9:30am - 3:30pm
Ages 16 - 25

Ice Skating and Interactive Games

Get ready for a day full of cool moves and sneaky grooves! Join us for an action-packed program that kicks off with ice skating fun – glide, spin, and race your friends at the rink! After that, gear up for a real-life version of Among Us, where you'll complete tasks, uncover impostors, and test your detective skills in a thrilling, interactive game.

Please note: This program is for Young Carers aged 16 - 25 years. Lunch and snacks supplied. Transport NOT provided. Please bring a water bottle and wear clothes that you feel comfortable moving in. Bookings are essential.



Some of our Summer VIC School Holiday Programs are funded by the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH). Under this funding model, Young Carers are eligible for up to 20 hours of DFFH funded respite support with Little Dreamers each year.

Register today for upcoming VIC School Holiday Programs: bit.ly/VICSHPsummer25-26

For more information and any access requirements, please email vic@littledreamers.org.au or give us a call on 1800 717 515.



BENDIGO Foodshare POP-UP Christmas PANTRY

Bendigo Foodshare, with the support of local service clubs and community organisations, is providing free food relief this festive season to people doing it tough.

BRING A
SHOPPING
BAG!

Date	Times	Location
Monday 22 Dec 2025	Open at 1pm	St Paul's Cathedral Bendigo 8 Myers St, Bendigo (opposite Coles)
Tuesday 23 Dec 2025	Open at 1pm	Gateway Park Function Centre 28 High St, Kangaroo Flat
Monday 29 Dec 2025	Open at 1pm	St Paul's Cathedral Bendigo 8 Myers St, Bendigo (opposite Coles)
Tuesday 30 Dec 2025	Open at 1pm	California Gully Mechanics Institute Hall 8 School Street, California Gully VIC 3355



With support from the following service clubs



PLAY SOCCER WITH US IN 2026



Come & join Epsom Football Club! Anyone aged 4yrs+ can play! Whether you're new to soccer or a seasoned player, you'll find a safe, friendly and welcoming environment.



Our Expression of Interest form is now open
Complete our short form (link below or scan QR code) to get early access to all 2026 club info, from our Club Open Day, to registrations and training dates.

<https://forms.office.com/r/5UmDcRuSmd>



Ages 4 yrs & above

Non-competitive teams from Under 6 to Under 10

No experience necessary

Competitive teams from Under 12 to Under 16

Mixed & all-girls teams available

Youth (16-18yrs), Mens & Women's teams

Contact secretary@epsomfc.com.au or juniors@epsomfc.com.au for more information
www.epsomfc.com.au



Respect * Personal Best * Care

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

FREE



COMMUNITY FESTIVE MEAL EVENTS 2025

The City of Greater Bendigo is supporting festive community connections this December!

Through its Community Grants Program, the City has provided funding to local groups to host free community festive meal events, as well as food hampers and a pop-up food pantry to help households during the festive season.

These initiatives aim to strengthen community connections and promote inclusion—everyone is welcome to attend or access support.

What's happening:

- **Festive Meal Events** – Enjoy a free meal and connect with your community.
- **Food Hampers** – Available for those who need extra support.
- **Pop-Up Food Pantry** – Offering essential items to help ease festive season costs

Please make direct contact with the relevant group hosting the event or providing hampers/pantry services to confirm details and availability.

CITY OF GREATER BENDIGO

Sunday December 7, 3pm - 5pm
Sellicks Community Christmas Event

• Sellicks Public Hall

• 601 Sellicks Road, Sellicks

• secretary@sellickscommunity.org.au

• Phone 0343 769 862

Friday December 15, 4pm - 8pm
Christmas BBQ and Food Hampers

• Eaglehawk Uniting Church

• Peg Leg Road, Eaglehawk

• Phone 0452 657 525

Sunday December 21, 1pm - 3pm
Community Festive Meal Programs

• Y Service Club of Bendigo Inc.

• Strathdale Community Centre

• 155 Crock Street, Strathdale

• Phone 0469 800 463

Monday December 22 and 23, 1pm
Bendigo Foodshare Pop-Up Food Pantry

• St Pauls Cathedral, Bendigo

• Phone 5444 3409

Tuesday December 23, 1pm
Bendigo Foodshare Pop-Up Food Pantry

• Gateway Park Function Centre, Kangaroo Flat

• Phone 5444 3409

Thursday December 28, 1pm - 2pm
Community Christmas Lunch

• The Salvation Army

• 65-71 Mundy Street, Bendigo

• Phone 5440 8410

Tuesday December 29, 1pm
Bendigo Foodshare Pop-Up Food Pantry

• California Gully Mechanics Institute, California Gully

• Phone 5444 3409

9.30am

MAD COW Christmas Hampers for the Homeless Community

• St Pauls Church Hall

• 8 Myers Street, Bendigo

• Phone 0447 103 851

Monday December 18 to 22, 8am -

1pm

ELF ACADEMY

• OFFICIAL TRAINING FACILITY FOR SANTAS LITTLE HELPERS •

IT'S SNOW JOKE!

ELF ACADEMY IS RETURNING TO BENDIGO
MORE MAGICAL THAN EVER!

13-21 DECEMBER 2025

THEY'RE CHEEKY, CREATIVE & FULL OF JOY...
BUT DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT REALLY TAKES TO BE
ONE OF SANTA'S LITTLE HELPERS?

Through festive crafts, playful games, and elf-tastic challenges recruits will master the skills needed to join Santa's legendary crew, graduating with a Certificate IV in Elf Training!

13-21 December | Beehive Building | \$25 per person | \$100 per family
All activities included | Santa photography additional



BOOK NOW!

bendigoheritage.com.au
4444 2810 |

