



Calder Chronicle

NUMBER 17

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THURSDAY, 7TH JUNE, 2018

CALENDAR

Friday, 8th June

Monday, 11th June

Thursday, 14th June

Friday, 15th June

Monday, 18th June

Monday 25th June

Wednesday, 27th June

Thursday, 28th June

Friday, 29th June

Saturday, 1st September

Student Free Day

Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

School Photo Day – please wear full uniform and Year 6's wear graduation top please

Pie Drive Collection Day from the vacant portables (old Dean/Renae's rooms) from 2:30pm

First Steps Werribee Zoo excursion – please be at school by 8:15am

Prep – Year 2 Gym program continues

Prep – Year 2 Gym program concludes

Pizza Day orders due by 9:00am

Whole School Incurison \$6.60 per child-see back page for details

PIZZA DAY – no normal menu items available, no late orders accepted – iced treats will be available

Last day for Term 2 – EARLY DISMISSAL OF 2:15PM

ADULTS ONLY TRIVIA NIGHT! Registration forms and tickets available at the Office Tuesday, 12th June

School Organisation

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It's been wonderful to be back at Big Hill PS and see Week 8 run by relatively smoothly...there's been lots on, but overall, the week has been very productive and the great majority of students really settled.

TEAM CHINA – OVERSEAS LEARNING EXPERIENCE & IMMERSION

Congratulations to Charli, Lachie, Abi and Ciana on an amazing trip to China. The 4 students were an absolute joy to take overseas and represented our school with pride at all times. Very impressed! Our trip was a great experience – highlights were the visit to Tongli Watertown, The Great Wall, shopping in Shanghai, the Pearl Tower and the Era Shanghai Circus. By now you may have read the blog, or checked out some of the details on the school Facebook page. If you haven't, it's worth a look, particularly if your child is interested in going to China when in Year 5 or 6. If I were you, start talking to your child (if they are in current Year 4 or 5) about their thoughts / desire to go to China in 2019. Expression of Interest forms will be sent home next term. In Term 4 this year, we will once again host students from China for 8 weeks. I will be looking for families who are happy to host a child for a 4 week period – great way to get ahead if you want your child to travel to China in 2019 too! If you are interested in finding out more, feel free to drop in, call or email me: pearce.matthew.d@edumail.vic.gov.au.

PRINCIPALS CONFERENCE – TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY

Next Tuesday & Wednesday, Sharyn Burnett and I will be at the North Western Victoria Region (NWVR) Principals Forum in Melbourne, along with all other Principals from across the State. During our absence, our Leading Teacher, Renae Westley, will be left in charge. If you have any queries or concerns, please feel free to contact Renae.

CROSS COUNTRY

We had 4 students competing at the Regional Cross Country in St Arnaud this week. From all reports, the students did very well and represented our school exceptionally well. Congratulations!

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

This week's focus from the Annual Report is on **ENGAGEMENT** : Overall student attendance is higher than that of similar schools and the State, which is pleasing, with all year levels averaging 94% attendance rate or above. Our Prep, Year 1 and Year 3 students had attendance rates at 95% on average, which is an excellent achievement. In 2017, attendance certificates and bands continued to be awarded each term, successfully improving our attendance, which has been better than similar schools and the State for the last 4 years. An attendance goal was profiled each term and made clear to the children what was expected to win the award. Aboriginal attendance was also carefully tracked and followed up, with the majority of students achieving attendance above 90%, many achieving 100%. In 2018, further work on attendance will occur, with goals, rewards etc profiled again and daily contact made with all families where an absence is unexplained. Reducing the absence rate for 20 days or more (only a few students across the school) will be a major focus.

CURRICULUM / STUDENT FREE DAY TOMORROW

Just a reminder to all parents that there is no school tomorrow (Friday, 8th June) as it is one of our set Curriculum Days. Staff will spend the day undertaking Koorie Cultural Awareness Training and be introduced to the Respectful Relationships initiative. As with all Curriculum Days, Before and After School Care will also not be in operation.

PUBLIC HOLIDAY MONDAY

As Monday is the Queen's Birthday Victorian Public Holiday, there will be no school on this day. As it is a Victorian Public Holiday, no staff will be on site on this date. We look forward to seeing students at school on Tuesday, 12th June for a 4 day week.

PROPOSED STUDENT REPORTING DAY

I have only had one parent indicate their views on a new structure for the student reporting day – proposed for Tuesday, 31st July. Due to this, we will proceed to School Council level to make a decision regarding the proposed day and inform the community of the outcome early...enabling families to make the necessary arrangements to attend interviews and also have their child/ren with them for the day (and at the interview).

PETER NASH - RETIREMENT

After some deliberation, Mr Nash has decided it is time for him to retire. Peter has had a stellar career, reaching the Principal class for many years, before semi-retiring and returning to work as a classroom teacher for many years at Big Hill PS. He has been much loved and appreciated by our community and will be sorely missed. Whilst this is sad news, it's also wonderful for Peter. It truly is time for Peter to enjoy his golden years and spend time with his family. We hope to entice Peter back to Big Hill PS to farewell him. I'll keep you posted of the arrangements. At this stage, Rhys Bull will continue in Peter's class, at least until a position is advertised for a permanent replacement.

KANGAROO FLAT BUS – MYKI CARDS

Parents are reminded to ensure that children travelling on the Kangaroo Flat bus have adequate money on their MYKI. As this is public transport, it is illegal to travel without payment. I have had contact from the bus driver indicating that several students have repeatedly had no money on their MYKI and if this was to continue, travel on the bus will be refused. Please ensure you have a MYKI that is topped up ready to travel to avoid the hassle of a phone call to come and pick up your child in the event that travel is refused.

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY – NEXT THURSDAY, 14TH JUNE

Don't forget that next Thursday, 14th June is School Photo day. Students will need to be in full school uniform and be looking their best for the annual photo shoot. Envelopes were sent home last week and need to be returned on the day. You can also order and pay online. If you have not got the photo pack, the Office has spares, as well as family photo order packs should you want one.

DIVISION SOCCER CARNIVAL

I had the pleasure of visiting our boys and girls soccer teams yesterday at the Huntly Epsom Recreation Reserve. Our students represented Big Hill PS in Division 1, with both sides doing very well. The girls only lost one game, whilst the boys won the majority of theirs. Unfortunately only the top team in each section goes through to the next level. Well done to the girls and boys for doing such a great job...and thank you to Brett Strange for his organisation and attendance and to George Milne for assisting on the day.

NEW REPORT FORMAT

We have had feedback from parents in the past outlining the complexity of the past school report format and the bulk amount of comments provided. To simplify the report template, Staff have worked hard to create a new format that is easier to read and ascertain how one's child is going at school. There will still be written comments, however, we have cut these back to ensure they are more succinct and to the point for parents. Kate Dole has done a huge amount of work setting up the new system and I thank her for all of her efforts. Well done Kate! Reports will be sent home at the end of the school term with your child. Please look for them in your child's bag. If you require a second set of reports due to a split family arrangement, please ensure you have notified the Office of the requirement to send home an extra copy...or details of where it is to be posted.

ABSENCES

The majority of parents have gotten familiar with the requirement to let the school know as soon as possible when a child is away and why they are absent. Lately, a few families have slipped back into forgetting to keep us in the loop. Can I remind everyone of the requirement to call the Office on the day of absence (preferably before 10am) to indicate why a child is away. We have an answering machine if you ring out of school hours, or you can text 0438738788. We do need to know the reason why a child is away as the Department Absences have to be coded with reasons. Simply, just indicate if your child is away and if they are sick, at a family function, appointment, funeral or holiday. Thanks for your cooperation.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to Atila M, Connor S, Paul K & Ebon M.

The 4 day long weekend for the children is timely. With cooler weather, shorter days, illness and a long term, the chance to recharge will be very beneficial for your child. We also hope the 4 day break might provide families an opportunity to get away together, rather than having to miss extra school days. May you find some time to relax in the next 4 days and I look forward to possibly crossing paths with you when I return to Big Hill PS on Thursday.

Enjoy the long weekend and stay safe...

Matt Pearce, Principal

FIRST STEPS NEWS



WERRIBEE OPEN RANGE ZOO EXCURSION

Our excursion to the Werribee Zoo is fast approaching. Today both classes enjoyed looking at the Zoo's website www.zoo.org.au/education/werribee to investigate what animals we might see on our excursion.

Just a reminder that permission notes along with payment needs to be returned to the Office **by next Tuesday** so that we can finalise numbers.



Please note: It has been requested by the zoo staff that students bring along a 'nude food' lunch. This means that all packaging is to be left at home and that food items are stored in reusable containers. Children are required to

bring a backpack to store their lunch box, drink bottle, jumper, coat etc. Reader bags will not be required at school on this day. We require all students to be at school **by 8:15am**. We will return at approximately 4:00pm. If the bus is delayed, we will send a message out via Flexibuzz and our Facebook page.

SPELLING WORDS

All students have now received their own individual spelling words. Please try and make some time each night to practise reading and writing these words.

CSEF WINTER UNIFORM PACKAGE – PREPS

Notes have been sent home about this offer from State Schools Relief. If you would like to take up the offer, please complete the form and send back to the Office at your earliest convenience. Thank you.

STARS OF THE WEEK

For displaying the Value of 'Respect' by using kind words when speaking to others:

FSN *Scarlett N*
FSP *Henry P*

Nicole, Sharyn & Pauline

JUNIOR UNIT NEWS

WERRIBEE ZOO EXCURSION

Last Friday the Junior Unit students went on an excursion to the Werribee Zoo. They participated in an organised Habitat session, a safari bus tour and a walk around the enclosures. The students had the opportunity to see a variety of animals including: lions, monkeys, zebras, giraffes, antelopes, camels, hippopotamuses, meerkats, camels and rhinoceroses. We would like to thank all the parents and helpers for coming along and assisting on the day.

JETS GYM

On Monday the students participated in their second gym session. They practised skills such as balancing, rolling, jumping and climbing on the equipment. Please ensure dresses and tights are not worn on gym days as the students are required to perform activities in bare feet.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For outstanding behaviour on our excursion to the Werribee Zoo:

JC *Miller L*
JJ *Sienna H*
JW *Madi L*

Catherine, Jen & Wendy

MIDDLE UNIT NEWS

HOMEWORK & SPELLING TESTS

Week 8 is due today / Tuesday; students are also studying the Unit 15 words for the weekly spelling test. In addition to homework, students are expected to read at home every day for 20 – 30 minutes and record this in their Student Diary. Diaries are checked by teachers every Friday.

LITERACY

Next week Middle Unit classes will continue work on the CAFÉ area of Comprehension. Students have continued to learn how to identify whether a story is written in first or third person, and how different characters may have different points of view.

In Independent Reading, students are continuing to build their reading stamina to read increasingly challenging chapter books from beginning to end. Students will also conference with their teacher to identify individual CAFÉ goals. Recently teachers have also been doing reading assessments in preparation for report writing.

In writing, students continue to work on writing to persuade, including looking at how advertisements are designed to sell products. Students will conference with their teacher to set individual writing goals. Next week students will work on Sound Waves Unit 16 studying the 'm' as in moon sound – eg, camp, same, hammer, comb.

NUMERACY

In Mathematics, we will continue our work on the processes of multiplication and division and recalling our basic facts. We will also introduce the formal method for division. Learning Intention: I can recall my basic multiplication and division facts. Success Criteria: I can answer questions quickly and accurately. If I do not know the answer, I can use an efficient mental strategy to calculate the answer.

JUMPERS & COATS

As the cold weather has found us, it is a reminder for all parents to please label your child's jumpers and coats. We have had some jumpers that are labelled go missing recently also, so it would be appreciated if parents could check that their child has taken home the correct school jumper and not someone else's by mistake.

Renae will return from her well-earned Long Service Leave next week. Can't wait to hear how her holiday in the sun went.

Thanks to Amanda Bateman who was an excellent replacement in our Unit during this time.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

The following students have been selected for demonstrating the School Value of 'Safety':

MR **Samantha C**
MD **Lily D**
MN **Nate F**

Renae, Dean & Rhys

SENIOR UNIT NEWS

STUDENT FREE DAY

This will be held TOMORROW and then Monday is a Public Holiday. Students DO NOT attend school on these days.

HOMEWORK

Please ensure that all students are completing their weekly homework tasks. It is important that students begin to create independent work habits and be proactive learners. Weekly homework will include spelling, nightly reading and Maths activities.

TEAM CHINA

Welcome back to those students and Matt who have arrived home from China. We are thrilled that they had a wonderful time and we have enjoyed hearing all the fabulous stories they have been sharing.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

These will be taking place next Thursday, 14th June. Please ensure your child is in full school uniform and can the Year 6 students please bring along their graduation shirts? Thank you.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For handing in homework responsibly:

SA **Tanner J**
SB **Jazz R**
SK **Lyla R**
SL **Remi CK**

Ainsley, Brett, Kate, Lauren & Roberta

PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS

PIE DRIVE

Pie Drive orders have now been sent off to the Elmore Bakery for pies to be freshly made ready for **delivery next Thursday, 14th June from 2:30pm**. Please note that the collection point for pies is now in the vacant portable buildings (Renae & Dean's old classrooms) and NOT the multipurpose room.

TRIVIA NIGHT – A NIGHT NOT TO BE MISSED!

Book your table of 8 – 10 people at our upcoming Trivia Night.

When: **Saturday 1st September**.
Doors open at 6:30pm with a 7pm sharp start

Where: Kangaroo Flat Bowls Club,
Station Street, Kangaroo Flat

Tickets: \$20 per person - registration forms available at the Office from Tuesday, 12th June.

Tickets are limited so get in quick to secure your place. This is an adults only event with a full bar available on the night (strictly no BYO drinks). If you're ready for a fun night out with friends and family, then this should not be missed.



SPARE CHANGE DRIVE

There's only a couple more weeks left to get your classroom bottles filled with change to ensure that your class is in the running to win the prize. Tash's class is currently leading but there's still time to change that leader board.

JUST ONE THING CAMPAIGN

Have you returned your "Just One Thing" letter? We'd love to hear back from you. If you've lost your letter and need another copy please let us know by emailing us at bhpspf@gmail.com.

P&F FACEBOOK PAGE

Keep up to date with P&F activities by joining our Facebook community:

[\(https://www.facebook.com/groups/bhpspf/\)](https://www.facebook.com/groups/bhpspf/).

Our page provides reminders and updates on P&F activities as well as connecting you with other families at our school.

Your support of P&F activities is appreciated

ART ROOM NEWS

DONATIONS PLEASE

If any families have old newspapers that don't have any staples, calendars with colourful pictures, empty coffee capsules and corks that they would like to donate, could they please leave them at the Office?

A big thank you those families who have already donated items, it is very much appreciated.

Sandra Willis, Visual Arts Coordinator

PE NEWS

REGIONAL CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to Harley L, Seth E, Kalisha M and Tanner F who represented Big Hill PS at the Regional Cross Country held in St Arnaud on Tuesday. Kalisha finished 6th and Tanner finished 9th and have qualified to compete at the State Cross Country held in Melbourne in July, an amazing effort! Thank you to all parents who supported their children on the day.

DIVISION SOCCER CARNIVAL

Yesterday the Year 5/6 Girls and Boys competed at the Division Soccer Carnival at Epsom. Both teams competed in Division 1 and displayed outstanding sportsmanship and should be very proud of their efforts throughout the day. The Boys team won 4 out of 7 games and the Girls team won 4 out of 5 games. Thank you to George for coaching the Girls team and parents for supporting their children throughout the day. The players player awards went to Koni O and Connor B.

Brett Strange
PE Coordinator

STUDENT VOICE NEWS



This week Student Voice collected rubbish on the oval side of the school including the three play equipment areas. They collected 298 pieces of rubbish! One of their goals is to reduce the amount of rubbish in the school.

In order to know if we have done this we needed to work out how much rubbish we currently have and later do another collection to see if we are achieving our goal. It wasn't a nice task to count the rubbish, but they did it anyway with a smile on their faces.

Congratulations on leading by example, and having such a worthwhile goal to work towards, it is something the whole school needs to get behind.

Student Voice are also going to provide a new buddy seat for the school, it will be colourful so you won't miss it. We are also helping with starting up clubs in the school during recess 11:35am to 11:55am every day, some inside and some outside. See sign up sheets near the Office.

Megan Haddon, School Chaplain

CANTEEN NEWS



This week's winners are:

✚ Kodee M
✚ Taini H

Congratulations! Keep those Wednesday orders coming in for your chance to win!

HELP NEEDED

Volunteers are needed for Term 3. We appreciate all offers of help as this enables the continuation of the canteen and assists with economical pricing of our menu.

Help is required between 9:00am – 10:00am OR 12:30pm – 2:00pm Fridays only and once or twice per term. If you are interested, please complete the form below and return it to the Office or canteen.

CANTEEN VOLUNTEER FORM

NAME _____

PH NUMBER _____

TIME AVAILABLE 9:00am to 10:00am

12:30pm to 2:00pm

Tammy Fear
Canteen Manager

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

A DEFIBRILLATOR FOR THE SCHOOL! WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are asking for **25 pledges** by people who bank with the Bendigo Bank or have an account with Bendigo Telco at no cost to them.

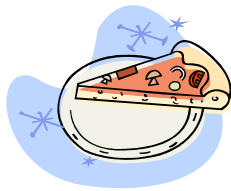
The pledge forms are available at the **Bendigo Bank Kangaroo Flat branch**, OR YOU CAN MAKE YOUR PLEDGE OVER THE PHONE – 5447 9244.

As soon as the Bank has received 25 pledges, our school will be presented with the Defibrillator. Any queries speak to our School Chaplain Megan Haddon.

FRIDAY, 29TH JUNE

PIZZA DAY MEAL
\$4.50

HAWAIIAN



OR



VEGETARIAN

WITH PRIMA OR MILK

(No choice in flavours, sorry, can only choose between prima or milk)

- ✚ If you wish to order an extra slice, the cost is \$1.50 per slice
- ✚ Orders can be put in an envelope, or ordered on our Qkr app
- ✚ Orders are to be placed in the classroom or ordered using the Qkr app by 9am Wednesday, 27th June. Late orders cannot be accepted.
- ✚ Ice creams will be available as normal

**THE CANTEEN'S NORMAL MENU
IS NOT AVAILABLE ON THIS DAY**

Whole School Cultural Infusion Incursion

Dear Parents,

On Thursday, 28th June, all students will have the opportunity to participate in an Indigenous Incursion at Big Hill Primary School.

This is part of an Inclusive School Celebration. The expectation is that all students attend.

Students will have an opportunity to enter the world of Dreamtime Storytelling and receive an overview of Indigenous Culture whilst enjoying a dance and didgeridoo experience.

The first performance will start at 12:00pm and will run for 50 minutes for Prep – Year 2 students, the second performance will begin at 12:55pm and will also run for 50 minutes for Year 3 – 6 students in the multipurpose room.

The cost for the incursion is \$6.60 per child, please ensure payment is paid prior to the incursion.

Thank you,

Lauren Adcock



------(detach)-----

Whole School Cultural Performance Incursion

Student's name: _____ Class: _____

Student's name: _____ Class: _____

Student's name: _____ Class: _____

Cost \$6.60 per student

PAYMENT: Cash QKR CSEF

Signed: _____ Date: _____
(parent/guardian)