Golden Plains Shire Council will have altered hours during the Christmas and New Year holiday period.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Council's Customer Service Centres at 2 Pope Street, Bannockburn and 19 Heales Street, Smythesdale will close Christmas Eve, Friday 24 December, 2021, and re-open at 8.30am, Tuesday 4 January, 2022.

Essential services will be available in this period, in case of an emergency. If you need urgent assistance, please call 5220 7111 and follow the prompts.

EARLY YEARS SERVICES

Council's Kindergarten and Occasional Care Services in Bannockburn, Teesdale, Rokewood, Inverleigh and Meredith will be closed by Friday 17 December, 2021 and programs will recommence from Monday 31 January, 2022.

The Bannockburn Family Services Centre reception will close at 5pm, and Kardinia Childcare from 6pm, on Friday 24 December, 2021 and re-open for normal operational hours from Tuesday 4 January, 2022.

Family Day Care Services will all be closed from Friday 24 December, 2021 to Tuesday 4 January, 2022.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES

Maternal and Child Health Services consultations from Teesdale, Inverleigh and Rokewood Early Years facilities will close at 4pm, Friday 24 December, 2021, and recommence from Tuesday 4 January, 2022, by appointment only.

Consultations by appointment from the Meredith Early Years facility will also close at 4pm, Friday 24 December, 2021, and resume in February 2022 due to the closure of the facility during January.

ACTIVE AGEING AND INCLUSION SERVICES

Council's Active Ageing and Inclusion Services will close at 2pm, Friday 24 December, 2021, and re-open for normal operational hours from Tuesday 4 January, 2022. Community Care workers will deliver essential personal care during the holiday period.

RUBBISH AND RECYCLING COLLECTION

There are no changes to Council's waste and recycling collection service over the Christmas and New Year holiday period.

As always, please remember to place your bins out the night before your collection day.

Rokewood Transfer Station

The Rokewood Resource Recovery Centre will be closed on Sunday 26 December, 2021 and re-open for normal operational hours on Sunday 2 January, 2022.

Spring in the Shire

Photography Competition

Congratulations to the winners of the Spring in the Shire 2021 photography competition.

"Love" by Holly Draffin, Linton

"Wing Attack" by Lyn Steele, Bannockburn

"Early morning fish on the Leigh River" by Lucy Blersch

Announced at an award ceremony at the Golden Plains Twilight Market on 16 December, the first placed and highly commended photographs are:

MAJOR PRIZE (18 YEARS AND OLDER)

Winner: "Wing Attack" by Lyn Steele, Bannockburn

Highly Commended: "Solitary sentinel" by Barry Feldman, Geelong

Highly Commended: "To get the rainbow you need a little rain" by Lisa Carpenter, Scarsdale

YOUNG ADULT PRIZE (13 TO 17 YEARS OLD)

Winner: "Love" by Holly Draffin, Linton

Highly Commended: "Baby goats in the Spring sunshine" by Amelie Strahan, Dereel

JUNIOR PRIZE (UP TO 12 YEARS OLD)

Winner: "Early morning fish on the Leigh River" by Lucy Blersch, Inverleigh

Highly Commended: "Bannockburn Heart" by Ruby Bennion, Bannockburn

Council thanks Stockdale & Leggo Bannockburn and Healthwise Pharmacy Bannockburn for sponsoring the competition prizes.

From more than 70 entries, 30 images have been shortlisted and are included in a public exhibition public, on display from Friday 17 December to Monday 31 January at the Bannockburn Cultural Centre, 27 High Street, Bannockburn. Opening hours are 10am to 1pm on Mondays, 10am to 5pm on Tuesdays, 10am to 6pm on Wednesdays, 10am to 5pm on Thursdays and Fridays and 9am to 12pm on Saturdays. The exhibition will not be accessible on Saturday 25 December or 1 January, and will be closed for all public holidays during the exhibition period, including Wednesday 26 January.