

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



Bendigo Special Developmental School

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Newsletter # 5

20th April 2018

Term Dates 2018

Term 2 2018 Monday 16th April - Friday 29th June	Term 3 2018 Monday 16th July - Friday 21st September
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Important Dates

Monday	23 rd April	• School Council Meeting 7pm Staffroom
Tuesday	24 th April	• ANZAC Day Commemorative Service and the Gallipoli Oak Planting at Bendigo SDS
Wednesday	25 th April	• ANZAC Day – No School
Thursday	26 th April	• Middle Years Malmsbury Camp
Friday	27 th April	• Middle Years return from Malmsbury Camp • Parents and Friends Gathering in Staffroom after Assembly
Friday	4 th May	• Parents and Friends Gathering in Staffroom after Assembly
Friday	11 th May	• Mother's Day Breakfast 8.15 – 9.15
Tuesday	15 th May	• Resource and Management Meeting 4pm
Monday	21 st May	• School Council Meeting 7pm Staffroom
Thursday	24 th May	• Pupil Free Day

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Hello SDS Community and *Welcome Back*

It was wonderful to see all of your smiling faces back at school to start another term of learning. Classes have all started smoothly, and after you have received your child's Personalised Learning and Support Plan, you will know that students are working hard to achieve their goals. Teachers are currently doing a range of Reading and Mathematics Assessments and for this term, have planned learning experiences to incorporate aspects of community and what it means to be a member of a community. On a professional development level, the teaching staff have been increasing our knowledge in phonics instruction (understanding the different sounds different letters and letter combinations make) to further expand on our reading focus within the curriculum this year.

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Absence SMS Messages

The Department of Education has recently changed their regulations with regard to the unapproved absence of students. It is now a requirement for the school to make contact with the parents and carers of any student who is not at school by 9:30 am. This means that teachers will be marking the rolls by 9:15 am. An automatic message will be sent via SMS or text to inform you that your child is absent from school. This process will only occur for unapproved absences. If we know your child is going to be away for appointments or if they are ill and you let the school know, they will be marked as an approved absence. If you have any questions about this process, please do not hesitate to have a chat to your teacher

Assembly

Given the need for teachers to be in their class to mark their roles and support all students in their morning routine, we have increasingly found it difficult to begin Assembly on time at 0915. As such, we will be starting all assemblies (both Monday and Friday) at 0930. We know that this is not perfectly convenient for parents and carers who would like to stay for assembly, but it does give teachers the opportunity to comply with their requirements and all students the best support to be involved. If you would like to stay for assembly after drop off, you are more than welcome to head to the staff room and have a cuppa and a biscuit and read the paper. Maybe it might help you have a few more minutes of 'me' time or mindfulness in your day.

ANZAC Day Service and Gallipoli Oak Planting

As you are all aware, from the note sent home earlier in the week, we are fortunate enough to have been gifted a Gallipoli Oak Tree as part of the Centenary of ANZAC Commemorations by the Victorian National Trust. We will be holding a ceremony at 10am on Tuesday 24th April 2018 to commemorate ANZAC day and to plant the tree. Representatives of the Kangaroo Flat and Bendigo RSL's will be present, as will our local councillors and members of parliament to join with our school community to plant the tree. After the short service, we will be having morning tea for our guests, including, of course, ANZAC biscuits. We hope that you will be able to join with us to attend this significant event at our school.

Canada Inclusive Education Study Research

Earlier this year, I applied for, in partnership with Peter Bush, the Principal of Kalianna School, and was lucky enough to receive a scholarship from the Victorian Principal's Association to investigate world's best practice in Inclusive Education. This research will be presented to the Department of Education in the form of recommendations to adopt at a whole of state level. As such, between Thursday 26th April and Friday 18th May, I will be on study leave to go to two provinces (states) in Canada (Ontario and Saskatchewan). Peter and I have a jammed packed program that includes a wide range of meetings and visits such as meeting with the Ministry of Education in Ontario, touring inclusive University programs, special, elementary (primary), secondary and pre-school programs and schools, both in inner metropolitan areas and also in regional and remote areas. We will also meet with parent groups, school councils and education department regional staff. We will be looking at, amongst other things, these key areas

- How Special Education and Inclusive Education is defined
- What funding models are in place to support Inclusive Education

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- How the physical layout of schools support Inclusive Education
- What curriculum, assessment and reporting frameworks and processes are in place to support Inclusive Education,
- If and how standardised testing supports all student involvement
- How Tertiary Education equips the teaching service for Inclusive Education practices, and
- How transitions from pre-school to school, to post-school options are supported and planned for students with diverse learning needs

During the time that I am away, Jenny Annett will be the Acting Principal and given her extensive experience both in Special Education and as a long-time leader of our school, I know that she will be able to assist you with any questions or concerns you may have during this time. To further support the leadership team in my absence an Acting Leading Teacher will be appointed for three weeks. I look forward to sharing my research findings with the school community upon my return and I would like to thank the Leadership Team and the School Council for their support of me to undertake this amazing opportunity.



We are so proud of this wonderful young lady! Em is currently competing at the Special Olympic National Games in Adelaide representing Victoria. She has won THREE silver medals, one each in the 50m Freestyle, 50m Butterfly and the 50m Breaststroke. Em achieved 2 Personal Bests along the way. Congratulations Em!

You are a champion 🏆

KIRSHY McAINCH PRINCIPAL

Town 1 : 0427 287 843	Jack & Joy
Town 2 : 0428 159 660	Peter & Cynthia
Town 3 : 0428 261 802	Max, Olivia & George
Town 4 : 0429 118 349	Darryl & Katrina
Wedderburn : 0427 380 040	Peter & Janine
Castlemaine : 0409 421 500	Ray & Debbie
Heathcote : 0429 177 732	Phillip & Angela
Malmsbury : 0428 271 824	David & Raelene
Kyneton : 0428 236 271	Steve & Helen

Buses

If you have any concerns or would like to make any changes to the buses, please contact the school.



SPECIAL THANK YOU to BENDIGO DANCELAND



Thank you for your generous donation of \$1000.00 to our school which will be put towards providing a 'Movement and Music' Program. It is greatly appreciated by the students, staff and whole school community.



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



21 st April	Stacey	Room 16	22 nd April	Shaman	Room 2
24 th April	Laura	Room 18	25 th April	Kerrie	Room 16
27 th April	Karly	Room 14	28 th April	Saw Say	Room 8
30 th April	Brogan	Room 10	5 th May	Shaun	Room 1
5 th May	Jaylen	Room 10	7 th May	Scott	Room 15
9 th may	Will	Room 6			



You are invited to join the Bendigo Special Developmental School community on

Tuesday 24th April 2018 at 10am

for an ANZAC Day commemorative service conducted by our students. This service will incorporate the planting of a Gallipoli Oak, gifted to the school as part of the Centenary of ANZAC Gallipoli Oak Project.

History of the Gallipoli Oak

Small prickly oak trees (now known as the Gallipoli Oak) grow along the ridges and valleys of the Gallipoli Peninsula. Acorns were collected by several soldiers during the World War 1 campaign and sent or brought back to Australia where some were subsequently planted.

General (Sir) John Monash wrote to his wife in November 1915: *"I am sending in a separate packet, a few acorns. I have made the discovery that the prickly scrub, with which these hills are covered, and which has inflicted many an unkind scratch on hands, arms and bare knees, is really a species of holly, and bears an acorn, showing that it belongs to the Oak variety. The bush is quite ornate and grows to a height of about 5 feet, much like the ordinary holly with the red berry."*

Captain William Lempriere Winter-Cooke also collected acorns and they were planted by his family in 1916 in Victoria at their home at 'Murndal' near Hamilton in Western Victoria. Acorns were also planted where Captain Winter-Cooke went to school at Geelong Grammar. Offspring from these two trees were planted at the Royal Botanic Gardens and the Shrine of Remembrance. There are likely to be many trees from these sources growing across Victoria.



They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

We will remember them.



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