

NEWSLETTER

PO Box 66 NORTH BENDIGO 3550

SCHOOL : www.lightningreefps.vic.edu.au

Phone: 5443 2501

ELC : www.bendigoregionalymca.org.au

Learners today Leaders tomorrow



Please return swimming permission forms ASAP.

If you are yet to pay school fees please come and see Kristie or Sue in the office.

SW-PBS (School Wide Positive Behaviour Support)

Welcome back and a very Happy New Year to you. I am really excited to be back at school and I am feeling very energetic. It appears that our students are full of energy too! It was such fun greeting everyone on Tuesday morning and seeing the smiles on both our students and parent/carers faces, as you all entered the school: it made my day.

The school year has started off with such a positive vibe. Congratulations to all students and staff for your contribution to making our school the best it can be!

We welcome our new Prep students;

Prep students start on Monday 6 February.

With Prep students attending school on a part-time basis over the first few weeks of Term One, I am sure it will take a little time for them to adjust to five full days in March. We hope they all have a great time as they settle into school.



We also welcome Daniel F and Raine Q to our school.

Newsletter to be emailed

Would you prefer your newsletter to be emailed each fortnight? If so contact the office staff as soon as you can.

School Photos

The school photos will be taken on Thursday 11th May.

**Term Dates
2016**

**End Term 1
March 31st**



BE YOUR BEST



BE RESPECTFUL



BE CO-OPERATIVE



BE RESPONSIBLE



Swimming

Grade 4/5 swimming lessons start on Tuesday the 7th of February. Please ensure all permission forms are back by this date.

Hats

As we are a sun smart school hats are required to be worn from September the 1st.

Netball

Anyone who is in grades 3-6 and wishes to play Saturday netball needs to see Mrs. Perry on Monday.

Sausage Sizzle

We will be holding a Sausage Sizzle on February 10th at lunchtime. Order forms will go home shortly.

School Council - WANTED Parent Representatives

We are in need of four parent representatives on our wonderful School Council team. Come and be a part of your child's education and help to create an even better school for everyone in the community. Talk with current members or previous members to understand what a parent does do on School Council and how you can make a difference to our school.

Please contact me as soon as possible to ensure you get the chance to participate.

This term provides many opportunities for families to be involved in the school; so come along and join in the celebrations. We would love to see you here!

Pokemon Cards

It appears the re-introduction of these cards from home is causing angst throughout the school between students. It would be best to leave these cards at home to prevent them being lost at school as staff are unable to action any follow-up. Please talk with your child and let them know trading of these cards cannot take place at school nor will gifting be acceptable. The DET policy states that you bring personal items to school at your own risk.



Book Packs

Congratulations to all our families who have received their book packs by paying in full or registering for Centrepay. These students are now in the weekly draw to win a mystery prize.

Ways to pay - Centrepay, Cash, EFTPOS, payment plans...please see Kristie and Sue to arrange payment.

Enjoy the weekend!

Julie Hommelhoff

Principal

A Word from Jo Ryan

Congratulations to our very own Mrs Pohlner who has been recognised in her local community for her outstanding volunteer work over many years- including continuing in our Breakfast Club with Judy Hoffrichter, a fellow retired ESS/Parent/Grandparent once a week. We are all very proud!

Bendigo Advertiser

Thursday February 2, 2017

Long-time volunteer Cheryle Pohlner named Kangaroo Flat citizen of the year

KIERAN ILES
26 Jan 2017, noon

From young children to the elderly, Cheryle Pohlner can always be counted on to lend a hand.



THERE was more than a touch of irony when Cheryle Pohlner stepped up to accept the Kangaroo Flat citizen of the year award on Thursday.

The mother of six and grandmother of 10 had to be summoned away from her now regular Australia Day breakfast duties at Dower Park to accept her award.

Mrs Pohlner, who has dedicated her life to helping others, both in her working life and leisure time, has been a long-time volunteer at Kangaroo Flat's Australia Day celebration and annual Christmas carols.

But that is just the tip of the iceberg as far as her community work goes.

After working two jobs for most of her life, Mrs Pohlner retired last year from her long-held position as a teacher's aide at Light-

Lightning Reef Primary School.

She remains as the co-ordinator of the school's breakfast program.

Mrs Pohlner is the current activities coordinator at Estia Health in Long Gully, volunteers for various fundraisers at Campbells Creek Primary School and on the March long-weekend can be found helping in the kitchen at the Tom Flood Sports Centre during the Bendigo International Madison.

Mrs Pohlner, who moved to Kangaroo Flat about 15 years ago with her husband Brian, also knows the value of a sense of humour and bringing cheer to others.

She is often seen dressing up in various costumes, some as Australia Day breakfast MC Wally Smillie, from radio station KLFM, pointed out had "terrible black and white Collingwood stripes on them", in a bid to bring joy and laughter to others.

Despite her stellar record of community involvement and volunteerism, Mrs Pohlner said she had "no idea" why the awards committee had singled her out.

"I mean I just enjoy what I do," he said.

"(Kangaroo Flat) means a lot to me, I love helping out in the community.

"I like seeing people come together and have a good time."

If Mrs Pohlner appeared slightly uncomfortable with the spotlight that came with being the citizen of the year, spare a thought for her sister Dot Snell.

She was charged with keeping the honour a secret and ensuring her sister was at Dower Park - not that her attendance was ever in doubt.

"The hardest thing I have ever have to do was to keep it a secret and make sure she was here today," Ms Snell said.

While the Australia Day honour came as a shock to Mrs Pohlner, it was less so to those who know her, including Lions Club president Bec Hartland.

"She is one volunteer our club and others have always been able to count on and she really brings with her a good sense of humour," she said.

"She embodies community spirit. She really wants to help others and be there for anyone who needs it.

"She really loves to give to others and has a real heart of gold. She's amazing."

Happy birthday wishes to the following students who celebrated their birthdays in January:

Valin B, Hser K'Pru S, Duncan M, Trei S, Hayley H, Isobel V, Suzi L, Sean R, Zoe O'B, Bryce C-H, Raven W, Damon B-W, Bayden S, Sihanna C, Mason Mc, Ruby S, Jataya-Jade F, Kayne R, Kody Mc, Skye B, Jaxon H

And to this week's birthdays:

Bree H, Dee Lar P, Jaiden W

Grade 6 NEWS

The Grade 6 students are very excited to be back at school and are looking forward to the challenging and rewarding year ahead.

Uniform Reminder:
Please remember to pay for the Year 6 uniform at the Front Office before **Friday 10th February.**



Keep a look out for information about...

- The Energy Breakthrough Team.
- Camp
- Swimming Program
- Passions and Pathways
- Graduation

Some kind words of advice for our new Preps

Always be humble, never negative and always be happy - Paw Paw

Hi, my name is Georgia and I am in Grade 6. I hope you have fun at school. You have a cool teacher. From Georgia.

Never give up, try your best and be good. - Skye

Be responsible and make lots of friends. - Joel

Don't be naughty and don't be afraid of anything. Be brave. - Eh Tha Yu

Don't be naughty or afraid of the older students. - Rylee

Never give up - Skyla

Be awesome.
- Sebastian

Work hard and try your best at everything
- Unknown.

Grade 6 and Miss Mel would like to welcome our new preps to
Lightning Reef Primary School.

White Hills Junior Football Club Registration Night for season 2017

We welcome all current and new players for 2017 season. Registration night will be held at the White Hills Football Ground (Scott Street) on **Wednesday, 22nd February 2017, 4.00pm - 6.00pm.** We will be registering Teams in all junior grades. For further information visit our website or call Nigel Lewis on 0409022275. You can also register your interest to play by email to the club whjfclub@gmail.com

CONTACT US: 5443 2501

Principal:
Julie Hommelhoff

Assistant Principal:
Jo Ryan

Business Manager:
Kristie Coates

Leading Teachers:
Kim Kirkpatrick
Paul Keller

Specialist Coordinator:
Jarrod Epps

Prep Coordinator:
Tania Peirce-Whyte

1/2 Coordinator
Peter Millar

3/4 Coordinator
Mel Bingham

5/6 Coordinator
Katrina Johnstone

Speech Therapist:
Vikki Stone

Social Worker:
Gai Maddams

School Council President
Sonia Valli

Parents and Friends President:
Toni Hicks

Take Home Books

Could you please help us to support your child's reading development by finding a quiet place and time for them to read each night after school, and then signing the reading journal before returning it to school. Children should bring their book and reading journal to school every day.

Welcome to 2017 Barbecue.

Next Friday, February 10th, 2017, we will be having a sausage sizzle to celebrate our return to school. We hope as many families as possible will join us at school on this day. Lunch will be at 1.40pm. Thanks to the parents who have offered to come and help make sure the barbecue runs smoothly. Sausages will be \$2.00 each. Please fill in the form and return it to school, no later than 9.00am on Thursday February 9th, 2017. Please include all members of the family on the one order form. This includes parents and pre schoolers. Thanks

Calendar of events:

- Monday February 6 - Assembly
 - Tuesday February 7 - Swimming Grade 4/5
 - Monday March 6 - Biocats Grade 4/5
 - Tuesday March 21 - Harmony Day
 - Friday March 31 - Cross Country
- Last day of term 1 Friday March 31st**

BE YOUR BEST	BE RESPECTFUL	BE CO-OPERATIVE	BE RESPONSIBLE
			

School Council Elections 2017

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

There are three possible categories of membership:

A mandated elected Parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not employed at the school.

A mandated elected DEECD employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

An optional Community member category. Its members are appointed by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

The term of office for all members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider

standing for election as a member of the school council

encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council where their child is enrolled

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do

Consider standing for election to council this year

Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact the school office for further information.