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

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

Welcome back. I hope you all managed to spend some time with family and friends during the holiday break. Community groups of Bendigo organised some great events to attend, and maybe you had the opportunity to be part of the festivities. I am sure the word chocolate, and the taste of chocolate is familiar for some, if not most of us!

Term Two will bring some beautiful autumn weather, and we will experience colder weather as the term concludes. Please remember to send in warm clothing when necessary. It may be a good idea to continue to send your child’s broad brim hat to school to ensure protection from the sun at times.

Term Two - Focus
There will be a change of focus for this term’s high interest theme. ‘Act Safely’ is a School Wide Positive Behaviour Support emphasis for the school community. I am looking forward to seeing the developments that will transpire as a result of the new program and topic.

Education Week
Bendigo SDS is participating in Education Week during the week of Monday 19 – 23 May. Stay tuned for further details.

School Requisites 2015 (Reminder)
To assist with Occupational Health and Safety, hygiene/infection control, all students will be required to bring one pack of Huggies Wipes and one box of tissues to school at the beginning of each Term. We are now at the beginning of Term Two. We appreciate your cooperation with this. Thank you parents/carers for supporting our hygiene, care of students, and programs at Bendigo Special Developmental School.
School Values – ENCOURAGEMENT: Our School Community promotes encouragement to inspire and build confidence.

Welcome to Bendigo SDS
A number of new students and staff have joined Bendigo SDS this year. Just to recap we welcome Jessica R (ESS) Room 8, Matt H (Teacher) Room 19 who has started this term, Loui H, Tamlye S, Finn W, Talia B and we certainly hope you find our community to be very supportive and a lot of fun!

Leave
This term we wish Cherie B (O.T) well as she heads to the ‘big smoke’. Also Callum S (Speech) as he ventures overseas to find even bigger things. Lauren N.T (ESS) will move to a town far north of this cold place in Victoria. Our community will really feel a great loss as these three staff persons embark on a journey away from Bendigo SDS for the remainder of this year. On the other hand each and every one is going to start a new chapter in their lives and I know they will flourish in every way doing so. So…to Cherie, Callum and Lauren, I sincerely hope you find health and happiness at your new destination and that you may also discover some time in your busy schedule to drop us a line from time to time. Have fun and follow your dreams!

See you soon!

Julie Hommelhoff
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

It feels as though we have been back for weeks, not days! Everyone has settled back into their routines and appear to be getting on with the term ahead. It has been lovely to talk with some students about their two week break. For many students a highlight of their holiday, of course- Easter Bunny! She never fails to disappoint!

Bendigo SDS PBS
Please see within this newsletter, your very own Bendigo SDS Behaviour Matrix. Please pop it prominently somewhere in your home so that you can refer to it readily.

This term we are launching into PBS and more specifically, our behaviour expectation of “Act Safely”. As a whole school community we will be explicitly teaching our students the skills of listening and asking for help, in particular, over the following two weeks. This means teachers will be breaking down the skills of listening; what does listening look like? How do people know that I am listening to them? At every opportunity, staff will be praising students for listening and asking for help and reinforcing how these behaviours help to keep us all safe.
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The PBS language of ‘acting safe’ will also weave throughout other curricula and daily school activities, such as meal times.

I would encourage you to use this language at home too. For example, when your child has demonstrated that they are listening to you, praise them by saying: “Thank you for listening to me Julie, this shows me that you know how to be safe in our kitchen.”

We will soon be offering parent PBS workshop opportunities, to provide parents and carers with PBS information and how this approach will look for our school.

**Bringing up Great Kids**

This is a fantastic opportunity for the parents and carers of our school community! This program which runs only over four sessions, offers a relaxed and individualised workshop to parents and carers of children with a disability.

“Bringing Up Great Kids” was designed by Lynne Kennedy and is nationally renowned. We are most fortunate to have Lynne involved in delivering a program here at Bendigo SDS. In support of Lynne will be Prue Robertson, who is our DET social worker. Prue also has extensive experience in facilitating parenting workshops. Some of you may know of Prue who previously worked at Centrecare in Bendigo. Prue believes that, “Bringing Up Great Kids is the best, most worthwhile parenting program,” that she has come across. This workshop aims to provide parents and carers with effective strategies, as well as opportunities to talk and reflect with other parents, who know from personal experience what is involved in parenting children who have a disability.

Places are limited for this workshop, so please register your interest by contacting Jodie or Karen as soon as possible. First in best dressed! Afternoon tea will also be provided.

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**Happy Birthday**

**Student Birthdays**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Room</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14th</td>
<td>Ryan P</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th</td>
<td>Thomas C</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th</td>
<td>Joshua F</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th</td>
<td>Laura M</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th</td>
<td>Karla R</td>
<td>8</td>
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**Staff Birthdays**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Room</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19th</td>
<td>Ron N</td>
<td>H&amp;PE</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th</td>
<td>Kerrie F</td>
<td>Room 16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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School Values – ENcouragement: Our School Community promotes encouragement to inspire and build confidence.

**Student Awards...**

As it is the first week of Term there are no Student Awards this week.

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### Buses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bus Contact Phone Numbers</th>
<th>Driver / Chaperone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<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>Malmsbury: 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>

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**Thought for the Week**

Taking an interest in things is the best teacher you can have. Anon.

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**Jacqui Righetti**  
Assistant Principal

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**Easter Raffle**

As you are all aware, the 2015 Easter Egg Raffle was a huge success. Thankyou to everyone for your tremendous support! Although, we have a few baskets which have still not been collected; the winners that are yet to collect their prize are: **Tim Read, Lynne Francis, Hayley Witcomb and T. Morgan.** If you are one of the above winners, could you please collect your prize from the school office?

Thankyou, The Fundraising Team.

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**Thank You!**

A big thank you to Neil Arnott from Vietnam Veterans’ Association of Australia (Bendigo Sub Branch) for a donation to the students of a box of fresh fruit (which they are doing regularly). This is greatly appreciated by the students, staff and whole school community.
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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.

Community News...

- Kangaroo Flat Soup Kitchen Wednesday’s 6pm – 7pm @ Kangaroo Flat Rotary Gateway
Introducing our new **SCHOOL FINANCE 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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**SCHOOL INFORMATION 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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**For Sale:**
2 Young Male Dutch Bunnies $20.00 each Contact **Wendy** on 0478 805 370

School Values – PROFESSIONALISM: We honour our job descriptions and work place values.
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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

There are many ways you can become involved in your child’s school. For more details on any of these opportunities please speak to your child’s teacher or our office staff.

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.

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.

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

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 1st May. 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.