



The Poppet Head

Weekly newsletter of Quarry Hill Primary School
Thursday, August 20th, 2026
Newsletter No. 13

Our Vision:

QHPS students are empowered to be engaged learners. Our community fosters a culture of respect and belonging.

2026 TERM DATES

Term 3: 13th July - 18th September
Term 4: 5th October - 18th December

Principal: Anne Rochford

School Council President: Andrew Ellis

PFA President: Michelle Kennedy

PFA Vice President: Rhayven Milliner

IMPORTANT DATES

AUGUST		
Friday 28 th	All day	Book Week Dress Up/Parade (9:05am) Multi-Age Activities (12pm-2pm) P-2 open classroom (3:00pm-3:30pm)
SEPTEMBER		
Tuesday 1 st	9:00am-11:00am	Father's Day/Special Persons' Stall
Wednesday 2 nd	9:00am	Book Club Issue #6 orders due to the office
Thursday 3 rd	Rehearsals during the day Doors open at 6pm Performance at 7pm	Whole School Production
Friday 4 th	All day	Curriculum Day- no students at school
Wednesday 9 th	All day	-Division Basketball (selected students- further details on Compass event) -Grade 3/4 White Hills Garden of the Future Excursion (further details on Compass event)
Monday 14 th	All day	Division Athletics (selected students- further details on Compass event)
Friday 18 th	All day	Last day of Term 3- early finish- 2:30pm Footy colours day
OCTOBER		
Monday 5 th	All day	First day of Term 4
Tuesday 6 th	Various times	P-4 Gymnastics Program
Tuesday 13 th	Various times	P-4 Gymnastics Program
Friday 16 th	2:00pm	Colour Fun Run
Tuesday 20 th	Various times	P-4 Gymnastics Program
Wednesday 21 st	All day	Responsible Pet Ownership Program (Grade 3-6 students)
Tuesday 27 th	Various times	P-4 Gymnastics Program
Wednesday 28 th	All day	Bendigo Cup Public Holiday

Reminders:

BOOK WEEK DRESS UP DAY/PARADE (Friday August 28th)

- Parade at 9:05am on the basketball court
- Multi-Age Activities (12pm-2pm) and P-2 Open classroom (3:00pm-3:30pm)

FATHER'S DAY/SPECIAL PERSONS' STALL DONATIONS (Tuesday September 1st)

- Donations to be dropped off to the office. All gifts will be sold for \$2.

WHOLE SCHOOL PRODUCTION (Thursday September 3rd)

- Approve event on Compass for your child/ren to attend rehearsal during the day.
- TICKETS ALMOST SOLD OUT- If you have not got yours yet, please go to the link below to secure your tickets.

<https://boxoffice.gotix.com.au/tiny/QuarryHill>

P-4 GYMNASTICS PROGRAM (Term 4)

- Occurs over the first 4 Tuesdays in Term 4, with sessions running for 60 minutes duration each Tuesday.
- Please view details and approve/pay on the Compass event.

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Email: quarry.hill.ps@education.vic.gov.au
Website: www.quarryhillps.vic.edu.au
Phone: 03 5443 3537

~OUR VALUES~

Kind

I understand that everyone is different.
I co-operate.
I respect myself, others, and the environment.
I am community minded.
I belong.

Curious

I am a learner.
I seek knowledge.
I ask questions.
I explore and wonder.
I create.

Brave

I am honest.
I am independent.
I have high expectations.
I am resilient.
I am open to feedback.



P-2 OPEN CLASSROOM- FRIDAY 28TH AUGUST

We would love to invite you or a special person, to join our Prep, Grade 1, and Grade 2 students as we celebrate Book Week together!

On Friday 28th August from 3:00–3:30pm, families are invited to bring along their favourite picture story book and spend some time reading and sharing stories with the children.

It will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our love of books, connect with our school community and enjoy the magic of reading together. We hope to see lots of our special visitors there!

SUNSMART- DUST OFF THE HATS!

The UV is starting to rise and soon students will require hats on heads whilst outside. Please ensure your child's hat is clearly marked with their name and is in their bag ready. Replacement hats are available from the office for \$12.

FIGHT CANCER FOUNDATION- FOOTY COLOURS DAY- FRIDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER

Quarry Hill Primary School is supporting the Fight Cancer Foundation (FCD)- Footy Colours Day on the last day of Term 3, Friday 18th September. Wear your footy colours on the day and join in a short school parade at 9:05am on the junior astro area.

The FCD supports children fighting cancer to be able to stay close to treatment with their families.

All donations to be made online at our school link:

<https://www.footycoloursday.com.au/fundraisers/quarryhillps2026/footy-colours-day-2026-schools>



COLOUR FUN RUN- FRIDAY 16TH OCTOBER

We're hosting our Colour Fun Run on Friday October 16th.

Our students will run, walk, and slip their way through clouds of vibrant, safe colour powder, celebrating community spirit and raising funds.

Information about how to set up your fundraising page for your child/ren has been sent home with students.

Funds raised will be put towards building a brand new Senior Playground.

CRICKET TEAM

Hi everyone!

We're having a quick catch-up on Wednesday, 26th August at 4pm, in the QHPS library to discuss all things cricket! 🏏

If cricket is something you're keen to learn more about, or your child is definitely interested in playing, we'd love to have you there.

President Tim Shanahan will be there to answer all your questions, including:

- What equipment and uniforms are needed
- Age groups and DOB requirements
- Training days
- Game days
- Any other questions you may have about getting involved

Please make yourself available if it's something you're keen to hear more about.

Thank you

Marnie Lake

100 Days Brighter!

Two weeks ago, we celebrated 100 days of Prep!

Our students came dressed 100 days brighter, ready for a day filled with laughter and celebration.

We are so incredibly proud of our students for being 100 days kinder, 100 days more curious and 100 days braver. What an amazing milestone to celebrate and what a wonderful journey they have already shared together!

Here's to the next 100 days of growing, learning and shining brightly!

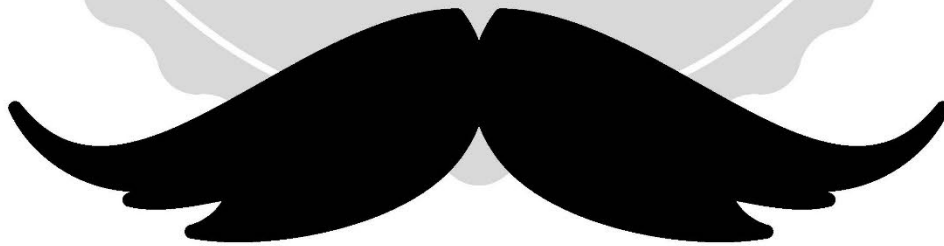


\$2.00

PER ITEM

FATHERS DAY STALL

QUARRY HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL
PFA



TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 1ST

DONATIONS NEEDED:

Chocolates, lollies, lolly & cookie jars, socks, mugs,
BBQ, gardening, keyrings, magnets, small puzzles &
games, sporting & camping accessories.

Please note: no secondhand items.

PARENTS & FRIENDS THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT



Gr 6 Crews news

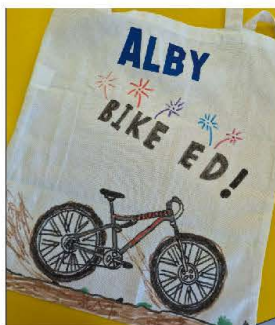


Kitchen Garden Crews have been busy harvesting, cooking, creating and learning as we finished Term 2 and began Term 3. Students have harvested parsley, rainbow chard, celery, swedes, turnips, carrots and the last of our capsicums, using our produce to make delicious vegetable barley soup, pumpkin soup and muffins.

Students have also designed their own reusable bags to carry their books and equipment to Crew sessions. Our Bike Ed students are continuing to build their riding skills, while our Garden Crews have planted a mini succulent garden near the sandpit.

We also enjoyed a fantastic worm incursion, where students learned all about worms and their important role in our gardens. We have now set up our very own worm farm! We have also just received a mushroom growing box and are looking forward to watching our mushrooms grow.

We would love your suggestions! If you have ideas for plants, herbs or vegetables we could grow that would provide opportunities to explore culturally diverse cooking and recipes in our kitchen sessions, please get in touch.





What are random chat apps and what are the risks?

'Stranger danger' used to mean warning kids not to talk to unfamiliar people on the way home from school. Today, those strangers are just a click away. Strangers can appear on screen in real time through anonymous chat platforms that pair users randomly for video or text conversations. These platforms are designed for spontaneity and global connection, but for children and young people, they can quickly become gateways to inappropriate content, manipulation, and sexual exploitation. The risks are not hypothetical – they are happening now, and they are serious.

The safety issue: Hidden dangers of anonymous chat apps

Anonymous chat platforms let people connect with strangers instantly. Often, there are limited registration and age check requirements. Sometimes, this is by design. For children, what sounds like off-the-cuff fun is also a perfect storm for potential contact and abuse by adult predators. Here's why:

If there is no age checking: Children can slip into adult spaces with ease.

Random pairing: Users are matched with strangers, often without filters.

Live video: Inappropriate content can appear in seconds, without warning.

Anonymity: Predators can hide their identity and intentions.

Recording risks: Conversations can be saved and misused without consent.

Increased access: Kids now carry video-enabled devices everywhere.

Pandemic habits: Lockdowns pushed more young people online, often unsupervised.

Tech evolution: AI and real-time video make interactions faster and more difficult to moderate.

What parents and carers can do

You don't need to be a tech expert to protect your kids. Here's what works:

Use parental controls

- Set up device restrictions with tools such as Apple Screen Time or Google Family Link.
- Block high-risk sites for children such as OmeTV and Chatroulette (also known as 'Chatruletka'). Even these apps say they are not for under 18s.
- Use parental control apps like Bark or Qustodio to help keep an eye on online activity.

Talk early and often

- Ask open-ended questions such as 'Have you ever chatted with someone you haven't met face-to-face?'
- Tell kids they should never meet someone in person if they have only spoken online – especially not in a private place.
- Avoid shame – make it safe for kids to share uncomfortable experiences.
- Role-play scenarios with your children to build confidence and awareness.

Teach digital boundaries

- Reinforce rules about sharing personal info.
- Encourage caution and privacy when using device cameras.
- Show how to block and report users.

Build critical thinking

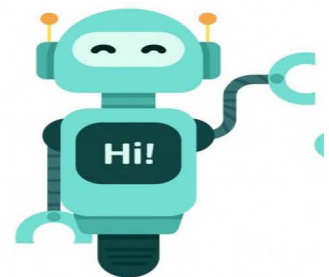
- Help kids spot manipulation tactics.
- Discuss why some people hide their identity online.
- Encourage scepticism and self-protection.

Protecting childhood starts here

Anonymous chat platforms may seem like harmless digital playgrounds. However, for children and young people, they can become like online quicksand – pulling them into unsafe interactions before anyone realises.

The risks are real and the consequences are serious.

True online safety is much more than blocking harmful content. It means building trust, teaching resilience, and designing digital environments that put children's wellbeing first.



For more information visit
www.esafety.gov.au/

Teaching and Learning Spotlight

Encouraging Positive Learning Behaviours



Mr Donohue
Learning Specialist and Classroom Teacher

Quarry Hill Primary School is committed to creating classrooms where every student can learn successfully. Our Teaching and Learning Spotlight helps families understand the evidence based practices we use to support students to be Kind, Curious and Brave learners.

At Quarry Hill Primary School, we recognise and encourage positive learning behaviours to support student confidence, engagement and success.

Through our Creating Our Learning Environment (COLE) and Social Emotional Learning (SEL) programs, along with everyday classroom practice, students learn how positive behaviours help them and others learn successfully.

Why This Matters

Students are more likely to repeat behaviours that are recognised and encouraged. When positive learning behaviours are acknowledged, students build confidence and motivation. This helps create classrooms where students feel supported to participate, try their best and stay engaged.

What this looks like at Quarry Hill Primary School

Teachers encourage positive learning behaviours by:

- Acknowledging students who are ready to learn
- Recognising when students support others
- Celebrating improvement, effort and progress
- Sending green notifications through Compass to share positive behaviours and learning with families

Teachers reinforce these behaviours throughout the year as part of our Responsive Teaching approach. This helps strengthen positive learning habits and maximise student engagement.

How families can support learning at home

You can support your child by:

- Praising effort and persistence
- Encouraging them to keep trying when learning feels challenging
- Talking about what they are learning
- Celebrating progress and improvement

When school and home work together, students feel more confident, stay more engaged and achieve greater success.

FREE ONE HOUR SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES TERM THREE 2026

The Local is offering one-hour sessions on topics for building skills in relationships and wellbeing during the September school holidays. And they are Free and open to children 4-11.

The sessions are fun, educational and a safe space to explore the topics listed below. You will gain skills to apply at home to help build confidence with these topics.

Staff from the Child Health and Wellbeing local will run the sessions and answer questions throughout.

Groups are small: five children with one parent per child attending.



TOPICS and DATES

21st Sept, Mon Bendigo, **Magnificent Me**, at the Local 10.30am **4-6 year olds**; learn to celebrate your unique qualities and build your self-esteem.

30th Sept Wed Bendigo, **Managing Feelings**, at the Local 10.30am **4-6 year olds**; 1.30pm **7-11 year olds**. Learning about what happens in your body when you have big feelings, what you can do to help yourself cope.

2nd Oct Fri Bendigo, **Building Social Skills** 10.30am **4-6 year olds**, 1.30pm **7-11 year olds**. Learn about friendships, what is helpful and when boundaries might be needed.

Bookings are essential:

Please call Annette or admin on 1800 433 977 or email us which sessions you want to attend, your child's name and age, your name and contact details including telephone number and email address, icfhlocals@bchs.com.au.

We will be in touch prior to the session to confirm details including how to access the venue.



You are invited to the 2026

GALS Public Launch Celebration

Circular Lecture Theatre
La Trobe University Bendigo. Edwards Rd, Flora Hill
Thursday 17th September 2026
6.00pm - 7.30pm

Join us in celebrating the hard work and achievements of the inaugural GALS Bendigo cohort as they present innovative STEM solutions to local challenges.

To register for this event either in-person or online, please scan the QR code or use the following link:

www.eventbrite.com.au/e/1993579622316





KELLY SPORTS

BENDIGO JUNIOR SUMMER FUTSAL

2026/2027 COMPETITION

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Prepare to ignite your passion for Futsal in the Bendigo Summer Futsal Competition. Mercy Junortoun Sporting Precinct will come alive with fast-paced, action-packed matches, showcasing the talents of our athletes on the court!

Come along, soak up the atmosphere, and cheer on your champions from the stands!

WEEKLY MATCHES

REGISTER INDIVIDUALLY

REGISTER AS A TEAM

SUMMER SEASON DETAILS

DAY: Wednesday/Thursday (Juniors) **TIME:** 4pm - onwards
PLAYER REGISTRATION: \$315

DATES: October 7th - Dec 15th & Feb 3rd - Mar 12th (Wednesday)
October 8th - Dec 16th & Feb 4th - Mar 11th (Thursdays)

AGE GROUPS: 6/8/10/12/14/16

VENUES: 1 St Vincents Rd, Junortoun (Mercy Junortoun Sporting Precinct)

INDIVIDUALS REGISTER BY: 4TH SEPTEMBER
TEAMS REGISTER BY: 11TH SEPTEMBER

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