

# IBIS FLYER

## Balnarring Primary School

Civic Court (PO Box 38), Balnarring, Vic, 3926

Phone: 03 5931 4444

Email: Balnarring.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

### Acting Principal's Report

January 30th, 2020

Welcome to the 2020 school year everyone!

Welcome back to our many 'old' families and friends and welcome to those joining us for the first time. We look forward to working closely with you and your children as members of the *Balnarring Primary School Learning Community*.

I acknowledge that this has been a difficult summer for many people and communities, but the happy chatter in the classrooms and school yard these past couple of days seems to indicate that our families have fortunately had a lovely, safe break.

At the start of every school year it is wonderful to watch students excitedly catching up with their friends and meeting new classmates. In my visits to the rooms I have been thrilled to see children happily engaged in a variety of activities designed to help them transition into their '2020 class community'.

The staff officially returned to school on Tuesday morning, also eager to hear one another's holiday stories and warmly welcomed our three new staff members Emily, Zach and Georgia. I think Hillary won the award for the most exciting event as she spoke about her beautiful, beautiful wedding day, *although Michaela driving a Mario Kart around Tokyo ran a pretty close second!*

Both the office and teaching staff spent time at school during January organising and planning to ensure a smooth start for all your children. I know it is going to be a wonderful year with this lot....



Rhonda is currently on leave and sends her best wishes to all for a happy return to school.

To begin our 2020 year you are invited to join us at the picnic tables outside the canteen each morning for the first few days from 8:45 for a coffee and chat. *(This is a lovely way for you to catch up with others, share your holiday stories and make new friends)*

We would also like to invite you to a **'Welcome Breakfast'**. This will be held in the library/courtyard area from 8:45 am on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February. Following breakfast, around 9:15 we will run a short information session for anyone interested in working in the school as a **'Classroom Helper'**. If you have attended this session in the past there is no need to attend again.

On Wednesday the 12<sup>th</sup> February we extend an invitation to the **'Meet your Class Community'** evening from 5.00 – 7.00 pm again in the school grounds. We hope you will take this opportunity to meet your child's 2020 teacher, take a 'tour', guided by your child, around their classroom and introduce yourself to other parents with children in your child's class. A barbecue with sausages and veggie burgers will be provided. BYO drinks and rugs.

AND... on the following Tuesday the 18<sup>th</sup> February at 7.00 pm we have organised a special parent forum in our library with guest speaker Susan Mc Clean from Cyber Safety Solutions. Susan is Australia's leading Cybersafety expert and educator. Her focus is 'What are kids doing online?' This is a session you will not want to miss.

As you can see we have already planned many lovely events!!!

You will be aware that the Department of Education and Training has introduced clear guidelines regarding the use of mobile phones in schools. Students who bring a mobile phone to school are required to hand them into the office for safe storage before 8:45 am and collect them from the office at 3:15. Thank you for your support with this.

During the past couple of weeks everyone has also been made aware of the coronavirus. Staff will continue to remind our students that everyone can protect themselves against infections by practising good hand hygiene and respiratory hygiene; in particular to cover your mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing with a tissue or cough into your elbow, dispose of the tissue into a bin and then wash your hands afterwards. Wash your hands regularly, after using the toilet and before eating. We know this is the same message you would be giving at home. You would have now heard in the media that the Commonwealth's Chief Medical Officer and Victoria's Chief Health Officer have recommended that parents/carers should ensure that any student is isolated at home and should not attend school for 14 days:

- following exposure to any confirmed novel coronavirus case; or
- after leaving Hubei Province.

Finally at this week's staff meeting, after a small celebration of a very successful 'day one', teachers were given the opportunity to pass on information about students they taught in 2019 to their 2020 classroom teacher.

Much work has gone into supporting your child to have a positive start.

I know this is going to be a great year!

Enjoy the first fortnight,



Sandy O'Meara



Rhonda Stephens  
Principal



Sandy O'Meara  
Assistant Principal



Fiona Forrest  
Curriculum  
Support



Melanie Phillips  
Learning Specialist



Jill  
Business Manager



Samantha  
Office  
Administration



Jenny Taylor  
Education  
Support



Cassy  
Education  
Support



Kirsty  
Education  
Support



Michelle de la Coeur  
Japanese Teacher



Jessica Wynne  
Performing Arts  
Teacher



Andrew Shannon  
Physical  
Education Teacher



David Keystone  
Science  
Teacher



Kate P  
Science  
Teacher



Jill Olle  
FA  
Class Teacher



Georgia Minotti  
FB  
Class Teacher



Hayley Robinson  
F/1A  
Class Teacher



Krysha Renison  
1A  
Class Teacher



Hillary Findlay  
1B  
Class Teacher



Peta Hall  
2/3A  
Class Teacher



Theresa Banks  
2A  
Class Teacher



Zach Byrns  
2B  
Class Teacher



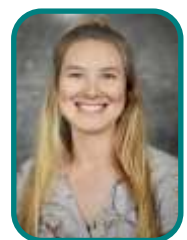
Michaela Grindal  
3A  
Class Teacher



Ashleigh Dickinson  
3B  
Class Teacher



Andrew Gilmour  
4A  
Class Teacher



Emily Arnold  
4B  
Class Teacher



Jana Hanafie  
5A  
Class Teacher



Melanie Brooks  
5B  
Class Teacher



Suzanne Litchfield  
6A  
Class Teacher



Ben Cornall  
6B  
Class Teacher



# 2020 STAFF AT BALNARRING PRIMARY