



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

NEWSLETTER #12
 MONDAY 1ST
 SEPTEMBER 2025

PRINCIPAL:
 KIRSHY MCAINCH
SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT:
 REBECCA QUINN

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



WWW.BENDIGOSDS.VIC.EDU.AU



BENDIGO.SDS@EDUCATION.VIC.GOV.AU



03 5447 3267



@BENDIGOSPECIALDEVELOPMENTALSCHOOL

TERM DATES

TERM 3

Monday 21st July - Friday 19th
 September

TERM 4

Monday 6th October - Friday 19th
 December

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday 2nd September

Staff PD Day - Pupil Free Day

Wednesday 3rd September

Indigenous Literacy Day

Friday 5th September

Father's Day Breakfast - From 8 - 9am in Dhelk Djaa
 Footy Colours Day - 9:30am in Agora

Sunday 7th September

Father's Day

Monday 8th September

Martin Vale Dentist Van Visit
 FORMS TO BE RETURNED TO THE OFFICE

Thursday 11 September

R U OK Day

Friday 19 September

End of Term 3 - 2pm Finish

OUR SCHOOL VALUES:

DRIVING LEARNING
 GROWTH

UNITING TO ACHIEVE
 EXCELLENCE

ENSURING EQUITY OF
 OPPORTUNITY

VALUING DIVERSITY WITH
 KINDNESS AND RESPECT



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

CHILD SAFETY STANDARDS - OUR COMMITMENT TO EVERY STUDENT

Across Victoria, many families have been understandably concerned by recent high-profile cases in the media involving allegations of inappropriate conduct towards students. At Bendigo SDS, we want to reassure our community that the safety, wellbeing and dignity of every child is at the heart of all we do. We are fully committed to the Victorian Child Safe Standards and to maintaining a culture where children feel safe, respected, and protected at all times.

Our school has clear and strong measures in place to support this commitment. All staff are guided by our Child Safety Code of Conduct, which sets clear expectations about professional behaviour towards students. Every staff member participates in a comprehensive induction process and receives ongoing training to ensure that safe practices remain at the centre of their work. We also maintain robust record-keeping systems to support transparency and accountability in every aspect of student care.

Most importantly, we believe that child safety is strengthened when families and schools work together. We are committed to being open and transparent with parents and carers and encourage you to come and speak with us if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas about how we can further strengthen our approach. Together, we can continue to ensure that Bendigo SDS is a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment where, as our vision statement says, we create inclusive communities and success for all.



Have a Nice
Weekend!

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SMOKING CEREMONY AND FIRST LOOK AT OUR NEW FACILITIES



Last week we had the incredible privilege of sharing a very special moment in our school's history – the first community look at our brand-new building, Mali Bu Djanip (meaning mallee and myall country), and our new playspace, Dhelk Djaa (meaning beautiful country).

We were honoured to welcome Aunty Vicki Murray, a respected Dja Dja Wurrung elder, who led a powerful smoking ceremony to cleanse and purify the new spaces. It was a moving experience to walk alongside Aunty Vicki, joined by Wil Fowler, one of our school captains, and Maree Edwards, Member for Bendigo West. This ceremony symbolised a fresh beginning for our school community, grounded in culture, respect, and connection to Country.

It was wonderful to see so many families and community members attend, sharing in the excitement and exploring our fantastic new facilities for the first time. The joy on the students' faces as they played on the new equipment was absolutely priceless – with the large spinner quickly becoming a favourite, and the wheelchair trampoline providing inclusive fun that had everyone smiling.

We are delighted to share that the official opening of the new building will take place on Friday 17 October. We look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible on this day to celebrate together the future of our school in these outstanding new spaces.



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ANNOUNCING OUR 2025 WHOLE SCHOOL PRODUCTION: 'HIGHWAY NUMBER FUN'

We are excited to announce the title of our upcoming whole school production: Highway Number Fun! This one-night-only performance will be staged at the stunning Ulumbarra Theatre on Tuesday 25 November, and promises to be an absolute highlight of our school year. Highway Number Fun will take the audience on a magical bus journey right around Australia. Along the way, our students will explore some of our nation's most famous places and spaces, solve problems that arise on their travels, make new friends, and share in the joy of what it means to belong to our great island home. Through song, dance, storytelling, and creative expression, our students will showcase their talents and bring this adventure to life on stage.

We warmly invite families, friends, and the wider school community to join us for this very special event. Our productions are always a celebration of the many abilities of our students, and this year's show will be no exception. Please save the date and spread the word—we can't wait to fill the theatre with applause, smiles, and community spirit as we all come together to celebrate Highway Number Fun

THANK YOU ROTARY CLUB KANGAROO FLAT

Thank you to The Rotary Club of Kangaroo Flat for their continued support and being a valued part of our school community.

They have generously donated \$3,000, which will go towards purchasing swith equiptment to interface with our new technology systems in Mali Bu Djanip.

We couldn't be more grateful for this partnership and the positive impact it brings to our students' learning journies!



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BUSES

BUS	DRIVER/CHAPERONE	TELEPHONE
HEATHCOTE	GARY & JODIE	0435 900 890
HUNTLY	HELEN & NICOLE	0428 261 802
FRYERSTOWN/CASTLEMAINE	DAVID & JULIE	0409 421 500
KYNETON	LENNY & JOANNE	0490 093 472
LOCKWOOD	ANGELA & KIM	0490 092 273
STRATHFIELDSAYE	STEVE & TRISH	0490 705 019
SERPENTINE	PETER & JANINE	0497 663 736
SPRING GULLY	CHRIS & HEATHER	0490 702 728
WEDDERBURN	BERNARD & MICHELLE	0466 367 656

IMPORTANT MESSAGES FROM FAMILIES

We would like to send a friendly reminder that any important messages are best to be communicated to school through:

- Sentral Parent Portal (mainly absence notifications)
- Email to school (bendigo.sds@education.vic.gov.au)
- Voicemail Absence Line (03 5447 3267 – option 1)
- Speak to the office staff (03 5447 3267 - option 2)

We encourage families to communicate messages related to absences, changes in bus routine, drop off & pick up information etc. through the above-mentioned options.

Thank you!



Happy Birthday To You

28 August	Kerrie-Ann	ESS	30 August	Dontae	Room 11
1 September	Nicole	ESS	1 September	Sam	Room 10
4 September	Harlow	Room 1	10 September	Wayne	Room 23
11 September	Helen	ESS	12 September	Megan	Physio
12 September	Mia	ESS	12 September	Lucas	Room 12



FRIDAY, 5TH SEPTEMBER

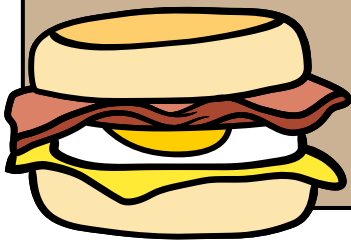
Father's Day Breakfast



Time: 8:00 - 9:00am

Location: Dhelk Djaa play space at Bendigo SDS

Breakfast: Egg and Bacon Muffins



Come along and celebrate
Father's Day with us!

Footy Colours Day Parade

WEAR YOUR TEAM COLOURS TO FIGHT CANCER!

Time: 9:30am

Location: Agora at Bendigo SDS

Bring along a donation and come dressed in the
colours of your favourite team!

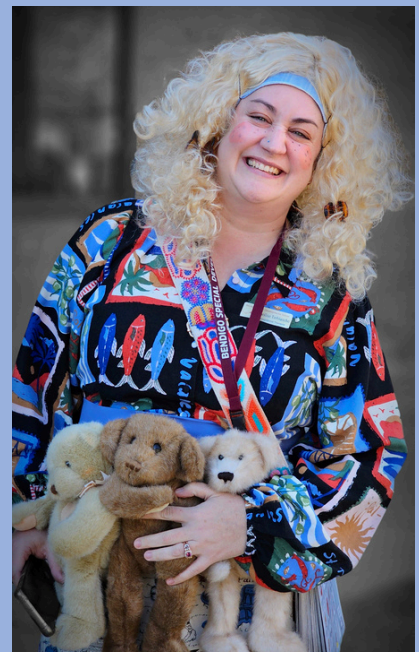




Children's Book Week 16–23 August 2025



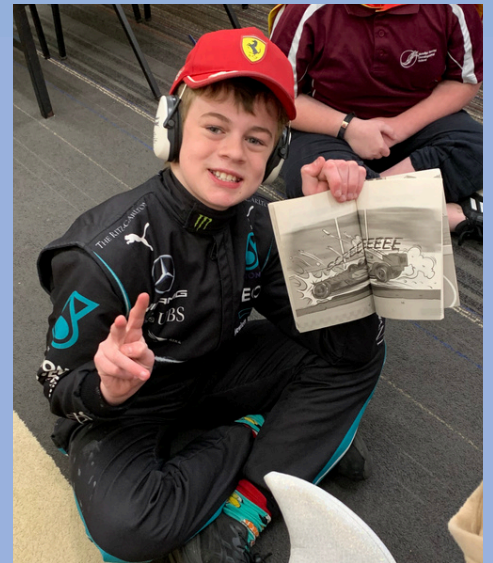
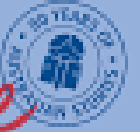
On Tuesday the 19th of August, Bendigo SDS celebrated Book week with a whole school parade!
Check out some of the amazing costumes!





Children's Book Week
16–23 August 2025

BOOK AN
Adventure



SPEECH PATHOLOGY WEEK 2025

Around 1.2 million Australians need support with communication.

Speech pathologists work across homes, schools, hospitals, and communities helping people live fuller, more connected lives.

At our school, we have 2 Speech Pathologists, Evie and Xiao.



I love playing and working with all the students and staff at BSDS! My favourite thing is seeing students discover their voice, there's nothing better than the smile of someone who finally feels heard and understood." -Evie.

Speech Pathology Week celebrates the incredible role speech pathologists play in helping people thrive at every stage of their lives. From young children to older Australians, speech pathologists are there, supporting wellbeing, confidence, connection, independence, inclusion and opportunity.

Evie and Xiao collaborate with our staff to develop programs that support our students' learning, communication, and mealtime needs.

Evie and Xiao spend time in our classrooms, supporting us in the yard and on excursions engaging in the community. They are also integral to our whole-school approaches, such as SWPBS and PODD communication books.

2025
Speech
Pathology
Week

Impact through
Communication

IMPACT THROUGH
COMMUNICATION

24-30 AUGUST

Senior Swimming

Last week, Room 20 had an amazing time during their swimming lessons at Gurri Wanyarra. Students enjoyed a range of fun and valuable activities, including swimming in the deep pool, wearing life jackets, practising floating, and learning important water safety skills such as how to gain the attention of a lifeguard if they need help. Students also learnt how to pull people to the edge of the pool safely using the pool noodles.

It was fantastic to see students listening carefully to instructions from unfamiliar adults and giving their best effort in the pool. Just as impressive was the independence they showed when drying off and getting dressed after each lesson.

The week was filled with laughter, learning, and lots of splashing, and we are very proud of the way Room 20 represented our school.



PLEASE SEE THE OFFICE FOR CONSENT FORMS

MARTIN VALE
DENTISTRY



MOBILE DENTAL VAN

OUR SERVICE

- Tooth Extractions
- Dental Checkup
- Teeth Cleaning
- Dental X-Rays
- Fillings

**BULK BILLED
CHILD
DENTAL
BENEFIT
SCHEME
UP TO \$1132
IF ELIGIBLE**

CONTACT US



+03 5443 5006



info@martinvaledentistry.com.au



116 Queen Street Bendigo

DATE CHANGE:

**Visiting Bendigo SDS from
Monday 08/09**





GREATER BENDIGO CARER BRUNCH

Enjoy some great food and connect with fellow carers.

About this event

Carers Victoria invites you to attend our free carer brunch event for some well-deserved timeout and an opportunity to connect with other carers.

This is also a chance to hear about services, supports and activities available in your community with a short presentation by Loddon Mallee Mental Health & Wellbeing Connect team.

Tuesday 30 September 2025

10:00am - 12:00pm

Omari Bendigo

Bendigo Botanic Gardens

27-32 Hamelin Street

White Hills, VIC 3550

Who can attend

Open to carers living in Bendigo and surrounding areas. Registrations will close when all places are filled.

This event is **FREE** for carers but you do need to register to attend.

 events@carersvictoria.org.au

 1800 514 845

 www.carersvictoria.org.au/events

Scan to register



carersvictoriaev1110.eventbrite.com.au

EVERY DRINK CONTAINER YOU RECYCLE
CAN EARN 10c FOR OUR CAUSE

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CASH FOR CANS



VICTORIA'S CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME

DONATE YOUR DRINK CONTAINERS TO BENDIGO SDS

We are raising funds for:
Year 12 Graduation & Various School Projects

CASH FOR CANS HOW TO DONATE??

Download the app



Where to go?

- Your closest CDS drop off depot
- Your closest RVM (Reverse Vending Machine)

At the Depot or RVM:

- Login to your existing account or
- Create your new account

How to Donate?

- Find Bendigo SDS as your donation partner in the CDS app & scan barcode
- OR... Receive your donation in cash and drop it off in the office

Eligible



- Aluminium cans
- Plastic bottles
- Glass bottles
- Paperboard cartons (under 1L)
- Steel bottles/cans

Most beverage containers (between 150ml and 3L) made from aluminium, glass, plastic, steel and liquid paperboard are eligible.

THANK YOU!



BARBERING

Traditional Barber cut	\$10
Clippers cut	\$10
Modern fade cut	\$10
Beard trim and shave	\$10
Face shave	\$5
Beard trim and detailing	\$2
Hair tracks and carvings	\$5
Cut throat head shave	\$5

5434 1918

hairbeautysalon@bendigotafe.edu.au

BENDIGO TAFE
BUILDING G, LEVEL 1
154 HARGREAVES STREET
BENDIGO, VIC 3550

RTO No. 3077. Prices current as of May 2025



Hair
Beauty
Barbering
SPA CENTRE

PRICE LIST

Please contact Bendigo Tafe for enquiries on other beautify services



HAIR SERVICES

Chemical straightening

Short	\$85
Medium	\$110
Long	\$145

Colour

Short to medium	\$35
Long	\$50

Foils (includes blow wave)

1/4 head - short to medium	\$35
1/4 head - long	\$40
1/2 head - short to medium	\$55
1/2 head - long	\$70
Full head - short to medium	\$80
Full head - long	\$100
On scalp bleach - regrowth	\$40
On scalp bleach - full head	POA

Toner

Short to medium	\$20
Long	\$25

Hair cuts

Ladies (includes shampoo and set or blow wave)	\$10
Unisex	\$10
Children (1 to 12 years)	\$5
Beard trim with other service	\$5

Other

Shampoo and set or blow wave	\$10
Conditioning treatment	\$30

Short to medium - to shoulders
Long - past shoulders



EXCURSION
BASED
PROGRAM

WhISKHA *Days*

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES



Scan to book



A fun and engaging holiday program for people with disabilities that supports friendships and achievements.

For more information email: info@yinclusion.org.au

Monday 22nd September - Friday 3rd October 2025

Mon 22nd	Tue 23rd	Wed 24th	Thu 25th	Fri 26th
 <p>Werribee Open Range Zoo Jump on a safari bus and get up close with rhinos, giraffes, zebras, and more. It's fun, Instagram-worthy, and packed with animal encounters. Start the holidays with a wild day out!</p>	 <p>Bounce Inc! Jump into fun with friends. Cost \$30 (please bring cash). Living Legends Woodland Homestead is a beautiful setting to get up close and personal to these former champion Racehorses.</p>	 <p>Healesville Sanctuary Meet Australia's coolest wildlife at Healesville Sanctuary! Get close to koalas, kangaroos, and platypuses in a bushland setting perfect for nature lovers and animal fans.</p>	 <p>Collingwood Children's Farm Escape the city and hang with goats, cows, and chickens at Collingwood Children's Farm! Lincoln Square Park A new playground on the site of what was Melbourne's oldest playground in Carlton!</p>	 <p>AFL Public Holiday No Program</p>
Mon 29th	Tue 30th	Wed 1st	Thu 2nd	Fri 3rd
 <p>Kinglake Adventure Walk amongst the tall trees and stunning views at Masons Falls. Then enjoy lunch and explore Bollygum Park, a magical playground based around the children's book Bollygum by Garry Fleming.</p>	 <p>Bowling @ The Keys Enjoy an exciting game of bowling in a lively atmosphere, perfect for all skill levels. Cost \$30 (please bring cash). Mill Park All Abilities Play Space Multiple play zones and a splash park!</p>	 <p>Melbourne Zoo Enjoy a day full of animal encounters and exploration! Stroll through lush habitats, learn about wildlife conservation, and see incredible animals from around the world.</p>	 <p>RAAF Museum Explore over 100 years of Air Force history. Saltwater Coast Crocodile Park Check out this quirky community playground in Point Cook that features a life-sized saltwater croc sculpture!</p>	 <p>Werribee Park Gardens The formal gardens of Werribee Park feature a stunning display of exotic and native plants, historic glasshouses and expansive lawns, perfect for a Fish'n'Chip picnic lunch!</p>

The Y Inclusion Services

Plenty Valley Westfield, 415 McDonalds Road, Mill Park 3082
p: 1300 699 622 e: info@yinclusion.org.au
w: inclusion.ymca.org.au f: fb.me/TheYInclusionServices



REGISTERED
NDIS
PROVIDER



*Have A Nice
Weekend*

