PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS

WELCOME TO 2013 SCHOOL YEAR
Welcome everyone to the 2013 school year. I hope you have all had a safe and relaxing summer vacation and have returned to school re-energised for another exciting year at Ballam Park Primary School.

It was lovely to see so many happy students and parents last Thursday morning, and to hear the cheerful chatter as students, families and staff caught up with each other after the long holiday period.

Thanks to all staff for their help in ensuring we were well-prepared and organised for the new school year.

Fifty eight Prep students commenced school this year and seven students have joined us from other schools. I would like to welcome all new students and their families. We are confident that you will enjoy your time with us at Ballam Park Primary. If you require any assistance please don’t hesitate to contact the office.

RELIEVING PRINCIPAL — TERMS 1 & 2
I am extremely delighted to have been asked to take up the role of Relieving Principal at Ballam Park Primary School. I would like to thank everyone who has made me feel welcome here. Naturally, I am still learning people’s names, and my brain has gone into overload trying to remember which faces go with the appropriate names!

I have been a Principal in the Southern Metropolitan Region for 5 years and I am looking forward to working with the whole school community to ensure the best possible school life for our students. Since I have been here, I have observed the warmth and care that the community places on creating a sense of belonging and ownership ~ Ballam Park Primary School is a wonderful place to be. Please know my door is always open and I encourage everyone to pop in and say “Hello”.

Ballam Park Primary welcomes three new staff members – Miss Kirsty Johnson in Prep, Mr Jason Randles in Year 3 and Mrs Kristine Simmons in Year 5.

A list of 2013 staff roles is included in the Newsletter.

INDUSTRIAL ACTION
Many parents will be aware that there is an ongoing dispute between the AEU (Australian Education Union) and the State Government regarding negotiations about the new Enterprise Bargaining Agreement. The dispute has already seen some stop work action and work bans during 2012.

The next stage of the dispute is a full day stop work and a ban on all work which would involve members in schools working more than 38 hours in any week. The full day stop work for staff is scheduled for Thursday, 14 February. As yet I don’t have any information on the number of staff taking part, or the impact on classes. I’m just alerting parents to the date and I will send home a notice just prior to the date about classes affected.

PREPS START WELL
A big buzz occurs every year when the Preps arrive and 2013 has been no different. Our new Preps started school on Monday, and they were very happy and full of smiles. New uniforms, big school bags and shiny shoes flooded into the school on Monday morning to mark the start of the school year for our Prep children. It is simply wonderful looking at the excitement on their faces and their keenness to become a ‘school kid’. There were hardly any tears, with more parents upset than students. Plenty of anxious mums and dads, new teachers and toddlers joined the procession and lots of parents with cameras recorded the proud moment of their little preppies starting their first day. It always amazes me how adaptable children are, and how well they adjust to their new situation. This is a special time for families and obviously the Preps themselves. I know they will have a great start to their journey through life at school.

IMPORTANT DATES 2013

FEBRUARY
Mon 11 Parents’ Club Annual General Meeting
Tues 12 School Banking commences
Fri 15 Yr 6 Interschool Summer Sport begins
Thurs 21 Preps commence full-time

MARCH
Mon 4 to ) Year 1 Swimming at
Thurs 7 ) Jubilee Park
Mon 11 Public Holiday (Labour Day)

cont/...
Parent Participation and School Council

Parents are most welcome to be involved in our school. If you would like to assist in your child's classroom, please discuss this with the teacher.

Parents’ Club, which runs fundraising activities, meets in the portable classroom near the Canteen each Monday after assembly, and always welcomes new members and their children.

Accompanying this week’s newsletter there is information about School Council. Nominations are being called for three parent positions on School Council. These nomination forms are due back no later than 4.00pm on Monday, 18th February. If you did not receive this information, it is available by contacting the school office.

There are generally 8 or 9 School Council meetings each year. They begin at 5.30pm, usually on the third Monday of each month, and almost always conclude by 7.00pm.

REMINDERS

Personal Property Brought to School
The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) does not hold insurance nor does it accept responsibility for private property brought to school by students, staff and visitors. As a result, we advise that careful thought is given before personal items, particularly those of some value, are brought to school.

Staff Car Park
Parents are requested not to use the staff car park for pick-up and drop-off of students before and after school. This is prohibited in the interests of student safety. Signs on the driveway clearly indicate this. Apart from safety, there is just not enough room in the carpark for all parents’ cars and there is ample parking in Ballam Park next to the school.

Student Accident Insurance
DEECD does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents/guardians are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. Reasonably low cost accident insurance policies are available from the commercial insurance sector.

Together with staff, I look forward to sharing a wonderful 2013 at Ballam Park Primary.

Have a great week!

Anneliese Kosach

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**2013 STAFF LIST**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Teacher(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep PRJ</td>
<td>Miss Kirsty Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep PRB</td>
<td>Mrs Joan Berry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prep PRM</td>
<td>Miss Lucy McLeod</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1M</td>
<td>Mrs Pam McGearry</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| 1S | Mrs Kylie Shaw  
Ms Lynda Stafford |
| 2B | Ms Jan Beilken |
| 2L | Mrs Jayne Lafin |
| 3H | Miss Meaghan Hodkinson |
| 3R | Mr Jason Randles |
| 4D | Mrs Sandra Davis |
| 4R | Mrs Chris Robinson |
| 5B | Mrs Helen Buxton |
| 5S | Mrs Kristine Simmons |
| 6B | Mrs Suzanne Burrows |
| 6S | Mrs Lee Street |
| Art | Mrs Heather Rhodes |
| Music | Mr Michael Ennis  
Mrs Natalie Millard |
| Physical Education | Mr Darren O’Brien |
| Reading Recovery | Mrs Barbara Hamaline |
| Chaplain | Mrs Angela Bilson |
| Business Manager | Mrs Rosemary Van Sanden |
| General Office | Mrs Pam Lefebvre  
Ms Barb Sexton |
| Support Staff | Mrs Lynn Anderson  
Mrs Bev Cox  
Mrs Sally Rea  
Mrs Jo Lothian  
Ms Carmel Abblitt |
| Assistant Principals | Mrs Sue McSweeney  
Mrs Maree Renowden |
| Principal (Relieving) | Mrs Anneliese Kosach |

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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
**Student Health and Happiness**

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

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**Welcome to 2013 at BPPS**

The purpose of this page in each edition of the school newsletter is to keep families informed about student wellbeing items.

For students to achieve their learning potential they must feel safe and happy at school, and it is our goal to make Ballam Park Primary School such a place.

Our school rules/behaviour expectations are easy to remember because we use our school’s initials...

- **B**e friendly and respectful to others at school
- **P**lay and work safely
- **P**ersist when you face challenges
- **S**trive to do your best.

Following each of these statements ensures our classrooms and playground are safe and fair places for everyone.

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**SUNSMART**

As a SunSmart school, all students must wear a school broad brimmed school hat from the first day of school until May 1st and again from September 1st until the end of the school year.

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A new year and a new beginning; no matter what grade your child has moved into, there is an air of optimism and a desire for success, held by each one of them.

At Ballam Park Primary School we use a program called ‘You Can Do It’ that helps teaches students to be successful in their academic, social and emotional lives.

The four foundations to help on this road to success are:

- **Confidence**
- **Persistence**
- **Organisation**
- **Getting Along**

Connected to each of these areas, teachers help students to develop positive ‘Habits of the Mind’. A ‘Habit of the Mind’ is an automatic tendency of a person to think in a certain way. By thinking in that way, the young person experiences certain emotions and behaviours that will either lead to sound achievement and good social-emotional wellbeing, or under-achievement, poor psychological health, and disaffection. Negative ‘Habits of the Mind’ can impact on our chance of experiencing success.

**CONFIDENCE** means...

- Feeling that I can do it
- Confidence means not being afraid to make a mistake or to try something new.

The Habits of the Mind to help Confidence are:

1. **Accepting Myself** - means not thinking badly about myself when I make a mistake.
2. **Taking Risks** - means thinking that it’s good to try something new even though I might not be able to do it.
3. **Being Independent** - means thinking that it’s important for me to try new activities and to speak up even if classmates think I’m silly or stupid.

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A quote from Shakespeare: ‘Things are neither good nor bad but thinking makes them so.’
Preps—First Days at School
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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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE HIGHLIGHTS</td>
<td>Ball Games &amp; Outside Play</td>
<td>Art, Lego &amp; other Indoor Activities</td>
<td>Outside Games</td>
<td>Indoor Sports</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fresh Fruit</td>
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<td>Star of the Week:</td>
<td>Maddison G</td>
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Each day we get the children to choose what activities they want to set up and, depending on weather, we do sports & games outside.

The phone number for OSHC is:
0402-354-584
For bookings, please log on to:
www.campaustralia.com.au

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

OSHC NEWS THIS WEEK
‘we make kids smile’

BOOK LIST AND ESSENTIAL EDUCATION ITEMS
YEAR 2013

The Book List and Essential Education Items Year 2013 for each year level were sent home at the end of 2012. If you did not receive this list, a copy is available from the office.

PAYMENT WAS REQUIRED BY FRIDAY, 1ST FEBRUARY, so if you still haven’t paid, please pay now so that your child will receive their books, pencils, etc.

A reminder that there are facilities for EFTPOS, Visa, BPAY and phone credit at the office.

Alternatively, for parents who are eligible, AN APPLICATION FOR EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA) SHOULD BE COMPLETED BEFORE THURSDAY, 28TH FEBRUARY 2013
The Canteen is NOW OPEN, and will operate for three days each week — MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY. Bellbrook Catering will continue to supply our Canteen services this year.

HOW TO ORDER

Please write on a paper lunch bag:

* student's name
* grade and room number
* the order
* amount enclosed

The orders will be placed in crates in classrooms at the commencement of the morning session. Completed orders will be returned to the classrooms by 1.20pm, as lunch is eaten in classrooms.

The current Canteen menu (fluoro) was distributed earlier this week. Additional copies are available at the office. Bon Appetit!

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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 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). Information is also available at the school office.

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Religious Education classes for catholic children, Grade 3 and older children, in preparation for Confirmation, and Reconciliation and First Communion, will commence on Monday 11 February, and for Holy Communion on Tuesday, 12 February 2013. Enrolments will be taken between 4.15-4.30pm on Monday, 11 February for Confirmation and on Tuesday, 12 February for Reconciliation and Holy Communion in the Parish House, St John’s Church, 20 Coral Street, Frankston, and classes will commence on these days.

For further details please call Sr. Anita on 9776 1483 after 6.30pm

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School term dates 2013-2014

2013
Term 2: 15 April to 28 June
Term 3: 15 July to 20 September
Term 4: 7 October to 20 December

2014
Term 1: *28 January (teachers start) to 4 April
Term 2: 22 April to 27 June
Term 3: 14 July to 19 September
Term 4: 6 October to 19 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.

A warm hello from our School Chaplain

I wish to say a warm hello to all parents, students and friends of Ballam Park Primary School. For those of you who may be new to the school, my name is Angela Bilson and I will be continuing working on Wednesdays and Thursdays. I can be contacted through the school office on 9789 5614.

The Chaplaincy Program is available to both students and parents, and can assist in times of family breakdown, crisis, bereavement, illness, behavioural issues, anxiety and other social issues that may interfere with a child’s ability to learn to their best potential.

The main focus of the chaplaincy program is that of a welfare role, working in consultation with teaching staff to help and encourage children to be able to be their best. The way in which I work with children is usually through one-on-one sessions that involve counselling, while using drawing, play dough, games and other activities in order for the child to explore their feelings and subsequently learn to manage those feelings.

Some group sessions are run during each term where children with similar needs meet together to work through a program that is relevant to their particular situation.

Students may be referred to the Chaplaincy Program after consultation with Mrs Sue McSweeney or Mrs Maree Renowden and, once parental approval is gained, the child will begin to use the service. Ideally, children will spend time with me once a week but, depending on the circumstances, it may be a fortnightly session that takes place. There will be 8 sessions available, with a review at the end of those 8 sessions.

If, for any reason, you feel that your child/ren may benefit from this program, please do not hesitate to make contact with myself, their teacher, or the Assistant Principals.

Wishing you and your family all the very best for a fantastic 2013.

Kind regards
Angela Bilson

BOOK CLUB

Book Club brochures have been sent home with students.

Please note that orders are due back at school by Friday, 15th February.

$\textbf{\$\$ STUDENT BANKING \$\$}$

Student banking will commence on Tuesday, 12th February 2013.

School banking operates EVERY TUESDAY at our school, and parents of new students who wish to open an account for their child may collect details from the school office.

If you would like more information regarding school banking, please contact Mrs Jo Lothian (parent volunteer) c/o the office.
Keeping focus on the 2013 school year

As the kids settle into the new school year, did you remember to tick off ‘see the optometrist’ on your ‘back to school’ list? Many young people experience undetected vision problems as they often assume that how they see is normal.

It is estimated that 80% of learning is experienced through vision and so children with undetected vision problems can have trouble keeping up and as a consequence might become impatient, lose focus and start misbehaving or not enjoying school.

The most frequent vision problems experienced by children are those affecting the ability to see clearly and sharply. These include short-sightedness (blurred distance vision), long-sightedness (difficulty focusing up close) and astigmatism (the distortion of vision due to the irregular shape of the eye). These conditions can be very easy to correct, with a simple measure: glasses. Other vision problems need to be detected and addressed early to reduce risk of long-term vision concerns such as a turned eye (strabismus), or a so-called lazy eye (amblyopia). These conditions require management by an eye health professional, such as an optometrist. Untreated amblyopia can even lead to permanently reduced vision in the affected eye.

Incorporating regular eye examinations with an optometrist into your child’s health routine can give peace of mind and the best start to the school year – you don’t need a referral from a doctor and most consultations attract a Medicare rebate. For more information or to find an optometrist in your local area, visit www.optometrists.asn.au/victoria.

5 interesting facts about your eyes:

- Your eyes are made up of more than 2 million working parts.
- The human eye will focus on about 50 things per second.
- Your eyes actually ‘see’ images upside down and then they send these images to the brain where they are flipped around correctly for us.
- The human eye can distinguish about 2.7 million different colours and 500 shades of grey.
- The human eye can process 36 000 pieces of information every hour.
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.
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.

**FRANKSTON HOCKEY CLUB**

**FREE HOCKEY CLINIC**
Frankston Hockey Club invites everyone to join in on a free junior hockey clinic that will be held at Peninsula Hockey Centre, Monash Uni, Off Bloom St, Frankston. Clinics will be run on Thursday 14, 21 and 28 Feb, 6pm to 7pm and are open to students of all skill levels. All equipment is provided. Participants should wear sporting clothes and runners. Any questions please contact Chris - cwall89@live.com

**Dads ‘n’ Lads Weekend**
23rd & 24th February 2013

Need an excuse for a boys only weekend? Join us for Dads ‘n’ Lads at Phillip Island Nature Parks – the perfect bonding session for big & little fellas. Ditch the plasma TV, computer games & shopping centres, & get back to basics at Phillip Island Nature Parks during this fun weekend created especially for dads, sons, granddads, uncles, nephews & mates! Designed for the ‘boys’ to spend quality time together in the great outdoors of Phillip Island, the ‘Dads ‘n’ Lads’ weekend, offers genuine bonding time, plus boys-own challenges & activities for both young & old.

Contact: Jade Cranton
Education and Marketing Executive
Tel: +613 5951 2802 Mobile: 0417 584 104 Fax: +61 3596 8394
PO Box 97 Cowes, Victoria 3922 Australia
Email jcranton@penguins.org.au Web www.penguins.org.au

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📞 9789 1233
81-85 CRANBOURNE RD, LANGWARRIN
psmgroup.com.au

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**Miss Karla’s School of Ballet**

Kinder ballet for 3 & 4 year-olds: $7
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03 9593 3561

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* Nails Cut  * Ears Cleaned

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PO Box 97 Cowes, Victoria 3922 Australia
Email jcranton@penguins.org.au Web www.penguins.org.au

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enquiries@paulspoultry.com.au