



Our Year 6's decorated our paths on world kindness day.

IBIS FLYER

Balnarring Primary School

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

Phone: 03 5931 4444

Email: balnarring.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Acting Principal and Acting Assistant Principal's Report

November 19th, 2020

How can it be newsletter week again?

We hope you have had a lovely fortnight – perhaps catching up with family and friends now that restrictions have been lifted further.

Moving in and out of classrooms this fortnight we have been most impressed with the children's positive approach to assessment tasks. Whether online, using 'pen and paper' or needing to give a verbal response, most students have been prepared to give each activity a 'red hot go' even after this most challenging of school years.

For many of our students (*and their teachers*) these types of activities are probably not their most favoured tasks but it is rewarding to hear such positive self-talk....

'I can show my teacher what I learnt when I was at home.'

'I really like maths but writing is hard for me. I'll just try.'

I'm going to do my best, because that is the Balnarring Way.

Our resilience has certainly been tested this year! The majority of our students are certainly demonstrating that they have the skills to move on (*bounce back*) from events or issues that are difficult or concerning.

You may have heard that schools will receive extra funding to enable tutoring programs in 2021 aimed at catching up those who have fallen a little behind during the remote and flexible learning period. Teachers are currently using assessment data and their own observations to nominate students for this program.

As we all move back outdoors we have noticed that a number of children are leaving during school hours to attend medical appointments. This is understandable, particularly as dentists have now reopened.

To ensure however that you do not have to wait at the gate whilst we find your child's class, we are requesting that you please send an email to the school (Balnarring.ps@education.vic.gov.au) before 9am clearly stating the time you will need to collect your child. We will then forward this onto your child's teacher who can send your son or daughter to the office 5 minutes before you are due to call us from gate 5.

We think this will work better for you.

Five weeks ago, as the children returned to on-site learning, embracing one another's company we made the decision to keep all classes the same for

2021. Unfortunately in the last couple of weeks we have had a number of families let the school know that they will not be returning next year and equally we have had a number of families moving into the school - but not in the same year levels. This has resulted in very uneven class sizes – and there are still four weeks of the school year to go!

In addition staff have now identified that some children's friendship groups have altered whilst they were at home for such an extended period. As a result all classes will now be reset for 2021. All children will be asked to nominate three friends. As in the past children are guaranteed at least one of these friends in their new class.

As we are focussed on the wellbeing of our students we are planning for a year where they will feel safe, secure and supported by both their teachers and current friends.

We appreciate your understanding in these forever changing times!!!!

We had hoped to introduce our school community to one of our Foundation students Jaxon, earlier this year but as we have not been able to get together we are sharing his story now.

Jaxon has a rare medical condition and many birthmarks including a very significant one on his leg, visible when he wears shorts. He puts sunscreen on in the middle of every day as he needs to be extremely careful of UV exposure. We look forward to his chatty visits in the office each lunch break, as he rubs in the sunscreen! Jaxon's family would appreciate you discussing his condition with your own children. We know that all BPS students will be both respectful and caring of Jaxon.

A number of families have requested school photos to be taken. The photographer will be with us next Friday the 27th November.

The Principal selection process is currently underway. We hope to be able to announce our new principal to you in the next couple of weeks.

Finally a reminder that next Wednesday 25th November is a curriculum day. Students do not attend school on this day as all teachers will be involved in professional meetings.

Enjoy the coming fortnight – *oh my goodness the next newsletter will have a December date!!*

Take care,

Sandy and Fi.



Sandy



Fiona

**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
Until further notice, all uniform orders are to be
collected from Peninsula Uniforms, Carrum Downs

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
16	17	18	19	20 November
23	24	25 STUDENT FREE DAY	26	27 *Whole School Photo Day *Yr 6 Somers Camp Activity Day
30	1 December * Free Dress Day Dress for summer	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16 * Yr 6 Graduation 5.00 pm	17 * Step Up Day * Reports on Compass	18 END OF YEAR 1.15 pm FINISH



For further information visit SunSmart.com.au or call 13 11 20



Westernport Little Athletics

Local, region and state competitions to suit novices through to budding champions.

Who: Under 6 to 16 of all standards
Where: Behind Western Port Secondary College, High Street, Hastings
When: 9 am - 11 am Saturdays
Facilities: 400 m grass track, competition equipment, pavilion, canteen

SEASON STARTS 7th NOVEMBER. FINISHES MARCH

For more information: E-westernport@lavic.com.au M-0400 094 142 W-www.westernportlac.com.au