**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.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER**

- Last Day of Term 1 - Thursday March 24th
- First Day of Term 2 - Monday April 11th

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

**END OF TERM - EARLY SCHOOL FINISH**

Term 1 concludes on Thursday, 24th March. Students will be dismissed at 2.15pm.

**SCHOOL COUNCIL**

On Monday night we held our Annual General Meeting and elected our 2016 office bearers. Our School Council President for 2016 is Natasha Fullerton, Vice President is Roz Bradley and our Minute Secretary is Nicole Cooper. I would like to thank our outgoing school councillors for the role they played on school council last year and their ongoing support: Natalie Southon, Katie Porter and Kaitlin Dillon. Our 2016 school councillors are; Natasha Fullerton, Craig Graham, Chris Parker, Donna Scrivener, Roz Bradley, Brett Bradley, Nicole Cooper, Steve McKerrow, Kerryn Phillips and Jason Lee. At our March general meeting we endorsed the 2016 Annual Implementation Plan which outlines the strategies and actions we will put in place to achieve our yearly goals. We also reviewed and endorsed the Attendance Policy, First Aid Policy and Smoke Free Policy.

**DAHLIA & ARTS FESTIVAL**

It was wonderful to see all the children so excited to be involved in the Dahlia & Arts Parade. The children came dressed in their favourite sporting attire and looked fantastic. Thank you to all the parents for getting your children to the parade starting point on time.

The organising of such an event does take some planning and coordinating and I would like to thank Mrs. Dillon for her willingness to take on this role earlier in the term. A big thank you also to the numerous staff who assisted in preparing the decorative pieces for the float and Mrs. Hinton and Kerryn for assisting with the setting up and looking after the children on the day. Once again thank you to Miss Ennor for coordinating and overseeing the relay race teams and then walking with the children involved in the parade.

Thank you to McKern Steel for once again donating the use of their truck for our use in the parade.

As you can see it takes a team to be involved in an event such as the Dahlia and Arts and a team effort it was!

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**Calendar**

- **Thursday March 24th**
  - Last Day of Term 1
- **Friday March 25th**
  - Good Friday
- **Monday April 11th**
  - First Day of Term 2
- **Tuesday April 12th**
  - Gym Program
- **Monday April 18th**
  - School Council Meeting
- **Tuesday April 19th**
  - Gym Program
- **Monday April 25th**
  - ANZAC Day Public Holiday
- **Tuesday April 26th**
  - Gym Program

**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!**
To report an absence through the school website you can use this link  Report an Absence
HOME READING
Home reading is an important aspect of a child's schooling. It increases a child's broader knowledge of the world, teaches them good habits and organisational skills (reading each night) and provides an opportunity for students to appreciate the experience of reading. I recently attended a workshop focusing on literacy for school leaders and the following information resonated with me.

How important is practice?
Students who read:
- less than 1 minute a day read 8 000 words a year.
- 4.6 minutes a day read 282 000 words a year.
- 20 minutes a day read 1.8 million words a year

We can teach reading to anyone at any age BUT we cannot compensate for a lack of practice. I believe it paints a very important picture in relation to children reading regularly or being read to and importantly is evidence based. Please take the time to listen to your child read on a nightly basis as the long term benefits are enormous.

LEARNING CLUB BACK FOR TERM 2
Just a reminder: - Learning Club for 2016 will be commencing in 2nd Term on Tuesday 19th April from 3.15pm – 4.45pm.
If you are interested in sending your child/ren to Learning Club please see Nicole at reception for enrolment details.
Learning Club is a partnership between The Smith Family & La Trobe University.

Jason Lee
Principal

EMPOWERING EAGLEHAWK
California Gully Primary School has been successful with past Empowering Eaglehawk grants and have applied for another grant this year. To apply for the grant we need 10 people/families to visit the Bendigo Bank and discuss banking options. Better still if you bank with the Bendigo they will donate money to Empowering Eaglehawk. Please see Nicole for more information and pick up a card to take with you. Thanks in advance.

Thank you to those who supported the school’s fundraising efforts for the Good Friday Appeal; we raised $22.00.

CSEF (Camps, Sports & Excursion Fund)
Applications are now open for families who are Health Care Card holders to apply for the funding - forms are available from the school office, when completing your application please bring a long your current Health Care Card, this is needed for the application to be accepted.

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
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Parents’ Club Meeting
The next meeting of the Parents’ Club will be held early in Term 2.

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

Mothers’ Day Stall
The Mothers’ Day stall will be held in May (date to be confirmed). The Parents’ Club have purchased gifts to sell at the stall, but if there are any families who would like to donate things for the Mothers’ Day stall they are more than welcome!! Some ideas are mugs, wrapped lollies, pens, notepads, magnets etc. or hand-made goodies are always a winner. Thank you for your support, Parents’ Club

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:
April 13th
Multi-Purpose Room - Adventure Play
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 CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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</table>
| April 11th - April 15th
  First Day of Term 2 | School Banking Day - Bendigo Bank
  Gym Program         | School Banking Day - Commonwealth Bank
  Breakfast Program   | School Banking Day - Commonwealth Bank
  Breakfast Program   |
| April 18th - April 22nd
  School Council Meeting | School Banking Day - Bendigo Bank
  Gym Program         | School Banking Day - Commonwealth Bank
  Breakfast Program   | School Banking Day - Commonwealth Bank
  Breakfast Program   |
| April 25th - April 29th
  ANZAC Day
  Public Holiday     | School Banking Day - Bendigo Bank
  Gym Program         | School Banking Day - Commonwealth Bank
  Breakfast Program   | School Banking Day - Commonwealth Bank
  Breakfast Program   |
| May 2nd - May 6th | School Banking Day - Bendigo Bank
  Gym Program         | School Banking Day - Commonwealth Bank
  Breakfast Program   | School Banking Day - Commonwealth Bank
  Breakfast Program   |

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This year we will again celebrate 100 days of Maths. Each week in the newsletter we will have a focus on Maths. Here is a puzzle page for all the family. Level 1 and 2 are generally for younger students, but you can do whatever levels you wish. Children may complete them on their own or they may need some assistance. We hope you enjoy them. Bring in your neat answers and we will display them on the Maths Board in the undercover area. It would be great to see some work up on display each week!
GREAT TIPS FOR HEALTHY KIDS

TIP 26. ALL KIDS NEED IS A BALL OR A FRISBEE

You might think you have to spend a whole lot of money for your kids to get enough physical activity. Some people sign up their kids for all kinds of sports and other activities and buy equipment that can be expensive. That’s one way to do it, but it isn’t the only way. Remember that once upon a time all most kids had were skipping ropes and balls, and they managed to have lots of fun while exercising at the same time.

What you can do NOW

♦ Provide inexpensive equipment such as skipping ropes, balls, bats, frisbees or hula hoops.

Top Tip

When you provide inexpensive things like balls ad skipping ropes, kids regard them as fun. They are more likely to use them on a regular basis.

HEALTHY EASTER TREATS...

KEEP THE KIDS BUSY THESE HOLIDAYS AND CREATE YOUR OWN EASTER EGGS:

Boil some eggs and decorate them with crayons or food dye. Place them in a basket on scrunched up tissue paper and enjoy!!!

EASTER BUNNY CAKES:

1. Cook 2 carrot cakes.
2. Place one cake onto the bottom half of a large cake board. This will be the face of the bunny.
3. Cut the remaining cake into bunny ears and a bow tie. Attach the ears to the top of the face and position the bow tie at the bottom.
4. Instead of icing, use custard, cream cheese or yoghurt dessert and cover the entire surface of the cake.
5. Use sultanas and dried fruit (apricot and apple) to make eyes, nose and whiskers. You can even cover the insides of the ears and the bow tie.

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

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Dahlia and Arts Parade 2016

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
To report an absence through the school website you can use this link  Report an Absence
Don’t forget to check out the school’s website www.californiagullyps.vic.edu.au

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
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 18th

1/2 Peacock-Hinton:
- Riley Cl. - For consistent home reading.
- Leiam H. - For great knowledge of half and quarter turns.

3/4 Ennor:
- Emily K. - For being a Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Superstar.
- Piper K. - For displaying increased enthusiasm and improving her organizational skills.
- Charlie M. - For displaying increased enthusiasm and improving her organizational skills.

3/4 Reilly-Carroll:
- Hayden E. - For working hard to round numbers in Mathematics.
- Gabby P. - For always trying her best and having a positive attitude.

5/6 McKerrow:
- Sarah H. - For excellent recording in her reading diary.
- Evelynn T. - For excellent work with area and perimeter.

5/6 Windridge:
- Dakoda B. - For careful selection of “WOW” vocabulary in her narrative writing.
- Isabel P. - For careful selection of “WOW” vocabulary in her narrative writing.

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
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EGGS FOR SALE
Our girls are busy laying lots of eggs, $2.50 a dozen. See Wendy in the grade 3/4A room.

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!

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North Bendigo Junior Football Club

Registrations are now open online.

We have under 9’s, 10’s, 12’s, 12girls, 14’s, 16’s and 18girls

You can register yourself, either as a player or as a volunteer.

Visit - Foxsportspulse.com
And searching for North Bendigo JUNIOR

If you have any questions please email nbjfctreas@hotmail.com
or telephone Tom Nicholson 0417308490, Elisha Dingfelder 0497645007
or Nicole Logan 0414594157

We are also looking for under 9 and under 12 Coaches
If you are interested in Coaching our club will assist with training, you will just need a Working with Children’s Check.

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$1000 FREE KIDS DENTAL* WITH THE CHILD DENTAL BENEFITS SCHEDULE!
Great news, the Child Dental Benefits Schedule continues in 2016! The Commonwealth Government dental scheme provides eligible children with a $1000 free kids dental benefit* on selected dental services within a 2 year calendar period.
In 2014 and 2015 many families were surprised that they were eligible for the free $1000 benefit*. To gain access to benefits, children must be eligible for Medicare, must be between 2 and 17 years of age for at least 1 day of the calendar year with the child or parent, guardian or carer receiving Family Tax Benefit Part A or another relevant government payment.
Not sure if you’re kids are eligible? Contact your local Pacific Smiles Dental Centre, have your Medicare card ready and they can easily check to see if your kids are eligible or have remaining benefits from 2014.
Information provided by Pacific Smiles Dental: visit pacificsmilesdental.com.au for further information.
*Free when services covered by the Commonwealth Government’s Child Dental Benefits Schedule are bulk billed by participating dentists for treatments provided to eligible patients.