



IBIS FLYER

Balnarring Primary School

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Acting Principal and Acting Assistant Principal's Report

February 27th, 2020

Susan McClean's visit to Balnarring Primary School made a huge impact amongst the staff and parents who took the opportunity to attend her session.

Susan, a former policewoman and now Australia's leading Cybersafety expert and educator, spoke for 90 minutes without drawing a breath.

She stressed the importance of working together as a community to protect our children from online risks. The three R's, she said, need to drive our communal approach – respect, responsibility and reputation.

Susan did not hold back. In her experience there are many inappropriate 'characters' of all different ages and social standings who are preying on our children - young children, Susan argues, are soft targets! As parents and educators it is essential that we know what our children are doing online at all times.



Susan said it is essential to have a central charging station in the lounge or kitchen where all devices are stored overnight – away from bedrooms and bathrooms. There are many sites that aren't illegal she said but are just not appropriate.

Susan had plenty of other tips. She recommended using a non-identifying image as your profile picture such as a fluffy cat or sunset at the beach. Sadly the innocent sharing by parents of their children's photos online are cute to parents - but attractive to others.

Susan suggested that all parents need to talk to their children about 'rude' photos - 'no one should take photos of anything under your bathers'. She also demanded of parents not to allow their children to EVER have a phone alone in a bedroom or bathroom.

Susan explained that Terms and Conditions of social media sites are all for children aged 13+. "If you allow **your child on social media apps before they're 13 you're allowing them to break the law**", she said. She also implored parents, with children 13+ of course, to check their social media "friends." These people SHOULD also be friends in real life. Not friends of friends and certainly we should not allow children to befriend a 'celebrity'.

She stated that parents of children under 13 need to support one another by saying no when it comes to using social media.

Susan was also concerned about many of the games our children are playing. Any game with a chatroom or chat facility ANY GAME she said will have inappropriate 'contacts'. Just as you play with your children at the park or on the beach, Susan pleaded that we play the online games our children are playing with them.



Susan also spoke about cyberbullying. Cyberbullying she said is 'getting worse and has changed'. Children don't often tell a parent at home if they are a target as they don't want to upset their parents. Cyberbullying can lead to poor mental health. She told all of us to look out for terms like KYS – Kill yourself or KMS – Kill Myself.

Susan said parents need to demand to know their children's passwords.

Cyberbullying is a criminal offence – anyone over the age of 10 can be charged.

Susan's analogy was perfect. We don't buy children a new bike and send them out onto the road hoping they'll work out the road rules. We must not hand our kids a device that enables them to access the internet without supporting them to understand correct usage.

We all recognise that there are many positives to be derived from using the internet but we must take the primary school years to walk alongside our children and explicitly teach them how to be safe online.

Susan was really pleased we have ICT policies and procedures in place. To strengthen our procedures from the beginning of March any student/family who has not signed the ICT agreement will not be able to use electronic devices when at school.

If you would like any more information please visit Susan's website:

<http://www.cybersafetysolutions.com.au>

Last night our 2019 School Council met for the last time. On your behalf I would like to thank Stewart MacGowan for his work over the past 4 years, he is retiring "for a bit". The 2020 School Council will begin its work in March. If you are interested in being on this Council would you please collect a nomination form from the front desk. All nominations must be received by Friday 6th March.



Sandy O'Meara



Fiona Forrest

Looking forward to another happy (safe) fortnight,

SUPERVISION AT SCHOOL
BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL HOURS:

Supervision before school commences at 8.30 am and after school until 3.30 pm.

UNIFORM SHOP

(Please note that samples only are kept onsite)-Cash only

Term 1: 4th March, 18th March

WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE COMING UP

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT DATES SOMETIMES CHANGE AND UNFORSEEN EVENTS MAY BE ADDED. CHECK COMPASS FOR UPDATES.

MONDAY	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				28 February *Assembly Yrs 1-6 -Curriculum presentation 3A
2 March	3	4	5	6
9 LABOUR DAY	10	11 *Yr 2-6 Dr Stelzer payment and permission due.	12 CURRICULUM DAY No students at school Professional Development on Phonics instruction	13 *Assembly Yrs 1-6 -Curriculum presentation 1A
16	17 *Dr Cameron Stelzer Writing Workshop Year 2 to 6	18 *Hot Cross Bun orders and payment due	19	20
23	24	25 *Parent Teacher Interviews *Hot Cross Buns orders delivered to classrooms	26 *Yr 5/6 Summer Lightning Premiership	27 END OF TERM 1 2.15 PM FINISH
ENJOY YOUR TERM BREAK				
13 April EASTER MONDAY	14 CURRICULUM DAY No students at school School Network Professional Development on Maths instruction	15	16 *Skatepark Safety	17

ROAD SAFETY - BALNARRING PRIMARY SCHOOL

Please follow these rules as set by the Mornington Peninsula Shire - *for everyone's safety.*

- * No stopping on or near the children's crossing
- * No parking on the left hand side of Civic Court (entering the court)
- * No parking for longer than indicated on the sign
- * No getting out of the car in a Kiss 'n' Go designated area
- * No stopping to let children out of the car in a No stopping zone

Also, please do not enter the staff car park to drop off or pick up your children at either end of the school day. This can be very dangerous also.

Author Visit – Dr Cameron Stelzer, The Story Doctor

On Tuesday 17 March, we have a special visit from Author and Illustrator Dr Cameron Stelzer. Dr Cameron is visiting Balnarring Primary School to run workshops with our Year 2-6 students. Students will be taking a behind-the-scenes look at creating a book, including important steps such as planning, creating characters and writing a draft. Each session will also extend into a hands-on creative component. Students and teachers are looking forward to a great day!

In conjunction with the Author Visit, Balnarring Primary School families have a special opportunity to purchase signed and personalised copies of Cameron's books at special prices. Individual books are \$15 each and there are also exclusive book sets available. Students will receive an order form on the day of the workshops. Forms and payment can be returned the following day, Wednesday 18 March, to the Office.

