

The Bell Topper

California Gully Primary School 123

Volume 44 No. 14

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 May 14th, 2026

CROSS COUNTRY

Well done to all students that participated in the cross-country today. The focus of this event is on personal best, participation, and enjoyment. Thank you to parents and carers that attended, showing your support and assisting around the course. **Grade 3-6** students will attend the Goldfields Sandhurst Cross Country, on Friday May 22nd.

DOGS (AND PETS) IN SCHOOL GROUNDS

It is important that dogs (and pets in general) are not permitted on school grounds or at school events at any time without prior permission. This is adhering to policy developed by the 'Dogs Connect' Program and DET, while supporting the safety of students and animals within the community. If you intend to visit a classroom with a pet, always seek permission prior to the visit.

2027 FOUNDATION (PREP) ENROLMENTS AT CALIFORNIA GULLY PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Department of Education state-wide Foundation (Prep) enrolment timeline:

The timeline advises families when and how to enrol their child into Foundation (Prep) at a Victorian government primary school, including California Gully Primary School.

All government primary schools will follow the Foundation (Prep) enrolments for the 2027 school year.

You can find information and resources about the new timeline, including factsheets, at: [Enrolling in Foundation \(Prep\)](#). You can also download the 'Foundation (Prep) Enrolment Information Pack for Parents/Carers for the 2027 school year' from the [Starting school page](#).

What you need to do:

- Contact CGPS to learn more about our school and the enrolment application process
- Download the Foundation (Prep) enrolment information pack form
[Enrolling in Foundation \(Prep\)](#)
- Submit an enrolment application for Foundation (Prep) **by Friday July 31st 2026**
- You will be notified of the outcome of your application **by Friday August 14th 2026**. If you receive an offer of placement, you will complete enrolment forms to accept the offer by **Friday August 28th 2026**.

We are very excited to communicate with you information regarding the [California Gully Primary School – Transition Program](#), supporting our 2027 Foundation students and families.

- **CGPS - Open Morning: Friday May 15th, 9.15 -11.00am.**
Enjoy a tour of the school with CGPS 'Student Leaders'.

COLD, FLU AND COVID HYGIENE

It is that time of year when colds, flu and Covid tend to be more common around our community. Good health hygiene practices can greatly reduce the chance you will become unwell or pass it on to others.

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or elbow when you cough or sneeze.
- Throw the tissue in a plastic-lined rubbish bin after you use it.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth as germs can be spread that way.

Please discuss the above points with your children and we ask that children remain at home if unwell.

Respect * Personal Best * Care



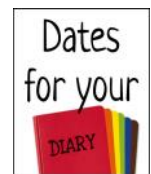
MOTHERS' DAY STALL - THANK YOU

Thank you to those families who donated gifts for our Mothers' Day stall. The stall raised \$952.00 and the raffle raised \$109.10.

Andrew Frawley
CGPS Principal

Dates for the Diary

- **Monday May 18th** - School Council Meeting
- **Friday May 22nd** - Division Cross Country Grades Three to Six
- **Friday May 29th** - National Walk Safely to School Day (Please note change of date)
- **Friday June 5th** - State Library Excursion—Grades Five and Six
- **Monday June 8th** - King's Birthday Public Holiday
- **Tuesday June 9th** - Curriculum Day—Student Free Day
- **Thursday June 11th** - 'Kids and Worry' Session (information flyer later in newsletter)
- **Wednesday June 17th** - Sovereign Hill Excursion—Grades Five and Six
- **Monday June 22nd** - School Council Meeting
- **Friday June 26th** - Last Day to Apply for CSEF in 2026
- **Friday June 26th** - Last Day of Term Two



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





Congratulations to the following students
on being named
Student of The Week



for their positive attitude to school and
social values.

Friday May 8th

Foundation A (Hinton):

- Isaac C. - For increased confidence and independence in writing.
- Alf C. - For his great contributions to The Resilience Project lessons.

Foundation B (Tonkin):

- Navy G. - For independently writing a decodable sentence.
- Zarliah Y. - For working hard to learn her sounds.

Grade 1/2 A (Carroll-Dillon):

- Luke M-S. - For an excellent information report on emus. Well Done!
- Imogen R. - For an excellent information report on emus. Well Done!

Grade 1/2 B (Ennor):

- Wyatt T. - For being an excellent participant in the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program.

Grade 1/C (Leed):

- Margø La B. - For writing an interesting and humorous narrative about 'The Gate'.
- Harmony P. - For her terrific effort writing her narrative 'The Gate'.

Grade 3/4 A (McKerrow):

- Jenika S. - For excellent recording in her reading book.
- Alexis W-L. - For excellent writing of her narrative.

Grade 3/4 B (Ryan):

- Jaylin C. - For his fantastic attitude on our excursion to Echuca.
- Annalise M. - For working hard with all learning tasks.
- Riley P. - For a fantastic week and completing all tasks asked of him with a positive attitude.
- Aria T. - For her fantastic attitude on our excursion to Echuca.

Grade 5/6 A (Price):

- Willow L. - For 100 nights of reading and a fantastic attitude to school.
- Benjamin S. - For his great attitude to cross country practice.

Grade 5/6 B (Reilly-Leel):

- John C. - For being a great help to Miss Ennor's grade during their cooking session.
- Billie D. - For writing a creative poem from a Digger's perspective in writing time.



The Smile Squad free school dental program is coming to our school

The Smile Squad team from Bendigo Health is currently at California Gully Primary School.

Smile Squad is the Victorian Government's free school dental program.

This means *all* students can receive a free dental check-up, preventive services, and treatment at school.

How to access free dental care

We need your consent before we can provide services.

Consent is usually provided by a parent or guardian.

Sign up to Smile Squad at: <https://bit.ly/smilesquadvic>

OR use the QR code below:



Paper copies of the consent form are also available. Please contact the school office if you would like one.

The electronic consent form can be translated into more than 100 languages, and the paper form is currently available in 13 languages.

Smile Squad oral health packs

All children deserve a healthy smile, and the Smile Squad free school dental program is working hard to help make this happen.

Your child(ren) will soon receive a free oral health pack to bring home. The pack contains a toothbrush, full-sized toothpaste, and an oral health brochure. Please take a moment to read the brochure—it is full of useful tips to help your family eat well, drink well, and clean well for life.

Standard strength toothpaste

Smile Squad provides standard-strength fluoride toothpaste, which is generally recommended for ages six and over unless advised otherwise by a dental or trained health professional.

If your child is under six, please speak with a dental or trained health professional to determine whether this toothpaste is suitable. Alternatively, you may choose to put the toothpaste aside until they turn six or give it to another family member.

Do I need to attend my child's appointment?

No, you do not need to attend your child's appointment. You are welcome to attend if you wish, and you can choose to take your child to a community dental clinic if that suits your family better.



KIDS AND WORRY

**California Gully Primary School
Invites you to a parent/carer
session on Kids and Worry.**

This 90 minute workshop will explore the reasons why children worry, and ways parents and carers can support them. It will include ideas as well as practical tools to assist children to manage their worries.

Come along and be reassured, reminded of something, or perhaps learn something new.

Presented by Loddon Mallee Regional Parenting Service.



Thursday, 11 June

9.15am - 10.45am

California Gully Primary School

**Open to parents at California Gully
Primary School.**

Register to come along by contacting the school

P: 5446 8393

E: california.gully.ps@education.vic.gov.au

or by using the QR code below:



www.catholiccarevic.org.au
1800 123 228

Respect * Personal Best * Care

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





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.



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



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.

Respect * Personal Best * Care

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



SCHOOL PHOTOS 2026 - VIEW IMAGES NOW

2026 School photos of your child are now ready to view online. **Children should have brought a copy of this form home late last term with their unique code. If your child did not please email the school for their code.**

2026 Image code:

To view images follow these 3 easy steps...



- 1 Go to order.arphotos.com.au and enter the 2026 image code for your child and 'continue'
- 2 Enter your email address and password to login to your account and view images
- 3 View images, select a photo package, then select the photos you want to include before finalising your order



If you haven't purchased from us before, go to order.arphotos.com.au and enter your child's 2026 code, then follow the prompts to enter your details and create an account. Once you've created an account you can view images, order photo packages and download images.

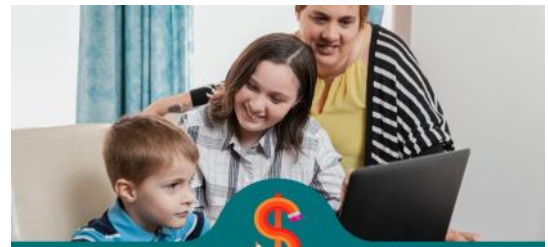
Once online you can:

- Share the images with family & friends for FREE
- Select & purchase photo packages to suit your needs using YOUR choice of images
- Choose from multiple layouts to create your package
- Download portrait images of your child



Arthur Reed Photos Pty. Ltd.
 ABN 61 720 434 890
 (03) 5243 4390
customerservice@arphotos.com.au

Gratitude Empathy Mindfulness & Emotional Literacy



Get up to \$500 for education costs.

Achieve a savings goal for 10 months and ANZ will match it up to \$500.

1300 610 355
saverplus.org.au



Artisticat

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

ACTIVE KIDS ARE HEALTHY KIDS

JOIN US
FRIDAY 22 MAY 2026

Until they're ten, children must always hold an adult's hand when crossing the road

Respect * Personal Best * Care

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



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.

Carer Gateway may support you with things like help at home, young carer social events, counselling or study help.



Scan to learn more

Free support, call now!
1800 422 737
carergateway.gov.au



SUPPORTING NEURODIVERGENT CHILDREN IN COMMUNITY SPORT

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

Monday 11th May, 6pm-8.30pm
@ Epsom Huntly Recreation Reserve

or

Sunday 21st June, 2pm-4.30pm
@ Lake Weeroona Pavilion

or

Wednesday 8th July, 6pm-8.30pm
@ Lake Weeroona Pavilion

Light refreshments provided



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

This FREE workshop will help community sports clubs and physical activity providers understand neurodiversity and how to implement practical strategies to create inclusive, supportive environments for neurodivergent children. This interactive workshop is a neuro-affirming session developed and facilitated by people with lived experience

Contact Jo at Sports Focus for further information on 5442 3101 or joc@sportsfocus.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 7077 | (0428 471 077

bendigomajorleague.com.au
admin@bendigomajorleague.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



Respect * Personal Best * Care

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





COME & TRY

UNDER 10 GIRLS COMPETITION

The Bendigo Junior Football League are looking at creating an Under 10 Girls Competition in 2026

Gather some friends and join in some activities at Mercy Junortoun Sporting Precinct Friday 15th May at 4:15pm



Girls born in 2016, 2017, 2018 or prior to 30 April 2019

WANT TO PLAY FOOTBALL?

Junior Players Needed

U7 Mixed | U10 Girls | U12 Boys



KICK IT WITH US



GOLDENCITYFC.COM

goldencitysc@gmail.com



STADIUM Re-opening

SATURDAY
30 MAY 2026

Official Ceremony at 12:00pm
Activities from 11:00am

- Bendigo Braves Meet & Greet Clinic
- Pickleball Games and Demonstrations
- Functional Training & Group Fitness Activities
 - Jumping Castle
- Light refreshments & BBQ from 11:30am



Join us as we celebrate the re-opening of the Peter Krenz Leisure Centre stadium.

Peter Krenz Leisure Centre
16 Napier St, Eaglehawk VIC 3556



STRIKERS NETBALL

MONDAY 29TH JUNE

COST \$50

6-14YO

Includes a free kids ticket to home game and some giveaways.

BENDIGO SOUTH EAST COLLEGE GYMNASIUM
KECK STREET, FLORA HILL



Clinic

10:00PM - 12:00PM	CHECK IN
1:30PM	CLINIC & ACTIVITIES COMMENCES
4:00PM	CLINIC FINISHES
4:00PM	SIGNATURES, PHOTOS & GIVEAWAYS
4:30PM	PICK UP

BYO Drink Bottle and Snack
Fruit supplied by McKern Steel Foundation



REGISTER NOW



Respect * Personal Best * Care

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

