FROM THE PRINCIPAL

MR. HARTNEY RETIRING

Mr. Hartney has taken leave until the end of Term 1 and will retire at the end of his leave. Mr. Hartney has been teaching for 34 years and has been at California Gully Primary School since 1993. During this time Mr. Hartney has positively influenced 100’s of children’s live. Mr. Hartney had a wonderful rapport with children, parents and staff. On behalf of the school community I would like to wish Mr. Hartney all the best for the future.

Mrs. Watt will now be teaching Grade 4/5 and has settled quickly into the role and is already known by most of the children due to her work in the school over the past few years.

ARRIVAL TIME AT SCHOOL

There have been a number of children arriving to school prior to 8.30am. Sometimes on the odd occasion family circumstances dictate children will arrive early. However please be aware teachers are preparing for morning classes and children should not arrive before 8.30am. Depending on individual teacher arrangements classroom doors open between 8.30 a.m. and 8.45a.m. at which time children can prepare for the day ahead.

IT’S NOT OKAY TO BE AWAY

Regular attendance at school is important. We are just over half way through Term 1 and it is timely to think about attendance and how quickly days away from school can add up. Generally there is context to the days children are away; illness, injury or extended holiday. However if we look at absences based purely on the number of days away we can see how quickly it adds up and the possible issues it could raise. If a child has been away for 3 days of school up to the half-way point of Term 1 and the pattern was to continue, the child would eventually have 24 days away from school for the year. That equates to almost 5 weeks of school or half a term.

The following is an excerpt from ‘It’s Not Okay to be Away’. If your child misses the basic skills in primary school they can experience difficulties with their learning. Regular attendance is essential to make sure learning is not disrupted. Regular learning provides building blocks for the future. Schools help children to develop important social skills, such as friendship building, teamwork, communication skills and a healthy self-esteem. http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/school/parents/health/attendanceenglish.pdf

At this stage the majority of children have not missed a day of school and so regular learning and social development is optimised, this is quite positive and as a school community shows we understand the importance of attending school every day.

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 the attached 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.

Envelopes have been sent home with this edition of the Bell Topper. If you would like to show your support for this worthwhile charity, you can do so by returning the donation envelope by Wednesday March 27th. Donation envelopes can be left with Nicole in the school office.

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.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 11th - March 15th</td>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
<td>Grade 6 Polo Shirt Orders &amp; Money Due</td>
<td>Parents’ Club Lunch Order Day</td>
<td>Student Banking Day</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Parent Managed Head Lice Program Inspections</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 18th - March 22nd</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Book Club Issue 2 Orders and Correct Money Due</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Student Banking Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 25th - March 29th</td>
<td>Hot Cross Bun Orders to be Collected</td>
<td></td>
<td>Parents’ Club Lunch Order Day</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Easter Raffle Tickets Due Back</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Student Banking Day</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>April 15th - April 19th</td>
<td>First Day of Term 2</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Student Banking Day</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

School Charges Payments Due Friday March 1st 2013
Congratulations to the following students on being named Student of The Week for their positive attitude to school and social values.

**Friday February 15th**

**Prep Peacock:** Jacoby Ah-D. - For playing well during outside times and remembering the rules.
Sienna A. - For making an excellent transition to school.
Aaron B. - For settling to work quickly and putting in his best effort.

**3/4 Ennor:** Jakoby A. - For working well at all times.
Jai G. - For taking pride in his work and for always giving his best.
Georgia R. - For being as CARS star.

**4/5 Hartney:** Jordan H. - For working brilliantly and getting along well with everyone.
Zachary T. - For making a fantastic start to the new year at Cal. Gully.

**5/6 Windridge:** Vanessa C. - For fabulous vocabulary work.
Zechariah E-J. - For excellent improvement in reading numbers.
James H. - For excellent work in Maths with reading large numbers.

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**Friday February 22nd**

**Prep Peacock:** Jesse B. - For being a wonderful thinker during Investigation Time.
Bailey B. - For being a friendly and helpful class member.
Charlie M. - For being a co-operative, helpful pupil.

**1/2 Carroll-Reilly:** Dakoda B. - For a fantastic effort in Mathematics this week.
Benjamin N. - For having great initiative in our classroom.

**1/2 Christian:** Lily G. - For excellent work during Maths (Place Value).
Elycia M. - For excellent work during Maths (Place Value).

**3/4 Ennor:** Tanika M. - For working very well on her 10x tables.
Darcy S. - For a fabulous start to grade 4 and for making good choices.

**4/5 Hartney:** Declin M. - For having a great week and for excellent participation in discussion activities.
Phoenix P. - For having a fantastic attitude and getting along well with everyone.

**5/6 Windridge:** Shaylah H. - For excellent presentation and handwriting in her workbooks.
Eve O’S. - For excellent presentation and handwriting in her workbooks.

**6 McKerrow:** Ellyssa H. - For an excellent effort with spelling.
Bailey I. - For excellent work with Digitation.

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**BOOK CLUB**

Book Club Issue 2 has been sent home. It is due back at school on Thursday, March 14th 2013. If you have any questions, please see Linda Windridge or your class teacher.

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School Charges Payments Due Friday March 1st 2013
HEALTHY LIVING

GREAT TIPS FOR HEALTHY KIDS

TIP 13. HEALTHY MESSAGES HAVE TO BE REINFORCED

Although you serve as a good role model to your kids by eating well and being physically active, they will sometimes spend time with other people, such as grandparents, aunts and uncles, or other carers. If is important that you let these people now that you want your kids to get some physical activity and eat nutritious foods.

Sometimes relatives and others can have the best intentions for kids, they think that it won’t hurt if kids eat lollies and indulge in fizzy soft drinks, for example. Their attitude is that “it’s a treat for the kids”.

What you can do NOW

When family and other people are taking care of your kids:

♦ Let them know what you prefer the kids to eat.
♦ Tell the carers that you value their time with your kids and that you’d like the healthy messages you give at home to be reinforced by them.

Good Idea!

When others are looking after your child, reinforce your message by packing a bottle of water together with a few healthy snacks, such as carrot sticks with a hummus dip, a reduced-fat cheese and cucumber sandwich, or pieces of fruit.

Top Tip

Adults can learn from kids too. Encourage your child to spread the work outside your home on healthy food and healthy fun.

WASTE & LITTER - FREE LUNCHES

On Clean Up Australia Day and Schools Clean Up Day, (held every year in March), hundreds and thousands of students and volunteers across the country clean up their local environment, reducing the amount of rubbish polluting our beaches, parks, creeks and streets. Within the school environment, the quantity of rubbish can be reduced by decreasing the amount of packaging used for school lunches.

By reusing lunch bags you can save money, decrease demand for natural resources needed to make new bags, and cut down on the amount of rubbish.

According to www.cleanup.com.au, 37% of rubbish collected on Clean Up Australia Day 2004 was made of plastic, so instead of using 20 to 40 plastic sandwich bags per month, try to use just one plastic container. Reusable plastic storage containers are also great to keep left over foods stored in the fridge at home.

Many schools have a regular “package free” lunch day which not only helps the environment, but also encourages fresh fruit and vegetables.

There are numerous alternatives to plastic and foil based packaging which include: paper bags, reusable plastic containers, non-wax lunch paper or reusable sandwich bags. When selecting paper bags or paper wrap, choose recycled paper. Instead of purchasing boxed juice or plastic drink containers, refill existing drink bottles from your home with water.

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 Charges Payments Due Friday March 1st 2013
PARENTS CLUB NEWS

Parents’ Club Meeting
The next meeting of the Parents’ Club will be held tomorrow, Friday March 8th 2013 at 9.05 a.m. in the conference room, we look forward to some of our new Prep families 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 tickets went home a couple of weeks ago. The prizes are:

<table>
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<td>1st Prize</td>
<td>$50 Easter Hamper</td>
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<td>3rd Prize</td>
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</tr>
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All prizes have been provided by the Parents’ Club.
Tickets are $1.00 each. All raffle books and money must be back by Wednesday March 27th. The raffle will be drawn Thursday March 28th at assembly.

If you would like another raffle book please see Nicole in the school office.
To make our Easter Raffle even more successful we are asking for donations of Easter eggs/bunnies or chocolates to make the prizes bigger and better. If you would like to donate some eggs or simply like to donate a gold coin to go towards purchasing Easter eggs there will be a basket in the office to place your donation in.

Hot Cross Bun Drive
This term we will be conducting a Hot Cross Bun Drive. Order forms have been sent home so you can order some of these yummy Easter treats! Hot Cross Bun Order Forms and money are due back by Tuesday March 19th. Orders can be collected from the kitchen between 2.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. on Tuesday March 26th, just in time for Easter!

“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!

PLAYGROUP
Tuesdays and Thursdays
10.00 a.m. - 12.00 p.m.
in the Outside School Hours Care room.
The next Playgroup sessions will be next Tuesday, March 12th and Thursday, March 14th. Please bring along a healthy snack and drink. All Welcome!
We always try to encourage the healthy eating and SunSmart messages that are taught to our students at school, to provide a great foundation for our future students.

Join us on Facebook: www.facebook/calgullyplaygroup1

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School Charges Payments Due Friday March 1st 2013
As you may know our school has a website – www.californiagullyps.vic.edu.au. Our website enables the school to communicate in a meaningful, timely and economical way with our school community.

There is one major benefit of our site. We control it. We have access to the back end of the site and we can upload and change all the content, forms, notices and photos at will. This means our website has become a very dynamic, constantly changing, up-to-date source of information for all things happening at the school.

Our website has many wonderful and useful features including:

⇒ SunSmart UV Alert with the days weather forecast.
⇒ Dynamic Event Calendar so you can see what’s coming up
⇒ Access to our newsletter and read it online
⇒ Constantly changing news and articles about your school
⇒ Absence forms and permission forms for upcoming events are available for download
⇒ Healthy Eating tips to assist in school lunch box preparation

We hope you regularly visit our school’s website and if you have any ideas or feedback on the content that you would like to see on the site please let us know.

Please Note: If your child has been absent from school absence notes are available from the school’s website and need to be returned to your child’s classroom teacher on the first day that they return to school.

Go to the Senior School page on the school’s website to see more on this report, www.californiagullyps.vic.edu.au

Sink or Swim Program

Today Michelle the lifesaver came to our school to teach us to be safe around water.

Michelle explained that edges of rivers can crumble in or you can fall in. She also said if you grab a stick and put it in the water and the current is flowing very fast you will be going with it down the river.

Then people hold up the flags that we swim between and the shark flag and the surfing flag.

Then a boy named Liam had to feel into a black box and feel what was in there, there was sticks, rocks, water and bottles. Then the football fell in so they just left it. It was cool.

Phoebe 3/4
Don’t forget to check out the school’s website www.californiagullyps.vic.edu.au

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Are you eligible?

The information on this page is for parents/carers.

Start here –

- Do you reside in the school’s catchment area?
- Are you the parent/carer of a student?
- Are you paying for your child’s fees and charges?
- Are you experiencing financial hardship?

If you need help with the application form, please contact the school.

Are your children a year 4 or above and do they have a limited or no access to a computer or internet?

Home Interaction Program

For Parents and Youngsters

Do you have a 4-5 year old child?

Home Interaction Program (HIPPY) is a program designed to support the education and development of young children in disadvantaged communities. It provides parents with the tools and resources they need to help develop their child’s skills and abilities.

What is HIPPY?

HIPPY is a program designed to support the education and development of young children. It provides parents with the tools and resources they need to help develop their child’s skills and abilities.

Who is HIPPY for?

HIPPY is for children who are 4-5 years old and are disadvantaged. It provides parents with the tools and resources they need to help develop their child’s skills and abilities.

What does HIPPY cost?

It’s free! HIPPY is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment, and Innovation.

For more information, contact h.brown@crkss.org.au

More than just a BOOKSHOP

Bendigo is home to a unique bookshop that offers a lot more than just books.

From Picture to Page

SCRAPBOOK & PAPERCRAFT SHOW

Saturday 16th March 9.30am - 4.30pm
Sunday 17th March 9.30am - 1.30pm
Kangaroo Flat Primary School Basketball Stadium
60-80 Olympic Parade, Kangaroo Flat, Bendigo
Entry: Adults $6.00, Kids under 16 free entry

Husbands who wish they were somewhere else free entry

Following the success of our first show last March, we’re coming back to do it again.

If you love scrapbooking, papercrafting and paper products, then you’ll love our show! We have free parking, show specials and product demonstrations. You’ll also find a variety of stalls to choose from, including cake, coffee, cordial, candles and more.

50% of all proceeds go to charity. We support charity and we support the community.

For more information, please contact:
info@picturesoptical.com.au

School Charges Payments Due Friday March 1st 2013
Does your child stutter? 
Opportunity for treatment

The Department of Human Communication Sciences at La Trobe University provides a world-renowned best-practice treatment for people who stutter. This treatment will be offered for the first time this year in Bendigo. It will be a collaboration between the La Trobe Rural Health School, the Catholic Education office and the Department of Education.

The Intensive Fluency program will be for adolescents (aged 10 years and older) from Bendigo and surrounding regions. This initiative has had significant success for over 20 years in Melbourne and now we are delighted to offer the opportunity to students in the Bendigo area to benefit from the treatment. The program is provided by final year speech pathology students and experienced clinical supervisors.

The program will be conducted in July and we are currently inviting expressions of interest for young adolescent stutterers to be involved in this exciting initiative. Parents of interested students are invited to consider this opportunity.

If you have any questions or would like your child to be involved in the program, please forward expressions of interest to Madeline Leyden, Speech Pathologist, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. Ph: 5438 1254.

Want to boost your back-to-school budget?
Here are a few tips from parenting expert Michael Grace:

1. Tackle the school supply list early. Pencils, rubbers, notebooks, pads, art supplies, calculator, text books... the back-to-school supply list can seem endless. Follow your school’s recommended list, unlike back-to-school sales and resist the temptation to make unnecessary additions suggested by your children.

2. Make sure your children have their full school uniforms. Fitting in is vital to kids at the start of the school year, and the school uniform is an important part of that process. Consider recycling some of last year’s uniform while replacing items that will wear out or outgrow during the year. A great cost effective option is to check out the school’s uniform shop, community notices and classifieds for second hand uniforms.

3. Remember to pay the school fees. School fees can easily go under the budgeting radar, so don’t forget to account for schools fees, whether they’re compulsory or voluntary.

SCOTS Baseball Club
Invites You to
Come & Try Baseball
On Tuesday 12th March
@ Albert Roy Reserve (Diamond 1)
Victoria St, Eaglehawk on
All the fun @ the ballpark will be happening
from 4:30 - 6:30pm.
BBQ provided.
Come along with your mates and give baseball a go this year.
Baseball equipment will be provided to you by the club.

For further information please contact Lana Harrison
0428 462 149

act, create, communicate
Self-development through drama!
Boost your child’s creativity, confidence and communication skills.
Enrolling now for students aged 5 to 17.
www.helenogrady.com.au

School Charges Payments Due Friday March 1st 2013