



Calder Chronicle

NUMBER 14

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THURSDAY, 16TH MAY, 2019

CALENDAR

Friday, 17th May

Saturday 18th May

Monday, 20th May

Wednesday, 22nd May

Thursday, 23rd May

Friday, 24th May

Friday, 7th June

MONDAY, 10TH JUNE

Thursday, 13th June

Thursday, 20th June

Wednesday, 19th June

YEAR 7 APPLICATION FOR PLACEMENT FORMS DUE AT THE OFFICE

Senior Unit Gym program continues

Election Day BBQ - P&F BBQ and cake stall

Education Week commences – see back page

School Tour 9:30am

Payment due for First Steps/Junior Unit Insectarium Incursion – \$8.00, why not use our Qkr app

Grandparents / Special Friend Visit – 10:30am – 1:00pm (includes performance)

P&F Cake Stall

Woolworths Healthy fresh fruit morning at 8:00am

Dress Up Day – What I would like to be when I grow up

Active Travel to School Day – meet at Phillis Street at 8:30am

School Tour 9:30am

Senior Unit Gym program concludes

First Steps/Junior Unit Insectarium Incursion

Elmore Pie Drive Forms due at Office

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Middle Unit Scienceworks Excursion

Elmore Pie Drive Collection Day

Senior Production – Years 3-6 Robin of Sherwood – Matinee & Evening performances

School Organisation

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Due to NAPLAN testing this week, Week 4 has been extremely busy indeed, especially for our Year 3's and 5's and their associated teachers.

ANNUAL REPORT

Continuing on from the last two weeks, three more sections of the Annual Report are shared for your information – this week it's our performance in the **ENGAGEMENT**, **WELLBEING** and **FINANCIAL** sections...the final sections to share with you for this year. If you would like a copy of the Annual Report, please grab one from the foyer at school. **ENGAGEMENT:** Overall student attendance is higher than that of similar schools and the State, which is pleasing, with all year levels averaging 94% attendance rate or above. Our Prep, Year 1, Year 5 and Year 6 students had attendance rates at 95% on average, which is an excellent achievement. In 2018, attendance certificates and bands continued to be awarded each term, successfully improving our attendance, which has been better than similar schools and the State for the last 4 years. An attendance goal was profiled each term and made clear to the children what was expected to win the award. Aboriginal attendance was also carefully tracked and followed up, with the majority of students achieving attendance above 90%, many achieving 100%. In 2019, further work on attendance will occur, with goals, rewards etc. profiled again and daily contact made with all families where an absence is unexplained. Reducing the absence rate for 20 days or more (only a few students across the school) will continue to be a major focus. **WELLBEING:** 2018, the Attitudes To School Survey (AToSS) was again implemented online with all children from Years 4-6. On the AToSS our Years 4, 5 and 6 students' connectedness to our school was similar to like schools, staying above the state median. 85% of those surveyed were positive (up from 1% from 2017). Across the Year levels and between the genders, results across the board are generally very positive and above the State. There does not appear to be any trends with Year or gender and the two areas that appear low percentage wise (Student Voice & Agency and Teacher Concern) are still above State average. Management of Bullying on the AToSS in 2018 was positively endorsed as similar to like-schools, however the performance of Big Hill PS was above the State median (Big Hill PS 85% and State 81%). Management of Bullying was 85% positively endorsed, with Year 4s at 85%, Year 5s at 84% and Year 6s at 84%. Girls (across the 3 year levels) were very positive (84 – 95%), however the boys results varied with Year 6 less positive – Year 4 86%, Year 5 83% and Year 6 75%. It appears that the Year 6 boys were less favourable with managing bullying - and as a cohort, required a lot of support and intervention with positive behaviours. School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) continues to have a positive effect across the school, with children and parents highlighting the program as a major improvement at the school. We will continue to make our expectations clear, acknowledge those that follow our values and support those that don't to achieve our expectations. **FINANCES:** Much of our Equity funding was used to employ consultants (ie. George Booker maths and Samantha Nicolaidis writing), release staff for Professional Development (CRT), release staff to work together for teacher observations/shared planning/assessment and to purchase resources for numeracy (computation), reading and writing teacher reference plus student resources in the literacy area. As 2018 was also the year of review for our Strategic Plan (2015 - 2018), additional funds were utilized here to facilitate self-assessment of the Strategic Plan, participate in rigorous review and develop our Strategic plan for 2018 - 2021. High illness rates also meant a lot of extra funding was spent on CRT during 2018. This also includes the employment of our Reading/Literacy intervention teacher to support children falling below expected levels from Year Prep – 2. Additional funds held at the school also include substantial fundraising completed by two active groups – the Big Hill Parents and Friends and Team China.

CAPITAL WORKS

Lots happening this week, with the slab for the multipurpose almost complete and a meeting occurring to signal future implications for the school. At this stage, our current multipurpose will be out of action during Weeks 9 and 10 of this term and during the June/July school holidays. We should return from holidays with the art room ready to operate in the multipurpose room in Term 3 – fingers crossed. The Canteen should still be able to operate during weeks 9 and 10, however works in the multipurpose storeroom may mean disruption to the second hand uniform shop and a few other programs. Exciting times though! Watch this space!

TEAM CHINA NEWS – 6 DAYS TILL WE FLY!

In 6 days' time, Carlos, Mia, Ethan, Bailey and I will depart for China – next Wednesday to be precise! We will head to Beijing first and tour Tiananmen Square, The Forbidden City and explore The Great Wall of China, before flying to Shanghai to visit the Pearl Tower, Shanghai Circus and markets, before busing to Suzhou where we will visit our sister school DONG SHA LAKE SCHOOL. The four children will have overnight stays with a Chinese family (Bailey and Mia catch up with Grace who came to Big Hill PS last year) and see such sights as Tongli Watertown (referred to as the Venice of the East), Tiger Hill Pagoda, The Humble Administrators Garden and more. In the final leg, we bus back to Shanghai, have a river cruise and visit some beautiful old temples, before flying back to Beijing to catch an international flight home. This year we travel with children and staff from SPECIMEN HILL, WHITE HILLS, EAGLEHAWK NORTH, BENDIGO VIOLET STREET, LOCKWOOD, GOLDEN SQUARE, KENNINGTON, CAMP HILL, STRATHFIELDSAYE, MARONG, QUARRY HILL, HUNTLY and EPSOM – 49 children and 15 staff! The trip is considered an exemplar in education – State Schools rock! If you want to see what all of the schools are up to, why not follow the Team China blog at <http://teamchina.global2.vic.edu.au>

NAPLAN – NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM LITERACY AND NUMERACY

This week our Year 3's and 5's have been busy with testing for the NAPLAN program. By the end of this week, the Year 3's and 5's will have completed Writing, Reading and Conventions of Language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) – the Year 3's will complete Conventions of Language tomorrow. Next week, on Tuesday, the Year 3's and 5's will finish NAPLAN testing with the final Numeracy test occurring. This year Big Hill PS has had to move over to the NAPLAN ONLINE system. This has seen children completing tests on iPads over paper (except for Year 3 writing). The media has told the story of lots of issues – we did experience some of these problems early and are wondering what effect the change of test and issues will have on our results. Hopefully none! If you are not wanting your child to do NAPLAN, please don't keep them home...send them to school and organise with me to complete an official withdrawal. This is better than missing multiple days of school. We believe results should be a lot quicker this year, having done most tests online, but we will wait and see – shall keep you posted.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

We didn't get a quorum on Tuesday night, so had to postpone the meeting. Our May School Council meeting is now occurring next Monday, 20th May at 7:00pm. Finance will meet at 6:30pm with both meetings set to occur in the Staffroom.

STAFFING UPDATE

Next week, Brett Strange has complete control of his class on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. Susie Marsh will still teach the class on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons and each Tuesday. Jono Guy will continue to provide our PE program during the rest of this term also. With the trip to China seeing me attending from the 22nd of May to the 2nd of June AND then being required at the Victorian Principals State Conference in Melbourne on June 3rd and 4th...I won't be back at Big Hill PS until Wednesday 5th June. During this time, Assistant Principal Sharyn Burnett is looking after the school – so please get in contact with her should there be any issues. If you have concerns about teaching and learning, perhaps speak to our Leading Teacher, Renae Westley, or our Learning Specialist, Ainsley Stanley.

PREP 2020 SCHOOL TOURS NEXT WEEK

Do you have a child starting Prep next year? Do you know someone who does? Don't miss one of our Education Week School Tours next week, with the first on Monday, 20th May at 9:30am with me and the second on Friday, 24th May at 9:30pm with Sharyn Burnett. Prep packs will also be handed to those that missed the information night last week.

EDUCATION WEEK

Next week is EDUCATION WEEK – “Celebrating Careers”. Across the State, schools will be celebrating Education Week in a number of ways. At Big Hill PS, our big ticket items are the tours mentioned above, Grandparents/Special Friends/P&F Cake Stall on Wednesday, 22nd May from 10:30am – 11:30am. Visitors can bring something to eat and share with their loved one/s as well as sharing a photo of their occupation – the focus of Education Week. A P&F cake stall is occurring – so you might also be able to grab something yummy from there to share or take home. After the morning tea, there will be a musical extravaganza at 12:00pm. As this will be outside, we encourage visitors to try and bring a seat. We have some, but never enough, so if you want to guarantee a seat...bring one with you! Phil Seaton, as always, is preparing something amazing with the children to WOW you! On Thursday we have a WOOLWORTHS Healthy Fruit Morning in the multipurpose from 8:00am. The Thursday is also a dress up day – with children encouraged to come to school dressed as the occupation they want to do when they grow up! Parents and visitors might like to come in their work attire too, adding to the atmosphere! Finally, on Friday, we have an active travel day – meet at Phillis Street by 8:30am to walk, ride or scoot to school together. What a week!

YEAR 6-7 TRANSITION

Year 7 application for placement forms were sent home with the newsletter last week. You will notice that the designated school for your child has been prepopulated based on your residential address. Please don't change your address, unless you have actually moved. In this case, our records on CASES have to be updated. Work addresses, or those of family members can't be used. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Forms are due back to us at Big Hill PS TOMORROW, Friday, 17th May.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to Caleb H, Jesse B, Nate F, Jett E, Jacob W & Jaylen J.

Busy times ahead! Never a dull moment it seems...

Catch up with you all in a few weeks!

Matt Pearce, Principal

FIRST STEPS NEWS

INCURSION – INSECTARIUM OF VICTORIA

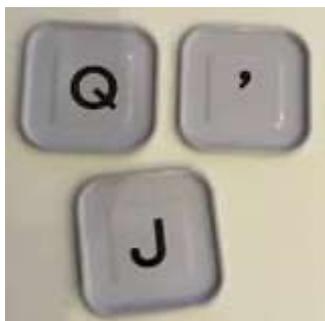
As part of our Invertebrates Science Unit this Term, Insectarium of Victoria will be visiting our classes on Friday, 24th May. They will be bringing along different samples of invertebrates for students to observe and hold. Thank you to those students who have returned their note and payment of \$8. If you have misplaced or did not receive a form, please speak to your child's teacher as these are due back on Monday.

EDUCATION WEEK – GRANDPARENTS / SPECIAL FRIEND DAY

Students are looking forward to the activities planned for Education Week next week. Students are especially excited about having a grandparent or special friend visit them at school on Wednesday, 22nd May. If you haven't already, please invite a special visitor who is able to visit on this day between 10:30am to 1:00pm. Students would love to have a visitor to help them with their classroom activities on the day, show them work they are proud of in their classroom and watch them do a special musical performance. The theme of Education Week is 'Celebrating Careers', we are asking the student's special friend to bring along a photo of you at work if you have one. These photos will be used for a classroom activity on the day.

WANTED! WOOLWORTHS LETTER TILES (DISNEY WORDS CHARACTER TILES)

If any families have the Woolworths Disney letter tiles that are no longer wanted, the First Steps classrooms would love to use them for Literacy activities. If you have a collection that are no longer used at home, please donate to your child's classroom teacher.



READING HELPERS

Thank you to those parents that have volunteered to listen to children read in the morning. We appreciate your time. You are making a valuable contribution to the success of our reading program. If any other parents can dedicate time to help in the mornings to listen to children read, it will be much appreciated and children love to see their parents a part of their classroom and learning.

STARS OF THE WEEK

For being 'Responsible' during independent reading time by staying focussed and building their reading stamina:

FSN: Jack E

FSP: Harper O

Nicole & Pauline

JUNIOR UNIT NEWS

SCIENCE

This term as part of our Science unit we will be studying invertebrates. On Friday, 24th May the Insectarium of Victoria will be bringing along samples of invertebrates for us to hold and observe. Thank you to those students who have returned their note and \$8, please note these are required back at school by Monday 20th May.

GRANDPARENTS AND SPECIAL FRIENDS DAY

A personal invitation has been sent home for our upcoming Grandparent's and Special Friends visit on Wednesday, 22nd May. Grandparents and Special Friends have been invited to our classrooms for a lesson related to their student's future careers. Could all visitors please bring along a photo of themselves at work to use in this activity? Thank you.

HOMEWORK REMINDER

In the Junior Unit we expect that students read each night and record this in their reading journals. We also send home a book on Monday with 6 spelling words to be practised each night and then tested on a Friday. We would like these homework books to be returned to school each day, as they are also used during our literacy rotations in the morning. Keeping these in your black reader bag is the best way to remember to bring them to school each day.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For displaying responsibility by being a positive role model in the classroom:

JC **Addisyn J**
JJ **Madi L**
JR **Kaylie A**

Catherine, Jen & Rhys

MIDDLE UNIT NEWS

TERM 2

This week in the Middle Unit we have continued our weekly routines with our CAFÉ reading, VOICES writing and our Mathematics program. Students completed rotations of Science – Earth and Space Day and Night!, Geography – Map reading / mini projects on the 7 Continents. In PE – skills rotations and nature park play.

MAJOR EXCURSION

Our major excursion this term is to Scienceworks, Melbourne. The excursion will be in week 8, Thursday, 13th June. A note with further details and costs was sent home with last week's newsletter.

EDUCATION WEEK

We are looking forward to Education Week next week. We will be running activities in our classrooms to coincide with Grandparents and Special Visitors Day. Our students have also been busy preparing an item / performance for our special visitors.

HOMEWORK

Our homework program began last week. There will be a spelling test and maths test tomorrow!! In the Middle Unit we have very clear expectations for students and their homework. Students have all received their Term 2 homework books and diaries and have weekly homework tasks to complete. Learning spelling words, basic number and multiplication facts as well as recording reading in their diaries are an important part of weekly learning tasks for each student. ALL students are expected to read a 'Just Right' text for at least 20-30 minutes each night and record their reading in their diary.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For showing the School Value of Respect:

MR **Bailey P**
MW **Neriyah T**
MD **RJ T**

Rena, Wendy & Dean

SENIOR UNIT NEWS

SENIOR UNIT GYM

Gym continues this week with the remaining 2 sessions to follow. Congratulations to all students so far on their display of our School Values.

NAPLAN

Commenced this week and will continue through until Tuesday, 21st May, when the Numeracy Assessment will take place.

SOMERS CAMP

Thank you to those students who have submitted an expression of interest for Somers Camp. We are currently reviewing these and will randomly select students once we have confirmed allocated numbers.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

For demonstrating 'Respect' during specialist programs:

SA **Tarny D**
SB **Milla P**
SK **Seth S**
SL **Jayda W**

Ainsley, Brett, Kate, Lauren & Roberta

PARENTS & FRIENDS NEWS

MOTHER'S DAY STALL

We had another very successful Mother's Day Stall run by our Fantastic Volunteers. The kids had a great time shopping for their mum / special person. A BIG thank you to everyone who helped out on the stall day, wrapping days, and all our very generous donations from our families. We wouldn't have been able to run this event without your help. We also had a great response to our Mother's Day raffle again, so thank you to everyone who also donated generously towards our raffle. We really appreciate it.

Raffle winners:

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1 st | Blaik Y | 2 nd | Harry L |
| 3 rd | Kayla G | 4 th | Ava A |
| 5 th | Janet | 6 th | c/- Zane L |
| 7 th | Jack E | 8 th | Zavier D |
| 9 th | c/o Bobby S | 10 th | Mackenzie N |
| 11 th | Lyla E | 12 th | Sebastian S |
| 13 th | Sophia C | 14 th | c/o Charlotte S |
| 15 th | c/o Dexter L | 16 th | Chase D |
| 17 th | RJ T | | |



ELMORE PIE DRIVE

We have our annual Pie Drive running again this year. Forms have been sent home today with your child. Order forms are to be back at Office by Friday, 7th June and pick up times and location will be confirmed closer to the day. We hope you all enjoy ordering your pies again. Happy Ordering!!

PLEASE NOTE

PIE DRIVE ORDER FORMS NOW HAVE AN AMMENDED DATE THEY ARE DUE BACK ON!!

**IT WILL BE FRIDAY 7TH JUNE,
NOT TUESDAY 11TH JUNE**

THANK YOU AGAIN

ELECTION DAY BBQ

We have been lucky enough to register for an Election Day BBQ and cake stall this Saturday, 18th May at school. Starting at 8:00am outside the multipurpose room where the voting will take place. We are still looking for volunteers to help out on the BBQ. We have a few time slots that still need to be filled up. If you can help out at all, we would really appreciate your help. There is a BBQ roster up at the Office. You can either fill your name out on the roster, or you can email me at bhpspf@gmail.com. Thanks again for anyone who can help out. Look forward to seeing you all up there voting.

GRANDPARENTS / SPECIAL FRIENDS DAY & P&F CAKE STALL

We are running our P&F Cake stall again this year at Grandparents / Special Friends Day as it was such a great success last year. We are looking for any keen bakers / cooks to help us out with donating an item. We have left plates up at the Office to collect for anyone who would like to donate towards the cake stall. There is also an ingredients list attached to the plate for you to fill out. Once again we are just asking that there is NO NUTS OR CREAM used, as we can't store these items correctly. If you are stuck for any ideas as what to make here are a couple of suggestions for you:

Cup Cakes, Slices, Cakes,

*Non bake items e.g. rum balls Honey Joys
and Gluten Free Item were very popular last year also*

Thank you again for your support with this fundraiser and HAPPY BAKING!!

TRIVIA NIGHT – SAVE THE DATE

We have our ADULTS ONLY Trivia Night booked in again! As it was such a great night had by everyone last year. We have booked in the Kangaroo Flat Bowls Club again as our venue as they were fantastic to work with. It will be held on Friday, 26th July with doors opening at 6:30pm with a 7:00pm start. Trivia With A Twist will be running it again as they were also great to work with. We hope you can all make it and join in the FUN! Such a Fantastic Night to be had!!

P&F FACEBOOK PAGE

Keep up to date with our P&F activities by joining our Facebook Community.

(<http://www.facebook.com/groups/bhpspf/>)

Our page provides reminders and updates on all the activities as well as connecting you with other families at our school.

CASH REWARDS PROGRAM EARN REAL CASH FOR YOURSELF & THE SCHOOL

Have you signed up for our cash rewards program yet? Its FREE to join and by simply doing your usual online shopping through our unique landing page, you will contribute towards the school without even leaving your home. Better still you'll earn cash rewards for yourself at the same time. You really can't lose. Signing up is easy just head to our unique landing page and follow the prompts.

(<https://www.cashrewards.com.au/community/schools/big-hill-primary-school>)

Thank you all for your support with P&F activities, its really appreciated

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

The shop will be open every Friday from 3:00pm – 3:30pm in the multi purpose room except for the last two weeks of this term due to the Capital Works project. Thank you.

CANTEEN NEWS

WARM MILO

Yes folks, it's back just in time for this cold weather! Only \$1.50 a cup, so why not order one for tomorrow – it's meant to be even colder then!!

VOLUNTEERS

New volunteers are always welcome. Fridays only between 9:00am – 10:00am OR 12:45pm – 2:00pm.

WEDNESDAY WINNERS

Congratulations to this week's winners:

 Dakota J

 Jayda W

All you need to do is place a lunch order on a Wednesday for your chance to win a lunch box. Good luck everyone!

Tammy Fear, Canteen Manager

COMMUNITY NEWS

CHILDCARE AT GURRI WANYARRA OPERATING HOURS

**Monday to Friday
9am to 12pm**

Types of Childcare available:

Childcare – For children whose parents/guardians are present in the centre.

Occasional Care – For children whose parents/ guardians are not present in the centre.

For more information, please visit the website:
www.gurriwanyarra.com.au



Boys Brains

Big Hill



This workshop will give insight in to the workings of a boy's brain and how their needs are different to girls. It will provide practical strategies to help parents and carers understand boy's needs and how to meet them.

Term 2, 2019

- When:** Wednesday 12th June 2019
- Time:** Arrival and registration 6.15pm
Session 6.30pm - 9.00pm
- Where:** Big Hill Primary School, 5644 Calder Highway, Big Hill
- Cost:** Free
- Facilitators:** CCS Family and Relationship Services
- Childcare:** Sorry, childcare is not provided

Groups are subject to maximum and minimum numbers determined seven working days prior to the commencement date. Early registration is encouraged



For bookings and enquiries contact School Reception on Ph: 5447 7022
or haddon.megan.m2@edumail.vic.gov.au



Kids and Worry

Parent Workshop

Quarry Hill



During this workshop we will explore the reasons why children worry and ways parents and carers can support them. It will include ideas as well as practical tools to assist children to manage their worries.

Term 2, 2019

- When:** Wednesday 19th June 2019
- Time:** Arrival and registration 9.15am
Session: 9.30am - 12.00pm
- Where:** Quarry Hill Primary School, 25 Peel Street, Quarry Hill
- Cost:** Free
- Childcare:** Sorry, no childcare provided
- Facilitators:** CCS Family and Relationship Services

Groups are subject to maximum and minimum numbers determined seven working days prior to the commencement date. Early registration is encouraged.



Bookings and enquiries contact Kerry or Anne on Ph: 5443 3537

EDUCATION WEEK 20TH - 24TH MAY 2019

Education Week will be celebrated from 20th – 24th May 2019, when schools across Victoria open their doors to parents and their broader communities through Information Nights, Open Days, student displays and other special occasions that showcase the schools programmes and achievements.

The Theme for Education Week 2019 is ‘Celebrating Careers’

Here at Big Hill Primary School, teachers are busy planning and preparing a diverse range of activities that ‘Celebrate Careers’.

From Monday, students will be engaged in activities that look at careers. There will be a school tour for Prospective parents of Big Hill Primary School at 9:30am.

On Tuesday, Years 3 and 5 students will continue with NAPLAN.

On Wednesday it will be Grandparents / Special Friends visit from 10:30am – 1:00pm.

Invitations for this will come home soon.

Our wonderful Parents and Friends will be having a cake stall.

There will be a special musical performance, with students showcasing our performing arts and music.

Thursday will be Safeway Healthy Fresh Fruit Morning.

It is also Dress up Day where students can dress up as, ‘What they would like to be when they grow up’ further ‘Celebrating Careers’.

Friday there will be an Active Travel to School Day, and there will also be another school tour for Prospective parents of Big Hill Primary School.

This is just a peek of some of the activities that will take place during this week, please see the full timetable on the next page.

So, with all these activities going on, it creates an opportunity for your child to shine at Big Hill Primary School.

Debbie Sammons
Education Week Coordinator

TIMETABLE - EDUCATION WEEK

'Celebrating Careers'

Monday 20th May – Friday 24th May 2019

| DAY | ACTIVITY |
|---|--|
| <p>MONDAY 20th May 9:00am</p> <p>9:30am</p> | <p>Assembly Opening of Education Week</p> <p>2020 PROSPECTIVE PARENTS SCHOOL TOUR</p> |
| <p>WEDNESDAY 22nd May</p> |  <p>Grandparents/special friends visit from 10:30am – 1:00pm</p> <p>Special musical performance showcasing work in dance and music (12:00pm – 1:00pm).</p> <p>Cup of tea available in multipurpose room</p> <p>Parents & Friends cake stall</p> <p>Team China depart</p> |
| <p>THURSDAY 23rd May</p> | <p>Woolworths Healthy fresh fruit morning at 8:00am</p> <p>Dress up parade at 9:15am Dress up day theme 'What I would like to be when I grow up'</p> |
| <p>FRIDAY 24th May 8:30am</p> <p>9:30am</p> |  <p>Active walk to school – meet at Phillis Street</p> <p>2020 PROSPECTIVE PARENTS SCHOOL TOUR</p> |