

The Bell Topper

California Gully Primary School 123

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Thursday February 26th, 2026



CALIFORNIA GULLY PRIMARY SCHOOL - RARE DISEASE DAY FRIDAY MARCH 6th

Although it is officially this Saturday, February 28th, our JSC have locked in a date for our school community to recognize Rare Disease Day.

Next **Friday, March 6th** we will have a Casual Clothes day, this day raises awareness and support for the 300 million people around the world living with a rare disease, as well as their families and carers. You can wear a touch of, or fully dress in **purple, blue, green, or pink** to show your support and help raise money for Rare Disease Day.

We want to support this cause because people in our school and community are affected by rare diseases. Please bring a gold coin donation and give it to your classroom teacher on Friday(6th) morning. All money raised will go to the Rare Disease Day Foundation.

We can't wait to see a sea of purple, blue, green, and pink next Friday!

LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY- MONDAY MARCH 9th

A friendly reminder that Monday March 9th, is the Labour Day public holiday. Enjoy the extra day with family and friends.

2026 DAHLIA AND ARTS FESTIVAL - PARADE PARTICIPATION (SATURDAY MARCH 21st, STARTING AT 11.00 a.m.)

The Eaglehawk Dahlia and Arts Festival is fast approaching, and we are excited to be entering the Gala Parade once again. The theme this year is 'Harvest' and we are asking students to dress up as farmers, gardeners, or produce (fruit, vegetable, honey etc.).

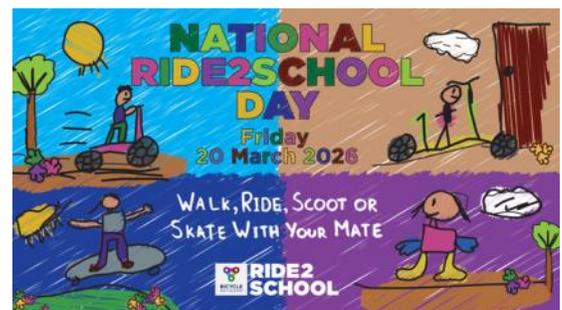
It is important to note that we will be **walking** the parade.

The 'Expression of Interest' form was sent out last week; we ask that you return it to school by Wednesday March 11th. We will provide further information around arrival times and meeting points over coming weeks.



NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY

National Ride2School Day will occur also occur on **Friday March 20th**, and is the perfect opportunity to kick-start new healthy habits and promote the many benefits of active travel. We encourage all students and their families to leave the car at home (or part way) and give riding, walking, scooting or skating to school a go. It's sure to be a fantastic day and we look forward to seeing you there!



Respect * Personal Best * Care

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





In partnership with the City of Greater Bendigo we will continue using 'Tag On' to support healthier and happier journeys to our school.

Tag On is a sign-in system that registers how and when students arrive at school every day. Each day your child will be able to use their tag to 'tag on' and select how they travelled to school via a touch screen kiosk. **They will earn house points every time they tag on, and an extra point towards their personal active travel tally if they walk, ride, scoot or catch public transport.** Through collecting points, students are motivated to travel in healthier, happier ways by participating in friendly house and class competitions.

We understand that some families cannot walk, ride or scoot to school regularly. The Tag On program allows all students the opportunity to participate by rewarding everyone that tags on with a house point. Remember 'Part Way is OK' – to create a safer environment for children directly outside the school gates, try to park in the surrounding streets and walk, ride or scoot the rest of the way.



NAPLAN 2026 (MARCH 11th—13th)

NAPLAN (the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) takes place each year for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. These assessments look at how students are progressing in Writing, Reading, Language skills (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

NAPLAN results give families and schools helpful information about each child's learning. They help teachers plan next steps in teaching and learning, and support conversations between parents/carers and schools about student progress.

Exemptions

Exemptions may be granted to students with significant disabilities and to students who have been learning English for less than one year. If your child is eligible for support due to disability or an exemption, you should discuss this with your classroom teacher. Parental consent is required before any support due to disability or exemption is provided.

While we strongly encourage all students to complete the NAPLAN tests, students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parents or carers. This is a matter for consideration by parents and carers in consultation with teachers. If, after consultation, you decide to withdraw your child, you must sign a Student Withdrawal Form prior to the test and have it approved by the school.

For more information about NAPLAN Online, please visit the VCAA website at www.vcaa.vic.edu.au or the NAP website at www.nap.edu.au.

Andrew Frawley
CGPS Principal



THE RESILIENCE PROJECT.

We're working with The Resilience Project

We're proud to be implementing TRP's evidence-based whole school wellbeing program. Students will engage in weekly lessons to understand and strengthen their practice of **Gratitude**, **Empathy**, **Mindfulness** and **Emotional Literacy**.

Gratitude



Gratitude involves recognising and expressing appreciation for the people, places and things in our lives. Practising gratitude allows us to pay attention to what we have, increasing feelings of happiness and leading to a more positive outlook on life.

Empathy



Empathy involves understanding others' feelings and perspectives and is practised through kindness, compassion and curiosity. Developing empathy fosters deeper connections, increases our likelihood of acting kindly, and helps us experience positive emotions.

Mindfulness



The practice of mindfulness is about an awareness of life as we are living it.

It allows us to be responsive to our experiences rather than being reactive, and to live with greater balance, presence and connection.

Emotional Literacy



Emotional Literacy involves learning to identify and label our emotions, as well as developing emotional regulation skills. When we can accurately name our feelings and emotions, it reduces the impact of uncomfortable emotions and enhances the effect of positive ones.

FOUND

Is your child missing their glasses? We have two pairs that were handed to staff late last year. If either pair belongs to your child you can collect them from the office.



Dates for the Diary

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday March 6th • Wednesday, March 4th • Monday March 9th • Wednesday March 11th • Thursday March 12th • Friday March 13th • Monday, March 16th • Tuesday March 17th • Friday March 20th • Wednesday, March 25th • Thursday April 2nd • Monday April 20th • Saturday April 25th | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rare Disease Day—Casual Clothes - Foundation Students Rest Day - Labour Day Public Holiday - NAPLAN Testing Years 3 and 5 - NAPLAN Testing Years 3 and 5 - NAPLAN Testing Years 3 and 5 - School Council Annual General Meeting - School Photo Day - Ride to School Day - Hot Cross Bun Order Forms Due Back - Last Day of Term One - First Day of Term Two - ANZAC Day |
|--|---|



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Congratulations to the following students
on being named
Student of The Week



for their positive attitude to school and
social values.

Friday February 20th

Foundation A (Hinton):

- Miriam E. - For excellent knowledge of characters and events in stories.
- Arlo G. - For showing interest in reading and learning his yellow sounds.

Foundation B (Tonkin):

- Navy G. - For always being ready to learn and attempting all learning tasks.
- Phoenix M. - For always putting up his hand and contributing to class discussions.

Grade 1/2 A (Carroll-Dillon):

- Alilyah O. - For her consistent effort with all areas of the curriculum.
- Milani R. - For her consistent effort with all areas of the curriculum.

Grade 1/2 B (Ennor):

- Levi A. - For working hard and staying focused. Well done.
- Hunter Y. - For working really hard in his Mini-Lit lessons, Well done.

Grade 1/C (Leed):

- Aiyannah B.-B. - For showing confidence in writing and maths lessons through giving all tasks a go independently
- Margot La B. - For completing her home reading and spelling every night of the week, as well as always working hard in all learning tasks.

Grade 3/4 A (McKerrow):

- Eli B. - For excellent work with his story writing.
- Austen L. - For excellent work with M.A.B. blocks.

Grade 3/4 B (Ryan):

- Ana Q. - For being a kind and welcoming and making new students feel included and valued.
- Shyannah S. - For her hard work using M.A.B. to practice renaming.

Grade 5/6 A (Price):

- Pippa McK. - For her confident and organized problem solving during Math.
- Rueben T. - For his great attitude and resilience during problem solving.

Grade 5/6 B (Reilly-Lee):

- Lachlan B. - For being such a great "helping hand", especially offering his dishwashing services on Pancake Day
- Mia B. - For showing kindness and a willingness to help others in our pancake making session.

Respect * Personal Best * Care





centavic
C L O T H I N G

**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.

Sadly we were advised on Tuesday February 10th, that Centavic Clothing will be closing after nearly 50 years supplying uniforms in Bendigo. Their last day of trade will be Friday March 27th. They will however be accepting orders up to Friday February 27th. We strongly encourage families to order as soon as possible.

We are currently looking for a new supplier and will let members of our school community know when this has been finalised.

**CSEF
(Camps, Sports & Excursion Fund)**

Applications are open for families who are Health Care Card holders to apply for this funding - forms are available from the school office if you haven't already completed one (please note only one application needs to be completed, all children in your family can be on the same form). When completing your application please bring along your current Health Care Card, this is needed for the application to be accepted. Your health Care Card needed to be valid on January 28th 2026 for you to be eligible.

If you are a Health Care Card holder please do not miss out on this funding.

Application Forms are available from the school office or return the copy that was in the Parent Contribution Booklets in November 2025.



DOGS CONNECT
RESTORING BALANCE

**Gratitude
Empathy
Mindfulness &
Emotional Literacy**



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Hot Cross Bun Drive

This year we are offering members of our school community the chance to order Hot Cross Buns supplied to us by the Eaglehawk Hot Bake.

There are two varieties available Traditional and Chocolate. The Traditional Hot Cross Buns come in a six pack for \$8.00 each and the Chocolate Hot Cross Buns come in a 4 pack for \$7.00 each.

Please have your orders and money returned to school by **Wednesday March 25th**. Delivery will be Wednesday April 1st.

Order forms will be sent home with the youngest child in the family at California Gully Primary School.



Celebrating 10 years

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

mckern steel foundation
 @mckernsteelfoundation

Made possible thanks to our Foundation Partners



Supported playgroup

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



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Every Day Counts.
Attending school every day means experiencing what counts - the learning, friendships, fun and opportunities that can shape their future.

The Education State

VICTORIA
State Government

REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

Commencing Sunday 29th March
9:00am - 10:00am
Canterbury Park Oval

10 week program
Coordinators: Cale Hinton and Taj Ferguson
supported by senior men, women and EJFC

Register online at
play.afl/club-finder-map
and search for Eaglehawk Auskick Centre



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
No experience necessary
Mixed & all-girls teams available

Non-competitive teams from Under 6 to Under 10
Competitive teams from Under 12 to Under 16
Youth (16-18yrs), Mens & Women's teams

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

JOIN US!

STRIKERS NETBALL CLUB

Would you like to play netball?
Looking for a competitive but fun and supportive club?

Come play with us in 2026!
new or experienced players welcome
Grade 3 and above

please contact us on
0475 915 450 | strikeretball@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook
@strikersnetball

SAVE THE DATE



Friday 15 May 2026
National Walk Safely to School Day

School Photo Information

Are you ready for 2026 school photos?

California Gully Primary School
Tuesday 17th March 2026

There's no need to do anything before photo day.

Further details will be provided when portrait and group images are ready.



Student access codes and order details will be provided to you when images are ready to view and purchase online.

Arthur Reed Photos Pty. Ltd.
A.S.N. 49 529 496 590
Telephone: 030 5243 4390
Enquiries: customerservice@arphotos.com.au



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COME & TRY CLASSES

Calisthenics combines **dancing, movement, flexibility, strength and performance** all in one exciting class! Build confidence, make new friends and have fun while learning skills that last a lifetime.

All classes held at: Strathdale Community Centre, Crook St, Strathdale

Tinies (3–7 years) – Wednesdays 4:15–5:30 pm
Sub Juniors (8–10 years) – Mondays 4:15–6:30 pm
Juniors (11–13 years) – Thursdays 4:15–6:30 pm
Intermediates (14–17 years) – Mondays 6:30–8:30 pm
Seniors (17+ years) – Tuesdays 6:30–9:30 pm
Masters (26+ years) – Wednesdays 6:30–9:30 pm

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME
 Two FREE Come & Try Classes!

For enquiries: admin@bendigocalisthenics.com
 Find us on Facebook: [Bendigo Calisthenics Club Inc](#)



Build your life-changing savings skills.

And get up to \$500 for education costs.

1300 610 355
saverplus.org.au




Mother's Day Classic

Kids Go FREE*
 UNTIL 1 MARCH, 2026

WALK OR RUN FOR BREAST AND OVARIAN CANCER RESEARCH
 MOTHER'S DAY - SUNDAY 10 MAY, 2026
 REGISTER ONLINE: MOTHERSDAYCLASSIC.COM.AU



JOIN BUNJIL BASKETBALL CLUB

2026 SEASON STARTING SOON

BOYS & GIRLS | AGES 8-17

- Primary & Secondary Students Welcome
- All Skill Levels – Beginners to Experienced Players

WHY PLAY BUNJIL?

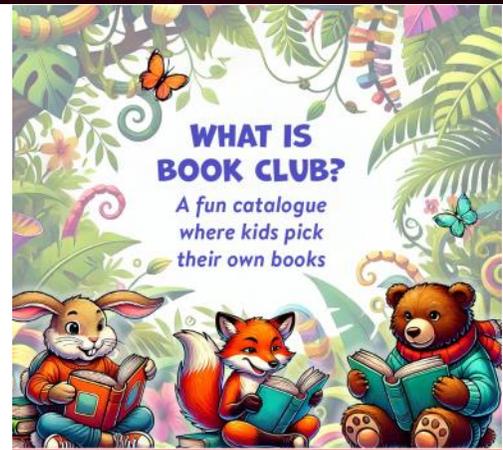
- Inclusive & supportive club community
- Skill development & team pathways
- Build confidence, teamwork & fitness

U10 | U12 | U14 | U16 | U18 | Men & Women

REGISTER NOW

✉ [Maddie Clarke](mailto:MaddieClarke) | maddyclarke@live.com.au

PLAY PROUD. PLAY STRONG. PLAY BUNJIL.



WHAT IS BOOK CLUB?

A fun catalogue where kids pick their own books

SCHOLASTIC **BookClub**



EAGLEHAWK JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN!

SEASON 2026

U9 Mixed U10 Mixed
 U12 Boys U12 Girls
 U15 Girls

ejfc.com.au

Multi-player family discounts available







Must Start by 31 March
Secure Your Place

4 Weeks of Childcare
FREE*

Enquire Now!

- Safe and welcoming environment
- Experienced educators
- Engaging learning environments
- Regular incursions & excursions

*T&C's Apply






Slap! on your hat
and Slop! on sunscreen,
when the UV is 3 or above.

Even on cool and cloudy days.

In Victoria, UV is 3 and above generally from mid-August to the end of April.

sunsmart.com.au

Use all five forms of sun protection

- Slip
- Slop
- Slap
- Seek
- Slide

A partnership between:





Being SunSmart in Victoria

When UV is 3+

- Slip** on covering clothing
- Slop** on SPF50, broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen
- Slap** on a broad-brimmed hat
- Seek** shade
- Slide** on sunglasses (AS:1067)

Think UV, not heat! UV rays can't be seen or felt and can damage your skin on cool or cloudy days.

When UV is below 3 Sun protection isn't required unless you are outdoors for extended periods or near reflective surfaces, such as snow.



Download the SunSmart Global UV app to find sun protection times for your location.

March 2023

Scan the QR code or visit sunsmart.com.au/app to download.




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

saverplus

1300 610 355 saverplus.org.au



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