**Purpose**

At White Hills Primary School we provide students with skills to be lifelong learners. We are a community which caters for academic, physical, social and emotional needs, preparing our students to contribute productively to an increasingly globalised world.

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**Calendar of Events**

**Term 1: Wednesday 27th January - Thursday 24th March**

**Week 5**
- Friday 26th Feb: Prep at home today

**Week 6**
- Wednesday 2nd March: Gr 3-6 Swimming payments due 4.00pm
- Wednesday 3rd March: Goal Setting Interviews
- Friday 4th March: National Ride to School Day

**Week 7**
- Monday 7th – Fri 11th March: Gr 3-6 Swimming Program
- Wednesday 9th March: Preps at home today
- Wednesday 9th March: Hot Cross Bun Orders Due 4.00pm

**Week 8**
- Monday 14th March: Labour Day Holiday
- Tuesday 15th March: Pupil Free Day
- Wednesday 16th March: Hot Cross Bun Day
- Wednesday 16th March: Easter Raffle tickets/money due 4.00pm
- Wednesday 16th March: Team China Fundraising Dinner 6.00pm

**Week 9**
- Monday 21st March: Easter Raffle drawn at Assembly
- Wednesday 23rd March: Gr 3-6 School Athletics
- Thursday 24th March: CSEF Forms due 4.00pm

**Term 2: Monday 11th April - Friday 24th June**

**Week 9**
- Wednesday 13th April: Gr 2 Major Excursion Payment 4.00pm
- Monday 18th April: Grade 2 Melbourne Museum Major Exc
- Monday 18th April: Prep PMP 2.30pm Brick Area

**Week 10**
- Monday 25th April: ANZAC Day
- Saturday 30th April: Aerobics Prelims

**Week 11**
- Friday 6th May: Mother’s / Special Person Day Stall
- Wednesday 18th May: Footsteps Dance Payment due 4.00pm
- Friday 20th May: Footsteps Dance Program
- Friday 27th May: Footsteps Dance Program
- Monday 30th May: Footsteps Dance Program
- Friday 3rd June: Footsteps Dance Program
- Saturday 4th June: Aerobics State Finals
- Thursday 9th June: Gr 5 Sovereign Hill Excursion
- Friday 10th June: Footsteps Dance Program
- Monday 13th June: Footsteps Dance Program
- Monday 17th June: Student Led Conferences/Pupil Free Day
- Tuesday 21st June: Queen’s Birthday Holiday

**Term 3: Monday 11th July - Friday 16th September**

- Mon 22nd – Fri 26th August: Book Week
- Mon 29th – Friday 2nd Sept: Literacy & Numeracy Week

**Term 4: Monday 3rd October – Wednesday 20th December**

- Thursday 20th October: Pupil Free Day
- Wednesday 26th October: Bendigo Cup Day Holiday
- Thursday 3rd November: Music Count Us In 11.00am
- Monday 14th November: Preps at home today
- Wednesday 16th November: Preps at home today

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**Principal’s News**

**Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF): Apply Now**

Information and an application form for the CSEF were sent home a fortnight ago.

**How do I apply?**

A parent/guardian must complete the CSEF form and return it to the school office with a copy of their valid Health Care or Pension Card. The school will photocopy your card for you if you bring it to the office.

**Applications must be submitted to the school by the end of Term 1 – Thursday, 24th March, 2016.**

Contact the office on 54430799 for further information. **Student Health Care Cards not accepted.**

**Labour Day Public Holiday: School Closed**

Monday, 14th March is the Labour Day public holiday. The school will be closed on this day.

**Pupil-Free Day: Tuesday, 15th March**

Teachers will be undertaking a professional development day on Tuesday, 15th March. Students do not attend school on this day. This is the day after the Labour Day long weekend.

**School Council Election Results**

At the close of nominations, the number of nominations equalled the number of vacancies in both Parent Member and Department of Education & Training (DET) Member categories. A ballot for these membership categories is not required and the following nominees are declared as elected.

**Parent Member Category** – Kelly Adcock, Kristi Coller, Amanda Burrows, Jason Treble.

**DET Member Category** – Scott Ross, Jan Ellis.

My congratulations to new and returning School Councillors, who will attend the next School Council meeting at 7.00pm on Monday, 21st March.

**Grade 3-6 Swimming Program**

Information and a permission form for the Grade 3-6 swimming program has been sent home. Cost for the swimming program is $53.00 per child. If you have not pre-paid for special events, please make your payment prior to 4.00pm on Wednesday, 2nd March. Payment can be made via cash or EFTPOS at the office, or online using our QR smartphone app. As per the school’s excursions policy, late payments will not be accepted. The swimming program will take place in the week beginning Monday, 7th March.
QKR Smartphone Payment App
Our QKR smartphone payment app (pronounced ‘quicker’) enables you to make online payments from your smartphone for items such as Special Events (swimming, gym, performances), excursions, camps, canteen and uniform shop orders.

A guide to setting up the app on your Apple or Android phone is available on the school website via this pathway - ‘School Info’ tab > ‘Information for Parents’ > New QKR Payment System Help Guides.

Take a shortcut by clicking on this link:

Please note the following:
- QKR canteen orders close at 9.30am on canteen days (Wed/Fri)
- There are no over-the-counter canteen sales available via QKR
- QKR payments close at 4.00pm every school day
- Final payments for excursions, camps and Special Events close on QKR at 4.00pm on the due date. This is consistent with the school’s camp and excursions policies and late payments will not be accepted.

Canteen Counter Sales: Purchasing Limits
Please note that each child is limited to purchasing a maximum of one (1) ‘iced’ item (eg. slushy) and $1.00 of other items from counter sales at the school canteen. Products available in our school canteen are from the approved ‘Healthy Canteen’ menu. We would also ask that parents refrain from sending children to school with large denomination notes. Coins are a much better option and counter sales should be seen as an occasional treat for children. We appreciate your support in this matter.

Staff Car Park: Do Not Drop Off or Pick Up in This Area
Please note that the staff car park is for staff only. Many parents and children walk through this area to access the buildings. For children’s safety we ask that you not drive in to this area to drop off or pick up children.

Your support in this matter is appreciated.

Naming Clothing
Each year we have a large amount of lost property at school. Please clearly name all clothing, including hats, so that it can be quickly returned to its owner.

Crossing the Road: Children & Parents Use the Crossings
For your child's safety we ask that all children use the crossing at the back of the school (Bosquet St) and wait for the duty teacher to assist them across the road. Parents should come and collect their child and take them across the road but no child should cross the road without an adult. Similarly, we ask that at the front of the school (Plumridge St) ALL CHILDREN and accompanying parents use the designated school crossing to cross the road. DO NOT CROSS AT THE BRIDGE – this is not a controlled pedestrian crossing.

Process for Late Arrival or Early Departure: It's a Safety Issue
If a student arrives late to school, or departs early (for a valid reason), they must be signed in or out by an approved adult at the school office in the Sign In/Out book. Parents must NOT collect a child directly from the school yard or classroom. This is a parental duty of care and child safety issue. A tear off slip from the Sign In/Out book must be provided to the class teacher for a late arrival or early departure. Latecomers are NOT to go directly to their classroom. Your support with this process is appreciated.

Developing Healthy Eating Habits
Ensuring that your child's lunch box is full of the right foods not only will make them eat well, but the right foods will help them at school when it comes to both concentration and learning. Include fruit, especially fresh in your child's lunch. Avoid other fruit products such as fruit bars or straps as they are high in sugar and low in fibre and also stick to your child's teeth causing tooth decay. Put in vegetable sticks with a dip, or make up a small container with a variety of options such as carrot sticks, celery sticks, cherry tomatoes or cucumber. Leave out the potato chips. Cheese, yoghurt and milk are good choices, but due to their high sugar content, leave out the dairy desserts and flavoured milk. Leave out donuts, cakes, oven-baked savoury biscuits, chocolate bars and muesli bars. The best drinks for children include water and milk which can be frozen to help keep food in the lunch box cool.

Source: Go For Your Life. For more information visit www.goforyourlife.vic.gov.au.
School Nurse Visit
Leona Evans, the Primary School Nurse, will be visiting our school at the start of Term 2. All parents or guardians of prep children are requested to complete a Health questionnaire and return the form to the classroom teacher by Friday, 26th February.
We encourage all parents to sign the forms and consent to a nurse check as it often picks up problems with hearing or eye sight or other issues which can affect learning. (The forms need to be returned even if you do not want your child to see the nurse; just fill in the non-consent section.) This is a free service.
For parents with children in other grades who would like to have their child checked by the nurse, please see Mrs Ellis for the consent form.

Damien Jenkyn,
Principal

Breakfast Club
On Wednesday students had a great time sitting with their peers, eating breakfast and discussing many topics. The setup of tables has helped create a fun and lively atmosphere that draws other students inside to share a slice of toast with their friends.
The Breakfast Club program operates on Wednesdays and Fridays from 8.20am and is open to all.
We are still in need of volunteers, if you are able to assist in the program please contact the school office.

Asthma News
Back to School asthma spike
Every year there is a well-documented rise in asthma flare-ups and hospitalisations when students return to school after the Christmas break. Asthma Australia has information for parents of students with asthma to help them prepare for school. Asthma Australia’s website and social media provide the latest information, including a checklist of what to do to help your child and a survey to complete to determine the impacts for parents/carers.
Asthma Australia recommends that you talk to school staff about your child’s asthma and the school’s medication policy, provide an Asthma Plan from the doctor and supply a spare reliever puffer and spacer for your child’s use at school.

Parent Club News
Annual General Meeting
Our next meeting is our Annual General Meeting and will be held on Monday, 7th March, after assembly in the staffroom. The $2.00 Annual Membership is to be paid, which enables you to vote.
All newcomers are welcome to attend and find out what Parents Club is all about! You are most welcome to bring along younger siblings to our meetings, so come and enjoy a cuppa with us!

Easter Raffle
Easter raffle books have been distributed to families this week. This raffle will be drawn on Monday 21st March at assembly.

Hot Cross Bun Day: Wednesday 16th March
Forms went home Tuesday. Orders and payment are due Wednesday 9th March 4.00pm.
You can order 3 types of buns, with fruit/No fruit/Chocolate with margarine/no margarine $1.50 each. Please order by writing your child’s name, class, how many, type of bun and with or without margarine, on a brown paper bag or lunch order bag. Please enclose money in bag. Please post orders in post box at office.
NO LATE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED
Keep an eye out in this spot for future events and fundraisers.

Parent Club / Fundraising Committee
Congratulations to our Students of the Week

**Student Banking**

Bendigo Bank: Student Banking Program
Application forms are available at the school office. Please return to White Hills Bendigo Bank Branch for processing. Children with existing Bendigo Bank accounts are also welcome to use this service. Please bring the Birth Certificate and Medicare Card of the child, along with parent’s driver’s licence for identification purposes.

*Thank you,*
*from your Student Banking coordinator,*
*Sam*

**Art News**

Please check out at our art blog. This is a fabulous site showcasing our student’s artwork. Please find the blog link to the Art webpage on the school’s website.
The Art room requires newspaper and clean ice cream containers please.

*Thanks*
*Mrs Watchman*
*Art Department*

**Junior School News**

**Prep News**

**Prep Attendance**
Prep children do not attend school on Wednesdays until after the long weekend in March but if your child becomes tired on other days let them have a sleep-in if necessary and bring them to school at a later time. Some parents may prefer to pick up their child at lunchtime for a rest but remember to tell the class teacher and sign your child out at the office. If you have any concerns with your child at school please see your child’s teacher to arrange an interview time. Please note that for February the Prep children will be having their lunch at 1.00pm to allow them to have a playtime in the yard without the other grades. The children will return to their classrooms at 2.00pm for a quiet rest time before beginning afternoon activities.

**Picking Up Children From School**
Parents are reminded that children can only be picked up from school by the child’s parents or one of the people listed as the emergency contact for the child on their enrolment form. If you wish another person to pick up your child the school/classroom teacher must be contacted, (a letter or phone call will be sufficient), informing us of who will be collecting your child to ensure their safety.

**Transition Survey**
Each year our school asks parents to complete a short survey to assist us in improving our transition program for Preps. This survey was sent home last week and we would appreciate if as many parents as possible would complete it and return it to the school office or Mrs Ellis by tomorrow. Thank you.

**School Starting Time**
The school doors open at 8.50am. We ask that children do not come into the classrooms before this time as teachers are often out of the classrooms preparing for activities for the day and children will not be supervised. **Entry for Preps is through the brick area next to the Prep rooms not through the front or hall doors.**
Language Hint For The Week
Look around the house to find things which begin with our special sound of the week. Practise writing the letter and look in magazines/newspapers for our special sound. This week our sound is a.

Prep Term Planner
Parents are reminded that, if they want to find out more about what the children are learning during first term, the Prep term planner is on the school website, giving detail of areas taught.

Assembly
Next Monday the Preps will commence attending assembly. We have been to the big shed and practised lining up, standing up for the National Anthem and being great listeners.

Prep Lunches
The Preps are now having lunch at the normal lunchtime of 1.30 to 2.30. Prep teachers will still supervise the children to ensure they have eaten enough lunch and that they are playing happily in the yard and there will always be at least two adults on duty in the Prep play area. Lunch orders can be purchased on Wednesday and Friday. If you are sending along money for your child to purchase something over the counter at lunchtime, please do not send a large amount of money as it can become lost or shared with friends.

P.M.P. (Perceptual Motor Program)
Our Perceptual Motor Program (P.M.P.) will start on Monday, 18th April 2016. This program will operate in the Physical Education shed on Monday afternoon every week between 2.30pm and 3.30pm. These specialised sessions greatly benefit the Preps’ gross and fine motor coordination and concentration skills. However, parent help is essential on a regular basis to ensure these small group tasks function effectively. Activities are organised by teachers, are explained to parents and are simple to operate. (If you need to bring a preschooler along that is fine as long as they do not distract the Preps from their activities). If we have sufficient parents offering to help, a roster will be made with parents helping every 2 weeks. If you can help (and we would love you to) could you please return the form sent home today, to a Prep teacher by Friday, 11th March 2016.

Grade 1 News
Students of the Week
1P – Hamish for his super star behaviour and work.
1CK – Tynan for improved listening.
1M – Ryder for always being a great worker and classroom helper.
1D – Chloe for always persisting to complete her work.

Brain Food and Water Bottles
Brain Food must be fruit or vegetables, and should be quick and easy to eat. Please do not send anything that is sticky or runny, or needs to be eaten with a spoon. Many parents are sending oranges or watermelon which makes a real mess and cannot be eaten quickly.
Remember to send a water bottle with your child.

Reading
Please support your child to bring their reader bags to school every day. We also encourage you to help with classroom reading if you have any spare time. Please see classroom teachers for information about reading programs.

Grade 2 News
Students of the Week
2G – Daniel M for making better choices in the classroom.
2H – Larni G for always helping others without being asked.
2F – Braeden C for excellent information writing.
2B – Liam C for great home reading.

Grade 2 Major Excursion
The Grade 2 excursion to the Melbourne Museum, Jurassic World exhibition will be going ahead on Monday 18th April. More information will be sent home shortly.

Junior School Teachers
Middle School News

Grade 3 News

Students of the Week
3N- Zach M for a huge effort this week Zach. You are getting lots of you work done now.
3CT- Lucy G for a positive and helpful attitude in class. A great role model!!
3RD- Tayte S for always helping others and cheering people up with his great smile.
3B- Isaiah P for showing a positive enthusiastic attitude towards his learning.

Goal Setting Interviews
Thank you to all the parents who have attended the Goal Setting Interviews over the past few weeks. If you were unable to make your allocated time please contact your child’s teacher as soon as possible to make a mutually agreeable time.

Swimming
There are still a number of students who haven’t returned their swimming notes. Swimming will be held during the week 7th-11th March. Please ensure you return your permission note to your child’s teacher.

Drink Bottles
Just a reminder of the importance of students to remain hydrated throughout the school day. To avoid students leaving the classroom during lessons we would appreciate it if each child had a water bottle to use whilst inside.

Grade 4 News

Students of the Week
4G - Aymee R for her outstanding organisation and willingness to complete all tasks with 100% effort.
4T - Sean C for writing an amazing biography about himself. Top job Sean!
4M - Erin B for always including extra detail in her written work.

Swimming
Could you please ensure that your child’s swimming permission note and payment are returned to school.

Classroom helpers
Thank you to those parents who have been able to join us in the mornings to hear some reading. If you have a spare morning or two, additional helpers are always appreciated. Please see your child’s teacher for suitable times.

Middle School Teachers

Grade 5 News

Students of the Week
5K - Cody M for his leadership skills and helpfulness during our directional maths activity.
5O - Madison L for completing her work to the best of her ability and seeking help when needed.
5W - Shelley C for her positive start to the school year. Keep it up!

Swimming
Swimming permission forms and $53.00 payments are due by next Wednesday, 2nd March. Swimming lessons start the week of March 7. Reminder notes about payment were sent home on Tuesday this week, so please be sure to check your child’s bag if you are expecting one or unsure.

Lit Circles
Please remind your child to do their Lit Circles reading and maths homework during the week at home. Some students are still finding it hard to get into a routine, so helping them to set a routine that works for them and for you will help them to get a good start to the year. Remember to always leave time for a break for them as well. If students find any maths questions difficult, please remind them to see their teacher at the start of the week, not the end. Students in Grade 5 will also be getting new Lit Circles books this Friday. If they are struggling to read and understand the text over the weekend, please ask them to speak with us early next week.

Netbooks
Students would have now had their netbooks for one week. We hope your child is remembering to charge their netbook themselves each night, as well as bringing it to school each day fully charged. Please remember to be monitoring your child’s use of their netbook at home to ensure that they are being responsible and safe.

Upper School News
**Grade 5/6 Assembly**
Assembly will be held this Thursday at 9.00am in the Hall.

**Swimming Program**
Swimming program information sheets and permission forms were sent home with all children last week. Please ensure that you return the signed form to your child’s classroom teacher, as well as make final payment if you are yet to do so.

**Grade 6 News**

**Students of the Week**
Dylan F – for his close examination of a piece of fruit in his mindfulness activities.
Penny H – for encouraging others and being friendly.
Tyler C - for showing good leadership.

**HPV News**
Good luck to our teams at the First round of the Victorian HPV Championships at Casey on Saturday.

**Reading**
This year our Grade 6 students will once again be required to complete Literate Circles reading each week. The amount of reading required each week is agreed upon by each group on a weekly basis to ensure everyone can contribute to group discussions. Please ensure your child is completing this reading and take the time to discuss the book with your child.

**Homework**
Students will be given homework on Thursdays each week and will be due back on the following Thursday. If you have any questions about homework, please contact one of the grade 6 teachers.

**Bupa**
The students who have been selected to take part in our Bupa program this term will need to remember to bring road worthy bikes and helmets every Friday, rain, hail or shine.

**Upper School Teachers**

**Phys Ed News**

**National Ride 2 School Day**
National Ride 2 School Day is Friday, 4th March. We encourage everyone to ride to school on this day and support this great idea. We have wonderful safe bike tracks leading from both ends of the school. Parents may choose to ride with the students and gather school friends to support this day. If you can help out on the morning or afternoon on this day, please contact Stewart Scoble.

**Weetbix Tryathlon**
There are still entries available for this great event on Sunday 6th March. Log onto the Weetbix web page for your entry. With over 900 students already entered, it should be a great day.

**Stewart Scoble**
Phys Ed Coordinator

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**CANTEEN ROSTER**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Team Names</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 26 February</td>
<td>Brent Monro, Jayne Norton, Christy Osborne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 2 March</td>
<td>Fiona Robinson, Nat Schroeter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 4 March</td>
<td>Katie McEwen, Barb Russell, Heather Veitch</td>
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**Uniform Shop**

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Team Names</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 26 February</td>
<td>Jody Austin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 29 February</td>
<td>Mary Stevens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 4 March</td>
<td>Heather Veitch</td>
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Opening Times 2016
Tuesday 3.30pm – 4.00pm and Friday 3.30pm-4.00pm
Kim Engi, Terri Massese & Deb Bucccon

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**NEWSLETTER ROSTER**

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 03 March</td>
<td>Kate Duncan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 10 March</td>
<td>Kate Nichols</td>
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Please collect from the office at the end of the day

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**SICKBAY ROSTER**

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<tr>
<td>Friday 26 February</td>
<td>Kate Duncan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 4 March</td>
<td>Michelle Christian</td>
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Please collect from the office at the end of the day

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**Urgent Reminder**: If you are unable to assist with canteen duty, please arrange a swap or inform the office so that a replacement helper can be arranged.

Mrs Helen Williams, Canteen Manager
Community News

White Hills Junior Football Club vacancies
WHJFC has vacancies for players in all grades. Anyone, girls or boys that are interested in playing football are most welcome. Please contact the club at whjfclub@gmail.com or call Nigel Lewis on 0409022275.

Wanted
Bendigo Monday Ladies Netball Ass is looking for players, teams or umpires
To play in our Monday Morning competition at Bendigo Stadium during school terms
A free crèche is provided
All abilities catered for
Phone Marge 54437379

Bendigo Psychology: Helping the Anxious Child Sessions
Bendigo Psychology will be hosting a session entitled “Helping the Anxious Child”. Helping the Anxious child Sessions are designed to give parents, teachers, carers and health professionals a better understanding of how to help their Anxious child/teenager/student.
The session will be held Wednesday 2nd March 2016 with Neuropsychologist, Dr Lenka Schirmer, from 6.30pm to 8.30pm at 499 Hargreaves Street.
The cost is $45 and bookings are essential. Interested participants can email admin@bendigopsychology.com.au or phone 5443 2284 to secure a place with payment.

Positive Behaviour Support Workshop
For Parents and Carers of Children and Young Adults with Autism

Eligibility to participate in this workshop:
» Parents or carers of children and young adults aged 6 - 25 years, who are living at home and diagnosed with Autism
» Participating families are encouraged to invite professionals or service providers working with them to attend the workshop

When: Wednesday, 16 March 2016 – Friday, 18 March 2016
Where: Bendigo Bowls Club, 169-183 Barnard St., Bendigo VIC 3550
Time: 9:30am-2:30pm (9:15am for registration)
Cost: FREE (Tea, coffee & biscuits provided ~ participants to bring own lunch)
Registration: Register via the “Events & Workshops” section of our website www.autismspectrum.org.au

Welcome to Season 2016!
GOLDEN CITY FOOTBALL CLUB

Registration Dates for all players.
Wednesday 2nd March and Monday 7th March
3:30pm till 6pm
To be held at our clubrooms
Anderson St, North Bendigo
There will be an Eftpos available on these Registration days to make payment of Fees

SOUTHBENDIGO FOOTBALL & NETBALL CLUB
REGISTRATIONS
JUNIOR FOOTBALL PLAYERS
Transport Under 9s through to Youth Girls
are now open for the 2016 Season
REGISTER ON LINE
SOUTH BENDIGO JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB
- Fox sporting Pulse
If you have any questions about the registration process, please email
juniorssecretary@southbendigofc.com.au
or telephone 0427 338 962.