School Values – RESPECT: Our School Community is encouraged to treat others with grace and kindness. The use of manners is respect in action.

School Values – HONESTY: Our School Community demonstrates honesty in our daily actions by behaving with fairness, truthfulness and sincerity.

The school had a great vibe to it this week. With students and staff settling in to a routine, timetables and work programs are now looking more complete. Students are moving around with confidence and feeling a sense of belonging to their particular class. I have really enjoyed visiting classrooms and talking with our students throughout the week. I was so pleased to see our Prep students so happy and watching their own presentation at assembly: it did bring a smile to my face.

Supplies
We are in need of supplies to meet the demand for wipes and tissues. If every family sends in one packet of Huggies wipes and one packet of tissues we would appreciate it immensely. Thank you for supporting us, and assisting with the provision of supplies to help us with hygiene and general student care.

REMINDDERS:

Great Start Conferences (GSC) February 23rd 11.00am – 6.00pm
In order to provide parents/carers with the opportunity to express your thoughts and to ensure the year starts on a positive note for our students. We are running ‘Great Start Conferences’ on MONDAY 23rd FEBRUARY between 11.00am and 6.00pm. You will be required to make an appointment with the classroom teacher. Notes have been sent home in regards to the organisation of these conferences. The feedback provided
by our families in regards to the Student Achievement Conferences held twice per year, towards the end of Semesters 1 and 2, has been so very positive, and we look forward to the Great Start Conferences being of immense value too.

**Prep Students**

March is approaching very quickly! We look forward to our Prep students attending school full time - five days a week - as of Monday 2nd March. With Prep students attending school on a part-time basis over the first few weeks of Term One, I am sure it will take a little time for them to adjust to five full days. We hope they all have a great time as they settle into school on a full-time basis.

**Newsletter to be emailed**

Would you prefer your newsletter to be emailed each fortnight? If so fill in the form on the back page of the newsletter as soon as you can and return it to the school office.

**School Photos**

The school photos will be taken on Thursday 19th and Friday 20th February.

**Welcome Back BBQ – March 4th 5 – 6.30pm**

Come along and meet other parents, families, students and staff on March 4th from 5.00 – 6.30 pm. Kiwanis will once again support our evening by cooking sausages, topped with onion and serving our guests. There will be cans of drink for sale at a cost of $1.00 each. Classrooms will open their doors so you can see and learn about all the wonderful things your child is doing at school. Hope to see you there! The night will be held in the Agora and in classrooms.

This term provides many opportunities for families to be involved in the school; so come along and join in the celebrations. We would love to see you here!

Enjoy the weekend!

**Julie Hommelhoff**

Principal

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**Positive Behaviour Support (PBS)**

Some readers will already be familiar with this anagram. **School Wide Positive Behaviour Support** is a systematic and effective approach for broadly and consistently improving student behaviour across our school’s environments. This year our school community will see this approach and it’s supporting tools used widely. We begin by introducing to you our Behaviour Expectations. **Act Safely, Show Respect, Be Your Best, (as pictured right).** These behaviours are what we what to see our students, staff and community display. What PBS recognises is that social behaviour needs to be taught just as we teach children to do other tasks and skills, such as how to put on shoes, clean their teeth or hold a pencil. We also need to explicitly teach the behaviour we want to see across our varied environments.

**Behaviour Expectations:** As you walk around our school this term, you may hear staff and students using this language. Already staff have demonstrated their use of this strategy within a variety of environments. A good example of this, this week was bus duty staff praising students for walking to their bus and acting safely in the bus bay.
School Values – RESPECT: Our School Community is encouraged to treat others with grace and kindness. The use of manners is respect in action.

1:6 Rule: PBS also reinforces the power of praise. Staff at Bendigo SDS have been applying the 1:6 rule for a little while now. This means that for every behaviour correction (when you tell a child not to do something), we ‘balance’ the ‘score’ by providing the student with six genuine praises. It would be great if you could try this approach at home too! Perhaps start with 1:4 rule and work up.

Acknowledgement Systems: PBS will also bring new acknowledgement systems (rewards) for when students display the behaviour we want to see. I will write more about this in a future newsletter edition.

Parental Involvement in PBS: Last year we were fortunate enough to have three parents involved in the development of this approach for our school; Natalie G, Louise S & Rachelle F. Parental and community involvement in this approach are vital ingredients. If you think you may be interested in becoming involved in this team, please contact me.

Birthdays:

### Staff Birthdays
- 18th February: Helen F (Room 15)
- 24th February: Noela M (Art Room)

### Student Birthdays
- 9th February: Taylah M (Room 3)
- 10th February: Hannah W (Room 1)
- 10th February: Ruby G (Room 3)
- 22nd February: Brendan K (Room 15)
- 22nd February: Emily S (Room 19)
- 24th February: Heath M (Room 13)

Buses

Thank you sincerely to our bus travelling students and their families who have shown great flexibility and resilience in managing the changes, which were unavoidable at the beginning of this term. The bus proprietors and our schools (Kalianna and Bendigo SDS) are still working through some issues. This means that there may be further changes for some families next term. Families who will be affected by these changes will be notified in coming weeks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bus Contact Phone Numbers</th>
<th>Driver / Chaperone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Town 1: 0427 287 843</td>
<td>Jack &amp; Joy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town 2: 0428 159 660</td>
<td>Peter &amp; Cynthia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wedderburn: 0427 380 040</td>
<td>Peter &amp; Janine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town 3: 0428 261 802</td>
<td>Max &amp; Kathy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Castlemaine: 0409 421 500</td>
<td>Darryl &amp; Wendy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malmesbury: 0428 271 824</td>
<td>Bevan &amp; Kathryn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heathcote: 0427 380 046</td>
<td>Russell, Jenny &amp; Kay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyneton: 0428 236 271</td>
<td>Leigh &amp; Helen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town 4: 0429 041 763</td>
<td>Sue &amp; Katrina</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Staff, “being their best!”
I would not have to explain to our parents how tough re-establishing a routine can be for some of our students. Credit of course goes to our students and families for their very important role in this process. However, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff for their classroom and program preparation to date. Their professionalism has ensured that all students have been provided with individualised activities and supports to make their transition back to school as smooth as possible. Thanks staff!

Thought for the day
*If you cannot do great things, do small things in a great way.*  Napoleon Hill

Jacqui Righetti
Assistant Principal

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A big ‘thank you’ to Mavis Corkill and her son for the donation of a car seat and two fleecy school jackets to the school. We all appreciate your generosity!

Insurance Policy

Please read the below details to ensure you are fully aware of the department’s policy.

- Parents/guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance insurance, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs.
- Parents/guardians can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers.
- The Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.
School Values – RESPECT: Our School Community is encouraged to treat others with grace and kindness. The use of manners is respect in action.

**Conveyance Allowance 2015**

In some locations, eligible students are unable to access free school buses, or have to travel 4.8 kms or more to the bus pick up/drop off point.

The conveyance allowance helps cover the costs resulting from any transport gaps between the public transport system and the school bus network, or where multiple transport services are required to get to and from school. The allowance can be applied to the use of public transport, private cars, private buses and taxis.

Eligibility for a conveyance allowance is based on the following criteria:

- Students must attend the nearest specialist school
- Students must live at least 4.8km from the school or nearest bus pick up / drop off point.

If you consider your child is eligible for this allowance please contact the office for an application form as soon as possible.

**If you have already applied successfully in 2014 and your circumstances have not changed, you are not required to reapply in 2015.**

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**All parents/friends/carers the 2015 SDS AFL footy tipping comp is starting up now and we want you!**

Cost $25 – paid to Adam, Chris or front office

Prizes – 1st 55%, 2nd 30%, 3rd 10%, 4th 5% of total prize pool

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**For those who played last year (2014)**

1. Enter your login details as you would have from last year at [www.thegreatfootytipoff.com](http://www.thegreatfootytipoff.com)
2. Search for group to join – SDS2015
3. When it asks for the password type in: SDS2015
4. You should now be registered for this year’s SDS footy tipping BONANZA

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**For all new players**

1. Go to [www.thegreatfootytipoff.com](http://www.thegreatfootytipoff.com) and register
2. Search for group to join – SDS2015
3. When it asks for the password type in: SDS2015
4. You should now be registered for this year’s SDS footy tipping BONANZA

You can call the school and ask for Adam or Chris and we can help you register over the phone if that is easier for some people. Last year we had 38 people this year we want 50.

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School Values – HONESTY: Our School Community demonstrates honesty in our daily actions by behaving with fairness, truthfulness and sincerity.
**School Values** – ENCOURAGEMENT: Our School Community promotes encouragement to inspire and build confidence.

**School Values** – PROFESSIONALISM: We honour our job descriptions and workplace values.

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**RDA BENDIGO RIDE & CARRIAGE DATES FOR 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM 1</th>
<th>TERM 2</th>
<th>TERM 3</th>
<th>TERM 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wed 11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Feb</strong> Training</td>
<td><strong>Wed 15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; July</strong> C</td>
<td><strong>Wed 22&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; July</strong> R</td>
<td><strong>Wed 7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Oct</strong> C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Day (Compulsory for all Volunteers)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Wed 29&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; July</strong> C</td>
<td><strong>Wed 5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Aug</strong> R</td>
<td><strong>Wed 14&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Oct</strong> R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wed 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Feb</strong> Riding</td>
<td><strong>Wed 19&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Aug</strong> R</td>
<td><strong>Wed 12&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Aug</strong> C</td>
<td><strong>Wed 21&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Oct</strong> C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wed 25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Feb</strong> Carriage</td>
<td><strong>Wed 26&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Aug</strong> C</td>
<td><strong>Wed 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Sept</strong> R</td>
<td><strong>Wed 28&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Oct</strong> Bendigo Cup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wed 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Mar</strong> R</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Wed 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Sept</strong> R</td>
<td><strong>Wed 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Nov</strong> R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wed 11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Mar</strong> C</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Wed 9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Sept</strong> C</td>
<td><strong>Wed 11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Nov</strong> C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wed 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Mar</strong> R</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Wed 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Nov</strong> R</td>
<td><strong>Wed 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Nov</strong> R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wed 25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Mar</strong> C</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Wed 25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Nov</strong> Xmas B/up</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Volunteers:**

Ride Days 8.30am – 3.00pm  Jan 0408 875249

Carriage Days 8.30- 1.00pm  Diana 0409 959271
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Community News...

- **Harcourt Applefest Kids Karnival & Baking Contest**  
  Saturday 7th March.  
  For information visit [www.harcourtapplefest.com.au](http://www.harcourtapplefest.com.au)

- **‘A Sporting Chance Program**  
  “An inclusive sport and physical education programme aimed specifically at young individuals who have an ASD”  
  For information contact John Doherty @ Girton Grammar School. Email: [johndoherty@girton.vic.edu.au](mailto:johndoherty@girton.vic.edu.au)

- **Bendigo Cinemas**  
  Sensory Friendly Film: Big Hero 6  
  Sunday March 1st – Time to be announced.  
  For information contact Julie Williams. Phone (03) 54408028 or Email: [Julia@bendigocinemas.com.au](mailto:Julia@bendigocinemas.com.au)

**Head Lice**
Head lice continues to cause concern and frustration for children and their parents. We have had a number of reports of head lice in different classrooms, recently. In order to minimise the incidence of head lice infection, it is vital that all members of the school community are diligent in checking their child/ren’s and family member’s hair. Children’s hair should be checked on a weekly basis, using the conditioner and lice comb technique. Detailed information on successful treatment of head lice is available from the office. In line with the School Policy on Head Lice, educated and informed staff of Bendigo SDS will conduct classroom screening on students with consent, on the first day of each term. If you have any concerns regarding head lice, please contact the office. Alternatively, you may wish to contact Helen Fulford, a specialist in this area on 5447 7071 or 0408 477 071.

**SCHOOL APP – TIQBIZ**

Have you signed up for the School App?  
We are using an app to communicate with you.  
You’ll be notified of our news, messages, event and other communications.

**ABSENCES:**  
You can notify the school via the app if your child is going to be absent from school.

**PERMISSION FORMS:**  
You can give permission for your child to attend an excursion/outing via the app.

**CAanteen ORDERS:**  
Canteen lists are also on the App, you can send your order through via the contact envelope on the App.

**PARENT PARTICIPATION AT SCHOOL:**  
You can let us know if you are coming to an event at School via the app e.g. International Day of People With a Disability, Christmas Basket Tea etc.  
Contact the school office if you have any further enquiries.
School Values – ENCOURAGEMENT: Our School Community promotes encouragement to inspire and build confidence.

HOME / SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES THIS FORTNIGHT

Be involved in your child’s school………..

- Have you checked out our Website or better still, made it your homepage?
- For Better or Worse tell us first if you have a concern
- **School Banking** every Wednesday
  - Whole School Assembly Monday and Friday mornings 9.30am. Parents/Carers welcome to attend
  - Parents and Friends / New Families - come for a cuppa! Fortnightly on a Friday morning. Date below.
- Keep the school up to date with your contact details. This is a very important safety issue.
- Are you moving? Please notify the office to assist with planning.
- Download the new Bendigo Special Developmental School App to your iPhone and iPad. It’s FREE

For purchase of New School Uniform – please see CentaVic clothing

Second Hand Uniform:

Second Hand Uniforms are available from the school. If you would like to purchase an item please put a gold coin donation into an envelope. Please write your name and order on the front of the envelope (and your child’s name). If you have any enquiries, please contact the office.

Our Website
www.bendigosds.vic.edu.au

Have you checked out our website lately? Each week we download our newsletter.

We have now added our newsletters to the site. If you would prefer to read the school’s newsletter on the website please let either your classroom or the office staff know and we can take your name off receiving a paper copy of the newsletter – or take your name off the e-mail list.

- To view our newsletter go to: www.bendigosds.vic.edu.au
- Then click on the ‘Newsletter’ tab along the left hand side of the page.
- You then select/click on the particular newsletter you would like to view
- You can also choose to subscribe to the newsletter on the website
- If you have any questions or problems with the website please contact the school office.

Sensory Garden

I / We are willing to donate the following amount of money for the Bendigo Special Developmental School Sensory Garden Project.

Name: .................................................................

Donation: $

You will be issued with a Receipt for Tax Purposes upon receipt of Goods and / or Services.

Your generous contribution to our school is greatly appreciated by the students, staff and whole school community. Thank you.

ABN: 38377856296
DGR: 9004622602 (Deductible Gift Recipient)
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Parents & Friends Group / New Families
Our Parents (and Friends) gather once a fortnight to have a chat and a cuppa. Pre School children are most welcome to join in the fun! Our next meeting is Friday 20th February. Our meetings are held in the school staff room straight after School drop off. So why not come along and join us for a cuppa!

Access Travel Pass
Do you have the above assistance cards? We have application forms in the School Office. Our Health Professionals: Cherie (Occupational Therapist), and Callum (Speech Therapist) are willing and able to support you with the endorsement of forms if necessary.

‘Find A Carer’
Find A Carer at www.findacarer.com.au is a website which connects carers and children with special needs, people with a disability and the elderly.

Web: www.FindACarer.com.au Ph. (03) 9769 8917
Email: info@findacarer.com.au Mob.0402 635 285

Contact us:
Principal: Julie Hommelhoff
Assistant Principal: Jacqui Righetti
Business Manager: Margaret Butler
Reception: Karen Pratt / Jodie Appleby
Contract Bus Coordinator: Jacqui Righetti
Leading Teachers:
Student Voice & Wellbeing
Barb Johnstone
Transition & Coaching
Rosie Critchley
Information Communication Technology
Jenny Annett
Curriculum & Data Collection
Angie Bysouth
Specialist Coordinator
(Health & PE, Art and Sensory): Chris Novak
Early Year’s Coordinator:
Krystal Downing
Middle Year’s Coordinator:
Narelle Lyons / Mick Ring
Later Year’s Coordinator:
Amanda Bourdon
Before & After School Program information:
Angela Whalen Ph: 0407 844 090
School Council President:
Brett Scholes
Parent Club:
Please contact the office
RDA Coordinator:
Julie Hommelhoff
Help Lines:
Nurse-on-call
1300 606 024
Lifeline
Phone: 131 114
Parentline:
Phone: 132 289
Department of Human Services
Phone: 5434 5555
Bendigo Community Health Services
Phone: 5430 0500
Interchange respite care
Phone: 5441 1599
St Luke’s
Phone: 5440 1100
Homestyle Respite
Phone: 5441 3537

Newsletter: E-mail Registration – Please Return Form to School Office.
Your Name:.................................................................
Students Name:..............................................................
Students Room No:.............................
E-mail Address that you would like us to E-mail the newsletter to: