

The Bell Topper

California Gully Primary School 123

Volume 44 No. 24

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Facebook: California Gully Primary School

Thursday July 30th, 2026

FOUNDATION – 100 DAYS OF SCHOOL

A day of '100' celebrations will be held for our Foundation students tomorrow with a day of fun and reflection. Thank you to all of our amazing Foundation students for making every day so enjoyable, to our superstar teachers (proof that not all heroes wear capes!), and to our families for your ongoing support and care. Due to our Foundation class taking over the Community Centre, we will not be holding an assembly on Friday.

2027 FOUNDATION (PREP) ENROLMENTS

Please note that an application form must be completed before enrolment forms can be submitted. Application forms need to be returned by Friday July 31st (Tomorrow).



BOOK WEEK AND PARADE (WEDNESDAY AUGUST 26th)



The theme for the 2026 Children's Book Week, which runs from August 22nd to 28th, is 'Symphony of Stories', encouraging young readers to explore new worlds through books.

We will celebrate across the week, with the all-important Book Parade (weather permitting) taking place on Wednesday August 26th at 9:00 am.

ILLNESS

Unfortunately, we have continued to see high levels of illness following the school holidays, with many students, staff and families reporting a range of illnesses. These continue to impact the health of our school community.

If your child is unwell, please keep them at home and notify the school of their absence.

Illnesses such as the common cold, influenza and COVID-19 spread easily, and we need healthy students and staff at school. Keeping everyone healthy remains a priority.



CHILD SAFETY AND WELLBEING 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.

Andrew Frawley
CGPS Principal

Respect * Personal Best * Care

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



Dates for the Diary

- **Friday July 31st** - Applications for Foundation 2027 Due
- **Friday July 31st** - Foundation - 100 Days of School Celebration
- **Thursday August 6th** - Gym Program
- **Tuesday August 11th** - Year Seven 2027 Acceptance Forms Due Back to the School Office.
- **Thursday August 13th** - Gym Program
- **Thursday August 20th** - Passions and Pathways Session Two – Grades Five and Six
- **Saturday August 22nd to Friday August 28th** - Book Week
- **Wednesday August 26th** - Book Week Parade at 9.00 a.m.
- **Friday September 11th** - Passions and Pathways Session Three – Grades Five and Six
- **Friday September 18th** - Last Day of Term Three



HEALTH ALERT – HAND, FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

We have had a reported case of Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease.

Hand, foot and mouth disease is a common, contagious viral illness that mainly causes fever, painful mouth sores, and a blister-like rash on the hands and feet. It mostly affects young children under 10 and typically clears up on its own within 7 to 10 days.

Signs and Symptoms

- **Fever and tiredness** start first, 3 to 7 days after catching the virus.
- **Sore mouth and throat** with small red spots that turn into painful blisters inside the mouth, sides of the tongue, and gums.
- **Skin rash** with small blisters or red bumps appearing on the palms of the hands, soles of the feet, and sometimes the nappy area.

Treatment and Care

- **Pain relief** using paracetamol or ibuprofen to lower fever and ease discomfort (do not give aspirin).
- **Fluids** are very important; offer plenty of water or cold foods like smoothies and icy poles to help soothe sore mouths.
- **Let blisters heal** naturally without popping them.

Prevention and Spreading

- **Highly contagious** through saliva, fluid from blisters, coughs, sneezes, and poo.
- **Wash hands** often with soap and water, and clean contaminated toys or surfaces.
- **Keep children home** from school or childcare until all fluid in the blisters has completely dried up.

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. *Before School Care is available if dropping off children before 8.40 a.m. Enrolment details are found later in the newsletter.*

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

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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.



California Gully Primary School – School Uniform

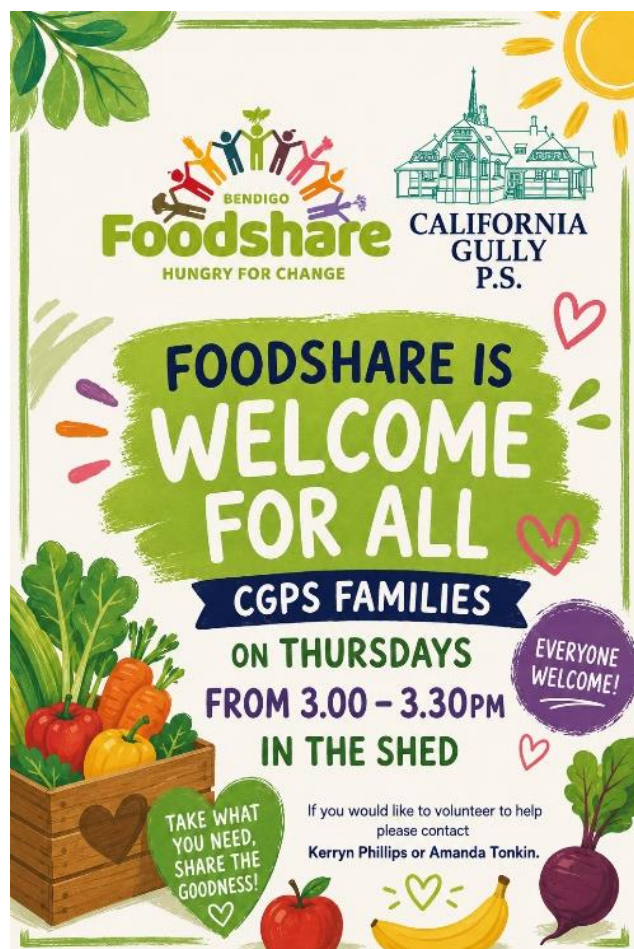
Our school uniform supplier, State Schools Relief (SSR), has rebranded its online store to Equal Threads which will continue to provide quality, affordable uniforms while supporting students across Victoria.

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:



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

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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 July 24th

Foundation A (Hinton):

- Ivy B. - For contributions to class discussions and sharing her thoughts and ideas.
- Jordan R. - For working hard to complete his work neatly.

Foundation B (Tonkin):

- Ruby T. - For fabulous independent writing.
- Zarliah Y. - For being a keen learner and always trying her best.

Grade 1/2 A (Carroll-Dillon):

- Tyga H. - For great work in Maths. Well Done!
- Mac R. - For work with his procedural writing. Well Done!

Grade 1/2 B (Ennor):

- Aria D. - For having an amazing home reading journal.
- Percy E. - For always giving his best and attempting all tasks with confidence.

Grade 1/C (Leed):

- Ryan H. - For consistently completing Home Reading and spelling tasks.
- Harmony P. - For her terrific effort in reading this term.

Grade 3/4 A (McKerrow):

- Violet F. - For displaying outstanding leadership.
- Lexi L. - For excellent writing of a procedure.
- Tyson P. - For displaying outstanding leadership.
- Sianna S. - For excellent writing of a procedure.

Grade 3/4 B (Ryan):

- Kirianii B. - For her hard work with shapes in maths.
- Jace E. - For his hard work with shapes in maths.

Grade 5/6 A (Price):

- Pippa McK. - For great story ideas and detailed plans.
- Melia M. - For her great attitude at gym.



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Looking towards 2027 Term 1

PROPS THEATRE

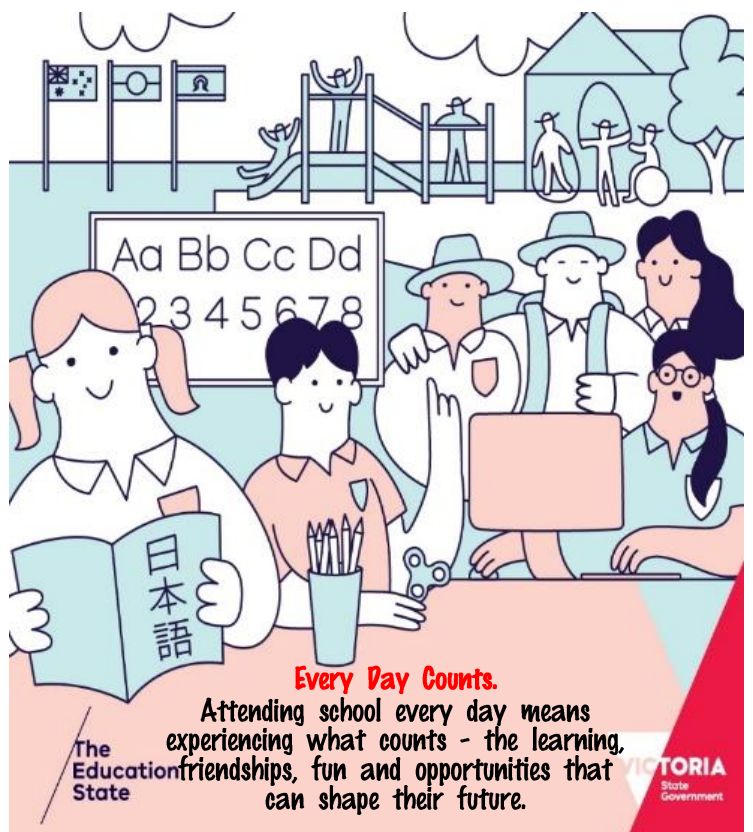
@propstheatre @f

Stage One for 5 - 8 years
Stage Two for 9 - 12 years

LOCATION

82A Mitchell Street Studio
www.propstheatre.com.au
Enrolments OPEN

SCAN ME



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

Bendigo Community
Health Services

smalltalk
Giving parents a great start



Supported playgroup

California Gully Primary School

Fridays
9.30-11.30am
Staley Street, California Gully

Morning tea provided
Enrolments essential

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

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

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

Carer Gateway
AN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT SERVICE

Holstep Health

BENDIGO HEALTH

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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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Up to
90%
of Child Care costs
can be covered
by Child Care
Subsidy!

Enrolments Now Open!

Enrolments are now open for families to enrol.

Enrolments are completed online at
www.theircare.com.au and usually
takes approx. 15 to 20 minutes to
complete.

See FAQs on our website
theircare.com.au/families

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!

As well as offering After School Care, they are also offering Before School Care.

Want to learn more?

Visit www.theircare.com.au or call TheirCare's friendly support team on **1300 072 410**, alternatively you can email Angela.Waters@education.vic.gov.au.

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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)	8:00 AM TO 9:30 AM	\$28.00	\$3.00
After School Care (ASC)	3:00 PM TO 6:00 PM	\$21.00	\$1.00
Half Day Program	9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM	\$65.00	\$6.00
Holiday Program	7:30 AM TO 6:00 PM	\$80.00	\$8.00

*Standard fee rates before Child Care Subsidy (CCS) based on fees after CCS. **Out-of-pocket fee after CCS. ***Standard fee rates including Inclusion Allowance.

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

Book Now

Save up to 90% with child care subsidy

Service phone number: 0478 834 327

Your service Coordinator will be available during session times.

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



Scan the QR Code to visit the shows website and watch highlights from previous shows...

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



THE SALVATION ARMY
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 — 5pm, Each Thursday during school terms

Contact: 5446 8135 press 1 and leave a message

Afternoon tea will be provided each week.

In partnership with 



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



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4-7 YEAR OLDS*

Your introduction into Australian football centred around game-based activities kids love.



7-12 YEAR OLDS

Designed for any child to give it a go, with a focus on skill development and learning how to play the game.

BENDIGO ALL GIRLS AUSKICK AND SUPERKICK CENTRE

WEEROONA OVAL, BENDIGO

STARTING AUGUST 25TH

TUESDAYS 4:15PM - 5:15PM

Register to go in the draw to win a Richmond AFLW Guernsey!

AUSKICK



SUPERKICK




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.artisticcat.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.artisticcat.com.au




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




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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



Be a part of the

SYMPHONY OF STORIES

Which public holiday do you prefer for 2027 and beyond?



GAMES FROM 4PM



AGE GROUPS
• 5 & UNDER
• 7 & UNDER
• 9 & UNDER
• 11 & UNDER

TERM 4 2026 + TERM 1 2027

JUNIOR FUTSAL

MONDAY
Competition

5 a-side

WEDNESDAY
Beginner league

SCAN QR CODE BELOW TO REGISTER

1-3 Waterson Court, Golden Square VIC 3555
PHONE: 0428 471 077
EMAIL: admin@bendigomajorleague.com.au



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JOIN US!

STRIKERS NETBALL CLUB

TWILIGHT SEASON 2026

LOOKING FOR A FUN, TEAM-BASED SPORT?
COME PLAY NETBALL WITH US IN 2026!

New and experienced players welcome!

TWILIGHT SEASON RUNS **OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2026**



FUN & FRIENDLY

A supportive environment where everyone belongs.



SKILLS & CONFIDENCE

Develop your skills, fitness and teamwork while having fun.



ALL ABILITIES

We welcome players of all abilities from Grade 3 and above.



TWILIGHT GAMES

Games played during the week after school.

BOYS & GIRLS
GRADE 3 AND ABOVE

INTERESTED?

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TODAY!
MORE INFORMATION TO COME SOON.



STRIKERS
NETBALL CLUB

CONTACT US

0475 915 450

strikeretball@gmail.com



**FIND US ON
FACEBOOK!**

@strikersnetball

Gratitude
Empathy
Mindfulness &
Emotional Literacy



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