WALKATHON TOMORROW
Friday, 18th November

The Walkathon will be held THIS FRIDAY, 18TH NOVEMBER. The Walkathon will begin at 9.20am and finish by morning recess time. Parents are most welcome to come along for the walk.

Many students are already onto their 2nd sponsors' card, and have obviously been very busy collecting sponsors in a bid to win some of the fantastic prizes up for grabs, including:

- LAPTOP COMPUTER
- iPOD NANO
- SMALL FLAT SCREEN TELEVISION
- BLADE BOARD plus knee/elbow pads
- BODY BOARD
- 6 IN 1 SPORTS PACK
- BIKE AND HELMET
- SPORTS STORE VOUCHER
- BASKETBALL/SOCCERBALL/FOOTBALL (your choice)
- BOARD GAMES—Monopoly, Scrabble
- LEGO
- UNO GAME
- TENNIS RACQUET AND TENNIS BALLS
- FAMILY BOWLING VOUCHER
- SPORTIME PACK including Bag and Drink Bottle

COSTUME:
This year’s Walkathon is a “RAINBOW THEME”, in which students in each year level will dress in a different colour of the rainbow as follows:

- Prep: Purple
- Year 1: Orange
- Year 2: Yellow
- Year 3: Red
- Year 4: Green
- Year 5: Pink
- Year 6: Blue

Students will also need to wear comfortable shoes for walking.

No face paint or hair spray/colouring, etc. please.

There will be special prizes for the BEST COSTUME on Friday. All students who complete the Walkathon will also receive an icy-pole!

WHAT ELSE TO BRING:
- Hat
- Sunscreen
- Plastic drink bottle (water will be available)

WALKATHON SPONSORS’ CARDS:
All sponsor cards will need to be returned to school TOMORROW (if they haven’t been already), and handed to your child’s teacher prior to the Walkathon.

All students will receive a special stamping card with their name on it tomorrow morning before the Walkathon, to carry with them during the Walkathon, which will be stamped after each lap to assist students with keeping count of how many laps they have completed.

Let’s hope for fantastic weather and a great Walkathon tomorrow!

Darren O’Brien
Walkathon Coordinator

PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS

School Chaplain Application to Apply to Continue the Program
Following a survey of staff and another of parents, and discussion at School Council on Monday this week, the continuation of the program is very strongly supported:

- 100% of parents who responded to the survey publicised in the last two newsletters.
- 94% of staff who responded to the staff survey, and
- Unanimous support at School Council.

An application to participate in the new program beginning in the first half of 2012 will now be submitted.

Thank you to those who took the time to have input by providing your opinion on this program.
Orienteering Team Congratulations

Last Friday, Mr O’Brien, Miss McLeod and I had a terrific day with 49 of our students at the Victorian Orienteering Association Eastern Zone Championships. Our students’ behaviour was excellent, as was their enthusiasm and approach to navigating a course that was considerably more difficult than last year’s.

Our students took between 15 minutes and 95 minutes to complete their designated course, all showing great persistence to solve some difficult map reading challenges along the way.

Our team was placed third in between schools that brought twice as many students as we did. Special congratulations to Jessica and Casey who came first in their events, to Erin and Devlin who came second and Luke who was placed third.

Rotary Award for Enthusiasm

Also a big congratulations to Shaylie in Year 6 for being our school’s recipient of the Seaford Rotary Club’s Award for Enthusiasm for 2011. Everyone who knows Shaylie will agree that she deserves this award for her attitude in class, her outgoing and caring relationships with other students, her participation in extra-curricular activities and for her success with calisthenics outside of school.

CHILDREN TRANSFERRING TO NEW SCHOOLS IN 2012
(excluding Year 6 students)

To assist us with our preliminary planning for Year 2012, we need to have fairly accurate estimates of student enrolment. It is important that we know about any families who are presently at our school but intend to transfer to another school in 2012.

Please return this form to school as soon as possible. Thank you.

CHILDREN IN YEARS PREP TO 5 TRANSFERRING TO OTHER SCHOOLS IN 2012

My children will be transferring to:

………………………………… Primary School

Children’s names:

………………………………… Grade …..
………………………………… Grade …..
………………………………… Grade …..

Parent/guardian’s signature:

…………………………………

SAVING OUR ENVIRONMENT...

Would you like to receive a newsletter link every fortnight via email? If you are interested, please email us at...

ballam.park.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
The School Start Bonus is provided by the Victorian Government to assist low-income families with the costs associated with their child starting Prep (or Year 7) at a government or non-government school.

If you hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a foster parent, and you have a child starting Prep (or Year 7) in 2012, you may be eligible to receive this one-off $300 payment.

The School Start Bonus will be paid by EFT into your nominated bank account in late January 2012. The School Start Bonus is separate, and additional to the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA).

Please contact the office to complete a School Start Bonus application form which needs to be lodged before 15th December 2011.

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

It’s Not OK To Be Away from school unless you are unwell.

**NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT ABSENTANCES**

Please note that Primary School Wear (PSW) Frankston retail store will be closed between the following dates for Christmas:

From Wednesday 21 December 2011 to Monday, 2nd January 2012 (inclusive)

and will reopen on Tuesday, 3rd January 2012.

These closure dates are on the PSW website www.psw.com.au and signage is in store for your convenience.

CHANGES TO THE ELIGIBILITY SCHOOL START BONUS PREPS 2012

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In the last newsletter we included information on our Agreement of Acceptable Use which all students will be expected to sign next year. Many students are using the Internet at home, and social networking sites such as FaceBook. Social networking sites are becoming popular ways to communicate online. However, some people using these sites have ill intentions and may use your information to embarrass or damage your reputation. Criminals can also use your information to steal your identity or to target you with scams.

There are lots of things you can do to stay safe when using social networking sites. The following checklist is from a Government publication titled ‘Protecting Yourself Online’.

**Checklist of basic steps to be safe online:**

**SOCIAL NETWORKING SAFELY**

- Set your profile to private
- Protect your account with strong passwords
- Use discretion when accepting ‘friends’
- Think carefully before you click on suspicious links—even if they are from your friends
- Don’t post information that would make you or your family vulnerable, such as dates of birth and address
- Don’t post photos of you or your family that may be inappropriate—photos that identify where you live, work or go to school.

**DEALING WITH OFFENSIVE CONTENT**

- Take note of the website address
- Make a complaint to the ACMA – Australia Communication and Media Authority

**PROTECTING YOUR CHILDREN ONLINE**

- Install and maintain a content filter on your computer or use parental controls on your security software
- For young children, set up your computer to only access approved websites and email addresses
- Monitor where you children go online
- Educate your child not to share personal information online
- Report cyber bullying to your child’s school and your ISP
- Remind your children to never meet someone in person who they have met online unless a responsible adult is present.
- Tell your children that if they are uncomfortable talking to you they can contact the Cybersmart Online Helpline [KidsHelpline] at [www.cybersmart.gov.au](http://www.cybersmart.gov.au)
- Report suspicious behaviour to your local Police or Crime Stoppers by phoning 1800-333-000
We had a fantastic time at our Fairytale Ball. We dressed up as different characters and walked through the castle doorway and down the red carpet.
We danced with our partners and our visitors and sang some songs. It was so much fun! We had a great time.

We had colourful balloons on our tables. We ate fairy bread, fruit, and cupcakes. It was YUMMY!
Parents’ Club News

Parents’ Club meetings are held in the staff room each Monday morning after assembly. New members are always welcome at Parents’ Club. Please come along and join in.

Can you help us? (Christmas Raffle donations)

We would be very grateful if parents could assist us with any Christmas Raffle donations. Please send any contributions to the office. Thank you in anticipation of your help.

Christmas Cakes, Shortbread and Cookie Dough Fundraiser

We have arranged for an exciting fundraising opportunity for parents to bake their own Christmas Cakes, Shortbread and Cookies just in time for Christmas. Today we are sending home “Billy G Gourmet Christmas Cakes, Shortbread and Cookie Dough” flyer and brochure. You can enjoy delicious gourmet Christmas cakes, shortbread and cookies (in 1.3 kg tubs) baked fresh at home with the minimum of fuss and effort. Simply scoop, bake, serve and enjoy!

Forthcoming Events:

* Christmas Sausage Sizzle—Thursday, 15th December
* Christmas Stall—Monday, 19th December

Farm Fresh Veggies—‘Vegie Run’ Home Delivery

Why not have fresh vegetables and fruit home delivered at a great price, while also supporting our school? An order form for ‘Vegie Run’ Spring stock is available at office.

2011 Victorian Premier’s Reading Challenge

Dear Principal,

Congratulations on your school’s participation in the 2011 Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge. As a proud partner of the Challenge, The Age is publishing the official honour roll on Sunday, November 27, 2011.

This 36-page liftout will include the names of all the students that have successfully completed the Challenge, along with all the final statistics for 2011.

As a Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge participating school, Ballam Park Primary School will receive a 35-copy class set of The Sunday Age including the honour roll liftout courtesy of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. The liftout will be delivered to school on Monday, November 28.
SCHOOL BANKING

If you are interested in opening a Commonwealth Youthsaver Account for your child, please complete the form below and return it to the school office ASAP. Alternatively, if you have an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account, your child can start banking straight away through school, so just send the bank book to school on Tuesday every week!

Any questions – please feel free to contact the office.

Please tear off form below and return to the office

Yes, please send me a School Banking Application Pack for my child/children:

PARENT’S SIGNATURE:…………………………………………………………

[Names and classes for children]

Guitar Tuition Available at school

If you would like your child to have Guitar lessons at the school on Mondays, please contact Glen Vinton on either 5979-4575 or via email on x10sivmusic@rock.com

Glen teaches both acoustic and electric guitar styles which will incorporate major and minor chords, moving on to barre chords, lead construction and, when your child gains confidence, song composition.

Glen has been playing guitar for over 35 years and has a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment (Music).

On a musical note...congratulations!

On 5th November, in conjunction with Pelican Theatre Company, X10SIV Guitar Tuition held two musical recitals at Hastings Hall.

Congratulations to Jackson K, James L and Tessa M on great performances. I’d like to thank you for your dedication and hard work practising your musical pieces. I’m sure your parents are very proud of you. I know I am. Well done!

Glen Vinton
X10SIV Guitar Tuition
This fortnight, we’ll be creating a Summer mural, and talking about Summer and the importance of taking care of our skin.

**Out School Hours Care with Camp Australia**

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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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE HIGHLIGHTS</td>
<td>Cricket</td>
<td>Sunflower</td>
<td>Fruit Salad &amp;</td>
<td>Summer Mural</td>
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<td>Fresh Fruit</td>
<td>Making Fresh Fruit</td>
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**Star of the Week:**

Hayley D for including others

Outside School Hours Care with Camp Australia

Frankston Toy Library’s Baby & Children’s Christmas Market

A great event for only $2 entry (children under 2 are free)! Photos with Santa, Christmas craft activities, over 30 stalls selling new and pre-loved items for children, gourmet cakes, Sausage Sizzle, play equipment and even a coffee van. Please come and join us from 11am to 3pm on Saturday 26th November at St Augustine’s Primary School Hall, Golf Links Road, Frankston! Accepting Stallholders now!!

For more information, please visit: [http://www.frankstontoylibrary.org.au/events.html](http://www.frankstontoylibrary.org.au/events.html)

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL CANTEEN**

Thank you to all our parents who have responded to the request for Canteen support. We still need your support mainly for Wednesdays.

**TERM DATES 2011 - 2013**

2011

Term 4: 10 October to 22 December

2012

Term 1: *1 February (teachers start) to 28 March

Term 2: 15 April to 29 June

Term 3: 16 July to 21 September

Term 4: 8 October to 21 December

* The first day of Term 1 (Wed 1 February) is when teachers start and this is a student-free day. Thursday, 2 Feb is also a student-free day.

2013

Term 1: *29 January (teachers start) to 28 March

Term 2: 15 April to 28 June

Term 3: 15 July to 20 September

Term 4: 7 October to 20 December

* The first day of Term 1 is when teachers start – this is a student-free day. Please check with your school when your child starts as student-free day arrangements may vary from school to school.

** Please check with school when other student-free days will occur throughout the school year.

COMMUNITY NOTICE

The school sincerely appreciates the sponsorship of both our school newsletter and school website by a variety of businesses, but please be aware that the school is not permitted to endorse or recommend any businesses.

"The Fairies Christmas Ballet"

will be performed live on stage at various venues including Frankston Arts Centre
Dates start from 18th November to 23rd November
and we still have some tickets available for our entertaining and uplifting concerts!

The Fairies Christmas Ballet is jam packed full of stunning ballet "en pointe" by fairies Harmony, Rhapsody and Fairy Princess Minuet, as well as some funky jazz and the normal hilarious antics of Barnaby and Wizzy.

The stage is stunning, with thousands of fairy lights sparkling from a giant Christmas tree. The music is divine - a mix of fairy favourites, a few gorgeous Christmas numbers and a new Christmas song, "Christmas Magic".

Log on to: http://www.thefairies.com for all ticket details, and take a sneak peak at one of our favourites, Fairy Bells, on YouTube.