



# The Poppet Head

Weekly newsletter of Quarry Hill Primary School  
 Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
 Newsletter No. 2

## Our Vision:

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

### 2026 TERM DATES

Term 1: 27<sup>th</sup> January (students start 28<sup>th</sup> January) - 2<sup>nd</sup> April  
 Term 2: 20<sup>th</sup> April - 26<sup>th</sup> June  
 Term 3: 13<sup>th</sup> July - 18<sup>th</sup> September  
 Term 4: 5<sup>th</sup> October - 18<sup>th</sup> December

**Principal:** Anne Rochford

**School Council President:** Andrew Ellis

**PFA President:** Michelle Kennedy

**PFA Vice President:** Rhayven Milliner

## IMPORTANT DATES

FEBRUARY 2026		
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	7:00pm	PFA AGM and first meeting for the year
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	3:00pm	Special Assembly- Presentation to Junior School Council leaders by the Mayor of Bendigo
MARCH 2026		
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	All day	Professional Practice Day- no students at school
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 6 <sup>th</sup>	All day	Grade 4 Camp- Camp Kookaburra
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup>	8:00am-3:30pm	Grade 3 Excursion- Bendigo
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	All day	Labour Day Public Holiday
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	9:15am 12:15pm	NAPLAN- Grade 3 and Grade 5 Writing Reading
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	9:15am	NAPLAN- Grade 3 and Grade 5 Language Conventions
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	9:15am	NAPLAN- Grade 3 and Grade 5 Maths
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	5:45pm	QHPS School Council Annual General Meeting
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	12:00pm-2:00pm	Harmony Day Multi-Age Activities
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup>	7:30am-5:30pm	Grade 5 Excursion- PGL Kyneton
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	3:30pm	Easter Raffle Tickets due to the office
APRIL 2026		
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	All day	School Cross Country 9:15-11am: Senior (3-6) 12-3pm: Junior (P-2)
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	9:05am 9:00am-2:30pm	Special Easter Raffle Assembly Last day of Term 1 (Early Finish)
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	All day	First day of Term 2
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	All day	School Photo Day

## Reminders:

- Special assembly tomorrow- 3:00pm  
-The Mayor of Bendigo will be presenting badges to our Junior School Council leaders.
- SunSmart  
-'No hat, no play.' Hats can be purchased from the office for \$12.
- CSEF  
-If you hold a concession card, please fill out a 2026 CSEF form at the office.
- Curriculum contributions  
- Curriculum Contributions can now be paid through direct deposit/at the office.  
\$225.00 per child- Prep to Grade 5.  
\$235.00 per child- Grade 6.

## ~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.



## **UPDATE INFORMATION**

It is extremely important that we hold your current address, phone number, and email. If you have changed your address, phone number or email and not let the office know, please do so as soon as possible by either coming into the office directly or logging onto Compass and updating the information.

## **FAMILY LAW COURTS & INTERVENTION ORDERS**

Families that have Family Law Court Orders or Intervention Orders are requested to provide a copy to the school so that the school can act in accordance with any orders. Family Law Court Orders stipulate the rights of both parties and enable us to act appropriately and lawfully. It is also appropriate that the school is in possession of the most recent Family Law Court Orders or Intervention Orders.

## **PERSONAL GOODS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL AT OWNER'S RISK**

Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff, and visitors. This can include jewellery, toys, and sporting equipment. The Department of Education and Training does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it will generally not pay for any loss or damage to such property. Therefore, bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school is discouraged.

## **MULTICULTURAL CELEBRATIONS**

This week brings the start of two significant cultural celebrations in our school community. Ramadan has begun, offering a time of reflection, kindness, and connection for many Muslim families. We also welcome the Chinese Lunar New Year, celebrating the arrival of the Year of the Fire Horse - a symbol of energy, creativity, and spirited new beginnings. We extend our warmest wishes to all families observing these special occasions.

## **SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY**

The QHPS House Cross Country event will take place at the Ken Wust Oval on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April from 9:15am.

Grade 3-6 will be run between 9.15am - 11.00am with presentations at the end of the morning session.

Prep-Grade 2 will be run from 12.00pm - 3.00pm with presentations at the end of this session.

Students are encouraged to wear their house colours. Parents and carers are invited to come and watch the event.



## **P.F.A News**

### **PFA AGM AND FIRST MEETING OF THE YEAR**

Parents and Friends Association AGM and First Meeting for the Year –  
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February 7:00pm in the Staffroom (enter through the front office).

The QHPS Parents and Friends Association aims to help connect and support our school community.

Last year we hosted weekly parent cuppas, Mother's/Father's Day stalls, a special lunch day for the students, and the Book Week 'Community Cuppa' morning. We also organised several fundraising projects, which contributed \$5000 towards the Centenary Garden, and also \$3480 to literacy resources, maths resources, camps, and Grade 6 awards.

All parents and carers are warmly invited to become a member of the PFA and come along to our first meeting of the year. It is a great way to contribute to our school community and build connections with other families. Being involved in the PFA is very flexible with low pressure.

For more information and 2026 registration forms please contact the school office. Please note, if you have signed a registration form in a previous year, you will need to complete a 2026 form to be part of the PFA again this year.

## 2026 EASTER RAFFLE

Easter is fast approaching and with that comes our much-loved Easter Raffle.

To help make this possible we kindly ask each student to bring in one Easter themed delight to become one of many raffle prizes available to be won on Thursday April 2nd at a special assembly at 9.05am. This could be anything from Easter eggs, stuffed toys (must be new with tags), Easter crafts -sticker books, colour books, and such like gift ideas. We ask all donations to be taken straight to the office.

Tickets have been sent home with the eldest student in the family. This year you will find 10 tickets in each book, which will equate to \$20 a book, or \$2 per ticket. Please do not feel any pressure to sell them all, just return unsold tickets with sold tickets to the office by 3.30pm Tuesday March 31st. If you would like more tickets, please collect from the office.

Please ensure student's names and room numbers are clearly printed on the tickets so we can get them to the rooms for collection. If selling to friends and family, there is plenty of room on the back of the ticket for further information. There will be a special assembly held at 9:05am on Thursday April 2nd to draw the winners and all families are welcome to attend.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the office.

QUARRY HILL  
PRIMARY SCHOOL'S  
**EASTER  
RAFFLE**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 2ND**  
**10 GRAND EASTER PRIZES  
AND MUCH, MUCH MORE TO WIN**  
**\$2 per TICKET**

- **WINNERS DRAWN** on Thursday the 2nd of April •
- **FUNDRAISING** for Beautification of School Grounds •
- **DONATIONS** of Easter theme needed and can be dropped off at the Office •

All tickets and money must be returned to  
the office by 3:30pm, Tuesday, March 31st



# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS



KIND		
Zali A	Room 7	For volunteering to assist another student with a classroom task. Well done on recognising this on your own and taking action.
Daisy B	Room 8	For sharing your kindness, happiness, and confidence with everyone in Room 8.
Josh C	Room 16	For showing kindness by always helping to put out the chairs in the morning,
Stephen E	Room 10	For showing outstanding kindness through his willingness to help in the classroom.
Lily M	Room 14	For being our QHPS Library Legend by being a keen helper and putting away returned books.
Isabella M	Room 13	For the positive way you show up to Morning Circle each day.
Rhea P	Room 11	For her kindness and friendly smile every day. Keep shining Rhea!
Ryder S	Room 2	For being kind by helping put your classmates chairs away.
Ted T	Room 17	For always being a kind friend to everyone in our class.
CURIOUS		
Remy B	Room 1	For asking questions and being curious about Maths.
Millie G	Room 6	For taking great care in the presentation of her work.
Billy K	Room 12	For displaying curiosity in our natural disasters unit.
Savio P	Room 14	For showing initiative improving his JSC speech and problem solving skills sharing to his teacher.
Jed T	Room 5	For always being curious about learning and always trying his best.
BRAVE		
Elija H	Room 9	For a brave start to school. We are so proud of you.





# Gr 6 Crews news



Once again, our wonderful Grade 6 students are taking part in our exciting Crews Program. This hands-on initiative provides meaningful learning experiences, promotes environmental stewardship, and encourages healthy eating habits.

Our vision for the school garden is to create an engaging and sustainable space where students grow vegetables, bush tucker and flowers while developing their understanding of science, nutrition, and teamwork. The produce harvested from the garden is then used in the kitchen to prepare fresh, healthy meals.

Last week, Garden Crews harvested cucumbers, basil and tomatoes planted by last year's Grade 6 students. Our Kitchen Crews turned the basil into delicious pesto pasta — a dish that was a big hit with everyone! Crews are now eagerly awaiting the chance to taste the watermelon that has been growing over summer.

We would greatly appreciate any donations of gardening supplies such as compost, sugar cane mulch, seeds, seedlings, or plants. These contributions directly support student learning and help strengthen their connection to the natural world. We are also looking for a ground-level compost bin with a lid and would be happy to trade for a tumbling-style compost bin if that is of interest.

By supporting our School Garden Project, you are investing in the education and wellbeing of our students, as well as contributing to a greener and healthier community.

If you would like to contribute, please feel free to email me at [brooke.wilson@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:brooke.wilson@education.vic.gov.au) or pop into the art room.



We love seeing families enjoy and take an interest in our school garden! Just a friendly reminder that the fruit and vegetables growing in the garden are used by our students during their cooking sessions as part of their learning. **We kindly ask that families please do not pick any produce so that Gr 6 students have the opportunity to harvest and use it together.**



# Wellbeing Spotlight



Regular attendance is one of the strongest predictors of student success and wellbeing. Research from the Australian Education Research Organisation (AERO) shows that even small amounts of missed school can have a big impact on learning, confidence, and connection to others. Students who attend consistently are more likely to feel a sense of belonging, build positive friendships, and engage in their learning. Supporting attendance means supporting wellbeing, and when families and schools work together, students thrive.

- **Attendance and achievement are strongly linked.**

Students who attend school regularly achieve significantly better learning outcomes than those who miss school frequently. Even small increases in absence can lead to noticeable drops in achievement.

- **Patterns start early.**

The report shows that attendance habits formed in the early years often continue into later schooling. Early disengagement is hard to reverse without strong support.

- **Missing just one day a fortnight adds up.**

Students who miss around 10% of school (about one day per fortnight) are far more likely to fall behind academically and socially.

- **Attendance supports wellbeing and belonging.**

Regular attendance helps students build friendships, routines, confidence, and a sense of connection to school, all key protective factors for mental health.



## Five things to understand: Sharing photos of your child on social media

- 1. Purpose and Audience:** Photographs reflect moments in time and are shared for various reasons. Consider the purpose of the photo and who will see it when shared in different contexts.
- 2. Digital Footprints:** Every online interaction—websites visited, photos shared, comments made—creates a digital footprint that can be hard to change or erase. Think about the digital footprint you are creating for your child and how they might feel about it now and in the future.
- 3. Privacy and Consent:** Involve children in deciding what is shared about them. Children have the right to be asked for consent when their photos are taken, shared, and used, just like adults.
- 4. Protective Sharing:** Use creative photography techniques to protect a child's identity when sharing images online. Examples include photographing over the child's shoulder or blurring their face.
- 5. Role of Parents:** Parents play a crucial role in how children are represented online. Reflect on decisions and actions to make informed choices about digital presence and build awareness of the digital environment.

### Consider:

- Why are you taking the photo?
- Does your child want their photo shared online?
- Who will see your post on social media?
- Are your social media followers also your child's friends?

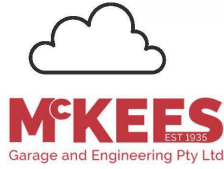


Quarry Hill Primary School remind parents/carers, students and invited guests who photograph, film or record school activities that they only do so for their own personal use and do not publish the images in any form, including on social media, without the prior consent of persons whose children also appear in the images.

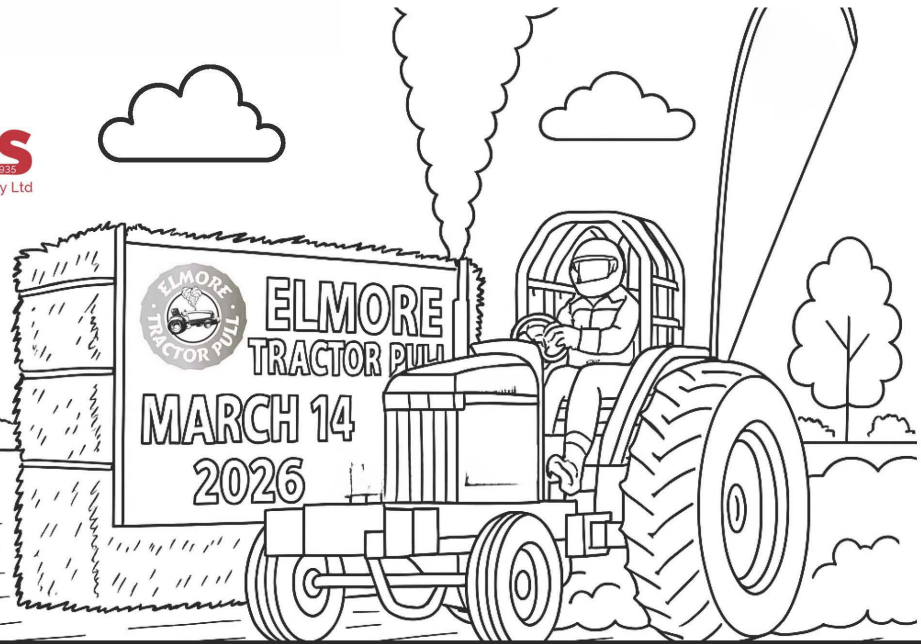
**2026 ELMORE TRACTOR PULL COLOURING COMPETITION**

The prize is a family pass to the Elmore Tractor Pull (happening Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2026)  
 Colouring sheets can be downloaded [here](#)

# 2026 Elmore Tractor Pull



Please post to:  
 Elmore Events Centre  
 PO BOX 27, Elmore Vic  
 3558  
 Or Scan to:  
[info@elmorefielddays.com.au](mailto:info@elmorefielddays.com.au)  
 Entries Close 8<sup>th</sup>  
 March



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mother's Day Classic**

**Kids Go FREE\***  
 UNTIL 1 MARCH, 2026

**WALK OR RUN FOR BREAST AND OVARIAN CANCER RESEARCH**  
**MOTHER'S DAY - SUNDAY 10 MAY, 2026**  
**REGISTER ONLINE: [MOTHERSDAYCLASSIC.COM.AU](http://MOTHERSDAYCLASSIC.COM.AU)**

**SPRING GULLY UNITED S.C.**

**REGISTRATIONS OPEN NOW FOR 2026!**  
 JOIN THE RED & WHITE FAMILY ⚽

U6 - SENIORS | BOYS & GIRLS | MEN & WOMEN

**FUN & INCLUSIVE TEAMS**  
**QUALIFIED COACHES**  
**COMPETITIVE & SOCIAL OPTIONS**

**WHY JOIN SGU?**

- 50+ Teams from U6 to Seniors
- Friendly & Supportive Club Culture
- Pathways from Juniors to Seniors

**WHAT YOU GET**

- ✓ Weekly Training & Matches
- ✓ Club Events & Community Days
- ✓ Player Development Opportunities

**REGISTER TODAY FOR THE 2026 SEASON!**  
[weso@sgusc.com.au](mailto:weso@sgusc.com.au) | [www.sgusc.com.au](http://www.sgusc.com.au)  
 Limited spots available – secure yours now!