



Bendigo Special Developmental School
*"A place of excellence in education that creates
 inclusive communities and success for all"*

NEWSLETTER #2
 MONDAY 27TH
 FEBRUARY 2023

PRINCIPAL:
 KIRSHY MCAINCH
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL:
 DEHNE ANSTEE
SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT:
 LEAH THOMAS



26-32 LOCKWOOD RD, KANGAROO FLAT, VIC, 3550



WWW.BENDIGOSDS.VIC.EDU.AU



BENDIGOSDS@EDUCATION.VIC.GOV.AU



@BENDIGOSPECIALDEVELOPMENTALSCHOOL



03 5447 3267



03 5447 7286



TERM DATES

TERM 1

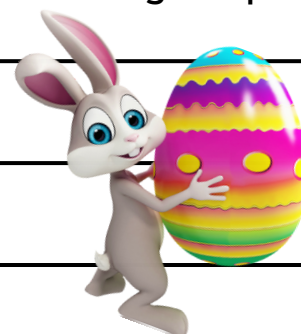
Friday 27th January - Thursday 06 April

TERM 2

Monday 24th April - Friday 24 June

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday	24th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canteen will be back today
Thursday	9th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Council Meeting at 5.30 pm
Monday	13th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Labour Day: Public Holiday NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS & STAFF
Monday	20th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Council General Meeting at 7 pm
Friday	31 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easter Raffle Draw
Thursday	6th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last Day of Term 1



OUR SCHOOL VALUES:

DRIVING LEARNING
GROWTH

UNITING TO ACHIEVE
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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



SURPRISE PREMIER OF VICTORIA VISIT ON FRIDAY 24TH FEBRUARY

Early last week, I had a phone call to inform me that we would be having a visit from the Minister of Education, Natalie Hutchins MP, on Friday. Imagine our surprise, when it was actually the Premier of Victoria, The Hon Daniel Andrews, who arrived at our school office, in the company of Deputy Premier and Member for Bendigo East, Jacinta Allan MP, and Speaker of the House and Member for Bendigo West, Maree Edwards.

It was incredibly exciting for the students to see someone they all recognised from the television, walking around our school. The Premier was taken on a tour of the school by some students from our senior classes, and it must be said, that the students were an absolute credit to themselves and the school.

The Premier was looking to get some of them on his staffing team!

As we walked around the school, we were able to discuss with the Premier the constraints we have on our site and how important it will be, to be able to secure additional funding to undertake a full redevelopment of our school facilities. Whilst no dollar figures were mentioned, the Premier certainly made a commitment to see our school's rebuilding journey through to completion. He also said he was very much looking forward to coming back again, which we will be looking forward to very much.

SCHOOL COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING & ELECTIONS

The School Council March meeting, which will be held on **20th March 2023 at 7pm**, will be our Annual General Meeting.

I would encourage all parents and carers to come along and celebrate the achievements of our school over the past year and consider nominating to become a member of the School Council. Elections will also take place for positions that have become vacant due to the completion of the two year elected terms of several parent.

Our school community is indebted to parent representatives Leah Thomas, our current School Council President, Emma Burke, Rachel Byrne, Vicki Gordon, Rebecca Quinn, Bianca Kane, Terri Unger and Matthew Gildea, our two community representatives Angela Whalen, our current vice-president and treasurer, and Bob Wiseman, and DET representatives, Dehne Anstee, Barb Johnstone, Davina McCurdy and Tyler Dempster.

We have 6 parent positions available this year.

Please find the nomination form in this newsletter.

Joining the School Council will give you the opportunity to have a direct say in the future direction of our school, which is a wonderful way to shape the learning of your child. School Council nominations forms are attached to this newsletter and if you have any questions, I would urge you to give me a call or speak to one of the current parent members.



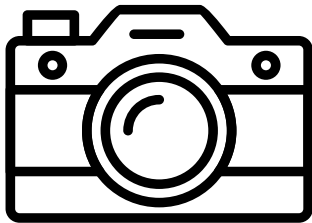
Premier's visit
Friday
24th February 2023



BUSES

BUS	DRIVER/CHAPERONE	TELEPHONE
HEATHCOTE	JASON & JODIE	0435 900 890
HUNTLY	HELEN, NICOLE & CHLOE	0428 261 802
FRYERSTOWN/CASTLEMAINE	DAVID & DEBBIE	0409 421 500
KYNETON	STEVE & JOANNE	0428 236 271
LOCKWOOD	DAVID & KIM	0428 271 824
STRATHFIELDSAYE	STEVE & JOY	0427 287 843
SERPENTINE	PETER & JANINE	049 663 736
SPRING GULLY	CHRIS & HEATHER	0428 159 660
WEDDERBURN	CATHY & MICHELLE	0466 367 656

DID YOU RETURN YOUR MEDIA CONSENT FORM



Throughout the year our staff will capture great photos from our students during all sorts of exciting events and activities.

Through our **ANNUAL MEDIA CONSENT FORM** you can let us know whether or not you would like your child's photographs to be published in our newsletters, our school website or other publicly accessible channels, such as social media. If you haven't returned your form, please complete the form asap. A copy of the form is attached to this newsletter.
THANK YOU!

ARE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS UP-TO-DATE?



It is important that we always have your correct home address, contact and emergency details, especially if we need to contact you in case of an emergency or when your child is unwell.

We'd like to ask everyone to advice us of any changes in your details as soon as possible by contacting our office or your child's teacher.
THANK YOU!

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BIRTHDAYS



17 February	Sophie F.	ESS	18 February	Helen F.	OH & S
19 February	Craig	Humanities	19 February	Tamzzin	Room 21
21 February	Alex	Room 19	21 February	Lorraine	CRT
22 February	Bodhi	Room 17/18	22 February	Bella	Room 19
23 February	Ruby	Room 13	25 February	Jye	Room 17/18
27 February	Tyler	Room 15	28 February	Lexi	Room 1
28 February	Lily	Room 3	1 March	Anthony	Room 23
1 March	Jason	ESS	5 March	Quinn	Room 17/18
6 March	Milly	ESS	7 March	Oliver	Room 5
9 March	Sandra	ESS	10 March	Taia	Room 2
10 March	Nazareth	Room 20			

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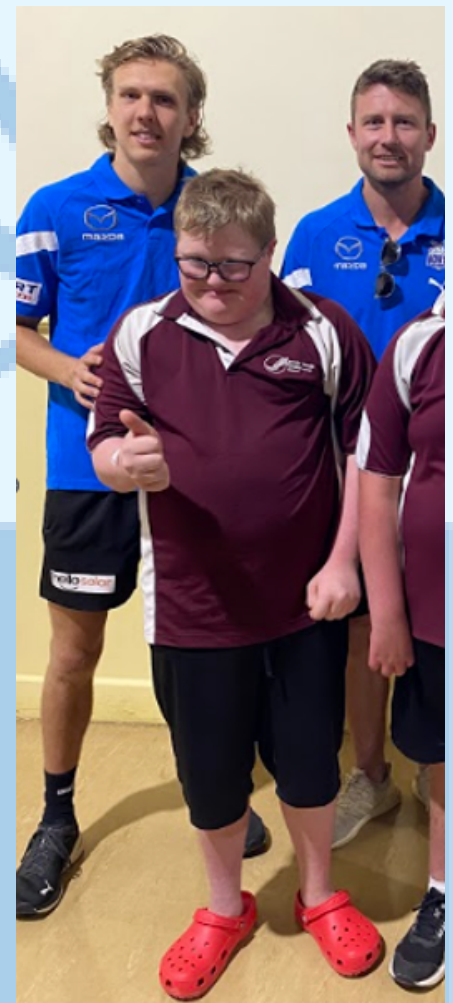
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AFL - NORTH MELBOURNE AT SDS



Mathematics at Bendigo Special Developmental School

Throughout 2022, we were fortunate enough to be successful in receiving a Schools Plus Smart Giving grant for \$27,347.76.

This grant has been used to provide professional development for a Mathematics lead team to be able to identify evidence-based mathematics teaching practices that will benefit every student within our school. All staff have engaged in mathematics workshops and we have found that everyone is excited about what we are going to do next. The school has received regular project coaching throughout the twelve months to ensure the best possible outcomes.

After our year of learning, planning, preparing and assessing students, we are ready to launch a hands-on practical approach to all things Mathematics with our students and teach them how to apply this within real-life situations (Numeracy).

The grant has allowed the Maths Champion team to identify many items that will suit the needs of all of our students across the school.

We are very excited to have received our first delivery of goodies, which is a dedicated 'Maths Trolley' for every single classroom. These will have a standard set of maths equipment for students to engage, explore and consolidate their learning and we will have some specifically targeted materials at each student 'just right' level. We have many more parcels arriving soon that will begin to fill our trolleys, and we just can't wait to get going!

Stay tuned to the newsletter, Facebook, Seesaw and notes sent home for our very first home/school mathematics workshop which will be scheduled in Term 2. In this workshop, we will share our whole-school approach to teaching mathematics, have some hands-on interactive activities and give you some ideas of how to support your child at home.



MEETING FOR OUR PREP SCHOOL PARENTS

WEDNESDAY 1ST MARCH @ BSDS

(First Wednesday for Prep students)

IMPORTANT MEETING FOR PREP SCHOOL PARENTS

Time: 09.00 - 10.15 am in our staff room

Now that school and full weeks are happening, we are keen to share with you what we are actually doing in the classroom and see how you are travelling.
Have a breather and a cuppa. You have done so well, starting the school year.

- What does the school day look like for our new students, and how can you best support them?
- How does the curriculum work for students with a disability?
- How do we teach communication, language and sounds?
- Time for any questions. We want you to have all the information you need to make this year successful for your child.
- Hear from past parents and their journey through the school.
- Any further resources for your family.

For further information chat to Meg Holmes, Drew Barrett (Wellbeing team), or your classroom teacher. Phone: 54473267.

CARERS SUPPORT GROUP - COME AND JOIN



FREE COFFEE and snacks!
No booking required.



CARERS SUPPORT GROUP

Support Groups for anyone caring for a person who is
under 18 with disability, developmental delay,
neurodiversity and/or mental ill-health

If you don't live in the
Bendigo region, you can
join us online by calling us
on: 0488 605 363
We can send you a zoom
link!



Morning Tea Group
Date: 1st and 3rd Thursday
of each month

Time: 10am - 12 noon

Where: 480 Hargreaves St.
Bendigo

If you have any forms or
documents you need help
with, please bring them along!



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EASTER RAFFLE 2023

Dear parents & carers,

This term we will once again be holding our **Annual Easter Raffle**.

We would greatly appreciate your support in this, and all money raised will go towards school resources and equipment for all of our students.

The raffle prizes are to be hampers of Easter eggs.

If each family could donate an egg, bunny or other relevant Easter item, this would make for a brilliant prize pool!

Donations will be collected from classrooms each day or you can drop them off at the office any time.

Timeline:

- Friday 24th March – greatly appreciated if donations could be sent in by this date so that hampers can be put together by our volunteers
- Wednesday 29th March – Raffle tickets (sold or unsold) and money to be returned to school
- Friday 31st March – Raffle to be drawn

Thank you for your support.....
The Team at Bendigo SDS



DONATIONS WELCOME



THE RALLY AROUND VICTORIA GROUP FROM VARIETY CHILDREN'S CHARITY WILL BE COMING TO VISIT BSDS!

Variety is an amazing charity that provides vital funds for resources, equipment, programs and more to help change the lives of children experiencing disability, disadvantage or illness.

As a school, we are very fortunate to receive invaluable support from Variety to continue providing our students with an inclusive learning environment where they can thrive and access meaningful learning opportunities.

The amazing rally crew will be stopping by on the bike track [Station Street entrance of the school] on the morning of Saturday 4th March from 7:30am to 9am. Feel free to come on down and check out all of the amazing vehicles and meet the drivers making a difference!

If you would like to get involved and volunteer your time supporting our staff during this event, we would love some parent volunteers to help. We will also be holding a raffle during the morning.

Donations to go towards raffle prizes are also very welcome and appreciated to continue raising funds for our amazing students!

If you would like to help, please contact Claire [Events Coordinator and Senior Sub-School Leader] on the schools number: 03 5447 3267

We look forward to seeing some early birds out and about 😊



**LOOKING FOR
VOLUNTEERS**

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SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING & ELECTION

The School Council Annual General Meeting, will be held on
Monday 20th March at 7pm either at school or via webex.

I would encourage all parents and carers to consider nominating to become a member of the School Council.

Our school community is indebted to our parent representatives Leah Thomas, our current School Council President, Emma Burke, Rachel Byrne, Vicki Gordon, Rebecca Quinn, Matthew Gildea, Bianca Kane, Terri Unger, our two community representatives Angela Whalen, our current Vice-President & Treasurer, and Bob Wiseman, and DET representatives, Dehne Anstee, Barb Johnstone, Davina McCurdy and Tyler Dempster.

- **We have 6 parent positions available this year**

Joining the School Council will give you the opportunity to have a direct say in the future direction of our school, which is a wonderful way to shape the learning of your child.

School Council nominations forms are attached to this newsletter or you can contact the office for a form.

In case we have received more nominations than there are positions available, elections will be held and parents/carers will need to fill out a ballot.

If you have any questions, I would urge you to contact the office on 03 5447 3267 or speak to one of the current parent members.

Thank you!



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FORM 3: SELF-NOMINATION FORM FOR PARENT MEMBER CATEGORY (Formerly Schedule 5A)

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent member on the council.

Name

Residential address

..... Contact phone (mobile or landline)

..... Email

I am the parent/guardian of who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

Statement

I am an employee of the Department of Education and Training.	Yes / No (please circle)
I am an employee of the school council.	Yes / No (please circle)
I am engaged in work at and for the school.	Yes / No (please circle)

I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that:

- I am not, and have ever been, insolvent under administration
- I am not of unsound mind
 - I have not been found guilty of an offence that is, or would if committed in Victoria be, an indictable offence
- I am not a registrable offender within the meaning of the *Sex Offenders Registration Act 2004*.
 - I am not suffering from any medical condition that would affect my ability to perform the role of member of a school council.

Signature of candidate..... Date / /

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

The personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable). Further, the name, membership category, gender (optional), term of office, office held (if any) of school council members and notification whether the member is an employee of the Department will be forwarded to the Department of Education and Training by the principal by 30 April each year as a record of council membership and may be used for statistical purposes.

You can access your personal information by contacting the principal on:

If you choose not to give some or all of the information requested your nomination may not be accepted.

If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.

PRIVACY COLLECTION NOTICE

INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS, PARENTS, AND CARERS

The Department of Education (the department) values your privacy and is committed to protecting the personal and health information that schools collect.

All school staff must comply with Victorian privacy law and the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#). This notice explains how the department, including Victorian government schools (schools), handles personal and health information. On occasion, specific consent will be sought for the collection and use of information, for example, for a student to receive a health service. Our schools are also required by legislation, such as the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, to collect some of this information.

Throughout this notice, 'staff' includes principals, teachers, student support service officers, youth workers, social workers, nurses and any other allied health practitioners, and all other employees, contractors, volunteers and service providers of the school and the department.

On enrolment, and during the ordinary course of a student's attendance at a school, schools will collect information about students and their families for the following purposes:

- educating students
- supporting students' social and emotional wellbeing, and health
- fulfilling legal obligations, including duty of care, anti-discrimination law and occupational health and safety law
- communicating and engaging with parents
- student administration
- school management
- supporting policy in relation to student education and wellbeing.

If this information is not collected, schools may be unable to provide optimal education or support to students or fulfil legal obligations.

For example, our schools rely on parents to provide **health information** about any medical condition or disability that their child has, medication their child may take while at school, any known allergies and contact details of their child's doctor. If parents do not provide all relevant health information, this may put their child's health at risk.

Our schools also require current, relevant information about all **parents and carers** so that schools can take account of safety concerns that affect their children. Parents should provide schools with copies of all current parenting plans and court orders about or that affect their children and provide updated copies when they change.

When parents enrol their child in a government school, they will be asked to provide personal and health information in several ways, including via the Enrolment Form, the [School Entrance Health Questionnaire](#) (SEHQ) and the [Early Childhood Intervention Service](#) (ECIS) Transition Form.

The **Enrolment Form** is used to collect information that is essential for the purposes listed above, and requests information such as:

- **Emergency contacts** – Individuals parents nominate for a school to contact during an emergency. Parents should ensure that their nominated emergency contact agrees to their contact details being provided to the school and that they understand their details may be disclosed by the department if lawful, e.g. in the case of emergency communications relating to bush fires or floods.

Last updated 31 Jan. 23

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- **Student background information** – Information about country of birth, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin, language spoken at home and parent occupation. This information enables the department to allocate appropriate resources to schools. The department also uses this information to plan for future educational needs in Victoria and shares some information with the Commonwealth government to monitor, plan and allocate resources.
- **Immunisation status** – This assists schools to manage health risks and legal obligations. The department may also provide this information to the Department of Health and Department of Families, Fairness and Housing to assess immunisation rates in Victoria, but not in a way which identifies students.
- **Visa status** – This is required to process a student's enrolment.

All schools may use departmental systems and online tools such as apps and other software to effectively collect and manage information about students and families for the purposes listed above.

When schools use these online tools, they take steps to ensure that student information is secure. If parents or carers have any concerns about the use of these online tools, please contact the school.

School staff will only share student and family information with other school staff who need to know to enable them to educate or support the student as described above. Information will only be shared outside the school (and outside the department) as required or authorised by law, including where sharing is required to meet duty of care, anti-discrimination, occupational health and safety, and child wellbeing and safety obligations. The information collected will not be disclosed beyond the school and department without parent consent unless such disclosure is lawful.

When a student transfers to another school (including Catholic, independent, and interstate), personal and/or health information about that student may be transferred to the next school. Transferring this information is in the best interests of the student and assists the next school to provide the best possible education and support to the student. For further detail about how and what level of information is provided to the next school, refer to the: [Enrolment: Student transfers between schools](#)

Schools only provide school reports and ordinary school communications to students, parents, [carers](#) or others who have a legal right to that information. Requests for access to other student information or by others must be made by lodging a [Freedom of Information](#) (FOI) application.

To update student or family information, parents should contact their school.

For more information about how schools and the department collect and manage personal and health information, or how to access personal and health information held by a school about you or your child, refer to the: [Schools' Privacy Policy](#)

This document contains various links. Please visit our school's website (www.bendigoqosds.vic.edu.au) to access this policy and the links for further information.

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ANNUAL MEDIA CONSENT FORM 2023



Bendigo Special
Developmental
School

FOR HOME

Photographing, Filming and Recording students at Bendigo Special Developmental School

ANNUAL CONSENT FORM AND COLLECTION NOTICE 2023

During the school year there are many occasions and events where staff may photograph, film or record students participating in school activities and events. We do this for many reasons including to celebrate student participation and achievement, showcase particular learning programs, document a student's learning journey/camps/excursions/sports events etc, communicate with our parents and school community in newsletters and on social media- Facebook.

This notice applies to photographs, video or recordings of students that are collected, used and disclosed by the school. We ask that any parents/carers or other members of our school community photographing, filming or recording students at school events (e.g. concerts, sports events etc) do so in a respectful and safe manner and that any photos, video or recordings ("images" of students) are not publicly posted (e.g. to a social media account) without the permission of the relevant parent/carer.

If you do not understand any aspect of this notice, or you would like to talk about any concerns you have, please contact the Principal/Assistant Principal of Bendigo Special Developmental School on (03) 54473267 or bendigo.sds@education.vic.gov.au

A. Use or disclosure within the school community

Unless you tell us otherwise below, images of your child may be used by our school within the school community, as described below.

Photographs, video or recordings of students may be used within the school community in any of the following ways:

- in the school's communication, learning and teaching tools (for example, emails, classroom blogs or apps that can only be accessed by students, parents or school staff with passwords e.g. Sentral, SeeSaw)
- for display in school classrooms, on noticeboards, Assembly presentations etc
- to support student's health and wellbeing (e.g. photographs of pencil grip to assist in OT assessments)

B. Use or disclosure in publications/locations that are publicly accessible

Unless you tell us otherwise below, photographs, video or recordings of students may also be used in publications that are accessible to the public, including:

- on the school's website including in the school newsletter which is publicly available on the website
- on the school's social media accounts –Facebook page

Your child may be identified by first name only in these images (or not named at all).

We will notify you individually if we are considering using any images of your child for specific advertising or promotional purposes.

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ANNUAL MEDIA CONSENT FORM 2023

Privacy

Photographs, video and recordings of a person that may be capable of identifying the person may constitute a collection of 'personal information' under Victorian privacy law. This means that any images of your child taken by the school may constitute a collection of your child's personal information. The school is part of the Department of Education and Training (**the Department**). The Department values the privacy of every person and must comply with the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014* (Vic) when collecting and managing all personal information. For further information see [Schools' Privacy Policy](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/schoolsprivacypolicy.aspx) (<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/schoolsprivacypolicy.aspx>).

Ownership and Reproduction

Copyright in the images will be wholly owned by the school. This means that the school may use the images in the ways described in this form without notifying, acknowledging or compensating you or your child.

Opt Out

Bendigo Special Developmental School understands that parents and carers have the right to withhold permission for our school to use photographs, video or recordings of your child (apart from circumstances where the school is not required to seek consent – see our *Photographing, Filming and Recording Students Policy*).



ANNUAL CONSENT FORM AND COLLECTION NOTICE 2023

I have read this form and I

RETURN TO SCHOOL

☒ give my consent for Bendigo Special Developmental School to use photos, video or recordings of my child for the purposes outlined above.

(NOTE: Parents/carers can contact administration staff of Bendigo Special Developmental School on (03) 54473267 or bendigo.sds@education.vic.gov.au at any time to withdraw their consent. Please note that it may not be possible for the school to amend past publications or to withdraw images that are already in the public domain.)

OR

I have read this form and I **do not consent** to Bendigo Special Developmental School using photos, video or recordings of my child (named below) to appear in the following ways:

- ☐ Use within the school community (e.g. in the school's communication, learning and teaching tools, on displays around the school)
- ☐ Use in publications/locations that are publicly accessible (e.g. on the school's website, on the school's social media accounts, in promotional material for the school)

(NOTE: You may choose to opt out of both or only one type of use. It may not be possible for the school to amend past publications or to withdraw images that are already in the public domain. Further information is available in the Bendigo Developmental School: Photographing, Filming and Recording Students Policy.)

Name of Student	
Name of Parent/Carer	
Signature	
Date	

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