



# BENDIGO PRIMARY SCHOOL

OLD VIOLET STREET, BENDIGO, VICTORIA

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FACEBOOK: [Bendigo Violet Street PS](#)

Wednesday 4 May 2022

Hello everyone!

I have been spending time in classrooms this week, which is absolutely a joy and one of the many reasons I love my job. I have read a story to 1/2D, enjoyed Investigations in FQ, hung out with 1/2B and spent time in the yard getting to know our wonderful students. Over the next few weeks I will be spending time in every classroom so I will feel well and truly settled in!

### **Student free days this term.**

This term we have two student free days, Tuesday 17th May and Monday 6th June. Please make a note of those dates. On Tuesday 17th teachers will be working with Narissa Leung, a Literacy consultant. Monday 6th June is a Professional Practice Day and our teachers will be completing assessment tasks in preparation for Mid-year reports.

Camp Australia will be offering care on both days from 9am—5pm. As a single OSHC staff member will be working on the day, they will be able to cater for a maximum of 15 students. Bookings can be made in the usual manner.

### **Cross Country.**

We have many excited year 3-6 students who are looking forward to Cross Country on Friday. It's always great to hear the students congratulating each other and recognising when someone has worked hard to achieve their best. I will be spending the day out there with our students and can't wait to cheer them all on.

### **NAPLAN.**

A reminder that next week our Year 3 and 5 students will be participating in the NAPLAN assessment program. If you would like to know more about NAPLAN, please contact your child's teacher.

### **OSHC staff shortages.**

Camp Australia, like many businesses, is experiencing staff shortages. If your OSHC booking is cancelled, it is because they have been unable to fully staff the program for that session.

### **OSHC survey.**

Thank you to the many families who have responded to our short OSHC survey- <https://forms.gle/QzkW5e1SnEoMEGnB8> The survey results will be discussed by School Council and will help to inform our decision as to which provider we work with to continue to offer After School Care. The survey will be open until the end of this week so there is still time to respond.

Warm regards,

Carolyn.

**Principal: Carolyn Tavener**

[Carolyn.Tavener@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Carolyn.Tavener@education.vic.gov.au)

**Be Your  
Best!**

**Business Manager: Lou Bray**

[Louise.Bray@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Louise.Bray@education.vic.gov.au)

# Calendar

## Term 2, Week 1

### Regular Events

#### Camp Aust OSHC

Every day, Monday to Friday, 3- 6pm

#### BEFORE SCHOOL CLUBS—8am—8:30

##### Mondays

Library Club

##### Tuesdays

Library Club

##### Wednesdays

Brekky Club

##### Thursdays

Fun Fit Thursdays

Meet at 8am at Garden Gully

### Special Events

#### Friday 6 May

Gymnastics at Jets Gym for students F-2

Cross Country for students 3-6

#### Tuesday 10 May—Thursday 12 May

NAPLAN

#### Friday 13 May

Gymnastics at Jets Gym for students F-6

#### Tuesday 17 May

Pupil Free Day

#### Friday 20 May

Gymnastics at Jets Gym for students F-6

#### Monday 23 May—Friday 27 May

Education Week

#### Tuesday 24 May

2023 Foundation Information Night

# PRE-LOVED UNIFORMS



Pre-loved uniforms are available via click and collect.

Please email Louise Rodriquez to find out what is available and organise your order. Thank you!

[Louise.Rodriquez@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Louise.Rodriquez@education.vic.gov.au)

*All donations of pre-loved items welcome!*

# ROOM 9

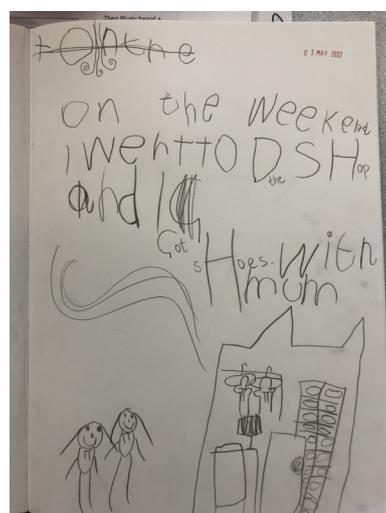
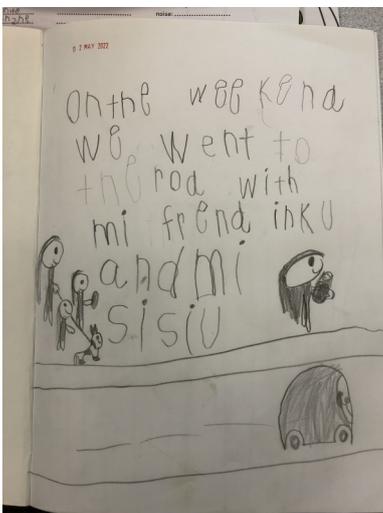
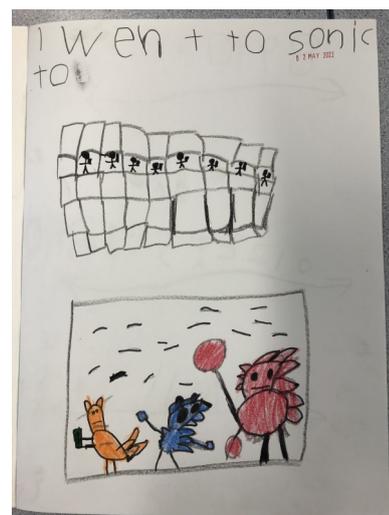
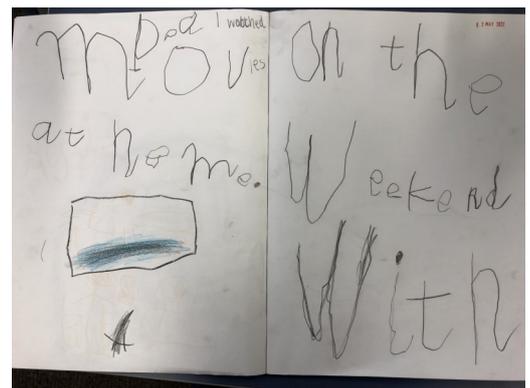
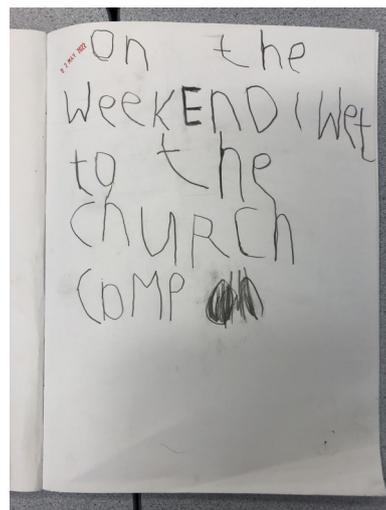
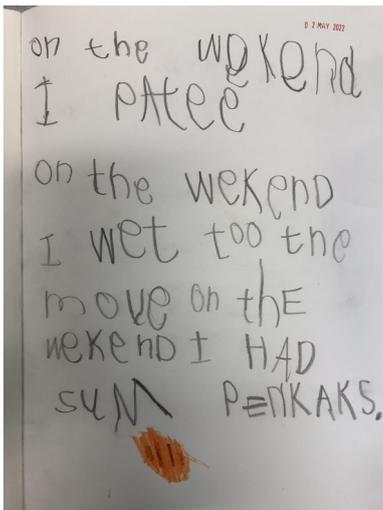
## Foundation/One Lowe

We have had a fabulous start to Term 2.

We have enjoyed participating in the Anzac ceremony, Kaboom Percussion and Jets Gym.

In Maths we are learning to identify one more/less and ten more/less than a given number. We are also learning to order numbers on a number line.

We started our Writer's Notebook over the holidays and are looking forward to writing about the exciting activities we did during our two week break.



Remember, your Foundation, Grade 1 and Grade 2 student can access the following websites at home using their school password:

[www.readingeggs.com.au](http://www.readingeggs.com.au)



# KABOOM PERCUSSION



On Thursday, April 28, we had special musical visitors—Kaboom Percussion. With some of their videos on Youtube having more than **22 MILLION** views, we were very excited to see what they would show us! The children also used the experience to practise their writing skills:

Today we went to Kaboom percussion. first they introduced themselves. Then they played the drum. It was very loud!!!! Will had hedmufs. In it we played a gamy. there gamy had 2 rols. I kep your

*Recount by Astrid, 1/2 B*

28/4 Dear miss Finch *Persuasive writing by Alexis, 3/4W*  
 If its ok ~~with~~ <sup>certainly</sup> with Kaboom percussion it would be ~~lovely~~ <sup>lovely</sup> a plesser for Lora and Nathan to come back. I think everyone will be ~~delighted~~ <sup>delighted</sup>, oh come on perhaps they can come occasionally, like once a year? It would be a oner! It was abrolutely amazing! I was frequently claping withas the bed-~~an~~ but it has to Obviously be Lora and Nathan there the unquestiondoblely faberbs (esperherly Nathan) from you most faustrue and cant say no to student Alexis



# GARDENING NEWS

## Come and Join in Gardening at Violet Street!

Helpers are invited join in our garden group activities in each class for an hour each week. All grades are divided into 4 or 5 groups (except Foundation) and work on a diversity of activities in different areas of the garden. Typically the groups will rotate through planting, weeding, composting and harvesting activities. Helpers would work with one group of 4-6 students on their activity for the lesson under the supervision of the classroom teacher and garden specialist.

	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
8:45 – 9:45		6C Gardening	
9:45 – 10:45	9:45-10:15 FQ 10:15-10:45 FL Gardening		1/2M-B Gardening
RECESS			
11:15 – 12:15			3/4K Gardening
12:15 – 1:15	1/2D Gardening		4/5F Gardening
LUNCH			
2pm – 3pm	1/2B Gardening		3/4W Gardening

If you are interested and have time, please reply to Sara, our kitchen garden specialist to register your interest and the time that you are available. You will also need to record your vaccination status once at the office (all volunteers must be triple vaccinated) and lodge a copy of your Working with Children Check. It will work best for the school if you can make a regular commitment.

PS We welcome younger siblings under parental supervision as part of this program.

[Sara.hill@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Sara.hill@education.vic.gov.au)

# WILSON



## The Unhealthy And Unrealistic Pursuit Of Endless Fun And Happiness

By Wilson McCaskill

We have been seduced by the idea that having endless fun and being constantly happy is not only desirable, it's attainable.

I worry about the damage this idea is causing and I fear for our children as rapidly increasing numbers of adults become complicit in the countless ways and means used, each and every day, to convince children that if they're not constantly happy and having fun, then something is wrong.

"Have fun," is as frequent a parting salutation as, "See you later" or indeed, "Bye." Nowhere is this more apparent than in primary schools where countless thousands of children slide from the seats of cars to head into classrooms supported by the warm tones of parents entreating them to, "Have fun." This request is reinforced at the end of the day when re-entry into the family car is met with the hopeful question, "Did you have fun?"

There was a time when the expectation was that you would go to school and work hard. Perhaps that expectation was a little harsh and implied that school was a cold and brittle place to which little children went to toil and mine for information as opposed to interactively learn.

Schools today are certainly not cold and harsh. They are warm, welcoming environments to which teachers and students commit much time and effort to reflect the colour, movement and spectacle of learning. Yet, amidst this stimulating environment the requirement for effort and application remain as much a necessity for learning as they have always been.

Would it help to ask children to go to school prepared to have fun but ready to apply themselves even if they don't? I think it would, and I think they should be occasionally reminded that application takes effort and that effort is not always fun.

The pressure to make all learning fun on teachers, sporting coaches, music and dance tutors, indeed anyone who seeks to educate, inform and develop children, is relentless.

Vast volumes of research show that children learn best when they are having fun. I'm sure this current understanding was equally well understood by whomever taught Sir Isaac Newton when he was a boy. However, I doubt if his teacher spent as much time and commitment ensuring it was a constant of little Isaac's learning environment.

# WILSON



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The ability of the majority of today's teachers to excite and engage children is both impressive and, with the assistance of technology and the benefits of research, always improving.

Teachers know that not only must their students learn and achieve required benchmarks; they must do so whilst having the time of their lives. Should their students fail to be obviously happy and decidedly having fun, then the teacher has in turn failed.

Worryingly, it doesn't stop there. Some parents are likewise measuring their effectiveness by both the degree and duration of their children's fun and happiness (their FH levels). Unable to relax and feel that they are parenting effectively if their children's FH levels are in any way diminished, they quickly turn to teachers to do everything possible to get the levels up and keep them up.

This is a tangible and unhealthy pressure for many teachers. I believe it can be a significant contributing factor in the sometimes-strained relationships between teachers and parents.

The incessant bombardment of our children with the notion that constant fun and happiness is their rightful expectation has markedly reduced their ability to deal with the everyday trials and tribulations of life. We have made fun the end point of all endeavours. Consequently, when fun ceases so does endeavour, and with it go all the associated benefits.

So, convincing have we been in marketing this idea of perpetual fun to our children that too many react as though their rights have been violated when teachers fail to supply a constant stream of it. We have told them it's necessary, they believe it to be so and they are refusing to participate if fun is not a guaranteed part of the learning process.

Surely, we insult our children by believing the only way we can motivate them is to make everything fun. Children can, and many do, labour in the pursuit of noble causes. They can toil to reach a higher goal. They can suffer for the sake of self-betterment. And when they do, they transcend the fleeting experience of fun and reach the promised land of self-respect.

This addiction to fun, like all addictions, has made too many children slaves to their desires. To these children, something only has value if it feels good while they are doing it. Not only does fun determine worth, it also determines right and wrong.

As teachers, we face this thinking daily. Children asked to explain inappropriate behaviour, defend their actions by saying, "Because it was fun." When asked why they aren't doing what they are meant to be doing, these same children invariably reply, "Because, it's boring." And by saying the learning is boring the suggestion is that the teacher is likewise.

# WILSON



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If trapped by the idea that fun is paramount, any teacher unable to make all learning fun immediately feels the terror and anxiety of stand-up comics when failing jokes raise the ire of patrons and expose the comedian to the snide and cutting remarks of the experienced heckler.

Teaching time for many is akin to show time in front of demanding ticket holders who see it as their right to complain if the show doesn't rock their socks. A season of four terms under this sort of pressure would tempt even the most experienced performer to calm their nerves with a regular tippie before bedtime.

Our drive and commitment to maintaining the high FH levels of our children has generated the mistaken idea, on their part, that if they are not happy they must be sad and if they aren't having fun then obviously they're bored. This polarising of emotional responses leaves little chance for contentment and the wonderful array of states that span the emotional spectrum.

Again, teachers are all too familiar with students whose daily lives are a roller coaster ride of ups and downs. The constant struggle to get them on a stable and productive plateau is both frustrating and fatiguing.

We must try to get off the fun and happiness bandwagon and realise that our effectiveness as adults, parents and teachers is not measured by how well we make our children happy but how well we empower our children to make themselves happy.

Let me quote the Chinese philosopher, Lau Tzu

***"Seek not happiness too greedily and be not fearful of unhappiness."***

Our children, caught in a world that exploits the commercial advantage of having them constantly hunger for fun and happiness, are developing an insatiable appetite for anything that will raise their FH levels.

What can we do about it?

Well, let's first of all choose not to be unwitting partners in this unsustainable and destructive pursuit. And secondly, when our children complain that we are not supplying enough fun and happiness let's stay calm, remain confident, ask and expect them to soldier on, and comfort ourselves with the knowledge that along with the many opportunities for fun and happiness we do offer, we also invite them to participate in the effort and adversity that has and always will, shape character.



**Proud sponsors of our  
Fresh Fruit Fridays at BVSPS.**

**New patients welcome**

<https://www.goldencitymedicalclinic.com.au/>

# Book Sale!

**When:** Friday May 6

**Time:** 3pm

**Where:** Courtyard outside the library

**What:** Books will be for sale! Bring some money along when you pick up your child and find some wonderful pre-loved books to add to your home library.

**Why:** Money raised will be used to purchase new furniture for our library.

**THIS FRIDAY!!!**



# Lunch Order Menu

Lunch Order Day—Wednesdays

Please note:  
New Prices!

## SANDWICHES

Ham or chicken	\$3.50
Ham or chicken with salad	\$3.50

## ROLL

Hot chicken fillet roll	\$5.50
(with lettuce, cheese & mayo)	

## HOT FOOD

Pies	\$4.00
Sausage rolls	\$3.00
Dim Sims	\$3.00
Hot Dog	\$4.00
Sauce	\$0.30

## OTHER

Malteser Muffin	\$3.00
Strawberry Muffin	\$3.00
Chocolate Milk	\$3.00
Strawberry Milk	\$3.00
Apple Juice	\$3.00

### **Please note: Ordering Procedure**

Lunch orders should be written on a brown paper bag along with your child's name and class.

Correct money should be placed inside the bag.

Sibling orders need to be written on separate bags with money included separately please.

All orders need to be placed into the lunch crate in your child's classroom by 8:45am.

**No late orders will be accepted.**



# Y Kinders

*Inspired early education*

**Eaglehawk Preschool** 15 Bright St, Eaglehawk | 03 4311 1597

OPEN DAY: Friday May 27th, 1pm-3pm

**Havilah Road Preschool** 22-24 Havilah Rd, Long Gully | 03 4311 1501

OPEN DAY: Friday May 27th, 3pm-5pm

**North Bendigo Preschool** 55 Bannister St, Bendigo | 03 4329 0481

OPEN DAY: Monday May 23rd, 9am-11am

Every Child,  
Every Service,  
Every Day

Further information: [ykinders.org.au](http://ykinders.org.au)

Places are still available for 2022 in  
3 Year Old and 4 Year Old programs.

The Y Ballarat is independently reviewed by the  
Australian Childhood Foundation to ensure our  
services are safe for all children and young people.

