



The Poppet Head

Weekly newsletter of Quarry Hill Primary School
Thursday, September 4th, 2025
Newsletter No. 14

Our Vision:

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

2025 TERM DATES

Term 1: 29th January - 4th April
Term 2: 22nd April - 4th July
Term 3: 21st July - 19th September
Term 4: 6th October - 19th December

Principal: Anne Rochford

School Council President: Andrew Ellis

PFA President: Michelle Kennedy

PFA Vice President: Rhayven Milliner

~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.

IMPORTANT DATES

SEPTEMBER		
Friday 5 th	All day	Division Basketball- selected students (Excursion) Grade 3/4 Art Workshop (Incursion) Father's Day Stall
Monday 8 th -Wednesday 10 th	All day	Grade 6 Urban Camp Smile Squad on site (examinations)
Friday 12 th	All day	Grade 3/4 Art Workshop (Incursion)
Monday 15 th	All day	Division Athletics- selected students (Excursion)
Tuesday 16 th -Friday 19 th	All day	Smile Squad on site (treatments)
Friday 19 th	9:00am-2:30pm	Last day of Term 3- Early finish Footy Colours Day (Donations to be made online)
OCTOBER		
Monday 6 th	All day	First day of Term 4
Tuesday 21 st	2:30pm	Writers Workshop- selected students (Incursion)
Wednesday 22 nd	All day	Grade 2 Kyabram Fauna Park (Excursion)
Wednesday 29 th	All day	Bendigo Cup Public Holiday
NOVEMBER		
Wednesday 12 th	5:00pm-7:00pm	Spring Picnic in the Bushland
Thursday 13 th	All day	Curriculum Day (no students at school)
Friday 14 th	All day	Professional Practice Day (no students at school)

Reminders:

- Father's Day Stall tomorrow
 - All gifts will be sold for \$2.
- 'No hat, no play'
 - Replacements hats available at the office for \$12.
- Grade 6 Urban Camp Monday
 - Students to arrive at school at 7:15am for 7:30am departure.
- Smile Squad
 - Smile Squad will be coming next week. Consent is needed for your child to access the free service: <https://bit.ly/smilesquadvic>
- FoodShare Food Drive
 - Donations to be dropped off to the black tub in the office.
- Friday 19th of September- Last day of Term 3 and Footy Colours Day
 - 2:30pm finish for last day of term.
 - Instead of bringing a gold coin on the day, donations to be made online by following this link: <https://www.footycoloursday.com.au/s/2276/5456/e>



ENROLMENTS & CLASS PLACEMENTS 2026

If your child will not be attending Quarry Hill Primary School in 2026, we would appreciate you letting us know as soon as possible. If there are any considerations for placements for student classes in 2026, please discuss with Anne Rochford or your child's teacher and then send in writing by **Friday Nov 14th**, to

Anne.Rochford@education.vic.gov.au

Please note that it is not possible for parents to request specific teachers.

USE OF TOILETS

If you need to use the toilet while on the school grounds, please come to the office and you will be given access to staff toilets. We understand sometimes there is an urgency, but it is not appropriate for adults to be using student toilets. We thank you for your understanding and assistance.

GRADE 3/4 ART GALLERY EXCURSION

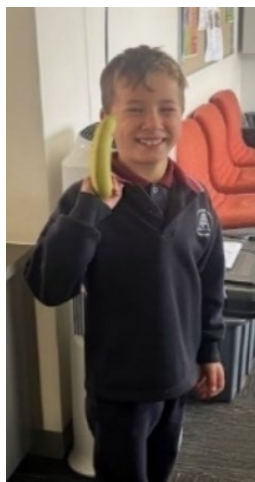
Last Thursday, our Grades 3/4 students embarked on an inspiring excursion to the Bendigo Art Gallery. During their visit, they immersed themselves in the world of sculpture by designing their own "happy place" creations, each one a unique reflection of joy and imagination.

The students also explored a diverse range of artworks, with a special focus on First Nations art. They engaged thoughtfully with the stories and cultural significance behind these pieces, deepening their appreciation for Indigenous perspectives and artistic traditions.



FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY

At Quarry Hill Primary School we are very lucky to have fresh fruit delivered every week for the students to enjoy. The students thoroughly enjoy the healthy snack. Thank you very much to McKern Steel for the initiative.



STUDENT RECOUNT

The Writer's Festival is a great opportunity to get to know different authors and their diverse perspectives. It's a great privilege to go, and we all enjoyed it.

First, we met Matt Stanton. He wrote and illustrated the books "Funny Kid," "Fluff," and even ones from our childhood like "This is a ball." He was great to get to know, and we all loved his humour. He talked about where he got his ideas from, like his childhood and T.V shows, and even old comics. He told us he first made a book when he was five, it was related to a movie called Sandlot, and his teacher loved it, she sent it to the principal, and they made him read it in front of the whole school, people laughed and giggled, that's when he realised, he wanted to make people laugh. He even gave us some sneak peeks at his new books that he is releasing. We all loved learning about his perspective on writing stories and loved meeting him.

Next, we met Steven Herrick. He performs poetry as well as writing. He is a poet, which means he writes poetry, but not normal poetry; he does verse novels. A verse novel has fewer words than a normal book and is a quick, fast read that sometimes rhymes. We all loved it when he interacted with the audience. He talked about his books and poems and his life at home. We also really loved his enthusiasm, and he was a very friendly person. We also loved meeting him, and it makes us very excited for the next people.

After we ate lunch, we went to the Capital and we met Robbie Coburn, Pip Harry, and for a second time, Steven Herrick. Learning about their different ways of writing was really interesting. They had lots in common and mostly talked about their inspirations and the books they wrote. Pip Harry and Robbie Coburn were also verse novelists, but Robbie had only written 1 book because he was a beginner whose inspiration was the two he was sitting next to. They talked about how they became writers and what their inspiration was. In the end, everyone thought it was fun to know how to make books.

For our final session with Pip Harry, we really got to know her a bit more and who she was as a person. She talked about her homelife, childhood, and teen years. She talked about what got her into poetry and her inspirations along the way. For her newest book, "Drift," she talked about how a swarm of bees came into her house and had to sadly exterminate them, which broke her heart and inspired her book on that. Despite having to leave early for the bus, we really got a lot out of that session and enjoyed the Writers' Festival.

By Chloe T and Tilly B

WRITERS WORKSHOP INCURSION





STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS



KIND		
Mason B	Room 5	For always showing kindness to his friends and classmates.
Meadow B	Room 2	For always showing kindness and respect to everyone in our class.
CURIOUS		
Milla B	Room 1	For working on your tricky words and always setting a high standard.
Charlotte D	Room 5	For sharing her wonderings and thoughts during class discussions.
Lenny D	Room 6	For sharing his thoughts and ideas with the class with confidence.
Lillian J	Room 9	For using tricky words, correct punctuation, and finger spaces when writing! Well done, Lillian!
Tala K	Room 13	For learning about obtuse and acute angles in Maths.
Caius L	Room 2	For exploring his wonderings by asking interesting questions.
Evie N	Room 8	For doing amazing work with your letters and sounds- WELL DONE!
BRAVE		
Louie H	Room 9	For working hard to ask for help when there is a problem and using that support successfully. Keep it up Louie!
Boston R	Room 7	For trying new things at school and making good progress.

**UV
AHEAD**

SunSmart

**Slap! on
your **hat**
and Slop! on
sunscreen,
when the UV
is 3 or above.**

**Even
on cool
and cloudy
days.**

In Victoria, UV is 3 and above
generally from mid-August
to the end of April.

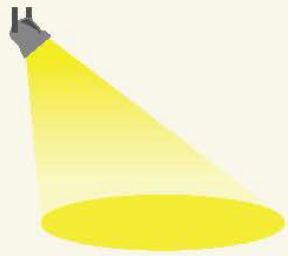
sunsmart.com.au

Use all five
forms of sun
protection

Slip Stop Slap Seek Slide

Cancer
Council
Victoria

VICTORIA
State Government



Spotlight on Teaching and Learning:

Maths Vocabulary

This week we continue our Spotlight on Teaching and Learning, where we will share the importance of Maths vocabulary.

Maths Vocabulary:

Did you know that one of the most powerful tools for improving your child's success in mathematics isn't just numbers, it's words?

Mathematics has its own language, and understanding this vocabulary is key to unlocking deeper thinking, clearer problem-solving, and greater confidence. When children grasp the meaning of terms like sum, difference, factor, or equivalent, they're not just memorising, they're building a foundation for reasoning and communication.

Why is Maths Vocabulary important?

- **Boosts Understanding:** Knowing the correct terms helps children make sense of instructions and word problems.
- **Improves Communication:** Children can explain their thinking more clearly, which is vital for collaborative learning and assessment.
- **Reduces Anxiety:** When students are familiar with maths vocabulary, maths becomes less intimidating and more approachable.
- **Supports All Learners:** Consistent exposure to maths terms bridges gaps in comprehension.

What do we do at QHPS?

At QHPS, maths vocabulary is embedded in every lesson to support students' understanding and communication. Teachers have identified key terms across topics and begin each maths lesson by explicitly teaching and reinforcing this vocabulary.



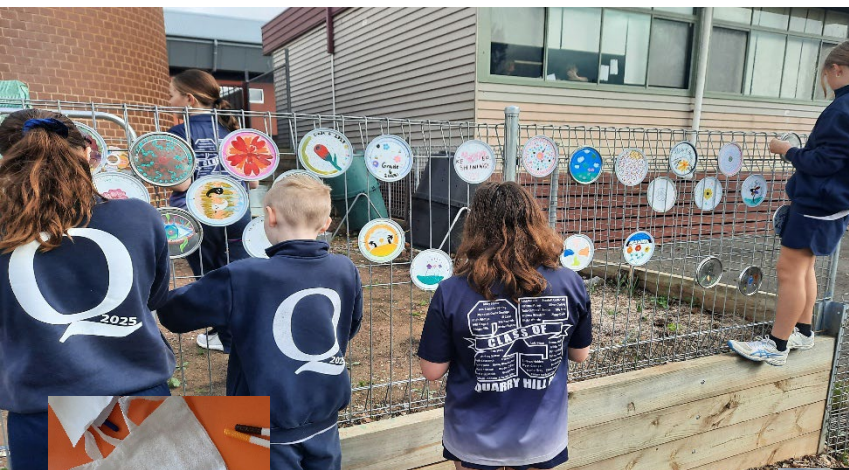


Gr 6 Garden Crew news



Growing Through Winter

This term, the Grade 6 Garden Crew have shown fantastic commitment to keeping our school garden thriving through the colder months. Despite the winter chill, students worked hard on garden maintenance tasks including weeding, raking, watering, and mulching. They also planted cabbage seedlings and carrot seeds in the raised garden beds and harvested fresh herbs and spinach to use in their cooking sessions. When the weather kept us indoors, the crew got creative! Students designed personalised reusable bags to carry their plates and cutlery to Kitchen Crew and worked together to create and install vibrant artwork for the garden fence. Their efforts have brought colour, care, and creativity to our school grounds. Spring has arrived and we are starting to get some flowers blooming!



Understanding Expiring Content in Social Media

In today's digital world, many young people use features like *Stories*, *Snap*s, and *temporary messages* on platforms such as Instagram, Snapchat, and Facebook. These types of content, known as **expiring content**, disappear after a short time, often within 24 hours.

Expiring content is popular because it's fun, interactive, and allows users to share moments without leaving a permanent record. Young people use it to message friends, share funny clips, and express themselves creatively with filters and effects.

However, it's important to be aware of the risks. Some users may feel more comfortable sharing private or risky content, believing it will vanish. But screenshots can still be taken, and content can be saved or shared without permission. Expiring content can also make it harder to report online bullying if the evidence disappears.

Top Tips for Staying Safe with Expiring Content:

- **Think before you post** – if you wouldn't want it shared publicly, don't send it.
- **Don't rely on content disappearing** – someone can still save or screenshot it.
- **Be kind and respectful** – never use expiring content to bully or embarrass others.
- **Speak up** – if something makes you uncomfortable, talk to a trusted adult.
- **Protect your privacy** – avoid sharing personal details or images you wouldn't want others to see.

Parents are encouraged to talk with children about safe and respectful online behaviour, even when content seems temporary. Understanding how these features work helps students enjoy social media safely and responsibly.

Free Webinar:

Understanding AI Companions: What parents and carers need to know

In this 45-minute webinar, we'll explore the basics of AI companions, their role in online interactions, and concerning behaviours to look out for. You'll walk away with practical tools to support your child's relationships in a digital world.

For more information or to register for free webinars visit

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents>

SCREEN TIME TIPS

TO HELP PARENTS MANAGE SCREEN TIME

WHERE

....Are devices allowed to be used in your home?

TIP: Be sure that devices are being used in a common area of your home.



WHAT

....Are your children using their devices for?

TIP: Ask what they want to use the device for? Entertainment or education?

WHEN

....Are devices allowed to be used in your home? **TIP:** Is now the right time? Has homework or chores been completed? Is now the agreed time?



DIRECT

....your child to other activities like colouring, reading, playing outside or helping with chores.

HOLIDAY HQ KIDS FEST

Quarry Hill Primary School

25 Peel Street, Bendigo, VIC, 3550

Monday 22 September to Friday 03 October 2025

Ph: 0429 534 694

BOOK FOR A CHANCE TO WIN THE ULTIMATE KIDS DAY OUT WORTH \$1,000*

6:45AM
TIL
6PM



Scan
to book
online!

OSHClub

MON 22 SEP



Launch into Fun! Service Day

Let the fun begin! Create your own festival wristband, then work together to build a Kids Fest Photo Frame prop, ready to capture the best holiday moments!

BASE FEE \$61.50
DAILY TOTAL \$61.50
FROM AS LOW AS* \$6.15

TUE 23 SEP



Festival of Colours Special Event: Colour Blast Relay Bring a change of clothes

Get ready for a colourful day of fun! Dash through our sporty colour relay with rainbow powder and take on exciting challenges!

BASE FEE \$61.50
EXPERIENCE FEE \$27.80
DAILY TOTAL \$89.30
FROM AS LOW AS* \$8.93

WED 24 SEP



Game On! Excursion: Bendigo Bowling Centre

Strike, roll, and game on! Team up at the bowling lanes, then level up with arcade challenges and non-stop action for everyone to enjoy!

BASE FEE \$61.50
EXPERIENCE FEE \$66.00
DAILY TOTAL \$127.50
FROM AS LOW AS* \$12.75

THU 25 SEP



Craft Carnival Make & Take: Gear Imagineer

Get ready for the Craft Carnival! Create market style goodies, then build a gear-powered stadium or castle with moving parts and characters to take home!

BASE FEE \$61.50
EXPERIENCE FEE \$17.50
DAILY TOTAL \$79.00
FROM AS LOW AS* \$7.90

Fri 26 Sep



**SERVICE
CLOSED**
Public Holiday

MON 29 SEP



Circus Spectacular Service Day

Escape to the circus and enjoy fun balloon games and challenges with your friends, then craft DIY juggling balls to practice and showcase your circus skills!

BASE FEE \$61.50
DAILY TOTAL \$61.50
FROM AS LOW AS* \$6.15

TUE 30 SEP

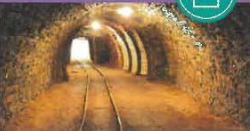


Food Fest Special Event: Culinary Quest Lunch Included!

Embark on a foodie adventure! Make your own tacos for lunch, decorate delicious cookies, and join in fun food-themed games that are sure to delight.

BASE FEE \$61.50
EXPERIENCE FEE \$34.20
DAILY TOTAL \$95.70
FROM AS LOW AS* \$9.57

WED 01 OCT



Adventure Quest Excursion: Central Deborah Gold Mine

Go underground at Central Deborah Gold Mine! Discover the world of gold mining, explore historic tunnels, and learn fascinating stories from deep beneath the earth.

BASE FEE \$61.50
EXPERIENCE FEE \$70.20
DAILY TOTAL \$131.70
FROM AS LOW AS* \$13.17

THU 02 OCT



Funfair Frenzy Make & Take: Illusion Money Box

Make and take home your very own Illusion box to amaze your friends and master fun tricks, then mix up some custom funfair popcorn bags to enjoy!

BASE FEE \$61.50
EXPERIENCE FEE \$18.80
DAILY TOTAL \$80.30
FROM AS LOW AS* \$8.03

FRI 03 OCT



Festival Finale Service Day

Celebrate the end of Kids Fest with a burst of fun! Play exciting Fun Fest carnival games and create your own colourful face painting designs!

BASE FEE \$61.50
DAILY TOTAL \$61.50
FROM AS LOW AS* \$6.15

Competition T&Cs apply. Please ensure all food complies with allergy guidelines. *Childcare subsidy (CCS) may apply. Please refer to Services Australia Childcare Subsidy for eligibility and entitlement. Please note that programs and surcharges may be subject to change. Visit our website for full terms and the most up-to-date information

Lael Stone is coming to Bendigo

Creating cooperation and connection

parenting workshop

Tuesday 28th October 2025

@ 7.00pm-8.30pm, \$10/ticket

The Capital Theatre, Bendigo

Brought to you by



Book your seat
boxoffice.gotix.com.au



Quarry Hill Primary School, 25 Peel Street, Bendigo 3550
Email: quarry.hill.ps@education.vic.gov.au
Website: www.quarryhillps.vic.edu.au
Phone: 5443 3537

JOIN THE 2025 CHINESE LANGUAGE & CULTURE SHOWCASE



The Bendigo Chinese Language Teachers Network is excited to announce two upcoming events celebrating our students' engagement with Chinese language and culture.

More info & consent forms: www.bendigomandarin2025.weebly.com

Online Challenges – Submissions due Fri 17 Oct

- Counting Numbers (Prep)
- Character-Making & Singing (Gr 1–2)
- Kite Design & Jianzi Kick (Gr 3–6)



More info & consent forms: www.bendigomandarin2025.weebly.com

Speech & Singing Competition – Sat 25 Oct @ BSSC

- Categories: Speech & Singing (individual/group)
- Winners may be nominated for the state competition!
- Winning performances will be shared on our event webpage.



For more info & consent forms, scan the QR code.

Celebrate creativity, language learning,
and culture – we can't wait to see our
students shine!



ULUMBARRA THEATRE BENDIGO | 18-21 SEPTEMBER 2025
BOOK NOW AT GOTIX.COM.AU

THE NEXT GENERATION SCHOOL of ROCK THE MUSICAL

BASED ON THE PARAMOUNT MOVIE WRITTEN BY MIKE WHITE
BOOK BY JULIAN FELLOWES LYRICS BY GLENN SLATER MUSIC BY ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

BY ARRANGEMENT WITH ORIGIN™ THEATRICAL
ON BEHALF OF THE REALLY USEFUL GROUP LIMITED



MEMBERSHIPS

KIDS GO FREE

ALL KIDS AGED 14 & UNDER #SPIRITTAKESFLIGHT

red energy arena MULTISPORT School Holiday Camp



REGISTER HERE

22 & 23 SEPTEMBER 2025
9:30AM - 3:00PM
5 - 15 years old

Try out basketball, netball, volleyball + more
with Bendigo's biggest athletes

