



Our Foundation students enjoyed making kites this week

# IBIS FLYER

## Balnarring Primary School

Civic Court (PO Box 38), Balnarring, Vic, 3926  
Phone: 03 5931 4444  
Email: Balnarring.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

June 18th, 2020

### Acting Principal and Acting Assistant Principal's Report

What a term this has been!

Term 2, 2020 has been like no other term in Victoria's history.

In responding to the coronavirus pandemic over the past few months, we acknowledge that the Department of Education and Training (DET) has asked a lot of its teachers, schools, parents and carers.

We appreciate that there have been difficult, challenging and rewarding experiences during this unique and uncertain time.

We thank our families for your support, commitment and perseverance in supporting your children while they were learning from home *and your patience during the staged return to on-site schooling.*

Many innovative and creative approaches adopted during remote and flexible learning will be explored as we return to a 'new norm' for on-site schooling.

We would like to encourage EVERY family to complete the DET Home Learning survey (see next page). Information we receive will help guide future on-site practice.

It has been lovely to have all our year levels back with us this past fortnight.

We have a very emotional letter to share with you from our principal, Rhonda Stephens.

*"At last night's School Council meeting I made known my intention to continue my current leave and retire on the last day of term 3 this year.*

*It has been a difficult decision for me to make after 17 years as Principal of our wonderful school.*

*I have worked in education for 46 years and I can honestly say Balnarring Primary School is the best school I have had the privilege of working in.*

*The shared belief in the importance of education by all members of the school community has enabled the growth of a positive culture centred on your child.*

*The Balnarring staff are second to none. They are true professionals dedicated to providing the very best in education for the children in their care. I thank them from the bottom of my heart for making my job so rewarding and enjoyable.*

*I also want to thank you our school families for the faith demonstrated in me and my staff by choosing to trust us with the care and education of our most precious commodity your children.*

*And finally I'd like to thank Sandy O'Meara and Fiona Forrest for their outstanding leadership during my leave especially given these unforeseeably challenging times.*

*I leave Balnarring Primary School at a good time and in a good place. I am confident your children will continue to thrive in the unique, caring culture that is Balnarring.*

*I thank you for your support and friendship during my 17 years and wish you all good health and happiness in these changed circumstances."*

Rhonda.

Rhonda has had an enormous impact on our learning community during her 17 years as Principal. She has proficiently managed all components of our learning community including the staff, students, school budget and the teaching and learning programs all of which have generated the excellent reputation Balnarring Primary holds within the wider education community.

We look forward to celebrating Rhonda's contribution to Balnarring Primary at some stage but for now we will work hard to find the best person to fill her enormous shoes.

It has been a week of letters. We would also like to share an extract from a letter we received earlier this week from a local retired couple...

*"Many parents pass our house each morning either walking or riding their bikes with their beanies and coats on and their children rugged up riding or walking to school. Many parents also have toddlers in pushers or in child seats attached to the back of their bikes.*

*What a fantastic way to begin the day, showing your children how they can reduce their family's carbon footprint."*

Finally please do adhere to the advice from the Chief Health officer: *if your child is unwell, please keep him/her at home. This is vital to ensuring the effective management of the pandemic.*

It does feel like a very, VERY long term! We hope you and your children are able to enjoy a relaxed time together during the coming school break.

See you at the gate or see you next term,

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
				19 June *Kinect 2 Dance credit allocation notice due
22	23	24	25 *Student Council organised PJ Day —wear your pyjamas to school —no gold coin *Semester One reports published on Compass	26 *Department Survey Due today (see below)  END OF TERM 2 2.15 pm FINISH

We hope you have a quiet relaxing term break

13 July	14	15 *Kinect 2 Dance permission and payment due on Compass	16 *Kinect 2 Dance	17
20	21	22	23 *Kinect 2 Dance	24
27	28	29	30 *Kinect 2 Dance	31
3	4	5	6 *Kinect 2 Dance	7

### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SURVEY

The Department of Education and Training has provided us with a survey to ascertain how learning from home went for your child.

The information you provide will be used to drive school improvements.

- The survey is online and should take 10 minutes to complete.
- The survey can be completed on any internet enabled device (desktop or laptop computer, tablet, smartphone) and is compatible with most browsers.
- The survey is open until Friday 26 June 2020.

Please be assured that your responses are completely confidential.

Please follow the instructions below to complete the survey.

NOTE: Only one parent from your family is invited to complete the survey.

To complete the survey, simply:

- \* Click on the link below, or copy and paste the text into your browser. This link will take you directly to the survey.  
<https://www.orima.com.au/lfh/parents>
- \* Select the School and Campus name below.  
School Name: Balnarring Primary School
- \* Enter the School PIN below.  
PIN: 303233
- \* When complete, please click on the 'FINISHED!' button at the end of the survey to submit your answers. Please note that the survey will time out after 60 minutes of inactivity.

Thank you for taking the time to participate, your feedback is important to us.