FROM THE PRINCIPAL

WELCOME

I would like to welcome our school community back for the 2016 school year. We have a number new students and our current enrolment is 128. I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all of our new students and families and trust they will enjoy being a part of the California Gully Primary School community. Our teachers are well organized and have ensured students have had a smooth start to the year and are back into the school routine. The teachers have reflected positively on the parent/student/teacher meetings indicating it was informative and a great way to make initial connection with families. If you were unable to attend your meeting I encourage you to speak to your child’s classroom teacher at the earliest convenience. Clear communication is crucial to the development of relationships throughout the school community.

CALIFORNIA GULLY PRIMARY SCHOOL SKOOLBAG APP

Don’t forget install the school’s Skoolbag App. We are using the Skoolbag regularly now to update the whole-school or individual grades about events and important information. A couple of benefits include the newsletter being forwarded on a weekly basis and parents being able to complete eForms for days absent and change of details when required. The following link provides details of how to install the app.


Important Reminder

- Student Charges Payments for 2016 Due - Friday February 5th
- Family Picnic Tea - Thursday February 11th 6.00 p.m.
- Breakfast Program Commences for 2016 - Friday February 12th

MISSION

At California Gully Primary School we educate students to be lifelong learners and well informed and productive community members who are well prepared to become active, engaged and responsible citizens of the local and global community.

Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday February 5th</td>
<td>Student Charges Payments Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday February 8th</td>
<td>School Council Meeting, 7.00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday February 10th</td>
<td>Prep Students Rest Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday February 11th</td>
<td>Family Picnic Tea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday February 12th</td>
<td>Breakfast Program Commences for 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday February 17th</td>
<td>Prep Students Rest Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday February 24th</td>
<td>Prep Students Rest Day</td>
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</tbody>
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Every Tuesday and Friday 8.30 a.m. - 8.55 a.m.
Library Open for borrowing and returning books and quiet reading

Every Wednesday 9.30 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.
Playgroup

Every Friday 8.00 a.m. - 8.20 a.m.
Breakfast Program

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School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS
All school councils in Victoria operate under the Education and Training Reform Act 2006. The school council has particular functions in setting and monitoring the school’s direction. School councils have three main responsibilities:
Finance – overseeing the development of the school’s annual budget and ensuring proper records are kept of the school’s financial operation.
Strategic Planning – participating in the development and monitoring of the school strategic plan.
Policy Development and Review – developing, reviewing and updating policies that reflect a school’s values and support the school’s broad direction outlined in its strategic plan.
For 2016 school council elections must be completed by March 24th.

School Council Nominations
The following timetable outlines our school election procedure. Nomination forms can be collected from the office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTION PROCESS AND TIMETABLE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Notice of election and call for nominations</td>
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<tr>
<td>b) Closing date for nominations</td>
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<tr>
<td>c) Date by which the list of candidates and nominees will be posted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>e) Close of ballot</td>
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<tr>
<td>e) March School Council Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>First council meeting to elect office bearers.</td>
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</table>

Vacancies for 2015 include 3 parent representatives, 1 staff representatives and 1 community members.

School Council
Our first school council meeting will be held next Monday, February 8th, starting at 7.00 pm.

CODE RED DAYS
What happens on a Code Red Day?
Schools, kindergartens and licensed child care centres that have been identified as being at high fire risk and on the Department’s Bushfire At-Risk Register will close on days determined Code Red by the Emergency Management Commissioner. California Gully Primary School and our Out of Hours School Care (OHSC) program are both on the register.

Where possible, four to seven days notice of a planned closure will be provided; parents and carers should, however, expect that in some instances fewer than 4 days notice may be provided.

Once a Code Red day has been determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner this decision will not change – regardless of any changes in the weather forecast. This will help limit confusion and help your family plan for how your children will be cared for when their school and OHSC facility are closed.

When a school or children’s service is closed due to a Code Red day determination, no staff will remain on site.

VICTORIAN SCHOOL TERM DATES FOR 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1 – 27th January – 24th March</th>
<th>Term 2 – 11th April – 24th June</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 3 – 11th July – 16th September</td>
<td>Term 4 – 3rd October – 20th December</td>
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Jason Lee
Principal
Parents’ Club Meeting
The next meeting will be held on a day and time to be confirmed in the conference room.

Second-hand Uniforms Wanted
Parents’ Club want to start a Second-hand Uniform Store. If you have any unused uniforms including track pants, hats, plain polo’s you would like to donate please bring them to the school office.

Contacting the Parents’ Club
If you wish to contact the Parents’ club have an email address which is cgpsparentsclub@gmail.com.

Welcome back to all existing and new parents to California Gully Primary School for 2016. My name is Kerryn Phillips I am the Primary Well Being officer. I will be at school all day on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. I will be moving around the school in the first couple of weeks getting to know the students.

If you require assistance with school uniform requirements please contact me on the days I am here or leave a message at the school office and Nicole will pass the message on.

My overall role is to support students, families and the teachers within the school environment and the community. I hope to use my experience and knowledge to help make the school an even happier and safer place to be.

I will also be helping out with the lunch time program from 1.40 p.m. to 2.00 p.m. on the days I am at school.

I am available to catch up with students, parents and families on a broad range of matters including friendships, separation, grief and loss. I can be contacted on the school number, 5446 8393. If I am not available leave a message, I’ll get back to you.

Kerryn Phillips

School Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 8th - February 12th</td>
<td>School Council Meeting</td>
<td>School Banking Day - Bendigo Bank</td>
<td>Prep Students Not Required at School</td>
<td>Family Picnic Tea</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 15th - February 19th</td>
<td>School Banking Day - Bendigo Bank</td>
<td>Prep Students Not Required at School</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 22nd - February 26th</td>
<td>Prep Students Not Required at School</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 29th - March 4th</td>
<td>School Banking Day - Bendigo Bank</td>
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School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
Food, Glorious Food

The following recommendations are part of our - Kids ‘Go for your life’ program at school: -

- Children are encouraged to drink water only at school.
- Children should bring drink bottles filled with water only into class.
- Fruit and vegetables should be included in lunch boxes everyday.
- Chips, twisties, noodles, biscuits and high sugar drinks are considered to be occasional food and should not be in lunch boxes.

Please note that during the break at 11.30 am the children are only permitted to eat nutritious food such as sandwiches, wraps, dairy foods, fruit and vegetables. Any occasional food that they bring can be eaten at the 1.30 pm break.

In the past some children have informed us that they are responsible for packing their own lunches and this may explain why we sometimes see lunch boxes with too much occasional food (chips and twisties mainly), and not enough healthy food in them.

The children have been informed that these occasional foods are not suitable as they:

- are very low in nutritional value
- are high in saturated fat and/or sugar and/or added salt.
- provide excess kilojoules

After revising the Healthy Food Pyramid and discussing the school’s policy on healthy eating with the children, we are now also asking for your support. We need to ensure that the children are ready and able to learn each day by them having the necessary fuel (provided by good food) to keep them alert and receptive to learning.

PARKING AROUND SCHOOLS

Parking and Animal Services from the City of Greater Bendigo have contacted our school and requested that the following information be conveyed to our school community.

The illegal parking of vehicles adjacent to our school poses a safety concern to children, pedestrians and other road users. Parents are reminded that it is essential to comply with parking restrictions when dropping off and collecting children from school.

Motorists must not stop in no stopping areas, even briefly, with or without the motor running. They must not stop next to a continuous yellow edge line, on resident’s nature strips, too close to school crossings, park over driveways or double park. A number of schools have short term time restricted areas, such as 2 minute pick up drop off. These parking areas are in place to allow for ease of access close to schools and these restrictions must be adhered to. Drivers should also be aware that they cannot perform a U-turn over an unbroken or continuous dividing line.

With regard to children’s crossings, the law requires that a driver approaching a children’s crossing must drive at a speed at which the driver can, if necessary stop safely before the crossing. Please slow down and take extra care when driving in school zones.

City of Greater Bendigo Parking Officers and Bendigo Police do conduct random patrols throughout the school year at various locations to ensure that motorists are adhering to the Road Rules.

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
GREAT TIPS FOR HEALTHY KIDS

TIP 19. PORTION SIZE MATTERS

Some kids eat more than others, depending on their energy needs, their age and their size. For example, a small eight-year-old will probably eat less than a larger ten-year-old. Kids go through periods where they need more food than usual. They may be going through a growth spurt, or being more physically active. They also go through periods when they eat less than usual. Be aware of your child’s differing needs at different times and continue to serve nutritious meals.

What you can do NOW

- Keep servings small and have more available if they want more.
- Be less concerned with the amount your kids eat and focus on the type of food your offer.

Top Tip

Don’t insist your child finishes everything on the plate if they feel full. Let them learn to read their own body’s signals.

Good idea!

Keep a ‘snack box’ in the fridge with healthy snack foods such as fruit, vegetables, small sandwiches and cubes of reduced-fat cheese. Invite your kids to help themselves. This helps give you some idea of how much they’re eating between meals.

Cool Summer Snacks for the Kids!

Cantaloupe Boats
Ingredients:
1 wedge of cantaloupe (or rockmelon)
2 tablespoons of fruit yoghurt
1/2 cup of seedless grapes

Method:
Scoop seeds out of the rockmelon. Put the wedge of rockmelon in a bowl. Spread yoghurt on the cantaloupe and decorate with grapes. Chill in the refrigerator before serving.

SUMMER FRUITS

Summer sees the arrival of all sorts of colourful yummy fruits such as:

- Apricots
- Nectarines
- Peaches
- Cherries
- Honeydew
- Melon
- Passion fruit
- Berries
- Watermelon
- Mangos
- Pineapple

Encourage variety by buying different fruits each week. Fruits in season will be sweet, juice and cheap!

Benefits of fruit:
- It is a great source of fibre.
- Creates a positive mood.
- It tastes great.
- Sweet tasting for children’s taste preferences.
- Can be incorporated into many yummy recipes!!
ANNUAL ‘HELP THE CHICKENS’ MONTH

Our girls are busy laying lots of eggs, $2.50 a dozen. See Wendy in the grade 3/4A room.

PLAYGROUP

Let’s get together and build on friendships.
Wednesdays
9.30 a.m. - 11.30 p.m.
in the Outside School Hours Care room.

Please bring along a piece of fruit to share.
We follow the healthy eating guidelines and encourage the SunSmart messages that are taught to the students at school, to provide a great foundation for future students.
Session dates and activities:
To Be Confirmed

For information of what events are coming up in playgroup please visit the school website Playgroup page.

Join us on Facebook: www.facebook/calgullyplaygroup1

OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Monday to Friday 3.15 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

- Available for all parents of California Gully Primary School
- Affordable
- Childcare in a safe and secure environment
- Providing interesting activities for all children
- Permanent/Casual Bookings available
- Emergency bookings always available

Mrs. Paton

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
The Girls' Brigade Bendigo is part of an international movement which works with girls in culturally relevant and fun ways, supporting families and serves in the community through local Christian churches. GB has been around since 1893; since 1924 in Australia & since 1974 in Bendigo!

The well planned program by trained and passionate leaders covers a wide range of activities and engages the physical, mental and spiritual growth of the girls.

Starting with a simple format, the program develops into a wider field of work, leading onto the full range of subjects and projects including the Duke of Edinburgh and Queen’s Award (the highest GB international youth award). These present an exciting challenge when girls get to be teenagers. Girls are also encouraged to take part in Life Skills & Leadership Training within GB & GB offers opportunities for travel both around Australia and the world.

**What do we meet?**

- **Monday nights (School terms)**
  - Years prep - 5: $3/6-7pm
  - Years 6 - 12: 7-9:30pm
  - Bendigo Baptist Church 757 McIvor Haway Junwton

**Cost** $100/yr

More info?

Jenny McWilliam

0429 397 557 or bendigoab@gmail.com

www.gbvic.org

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**School Assembly** starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
Don’t forget to check out the school’s website www.californiagullyps.vic.edu.au

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