PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS

School Start Date for 2012
In 2012 not all schools will begin for students on the same day.

Our student starting date for Years 1 to 6 will be Friday, February 3rd.

Senior Camps Program
In October last year all students in Years 2 to 4 were given a survey to take home about school camps. The majority of parents who responded indicated support to continue with a senior camps program. This year we gave Year 5 students the opportunity to join in the Year 6 Camp and, as it turned out, it was this decision that made the camp financially viable to run.

Next year, 2012 we will once again combine Years 5 and 6 into one camp. We have booked a new venue called Woorabinda. It is a Department owned camp and, as a result, is much cheaper than the camp we have been using for many years.

The dates for next year’s camp are December 10th to 14th, 2012.

The cost will be approximately $220, with an option to pay by instalments from early in the year.

After 2012, we will switch to having a 5/6 camp every alternate year with a school-based outdoor activity program, including water safety in 2013.

This will allow the school to run two great outdoor programs where the cost to parents is kept as low as possible, allowing as many as possible of our students to participate.

Walkathon
Thank you to everyone who assisted in making this event a success by collecting sponsors and dressing up to walk colourfully in a variety of costumes.

Welcome to new Prep students and their families
We have 48 preps enrolled for 2012. Orientation Day was on Tuesday this week and it was exciting to meet our new students and their parents.

Preps will begin school on Thursday, February 9th 2012, after meeting their teachers one at a time by appointment over the previous four school days: February 3rd, 6th, 7th and 8th.

If you know anyone who has not enrolled for Prep yet, please let them know that it is important all new preps enrol now so that each child can be allocated to a class, and so that eligible parents can receive the School Start Bonus in January.

Mark Renouf
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

DECEMBER
Th 1-Fri 2  Yrs 3, 4 & 5 Water Safety Pines Pool
Wed 7 to ) ) Years 3, 4 & 5 Water Safety
Thurs 8 ) ) Beach Program
Friday 9  Prep Grandparents/Spec Visitors’ Day
Wed 14  Parent Helpers’ Morning Tea
Thurs 15 Christmas Sausage Sizzle
Fri 16  Last day Canteen open for this year
Mon 19  Christmas Concert/Family Picnic &
Christmas Stall
Tues 20 Year 6 Graduation
Wed 21 Year 6 Activities Day
Thurs 22 End of Term 4
   Early dismissal 1.15pm
**PRIMARY SCHOOL WEAR**

**Uniform Shop News**

The on-site Uniform Shop at school has closed permanently.

**Uniforms can be purchased in two ways:**

- From the PSW Shop at 21 Playne Street, Frankston
- Order online [www.psw.com.au](http://www.psw.com.au) with free delivery to the school office on Thursday mornings. This delivery service will operate until 28th June 2012, and after that date, there will be $8.00 postage fee for delivery to the parent’s home address.

Please note that PSW (Primary School Wear) Frankston retail store will be closed between the following dates for Christmas: from Wednesday, 21st December 2011 to Monday, 2nd January 2012 (inclusive) — and will reopen on **Tuesday, 3rd January 2012**.

Order forms for the Year 6 Special Uniform 2012 were sent home this week, and additional forms are available from the school office. Also, sample Year 6 Rugby tops are available for sizing at the school office.

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**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.

(Please return form to school office)

**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:

………………………………

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Can you help us with Christmas Raffle donations?

We would be very grateful if parents could assist us with any donations for our Christmas Raffle. Please send any items to the office.

Thank you to those parents who have already sent donations.

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WALKATHON

On Friday, 18th October, we completed a very enjoyable and successful annual Walkathon. Congratulations to everyone for completing their laps. It was great to see so many different costumes.

A big THANK YOU to all the parents, teachers and students who helped out with stamping cards, marshalling and walking. THANK YOU also to the Parents’ Club for supplying the icy poles for everyone after the Walkathon.

It has already been a fantastic effort in collecting sponsorship money. Our progress total is **$4,048**.

We would really appreciate it if all remaining sponsorship money could be returned as soon as possible and no later than Friday, 9 December.

THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Darren O’Brien
Walkathon Co-ordinator
Health and Happiness

“When students are happy and healthy, their learning is maximised.”

Learning to Swim

Recently Year 2 and Prep students completed their swimming program at Jubilee Park Pool. The confidence and improvement made during this short program was commendable.

This week and next, Years 3, 4 and 5 students will complete a swimming program at Pines Pool and a Beach Safety program at Frankston Life Saving Club.

With the summer holidays looming, it is important that all our children have some degree of swimming skills and know how to keep themselves safe in the water.

Fifty-six children under the age of 17 drowned in 2009-10, the 2010 National Drowning Report reported.

In a recent article in the newspaper the Royal Life Saving Society urged that all students leaving primary school should be able to swim 50 metres.

AWESOME CALENDAR

Recently Year 5 students from Mrs Buxton’s class participated in a ‘Communities for Children’ project where they contributed artwork for the second annual ‘Awesome Calendar’. Communities for Children is organised by Anglicare, and the calendar project is just one of its many activities.

There were four other neighbouring schools who also participated in the project.

The Official launch took place last Monday, November 21st, with lots of children and parents enjoying the face painting, disco and yummy food that was on offer.

Both Nathan and Cayla attended and enjoyed the celebration.

At Assembly on Monday, we shared the calendar with the whole school.

Each family will receive a free copy of the calendar. Below is 5B’s page for February.

AWESOME KIDS FAMILY CALENDAR

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‘End of Year Christmas Concert’

at McClelland College Performing Arts Hall

Monday, 19th December

11:30am – 1:00pm

Followed by a Family Picnic lunch

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BOOK CLUB

Please note that Book Club orders are due back at school by Tuesday, 6th December. Additional order forms are available at the office.

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NOTICE TO PARENTS

END OF YEAR EARLY DISMISSAL:

Please note that students will be dismissed at 1.15pm on Thursday, 22nd December 2011, the last day of school. Students will therefore have lunch at home at the conclusion of the morning session.

SCHOOL START 2012:

Students commence school on Friday, 3rd February 2012, except Prep students who have special arrangements as distributed at Prep Orientation.

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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.

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CANTEEN

Please note the last Canteen day will be Friday, 16th December, and the Canteen will be closed for the last week of Term 4.

The Canteen will reopen next year on Wednesday, 8th February 2012.

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It’s Not OK To Be Away from school unless you are unwell.
Ballam Park Primary School has spent considerable time selecting the most appropriate requisites to meet the needs of your child. The book packs contain high quality materials at a competitive price due to our ability to bulk order.

These Book List and Essential Education Items are to be paid for by parents prior to your child/ren receiving them, or an instalment plan negotiated with the Business Manager. Payment by Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is also acceptable.

The Book List and Essential Education Items Year 2012 for each year level will be sent home with students on Monday, 5th December. If you do not receive this book list, a copy is available from the office.

TO HELP US COVER OUR COMMITMENTS WITH OUR SUPPLIERS, WE WOULD APPRECIATE IF PAYMENT COULD BE MADE FROM MONDAY, 12TH DECEMBER 2011. A reminder that there are facilities for EFTPOS, Visa, BPAY and phone credit at the office.

Alternatively, for parents who are eligible, 2012 APPLICATION FORMS FOR EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA) ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE.

CHANGES TO THE ELIGIBILITY SCHOOL START BONUS PREPS 2012

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 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.

STUDENT BANKING

The last day for school banking this year will be Tuesday, 6th December. School banking will resume next year on Tuesday, 14th February 2012.

If you would like more information regarding school banking, please contact Mrs Jo Lothian (parent volunteer) c/o the office.
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 with donations for the Christmas Raffle?
We would be very grateful if parents could assist us with any donations for our Christmas Raffle. Please send any items to the office. Thank you to those parents who have already sent donations.

Christmas Cakes, Shortbread and Cookie Dough Fundraiser
Just to let you know that the date for return of Christmas Cakes/Shortbread orders has been extended until this Friday, 2nd December.
The Billy G dough in 1.3kg tubs can be baked fresh at home with the minimum of fuss and effort. Simply scoop, bake, serve and enjoy these delicious Christmas treats. The dough can be kept in the freezer for 12 months (and you can refreeze it) or for up to 4 weeks in the fridge.
Delivery will be approximately one week after orders are placed.

Christmas Sausage Sizzle—Thursday, 15th December

Christmas Stall—Monday, 19th December

Montanna S. - Prep H for Getting Along
Lachlan D. - 1J for Persistence
Chloe H. - 2B for Getting Along
Aleah I. - 3F for Getting Along
Xue G. - 4R for Organisation
Jeremy H. - 4/5A for Confidence
Madeleine H. - 5/6S for Persistence
Cooper A. - 6B for Confidence

Murianti P. - Prep B for Confidence
Aron-Jane S. - 1M for Persistence
Ajay S. - 2L for Persistence
Jerome H. - 3D for Getting Along
Lianiva S. - 4M for Persistence
Kaycee G-C. - 5B for Getting Along
Eloise M. - 6C for Persistence

Congratulations to the following students who have been chosen as our Students of the Month for November, 2011.
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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of child</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Name of child</td>
<td>Class</td>
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</tbody>
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Guitar Tuition Available at school

If you would like your child to have Guitar lessons at the school on Mondays, please contact Glen Vinton of X10SIV Guitar Tuition on either 3979-4575 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).

Southern Hobbies is offering 10% discount to Ballam Park Primary School students

Trading Hours Tue - Fri 10am - 5:30pm -- Sat 9am - 2pm
### 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>Indoor Games Fresh Fruit</td>
<td>Cubby Houses Fresh Fruit</td>
<td>Board Games Night Fresh Fruit</td>
<td>Musical Games Fresh Fruit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NEW**  
This week we’ll be focusing on our favourite activities. The children will be reflecting on their impact on one another and the environment around them.  
To make changes to your bookings, go to:  
www.campaustralia.com.au

**Star of the Week:**  
Kaitlyn R  
for playing well with others

### TERM DATES 2011-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th>Term 4</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| 2011 | Friday 3 February (students start) to 30 March  
*1 February 2012 (teachers start) | 16 April to 29 June | 16 July to 21 September | 8 October to 21 December |
| 2012 | 2013 | Term 1: 29 January (teachers start) to 28 March  
*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.**  
www.education.vic.gov.au/about/keydates/termdates.htm | Term 2: 15 April to 28 June | Term 3: 15 July to 20 September | Term 4: 7 October to 20 December |
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.

Thursday 8th December 6pm–8pm
Join us for a free night of festive fun—a meet-Santa, create unique decorations and make special gifts for the family.
Bookings essential 8790-7100.

Bunnings Frankston, On McMahons Rd & Gertrude St, Frankston

Start Summer Fit!
Take a leap forward in your fitness
Yes - we are open for the public!

1 month memberships now $60*!
Look at what you get for FREE!
- Health assessment valued at $30
- Fitness program valued at $30
- Access to all Group Fitness classes
- Gym towel valued at $10
- Puma top valued at $40

That's over $100 worth of added value, plus FREE access