The Bell Topper

California Gully Primary School 123

Volume 44 No. 34

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Thursday October 22nd, 2026

TERM FOUR BUULDING WORKS AT CALIFORNIA GULLY PRIMARY SCHOOL

California Gully Primary School is preparing for a program of planned maintenance and building works. **The current construction program has preparation work to begin next week and continue into January 2027, including through the summer break.** Attached with the newsletter is a document that provides further detail and information. If you have any questions, please reach out to Andrew.

PROJECT ROCKIT – FRIDAY OCTOBER 23rd

Project Rockit are once again attending CGPS and will work with the 3/4's (1 Session) and 5/6's (2 Sessions). The workshops are linked to building positive relationships (3/4), online safety (5/6) and inclusive culture building (5/6). For more information https://www.projectrockit.com.au/

BENDIGO CUP DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY – WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 28th

A friendly reminder that next Wednesday October 28th is the 'Bendigo Cup' Public Holiday for the City of Greater Bendigo. Enjoy your day!

GYM PROGRAM – CATCH UP SESSION, THURSDAY OCTOBER 29th

Our final(4th) gym session will take place on Thursday 29th October. Industrial action impacted one of our previous sessions and we thank Emme at Palmers Gym for supporting and finding a day that will work for CGPS. As this was a pre-existing excursion, we are able to use the original permission form. Please make sure students wear appropriate clothing.

A busy day for our Grade 5/6 who will also be juggling an Incursion with GTAC Gene Technology Access Centre).

CRAZY HAIR DAY – FRIDAY OCTOBER 30th





Changing futures for cystic fibrosis (CF) takes all of us. This Crazy Hair Day you're going to do more than change up your look you're going to change the lives of people impacted by CF. We look forward to some crazy hair and a gold coin donation!

IT'S HATS OFF TO TEACHERS ON FRIDAY OCTOBER 30th!

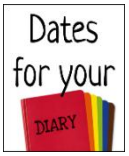
Next Friday October 30th, is a great opportunity to celebrate the incredible teachers we have at our school and thank them for all the work they do to educate, inspire and empower learners. It's time to tip our hats to the incredible educators we are lucky to have supporting our kids at CGPS!

On behalf of the CGPS Community, we say a big thank you!

CURRICULUM DAY – THANK YOU!

Thank you to our families for your support while students stayed home for our recent Curriculum Day. All staff took part in professional learning focused on *Tuning in to Students: Emotionally Intelligent Teaching – Emotion Coaching*. The professional learning helped us strengthen how we recognise, understand and respond constructively to students' emotions. We explored how emotional moments can become opportunities to support students' growth, wellbeing and connection.

TERM FOUR – CURRICULUM DAYS



Please place the following dates into the diary for Term 4:
Friday November 20th - Assessment and Report Writing
Friday December 11th – 2027 Planning

Andrew Frawley
CGPS Principal

Dates for the Diary

- **Thursday October 22nd** - Mango Fundraising Orders Due Back
- **Wednesday October 28th** - Bendigo Cup Day Public Holiday
- **Thursday October 29th** - Gym Program (make-up session for week missed in term three due to industrial action)
- **Friday October 30th** - Crazy Hair Day for Cystic Fibrosis
- **Tuesday November 17th** - GTAC Excursion – Grades Five and Six
- **Wednesday November 18th** - Echuca Excursion – Foundation to Grade Two Students
- **Thursday November 19th** - Foundation 2027 Transition Day Two 9.15 a.m. to 10.45 a.m.
- **Thursday November 19th** - Equal Threads Uniform Visit for Uniform Sizing
- **Friday November 20th** - Student Free Day – Assessment and Report Writing
- **Tuesday December 8th** - Statewide Orientation Day
- **Friday December 11th** - Student Free Day – 2027 Planning Day
- **Friday December 18th** - Final Day of 2026 School Year

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. *Before School Care is available if dropping off children before 8.40 a.m. Enrolment details are found later in the newsletter.*

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.

California Gully Primary School – School Uniform

Our school uniform supplier, State Schools Relief (SSR), has rebranded its online store to Equal Threads which will continue to provide quality, affordable uniforms while supporting students across Victoria.

There's nothing you need to do. Our school uniform range, ordering process and service all remain the same. Families can continue to easily find and purchase items using the familiar 'Shop by School' option on the new website.

Every purchase made through Equal Threads helps support students experiencing disadvantage with the essentials they need to feel confident, included, and ready to learn.

Visit the new website at

https://www.equalthreads.org.au/collections/california-gully-ps

Equal Threads will be attending our Foundation Transition Day on November 19th, with uniform sizing sets available, to assist all families with size selection before placing online orders.









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 October 15th

Foundation A (Hinton):

Arlo G. - For making excellent attempts at independent writing.

Patrick G. - For being able to hear the initial sounds in words.

Foundation B (Tonkin):

Ebony D. - For confidently contributing to class discussions.

Domenic O. - For becoming more independent in completing 'Let's Spell' tasks.

Grade 1/2 A (Carroll-Dillon):

Madelyn B. - For excellent work in her launch and explore in Maths! Well Done!

Braylen L. - For excellent work on his reading activities with Corinna. Well Done!

Grade 1/2 B (Ennor):

Percy E. - For displaying fantastic teamwork in 'What might the missing numbers be?' activity.

Koah J. - For displaying fantastic teamwork in 'What might the missing numbers be?' activity.

Grade 1/C (Leed):

Margot La B. - For her terrific effort in Maths lessons using addition.

Harmony P. - For using great addition strategies in problem solving tasks.

Grade 3/4 A (McKerrow):

Violet F. - For excellent writing of a narrative.

Kayden H. - For excellent understanding of fractions.

Grade 3/4 B (Ryan):

Charliy J. - For always doing a beautiful job of mindfulness each day.

Chase R. - For his fantastic narrative writing.

Grade 5/6 A (Price):

Layla B. - For her confidence in speaking to others.

Knox S. - For his attitude at BioLAB.

Grade 5/6 B (Reilly-Lee):

Jack B. - For such a positive start to term 4. He has shown a great attitude towards his learning and has been trying his best when things get challenging for him.







Respect * Personal Best * Care

To report an absence through the school website you can use this link Report an Absence

LAST CHANCE TO ORDER – GET YOUR ORDERS IN TOMORROW!!

The MANGO FUNDRAISER

Fresh North Queensland Mangoes

Direct from the farm to you!

Support Our Mango Fundraiser

If you *love mangoes*, here's your chance to indulge in fresh juicy Kensington Pride mangoes and support our fundraising drive.

California Gully Primary School is selling trays of mangoes picked and packed during the premium harvest.

Cost per Tray is: **$29.00** (14 to 23 Mangoes per tray dependent on size)

Place your order by: **Thursday October 22nd, 2026**

For Further information contact:

Nicole Cooper

CALIFORNIA GULLY PRIMARY SCHOOL
No. 123

P.O. Box 88, Staley Street, California Gully, 3556
Phone: 03 5446 8393 Fax: 03 5446 3115



We are SunSmart
- a note for families

Too much of the sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer.

UV damage accumulated during childhood and adolescence is associated with an increased risk of skin cancer later in life. Skin cancer is the most common cancer in Australia. It is also one of the most preventable cancers.

You can't see or feel the sun's UV. Whatever the weather, if the UV levels are three or more, it's important to *Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek and Slide*!

Sun protection times



Don't just wait for hot and sunny days to use sun protection. Check the sun protection times each day so your family can be protected when they need to be.

Daily local sun protection times and weather details are available from the SunSmart widget on our school website, in the weather section of the newspaper, on the SunSmart website at sunsmart.com.au and as a free SunSmart app. Sun protection times can also be found at the Bureau of Meteorology website and live UV levels are available from ARPANSA.

SunSmart membership

Our school is a registered member of Cancer Council Victoria's SunSmart Schools Program. We aim to protect students and staff from too much UV.

Sun protection and skin cancer prevention is a shared responsibility. Please help support our SunSmart membership and sun protection efforts by ensuring your child follows the SunSmart measures included in our policy at school and at home.

During the daily local sun protection times (usually from mid-August to the end of April), ***use these* 5 SunSmart steps – *even if it's cool and cloudy.***

1. *SLIP* on covering clothing



For free dress days, ensure your child wears clothing that covers as much skin as possible (e.g. elbow length tops with a higher neckline or collar and longer style shorts or skirts). Densely woven fabrics are best.

2. *SLOP* on SPF50+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen

Apply a generous amount of sunscreen at the start of the day and make sure children have sunscreen in their bag ready to reapply throughout the day. Sunscreen should be reapplied every two hours. Please ensure children get plenty of sunscreen application practice at home so they'll be all set when they are at school. Under supervision, ask children to put a dot of sunscreen on each cheek, nose and chin and rub it in (avoiding the eye area) and sunscreen squiggles or dots on the back of the neck, arms and legs to cover these areas.

3. *SLAP* on a hat that protects the face, neck and ears

Choose a wide-brimmed, legionnaire or bucket hat. Peak caps and visors do not offer enough UV protection so please leave them at home. Please help your child remember to bring and wear their approved ***school hat***. Please keep this at school so they will always be ready for outdoor activities, outdoor learning and play during school days. For the walk to and from school and weekends, please have an extra ***home hat*** to help keep children protected at home.

4. *SEEK* shade

Choose shady spots for learning and play whenever possible.

5. *SLIDE* on wrap-around AS1067 sunglasses

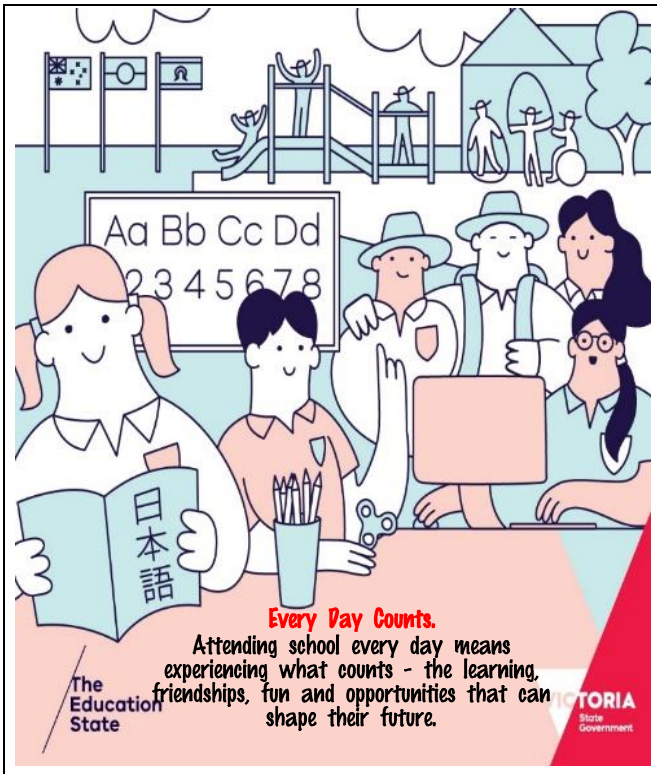
When appropriate and practical, help protect the eyes with sunglasses.

Need information in another language? *Call 13 14 50 and ask to be connected to Cancer Council Victoria in your language*

sunsmart.com.au

Cancer Council Victoria

VICTORIA State Government



Bendigo Community Health Services

smalltalk



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



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

DISCOVERY CENTRE

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



GAMES FROM 4PM

Bendigo Major League MULTISPORTS

AGE GROUPS
- 5 & UNDER
- 7 & UNDER
- 9 & UNDER
- 11 & UNDER

TERM 4 2026 + TERM 1 2027

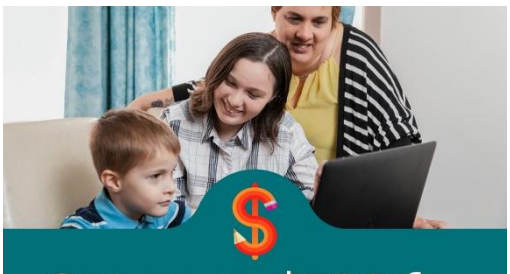
JUNIOR FUTSAL

MONDAY
Competition

WEDNESDAY
Beginner league

SCAN QR CODE BELOW TO REGISTER

1-3 Waterson Court, Golden Square VIC 3555
PHONE: 0428 471 077
EMAIL: admin@bendigomajorleague.com.au



Get up to $500 for education costs.

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

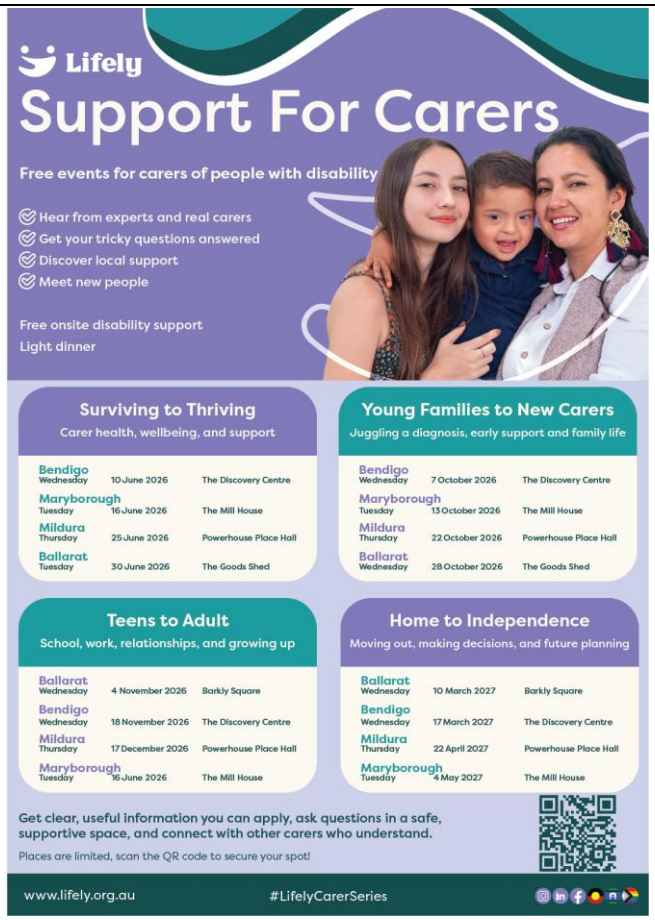
1300 610 355
saverplus.org.au

saverplus

Respect * Personal Best * Care

To report an absence through the school website you can use this link Report an Absence


nab AFL Auskick
4-7 YEAR OLDS*
Your introduction into Australian football centred around game-based activities kids love.
AFL Superkick
7-12 YEAR OLDS
Designed for any child to give it a go, with a focus on skill development and learning how to play the game.
*Kids can join NAB AFL Auskick if they are turning 5 in the calendar year (before 30th June in WA).
BENDIGO & SURROUNDS
WEEROONA OVAL, BENDIGO
STARTING NOVEMBER 2
MONDAYS 4:30PM - 5:30PM
$55 | INCLUDES FOOTY!
AUSKICK
SUPERKICK


Lifely
Support For Carers
Free events for carers of people with disability
Hear from experts and real carers
Get your tricky questions answered
Discover local support
Meet new people
Free onsite disability support
Light dinner
Surviving to Thriving
Carer health, wellbeing, and support
Bendigo Wednesday 10 June 2026 The Discovery Centre
Maryborough Tuesday 16 June 2026 The Mill House
Mildura Thursday 25 June 2026 Powerhouse Place Hall
Ballarat Tuesday 30 June 2026 The Goods Shed
Young Families to New Carers
Juggling a diagnosis, early support and family life
Bendigo Wednesday 7 October 2026 The Discovery Centre
Maryborough Tuesday 13 October 2026 The Mill House
Mildura Thursday 22 October 2026 Powerhouse Place Hall
Ballarat Wednesday 28 October 2026 The Goods Shed
Teens to Adult
School, work, relationships, and growing up
Ballarat Wednesday 4 November 2026 Barkly Square
Bendigo Wednesday 18 November 2026 The Discovery Centre
Mildura Thursday 17 December 2026 Powerhouse Place Hall
Maryborough Tuesday 16 June 2026 The Mill House
Home to Independence
Moving out, making decisions, and future planning
Ballarat Wednesday 10 March 2027 Barkly Square
Bendigo Wednesday 17 March 2027 The Discovery Centre
Mildura Thursday 22 April 2027 Powerhouse Place Hall
Maryborough Tuesday 4 May 2027 The Mill House
Get clear, useful information you can apply, ask questions in a safe, supportive space, and connect with other carers who understand.
Places are limited, scan the QR code to secure your spot!
www.lifely.org.au
#LifelyCarerSeries


LEGO MANIA
BUILD & CREATE
"Friends" LEGO City Community Build
Join us at the Red Door Community Centre for an exciting LEGO building event!
Help us create an amazing community LEGO display that will be showcased in our shop window for all to enjoy.
ALL ABILITIES WELCOME
SAFE & SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT
MAKE NEW FRIENDS
GET CREATIVE
We can't wait to build something incredible with you!
Register your interest now for September school holidays with the QR code.
$7.50 per hour
(03) 4448 2020
www.sportzrulz.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
Carer Gateway
Holstep Health
HEALTH











Respect * Personal Best * Care

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

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.

VACCA

PARTNERSHIP LOGOS

PARTNERSHIP LOGOS

PARTNERSHIP LOGOS

BETTER TOMORROWS

anglicarevic.org.au


Do you know which junior sports are available in Bendigo, when they are played and when to register?
Visit
www.sportsfocus.com.au
Check out the
Bendigo Junior Sports Calendar
for all the information
SPORTS FOCUS
SAFE • WELCOMING • INCLUSIVE


TheirCare
Where Kids love to be!
Up to 90% of Child Care costs can be covered by Child Care Subsidy!
Enrolments Now Open!
Enrolments are now open for families to enrol.
Enrolments are completed online at www.theircare.com.au and usually takes approx. 15 to 20 minutes to complete.
See FAQs on our website
theircare.com.au/families