

The Ibis have taken over

IBIS FLYER

Balnarring Primary School

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July 30th, 2020

Acting Principal and Acting Assistant Principal's Report

Week three of term 3 almost done.

It is hard to believe that August is just around the corner – *although knowing it is the last month of winter is a nice thought as we stand at the school gate each morning!*

We hope that you managed to find the time needed to support your children with their planned activities this week. We do understand how very busy many households are, as adults juggle their work commitments and children attempt their school tasks. Some days will be more difficult than others and we all acknowledge that you may need to modify the planned tasks on those days.

Nobody knows what the next few weeks will bring but we do know that whatever the directive from the Chief Medical Officer we will compliantly follow. We thank our families for adhering to the current 'Stay at home' restrictions.

Whilst we only have a few students on-site we have **ticked off a couple of maintenance concerns...**

The asbestos in the music room was carefully removed last weekend. The results from the visual inspection and air monitoring indicated that the materials were successfully eliminated. Workers on-site have spent three days reinstating the room.

A suspected mould issue in Kirinari was inspected; we engaged an occupational hygienist who took samples back to his lab. The report revealed that all is fine.

The playground equipment (*although currently closed*) **has also been inspected.** The company's report listed three high priority jobs; these will be attended to as soon as possible.

When all students were on-site, for that brief period at the end of last term, our bike shed was bursting at the seams. One of the Health Promotions Practitioners for the Achievement Program said *"What a great problem to have!"*

'Chris' a student's grandfather and a huge supporter of our buildings and grounds, has built some bike racks and scooter rails for the children in Foundation to Year 2. These are positioned alongside the shack, close to the junior school classrooms. **We can't wait to see the look on their little faces when our youngest students are back on-site with us.**

Remote and flexible learning has seen the introduction of many new online platforms and supportive apps. Our students are becoming very familiar (and competent) using many of these and **no doubt they will become part of the 'new norm' in schools.**

The success of small group and independent work on iPads, yogas, notebooks and laptops has prompted the Information and Technology Team to discuss the relevance of a dedicated computer lab. Their recommendation is to trial the relocation of the lab's computers to the Year 4 students in Kirinari, enabling the Year 3's to have a trolley for themselves.

Providing these desktop computers to our Year 4 students ensures all levels will now have more access to devices, once we return. We have planned for additional benches to be installed in the open learning space to accommodate the computers.

Enrolment forms for Foundation 2021 students are **available to download on the school's website.** These forms should be back at the school by tomorrow FRIDAY 31ST JULY. As a result of the Covid situation our student leaders sadly have not been able to conduct tours for prospective families. If you know anyone interested in sending their child to our school and they have some questions, please encourage them to call the office.

Both a School Council and staff representative have now been elected to sit on the Principal Selection Panel. We thank them for their time. With the Panel established, we can now begin the formal process. The position for Principal will be advertised tomorrow.

Finally, thank you again for our beautiful lunches and coffees this week. Phase Two as was Village People last week have been wonderfully well organised each day as the special treats were collected.

We are indeed feeling very spoilt!

Enjoy your day *at home,*

Sandy and Fi.



Sandy

Fiona