FROM THE PRINCIPAL

2013 CLASS STRUCTURE
On Monday 10th December parents & carers will be advised in writing of their child's allocated class for 2013. It is a complex task and the teachers have spent considerable time developing class groups. Parents also had an opportunity for written input between 25th October & 2nd November. The following factors are considered when determining classes: even distribution of academic ability within grades, separation of children who do not work well together, gender balance, interpersonal development, friendship groups, attitude, maturity, individual needs and behaviour.

SCHOOL TRANSITION
The transition program for our 2013 Prep children will continue next Tuesday 4th December from 9.15am -11.45am. The morning session will give all the children another opportunity to further develop relationships with their peers and the classroom teacher. The Prep transition program has been highly successful this year and I look forward to a positive start for all the children 2013.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT
EMA & SchoolKids Bonus
Other documentation which can be collected from the school office includes the Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA) and Centrelink forms.

Please read the section below regarding changes to the EMA in 2013.

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)
The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to low-income families to help with education-related costs.

If you have a child under 16, and hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA. Under the new arrangements, school-based payments will be discontinued and parental payments increased.

In 2013, the annual EMA payment for families with children in Prep will be $200 and for children in grades 1-6 the payment will be $150. The eligibility criteria must be met as at 29 January 2013. The EMA is paid in two installments annually (70% in March and 30% in August). Parents can still choose to have the EMA payment paid to the school to use towards education expenses. This will provide parents with extra flexibility to assist with budgeting towards education expenses.

From January 2013, a new payment called the ‘Schoolkids Bonus’ http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/schoolkids-bonus will be introduced by the Commonwealth Government. The Schoolkids Bonus will be paid by Centrelink in January and July each year to help families with school costs.

Families receiving Family Tax Benefit Part A will receive two instalments of $205 for each child in primary school - a total of $410 each year.
GRADE 6 GRADUATION EVENING
The Grade 6 Graduation Evening will be held on Monday, 19th December, commencing at 6.00pm. Further details will be outlined closer to the event.

NETBOOKS
End of Lease: Grade 5 & 6. All Netbooks and accessories are required to be returned to the school by Friday, 14th December.
Prior to netbooks being returned our technician will be undertaking an audit of all netbooks. It is important all netbooks are returned with no damage. This includes missing keys, damaged casing and screens. Netbooks requiring repairs will be covered either under the warranty or by insurance depending on the type of damage.

2013 Netbook Allocation
The 1to1 Netbook Program for grades 5 & 6 will continue in 2013. However we making changes to the model used over the last few years. Grade 6 students will complete the 2nd year of their lease agreement. Grade 5 students will have access to their own netbook in the classroom and at the classroom teachers discretion based on educational needs will, be able to take it home to complete set tasks. 2013 Netbook lease agreement, Roles and Responsibilities statements and the Acceptable Use Policy for students moving into grades 5 & 6 next year will be forwarded to families at the beginning of the 2013 school year. It must be read and signed by both parents/carers and the child and returned to school before possession of the netbook takes place.
At the beginning of the 2013 school year an information session for parents will be held. The information session will clarify the role of parents, students and school and outline how the netbooks will be used. For parents of children receiving netbooks for the first time this is a compulsory session.

Jason Lee
Principal

SCHOOL CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 3rd - December 7th</td>
<td>Parents’ Club</td>
<td>Playgroup</td>
<td>Playgroup</td>
<td>Student Banking Day</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ice Cream Day</td>
<td>10.00 a.m.—12.00 p.m.</td>
<td>10.00 a.m.—12.00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep 2013 Transition Day 3. Grade 6 Orientation Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 10th - December 14th</td>
<td>School Council Meeting</td>
<td>Playgroup</td>
<td>Playgroup</td>
<td>Student Banking Day</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10.00 a.m.—12.00 p.m.</td>
<td>10.00 a.m.—12.00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Whole School Swimming Program</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 17th - December 21st</td>
<td>Grade 6 Graduation Dinner</td>
<td>Playgroup</td>
<td>Break-Up Day</td>
<td>Student Banking Day</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10.00 a.m.—12.00 p.m.</td>
<td>10.00 a.m.—12.00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>End of Year Performance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 24th - December 28th</td>
<td>Christmas Eve</td>
<td>Christmas Day</td>
<td>Boxing Day</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
Education Maintenance Allowance - information for parents currently receiving EMA

Changes to the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for 2013:
The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to lower-income families to help with education-related costs.

If you have a child under 16, and hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA. The allowance is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August.

From 2013, the EMA will no longer be paid 50/50 between the parent and the school. The 50% school portion of the EMA will no longer be paid to schools on behalf of parents.

The School Start Bonus which was previously received by EMA families has been discontinued as a separate payment from 2013.

In 2013, the annual EMA amount is:
- $200 for prep students
- $150 for students in years 1 – 6

The payment is intended to assist with education-related costs such as; uniforms, excursions, textbooks, and stationery.

EMA payment options

You can elect to have your EMA paid in one of the following ways:
- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses;
  (This is the preferred option for our school as it enables us to allocate these funds towards your outstanding costs for the student bookpack, fees and the special events pre-payment.)
- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your own nominated bank account;
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection or sign over.

The introduction of the new payment option to have the EMA payment directed to the school provides parents with extra flexibility to assist with budgeting towards education expenses.

Eligibility:
To be eligible for the EMA in 2013, you must:
- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004* or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a temporary foster parent.
  * i.e. – the parent/guardian must be the holder of a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at 29 January 2013 (Instalment One) and 15 July 2013 (Instalment Two).

Payment Amounts 2013:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Years 1 - 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instalment One</td>
<td>$140</td>
<td>$105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instalment Two</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Total</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
School Assembly starts at 8.55 a.m. Please be on time!
Healthy Summer Shakes for After School and the Weekend

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fruit Melody</th>
<th>Banana Smoothie</th>
<th>Strawberry Surprise</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/2 cup of orange juice</td>
<td>1 cup low fat milk</td>
<td>200g low fat frozen strawberry yoghurt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/3 cup apricot nectar</td>
<td>1/3 cup low fat yoghurt</td>
<td>250g strawberries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 ripe banana, mashed</td>
<td>1 teaspoon honey</td>
<td>1 litre (4 cups) low-fat or no-fat milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 passionfruit</td>
<td>1 ripe banana</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 teaspoon of honey</td>
<td>1 raw egg or 1 tablespoon wheat germ (optional)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blend well and serve with crushed ice!! (Serves 1)</td>
<td>Blend together and serve immediately!! (Serves 1)</td>
<td>Soften yoghurt, cut strawberries into pieces (hulled) and blend until smooth. (Serves 4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Fruit and milk/yoghurt based shakes are a great source of calcium, fibre and vitamins.

GREAT TIPS FOR HEALTHY KIDS

TIP 5. LOTS OF ACTIVITY KEEPS KIDS FIT AND HEALTHY

Look at how toddlers run and climb. They can’t wait to get on their feet to explore the world, and they love every minute of it.

It’s natural for children to slow down as they grow up. They have to learn to sit still at school, for a start.

But these days children are becoming less active too early, and it isn’t healthy for them. Physical activity throughout life can prevent a whole range of diseases and illnesses. Kids need movement and activity to keep functioning well, so encourage them to keep being active whenever they can. Physical activity can help your child: grow and develop; build strong bones and muscles; develop flexibility; achieve a healthy weight; improve fitness; and relax.

What you can do NOW

- Expect your child to have at least 60 minutes of moderate physical activity every day.
- Encourage your child to: walk, ride a bike, run, rollerblade, kick a ball around; run down to the shops for you; and dance to your favourite music.

Good Idea!

Explain to kids that sitting around in the playground will make them feel more tired, and suggest they walk, skip or run around for at least ten minutes to revive themselves before going back to class.

Top Tip

Buy skipping ropes for the whole family and jump the rope 50-100 times a day.
Parents’ Club Meeting
The next meeting of the Parents’ Club will be held Friday, December 7th at 9.05 a.m. in the conference room, this is the last meeting for the year. We only have 5 members for the 2013 committee and would love to see some new faces!!

Ice Cream Day
Ice Cream day is Monday December 3rd. Order forms were sent home on Monday and are due back tomorrow, Friday November 30th, before 9.30 a.m. Please only place one child on each form.

Christmas Raffle
The Parents' Club is again having a Christmas Raffle! We have had some fantastic prizes donated to us.

The Christmas Raffle will be drawn after the Christmas concert on December 20th. All raffle books and money must be back at school by 9 a.m. on Wednesday December 19th. Extra raffle books are available from the office.

A BIG Thank You to all the businesses that have donated prizes.

Prizes
1st Terry Jarvis Painting donated by Bethany Gallery Value $300.00
2nd Sports Power Bag with $50.00 worth of Groceries donated by Sports Power
3rd $50.00 Gift Card donated by Champions IGA Long Gully
4th $50.00 Voucher donated by The Schweppes Centre
5th Sportsco Bag with $25.00 worth of Groceries donated by Sportsco
6th Sportsco Bag with $25.00 worth of Groceries donated by Sportsco
7th Shampoo and Blow Wave Voucher donated by Hairem Scarem
8th Beauty Hamper donated by Eaglehawk UFS Dispensary
9th 10 visit Pool Swim Pass donated by Peter Krenz Leisure Centre YMCA

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 Tuesday December 4th and Thursday December 6th. 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

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 November 23rd**

**Prep/1 Christian**: Tully McA-M. - For her interesting beetle home she made & shared with the class.  
Richard P. - For his work on classifying animals.

**Prep/1 Peacock**: Chloe H. - For being a co-operative and helpful class member.  
Ryan S. - For persisting and mastering his tangram puzzles.

**2 Carroll-Hinton**: Terrie-Anne C.-G. - For enthusiastic dancing in the production. 
Jai G. - For excellent behaviour at the production. 
Phoebe S. - For “rocking it” on stage at the production.

**3/4 Hartney**: Caleb C. - For making a fantastic start at Cal. Gully.  
Phoenix P. - For wonderful singing at the Production.

**3/4 Tanner**: Ruby M. - For her smooth dance moves during the production.  
Paris S. - For being a caring and respectful student.

**5/6 McKerrow**: Olivia G. - For excellent work in ‘Area’.  
Abbey W. - For expressive acting in Kids at Sea.

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**TROLLEY TOKENS** $3.00 each
Available to buy from Nicole in the Office.

Trolley Tokens are to put in your trolley instead of using a coin.  They are great to have, whether it is on your car keys or in your hand bag.

The Tokens come with their own key ring and come in a range of designs. The Parent’s Club currently have a limited amount of Trolley Tokens which can be purchased from Nicole in the Office.

- 7 x Smiley
- 5 x Cat
- 7 x Dog
- 1 x Jimmy Money
- 3 x Soccer Ball
- 3 x Grumpy Old Man
- 1 x Shop Till U Drop

Get in quick before we sell out.
Thank you for your support,  
The Parent’s Club.

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**THE GIRLS SAY “THANK YOU”**

A big “Thank You” from the girls to all those families who have donated money towards their food. As a result a few have rewarded the students by laying a few eggs! If you would like to purchase some eggs please see Wendy in the 5/6 classroom (Room2). If you would still like to donate some money to the girls for more food you can give this money to Wendy.
Jets Gymnastics
Bendigo School
Holiday Program is on again in 2013 for children aged between 5 to 13 years
Be sure to book early as places fill fast for each day, operating hours are 8.30am to 5.30pm from Monday to Friday starting January 14th and finishing January 25th.
There is a different theme each day with lots of craft, games and gymnastic activities adding to the fun and excitement in our gym.
You can view the daily descriptions and book online by accessing the following link: [http://www.jetsgym.com.au/index.php/holiday-program](http://www.jetsgym.com.au/index.php/holiday-program) or contact customer service at Jets Gymnastics Bendigo on 5444 1119 or email jetsbendigo@jetsgym.com.au for further information.

Discounts apply for online bookings and payments and additional family members, don’t miss out book now.

The school is registered for the Paul’s “Collect-a-Cap” program. Please keep collecting from friends, family and neighbours the specially marked caps from Paul’s milk bottles. **Washed Paul’s “Collect-a-Caps” can be handed into the office.** We recently sent a total of 2613 caps to Paul’s and they have kindly given us another $261.30. We have raised $780.10 since September 2011 with this fantastic program, keep those caps coming in!!!

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