The Bell Topper
Volume 33 No. 12

Thursday May 14th 2015

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 REMINDERS

- Junior School Council Garage Sale - Saturday May 16th from 9.00 a.m.
- Working Bee - Sunday May 17th 9.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.
- California Gully Primary School Learning Club - every Wednesday from 3.15 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.

PARENT SURVEY FINDINGS (32 families completed the survey, thank you!)

School Webpage
A key finding from the parent surveys completed was a large percentage of parents do not refer to the webpage for information. The webpage is one of our key ways to keep you informed. How is it helpful? The newsletter can be viewed if you missed it for some reason, school policies are accessible, an events calendar is updated regularly with key school dates, various forms can be found including absent notes and enrolment forms and a range of photos of children involved in school activities can also be viewed. I would ask parents to check the website for information on a regular basis.

School Programs
Another key finding was the general consensus of parents that they were satisfied with the current school programs. Linked to this was a question around how well do the activities offered to the children match their interests. The following is a breakdown of opinion: 58% (quite well or extremely well); 29% (fairly well) and 13% (mildly well). This would indicate we are on the right track to satisfy our diverse group of children and the various interests they have. Be assured we are always attempting to get the balance of programs right but sometimes different constraints mean we need to adjust programs accordingly. So as we do every year we will review programs, identify new priorities and build upon existing programs to create a well-balanced program. The information supplied by you, the parents, will definitely be referred to when the review takes place.

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
WORKING BEE - Sunday 17th May- 9.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.
A general tidy up is our priority. Even if you could spare an hour it would be much appreciated. As with previous working bees, wheelbarrows, rakes, any gardening equipment will be utilised. One of the key jobs will be to remove a lot of items which have built up over time.

PREP ENROLMENTS 2016
If you have a child who will be attending California Gully Primary School in Prep next year, you are most welcome to enrol at any time. Early enrolments assist us to put in place staffing, grade structures and allocate resources for next year. When enrolling your child, you will need to provide with the enrolment form:
1. A copy of the birth certificate (we can make copies of originals if necessary) and
2. A school entry immunisation certificate obtained from The Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (ACIR). Phone 1800653809.
Enrolment forms are now available for collection from the office. The 2016 Information Booklet is currently being reviewed but will be available before the end of term.
If you know anyone moving into our area, has a child attending your child’s pre-school or who has a Prep child for next year and has not chosen a school for their child, talk to them about our school and please invite them to contact me for a tour and a conversation.

Jason Lee
Principal

MOTHERS’ DAY BREAKFAST

School Calendar

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<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 18th -</td>
<td>Learning Club</td>
<td>Parents’ Club</td>
<td>Breakfast Program</td>
<td>School Banking Day</td>
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<td>May 22nd</td>
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<td>Lunch Order Day</td>
<td>8.00 a.m. to 8.20</td>
<td>8.00 a.m. to 8.20 a.m.</td>
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<td>May 25th -</td>
<td>Learning Club</td>
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<td>School Banking Day</td>
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<td>May 29th</td>
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<td>Order Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 1st -</td>
<td>Learning Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 5th</td>
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<td>Parents’ Club</td>
<td>Breakfast Program</td>
<td>School Banking Day</td>
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<td>Lunch Order Day</td>
<td>8.00 a.m. to 8.20</td>
<td>8.00 a.m. to 8.20 a.m.</td>
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<td>June 8th -</td>
<td>Queen’s Birth-</td>
<td>Learning Club</td>
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<td>School Banking Day</td>
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<td>June 12th</td>
<td>day Public Holi-</td>
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School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
PARENTS CLUB NEWS

Parents’ Club Meeting
The next meeting will be held on a day to be confirmed in the conference room.

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

Thursday Lunches
Lunch Orders commenced last Thursday. Lunch Orders will be held every second Thursday. Dates will appear on the Calendar in the newsletter but all dates for Term 2 can be found on the Parents’ Club page of the school website. Next Lunch Order day is Thursday May 21st.

Aver & Line Family Portrait Fundraiser
Due to the short notice and small number of bookings this Portrait Fundraiser has been postponed until later in the year.

Mrs. Carroll is in need of fabric and leather thonging for art activities.

Tissues
Can the parents of children in Grade 4/5 Windridge-Reilly please supply a box of tissues for the classroom. With the cold weather already here, we have a lot of sniffles!

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 20th</td>
<td>Water/Sand Play</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 27th</td>
<td>Papier Mache Piñata</td>
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<td>June 3rd</td>
<td>Painting Piñata</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 10th</td>
<td>Multi-Purpose Room—Adventure Play</td>
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<td>June 17th</td>
<td>Library</td>
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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!
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.

*Grade 4/5 WR investigated the number 55. We found that it was a triangular number and a pyramidal number. We made pyramids with 55 cubes and we made all the triangular numbers up to 55 using counters.*

We made pyramids using 55 2cm cubes. The base of our pyramids was a 5 x 5 square.

**Money Money Money**

We require coins (or notes) from other countries that can be used as a resource in our Maths room. We need these for sorting activities in the junior school. If you are able to spare one or two coins or notes, we would appreciate your donation. Please give your coins to either Annette, Linda or leave them at the office.

**School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!**
Lunch Time Maths

On Thursday we held a lunch time maths activity in the Maths Room.

We made pyramids using a variety of materials, including balls, plastic cups, pompoms and we finished off with Jaffas. We made triangular and square based pyramids.

Read More in May

May is National Family Reading Month! Last week your child brought home a reading log so that they could take up the challenge of reading at least 10 minutes every day during May. They need to record their minutes each day, even over the weekends. From June 1 - 15, parents can go online www.scholastic.com.au/nfrm and enter the competition. You will need to keep your log or hand it in to Mrs Windridge, as if you are a winner you will need to send the log into Scholastic. Winners will be announced in July.

Please see Mrs Windridge if you need any help with this. We encourage all families to read more in May. Reading together is a great family activity and will help your child to improve their literacy skills.

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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 May 8th

2/3 Watt-Holt:

Zachery N.-R. - For great work with our “Chickens” at school.
Logan W.-R. - Good luck at your new school in Tasmania.

4/5 Ennor:

Shanae B. - For following the persuasive text structure and completing a very good writing piece.
Lily G. - For being a polite, caring and co-operative class member.

4/5 Windridge-Reilly:

Caleb C. - For completing the Premiers’ Reading Challenge.
Keesha W. - For completing the Premiers’ Reading Challenge.

6 McKerrow:

Thanisha H. - For excellent work in all aspects of reading.
Aaliah N. - For excellent work as teachers’ assistant.

$1000 FREE KIDS DENTAL* WITH THE CHILD DENTAL BENEFITS SCHEDULE!

Great news, the Child Dental Benefits Schedule continues in 2015! 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 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 Practitioners for treatments provided to eligible patients.

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
TIP 47. THE LUNCHBOX CAN BE A REAL TREAT

Sandwiches are fairly quick to prepare for lunchboxes. They are convenient too. But kids can be put off lunch when it’s a soggy sandwich. They’re likely to toss it out and possibly go hungry for the afternoon.

There are plenty of alternatives to the soggy sandwich. For example, slices of wholegrain bread can be wrapped separately and kids can take a container of mixed salad with reduced-fat cheese cubes, sliced egg or shredded chicken.

If your child’s overweight and already eats plenty of bread for breakfast and afternoon tea, a breadless lunch might be a good idea.

What you can do NOW

- Send your child to school with lunch
- Restrict the amount of money kids take to school
- Avoid muesli and chocolate bars in the lunchbox: they are too sticky and sugary
- Don’t forget to pop in a piece of fruit or some vegetable sticks.

Good Idea!

Try different kinds of wholegrain or wholemeal bread and rolls (for example, flat bread, pita bread), and some of these filings: reduced-fat cream cheese, celery and sultanas, chicken, mayonnaise and lettuce; peanut butter and grated carrot; lean ham, reduced-fat cheese and a pineapple ring.

Top Tip

Ask your kids for ideas for their lunches and involve them in the preparation.

Fussy Eating

“Fussy Eating” is part of the normal development of a young child’s food preferences. Young children may require exposure to a new food up to 10 times before they accept it, as their tastes are continually developing and changing. Be patient, and if a child does not accept a food first off, be positive and encourage it at a later date or in a different form. Introducing a new food with a familiar one also helps.

It is important not to make a fuss if a child refuses their meal. Quietly take it away and if hungry later, offer to reheat the meal.

Don’t force your child to eat all their meal before dessert - this gives the impression that sweet foods are the best and vegetables are second rate.

Suggestions from Nutritionist, Catherine Saxelby, include:

- Setting a good example by eating and enjoying nutritious foods such as fruits and vegetables.
- Following a routine by maintaining regular meal times.
- Avoid filling their stomachs with liquids (such as fruit juice) prior to meal times to ensure they will eat most of their main meal.
- Some fussy eaters are also slow eaters so try not to hurry them to finish their meals.
- Remember, parents decide the type of foods and when to serve them; children decide how much to eat.

For more information on this topic visit Nutrition Australia’s website
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!

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 continues tomorrow, Friday May 15th 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.

EGGS FOR SALE

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

AFTER SCHOOL 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

Catch the savings bug with school banking every Tuesday.

Every Tuesday.

Eaglehawk Branch
CNR High & Church St
Eaglehawk VIC 3556

P. 03 5465 3511

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited,
ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL 237879,
(528629) (04/10)
City of Greater Bendigo Whipstick Ward Meetings
7pm - 8.30pm
Ward Councillors – Mayor Peter Cox, Lisa Ruffell and James Williams
Meeting time and date may be subject to change. To confirm, please visit
www.bendigo.vic.gov.au

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<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
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<tr>
<td>Raywood</td>
<td>Monday May 18</td>
<td>Raywood Hall, Inglewood Street, Raywood</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bendigo</td>
<td>Monday 1 June</td>
<td>Bendigo Library, Activity Rooms 1 &amp; 2, 259 Hargreaves Street, Bendigo</td>
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<tr>
<td>White Hills</td>
<td>Monday June 29</td>
<td>White Hills Football Club, clubrooms, Scott Street, White Hills</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woodvale</td>
<td>Monday July 27</td>
<td>Woodvale Hall, Daly’s Road, Woodvale</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neillborough</td>
<td>Monday August 17</td>
<td>Neillborough Hall, Murchison Street, Neillborough</td>
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<td>Sebastian</td>
<td>Monday August 31</td>
<td>Sebastian Hall, Sebastian Road, Sebastian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Long Gully</td>
<td>Monday September 14</td>
<td>Long Gully Pavilion, Cunneen Street, Long Gully</td>
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<td>North Bendigo</td>
<td>Monday October 12</td>
<td>North Bendigo Pavilion, North Bendigo Recreation Reserve, Atkins Street, North Bendigo</td>
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<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>
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May is National Family Reading Month!

LET'S RAISE READERS!
SOME GOOD READING HABITS FOR YOUR HOME

Let your child choose what they would like to read
Look through the Book Club catalogues with your child and talk about books you would like to read together. Children who choose their own independent reading material read more.

Be a reading role model
Let your children see you reading—for enjoyment, for news and for information in cookbooks, magazines, online, etc. Children will follow your lead and reach for a book when they do.

10 minutes a day makes a difference
Make reading a daily habit by setting aside at least 10 minutes every day entirely for reading. Just 10 minutes of reading practice a day improves your child’s vocabulary, comprehension, verbal fluency and spelling!

Have you got a book nook?
Assign a place in your home for your family’s books to show your child that books are special and deserve an organised storage space. Fill your home with lots of different reading choices.

Make a space for reading together
One person can read the book aloud or you can take turns, have older siblings read to younger siblings or perhaps have everyone sit quietly in the designated area and read independently.

Use books to expand an experience
Tie books and TV together; for example, read about sea life after watching a TV special on whales. Or connect books and experiences together; for example, after a school excursion to the zoo, read books about animals.

Reading beyond books
Write easy-to-read notes and leave them in lunchboxes, on pillows or mirrors, and promote a sense of fun and eagerness about reading. Write your shopping list clearly and ask your child to help you read it in the supermarket.

Join our Read More in May Challenge and your family could WIN great prizes! Visit scholastic.com.au/nfmr for details.

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