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.

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**Bendigo Special Developmental School**

Principal: Julie Hommelhoff  
Assistant Principal: Jacqui Righetti  
School Council President: Brett Scholes 5447 3122  
26 – 32 Lockwood Road, KANGAROO FLAT 3555  
Phone: 5447 3267  Fax: 5447 7286  
Email: [bendigo.sds@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:bendigo.sds@edumail.vic.gov.au)  
Website: [www.bendigosds.vic.edu.au](http://www.bendigosds.vic.edu.au)

### Special Developments Newsletter # 5, 2015  
27th March, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM DATES</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| **Term 1** | 29.1.15 – 27.3.15  
| **Term 2** | 13.4.15 – 26.6.15  
| **Term 3** | 13.7.15 – 18.9.15  
| **Term 4** | 5.10.15 – 18.12.15  

### IMPORTANT DATES 2015

**Monday**  
13th April  
- First Day TERM 2

**Friday**  
17th April  
- Parents and Friends Group, meet in the staffroom at school drop off time

**Wednesday**  
20th May  
- Education week activity - theme: 'Crack the code with Maths'  
  Time: 1:40 pm. More information to come in Term 2

**Friday**  
29th May  
- Great Start Conferences – Pupil Free Day

### PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

**Early Finish**  
Friday 27th March, the last day of term, will be an early finish. School will finish at 2.00pm. Remember that the buses will arrive at their bus stops ONE HOUR earlier than the usual time.

**Easter Break – Happy Easter**  
Enjoy the time with your family and friends during the break. The Easter holidays provide a chance to attend some wonderful events here in our local town. Whatever you do, stay safe; and I look forward to seeing you again in Term Two.

**Easter Raffle**  
Our Annual Easter Raffle raised in excess of $1600.00. A huge thank you must go out to our community in support of the raffle. With many eggs and goods donated we were able to give away sixty eight prizes. A tremendous effort by all!  
Once again, Sue Gardner put together the most beautifully presented Easter baskets to win; absolutely amazing.

**School Photos**  
School photos have not arrived yet.

**Individual Education Plans**  
Jacqui and I, along with Unit Coordinators, have spent many an hour over the last two weeks reading each student’s Individual Education Plan. I always find this task very rewarding as it provides me with a further insight into the vast array of programs running at Bendigo SDS, the vision of each teacher, and the belief in our students. IEP’s will be sent home during the first week of Term Two.
New legislation regarding smoking
Smoking was banned in the grounds of all Victorian Government schools by the Minister for Education in 2009 via a ministerial order. Recently there has been legislation passed that bans smoking in schools as well as kindergartens and child care centres. The legislation gives powers to officers from the council to enforce the bans and issue fines of $147. While we encourage parents and friends of Bendigo SDS to visit and be involved in our activities, we would ask you to observe this legislation at all times. Further information can be obtained from www.health.vic.gov.au/tobaccoreforms

Enjoy the holidays!

Julie Hommelhoff
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Thank you to our entire school community for working together over the whirlwind of nine weeks which was Term One! This positive start to our 2015 year places us in a great position to continue to achieve our goals and dreams for the year. In particular, I would like thank your children’s teachers for their dedication in ensuring that your children are happy, safe and learning at school. The groups have really settled and the classrooms look fantastic ready for Term Two.

‘Things you can do just for you’ continued:
- Go see a movie by yourself
- Sit outside with a good cup of tea and watch the trees, garden or the world go by.
- Have an afternoon nap guilt-free.
- Give yourself a pedicure or manicure or just a foot bath.
- Eat a random platter of your favorite snacks for dinner – olives, brie and caramel popcorn…
- Have a real conversation with the next person who lives next door, or call an old friend.
- Watch a TED talk on YouTube.
- Change your phone screensaver to something that makes you smile.
- Buy a small potted plant and give it a name.
- Spend a morning taking photographs of your city – see what you’ve never noticed before.

Positive Behaviour Support (PBS)
As you would now be aware, the focus for our whole school community for Term Two is “Act Safely”. Callum has made the suggestion within the classroom newsletters for parents and carers to start thinking about what this might look like for you at home. A good way to think about this is to make a list of all of the important environments, such as the kitchen, lounge, bedrooms, outside in the yard. In each of these environments you could then list behaviours that you want to see in each of the environments. For example, in the kitchen: walk slowly, listen to Mum and Dad, sit whilst eating. I would suggest that you select one environment to focus on to start with.

There will be more information provided to parents early next term and an opportunity for a parent workshop. As I have stated in earlier editions of our newsletter, parent involvement in our PBS
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team is vital. During this week two of our School Council Representatives expressed their very keen interest to be part of our PBS team. Thank you to Angela and Leah!

Towards the end of Term Two we will also have our official launch of PBS to celebrate our achievements so far and to provide more information to families on future directions of this approach for our school. A date will be finalised early next term.

Buses
Well you wouldn’t believe it! At the eleventh hour, it was decided that the bus changes that were going to affect travellers on Town 4 and Heathcote, are no longer going ahead. I sincerely apologise for any confusion. The bus routes, as you would be aware, are determined by student need, which means a family moving from Heathcote or to Heathcote can affect not only Heathcote’s run, but other runs as well. For now, the runs will stay the same.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bus Contact Phone Numbers</th>
<th>Driver / Chaperone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Town 1: 0428 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>Malmsbury: 0428 271 824</td>
<td>Bevan &amp; Kathrynn</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>

Austismwalk
The Kangaroo Flat Autismwalk is on again. Last year this team raised just over $12,000 for Turn A Life Around, a local project, which raises funds to purchase iOS devices for individuals with autism or communication barriers. As a result of these funds many iPads complete with protection made it to individuals who had registered to receive a device. I would like to enter a Bendigo SDS team (staff, parents and students) for this event. If you interested, please let me know. The date of the walk is 23-24th May.

Student Birthdays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Birthdays</th>
<th>Staff Birthdays</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25th March</td>
<td>26th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felix H</td>
<td>Noela M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 4</td>
<td>Art Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th March</td>
<td>3rd April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeathan L</td>
<td>Jan E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 5</td>
<td>Room 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28th March</td>
<td>11th April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darcey M</td>
<td>Krystal J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 6</td>
<td>Room 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th April</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesse H</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th April</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayla S</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

Student Awards...

Due to the School Holidays the following Awards were presented at this morning’s assembly.

Tara M – Room 8  For independently organising words to make her own sentence.
Jesse M – Room 19 For always trying hard to communicate and express his ideas in writing.
Noah K – Room 4 For standing in his new standing frame.
Hamish W – Room 4 For a great first term at school.
Georgia T – Room 4 For increasing her time standing in her standing frame.
Daniel H – Room 2 For joining your classmates during Jump and Jive.
William F – Room 2 For trying new foods at morning tea and lunchtimes.
Seth T – Room 2 For using a spoon independently to eat lunch.
Nate T – Room 5 For independent trike riding.
Ashley O – Room 5 Standing independently when shown the toilet card.
Brogan C – Room 3 For excellent concentration during tablework activities.
Madeline E – Room 3 For sitting at your table to eat Morning Tea.

The following awards will be presented at our first assembly in Term 2 (13.4.15)

Latara P – Room 18 For always being willing to help a friend.
Logan S – Room 18 For always trying so hard with tablework.

Thought for the day
If life becomes hard, soften it with random acts of kindness. Michael Levy

Jacqui Righetti
Assistant Principal

Great Fun with The Variety Club Bash!!
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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

For those who played last year (2014)
1) Enter your login details as you would have from last year at
   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

For all new players
1) Go to 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.

Congratulations and thank you to everyone for the joint effort with our Annual Easter Raffle… we raised a total of $1,633.00 – a wonderful total! A special Thank You to Sue Gardner for once again wrapping all of the prizes! We had LOTS of winners thanks to all your generosity (too many names for the newsletter). The top 10 prize winners were:

1/ Emily S 6/ Hailey W
2/ Brodie Z 7/ Summer Adams
3/ Cooper 8/ Charli B
4/ Matthew G 9/ Evie C
5/ Jamie M 10/ Ann Marie W

RDA – Invitation

Parents and Carers are most welcome to visit / observe our riding sessions. Please contact Julie Hommelhoff for information on what time your child rides.

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ATTENTION FAMILIES: PAYING ESSENTIAL EDUCATION ITEMS Directly into the School Bank Account

Dear Families
If you are paying your Essential Education Items directly into the School’s Bank Account, it is VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU IDENTIFY WHOM THE PAYMENT IS FROM - please make sure that you put the Family ID or the Student ID in the DESCRIPTION line.

Thank you for your cooperation with this. We do appreciate the number of families whom have paid fees already. We must ensure that payments are allocated correctly.

Don’t forget that whatever amount you pay in Term One, you will go into a draw to receive half the amount you have paid returned to you.

EFTPOS MACHINE
We have our Eftpos machine up running in reception now, making it more convenient for family payments.

Thank you and regards
Margaret Butler
BUSINESS MANAGER

CENTREPAY
Our Centrepay registration with Human Services has also been finalised, enabling family payments to be deducted directly from Centrelink payments. Please contact the office for more details.

… and Nicolas having fun Carriage riding at RDA.
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We were lucky enough to have visits from 3 Collingwood players last Tuesday and 2 Hawthorn football players last Friday. They posed for photos, signed various merchandise and even had a kick and handball with our students. Not only did the students enjoy the visit but staff were also seen jumping in and getting their photo taken with the players.

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Community News...

- **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

- **‘HOOKIN2HOCKEY’** Bendigo Senjuns Hockey Club. Tuesdays 4pm – 5pm @ St Monica’s Primary School. Contact Danny Stone on 0418 552 464.

- **Kangaroo Flat Soup Kitchen** Wednesday’s 6pm – 7pm @ Kangaroo Flat Rotary Gateway Park – see flyer for dates.

- **FunLoong’s Birthday Celebration.** Saturday 28th March 10.30am-1.30pm in the Hargreaves Mall.

- **‘FANTASTICAL FETE DAY’ Community Market & Crazy Car Boot Sale.** Saturday 28th March, 9am – 1pm. For Info Contact Geoff Young @ On Track Training & Employment ph. 5446 3477. See flyer for more information.

Thank You!

A big thank you to both Tasman meats and Bakers Delight – both located at the newly named ‘Lansell Square’ in Kangaroo Flat. Both of these businesses recently helped us out with a school function. We really appreciate their help and ask you to in turn show your appreciation by shopping with them – please make mention when purchasing that you are part of our community and appreciate their help!

**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.

**CANTEEN 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.
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Introducing our new SCHOOL PHONE APP for School Payments – QKR by MasterCard, pronounced ‘QUICKER’

Families can make school payments and canteen orders on the App

- It will save you time by letting you pay for Essential Education Items/Voluntary Fees directly from your phone
- It will save you time by letting you order and pay for school items directly from your phone
- Reduces the need for your child to bring cash to school

*Please read the ‘Getting Started’ Sheet that went home with your child this week. This explains how to download the App to your mobile phone.*

Families can start making school payments immediately and place canteen orders for the first week of Term 1, Friday 17th April. You can save time and order ahead as well.

*All canteen orders must be in by every Wednesday 4.00pm if you are ordering via the App*

*If you already have our School Information App tiqbiz on your phone, you will now see a shopping trolley on the whole school menu – this interfaces with QKR and you can download the QKR App / go directly into QKR from here also.*

Please contact the office if you have any questions or need assistance.

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FOR SALE:
Chrysler Voyager LE
1997 Automatic
Price $9,000

For more Information please call Nicole after 5pm on 9560 3923 or 0408 573 588

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Farewell to Jan E.
The Bendigo SDS community wish Jan utmost health and happiness as she leaves our school to embark on the next chapter of her life. All the best Jano!

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**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

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**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.

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**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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**Our Website**

[www.bendigosds.vic.edu.au](http://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](http://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.
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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 17th April. 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!

‘Find A Carer’
Find A Carer at [www.findacarer.com.au](http://www.findacarer.com.au) is a website which connects carers and children with special needs, people with a disability and the elderly.

Email: [info@findacarer.com.au](mailto:info@findacarer.com.au)  Mob.0402 635 285

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.