

The Bell Topper

California Gully Primary School 123

Volume 44 No. 15

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Facebook: California Gully Primary School

Thursday May 21st, 2026

MISS MARTINIELLO – MATERNITY LEAVE

On behalf of the California Gully Primary School community, we would like to wish Hayley all the very best as she prepares to begin her maternity leave next week. We thank Miss M for all that she has contributed and wish her and her family every happiness, good health and many wonderful memories in the exciting months ahead. We look forward to hearing updates and cannot wait to meet the newest little member of the extended CGPS family.

We would also like to welcome Kym Childs into the CGPS community. Kym has been a regular CRT with us this year and look forward to her supporting both Foundation and the PE Program.



SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY – GOLDFIELDS SANDHURST CROSS COUNTRY

Wishing students in Grade 3-6 that are participating in the Goldfields Sandhurst Cross Country tomorrow (Friday 22nd). A reminder that this event is all about supporting each other in achieving their personal best and having fun!

Can all students in grades three and four please be on time ready to leave at 9.00 a.m.

Due to staff and students attending this event in the afternoon, we will not hold an assembly tomorrow.

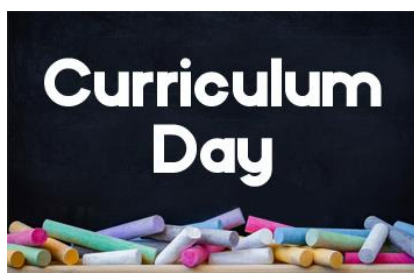
WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY (FRIDAY MAY 29th)

Although tomorrow is officially 'Walk Safely to School Day', we will be holding this morning next Friday May 29th, due to the clash with the Division Cross Country (and Grade 3/4 students needing to leave very close to 9a.m.). This is always a great way to begin your day and an important reminder to talk about road safety with children.

If you would like to walk a little further or drop children off with support of CGPS staff please, see below locations:

Rose Street Playground. Departing for school at 8.35a.m. (400m)

187 Upper California Gully Road (In front of ASQ), departing for CGPS at 8.30a.m.(600m)



CURRICULUM DAY – TUESDAY JUNE 9th

Please note that Tuesday June 9th is scheduled Curriculum Day. The focus of this day is developing assessment and more efficient processes when using data in Mathematics to inform teaching. We are fortunate to be working with 7 other schools. It is important to note teaching staff will not be onsite at CGPS on this day, we are working from the 'Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership' (Bendigo Office).

Respect * Personal Best * Care

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



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 from [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**.

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.

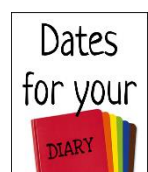
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or elbow when you cough or sneeze.
- Throw the tissue in a plastic-lined rubbish bin after you use it.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth as germs can spread that way.

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

Andrew Frawley
CGPS Principal

Dates for the Diary

- **Friday May 22nd** - Division Cross Country Grades Three to Six
- **Thursday May 28th** - Book Club Issue Four Orders Due Back
- **Friday May 29th** - National Walk Safely to School Day (Please note change of date)
- **Friday May 29th** - 'Decades' Dress-Up Day
- **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
- **Monday July 13th** - First Day of Term Three
- **Friday July 31st** - Applications for Foundation 2027 Due



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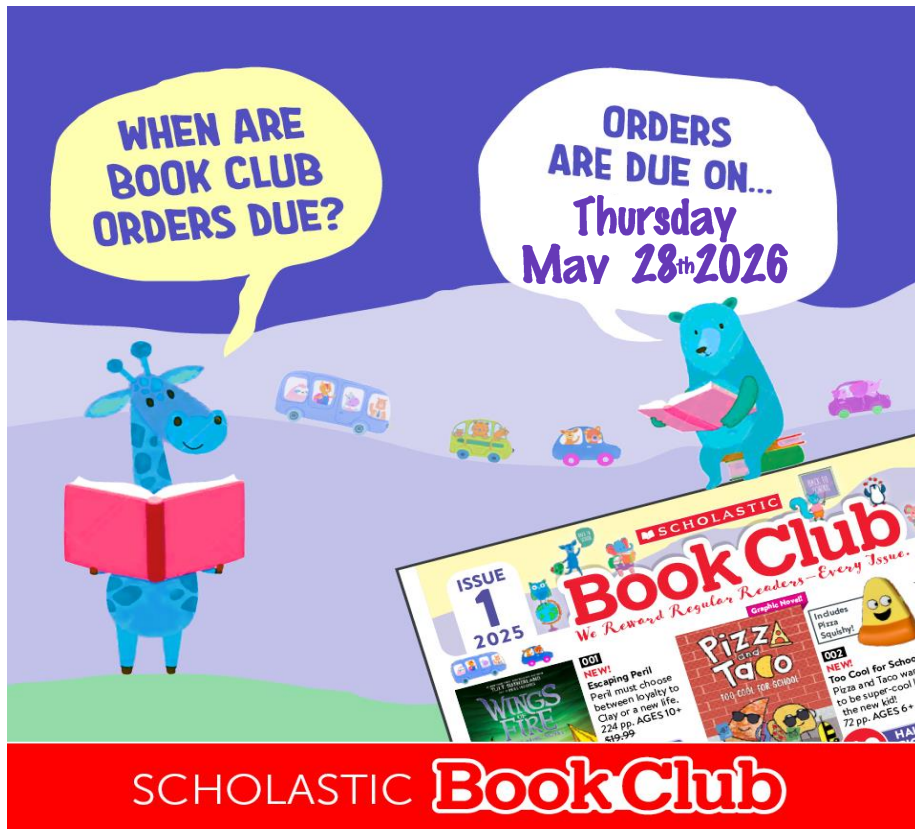


SCHOOL ARRIVAL TIMES AND EARLY COLLECTION

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 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. To support Child Safe and OHS procedures, we ask that everyone respects this request. Thank you for your care and understanding.



WHEN ARE BOOK CLUB ORDERS DUE?

ORDERS ARE DUE ON...
Thursday
May 28th 2026

SCHOLASTIC Book Club

ISSUE 1 2025

We Reward Regular Readers - Every Issue.

NEW! Escaping Peril! Peril must choose between loyalty to Clay or a new life. 224 pp. AGES 10+ \$19.99

Includes Pizza Locality!

NEW! Pizza and Taco went to be super-cool like the new kid. 72 pp. AGES 6+ \$7.99

WINGS FIRE

PIZZA and TACO

TOO COOL FOR SCHOOL

SCHOLASTIC Book Club



BENDIGO CALIFORNIA GULLY P.S.

Foodshare HUNGRY FOR CHANGE


FOODSHARE IS WELCOME FOR ALL

CGPS FAMILIES ON THURSDAYS FROM 3.00 - 3.30PM IN THE SHED

EVERYONE WELCOME!

TAKE WHAT YOU NEED. SHARE THE GOODNESS!

If you would like to volunteer to help please contact Kerry Phillips or Amanda Tonkin.



DECADES go back in TIME

90's Friday May 29th 20's

raising money for Backpacks 4 kids

2000's

GOLD COIN DOWN

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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 May 15th

Foundation A (Hinton):

- Arlo G. - For consistent effort with home reading.
Logan M. - For working well to complete his work neatly.

Foundation B (Tonkin):

- Eli R. - For his growing confidence to participate in class discussions.

Grade 1/2 A (Carroll-Dillon):

- Tyga H. - For great participation in the Cross Country Run. Well Done!
Grayson K. - For great participation in the Cross Country Run. Well Done!

Grade 1/2 B (Ennor):

- Percy E. - For an excellent Castlemaine recount.

Grade 3/4 A (McKerrow):

- Violet F. - For excellent narrative writing.
Nellie W. - For excellent narrative writing.

Grade 3/4 B (Ryan):

- Amity H. - For her hard work in finding the perimeter of different shapes.
Opal L. - For writing a fantastic narrative and structuring it well with paragraphs.

Grade 5/6 A (Price):

- Emily C. - For her excellent attitude during cross country running.
Addie W. - For her great presentation of her animal graphing.

Grade 5/6 B (Reilly-Lee):

- Mia B. - For being a great cheerleader at the school cross country – encouraging everyone to do their best.
Logan W. - For trying his hardest at the school cross country and giving it his all.



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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

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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

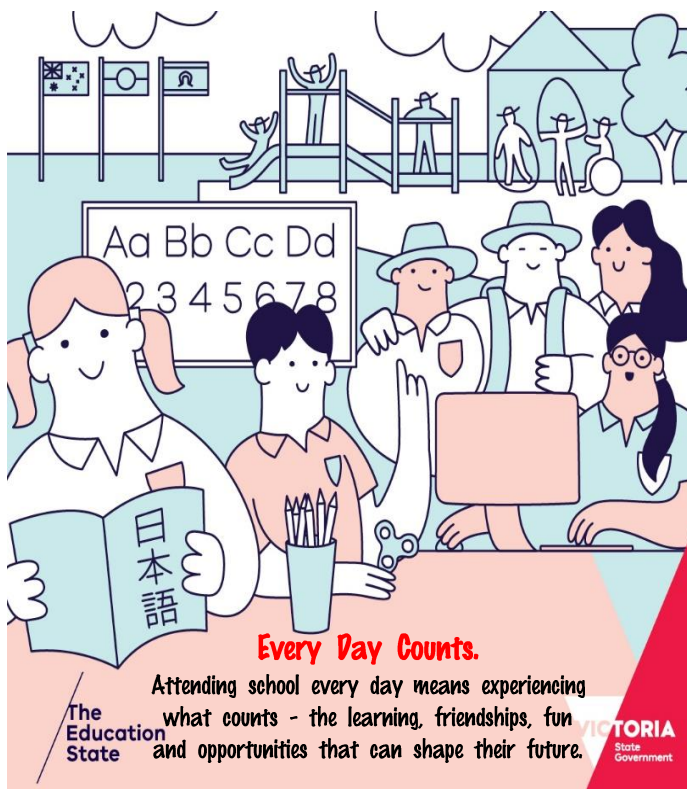
Fridays
 9.30-11.30am
 Staley Street, California Gully

Contact facilitator
 Tiffany Holschier
 0498 642 909
 tiffanyholschier@bchs.com.au

Morning tea provided
 Enrolments essential

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



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

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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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

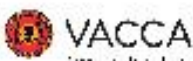
Email

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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Gratitude Empathy Mindfulness & Emotional Literacy



Artistic Cat

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



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.
A.B.N. 46 238 404 970
(03) 5243 4390
customerservice@arphotos.com.au



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 — 5 pm,
Each Thursday during school terms

Contact: 5446 8135 press 1 and leave a message

Afternoon tea will be provided each week.

In partnership with



Respect * Personal Best * Care

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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



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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RICHMOND AFLW

COME & PLAY



RICHMOND
EST 1885



An opportunity to join in a clinic with Richmond AFLW Players while they visit Bendigo as part of their Community Camp!

LOCATION:

MERCY JUNORTOUN
SPORTING PRECINCT

DATE & TIME:

MONDAY 1ST JUNE
4:15PM-5:15PM

WHO:

GIRLS AGED 5-12

REGISTER:



WANT TO PLAY FOOTBALL?

Junior Players Needed

U7 Mixed | U10 Girls | U12 Boys



KICK IT WITH US



GOLDENCITYFC.COM

goldencitysc@gmail.com

PETER KRENZ LEISURE CENTRE

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



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

bendigomajorsleague.com.au
admin@bendigomajorsleague.com.au

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



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](#)

