

The Bell Topper

California Gully Primary School 123

Volume 44 No. 29

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Facebook: California Gully Primary School

Thursday September 3rd, 2026

FATHER'S DAY



We hope all of the dad's, Grandparents and special friends have a wonderful Father's Day on Sunday. We know there will be some wonderful gifts delivered thanks to the stall held today. Thank you to our fantastic helpers for their preparation and organization, and to everyone that donated many amazing gifts. Once again thank you to all that have helped to make the stall such a positive one for all!

2026 PARENT CAREGIVER AND GUARDIAN OPINION SURVEY

This survey is now open until Friday September 18th, 2026. The survey seeks feedback on school climate, community engagement in learning, teaching practices for student engagement and outcomes, and attitudes towards school attendance.

ASTHMA & ALLERGIES

If children need medication for Hay Fever and/or allergies through the school day please bring it to the school office, clearly named with pharmacy label attached. Make sure that the medication is in date. Inform the school office if your child has been medicated before school on any particular day. If your child is asthmatic please provide an up-to-date asthma plan, medication available at school and, if appropriate, a spacer.



CALIFORNIA GULLY PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS

A reminder that students are expected to wear the correct school uniform each day. This is particularly important when attending excursions and community events, as students are representing California Gully Primary School. Thank you to families for supporting our students to wear their uniform with pride. If you need support, please reach out to our Well-Being Team or order using www.equalthreads.org.au.

ILLNESS



Unfortunately, we have continued to see high levels of illness with many students, staff and families.

If your child is unwell, please keep them at home and notify the school of their absence.

Illnesses such as the common cold, influenza and RSV spread easily, and we need healthy students and staff at school. Keeping everyone healthy remains a priority.

SUN SMART - HATS

With the weather warming up and UV index increasing on a daily basis. It is extremely important to have hats available at school. CGPS support the use of sun protection measures when the **UV index levels are 3 or higher**. In Term 4 the 'No Hat No Play' policy will always be followed. Hats can be purchased from www.equalthreads.org.au, or a Navy Blue Bucket/wide brim is fine.



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

- **Monday September 7th** - Jirrahlinga Wildlife Sanctuary Excursion - Grades Three and Four
- **Wednesday September 9th** - Hope and Action Student Sustainability Summit – Grades Three and Four
- **Friday September 11th** - Passions and Pathways Session Three – Grades Five and Six
- **Monday September 14th** - School Council Meeting 3.30 p.m.
- **Wednesday September 16th** - Eaglehawk Secondary College – Big Day Out (Year Six students only)
- **Thursday September 17th** - ‘Room on the Broom’ performance – Foundation to Grade Two
- **Friday September 18th** - Last Day of Term Three
2.15 p.m. Dismissal
- **Monday October 5th** - First Day of Term Four
- **Thursday October 28th** - Bendigo Cup Day public Holiday
- **Thursday October 29th** - Gym Program (make-up session for missed in term three due to industrial action)



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>

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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 1,500kg of free fruit to Bendigo school children every week.



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.

RESILIENCE PROJECT

FAMILY HUB

As part of our work with The Resilience Project this term, our emphasis has been on **Empathy**. The Family Hub helps build healthy habits – not just for your kids, but for you too. You will find:

- Bite-sized videos
- Practical tips and ideas
- Family-friendly activities



Empathy

Putting ourselves in the shoes of others to feel and see what they do. We practice this through being kind and compassionate towards other people.



Video

Tips to manage overwhelm as a parent with Dr. Em. Duration: 5 minutes and 15 seconds

Family Activity

Developing empathy helps us to foster deeper connections, increases our likelihood of acting kindly, and helps us experience positive emotions. Try practising empathy with our Family Vocabulary activity.



Foodshare HUNGRY FOR CHANGE

California Gully P.S.

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.

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

Bendigo Community Health Services

smalltalk stronger families support children



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



**Gratitude
Empathy
Mindfulness &
Emotional Literacy**



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.



Scan to learn more

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



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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 August 28th

Foundation A (Hinton):

- Isaac C. - For writing sentences that make sense.
Louie R. - For showing more independence during writing time.

Foundation B (Tonkin):

- Phoenix M. - For great attempts at independent writing.
Domenic O. - For turning up to school each day with a positive attitude.

Grade 1/2 A (Carroll-Dillon):

- Madelyn B. - For always having a positive and cheerful attitude to her learning. Well Done!
Milani R. - For being a helpful and caring student. Well Done!

Grade 1/2 B (Ennor):

- Piper B. - For a magnificent performance as Frank.
Isaiah C. - For always giving his best.
Eleanor S. - For always giving her best.

Grade 1/C (Leed):

- Aiyannah B.-B. - For her great effort in Reading.
Eleanor F. - For her humorous and well written letter to Broccoli.

Grade 3/4 A (McKerrow):

- Caitlin B. - For excellent work with arrays.
Letaiah M. - For excellent work with arrays.

Grade 3/4 B (Ryan):

- Annalise M. - For her thoughtful planning and care when creating her graphic novel.
Mirabella N. - For successfully completing MiniLit level 2. Congratulations!
Riley P. - For being a helpful and caring student who is willing to support others.



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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



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





NBL TAKES OVER BENDIGO

2-6 SEPT



10 TEAMS. 5 DAYS. 1 WINNER.

**50% OFF
FAMILY TICKETS**

The CODE Sports NBL Blitz takes over Bendigo from 2-6 September, bringing all 10 NBL clubs together for five days of elite basketball, live entertainment and family fun.

The **McKern Steel** community can score 50% off family tickets!

USE CODE: MCKERN50

NBLBLITZ.COM.AU

VICTORIA
EVERY BIT DIFFERENT

Respect * Personal Best * Care

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



JOIN US!

STRIKERS NETBALL CLUB

TWILIGHT SEASON 2026

LOOKING FOR A FUN, TEAM-BASED SPORT?
COME PLAY NETBALL WITH US IN 2026!
New and experienced players welcome!

TWILIGHT SEASON RUNS OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2025

FOR A FRIENDLY
2-a-side game
with minimal contact
friendly to all

SKILLS & DEVELOPMENT
Develop your skills
technique and strategy
while having fun

ALL NEW & OLD
20+ experienced players
at all abilities that
create a real team

EXPERIENCE GAINED
All our players
play the game
after school

BOYS & GIRLS
GRADE 3 AND ABOVE

INTERESTED?
REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TODAY!
MORE INFORMATION TO COME SOON.

CONTACT US:
Facebook: [facebook.com/strikersnetballclub](#)
Instagram: [instagram.com/strikersnetballclub](#)

STRIKERS NETBALL CLUB

MAIDENGULLY MARIST CC EST. 1977

JUNIORS COME AND JOIN OUR CLUB!

PLAY. LEARN. GROW. BELONG.
BE PART OF SOMETHING SPECIAL!

LOOKING FOR
U11, U12, U14 & U16

ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME!

TRY CRICKET WITH OUR

CRICKET BLAST

MASTER BLASTER
FUN, ACTIVE & PERFECT
FOR KIDS AGED 5-7

JUNIOR BLAST
GREAT FOR KIDS
AGED 7-9 LOOKING
TO GIVE CRICKET
A GO!

**FRIENDSHIPS
CONFIDENCE
TEAMWORK
FUN!**

CONTACT STEVE!

EMAIL: juniorscoordinator@mcmcricкет.club OR TEXT: **0419 196 332**

ONE CLUB. ONE TEAM. MAIDENGULLY MARIST CRICKET CLUB. EST. 1977

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.

BENDIGO ALL GIRLS AUSKICK AND SUPERKICK CENTRE

WEEROONA OVAL, BENDIGO

STARTING AUGUST 25TH

TUESDAYS 4:15PM - 5:15PM

Register to go in the draw to win a Richmond AFLW Guernsey!

AUSKICK

SUPERKICK

*Kids can join NAB AFL Auskick if they are turning 5 in the calendar year (before 30th June in 2026)

Paw & People SUPPORTS
People. Paws. Practical Understanding.

Amegilla ND Community Hub
Hosted at

CONFUSED ABOUT THE NDIS CHANGES?

You don't have to navigate it alone.

- SHOULD WE STILL APPLY NOW?
- WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE NEED?
- WHAT DOES FUNCTIONAL CAPACITY MEAN?
- WHAT CHANGES IN 2028?
- WHAT SHOULD WE BE DOING NOW?

A practical information evening for **NDIS participants, parents, carers and neurodivergent families.**

WHAT YOU'LL LEAVE UNDERSTANDING:

What's changing
What is happening now, what comes next and what begins in 2028.

What evidence helps
What the NDIS looks for, why functional capacity matters and the evidence that supports it.

What to do next
Practical steps, questions to ask and information to start gathering.

TICKETS \$10
Ticket proceeds donated to Amegilla ND Community Hub

“You don't need ALL the answers. Just the next question.”

FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2026 6:00PM Doors open 5:45pm

AMEGILLA ND COMMUNITY HUB
20 Longlea Lane, Longlea

BOOK YOUR SPOT TODAY!
Scan the QR code or visit <https://info144385.wixsite.com/pawandpeoplesupports>

Spaces Limited. Book early!

Neurodivergent insights, lived experience & disability justice understanding Helping children feel safe, regulated and empowered Practical strategies for home, school & life Practical guidance to help you feel informed, supported & confident

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

Respect * Personal Best * Care

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



Looking towards 2027 Term 1

PROPS THEATRE

@propstheatre @ f

Stage One for 5 - 8 years
Stage Two for 9 - 12 years

LOCATION
82A Mitchell Street Studio
www.propstheatre.com.au
Enrolments OPEN

SCAN ME




STRATHFIELDSAYE
STRATH
BASKETBALL CLUB

NEW PLAYERS WELCOME

SUMMER SEASON

Born 2020-2017?
We'd love to hear from you!

Strong interest may help us form additional teams in these age groups.

Older juniors and adults welcome too
Team placement depends on player numbers and available vacancies

REGISTRATIONS AND ENQUIRIES OPEN NOW
strathfieldsayebc@gmail.com

Strath Starts Here



 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 



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



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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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GAMES
FROM
4PM



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



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



Holiday camps on sale now!



MINECRAFT

Coding • Animation • Craft & much more

Book now at codecamp.com.au/flyer

SAVE \$25

Use coupon code
FLYER25 at checkout

Supported by
 W GROUP

ALL GIRLS
GROUPS
AVAILABLE

PLAY

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS SORTED

PLAY.AFL/HOLIDAYPROGRAMS

BENDIGO AFL SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

TUESDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER | 9AM-3PM
BACKHAUS OVAL, BENDIGO
BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 4-12
\$55 PER PERSON - FOOTY TO KEEP!



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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**

Exciting News: OSHC Partnership with TheirCare

We're thrilled to announce a brand-new partnership with **TheirCare**, a leading independent provider of Outside of School Hours Care (OSHC)! Starting July 2026, TheirCare has joined our school community to deliver exceptional care and unforgettable experiences for our students.

What does this mean for our families?

- **Safe & Supportive:** TheirCare creates a welcoming environment where every child feels valued and secure.
- **Fun & Engaging:** Kids will enjoy a variety of play-based learning programs designed to spark creativity, build friendships, and develop essential life skills.
- **Inclusive & Inspiring:** Every child is encouraged to explore, discover, and grow—together!

As well as offering After School Care, they are also offering Before School Care.

Want to learn more?

Visit theircare.com.au or call TheirCare's friendly support team on **1300 072 410**, alternatively you can email Angela.Waters@education.vic.gov.au.



TheirCare
Where Kids love to be!

California Gully Primary School

Special, engaging & fun experiences for children | Develop creativity, life skills & confidence through play | Qualified, caring & engaged staff | Exciting & thoughtfully developed programs | Healthy & happy, well protected, each day

Bookings now open!

	Monday - Friday Before School	After School Care Monday - Friday	Out-of-school hours after school Care (any day)
Before School Care (BSC)	\$25.00 (10:00am - 12:00pm)	\$25.00	\$25.00
After School Care (ASC)	\$25.00 (12:00pm - 1:00pm)	\$25.00	\$25.00
Full Day Fee	\$25.00 (10:00am - 1:00pm)	\$25.00	\$25.00
Holiday Program	\$25.00 (10:00am - 1:00pm)	\$25.00	\$25.00

Cancellation Fee
All cancellations require 48 hours notice.
BSC/ASC within 48 hours of session start time: \$5.00
Holiday Program within 9 days of session start time: \$25.00
Same day cancellation fee is out-of-pocket session fee

Late Booking Fee
All late bookings require 48 hours notice.
BSC/ASC within 48 hours of session start time: \$5.00
Holiday Program, book less than 9 days from the session start time fee is \$25.00

Late Pick-up Fee
All late pick-ups must be paid in cash before 5pm.
\$5 per minute after service closure time

To register visit theircare.com.au

Book Now

Save up to 90% with child care subsidy

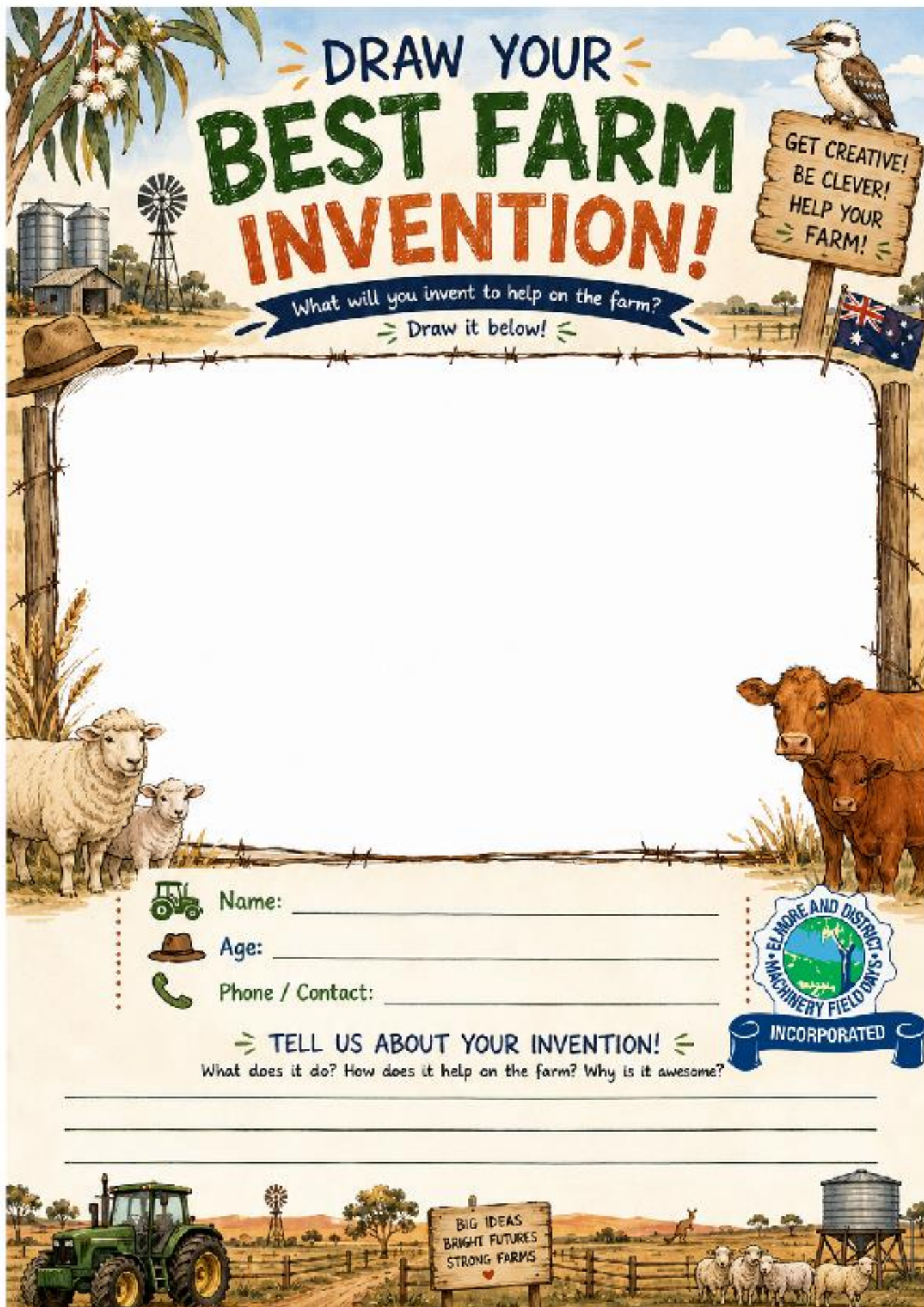
1300 072 410
Your service Coordinator will be available during session times.

TheirCare support team is available between 8.30am - 5pm weekdays (Eastern Standard Time) on **1300 072 410** or info@theircare.com.au

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