PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS

Off to a great start in 2010
At assembly on Monday this week, over 20 students received awards for their excellent starts to the school year, and a further ten students had presenters roles. The whole assembly was very positive and was a fair reflection of our first week back at school for 2010. The students are enjoying the variety of play equipment and shaded areas, and have been very busy in class with learning programs and activities planned by their teachers.

As explained in last week’s Welcome Back Bulletin, teachers have incorporated within class, a unit about positive behaviour at school. Apart from our school name, the initials, BPPS also begin our four school rules.

I am confident that all children from Years 1 to 6 could list the rules and explain what they mean and why they are important. Test my confidence out and ask your child (ren).

IT’S NOT OK for a child TO BE AWAY from school unless he/she is unwell.

Footsteps Dance
For the fourth year, we have provided this fantastic program for all our students. Mr O’Brien has organised a timetable so that every grade attends on Thursdays this term. Dance is great for fun and fitness, memory and coordination, keeping the beat in music, using your memory to learn the steps and for cooperating with your partner to learn the dance together. Footsteps Dance is one of the programs subsidised by the Commonwealth Government’s Department of Health and Ageing, Healthy and Active Schools Grant.

If you would like to come and watch a session, please contact the office or ask your child what time they are scheduled and feel welcome to come along.

If there is any parent who thinks they could lead a lunch time aerobics exercise session for students one lunch time a week for 30 minutes, I would love to hear from you.

Parent Events This Coming Week

- Thursday, 11 February — This evening’s Prep Family Night here at school, 5.00pm to 7.00pm.
- Monday, 15 February — Parents’ Club Annual General Meeting in the staffroom, 9.40am.
- Wednesday, 17 February — Family Twilight Sports and Fun Evening next Wednesday, 5.00pm to 7.15pm.

Some important general notices and information:

Twilight Aths Meeting tomorrow after school
There is a twilight athletics meeting (that does not involve our school) at the Ballam Park Track on Friday, March 12th. This may cause traffic congestion around the school at 3.30pm.
A Good Night’s Sleep is Good for Learning
Did you know that a child who does not get enough regular sleep cannot learn properly, will be too tired to be physically active and is more likely to be “grumpy” and get into arguments with others? According to the following website, primary school aged children need the minimum hours of sleep as shown below.


3-6 Years Old: 10 ¾ - 12 hours per day
7-12 Years Old: 10 - 11 hours per day

New Child Restraint Laws
These apply at all times in Victoria, including when children are travelling to and from school by car.


Head Lice
I respectfully request that parents regularly check their children's hair and treat any head lice problem. Apart from using expensive chemical treatments, the school nurse has advised me that application of regular hair conditioner followed by thorough combing with a head lice comb on a daily basis for at least 10 successive days can be very effective in controlling head lice. With very little parent help, most children could do this, perhaps with a towel around their shoulders as they sit and watch TV.

Personal Goods brought to School at Owner's Risk - DEECD Policy
⇒ Principals are requested to remind staff, students and parents/guardians of this at the beginning of this academic year. Staff and students should be discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.
⇒ Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises.
⇒ The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.

Are you missing out on a subsidy for before and after school care?

Government Funding available to Parents
Child Care Benefit, the Child Care Rebate and other Government funding assistance towards child care costs remains an area of significant confusion for parents. Many parents are not aware that they may be missing out on up to $7778 per child per year towards their Camp Australia fees. Education of parents in vital to ensure they receive all funding they are entitled to. Included below is some information about CCB and the CCR that may help parents.

Child Care Rebate
Almost all families are entitled to the Child Care Rebate, regardless of how much they earn. If a parent is eligible for Child Care Benefit but their Child Care Benefit entitlement is zero due to income, they may still be eligible for the Child Care Rebate of 50% of all child care expenses up to $7778 per child per year.

Eligibility for CCB and the CCR
If you can answer yes to the following questions you may be able to receive the Child Care Rebate:

* Do you have children?
* Are your children attending approved child care? (all Camp Australia Services are approved)
* Are you an Australian resident or the holder of a qualifying visa? 1
* Are you liable to pay child care fees for your child?
* Do you work, are you training or do you study?

How to Claim?
Many customers are already eligible but are not receiving their entitlements because they have not provided their Date of Birth and Centrelink Customer Reference Number (CRN) to our Customer Service Team. Parents can call our Customer Service Team on 1300 105 343 to provide this information or to enquire about CCB & the CCR. If a parent is unsure of their eligibility, they can contact the Family Assistance Office on 13 6150 between 8am and 8pm Monday to Friday. For information in languages other than English the contact number is 13 1202.

School Council and Parent Participation
Parents are most welcome to be involved in our school. If you would like to assist in your child’s classroom, please discuss this with the teacher.

The Parents’ Club, which runs fundraising activities, meets in the staff room at 9.30am each Monday after assembly and new members are always welcome.

Every Monday, there is assembly in the hall for up to 30 minutes and it is always well attended by parents. On all other days, we begin with a brief outdoor assembly where parents are welcome.
Principal’s Comments cont/…

Information about School Council was sent home to each family. Nominations are due by February 17th.

Please contact me at school if you would like more information about School Council.

Mark Renouf
Principal

ESSENTIAL EDUCATION ITEMS
YEAR 2010

PLEASE NOTE: Ballam Park Primary School does not charge school fees or ask parents to make a voluntary contribution.

The Essential Education Items Year 2010 for each year level were sent home with students in December 2009. If you did not receive this list, a copy is available from the office.

Thank you to all those parents who have already paid for their child’s supplies.

It would be appreciated if outstanding payments for the 2010 Essential Education Items could be finalised by Friday, 26th February 2010.

A reminder that there are facilities for EFTPOS, credit card and phone credit at the office. There is also BPAY, with the BPAY details on your statement.

Alternatively, for parents who are eligible, an application for Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) should be completed by no later than Friday, 26th February 2010.

WATER

As a 5 * Sustainable School, we are concerned about saving water. Our drinking taps that we call ‘bubble taps’ waste a lot of water. To use the leftover water, we put containers under our bubble taps and then use the water on our school gardens. The best size containers are 4 litre ice-cream containers. We don’t have enough of these to put under all our bubble taps. If you have any of these you don’t need, could you please bring them to the school office? We could really use them.

Thank you
Lynda Stafford

NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT ABSENCES

It is requested that parents please ring the school on 9789-5614, prior to 9.30am, to advise if their child will be absent.

SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP
(operated by Primary School Wear)

The Uniform Shop (which is located at the end of the senior building near the Library) is open every Thursday — 8.30 to 9.45am.

Uniform orders may be left at the school office at any time.

If you are unable to visit the Uniform Shop, you may make a phone order with a credit card payment, telephone 9585-3333. The order will be packed and delivered to your child. Uniform items can also be ordered online at www.psw.com.au

BPPS uniforms are also available at Primary School Wear Frankston store, 21 Playne Street, Frankston (opposite Savers), phone 9769-6510.

$$$ STUDENT BANKING $$$

School banking operates EVERY TUESDAY at our school, and recommences next Tuesday, 16th February 2010. Parents of new students who wish to open an account for their child may collect details from the school office.

If you would like more information regarding school banking, please contact Mrs Jo Lothian (parent volunteer) via the school office.

BOOK CLUB

Please note that Book Club orders are due back at school by Tuesday, 16th February. Additional order forms are available at the office.
**CANTEEN**

Bellbrook Catering will continue to supply our Canteen services this year.

The Canteen reopened this week, and will operate for three days each week — MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY.

**HOW TO ORDER**

Please write on a paper lunch bag:

- the student's name
- class
- room number
- the amount enclosed, and
- the order.

The orders will be placed in crates in classrooms at the commencement of the morning session. The completed orders will be returned to the classrooms by 1.20pm, as lunch is eaten in classrooms.

The current Canteen menu, effective from January 2010, is attached to this newsletter. Please discard your old Canteen price list. Thank you.

Bon Appetit!

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**TERM DATES 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>1 February (students start) to 26 March (Teachers begin Term 1 on 27 January)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>12 April to 25 June (26 April ANZAC Day Public Holiday)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>12 July to 17 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>4 October to 17 December</td>
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</tbody>
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**PERFECT ATTENDANCE FOR 2009**

CONGRATULATIONS to the following students who received a book voucher for PERFECT ATTENDANCE FOR ALL OF YEAR 2009:

* Chloe E  
* Caleb K  
* Jandre L  
* Benjamin B  
* Phillip N  
* Adriana W  
* Brianna D  
* Natarsha G  
* Jamie P  
* Chris P

We hope to be able to award many Perfect Attendance Certificates to students again this year.

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**Parents’ Club**

Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday, 15th February 2010, 9.30am in the school staff room where all Committee positions are declared open. ALL WELCOME.

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**School items for sale at office**

The following school items are on display, and are only available for sale at the office:

* BPPS Pencil Case $6.00
* BPPS Elite Sports/ Swim Bag $10.00
* BPPS Excursion Bag (backpack) $10.00

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**REQUEST FOR SCHOOL BANKING INFORMATION**

To: School Banking Co-ordinator
Ballam Park Primary School

Please send me a school banking information pack:

Parent’s Name: ..........................................................................................................................

Student’s name: ......................................................................................................................... Grade: ............. Room No.: ........
Sport News

**Inter-school Summer Sport**
All Year 6 students have been placed into Summer Sport teams of cricket, kanga cricket, rounders, newcombe and softball for the Frankston District Inter-school Sport season which will begin on Friday, 19th February against Frankston Heights PS from 9.30am – 11.00am.
Year 6 students have received a notice outlining the fixture and details for the Summer Sport season. Money for buses for the whole term is not due for another couple of weeks.
Best of luck to Year 6 students competing in Summer Sport.

**Year 1 Swimming Program**
The Year 1 Swimming and Water Safety Program has been booked for Jubilee Park from Monday, 1st March – Thursday, 4th March (4 days). The program is designed to further students’ knowledge and skills learned during their Prep Swimming Program late in 2009. Year 1 notices have been sent home. Could parents please complete and return all forms and money by FRIDAY, 26th FEBRUARY.

Prep and Year 2 students will have their Swimming Programs at Jubilee Park in Term 4.
Years 3 – 6 students will participate in Swimming and Beach Safety Programs also in Term 4.

**District Swimming Trials**
The Frankston District Swimming Trials will be held on Friday, 19th February at Frankston High School. The District Trials are to select the top swimmers to advance to the Zone Swimming Finals. Only experienced and very capable swimmers should attend the trials. If your child has expressed interest in the trials, please discuss with them whether you feel they are competent enough to compete against other top level swimmers. If not, it would be best if they did not enter in an event. Students selected into events have received a notice to take home to parents outlining all details for the trials.

**Footsteps Dance Clinics**
All students will participate in an 8 week dance program in Term 1 conducted by Footsteps Dance Company (as in 2009). The program is designed to incorporate a variety of dance activities and is a lot of fun for all year levels.
The sessions began last Thursday (4th February) and will continue every Thursday until the end of Term 1. A notice with full details was sent home last week.

**SunSmart Hats for Term 1**
Just a reminder to parents that all students must wear their Ballam Park PS SunSmart hats to all PE and sport sessions in Term 1. So far this week, almost all grades for PE have had every student with their hat which has been great to see. However, students who don’t have their hat will be unable to participate in either PE or sport sessions which would see them fall behind the rest of the class for the activity being covered at that time.
The days for each year level’s Sport or Platoon times for Term 1 are:
*YEAR 6 – Friday mornings (Inter-school Summer Sport)*
*YEAR 4/5 – Tuesday afternoon*
*YEAR 1/2 – Friday 12.30pm – 1.20pm.*
Please check with your child or their teacher to find out which day their grade also has their PE lesson.

**Years 5 and 6 Camps**
Year 5 students have already received their initial notice for camp at Forest Lodge outlining the details of the camp and costs involved. A reminder to parents that the deposit for Year 5 Camp is due on FRIDAY, 26th FEBRUARY.
Notices for Year 6 Camp to Coonawarra will be sent home shortly, with an information flyer available to parents after the Twilight Sports Evening on Wednesday, 17th February.
Please contact Mr. O’Brien if you require any further information regarding either camp.

Darren O’Brien
Sports Coordinator
I hear the excitement when we’re doing something fun. Adrian

I can see agreements that can’t be broken. Weston

I can hear the fan whooshing through the air. Natalie

I can see friendships that will last forever. Hannah

I feel excited to start working. Zac

I feel great, calm, relaxed and happy in my mind. Raymond

I feel like I’m surrounded, not by people, but by imaginative souls. Kate

I can see a class full of learning, fun and mystery. Carly

I see busy kids getting creative. Holly

I feel safe and secure as I write. Tyron

I feel the warmth of my blue school jumper. Megan

I feel like a star in the night sky. I feel smart. Will T

I hear the words whirl in our minds. Natasha

I feel the warmth of my blue school jumper. Megan

I hear air swooshing. Nathan

I feel like a star in the night sky. I feel smart. Will T

I see persistence in Kate and Carly. Ty

I can see talent bursting out. Isabelle

I feel safe. Emily

I see creative minds at work. Emmanuel

I feel relaxed in this classroom. Luke
PARENTS’ CLUB

♦ ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING — Monday, 15th February 2010
Please come along to our Annual General Meeting on Monday, 15th February at 9.30am.
All welcome.

♦ SUNSCREEN SPF 30+ KIDS ROLL-ON $5 — Orders due back 26th February

♦ SAUSAGE SIZZLE — Tuesday, 16th March

♦ CAN YOU HELP WITH EASTER RAFFLE PRIZE DONATIONS?
We are once again relying on your generosity for donations for our prizes in the Easter Raffle. Can you help us?

♦ SHOPPING TROLLEY TOKENS
Shopping Trolley Tokens are on sale at the office for $3.00 each. The tokens are a key ring which can be used in ANY trolley, so no more searching for loose gold coins! There are some great styles available.

♦ 2009 CHRISTMAS RAFFLE WINNERS
1st prize R Holton, 2nd prize D Pujol, 3rd prize Rosemary V, 4th prize Jack R, 5th prize M Grbic, 6th prize R Hare, 7th prize Eric V, 8th prize R Parker, 9th prize A Dimitrov, 10th prize Matthew K, 11th prize N Macintyre, 12th prize M Richards.

OSHC NEWS THIS WEEK
‘we make kids smile’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS HIGHLIGHTS</td>
<td>UNO Championship Fresh Fruit</td>
<td>Create and decorate snow boards Fresh Fruit</td>
<td>Design a sports uniform Fresh Fruit</td>
<td>Cake making and decorating Fresh Fruit</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Playdough making and play Fresh Fruit</td>
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Over the next fortnight, the children will be encouraged to get involved in the Winter Olympics, discovering the sports and learning about other countries.

For bookings please call Emma on 0418-108-557.

Star of the Week:
Rhys P and Imogen G

Outside School Hours Care with Camp Australia
Welcome back everyone for 2010 and a special welcome to all our new families. We hope your child’s time at BPPS is happy and productive.

This year I will be spreading my 15 hours of working time over 3 days—Monday, Wednesday and Friday. I will be available for children, parents and teachers for a chat, for support and to help work on issues in their lives.

I am very excited about 2 new programs that I am running this year—Solving the Jigsaw and Mentors.

Solving the Jigsaw—This is an anti-violence, anti-bullying program that I will be running in conjunction with each class teacher. Throughout the year each grade will have 5 sessions. It helps children identify types of violence, learn about use and misuse of power, speaking up for themselves and supporting one another. This program fits in very well with Restorative Justice, Circle Time, You Can Do It and Friendly Schools Friendly Families. If you would like to find out more about Solving the Jigsaw, please let me know.

Mentors— I am planning to start a mentoring program for our students commencing Term 2 and running to the end of the year. Volunteer adult mentors from the community will be paired with children who may benefit from spending time with a positive adult role model. The mentor will have a Working With Children Check, and will undergo a training and selection process by myself, Mr Renouf and David Sullivan from St Luke’s Anglican Church. The weekly mentor session will include assistance with maths or literacy tasks, and also some fun activities such as playing games, music, sport, craft, etc. If you know of any suitable adults who may be interested in assisting our children for one hour per week, please contact me.

Seasons Grief and Loss Program—in 2009, we had 2 Seasons support groups which helped students who had experienced the loss of separation from or death of a parent or sibling. It is suitable for children in Years 2 to 6. If you would like your child to do the Seasons program, please let me know.

Lunchtime Programs are continuing. School Choir meets on Mondays and Indoor activities are held on Wednesdays. Both groups are held in Room 6 after the lunch half time bell rings.

Have a great year.

Best wishes
Kaye Coughlan
School Chaplain

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**CHANGE TO STUDENT DETAILS**

*(Please return to office)*

It is important that the school is kept up to date with any changes in family circumstances, change of address, telephone or new mobile number, emergency contact details, parents’ work details, etc. If there have been any changes within your family, please notify us as soon as possible by returning this note to the office, so that we can maintain accurate student details. Thank you for your co-operation.

Student(s) Names: ………………………………………………………………………. Grade(s): ………
Please note the following change(s) in student details: …………………………………………………………………………………………….
…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………Thank you
FREE WEEKLY TUTORING!!
FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN
@ ST LUKES CHURCH, FRANKSTON
5:30 TO 6:30
TUESDAYS

TUTORING IN AREAS OF ENGLISH, MATHEMATICS AND
VOLUNTEER RUN SPECIAL INTEREST SESSIONS
INCLUDING RELAXATION/MUSIC/ART AND MORE.

5:30-FIRST SESSION
5:50-BREAK AND LIGHT HEALTHY SNACK
6:00-SECOND SESSION
6:20-PACK UP AND PICK UP

ALL VOLUNTEERS HOLD WORKING WITH CHILDREN CARDS.
RATIO OF 5 KIDS TO 1 TUTOR. CALM, ENCOURAGING
ENVIRONMENT WITH A VISION TO BUILDING A LOVE OF
LEARNING AND RUN BY OUR RESIDENT ROCKET SCIENTIST!
SERIOUSLY!

AN INITIATIVE ORGANISED AND RUN BY SENIOR YOUTH AND YOUTH
LEADERSHIP AT ST LUKES ANGLICAN CHURCH
72 MCMAHONS RD FRANKSTON

FOR FURTHER INFO CALL THE OFFICE - 97831561
mail@stlukesfrankston.com.au