PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS

What’s happening in your child’s classroom?
To find part of the answer, try asking your child(ren) about pre and post testing in Maths, Readers’ Workshop or The Big Write. I hope you find what they know about these approaches to learning and teaching to be interesting. Here are two examples of Autumn poems from 2B.

In Autumn the leaves will change red, orange, brown and yellow. Leaves fall from tree and I play in leaves. I stay inside as it rains. The weather is cold in Autumn. When I come home from school I watch the news to see the weather report to see if it is cold or hot. (Phoenix, 2B)

My brother and I watch the leaves. They twirl and whirl all about, orange, yellow, red; they are the most colours. I see them flying like butterflies, flying everywhere. The wind’s strong. It makes birds glide around. Twigs fall along the ground. At night they look like fire. (Jennah, 2B)

School Self-assessment and Review
Every four years each Victorian Government school goes through a formal review process to assess how well the school has worked over the previous four years and to set direction for the next four years. This self-assessment period gives parents the opportunity to have input into both aspects, a review of the past and provide ideas for the future.

There are two ways that you, as parents, can be involved in this process:
Send in a written response. Indicate your willingness to be involved in a parent forum to share your ideas.

If there is parent interested in a forum, I will offer two times in the next three weeks, one during school hours and one in the evening. If you would like to be involved, please send a note or an email to me at school indicating some times that would suit you.
renouf.mark.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

If you are viewing the online version of the newsletter, you can also see some recent examples of student art work that is displayed in our foyer. School website: http://www.ballamparkps.vic.edu.au Did you know that you can request an emailed version of our fortnightly newsletter?
**Online Music Teaching Program**

I am providing the following information for any parents and students who might be interested in investigating the program. I am very pleased to be able to offer keyboard lessons at school through PMI (Primary Music Institute), but I am not endorsing the following product being advertised as I know very little about it.

Mark Renouf
Principal

Advertisement about a free Music teaching online software program (until June 17th) from the Primary Music Institute which teaches keyboard lessons here on Fridays.

I am hoping you might help me spread the news among your school community about an exciting new music education program, which is free for students until 17 June 2012. This is claimed to be the world’s first Artificially Intelligent virtual piano teacher. Based on Artificial Intelligence, and teaching the same syllabus as Primary Music Institute’s keyboard music program, Musiah is an incredibly innovative virtual piano teacher that can teach students with the same responsiveness, passion, and depth of teaching as if I were in the student’s home teaching each student personally.

Before Musiah formally launches on 17 June, I am giving students the opportunity to use the software completely free. For more information visit [www.musiah.com](http://www.musiah.com) or click the downloadable brochure [Musiah_Beta_Brochure.pdf](http://c14520524.r24.cf2.rackcdn.com/Musiah_Beta_Brochure.pdf)

Regards, Brendan Hogan
PMI

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**IMPORTANT DATES 2012**

**MAY**
- Wed 9: BPPS House Cross Country (Yrs 3-6)
- Thurs 10: Mothers’ Day Stall and Raffle
- Tues 22: Yr 3 Excursion Healesville Sanctuary
- Wed 23: OPEN NIGHT Education Week District Cross Country (Yrs 3-6) Baxter

**JUNE**
- Wed 6: Zone Cross Country
- Fri 8: Prep Fairytale Ball
- Mon 11: PUBLIC HOLIDAY Queen’s Birthday
- Tues 19: Prep/Kinder Flying Bookworm Incurs
- Wed 27: PUPIL FREE DAY Parent/Tchr Mtgs

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**PARENTS’ CLUB**

**PARENTS’ CLUB MEETINGS—ALL WELCOME**

The next meeting of the Parents’ Club will be held on Monday, 30th April after assembly. Please meet in the office. New members are always welcome at our meetings so please come along and join in.

**DONATIONS FOR MOTHERS’ DAY RAFFLE—CAN YOU HELP US?**

We are planning our annual Mothers’ Day Raffle and wonder if you could send any new items to school which would be suitable donations for our raffle. If you can help us, please send any items by Friday, 4th May. All support is most appreciated.

**FETE COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Would you like to volunteer to be a member of our Fete Committee? If you are interested in joining, please send your name and phone number to the school office. We hope to hear from you.

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

- Mothers’ Day Stall and Raffle—Thursday, 10th May

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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.

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

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**It’s cool to be at school.**
Resilience

What is it, and how can it help our children? Resilience is a mindset and an ability that helps children and adults cope when they encounter hard times or ongoing negative circumstances. People who are resilient are more stress-resistant and have an inner strength, personal courage and a positive mental health.

Resilience, along with Getting Along, Confidence, Organisation and Persistence, is one of the foundations of the ‘You Can Do It’ Program that is taught at Ballam Park Primary School.

Our school helps promote resilience in children by:
1. Strengthening students’ connectedness to school
2. Helping to develop ‘protective’ personal skills in children.

Our school endeavours to improve students’ connectedness to school by establishing structures and programs which:
- Foster a sense of acceptance, belonging and fitting in.
- Ensure that students feel valued and supported.
- Establish positive and close relationships with students and individual teachers who believe in them.
- Establish supportive relationships between students and their classmates.
- Provide opportunities for successful and meaningful participation in the life of the school.

As for ‘Protective’ personal skills, our school aims to develop personal skills such as:
- Goal setting and goal achievement
- Problem solving and planning skills
- Help-seeking behaviour
- Positive self perceptions
- Social support
- A sense of humour

Activate – Year 6 Students

On Friday, April 20th all Year 6 students had an opportunity to participate in the Frankston Youth Council Activate Expo held at Ballam Park. Students received a passport and were encouraged to try out a range of activities that are all available in the Frankston areas.

Some of the activities included: Dance, Lacrosse, Wrestling, Karate, Tennis, Table Tennis, Calisthenics, AMF Bowling and Volleyball. All the students enthusiastically had a go, trying new and different activities.

It has been found that when children belong to a team, group or any organisation it helps develop their connectedness to community and other positive social skills.
Congratulations to the following students who have been chosen as our Students of the Month for March, 2012.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kiara L.</td>
<td>Prep H</td>
<td>Persistence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murianti P.</td>
<td>1SM</td>
<td>Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justin B.</td>
<td>2B</td>
<td>Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson K.</td>
<td>3F</td>
<td>Confidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Izabela C.</td>
<td>4D</td>
<td>Getting Along</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riley M.</td>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Getting Along</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Callum B.</td>
<td>6S</td>
<td>Confidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lily W.</td>
<td>Prep B</td>
<td>Confidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamie F.</td>
<td>1M</td>
<td>Getting Along</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amelia F.</td>
<td>2L</td>
<td>Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Te Ata Ra.</td>
<td>3D</td>
<td>Persistence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pheobe B.</td>
<td>4R</td>
<td>Getting Along</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gabby R.</td>
<td>5M</td>
<td>Persistence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessica P.</td>
<td>6B</td>
<td>Confidence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations to the following:

**ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL**

Thank you to everyone in our school community who donated towards our Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal. We raised a wonderful total of **$461.95**.

Thank you very much for your kind and generous donations.

Once again our colouring and design competitions were popular amongst the students. Thank you to everyone that entered and gave a donation.

The S.R.C. had a challenging task choosing winners from each year level.

Congratulations go to:

- **PREP** - Jordan S.
- **YEAR ONE** - Melody W.
- **YEAR TWO** - Lachlan D.
- **YEAR THREE** - Te Ata Ra
- **YEAR FOUR** - Mary K.
- **YEAR FIVE** - Terai N.
- **YEAR SIX** - Felicity M.

Honourable mentions also go to Jai D, Mikayla B, Gardenia F, Astrid L and Josh P.

Thank you again from the Student Representative Council and Mrs Burrows.
The Entertainment Books are now available for purchase at school. You can purchase the Entertainment Book for $65.00, and start using the coupons immediately until June 2013 (that’s 14 months use).

Remember Entertainment Books are the perfect gift for Mum this Mother’s Day (Sunday, 13th May).

Just log onto www.entertainmentbook.com.au and select ‘Search the Book’ tab. Then select the 2012-2013 Book, type in the suburb that you mainly shop in, and then select ‘All Businesses’, and see how many businesses are giving great discounts in your area. You will only need to purchase from a few discounted businesses to cover the price of the Entertainment Book, and then all the other great discounts are a bonus!

A sample Entertainment Book is on display at the General Office. This edition has a great number of Mornington Peninsula restaurants and venues, and also other great discounts on holiday resorts, etc. It also has an exclusive offer from Coles. As an Entertainment member, you can purchase $100 Coles Gift Cards for only $95. With the average family spending over $100 at the supermarket per week, that adds up to savings of more than $260 over the course of the year! It also includes discounts at Village Cinema movies, AMF, Melbourne Aquarium, Luna Park, Puffing Billy, McDonalds, KFC, Krispy Kreme, Nando’s, Red Rooster etc etc etc. Just look through the sample display book in the General Office.

Please support our school (sale of each Entertainment Book contributes to our notebook and netbook program)

Ballam Park Primary School
CREDIT CARD AUTHORITY—ENTERTAINMENT BOOK/S 2012-2013

Student Name ____________________________________________ Grade _______

CREDIT CARD AUTHORITY (circle) – MASTERCARD / VISA

CARD NO: __________ __________ __________ ____________ EXPIRY DATE: __________ __________

Card Holder’s name & Address
___________________________________________
___________________________________________

Contact Telephone No
Home ____________________________________________
Work ____________________________________________

Amount: $________

Date ___________ Signature __________________________

Introduction to Disability
This short course will help you learn the basics of working in the disability field and provide you with industry specific experience. This is a great opportunity for parents returning to work or people considering a career change.
Held over four days—Friday 11th May, Friday 18th May, Friday 25th May from 9.30am to 3pm. Plus one day work experience placement at a time and venue that suits you. Cost $65 ($56 concession).
Peninsula Access Support & Training
Suite 1, Level 1, 108-120 Young Street Frankston
Phone: 9775 7333
Email: kath.moodie@past.org.au

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL CANTEEN
Thank you to all our parents who have responded to the request for Canteen support. Lunch orders have improved for Wednesdays and Fridays, but we still need your support for MONDAYS please.
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 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).
PRIMARY SCHOOL WEAR
Uniform Shop News

Uniforms can be purchased in two ways:

- From the PSW Shop at 21 Playne Street, Frankston
- Order online 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.

Primary School Wear (PSW)
21 Playne Street, Frankston
(opposite Savers)
Phone 9769-6510

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.

LANGWARRIN SPORTS MEDICINE CENTRE

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