



Buddy Day:
Students across the
school learning
together.

IBIS FLYER

Balnarring Primary School

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Principal's Report



It's the end of our third week of school, and I have been delighted to observe our students doing their best both in and out of the classroom. Our School has a strong set of core values which underpin all we do and are explicitly taught in all rooms. At the beginning of the school year teachers engage with their students to devise a set of class expectations based on our core values and these become our Classroom Agreements. Likewise, the Home School Agreement outlines the school's expectations for a strong productive working partnership with parents and carers. Both these agreements will be given to parents on the night of the *Getting to Know you Interviews*. We ask that families show they have read these Agreements by returning the reply slip at the bottom of each Agreement to school.

Community Events

Last week the school offered a number of valuable and informative sessions for parents. The first two sessions were on reading and covered strategies parents can use to assist beginning readers - thank you Fiona Forrest. Michelle Brown from Anglicare ran a very practical discussion on ideas to help children with anxiety. The feedback from these sessions was very positive.

You are all invited to a *Welcome Back Breakfast* which will be held in the library at 8.45 am this Friday. I hope that you can join us for a croissant and coffee tomorrow morning.

Parent Helpers

Parents who would like to help in the classroom need to attend one information session on our Parent Helper program. The first of these is scheduled to follow the *Welcome Back Breakfast* on Friday morning so should start around 9.15 am. If you have already attended one of these in the past, you do not need to attend another one.

Working Bees

To keep our grounds looking beautiful we need your help. We are asking for each family to commit to helping at one of the working bees that we will have during the school day this year. The calendar for the working bees is published in this newsletter so that you can pencil one of the dates in your diary. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Canteen

I have had a number of parents approach me about having the canteen operate again this year. To discuss the possibilities, I'd like to meet with interested parents on Tuesday 20th February at 9.00 am in the staffroom.

School Council

One way you may like to be involved in school is by joining the School Council. The School Council meets twice each term on a Wednesday from 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm. No special skills are needed to be on School Council just a willingness to be involved. There will be two parent vacancies on the 2018 School Council.

A nomination form can be obtained from the office. The process and timeline for forming the new School Council is:

Call for nominations: Monday 19th February
Nominations close: Monday 5th March
Publish the list of candidates: Thursday 8th March

Emergency Management

We are on the list of schools that the Department has identified as being at high fire risk and will be closed on **Code Red Days**. In the case of any emergency the school will communicate with families using SMS or Flexibuzz.

We practise parts of our emergency management plan throughout the year.

It's been a really great start to the year.

Rhonda Stephens

"We care for the environment" - Working bees	
TERM 1:	FRIDAY 9 th MARCH 2.15 pm
	MONDAY 26 th MARCH 2.15 pm
TERM 2:	FRIDAY 4 th MAY 2.15 pm
	MONDAY 4 th JUNE 2.15 pm
TERM 3:	MONDAY 30 th JULY 2.15 pm
	FRIDAY 7 th SEPTEMBER 2.15 pm
TERM 4:	MONDAY 22 nd OCTOBER 2.15 pm
	FRIDAY 16 th NOVEMBER 2.15 pm

VIC ROADS - NOTIFICATION OF ROAD WORKS

Vic Roads & Downer EDI Works Pty Ltd have advised of road works to be carried out on Balnarring Road between Myers Road and Warrawee Road.



Road works are scheduled to commence on 12th February and continue through until May 2018.

Please remain alert to traffic conditions in this area.

Assistant Principal's Report



The start of the school year is a very busy time for everyone. Michael Grose, one of Australia's leading parenting educators recently published on his blog "7 ways to make a sensational start to the school year".

One of the ways he claims is to ...

Make sure your child gets enough sleep

Unfortunately a number of children talk to their teachers and classmates about programs they have watched on TV or games they have played on their devices until late into the evening; sadly a number of these are inappropriate for primary school aged children.

Parents need to be vigilant about ...

- the amount of time their children spend looking at screens
- the clips and photos they are viewing and
- the online games they are playing.

The number of phone calls and conversations we now have from concerned parents whose children have received unacceptable messages online is increasing – and these reports are from parents whose children have spoken to them about the hurtful message they received. **STUDIES SHOW THAT MANY CHILDREN DO NOT MAKE A REPORT TO AN ADULT.**

Do you know what your child is watching, playing or texting right now?

As part of our response to National Safer Internet Day, an updated code of practice is being discussed in all classrooms. Children are reminded that ...

Whenever you are working with technology.....

- Take care of the equipment
- Only work on a device or the internet for the purpose explained by your teacher

STUDENT TRANSPORT ALLOWANCE (Conveyancing Allowance)

Students may be eligible for transport support if they live more than 4.8km from their nearest school (not the school they attend). Application forms and eligibility criteria are available from the school office if you feel you may be eligible. Completed forms are required to be returned to the office by Wednesday 28th February 2018. If you received payments in 2017 you do not need to reapply - your application will be rolled over.



- Keep all personal information safe and respect the privacy and work of others
- Ensure ALL your posts are respectful of others
- Talk to an adult immediately if something worries you

You will shortly receive a copy of this for you and your children to discuss at home before signing and returning it to school. Children who do not adhere to the code will have their internet usage suspended. We must give our children the skills to be safe internet users and ensure they understand that there are consequences both now and in their future for not acting safely online.

Another of Michael's 'sensational tips' is....

Commit to your child going to school every day on time.

Michael claims that "one of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure s/he goes to school every day - and goes on time. Kids spend more time asleep than at school so we need to maximise every day to get full value".

Tilly, one of our school captains, reminded everyone over the PA last week that when they hear the music play it is time to hurry to their classrooms. Please support this by ending your conversations when the music starts and encouraging your children to move quickly to their classroom door.

(You will appreciate this effort later when your children need to be on time for a secondary school bus or part time job. Time management will not be an issue for children who have been shown from an early age that it is respectful to be on time.)

Looking forward to chatting with you over breakfast tomorrow.

Sandy O'Meara

Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be:

\$125 for primary school students

\$225 for secondary school students.

How to Apply

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form.

Please return your form to the office by 28th February 2018. If you received CSEF in 2017 you do NOT need to complete a new application this year, however we are still required to view your concession card.

ATTENDANCE:

Please remember to call the office or send a Flexibuzz absence notice before 9:30 am on any morning your child will not be at school. Thank you.

School banking:
The day to bring in
your bank books is:
TUESDAY

Uniform Shop dates:
Term 1
28/2/2018, 14/3/2018,
28/3/2018

WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE COMING UP



PLEASE BE AWARE THAT DATES SOMETIMES CHANGE AND UNFORESEEN EVENTS MAY BE ADDED. CHECK FLEXIBUZZ (Tiqbiz) FOR UPDATES.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
			15 FEBRUARY	16 *Welcome breakfast 8.45 am *Parent Induction Program 9.15 am *District Tennis *Assembly for Yrs 1 to 6 Curriculum presentation 5A
19 *School Council Nominations open	20 *District Swim Carnival Permission and payment due *Canteen meeting 9.00 am *Foundation Information Night 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm *Year 1 & 2 Information Night 6.15 pm to 7.15 pm	21 *Foundation students do not attend *Wetlands Sausage Sizzle orders and payment due *Year 3 & 4 Information Night 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm *Years 5 & 6 Information Night 6.15 pm to 7.15 pm *School Council meeting <u>7.30 pm</u>	22 *District Swim Carnival	23
26	27	28 *Foundation students do not attend *Parent Teacher- "Getting to Know You" Interviews	1 MARCH	2 *Sausage Sizzle Day for those who ordered *Assembly for Yrs 1 to 6 Curriculum presentation 3/4A
5 *School Council Nominations Close	6	7 *Foundation students do not attend	8 CURRICULUM DAY Pupil free day	9 CURRICULUM DAY Pupil free day
12 LABOUR DAY	13 *Foundation students begin attending full time	14 *Southern Peninsula Swim Carnival	15 *Wetlands Committee meeting 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm	16 *Assembly for Yrs 1 to 6 Curriculum presentation 2A

School Sport Victoria Team Online Registration Process - 12 Years and Under Registration to trial for AFL, Netball, Soccer and Basketball for SSV State Teams has traditionally started with nominations through their school to attend district trials. School Sport Victoria (SSV) have advised that this process has now changed to an online registration process. The SSV website www.ssv.vic.edu.au provides important information and a video on the process as well as application forms.

Key points include:

- Parents must consult with their Sport Teacher to ensure their child has a sufficiently high **skill level to trial. It is imperative that the PE teacher decides on your child's capability of representing their school at a state level before registering online.**
- **This is not a 'fun', 'have a go' process. ONLY ELITE children should be registering for this process ie. Best and Fairest Winners, or MVP's.**
- This discussion with the school Sport Teacher is necessary as all students MUST get the Sport Teacher/Coordinator and the Principal signature on their registration form prior to attending a trial.
- The Eventbrite ticket, application form signed by the Principal and Sport Teacher/Coordinator and proof of payment must be handed to the Division Trial Coordinator on the day of the trial.
- Applicants will be notified of arrangements for the Division trial once registrations have closed.

Note: Registration for Division trials close on Thursday March 1st, 2018.

CURRENT NOTICES

- ◆ District Swim (select students)
- ◆ Wetlands Sausage Sizzle (all students)

WHOLE SCHOOL PHOTO DAY AND CAMP DATES:

Photo Day - 23rd May

Yr 3 - 17th to 19th October

Yr 4 - 24th to 26th October

Yr 6 - 10th to 13th September

New Recycling Program for Balnarring Primary School

Michelle Sensei has signed up to be a collector for TerraCycle
<https://www.terracycle.com.au/>

Please clean and bring your ORAL CARE and BEAUTY used products to Michelle Sensei's Room—Japanese Room next to school gym (boxes are on the shelves near the windows). This is a great way to recycle plastics that can't be put in your normal recycling bin and saves them ending up in landfill.



HOW WE COMMUNICATE WITH YOU

