

The Poppet Head

Weekly newsletter of Quarry Hill Primary School
Thursday, September 17th, 2026
Newsletter No. 15

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

~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 18 th	9:00am-2:30pm	<u>Tomorrow- Last day of Term 3</u> Footy/sports colours day (any donations to be made online- link below) Assembly- 2:10pm Early finish- 2:30pm
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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
Wednesday 14 th	All day	Grade 2 Kyabram Fauna Park Excursion
Friday 16 th	2:00pm	Colour Fun Run
Tuesday 20 th	Various times	P-4 Gymnastics Program
Wednesday 21 st	Various times	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

NOVEMBER

Wednesday 4 th - Friday 6 th	All day	Grade 6 Urban Camp
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Reminders:

LOST PROPERTY:

- Any items that are left in lost property at end of day tomorrow (that aren't named), will be donated.
If your child has lost any items recently, please check lost property.
- Please also remember to name your child's clothing/hats/lunchboxes so they can be returned if found.

LAST DAY OF TERM- TOMORROW (Friday 18th September)

- Footy Colours Day. Students to wear footy/sports colours.
- Any donations to the Fight Cancer foundation to be made online at <https://www.footycoloursday.com.au/fundraisers/quarryhillps2026/footy-colours-day-2026-schools>
- Assembly- 2:10pm and early finish- 2:30pm

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.

COLOUR FUN RUN- 4 WEEKS TO GO!

Momentum is building for our **Monty the Monstar Fun Run!**

Has your child set up their online fundraising page yet? Now's the perfect time— It's super quick—and every dollar helps!

If you haven't jumped on yet, start fundraising now at myprofilepage.com.au.

- Raise \$10 to receive a prize!

There are heaps of other prizes up for grabs too, including:

- ★ Grand Master Badge
- ★ Incentive Prizes

Join the fun and help us reach our goal while making epic memories!



DIVISION ATHLETICS SUCCESS

Congratulations to Gracie, Leo, Lexie, Charlotte, Annika, Ryder, Quinn, Isla, Bra-Leigh, Arlo, Nixon, Alby, Elsie, Billy and Cian, who proudly represented Quarry Hill Primary School at the Division Athletics. All students demonstrated great effort, sportsmanship and our school values throughout the day. Special congratulations to Gracie, Lexie, Annika, Ryder and Nixon, who qualified for the next level of competition. We are extremely proud of all our athletes and wish those progressing the very best at the next level!

CONGRATULATIONS!

A huge congratulations to Anika E for her win in her gymnastics competition! We are proud of you!



GRADE 3/4 SUSTAINABILITY EXCURSION

Our Grade 3/4 students enjoyed a day out in the sun last Wednesday, at the White Hills Garden. Students and staff were involved in a range of sustainability-related experiences which helped extend their learning from their STEM classes at school.



DIVISION BASKETBALL

Thank you to Mrs McErvale, Taylah and Amelia for taking some 5/6 students to the Division Basketball.



MELBOURNE STARS VISIT

Thanks to Mr Graham for organising for some Melbourne Stars cricket players to come and visit our 5/6 students! Students got to practice their batting, bowling and catching skills, hear what it is like to be a professional athlete, and even scored some autographs.



COMMUNITY LIBRARY

There has been quite a buzz around the quad over the past 24 hours, with students trying to guess what the newly installed “small house” outside the music room might be. I’ve been asked if it’s a cupboard for Lulu’s belongings, a spot to store our new school cats (?!), a place for lost property, a new hat shop... and many more creative suggestions! I’ve also watched lots of visitors come and have a look with their friends during break times.

We have been very fortunate to have Nicole and Barry, volunteers with the Bendigo RSL Community Program, build and donate a wonderful new community library to QHPS, under the watchful eye of coordinator, Cass. After seeing how quickly books are snapped up by students in the quad when they are placed on the benches, we thought a community library would be an amazing addition to our school.

Over the school holidays, if you are clearing out your children’s bookshelves at home, we would love donations to help stock the book swap. Once it is initially full, we anticipate plenty of books being taken (and perhaps a few less being returned!), so it would be wonderful to have a good supply ready to go.

We hope this little library becomes a much-loved spot for our students to discover, share and enjoy books.



PRODUCTION RECOUNTS

QHPS Production

Last Thursday night our school [QHPS] performed a production at Ulumbarra Theatre.

First we met our teachers at the cafe and said goodbye to our parents. We went upstairs and played games.

Then we performed our songs. Mine was 'Go West / Wipe Out'. I couldn't see my parents because they told me they were in a different row!

Finally we performed our whole school song. It was My Island Home. Then we went home.

It was really fun!

By Wolfie Sa



Production Night

Last Thursday night, the 3rd of September, Quarry Hill Primary School Preps-6 did their Production Night at Ulumbarra Theatre.

First, QHPS students found our teachers. We said goodbye to our parents and Mrs Morcs marked the roll. I was feeling excited and nervous.

Next, QHPS went up to their rooms and set up their activities. There was Uno and word searches. We found a seat and put our bags where we sat.

Then the production started. The first song was 'Click Go the Shears,' which was about six songs before our song. Ours was 'Go West and Wipe Out'.

Finally, we did our final song, 'My Island Home'. When we finished the production we went home with our parents.

By Milla B

P.F.A News

MANGO FUNDRAISER

Our Mango Fundraiser will be running again this year!

Order forms will go out in the first week back in Term 4.

Trays will be \$30 each, with delivery likely to be late November/early December.

Our organics bins are changing!

From October 1, 2026, only food scraps, garden material, and liners provided by the City will go in the organics bin. All other items, like paper, cardboard and pet poo will need to go in your recycling or general waste bins, or be taken to a City Recycling Centre.

After 10 years of transporting organic material outside Greater Bendigo for composting, the City has partnered with a local processor to turn our food and garden organics into compost right here in Bendigo.

Our new processor has several measures in place to prevent contamination and maximise the quality of the compost produced. This means some of the things we used to put in the organics bin will no longer be accepted.

DON'T WASTE GOOD WASTE
Sort it out before you throw it out

CITY OF GREATER BENDIGO

Only these items can go in the organics bin	These items now go in your general waste bin	These items now go in your recycling bin
All food scraps including meat, bones, dairy and expired food Garden clippings and branches (less than 10cm diameter) Liners provided by the City (no other brands) Natural timber (unstained, untreated)	Soiled and greasy paper Shredded paper Paper towel and tissues Tea bags Hair and animal fur All pet waste, including dog poo Bioplastics and compostable packaging Wooden skewers, cutlery and toothpicks	All cardboard, including raw cardboard and pizza boxes Clean paper and newspaper

Scan the QR code for more information about the changes.



Using YouTube Safely with Children

YouTube can be a great source of entertainment and learning, but children can quickly encounter content that is unsuitable for their age. Taking a few minutes to set up parental controls can help create a safer viewing experience.

Setting Up YouTube Kids (Ages 12 and Under)

- **Download the App:** Install the YouTube Kids app on your child's device.
- **Select an Age Category:** Choose Preschool (4 and under), Younger (5–8) or Older (9–12).
- **Approve Content Manually:** For greater control, select "Approve content yourself". This allows you to handpick individual videos and channels and turns off the search function.
- **Turn Off Search:** You can disable search in the parent settings so children can only watch videos available on their pre-approved home screen.
- **Set Timers:** Use the built-in timer to set a limit on how long children can watch. When the time is up, the app will notify them that viewing time has finished.
- **Check What They Watch:** Regularly review your child's viewing history and talk with them about what they are watching.
- **Watch Together:** Whenever possible, watch alongside your child. This provides an opportunity to discuss online content and helps children develop safe and responsible digital habits.

Remember, parental controls are helpful, but they don't replace supervision and conversations. Encourage children to tell a trusted adult if they see something online that makes them feel uncomfortable, confused or worried.

Family tech agreements

A family tech agreement is a practical, flexible tool that helps you guide your child, build trust and support positive online experiences. It is a simple, collaborative way to set shared expectations for how your family uses devices and goes online. It's less about rules or signing a contract - it's about building a foundation to support open conversations and habits that help everyone in the family stay safer online. Creating a family tech agreement together also helps children, including teens, develop digital literacy - the practical, social and emotional skills they need to navigate the online world safely and confidently.

Every family is different, but these principles can help guide the process:

- **Involve everyone.** Creating the agreement together encourages buy-in and makes expectations feel fair and achievable.
- **Create a safe space to talk.** Choose a time and place when your child feels comfortable and show that you're genuinely interested and open to listening without judgement.
- **Tailor the conversation.** Talk with each child in a way that suits their age, maturity and needs. Ask questions to check what they understand, uncover misconceptions and find common ground.
- **Explore what your child enjoys online.** Watch or play together to understand their online interests and guide them towards content that suits their age and stage of development.
- **Keep it relevant.** Focus on what matters most for your family right now – you don't need to cover everything at once.
- **Model the behaviour you expect.** Children learn a lot from how adults use technology – this includes being open about online challenges you face and any changes you make to address them.
- **Revisit it regularly.** Review and update your agreement as your child gets older, gains more independence or starts using new apps and devices.
- **Be supportive, no matter what.** Acknowledge and respect their feelings and remind them you're always there for them.
- **Share it with other carers.** Where possible, talk about your agreement with grandparents, babysitters or other carers so your child gets consistent messages.

Most family tech agreements touch on areas like device use, online behaviour, privacy, balancing time online, and asking for help if something doesn't feel right. You can go find more information and templates for tech agreements online at [esafety.gov.au](https://www.esafety.gov.au).

Teaching and Learning Spotlight



Supporting Students Through Active Supervision



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, teachers actively move around the classroom to support students during their learning. This is known as Active Supervision.

Through our Creating Our Learning Environment (COLE) program and everyday classroom practice, students learn that their teacher is there to guide, support and encourage them to succeed.

Why This Matters

Students learn best when teachers are actively present and supporting them during learning. When teachers move around the classroom, they can provide immediate feedback, answer questions and help students stay focused and engaged.

What this looks like at Quarry Hill Primary School

In our classrooms, Active Supervision includes teachers:

- Moving around the classroom while students are learning
- Checking in with students and providing feedback
- Supporting students who need help
- Encouraging students to stay focused and engaged
- Acknowledging students who are demonstrating positive learning behaviours

Teachers use Active Supervision throughout lessons as part of our Responsive Teaching approach. This allows teachers to respond to student needs in the moment and helps maximise learning time and student success.

How families can support learning at home

You can support your child by:

- Encouraging them to ask for help when needed
- Reinforcing persistence when learning feels challenging
- Supporting focus during homework or learning tasks
- Encouraging independence and problem solving

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

The Creativerse: a Festival of Art, Tech & Play
Saturday 13 October, Ulumbarra Theatre, Bendgo

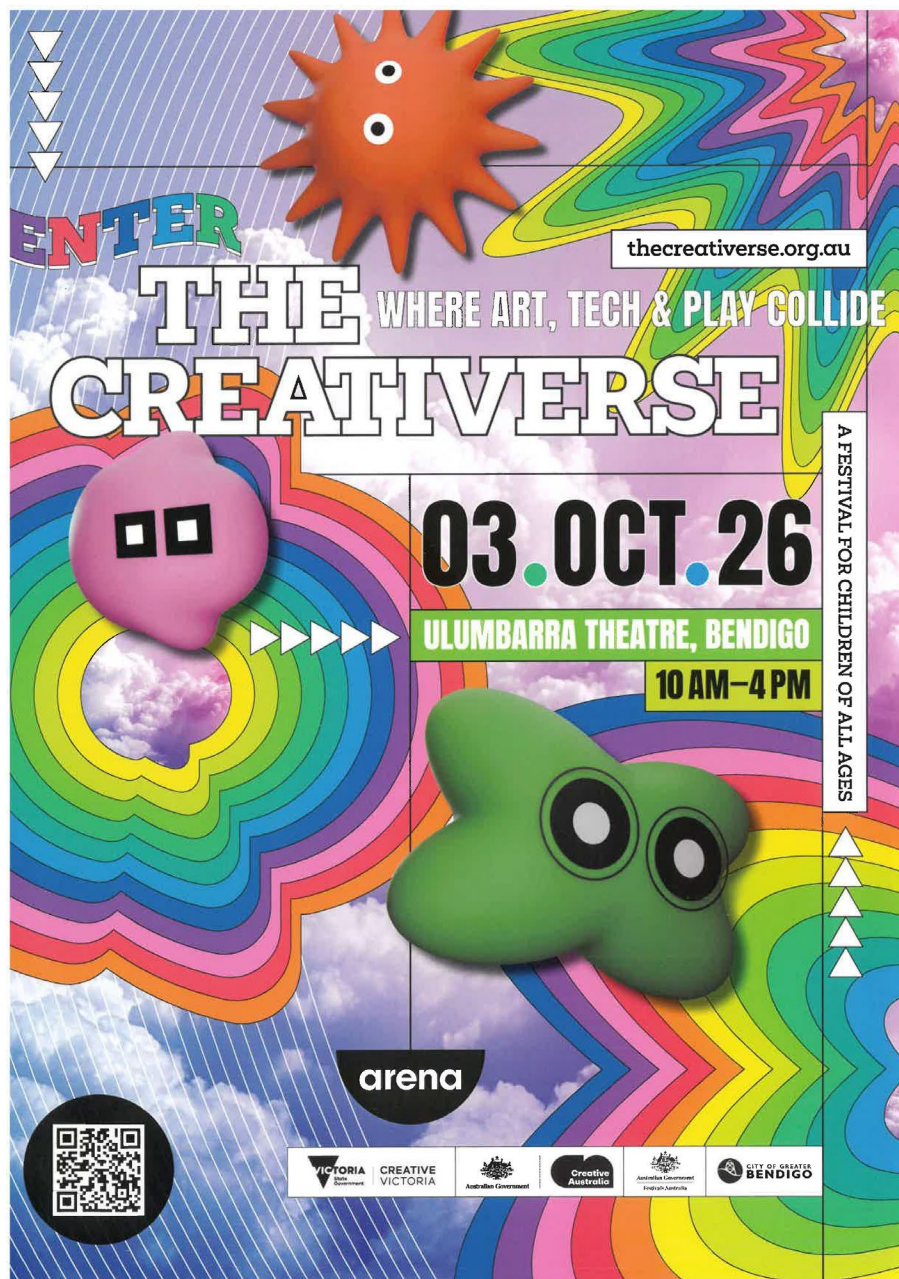
The Creativerse is a playground of possibilities – free & ticketed events that spark imagination and bring families together through creative discovery. Interactive installations. Live performances. Hands-on workshops.

Perfect for families with kids 3-12.

Free events as part of THE IMMERSIVE ZONE include:

- Creative workshops – build, make, and get messy in hands-on zones
- Immersive tech play – where digital meets the physical in awesome, interactive ways
- Roaming performances – that surprise and delight at every turn, bringing movement, and magic to every corner of the festival.
- Storytelling and art-making

Plus a host of ticketed live performances. The Creativerse is designed for everyone to enjoy, with quiet zones, accessible experiences, and plenty of free activities—so every family can be part of the magic.



From Diagnosis to OAM

plus a Sibling's Perspective: A Personal Autism Journey

Bendigo

Wednesday 21 October 2026, 6:30pm-9:30pm

(3 hour seminar including question time, doors open 9am)

Daniel and Daniel's Dad (Daryl) will discuss Daniel's journey from diagnosis to present day giving an insight from Daniel's personal perspective of living life as an Autistic individual.

Daniel's sister (Alicia) will also be sharing the sibling perspective and is a qualified educator (may be prerecorded).

Topics include diagnosis, school journey, independent living, employment and strategies used to achieve the best outcomes.



Presented by

Daniel Giles OAM
Order of Australia Medal Recipient
& Autistic Self-Advocate

Daryl Giles
Daniel's Dad

Alicia Purcell
Daniel's Sister
and Educator



Exhibitors



ABN: 11 545 640 100

Venue

The Bendigo Club: 22 Park St, Strathdale VIC



Free Bendigo Cinema ticket (valued at \$23)

available with main meal purchase
from The Bendigo Club bistro menu
Refer to The Bendigo Club social media for details and T&C
Image by Clint Giles-Bendigo Images from Facebook

Seminar tickets (*includes \$0.50 booking fee for online bookings)

Child (0-11 yrs): FREE **Child (12-17 yrs): \$10.50***

General Admission: \$35.50*

Professionals (Educators/Caseworkers/Therapists - incl. CPD cert.)

\$85.50*

events.humanitix.com/doam-bgo26 (or scan QR code)

Contact

e: admin@speakinginsights.com.au

w: speakinginsights.com.au



Find 'Speaking Insights' on Facebook and Instagram

EDUCATORS – Educators can claim 3 hours of Professional Development. Australian Professional Standard for Teachers at the level of Proficient Teacher 6.4.2

HARVEST MOON FESTIVAL 2026

A FREE COMMUNITY EVENT ON
GRAND FINAL EVE 25/09/2026

DAI GUM SAN PRECINCT, BENDIGO

15+ FOOD VENDORS
12PM - 8PM

PERFORMANCES 2PM - 6PM
FEATURING BCA LION TEAM

CRAFT ACTIVITIES AND MOONCAKES

LOGISTICS PARTNER
 BENDIGO

大金山中华公会
BENDIGO CHINESE ASSOCIATION

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
 BENDIGO MUSEUM

SCHOOL HOLIDAY NETBALL CLINIC

6-14 YEARS

WITH THE BENDIGO STRIKERS!

FOR YOUNG NETBALLERS AGED 6-14

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Train with Bendigo Strikers players
- Skills, games & challenges
- Build confidence & have fun
- Photos, signatures & giveaways
- Fresh fruit supplied by the McKern Steel Foundation

RED ENERGY ARENA BENDIGO | **WEDNESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER** | **1:00PM - 4:00PM**

BENDIGO STRIKERS | **mckern steel**

\$50 PER PARTICIPANT

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



School Holiday Program Highlights



Writing & Sketching with Jess McGeachin

We are delighted to welcome wonderful children's author and illustrator Jess McGeachin! Drawing quite literally from a day job at Melbourne Museum, Jess loves sharing stories about hidden worlds, sometimes magical and sometimes real!

Monster Making

What makes a good monster in a story? Are they hairy, scary, or just misunderstood? Jess will help you find monster inspiration in stories to design your own spooky (or very friendly) monster. Ages 5-8 years.

Wed 30 Sep, 10-11am
Bendigo Library

BOOK NOW

Drawn to Nature

Stuck for ideas? The natural world is full of inspiration just waiting to be found. Discover some amazing places and animals, learn how to keep a sketchbook and understand the importance of inspiring others to care for the environment. Ages 8-13 years.

Wed 30 Sep, 11.30am-12.30pm
Bendigo Library

BOOK NOW

Wed 30 Sep, 2-3pm
Kangaroo Flat Library



Pop-Up Museum Dinosaurs, Megafauna & More

Journey back through time and get up close and personal with touchable fossils, collection objects, taxidermy and activities supported by Museums Victoria educators. Ages 5-13 and families. 30-minute timeslots available. Book to confirm your spot, or drop-in and try your luck!

Mon 28 Sep, 11am-2pm
Bendigo Library

BOOK NOW

Full school holiday program:
ncgrl.vic.gov.au/holidayprogram

BOOK NOW

BOOKINGS REQUIRED
www.goldfieldslibraries.com



NEW FAMILIES REGISTER NOW!

COME & TRY DAY

8:15am • Saturday 3rd October 2026
Lar Birpa Athletics Complex



Scan to register now!



Check out what's on

Junior Rangers
holiday program



Flora Explorer

Learn how to identify flowering plants in the Greater Bendigo National Park that can be found in the park at this time of year.



Flora Explorer

Learn how to identify flowering plants in the Greater Bendigo National Park that can be found in the park at this time of year.

Date and Times

Flora Explorer - Thursday 1 October 2026
Shadbolt's Picnic Area, 10am – 11.30am

Flora Explorer – Friday 2 October 2026
Greater Bendigo National Park 10am – 11.30am



Junior Ranger activities are free for all families. Activities take place in parks across Victoria during the school holidays. **Bookings are essential.** Scan to find out more at juniorrangers.vic.gov.au