



BENDIGO PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Wednesday 15th July 2020

Welcome back to Term 3 :

Thanks to everyone for their work over the holiday break, especially to Roy and Sara for getting the garden and yard ready for our return. All classroom carpets and furniture were steam cleaned as part of our enhanced cleaning processes. There has also been some new edging placed around the top playgrounds and minor maintenance tasks completed. Unfortunately the banana palm (near the Library) had to be removed because of excess moisture issues. Sara Hill has been seeking feedback from our students as to how that area can be re-vamped. They have some great ideas for us to follow up. But most importantly, the oval was opened up Monday! As you would imagine, the excitement levels were extremely high and it was hard to believe the popularity of green grass, after waiting so long!

Keeping everyone safe:

We would like to remind everyone to be mindful of social distancing at collection times, to help keep everyone safe—*especially our adults*. The Grade F-2 teachers walk their students to the nature strip. *We ask that parents wait at an appropriate distance please and instruct your child to meet you at a designated point*. I.e. Please consider waiting across the crossing (on the other side of Webster St), further along Webster St (away from the school entrance) or even out the front of the school (near the memorial wall). This will allow your child to move quickly to your designated meeting point and minimise close physical contact during this time- to keep everyone safe! Options for collection at home time are:

Fast drop off and collection in Webster St :

The 5 'fast lane' parking bays out the front of the school and the 'waiting bay' in old Nettle St. *Please remember, if you are in the waiting bay and your child is not there, you will be expected to drive around the block. This needs to be a quick option and one for drivers to remain in their cars please!*

Nettle St:

Students in Grades 3– 6 will be asked to only cross Nettle St under the supervision of the Yard duty teacher. Due to safety concerns, this crossing point now needs to be level with the Multi Purpose Room! Please remind your child to look for the teacher in the fluoro vest and cross safely!

Using 'Sentral' and the parent portal:

This portal is now operating. All parents have received an access code for every child. Some people have started to use it to report absences. We encourage all families to use this system to report absences and we will be expanding the use of this system in the next six months— please watch this newsletter for updates.

Mandy Costello

Principal

Be Your Best!



Calendar of Events

Regular Events

Camp Australia OSHC

Every day, Monday to Friday

3- 6pm

Library Club

Cancelled until further notice.

YOGA

Cancelled until further notice.

Brekky Club

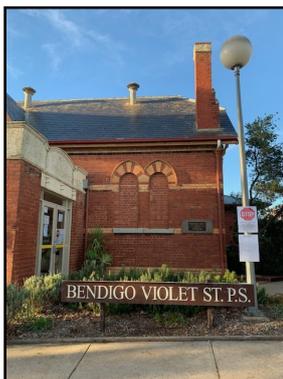
Cancelled until further notice.

FUN FIT FRIDAY

Cancelled until further notice.

ASSEMBLY

Cancelled until further notice.



Special Events

Tuesdays 14th July—4th August

Gymnastics Program at Jets Gym

Monday 27th July

Pupil Free Day

Monday 17th August

School Council Meeting

Wednesday 2nd September

Indigenous Literacy Day

Sunday 6th September

Father's Day



Pre-loved Uniforms!



Pre-loved uniforms are currently available by appointment only. **Please call the office to set up a time to come and view the items we have available.** If you have been having a clean out, we welcome any donations of pre-loved items. Please wash any items you have to donate and store in a plastic bag to drop off with a staff member when you are dropping your child to school. Thank you!



Attention lunch orders are not available on Wednesdays this term!



Unfortunately, we were only notified on Monday that our lunch order supplier **will not** be operating this term!

We apologise for the short notice.

We hope that there will be a resumed service in Term 4.

Our new school oval:

The grand opening was on Monday and football was certainly the popular choice! Many thanks to Roy, Sara, Jacques, Sam and Kim Cornford, for their persistence and 'winning the battle' against the cape weed and marshmallows, to get the grass looking so good!



New uniform supplier and stock arriving soon:

Noones Imagewear. They are situated at 21 Queen St Bendigo and open 5 days a week. They have secured new supplies and are taking orders as needed. Please note—they are stocking **purple beanies** too for these chilly mornings!



Remote and flexible learning survey:

Our appreciation to all families who provided feedback by completing the survey at the end of last term. It will allow us to plan and improve processes in the future, should we need to offer remote and flexible learning options again.

PUPIL FREE DAY—MONDAY 27th JULY!

On Monday 27th July, all class teachers will be involved in professional development activities at school for the day, with a Maths specialist—Peter Sullivan. This has been re-scheduled from Term 2 and we were extremely lucky to secure Peter's expertise! **Students ARE NOT required at school on 27th July.** Outside School Hours Care (Camp Australia) will still operate—bookings on line are essential.



Maths

1/2M-B Room 6



As we head in to another term, here are some tips on promoting Maths at home from Allison Master, PhD, who is a research scientist at the Institute for Learning & Brain Sciences at the University of Washington.

- Maths is important and it's important to help young children develop their mathematical thinking. A child's maths knowledge at the start of school can be an indicator of later academic achievement.
- Maths is part of children's everyday lives. Taking advantage of each of these maths moments develops math learning. Each maths moment is like a charging station that helps children become ready for more maths learning.
- Maths is measuring, sorting, building, noticing patterns, making comparisons, and describing the environment, as well as counting and knowing the names of shapes. There are many ways to incorporate maths learning into everyday moments.
- Talking about maths is also important and every bit of maths talk helps. Research shows a small increase in maths talk, such as asking about how many objects there will be if we add one or take one away, brings big results.
- It's important to believe your child can get better at maths and develop mathematical skills. Growth mindset, the belief that we can keep learning and getting better at maths, is very important in supporting children to become mathematicians.
- When children focus on problem solving rather than on getting the right answer they learn more.
- Parents' mindsets about maths influence children. Children notice when adults feel anxious about maths or say things like "some people are just not good at math." Girls in particular pick up on attitudes held by female adults. Instead of saying "I'm not good at math," try saying, "Let me try to figure that out." Focus on problem solving. Your words and attitude matter!
- You can foster a positive attitude toward maths: Find ways to incorporate enjoyable maths activities and maths talk into regular activities like cooking, setting the table, and going for a neighbourhood walk. Find maths activities that YOU enjoy and feel confident doing.

Remember you can access Mathletics at home at www.mathletics.com.au and Mathseeds at <https://mathseeds.com>

Literacy

1/2M-B Room 6



As we've just begun back for another term, I thought a little information on why reading at home is so important. This comes from Pearson and the whole article, which has a plethora of great insights can be found here: https://www.pearson.com/content/dam/one-dot-com/one-dot-com/uk/documents/Learner/Primary/Primary%20parents/Pearson_EnjoyReading_03.pdf

Why is reading so important? Evidence suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures. In fact, there's evidence to suggest that reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background.

What difference could I make as a parent? The short answer is: a lot! Parents are by far the most important educators in a child's life and it's never too young for a child to start, even if you're only reading with your child for a few minutes a day. Before they're born, babies learn to recognise their parents' voices. Reading to your baby from the time they're born gives them the comfort of your voice and increases their exposure to language.

Building vocabulary and understanding: Learning to read is about listening and understanding as well as working out print. Through hearing stories, children are exposed to a rich and wide vocabulary. This helps them build their own vocabulary and improve their understanding when they listen, which is vital as they start to read. It's important for them to understand how stories work as well. Even if your child doesn't understand every word, they'll hear new sounds, words and phrases which they can then try out, copying what they have heard.

Remember you can access Reading Eggs at home at www.readingeggs.com



Keeping children informed and connected at this challenging time.

By Wilson McCaskill

In these complex and challenging times, we would be wise to recognise that one way children soothe themselves is to appear disinterested in the cause of their anxiety and stress. Unfortunately this feigned disinterest does not stop their minds going into overload trying to make sense of the sudden changes to home, school and the world order. Children are defined by their times more than any other influencing factor and right now the times are unsettling and whether they show it or not our children will be inwardly unsettled.

So, be wise and talk about what is going on. Talk calmly but don't be dismissive of the big events happening around us. By being dismissive (*Don't worry about it, everything's fine*) you will only convince your children that you are disconnected from reality and that is certainly not comforting.

They need to know how you are feeling and what you are doing to stay calm and steady. They need to know what worries you the most and how you are dealing with those worries. They need to know you are optimistic and where that optimism comes from. They need to know there is difference between circumstances changing and people changing. And they need to know that all the people who are important to them will still be there and be the same people they always were before things changed so quickly.

They will be home with you for quite some time and as things (*not the people that are important to them*) change, you need to find ways to help them feel they are of real value and worth in difficult times.

They will be sensing that the value and worth of many things is changing and this can be unnerving. So, find ways for them to help out in the home - ways for them to make a meaningful contribution because contributing leads to belonging and belonging gives you security and emotional stability.

Don't underestimate how firm you may have to be to get them to contribute, but think of it as lifesaving medicine and insist they help to wash the car, sweep the driveway, fold the linen, paint the wall, cook a meal, clean the windows, talk to their Nana, plant some flowers and so many other things they can do even if they don't do them particularly well. And when they do, thank them for contributing to the family and tell them you want them to keep it up because it helps and brings you all together.

Remember they are children and they may have little idea of what they need right now because one thing is sure; it is often very difficult to put your finger on the cause of your worry and that makes pretending you're not worried a pretty good strategy if you're a kid.

Be wise and hang onto the belief that contributing is the key to belonging and all the positive benefits that come with it. Be a family and talk openly but age appropriately about what is going on and remember to walk around with the hint of a smile on your face. Kids get it...no matter how tough, strange or difficult things are, if the big people are smiling then everything is likely going to be alright.