

The Bell Topper

California Gully Primary School 123

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Thursday March 19th, 2026



NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY

National Ride2School Day will occur tomorrow, **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!

STATE LIBRARY VICTORIA FOR OUR BIG IDEAS FOR YOUNG MINDS EDUCATION DAY - GRADES 5 & 6

We had an offer we couldn't refuse, our Grade 5 and 6's will be attending the State Library Victoria for our 'Big Ideas for Young Minds' Education Day on Friday March 20. The only downside is that it clashes with Ride2School Day. Have a great day and look forward to you sharing some of your learning on your return.

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

Thank you to the many families that returned forms and confirming their attendance for the Dahlia and Arts Parade to be held on Saturday.

Assembly – Hagger Street (between High St and Willan St)

Time: Meet and sign in with a CGPS teacher between **10.40-10.55am**, ready for an 11am start.

At the conclusion of the parade we will stop at **Sailors Gully Rd**. Please sign out with your child/ren prior to enjoying the rest of the Dahlia and Arts Festival. Don't forget to check out the Scarecrow Competition and Eaglebald Prize, while also supporting the many small businesses, events and activities over the weekend.

AEU INDUSTRIAL ACTION - TUESDAY MARCH 24th

On Tuesday, a substantial number of our staff will be participating in protected industrial action organised by the Australian Education Union (AEU).

As a result, there will be disruption to normal school operations. We will do our best to maintain supervision for students who attend; however, we encourage families to make alternative arrangements for their children if possible.

Please be assured that the safety and wellbeing of all students will remain our priority on the day.

We appreciate your understanding and support. There will be significant changes required with normal classroom/grade structure not operating for the full day. We will provide further communication on Monday morning.

END OF TERM- THURSDAY APRIL 2nd

Please reflect on the incredible growth that has taken place for children from the start of the year. Thank you to all families and carers for the support and care. Our school day will finish at **2.15pm, Thursday April 2nd**.

Andrew Frawley
CGPS Principal

Respect * Personal Best * Care



Eaglehawk Dahlia & Arts Festival

Sunday Family Day



22nd March 2026

In Canterbury Park Gardens.

All Activities are free!!

So come along and have some fun in the **GARDENS**

Table tennis; Chocolate Scramble, Painting
Connected Circus Fun; Sandcastle building;
Face-painting; Fire Brigade with Water!!!

Our theme is HARVEST so have a go at making a SCARECROW.



Then head over to the **EVENTS SPACE** & enjoy
Kelly Sports, Baseball; Rides, Archery, Slot Cars & the
fabulous Climbing Wall.

Plus....the animals are back from the fabulous **Animals 2U**

BBO & drinks provided by EH Scouts & EH Y's Men for a small cost.

or bring your own picnic!



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 in 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.

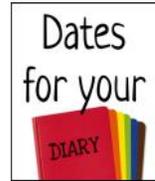
Thank you for your care and understanding.

Respect * Personal Best * Care



Dates for the Diary

- **Friday March 20th** - Ride to School Day
- **Friday March 20th** - Years Five & Six 'Civics & Citizenship' Excursion to State Library Victoria
- **Tuesday, March 24th** - AEU Industrial Action
- **Wednesday, March 25th** - Hot Cross Bun Order Forms Due Back
- **Thursday March 26th** - Community 'Welcome' Breakfast
- **Monday, March 30th** - Years Five & Six BioCATS Excursion
- **Monday, March 30th** - School Council Annual General Meeting
- **Thursday April 2nd** - Last Day of Term One 2.15 p.m. Dismissal
- **Monday April 20th** - First Day of Term Two
- **Saturday April 25th** - ANZAC Day
- **Tuesday April 28th** - School Athletic Sports Day
- **Friday May 15th** - National Walk Safely to School Day



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 next **Wednesday, March 25th**. Delivery will be Wednesday April 1st.

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



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.

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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 March 13th

Foundation A (Hinton):

- Isaac C. - For working hard to learn his yellow sounds.
- Avianna O. - For following instructions and giving all tasks a good go.

Foundation B (Tonkin):

- Domenic O. - For trying hard to write his name.
- Zarllah Y. - For being a happy and friendly class member.

Grade 1/2 A (Carroll-Dillon):

- Elliott E. - For working well on counting forwards and backwards by 10's.
Well Done!
- Blair M. - For working well on counting forwards and backwards by 10's.
Well Done!

Grade 1/2 B (Ennor):

- Aivah M. - For being a kind and caring class member.
- Frankee R. - For excellent 'sounding out' in MiniLit.

Grade 1/C (Leed):

- Eleanor F. - For being an independent learner and having a go at new things.
- Jackson W. - For working hard in Reading and learning new sounds.

Grade 3/4 A (McKerrour):

- Shayla J. - For excellent work in writing sessions.
- Ellahnie K. - For excellent work in math sessions.

Grade 3/4 B (Ryan):

- Amity H. - For being a kind and caring class member and showing great G.E.M. practices.
- Charliy J. - For trying her best in all classroom activities.

Grade 5/6 A (Price):

- Hahlia S. - For her respectful actions towards her classmates.

Grade 5/6 B (Reilly-Lee):

- Jasper J. - For being patient and helpful when helping others with IT issues.
- Scarlett L. - For being a quiet, hard working member of our classroom.

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.



Respect * Personal Best * Care





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

mckern steel foundation
 @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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LA TROBE SPORT HOLIDAY CAMPS

LA TROBE SPORTS CAMPS (AGES 6+)

MULTI-DAY PACKAGES AVAILABLE! REGISTER FOR THE TERM I SCHOOL HOLIDAYS TODAY!



EAGLEHAWK JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB



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



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

JUNIOR INDOOR CRICKET

U12 • U14 • U16 6-A-SIDE COMPETITION

TERM 2 & TERM 3

MONDAY NIGHTS

\$265 PER PLAYER - NO WEEKLY PAYMENTS

REGISTER NOW



1-3 Waterson Court, Golden Square VIC 3555
(03) 5447 1077 | 0428 471 077

bendigomajorleague.com.au
admin@bendigomajorleague.com.au

Gratitude
Empathy
Mindfulness &
Emotional Literacy



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JOIN THE DRAGON CHALLENGE

DAI GUM LOONG NEEDS YOUR LEGS!



AGE 16+



MEN AND WOMEN WELCOME

Come see us at 13 Bridge Street, Bendigo, every Tuesday from 4 pm - 6 pm and Saturday & Sunday from 1 pm - 5 pm until Easter to register!
Please email - secretary@bendigochinese.org.au for more information or if you aren't local to Bendigo!



PARADE COSTUME FITTINGS

AGED 7 OR OLDER AND WANT TO BE IN THE EASTER PARADE?



Come see us at 13 Bridge Street, Bendigo every Tuesday from 4pm - 6pm and Saturday & Sunday from 1pm - 5pm until Easter to register!
Please email - secretary@bendigochinese.org.au for more information!

EASTER SUNDAY 5TH APRIL 2026
SANDEMAN BUILD
NEIL MACDONALD DRAGON MILE



MILE LONG FOOT RACE ON THE FAMOUS EASTER PROCESSION ROUTE



WHERE: PALL MALL AT GOLD MONUMENT
TIME: 10:00AM START
Scan the QR code for more information on pricing, age groups, registration and live results or visit:
<https://my.raceresult.com/377219/>

Proudly sponsored by



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

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THE GOURMET PANTRY  **THE BENDIGO**

DO YOU LOVE YOUR FOOTY?

FEATURING:
Famous Fitzpatrick Cup & Medal
Giveaways, skills acquisition and a whole lot more...

WHO WILL WIN THE FITZPATRICK MEDAL?

FITZPATRICK

JUNIOR FOOTY

FUN HOLIDAY PROGRAM

A TWO DAY PROGRAM FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

\$85 per day
\$160 for 2 days

TUESDAY, 7 APRIL
WEDNESDAY, 8 APRIL
8:30am - 4:30pm
Venue: Atkins St, North Bendigo

REGISTER ONLINE 

THE PROGRAM CATERERS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

THE GOURMET PANTRY  **THE BENDIGO**

FUN HOLIDAY PROGRAM DETAILS

The North Bendigo Football Netball Club will be holding a Football based holiday program.
THE PROGRAM WILL RUN ON TUESDAY 7 APRIL & WEDNESDAY 8 APRIL.
Time schedule from 8:30am to 4:30pm
The program is applicable to ages ranging from 5 to 15.
WE ENCOURAGE BOTH BOYS AND GIRLS TO BE INVOLVED.

Day One (Tuesday 7 April)

Day one will be based at Atkins St, North Bendigo and will focus on a variety of Football based activities.
These include Australian Rules Football skill acquisition, healthy lifestyle and nutrition, Day 1 Draft and trades and beginning of the Fitzpatrick Cup.
Morning and afternoon snacks as well as lunch will be provided for participants on this day.
Structured aged games, with an emphasis on fun, will feature throughout the day.

Day Two (Wednesday 8 April)

Day two will be based at the Atkins St, North Bendigo and will focus on a variety of Football based activities and more.
Wednesday will see the business end of the famous Fitzpatrick Cup culminating in the Grand Final and the prestigious vote count of the Fitzpatrick Medal.
Morning and afternoon snacks as well as lunch will be provided for participants on this day.
Parents/guardians are more than welcome to visit throughout course of the two days, especially the staging of the Famous Fitzpatrick Cup and the prestigious Fitzpatrick medal kicking off from 3.15 pm on the Wednesday of the program.

The program will be co-ordinated by experienced teachers and incorporates male and female accredited personnel (Working With Children Certified).
We encourage both boys and girls to be involved in the program.
The program will run regardless of the weather conditions (with modified activities).
The program incorporating Tuesday 7 April & Wednesday 8 April is priced at \$160 (or \$85 for single day).
All enquiries phone 0409 495 372 (Nathan)



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

SAVE THE DATE



Friday 15 May 2026
National Walk Safely to School Day

BENDIGO LEGO® USER GROUP PRESENTS

160+ LEGO® EXHIBITS / FUN WITH BRICKS PLAY AREA / PIXEL ART PLAY WALL
BENDIGO BRICK MARKET / COFFEE & FOOD VENDORS / LUCKY BRICK & RAFFLE

BENDIGO BRICKS

2026

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS 2016-2026

11-12 APRIL BENDIGO EXHIBITION CENTRE

TICKETS \$10
BENDIGOBICKS.COM
& AT THE DOOR

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LET'S HAVE SOME FUN WITH

EAGLEHAWK HOCKEY CLUB



Come & Try / Bring a Friend

Junior Training • 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Run Club / Senior Warm Up • 6pm - 6:30pm

Senior Training • 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Thursday 12th March & Thursday 19th March
14-30 Ashley Street, Ironbark



We have equipment you can borrow, bring your own mouth guards.



The grass stains you get playing as a kid stay with you your whole life. So for fun, friendship, and getting your hands dirty, it's gotta be NAB AFL Auskick.

PLAY.AFL/AUSKICK

NORTH BENDIGO AUSKICK CENTRE

Friday | 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Starting 1st May | North Bendigo Oval

Auskick Coordinator | Gemma Douglas

ALL GIRLS GROUPS AVAILABLE



REGISTER NOW

In one fun-filled day, kids will learn and play footy in a safe, inclusive environment. They'll pick up new skills, play mini-games and get creative with designing a footy or uniform. Plus have a footy goodie bag to take home.



4-7 YEAR OLDS

Our youngest players learn footy through fun, age-appropriate games that build skills, confidence and teamwork, led by NAB AFL Auskick coaches.



7-12 YEAR OLDS

Older kids level up their footy skills through modified game play and challenging activities that build teamwork, leadership and lasting memories in a fun, energetic day.

*Kids can join NAB AFL Auskick if they are turning 5 in the calendar year (before 30th June in WA).

BENDIGO AFL SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

MONDAY 13TH APRIL | 9AM-3PM
WEEROONA OVAL, BENDIGO
\$55 PER PERSON



AUTUMN ADVENTURE HOLIDAY CAMP



Less "I'm bored"...
More Adventure These Holidays!

Activities Include:

- Giant Swing, Flying Fox & High Ropes
- Nature Walks
- Kayaking & Snorkelling
- Crafts
- Disco
- Concert
- Plus much much more!

What kids gain:

- Resilience
- Confidence
- Mindfulness
- Connection
- Nature Appreciation
- Skill Development

AGES: 8-12
13-17 APRIL

Starting from Book now

\$150

1, 3 or 5 day options



PART & FULL SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Any Questions?

mad@theportseacamp.com.au

(03) 5984 2680

With thanks to



Proudly supporting 100 children annually

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ROCKETEERS



**SCHOOL HOLIDAY
BOOKINGS
NOW OPEN**

Programs vary by location and are subject to change. Jump on our website to find out what's happening at your local Rocketeers.

Child Care Subsidy (CCS) available for eligible families.

*Please note the fees on the following pages are only of the maximum Child Care Subsidy (CCS) a family may be entitled to. To find out your eligibility, log into MyGov.

www.campastralia.com.au/rocketeers

by  Camp Australia

[Download Rocketeers Flyer](#)

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