**PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS**

**Welcome back for 2012**

It has been a pleasing start to the new school year and the teachers are very happy with the positive and happy manner in which we have begun. At Ballam Park Primary School we are committed to providing the best possible education for our students.

This year, we have 14 class groups, with two groups at each year level. Specialist programs remain the same as last year: Art, Music, P.E. & Sport and Reading Recovery.

We want all our students to be safe and happy and to feel enthusiastic about being at school and making the most of their learning opportunities.

We especially welcome our 51 new Prep students and our 20 new students who have come to us from other schools and your families.

**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, who run fundraising activities, meet in the staff room each Monday after assembly and always welcome new members.

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, February 21st. 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.

**Assemblies**

Our tradition has been to have an assembly every Monday morning in the school hall for around 30 minutes, and it is always well attended by parents. On all other days, we begin with a brief outdoor assembly where parents are also welcome.

We are going to try a change by moving our main assembly from Monday mornings to Friday afternoons at 2.40pm. This will begin on Friday, March 2nd, with no indoor Monday assembly on Monday, February 27th.

**Reminders about:**

**Responsibility for personal possessions at school and Costs for medical treatment for students who might be injured during school hours**

- Principals are requested to remind staff, students and parents/guardians of this at the beginning of this academic year. Staff and students should be discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school. Private property brought to school by students is not insured and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development or the school do not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage.

- The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has asked that all Victorian government schools clearly inform parents that parents/guardians are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for students who might be injured during school hours, including any transport costs; and that reasonably low cost accident insurance policies are available from the commercial insurance sector.

**Before and After School Care—Camp Australia (OSHC)**

We provide an on-site before and after school care program every school day for our students. Parents who are eligible are able to access government subsidies to assist with fees.

Students do not need to use the OSHC program every day to access this program. Occasional use is welcome, but students must be enrolled with Camp Australia. Enrolment forms are available at the office or from Camp Australia on www.campaustralia.com.au

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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
**School Website**
This newsletter, links to school policies, student welfare information and photos are on our website. Students whose photos you see on the website have written permission from parents to have their photos published. We do not publish student surnames on our website or in our school newsletter.
Visit at: [www.ballamparkps.vic.edu.au](http://www.ballamparkps.vic.edu.au)

**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.

**Two exceptions:** (driving at walking pace)
- You have a disabled, injured or sick child and you park in one of the two car spaces for students with a disability.
- Before 8.10am and after 3.55pm for students attending our OSHC Program.

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**BOOK LIST AND ESSENTIAL EDUCATION ITEMS YEAR 2012**

The Book List and Essential Education Items Year 2012 for each year level were sent home at the end of 2011. If you did not receive this list, a copy is available from the office.

**PAYMENTS ARE REQUIRED BY FRIDAY, 24TH FEBRUARY.**

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

Alternatively, for parents who are eligible, **APPLICATION FOR EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA) SHOULD BE COMPLETED** before Wednesday, 29th February 2012.

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**Principal’s Comments cont/…**

**IMPORTANT DATES 2012**

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<tr>
<th>FEBRUARY</th>
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<td>Tues 14</td>
<td>School Banking commences</td>
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<td>Preps start full time</td>
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<td>Wed 22</td>
<td>Twilight Sports Evening</td>
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<td>Thurs 23</td>
<td>District Swim Trials</td>
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<td>Prep Family BBQ 5-7pm/Footsteps</td>
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<td>Year 1 Swimming Program</td>
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<td>Thurs 8</td>
<td>Jubilee Park</td>
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<td>Thurs 8</td>
<td>Footsteps</td>
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<td>Mon 12</td>
<td>PUBLIC HOLIDAY—Labour Day</td>
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<td>Thurs 15</td>
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<td>Mon 19</td>
<td>Camp Quality Whole School Incursion</td>
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<td>Thurs 22</td>
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<td>Ride To School Day</td>
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<td>Thurs 29</td>
<td>Footsteps</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 30</td>
<td>End of Term 1 Early Dismissal 2.30pm</td>
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**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.**

**Year 6 Special Uniform 2012**

There is now a second opportunity for Year 6 students to purchase the Year 6 Special Uniform 2012. Forms will be sent home today and are due back at school by **Friday, 17th February.**

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Mark Renouf
Principal

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**Primary School Wear (PSW)**

21 Playne Street, Frankston (opposite Savers)

Phone 9769-6510
Some of our new students at work this week
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 on in 2012 in the position of School Chaplain here at Ballam Park Primary, 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 by a parent/caregiver, or a teacher may refer a student 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.

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 year ahead.

Kind Regards
Angela Bilson
School Chaplain

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.

It's cool to be at school.

$$$

STUDENT BANKING

$$$

Student banking will commence next Tuesday, 14th February.

School banking operates EVERY TUESDAY at our school. Information packs may be collected at the office for parents of students who wish to open an account for their child. If you would like more information regarding school banking, please contact Mrs Jo Lothian (parent volunteer) via the school office on 9789-5614.
CBA School Banking is free, it's fun and banking day is every Tuesday!

EXCITING NEWS… THE COMMONWEALTH BANK IS BACK IN 2012 WITH LOTS OF NEW REWARDS!!!!

START BANKING NOW AND DON'T FORGET EVERY NEW SCHOOL BANKER WHO JOINS THE PROGRAM AND STARTS BANKING EARN OUR SCHOOL $5.00! School Banking encourages a regular savings habit and we also receive commission with every deposit made.

Collect your tokens, then swap them with your School Banking Co-ordinator for cool rewards.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Token</th>
<th>Image</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Money Box</td>
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<td>Wallet</td>
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<td>Drink Bottle</td>
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<td>Lunch Box</td>
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<td>USB</td>
<td>Release Date: October 2012</td>
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PLEASE REMEMBER THAT YOU CAN OPEN AN ACCOUNT VIA YOUR LOCAL BRANCH OR DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION FORM FROM www.commbank.com.au and return it to your school along with your identification.

Back to School 2012 – Tips for Parents and Carers

A significant ‘spike’ in asthma symptoms and subsequent hospital admissions of children occurs during the first few weeks of Term 1. While there have not been direct links established, the February ‘asthma spike’ is believed to be largely due to children coming into contact with triggers that they have had time away from now that they have returned to school.

What can parents and carers do to help their children avoid asthma exacerbations at school?

- Ensure that your child is always carrying their reliever medication (eg. Ventolin, Asmol, Atraksol or Bricanyl) as well as a spacer. Also ensure that you provide medication to the school or preschool that your child attends if required.
- Ensure that you have provided the school or preschool with an updated Asthma Action Plan that has been signed by a medical practitioner.
- Ensure that your child knows how to recognise early asthma symptoms, and can self-administer their reliever medication properly.
- Encourage your child to seek assistance from school/preschool staff if they experience asthma symptoms.

For further information, please contact the Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 645 130 or email schools@asthma.org.au
Student Health and Happiness

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

Welcome to 2012 at BPPS

The purpose of this page in each edition of the school newsletters 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.

- Be friendly and respectful to others at school
- Play and work safely
- Persist when you face challenges
- Strive to do your best.

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

SUNSMART

As a SunSmart school, all students must wear a 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.

Some of our Year 6 students proudly wearing their hats.

What’s in your child’s lunch-box?

A nutritious morning snack and lunch will help your child maintain a high level of concentration, and maximize their learning potential.

Providing lunch items from the five essential food groups is one way to ensure children are eating well.

Some tips recently found in the newspaper included:
- Kids are more likely to eat fresh fruit and vegetable if they are cut up.
- Make salads or salad sandwich fillings interesting by using a range of vegetables like grated carrot, snow peas, lettuce, rocket or baby spinach, celery, tomatoes, avocado and cucumber.
- Pack reduced fat cheese cubes with crackers or vegetable sticks for recess.
- Include a variety of breads–pita, lavash or corn or rice cakes.
- A dairy choice such as yoghurt, cheese or milk.

These days there are some great lunch boxes that keep food chilled and fresh and more appealing for the children.

Pictured is Genevieve with her fantastic lunch box. She was also enjoying some grapes for her snack. Many classes have a fruit break during the day, and soon our Fresh Fruit program will recommence for the students in Prep to Year 2.

NB: Also remember a good breakfast is essential to start the day and to have children ready and primed for learning!
DEAR PARENTS...

The Parents’ Club is an important committee for our school. It is the main school fundraiser and helps raise funds for the improvement of our playground and curriculum areas.

Due to parents moving into the workforce and children going to secondary school, the Parents’ Club is in desperate need of new members/helpers. It is in danger of folding and this would be a shame because our school and your children will lose out.

All Parents’ Club positions are up for nominations. If you are interested, please call the school office on 9789-5614 or, if you are able to attend a meeting in the staff room on Monday, 13th February (straight after morning assembly), that would be great.

Belonging to the Parents’ Club is a great way of meeting new people, making friends and contributing to the success of our school.

Please come along next Monday and join in.

Best wishes
Parents’ Club

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KEYBOARD LESSONS

New Enrolments are currently being accepted for Term 1, 2012. At only $11.90 (incl. GST) per lesson, this keyboard music program is Great Value!!!

Enrolment forms are available from keyboard music teacher(s), the school office or you can enrol electronically on our website – www.primarymusicinstitute.com.au.

Small Reminder
Re-enrolment from one term to the next (including from one year to the next) is automatic so, once enrolled, you don’t need to send in a new enrolment form each term in order to continue.

If at any stage you wish to cancel: Written advice to that effect must be mailed or faxed to PMI at the above address/fax number at least two weeks prior to the start of any given term in order to avoid incurring the next term’s fees. (Please note: It is not sufficient for this advice to be communicated to the school or keyboard teacher).

The Primary Music Institute wishes all families a safe and musical holiday!!!

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OSHC NEWS THIS WEEK

‘we make kids smile’

Welcome back to OSHC!
Over the next fortnight, the children will be settling in and learning about OSHC and each other while playing lots of fun games.

For bookings for next year, please log on to: www.campaustralia.com.au

Star of the Week:

Emma Cooper
Phone 0402-258-786

Outside School Hours Care with Camp Australia

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<td>Portraits Fresh</td>
<td>Fresh Fruit</td>
<td>You Games</td>
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<td>HIGHLIGHTS</td>
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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).

Canteen

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
* the order
* grade and room number
* 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 (green) was distributed earlier this week. Additional copies are available at the office.

Bon Appetit!
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.

FARM FRESH VEGIES AVAILABLE...
‘VEGIE RUN’ HOME DELIVERY

Why not have fresh vegetables and fruit home delivered at a great price, while also supporting our school. This is a school fundraiser continuing on from last year.

An order form for ‘Vegie Run’ Summer stock is included with this newsletter. Copies are also available at the office.

Free home delivery within 10km of Ballam Park Primary School.

BAXTER SOCCER CLUB
UNDER 6 to FFV SENIORS BOYS GIRLS MEN WOMEN

REGISTRATION DAY
Sunday 12th February 11am - 2pm
Baxter Park: Frankston-Flinders Road Baxter Mel Ref 106 H3

Mums’ Program
Victoria

Only $35 for five weeks of group tennis coaching*
Tennis Victoria’s Mums’ Program is run by a Tennis Australia qualified coach which means that you will be in good hands to develop your tennis skills. In addition, save time and money on childcare by enrolling your child(ren) in the Tiny Tots program** for just $15 for the same five weeks.
Open to beginners and those who would like to resume playing tennis, the Mums’ Program allows you to take some time out for yourself and get fit and active whilst socialising with other mums in your area.

Tiny Tots Program

Enrol your child in our Tiny Tots Program**
The Tiny Tots Program is targeted at children aged 3-5 and helps them develop fundamental motor skills whilst allowing you to participate in tennis, without the burden of having to find childcare.

Program Registration
To register for the Mums’ Program (and the Tiny Tots Program**), please contact your nearest venue. Places are limited so please register early.

For further information please contact Tennis Victoria on (03) 8420 8420 or visit: tennis.com.au/vic/play-tennis/getting-started.

KARINGAL NETBALL CLUB

Come and play netball – the 2012 season starts in March
Registrations are currently being taken for new and existing players at the Jubilee Park Courts on Tuesday afternoons
Training from 4.00 pm til 5.30 pm

New players of all abilities are most welcome. The club caters for players from 5 years of age (modified rules) to seniors.

Any queries to:
Maud Lewis
0415 954 197
Kerrin Fletcher
9789 6895
Catholic Religious Education classes for Grade 3 and older children, in preparation for Reconciliation and First Communion, will commence on Tuesday, 21st February, 2012. Enrolments will be taken between 4.15-4.30pm on Tuesday, 21st February, in Parish House, 20 Coral Street, Frankston. Classes will begin that afternoon.

Also, any Grade 6 children who would like to be Confirmed in 2012 should leave their details at the Parish House on 9789 9672. Preparation class date to be advised.

TERM DATES 2012-2013

2012
Term 1: 1 February to 30 March
Term 2: 16 April to 29 June
Term 3: 16 July to 21 September
Term 4: 8 October to 21 December

PUPIL FREE DAYS:
* Wednesday, 27th June 2012 (Parent/Teacher Meetings)
* Friday, 27th July 2012 (Curriculum Planning)

2013
Term 1: 29 January (teachers start) to 28 March
Term 2: 15 April to 28 June
Term 3: 15 July to 20 September
Term 4: 7 October to 20 December

* 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.


FREE JUNIOR HOCKEY PROGRAM

Frankston Hockey Club invites children of all ages to try our Free Junior Hockey Coaching Program. The program is run by experienced coaches. The children are coached in small age-related groups where they learn skills and then apply them in fun games.

All Hockey Equipment is provided. Just bring runners, lots of enthusiasm and prepare for a good time.

VENUE: Peninsula Hockey Centre located behind the Monash University Malvern reference page 102 – G4, enter via Bloom Street
DATES: Friday 17th Feb, Friday 24th Feb and Friday 2nd March 2012
TIME: 6.30pm to 7.30pm

Please arrive 15 minutes early to allow for registration and warm-ups!

Any questions please contact
Joe Hill – 0409 186100
Paul Zimmerman – 0438 738274

For more information go to: www.frankstonhockeyclub.com

This year’s coaching program is run in conjunction with the Hockey Australia Hookin2Hockey Initiative.

www.hockeyaustralia.com.au

HOCKEY AUSTRALIA

ST. JOHN’S PARISH
20 CORAL STREET, EAST FRANKSTON, 3199.
Telephone: 9789 9672 - Fax: 9789 9744
Email: stjohnseastfrankston@hotmail.com

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