The Bell Topper

Volume 33 No. 1

Don’t forget to check out the school’s website www.californiagullyps.vic.edu.au

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.

WELCOME

I would like to welcome our school community back for the 2015 school year. We have a number new students and our current enrolment is 135. 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 organised 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 the 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 our school.

CALIFORNIA GULLY PRIMARY SCHOOL SKOOLBAG APP

We are always looking at ways of improving our communication with the school community. As a result we have signed up with Skoolbag and now have our own school app. Skoolbag provides us with an easy way to tell parents/carers everything you need to know, and it will provide parents with the most convenient way to receive school notifications.

The school Mobile App communicates directly with iPhone, and Android devices. The app has only recently been configured and we are currently creating content categories. Parents can add the School Mobile App to their phone at any time. Once fully operational you will receive and be able to access: alerts, upcoming events, newsletters, information pages, permission notes, links to website pages, parent eForms for sick note/absent and change of details and much more. The following link provides details of how to install the app. http://www.skoolbag.com.au/forparents.php

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 2015 school council elections must be completed by March 31st.

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
The following timetable outlines our school election procedure. Nomination forms can be collected from the office.

**SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTION PROCESS AND TIMETABLE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Notice of election and call for nominations</td>
<td>Friday, 6 February 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Closing date for nominations</td>
<td>Friday, 13 February 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be posted</td>
<td>Friday, 20 February 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed.</td>
<td>On or before Thursday, 26 February 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) Close of ballot</td>
<td>Thursday, 5 March 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) March School Council Meeting First council meeting to elect office bearers</td>
<td>Monday, 16 March 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vacancies for 2015 include 4 parent representatives, 2 staff representatives and 2 community members.

**2015 TERM 1, WEEK 1**

Our first school council meeting will be held next Monday, February 9\(^{th}\), starting at 7.30 pm. (Finance Subcommittee meeting at 7 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 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th>Term 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28(^{th}) January – 27(^{th}) March</td>
<td>13(^{th}) April – 26(^{th}) June</td>
<td>13(^{th}) July – 18(^{th}) September</td>
<td>5(^{th}) October – 18(^{th}) December</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Jason Lee*
Principal

**DAHLIA and ARTS Procession**

Parent helpers needed.

We are having a **planning** meeting next Monday 7\(^{th}\) Feb at 3.30pm in the new building. We would welcome your input.

Annette Peacock and Kathryn Hinton

*School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!*
Parents’ Club Meeting
The Annual General Meeting was postponed last year do to unforeseen circumstances. This meeting has been re-scheduled for early 2015.

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

SCHOOL CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 9th - February 13th</td>
<td>School Council Meeting</td>
<td>Prep Students Not Required at School</td>
<td>School Banking Day</td>
<td>Breakfast Program Commences for 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 16th - February 20th</td>
<td>Prep Students Not Required at School</td>
<td>Prep Students Not Required at School</td>
<td>School Banking Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 23rd - February 27th</td>
<td>Prep Students Not Required at School</td>
<td>Prep Students Not Required at School</td>
<td>School Banking Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2nd - March 6th</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>School Banking Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 Advised

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

Join us on Facebook: www.facebook/calgullyplaygroup1

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
HEALTHY LIVING

GREAT TIPS FOR HEALTHY KIDS

TIP 35. GRAINS AND CEREALS ARE GREAT
Grains and cereals are foods like rice, pasta, breads and breakfast cereals and popcorn. The grains come from plants to begin with and then they’re processed for eating. Grains and cereals contain carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals and kids need plenty of them every day to give them energy. The best grains are “whole grains”, which means they still have their fibre attached. For example, brown rice is wholegrain, while white rice is a refined grain because the outer bran fibre has been removed.

What you can do NOW
♦ Serve wholegrain breads rather than white as often as possible.
♦ Avoid buying refined grain foods, such as biscuits, cakes, pizzas, pancakes and doughnuts.

Good Idea!
When you cook a stew or casserole, add some wholegrain cereal (e.g. rice, couscous, pasta or barley) to extend the meal and to add the extra nutrients in grains and cereals.

Top Tip
A wholegrain or wholegrain roll or a slice of bread wrapped around a banana makes a great healthy snack for kids.

MARKETS AND FESTIVALS...
There are many food festivals and markets happening all around Australia. Take advantage of the excellent summer weather and take the kids to explore, share in and celebrate home grown food. Many markets allow exposure to different cultures through food tastings, from contemporary to traditional foods. Children have the opportunity to touch, taste and smell a variety of fresh seasonal produce prior to being processed and packaged away on the supermarket shelves. Many of these markets also provide children’s activities and even hands-on cooking classes.

There is a great range of fresh fruit and vegetables available to purchase along with local products such as olive oils, cheeses and breads just to name a few. Involving children in choosing fresh fruit and vegetables also helps encourage them to eat it.

For information on markets, events, festivals and expos in your area visit Australian Markets & Fairs at www.marketsandfairs.com.au

EGGS FOR SALE
Our girls are busy laying lots of eggs, $2.50 a dozen. See Wendy in the grade 4/5A room.

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

Celebrating Mathematics at California Gully Primary School

This year our school is going to celebrate 100 days of Maths in Term 3.

On Monday we celebrated our first day of Maths for 2015. Each day we will put up a sheet in the undercover area for the children to contribute their thoughts about the number of the day. Here is our first effort for the year. You may like to help your child prepare ideas to add to our number sheet. Next week we will be celebrating the numbers 6 to 10.

Personal Development and Social Skills
For the next two weeks classrooms will be focusing on the following three aspects of our Personal Development and Social Skills program:

- Classroom rules
- Goal setting
- Our school values of Respect, Personal Best and Care.

Activities in the classrooms will assist the children to develop skills in these areas.

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

City of Greater Bendigo Whipstick Ward Meetings
Ward Councillors – Mayor Peter Cox, Lisa Ruffell and James Williams
7pm - 8.30pm

Meeting time and date may be subject to change. To confirm, please visit www.bendigo.vic.gov.au

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Huntly</td>
<td>Monday February 16</td>
<td>Huntly Hall, 647 Midland Highway, Huntly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epsom</td>
<td>Monday March 2</td>
<td>Epsom Primary School, Howard Street, Epsom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goornong</td>
<td>Monday April 20</td>
<td>Goornong Hall, Railway Place, Goornong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eaglehawk</td>
<td>Monday May 4</td>
<td>Eaglehawk Town Hall, Council Chamber Cnr Sailors Gully Road and Peg Leg Road, Eaglehawk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raywood</td>
<td>Monday May 18</td>
<td>Raywood Hall, Inglewood Street, Raywood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bendigo</td>
<td>Monday 1 June</td>
<td>Bendigo Library, Activity Rooms 1 &amp; 2 259 Hargreaves Street, Bendigo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Hills</td>
<td>Monday June 29</td>
<td>White Hills Football Club, clubrooms Scott Street, White Hills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodvale</td>
<td>Monday July 27</td>
<td>Woodvale Hall, Daly’s Road, Woodvale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neilborough</td>
<td>Monday August 17</td>
<td>Neilborough Hall, Murchison Street, Neilborough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sebastian</td>
<td>Monday August 31</td>
<td>Sebastian Hall, Sebastian Road, Sebastian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Gully</td>
<td>Monday September 14</td>
<td>Long Gully Pavilion, Cunneen Street, Long Gully</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Bendigo</td>
<td>Monday October 12</td>
<td>North Bendigo Pavilion, North Bendigo Recreation Reserve, Atkins Street, North Bendigo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eaglehawk</td>
<td>Monday October 26</td>
<td>Eaglehawk Town Hall, Council Chamber Cnr Sailors Gully Road and Peg Leg Road, Eaglehawk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bendigo</td>
<td>Monday November 16</td>
<td>Bendigo Library, Activity Rooms 1 &amp; 2 259 Hargreaves Street, Bendigo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Need help managing stress or anxiety?
If your child or teen has difficulties with anxiety or just seems to have too many worries, we would like to introduce you to BRAVE Self-Help – an interactive, online program for the prevention and treatment of childhood and adolescent anxiety. It was developed by a group of researchers from the University of Queensland and now, with the support of beyondblue, this program is now freely available to all young people aged 8 -17 years old who are living in Australia. BRAVE Self-Help provides strategies for children and teenagers to better cope with their worries. There are 4 programs available, one for children aged 8-12 years, one for teenagers aged 12-17 years and one for parents of children at these ages respectively. The program can be accessed as often as you like, from the comfort of your own home. For more information, or to register for the program, please visit www.brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au.

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
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.

Eaglehawk Junior Football Club are seeking boys and girls for the upcoming 2015 football season. We field teams from Under 9 right through to Under 16 and Youth girls.
The registration day will be held on Sunday 15th February from 11am until 2pm at the Canterbury Park Oval. On the day coaches and committee members will be present to answer any questions you may have. We will be conducting a sausage sizzle and a boot swap where you can leave outgrown boots or pick up a pair which will fit you for the new season. For further enquiries contact the club president – Graeme Heinrich on 0499 605 355 or visit our website.

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

**South Bendigo Junior Football Club**

South Bendigo Junior Football Club is calling for past, current and any new players to pre register for season 2015 in all age groups U9 – U16

Come and join the exciting transition to our new home ground at Harry Trott Oval in Kennington, with major redevelopment of the ground and facilities planned over the next 3 years it will be one of Central Victoria’s premier football grounds.

**Junior registration day will be February 15th 2015**

To pre register please contact Damian Miles via email milesdt@ijnet.net.au
Mobile: 0423 828837

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
The Breakfast Program for 2015 will re-commence

Friday February 13th

California Gully Primary School

Join us at our weekly Breakfast Program

Every Friday from 8 a.m. to 8.20 a.m.

Thanks to Empowering Eaglehawk, The Eaglehawk Football Club and the Peter Krenz Leisure Centre/YMCA we have a community breakfast program for all families (parents are more than welcome to attend) and staff of California Gully. The community breakfast program commences for 2015 Friday February 13th at 8 a.m. (please note that we will stop serving breakfast at 8.20 a.m.). Sharing in breakfast together, what a great way for our school community to start to start the day!

We would also like to acknowledge the assistance of Roger King’s IGA in Eaglehawk for providing the food for the breakfast.

Term 1, 2015

When: Thursday 19th February - 26th March 2015
Time: Arrival and registration 9.15am
      Sessions 9.30am - 11.30am
Where: CatholicCare Sandhurst Noel Daly room, 176-178 McCrae St, Bendigo
Cost: $20 for program (no charge for health care card recipients)
Child Care: Sorry, child care is not provided
Facilitators: Barb Webb and Linda Lynch
Parking: No on site parking available - please park in surrounding streets

For bookings and enquiries phone Ky Gregg on 5438 1300

Groups are subject to minimum and maximum numbers. Early registration is encouraged.