



**Don't forget your
drink bottles**

IBIS FLYER

Balnarring Primary School

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May 21st, 2020

Acting Principal and Acting Assistant Principal's Report

As we all become a little more accustomed to '*remote and flexible learning*' the environment is about to change again.

Next Monday, the 25th of May, is a state wide Curriculum Day - a pupil free day. Neither face-to-face or remote learning will occur on this day.

On Tuesday the 26th of May, we look forward to welcoming all our Foundation – Year 2 students back into their classrooms. We understand that this will be an exciting day for some and a little daunting for others, after such a long break.

Teachers have planned activities that mirror those delivered at the start of a new school year when all children and teachers work together to build those very important relationships between teacher-student and student-student.

Children ONLY will enter the grounds via the gate you have decided to use as a family. Please ensure your child knows that at this time you, the parent, cannot enter the school grounds with them.

Foundation – Year 2 teachers will be waiting to welcome their students at their classroom door. Senior school teachers will be in the school yard ready to support anyone needing a little extra assistance.

We have adjusted the daily timetable to provide for more active breaks as we appreciate that it will be difficult for many students to return to a more '*structured*' day; just as we did when we moved to *flexible and remote learning*, we must go slowly and gently.

The altered daily timetable also provides time for the supervision of hand hygiene when entering the classroom and both before and after eating. Each classroom will have a supply of hand sanitisers, disinfectant wipes, gloves and soap.

We are hopeful that students will return to school with their workbooks to show their teacher the activities they completed when working from home. They should also bring back all school items that support their learning such as THRASS charts and head-phones.

In addition we ask that students return both take home books and library books borrowed at the end of term 1. PLEASE NOTE THAT CHILDREN WILL NOT BE BRINGING BOOKS HOME IN THEIR SACHEL AT THIS TIME, NEITHER TAKE-HOME BOOKS OR LIBRARY BOOKS.

We know many families have enjoyed EPIC and Reading Express these past 6 weeks and we encourage you to continue using these online programs to access suitable reading materials.

If your child is returning an iPad that s/he borrowed during the '*flexible and Remote learning*' period we ask that they take the iPad to their classroom; office staff will collect them during the day.

Finally children MUST also pack in their school bags their '*Brain drink*' (drink bottle) full of water as drinking taps will remain out of bounds. These can be refilled at the sinks in the classrooms when necessary. Please know it is important that NO FOOD IS SHARED at this time – including birthday treats.

All classrooms will be viewed as '*mini homes*'; all teaching and learning will take place in that '*home*' space. The library, art-room, music room, Japanese room, science room and computer lab will remain closed at this time. Teachers will only use the equipment that is in their room. There will be no sharing of materials between classes.

Students in Year 3 – 6 who can learn from home must continue to learn from home. Their remote and flexible learning programs will continue. Work plans and supportive materials for week 7 will be available after 3pm on Friday afternoon, as has become the '*new norm*'.

Parents/Carers of any Year 3-6 student who is needing to attend school on any day between the 25th May and the 5th June will need to complete an on-site attendance form on the morning of the first day of the week the child is at school.

These forms will be available to sign in two locations - at the walking Bus '*bus-stop*' (the barbecue pergola at the skate-park; Andrew Shannon will have the forms) or at the entrance to the staff carpark; Sandy will have the forms. Look out for the trestle tables there.

Our Year 3 – Year 6 students will return to their classrooms on 9th June if the Victorian Chief Health Officer endorses the return to on-site schooling at that time.

It is more important than ever that all children who are unwell remain at home. If any child becomes unwell at school the office staff will call you immediately.

We thank you again for your amazing support during this challenging time and we look forward to a smooth transition back into on-site learning.

Finally as you would well understand we have made the decision not to register for this year's Science Talent Search however please check the Science channel on your child's class page on TEAMS for information about our 2020 Virtual Science Expo.

Enjoy your '*long weekend*' when it starts,

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
				22 May
25 STUDENT FREE DAY	26 *Students in years Foundation to 2 return to school	27	28	29
1 June	2	3	4	5
8 QUEENS BIRTHDAY	9 *Students in years 3 to 6 return to school	10	11	12



SOFT PLASTIC RECYCLING

As our local supermarkets all now have soft plastic recycling programs available in store and collection guidelines are getting tighter, Balnarring Primary School will no longer be collecting soft plastics.

We would like to thank Woolworths Hastings for working with us to manage our soft plastics after the cancellation of our direct arrangement with the recyclers.

**INTRODUCING OUR
2020 SCHOOL COUNCIL**

Last night we held our first School Council meeting since February. This was done via WebEx conferencing.

We were able to hold elections for the specific roles via a show of hands from lounge rooms and home studies in and around Balnarring. The following councillors filled the various positions:

- President: Ben Vasiliou
- Vice President: Sophie O'Neil
- Secretary: Sandy O'Meara
- Treasurer: Bill Mitchell
- Buildings & Grounds: Markham Lewis
- Wetlands Committee: Suzanne Litchfield

After much discussion on the final 2020 budget and updates from the Acting Principal, the Wetlands Committee representative and the Buildings and Grounds Committee representative, the meeting concluded with the following three recommendations:

- That a message of thanks be sent to the leadership team, teachers and support staff for all of the hard work they have put in with the remote learning for students and the preparations that have been put into place to ensure the transition back to on-site schooling runs as smoothly as possible.
- That best wishes are extended to Rhonda Stephens who has been unwell and that her recovery back to full health is speedy.
- That congratulations are extended to Hillary Findlay who will be having a baby in the coming months.

It was a very positive meeting. School Council will continue to be a supportive body as we move back to on-site learning. Our next meeting will be held "somewhere" on Wednesday, June 17th, 2020.

WALKING BUS

Our Walking Bus will be commencing 26th May at 8.30 am from the skate park.