2009 was a significant year for Ballam Park Primary School in terms of positive change. The staff worked diligently as a team to implement DEECD initiatives such as the English Online Assessment, School Council oversaw the allocation of the Commonwealth Government NSP Grant of $150,000 to make improvements to the school grounds, the hall and the administration block and the Parent’s Club directed much time and effort into fundraising events and a major community event, the Healthy Living Expo.

Student centered initiatives such as
- Embedding our four positive school rules and five values with the use of Restorative Justice into Student Engagement and Welfare policy and practice
- Taking Mathletics school-wide as one tool to improve student Numeracy standards
- Introducing two writing programs: The Seven Steps for Years 3 to 6 and in the junior school, a program that was designed and implemented after our teachers visited other schools to see successful innovative practices.
- Allocating School Council Reserves to reintroduce a specialist Music Program
- Timetabling all teaching staff into lunchtime activities for the students, including Walking Club, Guitar, Percussion, Choir, Indoor Games, Ball Games, Computer Room access, Senior Sport Team Training, Outdoor Chess Sets and Mathletics.

Establishing a range of new programs including beach swimming, orienteering, little athletics and dance through the Commonwealth Government’s Department of Health and Aging Healthy and Active Schools and Communities Grant were all successful in improving the scope and quality of education at B.P.P.S.

Other developments and programs of note in 2009 were:
- External painting of the school and roof maintenance of the two wings and administration building.
- Continued innovative programs in partnership with Monash University that contribute to the development of our future teachers and in the short term brought our students into contact with a large number of young adults who model positive learning behaviour. In 2009 we also hosted three visiting Education Students from Hong Kong.
- Building Schools Today Building the Education Revolution (BER) delays and announcements resulted in the promise of $2.8 million to fund new Art and Music Rooms and refurbishment of both classroom wings and the admin building, to begin by mid 2010.
- Keyboard Lessons on Fridays from the Primary Music Institute were well supported with over thirty students participating.
- Healthy Living Expo organized by The Parents Club on Saturday, November, 14th focused on fun, fitness, stalls and exhibitions by community organisations and businesses. It was also a celebration of how our school promotes learning and enjoyment through a variety of healthy and active programs at school.

The Walkathon in November raised the fantastic total of $11,320.15

There were also two significant staff retirements were announced; our Assistant Principal, Mrs Jan McDornan after 29 Years and Mr David Wenzel after more than 20 years at Ballam Park Primary School.

The success of any school depends on many people and we would like to acknowledge the dedication of the school’s staff who every week work many more hours more than the time for which they are employed and paid. They clearly have the best interests of our students’ welfare and academic success at the centre of their focus. The staff is very well supported by School Council, the Parent’s Club and other parents who assist in various ways throughout the school year.

We look forward to exciting facility and curriculum developments in 2010 and beyond.

Mark Renouf (Principal)  Mr Patrick Lee (School Council President)