TERM 1 REFLECTION

The last 9 weeks has seen our new Prep students settle quickly into school routine and enjoy a very positive start to their school lives. Across the school the teachers have the students engaged in classroom programs, optimising learning opportunities. At all times we aim to create an environment where the entire school community has an opportunity to participate in the education of the children, so thank you to the parents and carers who have assisted with various classroom programs.

To the entire school community have a safe, enjoyable and restful holiday period. I look forward to another rewarding period during term 2.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

I have included the second of three policies endorsed at school council this month. The ‘Bullying’ policy outlines the purpose of the policy, the guidelines and an outline of how it is implemented.

TERM 1 STUDENT ATTENDANCE DATA

As we come to the end of term 1, I would like to share some information around our attendance.

Our 4 year Strategic Plan (2011-2014) has a strong focus on attendance. The target for 2014 is an average of 12 days absent per student over the school year. I believe we can achieve this target in 2013 if as a school community we continue to embrace the belief that ‘It’s Not Okay To Be Away’. It is important we instil in our children the importance of attending school every day. Absenteeism not only affects academic progress but also has an equally big effect on their social and emotional development. Consistent late arrivals also put children at a disadvantage as they miss the opportunity to greet friends in the morning, socialise and gain that positive start to the day. 9.00am to 9.30am is a crucial timeframe where classroom teachers are communicating key information for the day and on most occasions undertaking focussed whole class literacy work which is a prerequisite to the activities which follow during the morning session.

If you are having problems getting your child to school or you are finding it hard to arrive on time please speak to myself or Kerryn to see how we might be able to support you.

Student Attendance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Students</th>
<th>95% Attendance</th>
<th>100% Attendance</th>
<th>Students of total school population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>168</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On a positive note 62% of the children are attending school the targeted 95% + days. This time last year the 95% + attendance figure was 75% of the children. Let’s ensure, as a school community we strive to improve the attendance figures during term 2.

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
ORAL HEALTH
Our Oral Health program started yesterday in Grade Prep. Dental students from La Trobe University will be visiting our school on Wednesday's for a period of 5 weeks (continuing in Term 2). They have planned many interactive activities and have plenty of freebies and give-aways for the students. Healthy teeth are a priority to maintaining a healthy life and the students aim to reinforce this through their school program.

Jason Lee
Principal

ROYAL CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL
The Good Friday Appeal is a unique fundraising activity that brings together people from all parts of the community in a very special way. The common goal is to raise money for The Royal Children’s Hospital in Melbourne, and to ensure that all children with life threatening illnesses receive the best possible medical and clinical care.

It all started in 1931 when groups of journalists from the Herald & Weekly Times organised a sporting carnival in aid of charity, the Children’s Hospital being a recipient of the funds. In 1942, Sir Keith Murdoch as Managing Director and Editor the “The Herald” agreed that “The Herald” and radio station 3DB should broadcast an all day Appeal on Good Friday. In 1957, Channel 7 joined the Appeal and began the first daylong telethon, which is now held at Melbourne’s Telstra Dome. School’s have been involved in the Royal Children’s Hospital Good Friday Appeal through the distribution of Appeal envelopes. Here at California Gully Primary School we are proud to continue supporting the Appeal; many of us know or will know of a child who has had to spend time in the Royal Children’s Hospital.

Thank you to the six families who supported the appeal this year, we will be sending the Royal Children’s Hospital $92.00.

EGGS FOR SALE
Our girls are busy laying lots of eggs, $2.50 a dozen. See Wendy in the grade 3/4 room.
If families have vegie scraps, stale bread or they would like to cook up some pasta or rice and bring it to my room in the morning the girls would really appreciate it.

Wendy Ennor

SCHOOL CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 15th - April 19th</td>
<td><strong>First Day of Term 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Student Banking Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 22nd - April 26th</td>
<td></td>
<td>Parents’ Club Lunch Order Day</td>
<td>ANZAC DAY Public Holiday</td>
<td>Student Banking Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Zone Cross Country Grades 3 to 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 29th - May 3rd</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Student Banking Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 6th - May 10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Parents’ Club Lunch Order Day</td>
<td>Student Banking Day</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mothers’ Day Stall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
Congratulations to the following students on being named Student of The Week for their positive attitude to school and social values.

**Friday March 22nd**

**Prep Peacock:**
- Liam C. - For accurate counting when working on his maths sheets.
- Nell F. - For making a confident start to school this year.
- Piper K. - For very good efforts to write independently.
- Charlotte L. - For participating positively in all activities.
- Tai W. - For careful ordering of numbers to 9. Good job!

**1/2 Carroll-Reilly:**
- Blake B. - For making good choices in the classroom and showing good listening skills.
- Ella S. - For making a great effort in spelling and maths this term.

**1/2 Christian:**
- Cody S. - For super effort at quick addition.
- Keesh W. - For fantastic effort during writing this week.

**3/4 Ennor:**
- Benjamin A. - For writing a great myth about "How the Turtle Got Its Shell".
- Taylor T. - For being a polite and helpful class member.

**5/6 Windridge:**
- Tyson A. - For excellent work in guided reading working on author's purpose.
- Gregory D. - For excellent work on 3D shapes.

**6 McKerrow:**
- Jaime-Lea B. - For excellent work in writing descriptive prose.
- Brittany M. - For excellent work writing descriptive prose.

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**School Uniform**

Parents are encouraged to take their children into Bendigo Uniforms Plus to purchase their child’s uniform at anytime. With the Easter school holiday rapidly approaching this maybe a good time to prepare your child for the cooler weather and purchase a polar fleece jacket or windcheater. They also sell the school’s bucket and wide brim style hats which are required during Terms 1 and 4. Please remember that wearing of the school uniform is compulsory.

**Woolworths Earn & Learn 2013**

It’s back and it is now easier than ever to earn valuable resources for our school.

**It’s simple to participate:** from Monday 8th April, when you shop at Woolworths you can collect points from the checkout operator and place them on point sheets. There’ll be one point for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco, and gift cards). Once completed, place your point sheets in the collection box located in the office here at school. Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheets are to be downloaded from [www.woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn](http://www.woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn)

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School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
TIP 16. BREAKFAST IS ESSENTIAL
Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. That’s because it’s been around 12 hours since you last ate.
When kids leave home without eating anything, their stomachs are empty for a long time. They are more likely to grab just anything to relieve that hungry feeling.
But a good breakfast stops those hunger pangs from striking during the morning, and it helps kids stay alert. Nutritious foods will give enough energy to last the whole morning.
Breakfast ideas include: porridge with reduced-fat milk and some sliced fruit on top; an egg on toast; fruit salad and low-fat yoghurt; baked beans on toast; a bowl of breakfast cereal with reduced-fat milk; and a muffin with reduced-fat cream or ricotta cheese.

Good Idea!
Just before you go to bed at night, prepare what you can for breakfast the next day. You’ll save precious moments, and it will seem easier to do the rest once you’re up in the morning.

What you can do NOW
♦ Make the time to provide a good breakfast for your kids and yourself.
♦ Stock up on healthy breakfast foods like fruit, reduced-fat milk, low-fat yoghurt and wholegrain bread and cereals.
♦ Even when you mornings are rushed, grab something healthy such as a piece of fruit or a small tub of low-fat yoghurt.

Top Tip
What you eat at breakfast literally ‘breaks the fast’. Make sure you plan enough time every morning to eat breakfast in a relaxed manner and don’t have to rush.

HEALTHY EASTER TREATS...
KEEP THE KIDS BUSY THESE HOLIDAYS AND CREATE YOUR OWN EASTER EGGS:
Boil some eggs and decorate them with crayons or food dye. Place them in a basket on scrunched up tissue paper and enjoy!!

EASTER BUNNY CAKES:
1. Cook 2 carrot cakes.
2. Place one cake onto the bottom half of a large cake board. This will be the face of the bunny.
3. Cut the remaining cake into bunny ears and a bow tie. Attach the ears to the top of the face and position the bow tie at the bottom.
4. Instead of icing, use custard, cream cheese or yoghurt dessert and cover the entire surface of the cake.
5. Use sultanas and dried fruit (apricot and apple) to make eyes, nose and whiskers. You can even cover the insides of the ears and the bow tie.

Don’t forget to check out the school’s website www.californiagullyps.vic.edu.au
School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
Parents’ Club Meeting
The next meeting of the Parents’ Club will be held early term 2 at 9.05 a.m. in the conference room, we look forward to some new faces joining us.

Parents’ Club Lunch Orders
Lunch orders will be every second WEDNESDAY. Please place correct money in the envelope when sending the orders to school. Children need to place their lunch orders in the pink tub in the office by 9.30 a.m. on Friday. If your child is absent on lunch order day, please let the office know so we can organise a refund.

Easter Raffle
Parents’ Club Easter raffle was drawn this morning. The prizes were:

1st Prize  $50 Easter Hamper  
2nd Prize  $30 Easter Hamper  
3rd Prize  $20 Easter Hamper  
4th Prize  Chocolate Fondue set & block of chocolate

All prizes will be announced in the newsletter next term.
All prizes have been provided by the Parents’ Club.

“Foneraiser” Mobile Phone Recycling
All families would have received a satchel for old mobile phones. We will earn cash from “Foneraiser” for each mobile phone we send them throughout 2013. Not only do we raise funds for or school but we are also helping the environment at the same time!

Advance Notice - Mothers’ Day Stall
The Mothers’ Day stall and raffle will be held early Term 2, we are seeking donations of gifts to go on the stall (we sell gifts ranging in price from $1.00 to $5.00). If you can help with items or a gold coin donation please leave these in the office. If anyone knows of any businesses that would like to donate a prize for the raffle please speak to Natasha Fullerton.
All Stone Quarries have a VIP program that we are beneficiaries of. If you are a member of the program and have indicated that you would like California Gully Primary School to be your community group of choice 1% of your purchases is donated to the school. ASQ keep track of all purchases made by my VIP customers. The more members, the more they spend, the more funds we raise. To ensure the success of the ASQ VIP program and to help us, we have some VIP membership brochures available from the school office. Simply fill out the form and return it to ASQ. Better still VIP members get 5% discount on all purchases they make at ASQ Landscape Supply yards and 5% of all plants, giftware and nursery items from their Garden Centres. Win/Win for both members and the school!

Once a year ASQ will present us with a cheque for the funds raised over the prior 12 months.

Go to the Junior School page on the school’s website www.californiagullyps.vic.edu.au for more information and to see the fantastic photographs www.californiagullyps.vic.edu.au

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
COMMUNITY NOTICES

Looking for something different to do in the School Holidays?

The 2013 SYNCHRONIZED SWIMMING AUSTRALIA OPEN & AGE GROUP CHAMPIONSHIPS are being held in Melbourne. Over 100 competitors from Australia & overseas will be competing.

Please accept our invitation to watch this spectacular event.

Don’t forget to check out the school’s website www.californiagullyps.vic.edu.au

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!

Clever with Clay!

Have fun creating ‘pinch pots’ with clay. Make a mini tea-set, egg cup or anything you like using this simple age-old technique!

Fast-drying clay will be used and decorated with colourful acrylic paints and other mixed media.

Aimed at primary school children aged 4-12. Adults must accompany all children.

- Bendigo Visitor Centre (51-67 Pall Mall)
- Cost: $8 per person includes workshop and materials
- Time: 10:30am – 11:30am
- Dates: Wednesday 3rd, Saturday 6th and Wednesday 10th April 2013
- Bookings: A must! Limited spaces available.
- Payment taken at time of booking
  Phone: 5434 6060

Fun Language Clubs for Kids

FRENCH, SPANISH, MANDARIN, GERMAN & ITALIAN

Preschooler Clubs
Playgroup in another language – Amazing to watch 2-5yrs & parents join in

Primary aged Clubs
After school & Saturday mornings 5-12yrs

Lots of days & time options
Affordable pricing & family discounts
Register for a FREE trial now!

Play-based programs: Games, craft, songs, puppets, plays and fun activities to get your child using the language naturally and quickly.

We can help your child become bilingual….

The Bendigo / Castlemaine region is abuzz with the Fun Languages 4 Kids craze – Come & check out what everyone is talking about….

Enquiries to Sally-Anne:
m: 0418 399 824
e: sally-anne.symes@clclubs.com.au
Twitter: @Languages4Kids
www.lfcclubs.com.au
East Loddon P-12 College (Dingee) have been very successful with raising stick insects and spiny leaf insects. They are now in a position where they would like to re-hoose quite a few of each. Collection of the insects can be arranged for Bendigo or Inglewood or alternative arrangements to be organised individually. The cost involved would be $1 per stick insect and $2 per spiny leaf insect. At this stage, it will be first in although we will keep a list in the event we run out as we’re expecting more to hatch.

Any questions or interest can be forwarded to Karen Egan at egan.karen.l@edumail.vic.gov.au.