PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS

I am on Long Service Leave for three days starting today, Thursday, March 24th and returning to school on Tuesday, March 29th. While I am away, Mrs Maree Renowden will be Acting Principal.

Did you know that Ballam Park Primary School was recognised in 2007 as pioneering Sustainable Schools in Victoria and was awarded FIVE STAR SUSTAINABLE SCHOOL status?

Here is a rundown from our 2011 Environmental Rangers on what we do at school to continue with our part in caring for our environment.

Waste

We have six special Nepean Waste bins to recycle paper to save trees and animals that live in trees. We also recycle cans, PET bottles, yoghurt containers and juice boxes in two bins that are emptied by Frankston City Council each fortnight. Food scraps are collected in buckets from classrooms to feed to the worms in the compost for the vegetable garden.

Water

The school has three water tanks that hold up to 100 000 litres to flush our student toilets, saving 3000 litres of mains water per school day. In 2007 the school got a government grant of $50 000 to install this system with mains water back-up. The two other water tanks are used to water the garden.

NOTICE TO PARENTS

2.30pm Dismissal

Students will be dismissed at 2.30pm on Friday, 8th April 2011 as this is the last day of Term 1. Please note the Canteen will be closed on the first day of Term 2, Wednesday, 27th April.

IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH

Thurs 31 Footsteps 9.15am-1.15pm

APRIL

Fri 1 Dr Deane—Environmental Incursion (whole school)
Tues 5 Easter raffle drawn
Wed 6 Yr6 Transition visit McClelland College
Thurs 7 Footsteps 9.15am-1.15pm
Fri 8 End of Term 1, 2.30pm Early dismissal
   Easter Parade (Royal Chns Hospital)
Wed 27 Term 2 commences—Canteen closed
**Principal’s Comments cont/...**

**Biodiversity**
We are lucky to have lots of old eucalypt trees in our school grounds. These attract animals like birds, and we even have a brushtail possum with a joey and a tawny frogmouth in our school grounds at the moment. Students have planted grasses and shrubs in a habitat area in the back corner of the school. The trees also give us areas of natural shade and provide oxygen for us to breath.

**Energy**
We as a school save lots of energy every day. We currently have a solar generator on the roof. It is a piece of equipment that gets energy from the sun and uses it for electricity. We have new lights in the junior school building and the administration building that use a lot less energy than the old ones and saves tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions.

On April 1st, Dr Deane from the Curiosity Show on TV is coming to school to talk about looking after our environment. It is April Fools’ Day, but Dr Deane is not fooling around.

*Written by Tarni, Josh, Phoebe, Justus and Sam*

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**Early arrival at school**
Please note that there is no yard duty supervision before teachers’ official start time of 8.45am. Some students are arriving before 8.30am and even earlier. We provide a before school care program in the hall run by Camp Australia for students whose parents need to have them come to school early. It is a user pays service.

Camp Australia’s program can be used before and after school every day, or just once a week or even on a casual basis from time to time when you may need your children cared for as early as 7.00am and until 6.00pm on any school day. The program has been provided here at school to assist parents and, in turn, needs parent support to be viable in the long term. Please consider how this program can help you.

**Possible disruption to parking after school on April 1st**
Another school is holding a twilight sports evening on Friday, April 1st and this might cause congestion in the Ballam Park car parks outside the school.

*Mark Renouf*
Principal

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**SCHOOL BANKING REWARDS**
Dear Student Bankers—Please note the release date on the bottom of the rewards token cards, as this is when the reward items are available.
A big thank you to everyone who wore green on Thursday 17th March—St Patrick’s Day—to support our Relay for Life Team. We raised $226.45 for cancer research.
Victorian schools have always been the life-blood of the Good Friday Appeal. In 2010, school communities raised the fantastic sum of $182,421.00.

In 2011, the Royal Children’s Hospital has identified equipment needed for the new and soon-to-be-opened hospital that will dramatically improve the diagnosis and treatment of children with eye disorders. And we invite your school community to be part of this exciting fundraising campaign.

For the first time in the 80 year history of the Good Friday Appeal, Victorian Schools will be able to fundraise directly towards the purchase of state-of-the-art equipment to improve the lives of our children by using the **SCHOOLS FOR THE KIDS ONLINE DONATION FACILITY**.

Simply type in this link
to make your donation.

Donations can be made at any time and logged instantly, providing all-important real-time receipts.

We thank you for your ongoing support and encourage you to be part of Schools for the Kids.

Thanking you
Ballam Park Primary SRC

**THANK YOU**

A special thank you to
**VIOLETA TODOROVA**
for the donation of
videos to our school.

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**BOOK CLUB**

Please note that Book Club orders are due back at school by Monday, 28th March.

Additional order forms are available at the office.

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**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

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Win a Cricket Australia shirt signed by Mike Hussey

To win you need to have the most number of deposits (not money banked) in Term 2 and Term 3 this year.

If we have a number of students with the same number of times banking deposits have been made, those names will be placed in a “hat” and a winner drawn by Karen from the Commonwealth Bank.

**Not signed up for school banking???........then sign up today to be part of this wonderful competition!**
SCHOOL UNIFORM
I believe that we should wear school uniform. Not only are we representing our school but no one gets hurt emotionally just because of what other people think. So here are some reasons why I think we should wear school uniform.
Firstly, wearing school uniform represents our school. By having our own logo people can tell that we go to our school. While we are wearing our uniform we are advertising to other people and parents. Our uniform is neat and simple.
Secondly, no one will get hurt feelings because of what other people think of their clothes. If someone is wearing something that other people don’t like or think is unfashionable they could be mean about it, like start picking on him or her. If everyone wears basically the same clothes no one will get hurt emotionally.
Thirdly, sometimes when students wear certain clothes they think they rule the school. They could have an attitude towards teachers and other people. People could easily get hurt by that.
In conclusion, I strongly believe that we should wear school uniform because it represents our school and nobody gets hurt.

Eloise 6C

PACKAGING IS BAD
I believe that packaging is bad because packaging kills animals which makes me really sad. Firstly, the trees keep being cut down to make packaging. In the future, there will be no trees left. If we keep using packaging all the trees and animals that live in trees will be gone.
Secondly, we are going to be left with no living creatures left, because their natural habitat is gone. How would we feel if our habitat was gone because of packaging?
Last, but not least, when we put things in bins, they get taken to tips and garbage companies. When the rubbish is taken to a tip it is buried. So, basically we are letting stuff be buried under ground and when the holes are full they need to make another hole. This makes the tips full of holes, if that happens the world will just be a mess.
So you must not think packaging is a good thing or we will not have living creatures.

Allysa 5B

T.V. vs BOOKS
In my opinion books are better than T.V. T.V. is a waste of our precious brains.
Firstly, T.V. Will not help you learn. When do you ever hear that T.V. has a new program that will help you learn in any way? T.V.’s not for learning, it’s for your entertainment, to make you laugh and cry. When do you ever hear that Einstein spent all his life watching T.V.? NO! He was reading or working on something that would actually help him learn.
Secondly, do you ever have fights with your brother or sister or yourself about which channel to watch or how long to watch it for? I know that I definitely do. NOW I have a solution that will definitely solve everyone’s problem. Sit down somewhere comfortable, take out a book, read peacefully and there will be no more fights and everyone's misery will be solved.
Thirdly, another reason books are better than T.V. is you can take books anywhere on a road trip; to the beach, anywhere, but you can’t take a T.V. Or you’d have to find a really long extension cord!
As you see, these are my reasons why books are way better than T.V. You can take them anywhere and they will actually help you to learn and there are no fights.

Maddi 5/6S

IS GRAFFITI ART OR CRIME?
Do you think graffiti is art or crime? Well we'll tell you what we believe, there are two sides of the story! Is it art? Graffiti is a way of expressing your feelings, without hurting anyone. Even when you’re having a bad day, you might come up with something amazing. It depends on what you write or draw.
Is it crime? Some people use it as vandalism. Vandalism is when someone tags on someone’s property. Also it’s offensive. People write swear words and do offensive pictures, having to do with certain people.
Or is it both? Graffiti is used in all sorts of different ways, like art pieces, employment and expressing political or social issues but expressing that without consent on other people’s property, is also known as vandalism.
SO THERE'S THE BIG QUESTION, IS IT ART OR IS IT CRIME?!
FRANKSTON AND MORNINGTON PENINSULA SECONDARY SCHOOLS

In the Mornington Peninsula and Frankston, there are thirteen government secondary schools. Each of these schools provides excellence in education for the many students who attend them.

At each school, you will find academic excellence, a wide range of sport, the arts, technology as well as a wide range of courses from year 7 through to VCE and VCAL programs. You will also find many extra-curricular activities.

Parents are encouraged to visit the schools in their local area to find the school that best suits the needs of their student. Each school has an Open Night and arranges tours for parents and students.

Phone the school to:
♦ Organise a tour
♦ Meet the Principal and teachers
♦ Find out information about Open Night
♦ Obtain information about the school

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Principal</th>
<th>Phone No.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carrum Downs SC</td>
<td>McCormicks Rd, Carrum Downs</td>
<td>Marie Walker</td>
<td>9788 9100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dromana SC</td>
<td>Harrisons Rd, Dromana</td>
<td>Alan Marr</td>
<td>5987 2805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elisabeth Murdoch College</td>
<td>Warrandyte Rd, Langwarrin</td>
<td>Tim Harper</td>
<td>9788 2600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frankston HS</td>
<td>Towerhill Rd, Frankston</td>
<td>John Albiston</td>
<td>9783 7955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McClelland College</td>
<td>Belar Ave, Frankston</td>
<td>Angela Pollard</td>
<td>9789 4544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monterey SC</td>
<td>Silvertop St, Frankston North</td>
<td>Janine Leed</td>
<td>9781 7700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mornington SC</td>
<td>Nepean Hwy, Mornington</td>
<td>Sarah Burns</td>
<td>5970 0200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mt Eliza SC</td>
<td>Canadian Bay Rd, Mt Eliza</td>
<td>Geoff Petrie</td>
<td>9787 6288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt Erin SC</td>
<td>Robinsons Rd, Frankston South</td>
<td>Allen McAuliffe</td>
<td>5971 6000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patterson River SC</td>
<td>Eel Race Rd, Carrum</td>
<td>Maree Vinocuroff</td>
<td>8770 6700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rosebud SC</td>
<td>Eastbourne Rd, Rosebud</td>
<td>John Miller</td>
<td>5986 8595</td>
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<tr>
<td>Somerville SC</td>
<td>Graf Rd, Somerville</td>
<td>Chris Lloyd</td>
<td>5973 1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Port SC</td>
<td>High St, Hastings</td>
<td>Andrew Nicholls</td>
<td>5979 1577</td>
</tr>
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</table>

There is a course that will suit every student at your local government secondary school.

To: School Banking Co-ordinator
Ballam Park Primary School

REQUEST FOR SCHOOL BANKING INFORMATION

Please send me a school banking information pack:

Parent’s Name: ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Student’s name: …………………………………………………………… Grade: ………….. Room No.: ………..
**Student Health and Happiness**

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

**House News**

At last Monday’s assembly, our two Bradman house captains, Rebecca and Alex presented details about the person after which their house is named. Sir Donald Bradman was a very famous Australian cricketer who played for Australia from 1930s. He also has a batting average of 99.94. He made 6 triple first class centuries and his highest score was 452 not out. Did you know that Sir Donald Bradman was only 170 cms tall and weighed 65 kgs. Words used to describe him include: unstoppable, relentless, focussed and durable. What a fantastic role model for all those students who are in Bradman house.

**Harmony Day**

Ballam Park Primary School will celebrate ‘Harmony Day’ with a special assembly on Monday March 28th. It’s a day where all Australians celebrate our cultural diversity. The day is also the United Nation’s International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The message for Harmony Day in 2011 is that ‘Everyone Belongs’, which means all Australians are a welcome part of our country, regardless of their background. It’s a time to reflect on where Australia has come from, recognising the traditional owners of this land. It’s also about community participation, inclusiveness and respect – celebrating the different cultures that make Australia a great place to live.

At the assembly we will sing a special song ‘Imagine’, as well as make a banner that spells out the message of Harmony Day– Everyone Belongs. This message ties in with our value for the term: **Respect**.

Here at Ballam Park Primary School we have students with a cultural connection to many other countries. A powerpoint presentation before and after the assembly will acknowledge over 30 international connections among our school community.
I recently found this article on **building resilience** in your child which may be of interest to you.

Resilience is a 21st Century parenting concept that every parent needs to understand. Some kids are resilient by nature – their temperament helps them to be mentally and psychologically tough. You know those kids. They get straight back up after a setback or disappointment. Rejection in the playground doesn’t faze them. Unfortunately, not every child has such natural resilience. The good news is that most of the research shows that resilience can be nurtured and developed, particularly when parents themselves are resilient and they actively foster it in their kids.

Resilient kids share four basic skill sets – independence, problem-solving, optimism and social connection.

From a resilience perspective, parents need to coach kids through some of their more challenging moments and reviewing what they may have learned for next time. Avoid solving all their problems for them. You can promote a lasting sense of resilience in your kids by:

1. **Having a positive attitude yourself.** Your attitude as a parent impacts on their ability to bounce back from some of the difficulties they face. Make sure you model a ‘you can do it’ attitude for your child when he meets some of life’s curve balls.

2. **Look for teachable moments.** Many kids’ learning opportunities are disguised as problems. Make the most of these opportunities so that kids can grow and learn from some of the challenges they face.

3. **Make kids active participants in the family.** Active participation in a family develops the self-help, problem-solving and independence skills of kids that are necessary for resilience.

4. **Build kids coping skills.** There are plenty of strategies you can pass on to kids to help them cope when life doesn’t go their way, including acceptance, getting away for awhile, and normalisation.

Promoting resilience in kids is a not a single event but a continuous process that requires adults to be supportive and empathetic when things don’t go their way. It also requires you as a parent to have an understanding of resilience, so you have faith in yourself and your child’s ability to cope.


Best wishes

Kaye Coughlan
School Chaplain

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**Dads ‘n’ Daughters Weekend**

- Its SOOOOO not about girlie stuff!

**What:** Dads ‘n’ Daughters Weekend (recommended for girls from ages 5+)

**When:** 2-3 April, 2011

**Where:** Phillip Island Nature Parks, Phillip Island

**Price:** *$165 all inclusive (dinner/breakfast/activities for 1 adult & 1 child)

*$65 per extra child

It’s time to spend special time with your dad or granddad - and get back to nature! Learn about caring for injured wildlife, try your hand at cooking damper, meet the Little Penguins and much more at the Phillip Island Nature Parks during this fun weekend created especially for dads, daughters, grandfathers, granddaughters and the like!

- Spend time with an accredited Ranger to learn about the how the Nature Parks’ team care for injured wildlife in our Wildlife Hospital
- Learn about the very special wildlife research undertaken by the researchers – it’s world class!
- Find out everything about the Nature Parks, and the environmental and conservation work...and lots more.

**Bookings and information:**

Jade Cranton Tel: 03 5951 2802 Mobile: 0417 584 104

Email jcranton@penguins.org.au

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**TERM DATES 2011 - 2012**

**2011**

Term 1: 4 February (students start) to 8 April 2011

Term 2: 27 April to 1 July 2011**

Term 3: 18 July to 23 September 2011

Term 4: 10 October to 22 December 2011

*(25 April is Easter Monday, a public holiday, as well as ANZAC Day. 26 April is a public holiday in lieu of ANZAC Day)*

Please note that schools are able to set a student free day in either Term 2 or Term 3.

**2012**

Term 1: 6 February (students start) to 30 March 2012

Teachers begin Term 1 on 1 February

Term 2: 16 April to 29 June 2012

Term 3: 16 July to 21 September 2012

Term 4: 8 October to 21 December 2012

Please note that schools are able to set a student free day in either Term 2 or Term 3.
PARENTS’ CLUB NEWS

ALL WELCOME: New members are always welcome at our Parents’ Club. We meet in the staff room every Monday morning after assembly at approximately 9.30am. Please come along and join in.

EASTER RAFFLE JUST 2 WEEKS AWAY: We are planning an Easter raffle to be drawn on Tuesday, 5th April. Tickets will be sent home early next week and are due back by Monday, 4th April.

EASTER RAFFLE—DONATIONS NEEDED: Thank you to all those who have already sent Easter raffle donations. We still need your help with prizes, particularly Easter eggs. If you can help us, please send donations to your child’s classroom. All support is most appreciated.

FORTHCOMING EVENT: Mothers’ Day stall and raffle—Thursday, 6th May.

Parents’ Club Committee

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.

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