



Bendigo Special Developmental School

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

NEWSLETTER #4

FRIDAY 31TH  
MARCH 2023

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



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



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BENDIGOSDS@EDUCATION.VIC.GOV.AU



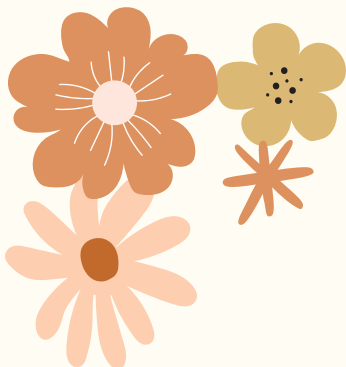
@BENDIGOSPECIALDEVELOPMENTALSCHOOL



03 5447 3267



03 5447 7286



# SCHOOL HOLIDAYS COMING UP

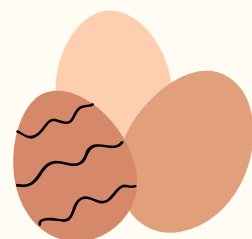
**THURSDAY 6TH APRIL**

**LAST DAY OF TERM**

**2 PM SCHOOL FINISH**

**BUSES TO DROP OFF 1 HOUR**

**EARLIER IN THE AFTERNOON**



## TERM DATES

### TERM 1

**Friday 27th January - Thursday 06 April**

### TERM 2

**Monday 24th April - Friday 24 June**

## IMPORTANT DATES

Sunday	2nd April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Autism Day</li> </ul>
Wednesday	5th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Health Day Celebration</li> </ul>
Thursday	6th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior School Parent Meeting at the Kangaroo Flat Library from 9 to 10.15 am</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>6th April</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>LAST DAY OF TERM 1 - 2 PM FINISH</b></li> <li><b>BUSES DROP OFF 1 HOUR EARLIER IN THE AFTERNOON.</b></li> </ul>

### OUR SCHOOL VALUES:

DRIVING LEARNING  
GROWTH

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VALUING DIVERSITY WITH  
KINDNESS AND RESPECT

# PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



THANK  
YOU!

## SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

It is very exciting to announce the results of our School Council Elections that were held on Monday 20th March 2023. Leah Thomas was re-elected to the President position, and Angela Whalen, one of our two community members, was reflected to the Vice President and Treasurer position.

We welcome Rebecca Quinn, who has been a councillor for some time, into the Secretary position.

We have a number of parents who have returned to councillor positions in Vicki Gordon and Rachel Byrne, and we welcome Sarah Johannesen, whose son has just started at our school. We are so grateful for the support and input of the school council and look forward to their important and continued input as we navigate our new building project over the coming years.

### **The 2023 School Council Executive Committee is as follows:**

President: Leah Thomas

Vice President: Angela Whalen

Secretary: Rebecca Quinn

Treasurer: Angela Whalen

### **School Council Resource and Management Committee consists of:**

Executive Member: Principal, Kirshy McAinch

School Council President: Parent Representative, Leah Thomas

School Council Treasurer: School Community Representative, Angela Whalen

School Council Secretary: DET Representative, Rebecca Quinn

School Council DET Representative: DET Representative, Dehne Anstee

Business Manager: DET Representative, Marg Butler

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## SWPBS CELEBRATION

Today has been a massive day of celebration at Bendigo SDS.

Firstly, as you will be aware, for the whole school celebration for our students who have reached their acknowledgement goal.

Secondly, as we received notification yesterday that we have been successful in reaching the Bronze Level Accreditation for our SWPBS implementation.

This means that we have achieved a very high level of proficiency and fidelity across all areas of our school (students, staff and parents and carers) in that everyone understands what SWPBS, what our mantra behaviours are (Act Safely, Show Respect, Be Your Best) and that everyone across the school is using the same language to support, engage and reinforce positive behaviour being displayed. It's a huge undertaking and I have to congratulate the incredible SWPBS Leadership team, lead by our Occupational Therapist Hamish Morcom, in receiving this recognition from the Department of Education. What a way to end the term!



## NEW BUILDING UPDATE

During the general meeting at school council on 20th March, the Masterplan document called the AMP 2 (all 179 pages of it) was discussed in detail.

Following this process, the school council has endorsed the masterplan, which means that we now move to the next stage of the design process.

Now that the AMP 2 document has been approved by the school, it needs to go back to the Victorian Schools Building Authority (VSBA) and a 'prep' meeting is convened. This meeting is where the masterplan is presented to a panel of independent auditors who decide whether the masterplan serves as a good investment for the Department of Education and the VSBA. Once this is approved, which we are sure it will be, that is when the architects will move to the 'schematic design stage' where they actually design the intricacies of each space, based on the feedback that we have had from you as a parent/carers group, the staff, the students and the school council.

There will be opportunities to further comment on the initial designs once they are completed.

At this stage, we have only received funding for one building, however, we continue to remain hopeful given the support of our local politicians, both Jacinta Allan and Maree Edwards, who are very supportive of our school and the education of our students.

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## EASTER RAFFLE

An incredibly huge thank you to everyone for your amazingly generous donations for the Easter Raffle!

This remains one of our biggest and most loved fundraisers for the year. This year we have raised a whopping **\$2218.00!**

This money will go towards the purchase of a portable hoist, which will support students with complex movement needs, to spend more time in the classroom, and to support their access within the community where there are often no facilities to support their individual needs; which is sadly, the most common scenario.

We have a wonderful array of prizes, and that means that there will be many winners, which is always such a great excitement for the students.

**THANK YOU!!**

## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING - PROFESSOR PAM SNOW

I was privileged to be joined by our Teaching and Learning Leaders (PLC1 – Heidi Turnbull, PLC 2 – Andrea Brasher, PLC 3 – Chris Novak, PLC 4 – Claire Duyndum, PLC 5 – Jon McNab, PLC 6 – Belinda Dean) at a professional learning workshop in Melbourne run by the incredible Bendigo local, Professor Pam Snow.

The workshop topic was “the Science of Reading is for everyone: Apply cognitive psychology research in special schools.”

Professor Snow is a world leading expert in the Science of Reading and through our partnerships and connections with Latrobe University and Kalianna School, we have been able to connect with her work and have had the privilege of her providing feedback to us on our whole school approach to teaching English, which I must say, she was impressed by.

Whilst we certainly learnt so much on this day collectively, I was so proud for our teaching leaders to see the strong evidence base that we have used in our approach to teaching, and the overwhelming confirmation that this day provided to know that we are most certainly on the right path.

As learning is a continuous process, the day gave us the opportunity to look critically at our current practice and the future to identify our next steps for continuing to progress this knowledge in our teachers for the ultimate benefit of our students.

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## HAPPY HOLIDAYS

I hope everyone has a safe and fantastic holiday break.

I am starting my break early by taking three days long service leave next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday to spend time with my family.

It has been a very busy, yet hugely successful start to the year, and we are, as always, grateful for working with us to create the wonderful environment that is our school.

Thursday 06th April will be our last day of term 1.

We will have an early finish at 2 pm. Buses will drop off students 1 hour earlier in the afternoon.

We will see you all back here on Monday 24th April, before we break again on Tuesday 25th April to pay our respects to those who have served our country in the defence forces on ANZAC Day.

Have a great break everyone! Enjoy the chocolate!



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# 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	0497 663 736
SPRING GULLY	CHRIS & HEATHER	0428 159 660
WEDDERBURN	CATHY & MICHELLE	0466 367 656

## FREE CONCERT ON 31 MARCH - ALL WELCOME

### THE RED RIBBON ENSEMBLE



**Flute - Jazmine van Agtmaal**

**Oboe - Rebecca Beagley**

**Flute/Harp/Soprano - Chloe Harper**

**Bassoon - Mathew Chalmers**

**Trumpet - Jason Harper and Hamish Ander**

**French Horn - Geordie Walker**

**Trombone - Bonnie Walker**

**Percussion - Annette Conway**

**Conductor - Alicia Parry**

This Friday, the 31st of March, the Red Ribbon Ensemble will be playing a concert in the Canterbury Park, at the soundshell.

You will be hearing songs from Bluey, Toy Story, Chicken Run and many more!

We will be playing alongside projections of the movies themselves!


All are welcome, bring a picnic and enjoy an evening of movie magic!



# EASTER RAFFLE




## WINNERS



**Thank you to our whole school community for your support and donations for the Easter Raffle.**

**A total of \$2218.00 raised!**



**All funds raised will go towards the purchase of a portable hoist, which will our students with complex movement needs.**



# CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR WINNERS





# ◆ OUR WELL-BEING TEAM

HELLO TO ALL FAMILIES, PARENTS,  
AND CARERS,

Being the start of a new year, what better time is there to introduce the Wellbeing Team for 2023!! Meg Holmes is a staple of the Bendigo SDS community and wellbeing team, working as the school's Family Support teacher for the past number of years. Drew Barrett is a newer member of the team, fulfilling the Mental Health Practitioner role for the last 2 years. Both are passionate not only about the mental health and wellbeing of our students, but of our families as well, ensuring that everyone feels connected and supported in our schooling community and beyond. Here is a little more about the team!!

**Meg Holmes**  
**Family Support**

**Drew Barrett**  
**Mental Health**  
**Practitioner**



Meg is our part time family support worker and enjoys working and supporting families (Mon, Wed & Thu). She is a teacher and also has experience as a parent raising a child with additional needs. We at BSDS understand that raising a child with special needs is a challenge at times and if we can be of assistance, we will help or find other resources to support you. Meg often chats with families around issues of; parenting, NDIS plans and concerns, advocacy, Centrelink and disability supports, school refusal, and medical issues that may effect you and your family. Meg's office is in the front entrance area and is happy for you to drop by, but to be sure to catch her it is best to call the school office and make a time to chat on the phone, by Webex or in person. Meg also supports the "Parent to Parent" coffee mornings where parents can share resources and their journeys together.

Drew is our full time Mental Health Practitioner and is a qualified Social Worker, having experience in both school settings and the family violence sector. Drew has a strong passion for working to support our student's mental health and expanding their skills and toolkits to support their own wellbeing. Our students may have an array of concerns that Drew supports within the school setting, with a lot of common concerns being issues with Anxiety, Peer Relationships, School Refusal, Sexualised Behaviours and Family Concerns. As well as supporting students, Drew also works alongside Meg to support our families with any challenges they may be facing and is always happy to have a chat. If you ever wish to discuss concerns with Drew you're welcome to put through a phone call to the office and connect with him through our lovely office staff.



# World Health Day – Wednesday 5th April



On Wednesday the 5 of April we will be celebrating and promoting World Health Day as a school.

This year is the 75th anniversary of the commencement of this International celebration, with this year's theme being 'Health For All', celebrating the huge achievements and milestones in health that have benefited the quality of life that we have today.

On this day we encourage all students and staff to wear **CASUAL CLOTHES** to celebrate this pivotal day that impacts on us all. To add to the celebration of the day, school staff will be running fun activities across recess and lunch time aimed at increasing the physical and social health of our students.

A fantastic opportunity to engage our young people in learning and activities that benefit their HEALTH!



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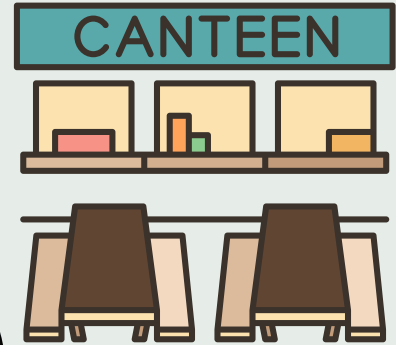
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LUNCH  
TIME

# OUR AWESOME CANTEEN FRIENDS



The senior students have done a fantastic job getting the canteen up and running this term. We have enjoyed making pizza, pasta, dums, and milkshakes while learning about health and safety regulations and canteen operations.

They have received some great feedback about their meals and are looking forward to expanding the menu during the year.

Beginning Term 2 we will be collecting all lunch orders on **Wednesday at 11am** and collating them ready for Friday. Unfortunately, this means we will be unable to accept any orders that are submitted after this time. You can help us out by ensuring **all lunch orders are dropped off to the front office prior to 11am on Wednesdays.**

Canteen order forms usually go home in students' bags Friday or Monday evening, but can be picked up from the front office also.

Bon Appetit!





## GV HARMONY CUP CRICKET CARNIVAL 22 MARCH 2023

Last week, we had a team of Senior School students representing Bendigo SDS at the GV Harmony Cup Cricket Carnival in Shepparton.

In our three-game round robin, SDS stars were fierce and persistent competitors. Our bowlers, with their straight aim, bowled out batters, whilst our fielding team worked together to run batters out. Then our batting team were busy running to get 1-2 runs and some confidently hitting 4 or 6 runs.

Everyone in the team did an amazing job of supporting and cheering for their teammates and were being their best by shaking hands of the other team and demonstrating great sportsmanship.

Between games students enjoyed a snag from the sausage sizzle and got to check out a visiting police car!





# DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY AT SDS

At SDS during Digital Technology lessons, students have been learning about telephones! They have explored their use and features and had the opportunity to explore and play with phones from older to newer!





# BOOK CLUB - A great way to find the best books!

Book Club

## What is Book Club?



Ordering books through Book Club is the easiest and most affordable way to offer students the best in children's books for the home and to encourage independent reading for fun.

Book Club offers students a wide range of titles in each issue, from popular and award-winning fiction series and charming new picture books, to fascinating nonfiction titles and hands-on activities that stimulate creativity and encourage problem-solving.

Plus every order you place earns the school FREE books and learning resources. Book Club catalogues arrive to school up to twice a term, so make sure you keep an eye out for when it arrives home in your child's school bag!

## Book Club rewards your school

Every purchase you make earns your child's school Scholastic Rewards that can be used to purchase valuable educational resources that benefit your child.



Families order from Book Club.



School earns Scholastic Rewards.



School redeems Scholastic Rewards for additional resources.

SCHOLASTIC

## How to order on Book Club



1. Your child will bring home a Book Club catalogue from school

2. Discuss with, and help your child pick the books they would like to read

3. Order online via the Scholastic Australia **LOOP** website or app and the school will take care of the rest! (**LOOP** orders are electronically linked to your school in an easy, secure online process)

4. The books are delivered to your child's classroom.



**LOOP** is the easy way for families to order and pay for Book Club.

Log in, or create a new account at [scholastic.com.au/loop](https://www.scholastic.com.au/loop)

1. If you are new to Book Club, follow the Wizard to set up your profile
2. Click the ORDER tab, and select your school and child's class
3. Add your child's first name and last initial (so the school knows who the book is for)
4. Enter the product item number shown on the Book Club catalogue
5. Make payment via credit card.

SCHOLASTIC

## BENDIGO CINEMAS - SENSORY FRIENDLY FILMS

### Sensory Friendly Films

Bendigo Cinemas are proud to bring Sensory Friendly Films to those on the autism spectrum.

Sensory Friendly Films allow families to enjoy their favourite films in a safe and accepting environment with the cinema lights turned up and the sound turned down low.

Look for the "Sensory Friendly Film (SFF)" icon next to the session times to see which cinemas and sessions are screening these films.



## SUNDAY 30 APRIL

## \$6.00 MEMBERS - \$7.50 NON-MEMBERS

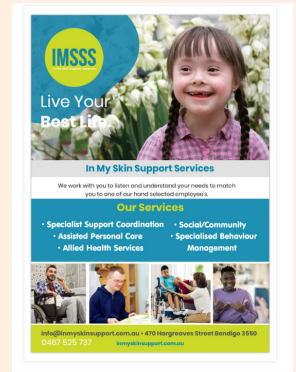
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To whom it may concern,

We are a local NDIS service provider.

Exciting times for our new business we are seeking support from our Local Health Care Providers & Support Network Services of Bendigo & surroundings to make our new company In My Skin Support Services known & available to your service's.

Listed is a range of service's & supports, that we currently offer and have capacity to provide to Participant's that are requiring the following supports.

- In Home Nursing/Community Nursing
- Domestic Home Duties
- Assistance with Community Access
- Specialised Behaviour Management
- Health Support Coordination
- Allied Health Specialist Services
- Community participation Events and much more.
- Support Coordination
- Plan Management

Our promise to our Participant's and families, Carer networks, is that our team of highly skilled & trained Allied Health Specialist, Nurses & DSW will deliver exceptional service to our Participant's & Clients and have a diverse approach on meeting all participants needs, while allowing the individual to live their best life.

We understand the gaps present within Regional Victoria and aim to assist in building the bridge in the health care system to ensure all NDIS Participants are receiving all supports to help continue living their best life.

We would love to hear from you to answer any questions you may have regarding our future services or where our business could support your participants.

Please contact us directly via email: [info@inmyskinsupport.com.au](mailto:info@inmyskinsupport.com.au)

Or phone us directly on 0467-525-737

Please feel free to visit our website for more information [www.inmyskinsupport.com.au](http://www.inmyskinsupport.com.au)

We are delighted in supporting businesses within the region and would love too here from you.

Kind regards, Chloe Pitts

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YOUR PARAGRAPH TEXT

# GOLDEN CITY ALL ABILITIES NETBALL

INVITES ALL PAST &  
NEW PLAYERS TO OUR

**FREE  
COME & TRY  
SESSION**



**SATURDAY 1st APRIL**  
**@ Golden City Netball Complex**  
**Marong Road, West Bendigo**  
**Courts 1pm-2pm**

*Come & join the fun!*



**RACHEL 0418 995 110**  
**KAYE 0428 037 987**  
**KATH 0499 177 229**





# Young Carer Camp



Grampians Health Ballarat and Bendigo Health would like to invite young carers to a weekend retreat.



## The Camp

Spend some time relaxing and enjoying fun activities with other young carers. Bus provided to and from Bendigo and Ballarat.

## Who is a Young Carer?

A person aged up to 25 who provides care for a parent, sibling, partner or other close friend or family member with a disability, mental illness, chronic condition or terminal illness.

Young carers may provide support every day, or every week, or only when they're needed.

## What is Carer Gateway?

Carer Gateway provides in-person, phone and online services and support to Australia's 2.65 million unpaid carers.

**When:** Depart Saturday morning 29 April and return early afternoon Sunday 30 April

**Where:** Log Cabin Camp, Creswick

**Who:** Young carers aged 9 - 17 yrs living in the Central Highlands, Grampians, Pyrenees, Wimmera, Loddon Mallee regions or City of Melton.

**Cost:** Free

**For more information or to register your interest call Bendigo Health Carer Support Services on (03) 5454 7719**



An Australian Government Initiative

[carergateway.gov.au](https://carergateway.gov.au)

Connecting carers to support services