PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS

School Council
Three parents and two staff nominated for the five vacancies on School Council. As a result, all those who nominated are now elected members of Council without the need for voting in a ballot. The newly elected members of School Council are:
Parents: Carol Nardella, Jessica Nguyen, Tamara McDonald
Staff: Sue McSweeney, Maree Renowden
I sincerely thank all new members of School Council for offering their time and energy to take on these important roles in our school.
On behalf of the school community, I also make special mention and express our appreciation to retiring members of School Council, Patrick Lee and Tyla Milchem.

Every day counts – school attendance
We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.
Missing school can have a major impact on a child’s future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they will have missed more than a year of school.
There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.
Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don’t fall behind:
✦ Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.
✦ Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.
Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher early as early as possible.
From 1 March 2014, new laws mean that parents can be fined for not sending students to school without an acceptable reason.
If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

Parents’ Club Fundraising Notices
Yesterday, all families should have received notices about Living Fundraisers and the proposed School Fete. Please support the great work of our parents club by supporting both these initiatives.

Staff Car Park
The staff car park is not to be used for student drop off or pick up before and after school.
The whole car park area is also a secondary college student walkway between 8.00am and 9.15am and from 3.00pm to 3.45pm.
Parents with students in our OSHC Program may drive in before 8.15am in the morning or after 4.00pm in the afternoon. 10 K.P.H. speed limit please, giving way to all pedestrians.

Thank you to the vast majority of our parents who always exercise both common sense and a regard for student safety when choosing to park outside the school grounds.

Missing Wetsuits
Unfortunately, we believe that a number of our school wetsuits went missing from the table tennis room sometime on Monday. All are marked with BPPS on the shoulder, and have been well used over six years of December swimming programs. They are worth very little as second-hand wetsuits, but will cost quite a lot to replace. Please let us know if you hear of them turning up or being sighted somewhere in the local community.

Mark Renouf, Principal

IMPORTANT DATES 2014

MARCH
Mon 10  Public Holiday (Labour Day)
Thurs 13  Walk/Ride to School Day
Mon 17 to  (Years 5/6 Camp
Wed 19  (Grantville Lodge
Tues 25  Year 6 Excursion ‘Vendana Arte’ at Frankston Arts Centre
Wed 26  Year 5 Excursion ‘Vendana Arte’ at Frankston Arts Centre
Fri 28  Hot Cross Bun orders due back

APRIL
Thurs 3  Easter Raffle drawn at assembly
Fri 4  Last day Term 1, Dismissal 2.30pm
Ballam Park Primary School recognised as a Health Promoting School

This Friday, at our whole school assembly, our school will be presented with a sign that acknowledges that we are a ‘Health Promoting School’. Our school is one of the first three schools in the State to achieve this status.

Last year, our school worked towards completing two elements, (Physical Activity and SunSmart) on the journey to becoming a fully Health Promoting School.

This year our school will be aiming to achieve two more elements, (Healthy Eating and Oral Hygiene and Sexual Education and Wellbeing). In total, there are eight elements to achieve.

The importance of Physical Activity will be promoted with activities such as:

- ‘Walk Ride to School’ program. The next ‘Walk/Ride to School’ is Thursday, March 13th.
- Senior classes completing morning fitness activities and runs.
- Junior classes having PE plus an additional platoon session.
- ‘Before School Running Group’ every Tuesday and Friday morning organised by Carys.
- Active playground play with a range of sports equipment available.
- Promotion and celebration of Sporting groups outside our school.

In the SunSmart area, this year we have available extra school hats for loan when students forget their own hat. Plus, we have sunscreen available in classrooms. Some students are also wearing sunglasses at recess and lunchtime - another SunSmart practice!

Another key promotion:

Premier’s Active April

This is a Government initiative that aims to encourage Victorians to do 30 minutes of physical activity a day in April.

With increasing concerns about the fact that more than 25% of Victorian children aged 5-17 years are considered overweight and obese, establishing the importance of physical activity during childhood can help lifelong participation with resulting health, social, economic and environmental benefits.

Evidence also suggests that time in physical education and physical activity may improve academic learning outcomes.

Families and students who register to be part of ‘Active April’ will receive giveaways including 10 YMCA passes, tennis court hire at Melbourne Park, Child entry to Melbourne Aquarium and National Sports Museum and be eligible for prizes - including a registration prize worth $10,000.

Students who register as part of a grade registration will earn Certificates of Achievement for completing 30 minutes of activity on 15, 20, 25, and 30 days.

Easy Registration via the internet is at: www.activeapril.vic.gov.au

30 minutes a day is all it takes - go for a bike ride, take the stairs or head out for a walk around the park.

With Premier’s Active April you can challenge yourself to make physical activity part of your daily routine.

How many members of our school community will take up this challenge?

All of our staff (100% hopefully) are going to take up the challenge of 30 minutes activity a day for all of April.
Parents’ Club Events for Term 1
Monday 17th - Wednesday 19th March—Recycled Clothing Bags due
Wednesday 26th March - Hot Cross Bun order forms due
Friday 28th March - School Disco
Thursday, 3rd April - Hot Cross Bun Delivery
Thursday 3rd April - Easter Raffle Drawn at morning assembly

DONATIONS NEEDED
We are currently seeking donations toward our Easter Raffle by Thursday, 27th March. Any items can be handed into classroom teachers.

CLOTHING RECYCLING
Bring in any unwanted clothes, paired shoes, handbags, linen and soft toys for re-use in developing countries. Please help us by filling the bag which has been sent home, and returning it to Ballam Park Primary School Hall between Monday, 17th and Wednesday, 19th March, 2014. The hall will be open between 8:30am and 9:15am and between 3:00pm and 3:45pm on these three days only for bag drop off.

HOT CROSS BUNS
We are currently taking orders for Hot Cross Buns through Bakers Delight, Beach Street Frankston. Bakers Delight will donate $2 from each pack sold back to the school. Get your Easter goodies and help raise money for the school at the same time!
Order forms due back at school Wednesday 26th March.
In primary school, some students miss on average 3 weeks of school per year. That’s half a year of school by the end of year 6.

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child’s education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

Why it’s important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It’s vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

What we can do

The main reasons for absence are:

Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they’re ill. It’s vital that they’re only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

It’s vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term if it can be avoided.

“Day off!” – Think twice before letting your child have a “day off” as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

Truancy – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent’s permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don’t fall behind:

• Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

• Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child’s school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:
Can You Read This?

Beginning readers see print on a page differently than people who have been reading for years. How do you begin? What do you look for? Do you know anything about this story? Are there any pictures to help? What symbols stand for what sounds? What words do you know? These are questions young readers face every day. That is why for beginning readers, teachers provide information through a story introduction to give meaning along with looking at pictures to tell a story. This is like a movie in your head prior to the first reading. Teachers and students talk about words that match the pictures and story introduction to make a vocabulary to fit the book. New words will be pointed out by the teacher and discussed. All this gives young readers the power to start reading, matching words with their fingers, and stopping at words they are unsure of – time for action! What strategies can young readers do to help solve the new word? They can look at pictures to remember the story, they can re-read to help with the meaning of the story and use the first letter(s) to help them with trying words that look right and fit the story line.

Oh, the unfamiliar print is actually called, “Goldilocks. This story is from a long time ago and begins with once upon a time.” Teachers Introduction: “There were three bears and a girl called Goldilocks. One day Goldilocks went for a walk in the forest and found a house.” You can now see and understand the important part pictures play in reading and understand the new story along with finding familiar words and new words.

Barb Hamaline
Reading Recovery Teacher
Banking operates EVERY TUESDAY at our school, and parents of new students who wish to open an account for their child can collect a School Banking pack from the school office.

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

This year the Dollarmites treasure is hidden in the Deep Sea!

The new banking rewards are fantastic, so don’t forget to keep your rewards card in a safe place, ready to order when you have saved 10 tokens.

Happy Saving Everyone!
As part of the HOW program you will receive:

- A free compost bin or a subsidised worm farm
- A kitchen caddy for food scraps
- Free workshops
- Educational resources and online tools
- Posters and stickers
- A regular email newsletter
- Access to a like-minded community for advice and support
- $20 annual reward if you commit to a fortnightly collection of your rubbish bin*

*Between 1 December and 31 January participants can put their bin out weekly

To find out more and to register for the HOW program, visit www.frankston.vic.gov.au and search for ‘Halve Our Waste’, email environment@frankston.vic.gov.au or call 9784 1755

Hurry! Registrations are limited
**Frankston Learning City News March 2014**
learningcitynews@frankston.vic.gov.au

**Quick links:**
- Frankston Arts Centre workshops and education programs
- Frankston City Council Environment workshops and events
- Frankston Libraries - homework clubs, book groups, study space and storytimes

**Job searching online?**
Check out this new (and great!) jobsearch app:
http://www.uworkin.com/

**Brotherhood of St Laurence: New Hospitality Course:**
SIT 20212 Certificate II in Hospitality
AND Certificate II in General Education for adults
Location: BSL Frankston, High Street Centre, 24-26 High Street, Frankston 3199
Dates: starts 23rd April  
Times: 9:30am-4pm (3 days per week)
Cost: FREE for eligible participants
Contact: Miia Tolvanen 8781 5900 or email: mtolvanen@bsl.org.au

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**Woolworths ‘Earn & Learn’ Program**

Our Woolworths Earn & Learn Program resources arrived today.

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**Mornington Farmers’ Market**

*Fresh seasonal produce and regional delicacies*

**Saturday 8 March, 8:30am–1pm**

Mornington Park, Schnapper Point Drive

Second Saturday of every month

Next Market Dates: 8 March, 12 April, 10 May…

Mornington Farmers’ Market is a not-for-profit event, supporting local farmers and producers, and providing healthy locally grown produce to our local communities.

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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 Phone 5979-4575, Mobile 0437-440-265 (after 8.00pm) or alternatively via email at glen@x10sivguitartuition.com.au

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).

For more information, head to: x10sivguitartuition.com.au

Information is also available at the school office.
Ballam Park Boomers Basketball Club
Players Needed
We are looking for 2-3 new players for our Grade 3-4 Basketball Team for Winter Competition
Training is on Thursday afternoons
Games played on Saturdays
Please contact Kylee Bowden 0439 297 477

School term dates
2014 to 2015

2014
Term 1: *28 January to 4 April
Term 2: 22 April to 27 June
Term 3: 14 July to 19 September
Term 4: 6 October to 19 December

2015
Term 1: *28 Jan (teachers start) to 27 March
Term 2: 13 April to 26 June
Term 3: 13 July to 18 September
Term 4: 5 October to 18 December

* Each year, government schools are provided with four student-free days for professional development, school planning & administration, curriculum development, and student assessment & reporting purposes.

The first day of Term 1 is a student-free day in all government schools to allow for appropriate planning to take place for the arrival of students. The remaining three student-free days are determined by each individual school.

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


SAVING OUR ENVIRONMENT...
If you would like to view our online school newsletter, please click on...
www.ballamparkps.vic.edu.au
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.

Karingal Drive Dental Clinic

Treatment to leave you smiling

BULK BILLED treatment to all eligible patients aged 2-17

Participant in the Child Dental Benefits Scheme

Call today for an appointment:

9789 9779

46 Karingal Drive
Frankston VIC 3199

karingaldrivedentalclinic@gmail.com


THANK YOU

THANK YOU to Dwayne Hare and Lisa Cartwright for their generous support of the Art Room through supplying a large quantity of paper etc. which can be used by our students in Art classes.

Kyle Shaw and Natalie Millard
Art Teachers

THANK YOU to Karyn Lynn Bilney, Remedial, Relax & Aromatherapy Massage (0409 901 255) for kindly donating new school uniforms for use by our families.

FRANKSTON FREE MILO T20 BLAST COME & TRY
COME ALONG AND TRY CRICKET AUSTRALIA’S NEW ENTRY LEVEL FORMAT FOR KIDS

WEDNESDAY, 19 FEBRUARY
4.30 – 5.45pm
WHERE: Baden Powell Junior Cricket Club, Overport Park, Frankston

With music, colour and families everywhere, this will be the perfect opportunity to smash some sixes and take some wickets just like your Big Bash heroes, and further your skill set with an optional follow up term 1 program for girls & boys aged roughly 7-12 years old. Week two of the program will have player visits from the Melbourne Stars along with Starman and some of our State Vic Spirit Girls.

To register for the entire program or for more information visit http://www.t20blast.com.au/ or just come down on the night and have a FREE try.

Mornington Peninsula Hockey Club

Introductory Hockey Program

Come and learn all about Hockey!! A fun and enjoyable way to try out a new sport and meet new friends

When: Commences Tues 25th February 2014
Then: Tues 4th March, Tues 11th March, Tues 18th March, Tues 25th March & Tues 1st April 2014
Time: 5pm till 6pm.

Sunday 16th March is a special Come’N’Try Day with Hockey Victoria 11am till 12 midday

Venue: Peninsula Hockey Centre, Monash University Frankston (off Bloom St) Melways Ref: 102 F4

Cost of sessions is $20:00, equipment provided

Mouthguards essential

Each Participant may purchase their own kit which includes hockey stick, shin pads, ball and t/shirt for $30

This program is suitable for both Boys + Girls aged 5 to 13 yrs

Experienced Coaches

Expressions of interest, please email: cherylebishop@optusnet.com.au or phone 9766 7478

If you know anyone who would be interested in playing hockey for the 2014 winter hockey season please contact Cheryle. We can provide Grades to suit all levels of experience and skills, Male and Female Junior teams, Men’s & Women’s teams, Masters & PWHA.

Everyone is very welcome to join our inclusive, family friendly club