

The Bell Topper

California Gully Primary School 123

Volume 44 No. 22

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 July 16th, 2026

TERM THREE - WELCOME

We welcome back CGPS families to begin Term 3. We look forward to another very positive term as all children continue to always show Respect, achieve their Personal Best, demonstrate Care for themselves and those around them.



NO ASSEMBLY FRIDAY JULY 17th - TOMMORROW

Please note that we will not be holding an assembly tomorrow, our first assembly for Term 3 will occur next Friday July 24th, at 3pm.

2027 FOUNDATION (PREP) ENROLMENTS AT CALIFORNIA GULLY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Thank you to parents who have let us know their child will be starting (Foundation) Prep next year. We encourage families to contact the school if they have a child starting school. It is important to note that there is an application form that must be filled out prior to enrolment forms and needs to be completed by July 31st. Please call into the office to collect the application form and then return it by **Friday July 31st**.

AEU - STOP WORK

As most would now be aware an agreement between the state government and AEU members is not yet in place and the dispute remains unresolved. This means AEU members at CGPS may be stopping work for 24 hours on Thursday July 23rd, 2026. We will provide further communication early next week on any impact for CGPS students on this day. We have attached a more detailed document with the newsletter this week. This is an ever-evolving situation and hopefully a resolution isn't far away.

CHILD SAFETY AND WELL-BEING AT CALIFORNIA GULLY PRIMARY SCHOOL: INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES AND THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

California Gully Primary School is committed to providing an environment where students are safe and feel safe.

Our child safety framework includes policies, codes and procedures that explain how we support and maintain the safety and wellbeing of our students and protect them from harm. These documents are available on our website: <https://www.californiagullyps.vic.edu.au>

We are also committed to continuous improvement of our child safety framework. We are currently reviewing our child safety policies and practices to ensure they are up-to-date and effective.

Our students and families are important partners in this process. We welcome your feedback or ideas on ways we can improve our approach to child safety and wellbeing

If you have any suggestions or comments, please contact California Gully Primary School on 03 5446 8393 or at california.gully.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

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





COLD, FLU AND COVID HYGIENE

The challenging times around infectious diseases has remained over the break with a high number of families (Students and Teachers) reporting a range of illness over the holiday period and continue to impact the health of many communities.

If your child is unwell please keep them home and also make contact with the school to inform.

Illnesses such as the common cold, flu and Covid are easily transmittable, and we need healthy kids and teachers at school. We understand this is a difficult time although keeping everyone healthy is a priority.

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.

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.

Andrew Frawley
CGPS Principal

Dates for the Diary



- **Monday July 20th** - School Council Meeting
- **Thursday July 23rd** - Gym Program
- **Thursday July 23rd** - Book Club Issue Five Orders Due
- **Friday July 24th** - Passions and Pathways Session One – Grades Five and Six
- **Friday July 31st** - Applications for Foundation 2027 Due
- **Tuesday August 11th** - Year Seven 2027 Acceptance Forms Due Back to the School Office.
- **Thursday August 6th** - Gym Program
- **Thursday August 13th** - Gym Program
- **Thursday August 20th** - Passions and Pathways Session Two – Grades Five and Six
- **Friday September 11th** - Passions and Pathways Session Three – Grades Five and Six

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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>



Running for over a decade, the program now delivers 1,300kg of free fruit to Bendigo school children every week.

mckern steel foundation
f in @mckernsteelfoundation

Made possible thanks to McKern Foundation and our supporting partners:

BlueScope	JL King & CO	FURPHY GALVANIZING	IMPACT-A	Adroit Insurance & Risk
Bendigo Community Health Services	DOBELI ELECTRICAL & MORE	red energy arena	McKean McGregor	AGNICO EAGLE
M'GREG air conditioning	KIESER PHYSIO KIDZ STRENGTH	Bendigo Telco	DLO	Your business here

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

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](#)





Congratulations to the following students
on being named



Student of The Week

for their positive attitude to school and social values.

Friday June 26th

Foundation A (Hinton):

- Heather M. - For showing increased confidence when reading.
Louie R. - For listening carefully for the ending sounds in words.

Foundation B (Tonkin):

- Alexander H. - For making attempts at reading with expression.
Phoenix M. - For contributing more confidently during class discussions.

Grade 1/2 A (Carroll-Dillon):

- Austin L. - For excellent poetry writing. Well Done!



WHEN ARE BOOK CLUB ORDERS DUE?

ORDERS ARE DUE ON... Thursday June 23rd 2026

SCHOLASTIC Book Club

ISSUE 1 2025

We Reward Regular Readers—Every Issue.

001 NEW! Escaping Peril
Peril must choose between loyalty to Clay or a new life.
224 pp. AGES 10+ \$19.99

002 Includes Pizza Squishy!
PIZZA Taco
Help cook for school!

003 NEW! Too Cool for School
Pizza and Taco want to be super-cool like the new kid!
72 pp. AGES 6+ \$5

SCHOLASTIC Book Club

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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

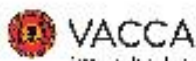
Email

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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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!

We can't wait to welcome TheirCare to California Gully Primary School and see the amazing opportunities this partnership will bring for our students and families.

Want to learn more?

Visit www.theircare.com.au or call TheirCare's friendly support team on **1300 072 410**.

Let's get ready for an exciting new chapter together!

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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!

	Monday - Friday Hours of Operation	Fee before Child Care Subsidy*	Out-of-pocket fee after Child Care Subsidy**
Before School Care (BSC)	8:30 AM TO 9:30 AM	\$25.00	\$0.00
After School Care (ASC)	3:00 PM TO 6:00 PM	\$25.00	\$0.00
Half Day Program	9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM	\$65.00	\$0.00
Holiday Program	7:30 AM TO 6:00 PM	\$80.00	\$0.00

*Standard fee rates before Child Care Subsidy (CCS) based on fees charged by Child Care Subsidy (CCS) based on fees charged by your local council.

Cancellation Fee
(No Child Care Subsidy applied to Cancellation Fee)
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
(Child Care Subsidy is applied to Late Booking Fee)
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
(Child Care Subsidy does not apply to Late Pick-up Fee)
\$1 per minute after service close time.

To register visit theircare.com.au

Save up to 90% with child care subsidy

Book Now



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






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

Immune Deficiencies Foundation Australia proudly presents

2026 CIRCUS QUIRKUS

Circus Quirkus is a one-hour, animal-free, contemporary take on your favourite, traditional circuses of ages past, with an eclectic and entertaining mix of Circus acts from all over the world.

Enjoy a relaxed theatre experience with a casual attitude toward audience noise and movement in an accessible, inclusive environment where everyone is welcome and free to be themselves without restriction or judgement.

One hour show. Suitable for all ages and accessible for people...

- with diverse abilities and backgrounds (wheelchair accessible)
- who might require a more flexible and inclusive environment when attending the theatre (sensory and neurodiverse friendly).
- who are facing hardship.

- who are without access or opportunity to attend live theatre.

*Featuring moving and flashing lights, and upbeat, sometimes dramatic music.

ALL TICKETS ARE COMPLIMENTARY, including parent, sibling and carer tickets. Thanks to sponsorship from local businesses.

*Bookings from schools, organisations, carers and families are all welcome.



BENDIGO STADIUM (RED ENERGY ARENA)	
91 Inglis Street, West Bendigo, VIC	
SHOW DATE	SHOWTIME
SATURDAY, 8 TH AUGUST 2026	11.00 AM to 12.00 PM

To book your complimentary tickets, please email your name and the number of tickets required to...

meredithnewman@showintent.com.au
or call / text 0404-367-782



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 — 5 pm, Each Thursday during school terms

Contact: 5446 8135 press 1 and leave a message

Afternoon tea will be provided each week.

In partnership with 

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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!

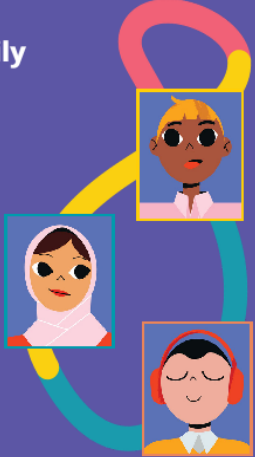
Just \$18 a class after the free trial (exc GST)
The full price varies depending on the number of classes in the term.

LIMITED PLACES BOOK NOW!

To book go to
www.artisticat.com.au



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



FREE WORKSHOP FOR SPORTS COACHES & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PROVIDERS IN GREATER BENDIGO

SUPPORTING NEURODIVERGENT CHILDREN IN COMMUNITY SPORT

Are you involved in supporting junior sport in Greater Bendigo?

Have you ever wished you had a few more strategies up your sleeve to help you connect with and support every child?

This workshop will help you understand autism, ADHD and other neurodivergent experiences, and give you practical strategies to create a more inclusive, welcoming environment for all children in your club.

2-4.30PM ON SUNDAY 2ND AUGUST
ONLINE AND IN-PERSON OPTIONS

Scan the QR code to register for the workshop or visit: <https://www.trybooking.com/DKRWV>

Contact Jo at Sports Focus for further information on 5442 3101 or joc@sportsfocus.com.au




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

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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**

Young Carer Art Competition



**Are you a young carer aged 25 or under? Share
your artwork and go in the draw to win!**

Theme:

Your art, your voice

Painting, drawing, photography – you choose! Open to anyone under
25 registered with Carer Gateway in Victoria.
Submit your entry by 31 July 2026

Eligible age groups:

- 12 and under
- 13-18
- 19-25

Prizes per age group:

- 1st: \$500 gift card
- 2nd: \$250 gift card
- 3rd: \$100 gift card

How to enter

- Register for free with Carer Gateway
by calling 1800 422 737
- Email your artwork to
CGcarerengagement@holstephealth.org.au



An Australian Government Initiative



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