



Bendigo Special Developmental School

"A place of excellence in education that creates inclusive communities and success for all"

Newsletter # 1 – Friday 11th February 2022

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Kangaroo Flat, Victoria 3555
E: bendigo.sds@education.vic.gov.au
www.bendigodsds.vic.edu.au
T: (03)5447 3267 F: 5447 7286
Principal: Kirshy McAinch
School Council President: Leah Thomas
f @bendigoespecialdevelopmentalschool

TERM DATES 2022

Term 1, 2022
Friday 28 January - Friday 08th April

Term 2, 2022
Tuesday 26th April – Friday 24th June

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday	18 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Great Start Conference: NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS <i>Students attend their meeting with parents/carers.</i>
Thursday	24 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Photos <i>Envelopes to go home on Monday 14 February</i>
Friday	25 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Photos <i>Envelopes to go home on Monday 14 February</i>
Monday	14 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Labour Day: Public Holiday NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
Friday	08 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last Day of Term 1
Monday	25 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anzac Day

Our Values



Driving
learning



Uniting to achieve
excellence



growth
Valuing **diversity**
with kindness and respect



Ensuring **equity**
of opportunity



Bendigo Special Developmental School community respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pays its respects to the ongoing living cultures of Aboriginal peoples.





PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



WELCOME BACK

Students have now been back at school for two weeks, and hopefully you feel, as I do, that they are starting to settle into their new rhythms and routines. We have had a number of changes over the holiday break, most notably with the swapping of the Senior and Student Engagement Sub-Schools, and the many of the students have embraced the change with excitement, relishing the opportunity to be in different classrooms and accessing different playground areas. We are very excited to welcome 14 new Foundation (Prep) students and their families, and already we are seeing their engagement with learning grow each day. Typically, we have a welcome BBQ to start the school year with our school community in the first few weeks of school starting. This year, we will be waiting until the end of the term, given the ongoing COVID restrictions. In the interim, I would like to thank you for making our school, your school of choice for your child, and recommit our staff to working with you to ensure the very best learning experience for your young person.

FAREWELL AND GOODLUCK

I am saddened to inform you that Kirsty Phillips, our Assistant Principal since 2020, has taken the decision to resign from her position as Assistant Principal and the Department of Education and Training. Kirsty has worked at Bendigo Special Developmental School for over 15 years, as a classroom teacher in the Senior Sub-School area, as a Leading Teacher and then as the Assistant Principal. She has an incredible knowledge of curriculum and support strategies and is particularly skilled in designing and implementing systems and practices to improve internal structures, practices and wellbeing for the ultimate benefit of

staff and students within the school. She will be sadly missed, and we wish her every success in her future endeavours. A recruitment process to select a new Assistant Principal will take place this term, with their tenure to begin in Term 2.

COVID UPDATE

I wish to thank everyone for their vigilance in monitoring their child for possible symptoms of COVID -19 and keeping sick students at home. This is an important part of ensuring that we do not have a major COVID outbreak at our school. You will all be aware that we have had several people who have been infectious onsite since returning to school, however, with daily Rapid Antigen Testing and staff ensuring strict compliance with ventilation, wearing masks, hand hygiene and social distancing where possible, coupled with the isolation periods being adhered to, I am hopeful that we can stem the flow of infection. I would encourage anyone who is concerned about sending their child to school to contact me and have a more in depth discussion of the measures we have in place to make our school as safe as is possible.

SEESAW -DIGITAL COMMUNICATION

By now you will all have received a copy of the Home/School Communication and Information Booklet. This booklet outlines much of the important information that was previously printed in the front of the take home diaries. It also provides an explanation of why we have moved away from a paper-based diary to the digital platform SeeSaw. As a quick recap, this is due to the overwhelming positive feedback from parents and carers that they prefer this method of communication, and the time it saves teachers from writing in individual diaries that is now redirected into face-to-face teaching time. If you have any difficulty accessing SeeSaw or loading it on to your preferred device at home, please contact your teacher or the office, and we will be able to assist you.





CONTACT FOR BUSES

In the absence of Kirsty, Angie Kloft will be coordinating the buses and will be the key contact for any questions or queries that you may have with regard to your child's travel. Angie can be contacted by phone through the office, or on the email Angie.Kloft@education.vic.gov.au

STUDENT SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS -GREAT START CONFERENCES – FRIDAY 18TH FEBRUARY

Next Friday 18th February, our Great Start Conference Student Support Group Meetings will be held. No classroom programs will operate on this day. Parents and carers can book a half hour appointment time with their teacher between 11.00 am and 6.00pm. Meetings can take place face to face, if you are double vaccinated and show proof of vaccination to the office upon signing in, over a video conferencing platform such as Webex or Zoom , or by telephone. To book a time, go to www.schoolinterviews.com and enter the code **m8qpf** and select your teacher and the time that suits you best. Rooms 21 and 23 are also able to book a time on Tuesday 22nd February, given the number of students in those classes.

WORK RELATED VIOLENCE INFORMATION

Our school community has demonstrated incredible solidarity and resilience throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Being back in our classrooms with extra health and safety measures is another big transition, but it's the very best one for our children's education. As we navigate these changes to onsite learning, including the exclusion from school buildings of people who are not double vaccinated, it's more important than ever that adults in our school community treat each other with respect and kindness. Sadly, we have seen some examples of work-related violence occurring within our school. Work-related violence is defined as 'when a person is abused, threatened or assaulted in a situation related to their work'.

It can occur in person, over the phone or online, and be caused by the behaviour of other employees, clients or customers, or members of the public. In response, The Department of Education and Training has released a [new policy](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/Respectful-Behaviours-within-the-School-Community-Policy.aspx) (found at <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/Respectful-Behaviours-within-the-School-Community-Policy.aspx>) that describes the positive behaviour expected from parents, carers, and other adults in Victorian school communities. The policy sets clear standards of behaviour to create a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment for students, staff and adults.

There are also other resources to support safe and respectful relationships in our school community, including information about getting involved in the school, advice on how to raise a concern or complaint, and parenting support resources. You can find the new policy and these resources [here](https://www.vic.gov.au/education-information-parents) at <https://www.vic.gov.au/education-information-parents>

You may also see a [new poster](#) up around our school, promoting positive behaviour. If you would like more information about how to engage positively with our school, please contact me at any stage.

PERMISSION TO USE IMAGE

Each year we are required to gain permission from parents and carers to use photos, videos or recordings of each student. We love nothing more than sharing the joy our students have whilst at school, experiencing new things, learning and engaging with their friends. The permission slip for 2022 is pink in colour and is required to be returned to the office as soon as possible. Please let us know if you have misplaced your slip, and we can send home another one.

Kirshy McAinch
Principal





GREAT START CONFERENCES

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our Student Support Group - Great Start Conferences will be held on **Friday 18th February from 11.00am to 6.00 pm**. Parents and carers with students in Room 21 and 23 can additionally book appointments on Tuesday 22nd February given the number of students in the classes.

Normal classroom programs will not be operating on Friday 18th February 2022.
Students attend meetings with their parents/carers.

To make a booking, go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au

MAKE A BOOKING

enter the code **m8qpf**



Enter your details



Select the teacher(s) you wish to see



Select the appointment times that suits your family best

Or use this QR code



When you click FINISH your selected bookings will be emailed to you immediately. If you do not receive your email, please check your junk-mail, or enter the event code again and check your email address spelling. Update your details if email address is incorrect.

DO NOT DELETE the email you receive. Keep it somewhere safe. You may need to refer back to it at a later date.

If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the school on 5447 3267 for assistance.

Thank you!





Respectful school communities start with respectful behaviour

Parents, carers, staff and students can help keep our school community safe, supportive and respectful.

Good relationships are based on:



Open and honest communication



Trust and respect



Working together



Fair and reasonable expectations by all

These behaviours are **not** okay in our school community:

- ⊗ Threats
- ⊗ Violence
- ⊗ Rudeness
- ⊗ Harassment
- ⊗ Discriminatory and derogatory comments
- ⊗ Aggression
- ⊗ Intimidation
- ⊗ Threatening gestures

This includes in-person, over-the-phone, email, text message, social media and online.

For more information ask your school about the **Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy**.





BIRTHDAYS

03 January	Tyler	ESS Coordinator	06 January	Kim P.	Disability Inclusion
07 January	Joel	Room 1	14 January	Sophia	Room 6
18 January	Alex	Room 3	18 January	Jamie	Room 20
19 January	Cohen	Room 17	20 January	Taj	Room 20
20 January	April	Room 4	20 January	Dax	Room 7
21 January	Tia	Room 23	21 January	Barb	Leading Teacher
24 January	Sharon	ESS	24 January	Gael	ESS
26 January	Ivana	Room 4	27 January	Piper	Room 8/9
29 January	Dax L.	STEAM	30 January	Amy	Room 6
30 January	Aileen	Volunteer	31 January	Abhay	Room 2
01 February	Lockie	Room 4	01 February	Shannon	Room 19
05 February	Hamish	Room 19	06 February	Leon	Room 7
09 February	Jedda	Room 6	10 February	Ruby	Room 22
10 February	Hannah	Room 21			



BUSES



BUS	DRIVER / CHAPERONE	TELEPHONE
Heathcote	Gary & Jodie	0435 900 890
Huntly	Helen, Nicole & Chloe	0428 261 802
Fryerstown/Castlemaine	David & Debbie	0409 421 500
Kyneton	Steve & Raelene	0428 236 271
Lockwood	David & Kim	0428 271 824
Strathfieldsaye	Steve & Joy	0427 287 843
Serpentine	Peter & Janine	0427 380 040
Spring Gully	Chris & Heather	0428 159 660
Wedderburn	Shaun & Cathy	0466 367 656





WELFARE AND FAMILY SUPPORT TEAM



Dear Parents and Carers,

We know it can be challenging to get your young person vaccinated.

The **BENDIGO HEALTH DISABILITY LIAISON OFFICER PROGRAM** is a service which is especially designed to make the vaccination process quick and as simple as possible, and they understand disability.

You can contact the service on 03 5454 9141, explain your child's needs and your concerns and make an appointment for your child.

I have received really positive feedback from a number of our families who have used this service.

If you need more information, please call Meg or the office.

Meg Holmes

Family Support Worker

Bendigo Special Developmental School

Phone: 54473267

Days of Work: Mon, Wed, Thurs

mobile 0458362247

Disability Liaison Officers (DLO) advocate for people with a disability within the health system.

We aim to improve access to health care in the Loddon Mallee Region.



To access the Disability Support Clinic, Booking is Essential.

For Questions and Referrals, and to bookings contact Bendigo DLO on

Ph: 5454 9141

disabilityliaison@bendigohealth.org.au

Monday to Friday

9am to 5pm



**Bendigo Health
Disability Liaison
Officer Program
DLO**



Our Values



✦ Driving *learning* growth

✦ Valuing *diversity* with kindness and respect

✦ Uniting to achieve *excellence*

✦ Ensuring *equity* of opportunity



What we do

The Bendigo Health Disability Liaison Officers (DLO) are team of staff who are a contact and advocate for people with a disability within the health system.

We work with Healthcare Teams to ensure safe, accessible and inclusive care for people with a Disability.

The Disability Liaison Officers can enable you to access:

- COVID- 19 testing
- COVID-19 Vaccination
- Help if you have received a positive COVID-19 test or need to self isolate.
- Health Services that are not be related to COVID-19
- Plan for a stay in hospital for any reason
- Provide Education and promote Disability Awareness throughout the hospital

COVID-19 Vaccination

Our current focus is to provide information about Vaccination Options and support you in receiving your Vaccination or Booster.

The Bendigo Health COVID-Vaccination Hub have a twice weekly Disability Support Clinic for people with a Disability to attend and receive their COVID-19 Vaccination.

The clinic is in an accessible and quieter area, and able to meet individual needs (sensory, mobility etc).

DLO's can also help you access other vaccination options outside of the vaccination hub including:

- In home Vaccination if you cannot get to the hub
- Sedation if required.

Who can refer to DLO?

- Anyone can make a referral to our service, including you, your family and carers.
- You need to agree to the referral.
- You may be referred by your disability providers, support coordinator, health professional.

When to contact us:

You can contact us:

- If you have questions about Disability and access to Healthcare at Bendigo Health..
- If you have questions about how to access COVID-19 information, COVID-19 Testing or COVID-19 Vaccination.
- If you have any suggestions to make Bendigo Health more accessible to everyone.

Costs

There is no cost for this service.

Feedback

We welcome your comments and suggestions. Your feedback helps us to improve our service. If you have any concerns about any aspect of your care please contact us.



Excellent Care. Every Person. Every time.

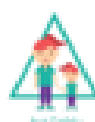
SWPBS NEWS

For the first 3 weeks of Term 1 at school, our SWPBS focus is about what it means to Act Safely, Show Respect, and Be Your Best. During this time, it is important that we set up the surroundings of our students (both inside and outside the classroom) to ensure they have the best chance for success. We see success as learning how to behave in appropriate ways, depending on the situation you are in (e.g. in the toilet or bus bay). The impact of this is that students and staff are in a positive space where academics can be focused on due to feelings of safety, security, and belongingness.

We look forward to our students learning more about SWPBS, particularly those who are in their first year at Bendigo Special Developmental School.

Hamish Morcom

SWPBS Coordinator and occupational therapist



Act Safely



Show Respect



Be Your Best

SWPBS



★ Act Safely



★ Show Respect



★ Be your Best





WELFARE & FAMILY SUPPORT



Information on Separation Anxiety

Hello all parents, carers and families,

Welcome back to another school year and welcome to all of our new families and students at Bendigo SDS. We are so excited for 2022 as it has already been fantastic to see all of our students faces again settling back into their new classrooms. Great to have a bit of normality!!

Starting a new school year can be an exciting time, but also an anxious one for many. Lots of students – and their parents/carers – feel nervous in the build-up to their first day back and even for the first couple of weeks. This is really common, particularly in the current Covid times that we live in, but that doesn't make it any less stressful! Having your child attend school for the first time or starting a new school can create even more anxiety.

For this reason, we have put together some useful and current resources and information for anyone to have a look at if they wish to find out more. There is a lot of key information for both parents who may be experiencing some anxiety and for students who may be anxious settling back in. The following is some of the consistent themes of the information to support with this concern:

- Develop consistent morning routines and goodbye routines with your children. This allows our students to become familiar with what to expect, and lowers feelings of anxiety.
- Seek out support and strategies from your child's classroom teacher who can help with this adjustment back into school. This can also provide some relief to any parents/carers who may be worried in the initial weeks, getting to know your child's teacher and building that parent-teacher relationship can be a fantastic strategy of alleviating that stress.
- And although it can be very hard, particularly for those of us who may be feeling anxious, but it is important to not draw out the goodbye. Drawing out this process will only prolong this experience and in some instances worsen the reactive behaviour. This can definitely be easier said than done, and it may take some time to build up to.

Here are the links below.

<https://healthyfamilies.beyondblue.org.au/age-6-12/mental-health-conditions-in-children/anxiety/tackling-back-to-school-anxiety>

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/school/parents/health/mychildanxiety.docx>

https://www.ferntree.vic.edu.au/uploaded_files/media/insightsmanagingseparationanxietyatschooldropoffs.pdf

<https://coronavirus.beyondblue.org.au/COVID-normal/family-life/managing-your-childs-transition-back-to-school>

If you have any questions regarding this, or need any further support, please feel free to contact us.

Have a great week all and we look forward to saying hello 😊

Drew (Mental Health Practitioner) & Meg (Family Support)





EASTER RAFFLE 2022



Easter Raffle

Dear Parents and 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 25th March** – greatly appreciated if donations could be sent in by this date so that hampers can be put together by our volunteers
- **Wednesday 30th March** – Raffle tickets (sold or unsold) and money to be returned to school
- **Friday 1st April** – Raffle to be drawn

Thank you for your support.....

The Team at Bendigo SDS





SCHOOL PHOTOS

Dear Parents and Carers,

School photos will take place this year on the mornings of Thursday 24th February and Friday 25th February.

School photo order envelopes will be going home with students on Monday 14th February.

If you would like to place an order for school photos, please return the order envelope with correct money enclosed (no change given) by Tuesday 22nd February.

Thank You!



THANK YOU!

We feel very grateful for the generous donation of new wooden toys and matchbox cars to our school, which we received from one of our parents at the end of last year.

On behalf of all our students, staff and the whole school community, we would like to say:

THANK YOU!

We will endeavour to ensure that our students will benefit from these donations!





PRIVACY COLLECTION NOTICE

INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS, PARENTS AND CARERS

The Department of Education and Training (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 primary 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.





Continued - PRIVACY COLLECTION NOTICE

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.
- **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](#)

Last updated: 24 Nov 2021





FIRST DAY BACK IN 2022





Bendigo Special Developmental School

"A place of excellence in education that creates inclusive communities and success for all"

OSHC NEWS

What's been happening at OSHC.....

OSHC's January school holidays were jam-packed with exciting incursions and excursions. We offered the children activities such as movie making, sensory activities and a beach party. We also had excursions to Ballarat and Shepparton which had some great feedback from children and staff. All children were engaged each day with the activities provided.

CONTACT US

Information and Program Bookings

0439 821 680

oshc@lifely.org.au

To speak with Staff onsite during Program

0423 799 257



BENDIGO FUN RUN 2022

Bendigo Ford
FUN RUN
Ford Go Further

**The Bendigo Ford
Fun Run is back!**

Sunday 6 March 2022
Bendigo, Victoria

1km Kids Dash • 5km Run / Walk
10km Fun Run • 21.1km Half Marathon
21.1km Teams Relay

Register Now: bendigofordfunrun.com.au

CHARITY PARTNER: SPONSORS



Our Values



✦ Driving *learning* growth

✦ Valuing *diversity* with kindness and respect

✦ Uniting to achieve *excellence*

✦ Ensuring *equity* of opportunity



RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Pumpkin, Goat Cheese and Spinach Wrap

Ingredients

Serves: 1

- 90g wholemeal wrap
- 170g pumpkin (skin removed)
- 80g goat cheese
- 70g baby spinach leaves
- 50g tomato (sliced)
- 50g red onion (sliced)
- 10ml olive oil
- 1tsp dried rosemary
- 1 garlic clove (crushed)

Nutrition Facts

Servings per recipe: 1
Serving size: 525

	Average Quantity Per Serve
Calories	703 cal
Protein	31.0g
Fat, total	35.6g
- saturated	15.0g
Carbohydrate	60.0g
- sugars	18.4g
Sodium	1227mg

Method

1. Pre-heat oven to 180 degrees and line a baking tray with baking paper
2. Place the pumpkin and onion onto the tray
3. Combine the olive oil and garlic in a small bowl. Using a pastry brush, brush the olive oil over the pumpkin. Sprinkle rosemary over the pumpkin
4. Bake the pumpkin in the oven for 25-30 minutes or until cooked
5. Remove the pumpkin and onion from the oven and allow to cool for 5 minutes
6. Place the wholemeal wrap on a plate
7. Layer the pumpkin, onion, tomato, baby spinach and goat cheese in the center of the wrap
8. Fold the sides of the wrap to enclose the filling





KANGAROO FLAT LIBRARY STORY TIME

Kangaroo Flat Library

Storytimes 2022

Nurture your child's listening and learning skills in fun-filled sessions of stories, songs and rhymes.

DURING
SCHOOL TERMS

BABY RHYME TIME 0-1 YEAR

TUE 10.30-11am



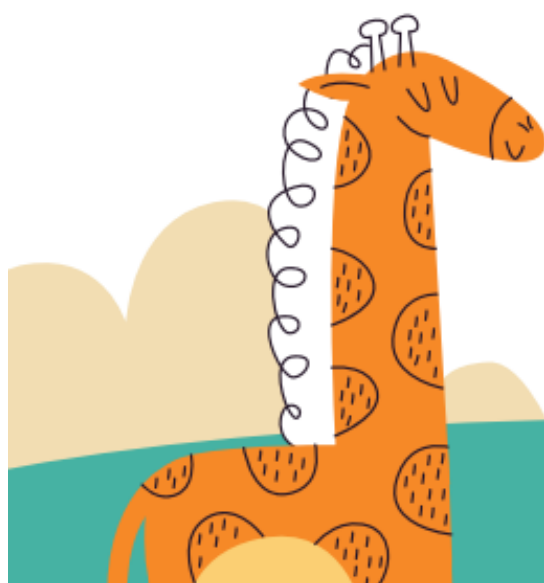
TODDLER TIME 1-3 YEARS

TUE 10.30-11am



STORYTIME 3-5 YEARS

FRI 10.30-11.15am



Libraries
Change Lives



Goldfields
Libraries

Our Values



- ★ Driving *learning* growth
- ★ Valuing *diversity* with kindness and respect
- ★ Uniting to achieve *excellence*
- ★ Ensuring *equity* of opportunity



**Wishing you
a happy
weekend**

