

The Bell Topper

California Gully Primary School 123

Volume 44 No. 16

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 28th, 2026

WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY (FRIDAY MAY 29th)

California Gully Primary School 'Walk Safely to School Day', will be held tomorrow morning, Friday May 29th, due to the clash with the Division Cross Country (and Grade 3/4 students were required to leave very close to 9a.m.) last week. 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:

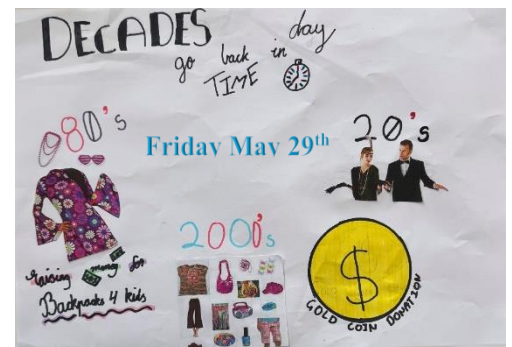
Rose Street Playground. Departing for school at 8.35a.m. (400m)

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



BACKPACKS 4 KIDS - FRIDAY MAY 29th

Junior School Council are asking kids to dress in 'Decade' clothing and provide a donation. Backpack 4 Vic Kids is a wonderful organisation that supports children and young people entering foster care, emergency accommodation, or experiencing difficult circumstances by providing essential items and comfort packs. These backpacks are thoughtfully filled with everyday necessities and special comfort items to help children feel cared for during times of uncertainty. We encourage our school community to support this important initiative and thank everyone for helping make a positive difference in the lives of young people across Victoria.



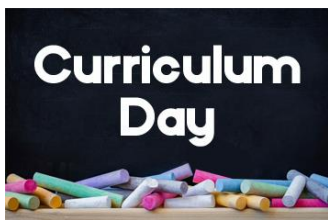
National Reconciliation Week is a time for all Australians to engage in shared histories and cultures and understand how we can all work towards reconciliation. From May 27th to June 3rd of every year, National Reconciliation Week is a time to reflect and celebrate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey.

Reconciliation is also an education process and the key to positive change. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures form a crucial part of the CGPS curriculum and provides the opportunity for all students to gain a deeper understanding of First Nations cultures, traditions and stories.

Respect * Personal Best * Care

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





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).



SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY – GOLDFIELDS SANDHURST CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to students 3-6 that participated in the Goldfields Sandhurst Cross Country on Friday. It is no surprise that CGPS students demonstrated positive attitudes, enthusiasm and support for each other in achieving their personal best. A few podium finishes to celebrate although most importantly having fun was the most important outcome for all!

SUPERVISION ARRANGEMENTS BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

Student safety at California Gully Primary School is our highest priority and the safe and appropriate supervision of students is an important element of our duty of care to students. Part of this duty is ensuring parents and students are aware of our student supervision arrangements before and after school.

Before school: School grounds are supervised at 8.40 a.m., where students will enter via Staley Street or Bell Topper Way - Car Park.

After school: School grounds are supervised from 3.15 to 3.30 p.m., with a focus on the main Staley Street exit and Bell Topper Way – Car Park.

Students on school grounds outside these times will not be supervised (unless they are attending a before or after school care program or supervised extracurricular activity).

Parents/carers are requested to ensure that students do not attend school outside of these supervised times unless they are attending before or after school care, or a pre-arranged supervised activity (i.e. sports practice).

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, complete enrolment forms to accept the offer by **Friday August 28th, 2026**.

Andrew Frawley
CGPS Principal

Respect * Personal Best * Care

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



Dates for the Diary

- **Friday May 29th** - National Walk Safely to School Day (Please note change of date)
- **Friday May 29th** - 'Decades' Dress-Up Day (Gold coin donation required)
- **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



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.

Respect * Personal Best * Care

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 22nd

Foundation A (Hinton):

- Bonnie M. - For consistently completing her work independently and of a high standard.
Clayton S. - For adding more details to his drawings.

Grade 1/2 A (Carroll-Dillon):

- Blair M. - For great work during our mass sessions in Numeracy. Well Done!
Evie S.-C. - For great work with partitioning numbers. Well Done!

Grade 1/2 B (Ennor):

- Piper B. - For using great expression in out-loud reading.
Aria D. - For great listening skills in math.

Grade 1/C (Leed):

- Tyron T. - For showing kindness to his peers and being a helpful class member.
Kinsley T. - For working independently in the Little Learners program.

Grade 3/4 A (McKerrow):

- Kayden H. - For excellent on his math test.
Hamish J. - For excellent narrative writing.

Grade 3/4 B (Ryan):

- Maci H. - For her excellent work in finding the area and perimeter of different shapes.
Kanyon T. - For his excellent work finding the area and perimeter of different shapes.

Grade 5/6 A (Price):

- Layla B. - For working hard on all tasks and giving her best effort.
Tommy R. - For his word choice and effort in his stories.



**KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR SOME EXCITING NEWS ABOUT OUR
NEW SCHOOL UNIFORM SUPPLIER!!
ALL WILL BE REVEALED SOON.**

Respect * Personal Best * Care

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



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

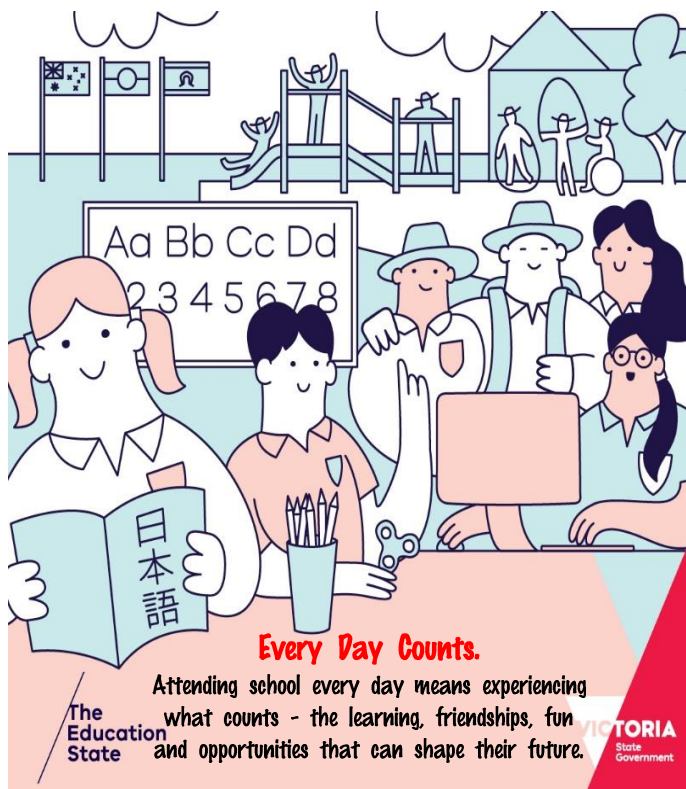
Fridays 9.30-11.30am
 Staley Street, California Gully

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.

Respect * Personal Best * Care

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





© 2018 Anglicare Victoria

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

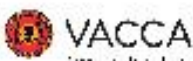
Email

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

Respect * Personal Best * Care

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



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.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



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

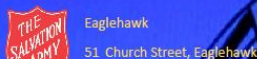
Light refreshments provided



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

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



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 - 5pm, 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

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



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



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 JUNORTOWN
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

Cough or sneeze into arm



Keep your distance



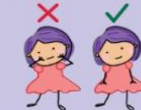
Wash hands



Sanitise hands



Don't touch your face



Stay at home if sick



Respect * Personal Best * Care

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



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 COMMENCE
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



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

Stage School Australia

BOOK YOUR AUDITION FOR 2026 TODAY!

Singing, Dancing & Acting Classes
For ages 4 - 18.



25+ Locations across Melbourne!

stageschool.com.au

Reordering through Book Club creates

Healthy READING HABITS!

SCHOLASTIC **BookClub**

Research tells us that independent choice is key to keeping children engaged in reading.

SCHOLASTIC **BookClub**

Respect * Personal Best * Care

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

