



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

NEWSLETTER #3

FRIDAY 10TH
 MARCH 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

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
Wednesday	29th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raffle Tickets to be returned today
Friday	31 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easter Raffle Draw
Sunday	2nd April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Autism Day
Thursday	6th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senior School Parent Meeting at the Kangaroo Flat Library from 9 to 10.15 am
Thursday	6th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last Day of Term 1 HOLIDAYS



OUR SCHOOL VALUES:

DRIVING LEARNING
GROWTH

UNITING TO ACHIEVE
EXCELLENCE

ENSURING EQUITY OF
OPPORTUNITY

VALUING DIVERSITY WITH
KINDNESS AND RESPECT

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Last week we were very excited to announce our School Captains for 2023. The students were elected by their peers, a process which is an important part of the teaching process about democracy, the voting process, and the roles and responsibilities of citizenship.

I am very excited to announce our School Captains are **Mollie Allen, Daniel Kennedy, Laura Murray, and Hamish Skirka.**

It was wonderful to have all their families on hand at assembly last Friday for their announcement, and we know they will do a wonderful job representing the views of the student body and representing the school in the community. Congratulations to them all!

BUILDING UPDATE

Last week, Dehne and I visited five other special schools across the state with the appointed architects from ePlus Architecture as part of preparing to enter the "Schematic Design" stage of our upgrade process.

It was a whirlwind tour, and the drive in between gave us plenty of time to discuss what we saw and what we thought worked and didn't work.

We visited Sunbury and Macedon Ranges Specialist Schools' Bullengarook Campus, Springvale Park Special Developmental School, Officer Specialist School, Latrobe Special Developmental School, and Sale Specialist School.

There were vastly different designs between schools, and it was interesting to see what school communities had prioritised throughout the building process. The way a building design works is that schools are allocated a certain amount of square metres floorspace dependent on the enrolment number of the school that is being built.

Currently our school is being built for 168 students, however, this will change as we go along the process, as our trend data predicts that our enrolments will exceed that number in a couple of years' time. Schools have some discretion of how to break up that space, and from those we visited, some allocated more to classrooms, and some allocated more to communal spaces and what is known as 'circulation' spaces to link classrooms together.

There will be an opportunity for everyone in our school community to have input into these designs, although it must be said, that we will most certainly be guided by the architects, as their area of expertise is making spaces functional. To this end, Nick, Rachel, Kristen and Terry, the architects involved in this project are spending a significant amount of time in the school and are gaining more and more knowledge about the specific needs of our school community.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

MATHEMATICS GRANT UPDATE

Many of you will recall that we were successful in securing a significant grant last year through the SchoolsPlus program to advance our mathematics teaching and learning programs. We have just undergone our 12-month acquittal process with our allocated coach, Dr Adrian Bertolini.

I am so pleased to report that we have been applauded for our progress, so much so, that Mathematics Victoria has asked our school to write a journal article for their quarterly magazine of our learning journey over the last 12 months.

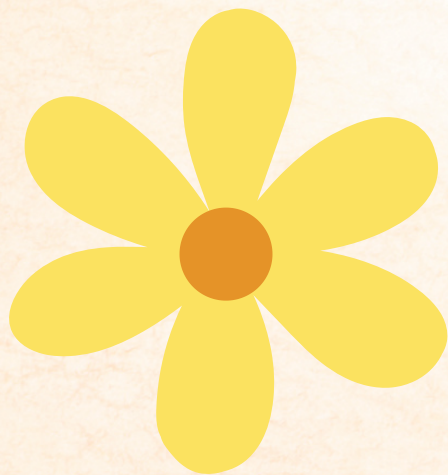
This last year, however, is only the start of our focus on mathematics and over the course of this year, we are excited to be moving to the next stage of our project, which involves parents and carers becoming part of the learning process.

We look forward to hosting a number of mathematics activity nights for families, and we will continue to share information with you, via the newsletter, our Facebook page and SeeSaw, about the different ways that our students are learning and applying mathematical concepts to ultimately make them more numerate.

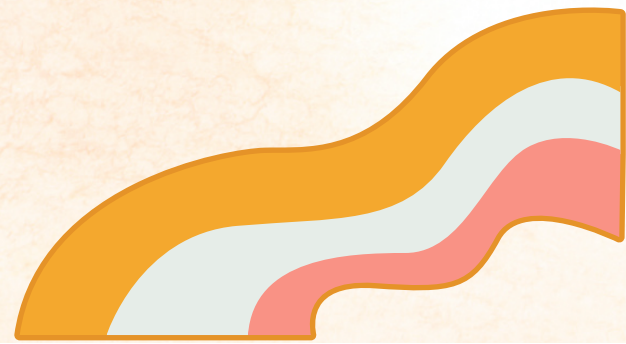
SCHOOL COUNCIL

Just a reminder that on **Monday 20th March 2023 at 7 pm** will be the Annual General Meeting of our School Council. We do have some parent/carers vacancies still available, so please do not hesitate to contact the office, or myself and Dehne if you would be interested in having a chat about what being on school council entails and completing a nomination form. The School Council will be an intricate part of the upgrade of the school, so this is an exciting time to become involved!

Kirshy McAinch
Principal



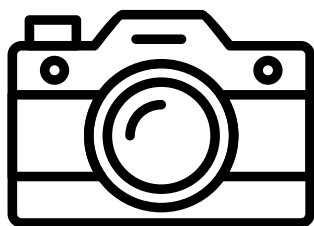
Have a nice
weekend



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 advise 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



14 March	Kyle	Room 23
21 March	Angus	Room 10
21 February	Alex	Room 19



15 March	Tanya M.	ESS
22 March	Ivan	Room 3
21 February	Lorraine	CRT

MEETING FOR OUR SENIOR SCHOOL PARENTS

Thursday 6th April Save this date.....

IMPORTANT INFORMATION SESSION FOR SENIOR SCHOOL PARENTS

Location: Kangaroo Flat Library (across the road)

Time: 09.00 - 10.15 am

For new senior school students and those who have been there a little longer.

We want to share with you: some senior school concepts.

- How senior school has a different focus to junior school.
- The importance of schooling for students with a disability.
- How our curriculum works
- Career education and transitioning out of school
- Time for questions and meet parents in the same stage of life.

For further information chat to Meg Holmes, Drew Barrett or your classroom teacher.

Phone: 03 54473267.

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MEET OUR 2023
SCHOOL CAPTAINS:

MOLLIE ALLEN
LAURA MURRAY
DANIEL KENNEDY
HAMISH SKIRKA

CONGRATULATIONS!



VARIETY & RALLY AROUND VICTORIA

THANK YOU!!!



A massive **thank you** to **Variety and the Rally Around Victoria crew** for stopping by on Saturday morning for breakfast.

It was a lovely morning and so special to be able to connect to some amazing people, supporting kids around the state, to access vital equipment and resources!

Another **thank you** to the amazing staff who volunteered their Saturday mornings to help run the event and **thank you** the following businesses, who supported us by donating vouchers and products, enabling us to hold such a great event:

coles
COLES LANSELL
SQUARE



CHAMPIONS IGA
KANGAROO FLAT

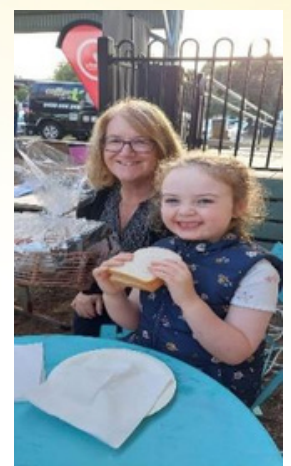
Kmart
KMA
LANSELL SQUARE



BEEPS AUTO PARTS &
ACCESSORIES - BREEN STREET
BENDIGO



BUNNINGS
KANGAROO FLAT



**BREAK
FAST
TIME**



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OUR COFFEE CREW

Our wonderful coffee crew that supported our Prep parents meeting yesterday, taking orders and making some delicious drinks



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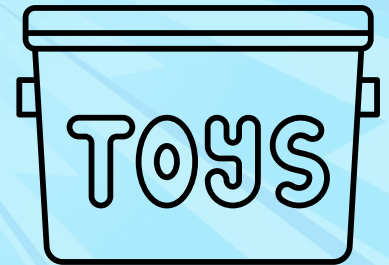
THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!!

Thank you!



We would like to thank all our families for the donations we have received during this term.

A special thank you is sent to the Gatt-King family for their generous donation of a Mellow Matt to our Junior School.



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

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 being, Leah Thomas, who is 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, who is our current Vice-President & Treasurer, and Bob Wiseman. And our 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.

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 Stents Policy.)

Name of Student	
Name of Parent/Carer	
Signature	
Date	

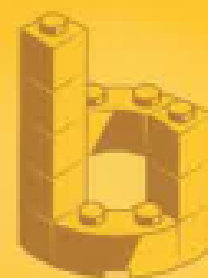
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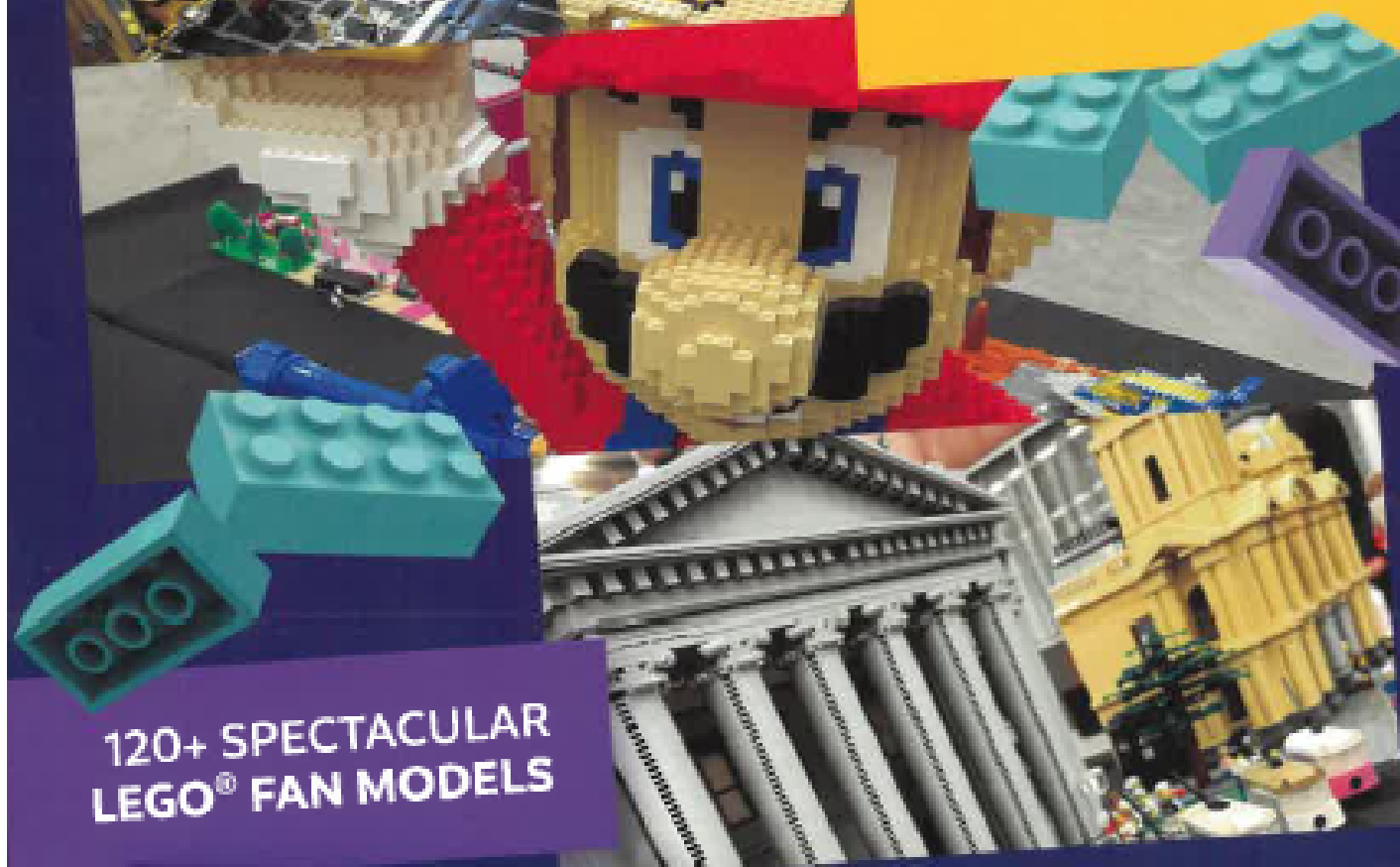
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BENDIGO BRICKS 2023



120+ SPECTACULAR
LEGO® FAN MODELS

FUN WITH BRICKS
PLAY ZONE

10+ RETAIL STALLS

AND MORE!

WHEN

10am–5pm Saturday 15 April
10am–4pm Sunday 16 April

WHERE

Bendigo Exhibition Centre
Prince of Wales Showgrounds
Holmes Rd, North Bendigo

TICKETS

\$8 / Under 4s free
www.bendigobricks.com

City of Greater Bendigo in partnership with
Loddon Campaspe Multicultural Services presents

HARMONY FAIR 2023

FREE EVENT

WHEN & WHERE

Saturday, March 18

10am-3pm

**at Dai Gum San
(Golden Dragon Museum)**

Join us in celebrating
Greater Bendigo's
cultural diversity
through art, music
and food.

FEATURING

**The launch of 2023 City of Greater Bendigo
Intercultural Ambassadors.**

WALA

A dynamic fusion of drumming, dance, percussion and soaring vocal harmonies. Three passionate, exuberant and talented performers present audiences with an exciting display of Ghanaian culture.

Son Quba

A Castlemaine-based Cuban Band playing traditional Cuban music that you will love. It is dance music and music of love and passion.

...plus many more colourful and vibrant multicultural performances, henna art, face painting and multicultural food!

Scan the QR code for the full 2023 Cultural Diversity Week program



This event is in recognition and celebration
of National Harmony Day (March 21).