



IBIS FLYER

Balnarring Primary School

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

Phone: 03 5931 4444

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

Principal's Report

December 19th, 2022

It's hard to believe that we are at the end of another year. We have all enjoyed being back onsite in 2022 for the whole year being able to learn together and be involved in so many great additional activities and events.

Camp Australia- Before School Care

Camp Australia ran a survey recently and have analysed the results. The results and needs are very positive, showing a great need for this service. They would love to offer Before School Care from the start of Term 1 2023. We are working with them to get this up and running as soon as possible. The new venue for Before and After School Care will be the Art room.

School Council

I would also like to thank all School Council members for giving up their time and being valuable members of our School Council ensuring we are continuing to make Balnarring Primary School a great learning space that we can all be proud of. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with our School Council and look forward to all we can achieve next year.

Step Up Day

Step up day was a great day for students and staff preparing for 2023. This day is always an exciting event at this time of the year. We have had great feedback from our grade 6's on their transition day to secondary school. There is always lots of anticipation before Yr7 transition. Moving on to secondary school is such a big milestone in our students' lives and the secondary schools ensure their transition days, including Step Up day reassurance and prepare our students for a smooth and successful transition in 2023.

Transition

Thank you to the families who brought their children to school over the past few weeks for our Foundation transition. It was a very successful start to their schooling for our 2023 Foundation students, and it was wonderful to see so many new children and their parents in the school grounds again.

Grade 6 Graduation

We had a lovely celebration for our grade 6 graduates to farewell them and wish them well in their future endeavours. It was a very special evening, and we were pleased to be able to invite our parents/carers to this important milestone. A very special thank you to Suzanne Litchfield, Katie Yarrow and Andrew Gilmour, our grade 6 teachers, for all their work behind the scenes. A huge thank you to Suzanne Litchfield for coordinating the event. I would also like to thank the parent committee who did an incredible job transforming our gym into a magical place. Students were in awe when they walked in. We were pleased to be able to end the 2022 grade 6 year with such a lovely celebration.

Staffing Changes for 2023

Hillary Findlay will be returning from leave in 2023 and sharing Grade 3A with Rebecca Christensen-Page. Belinda Chapman will be joining the Balnarring staff and sharing grade 2C with Mel Shannon. Michaela Grindal is returning from Family Leave and will share 6A with Katie Yarrow.

Ben Cornall will be taking on the full-time role as our Performing Arts teachers in 2023 and is looking forward to organising school community performances each term to showcase the wonderful work our students are doing in this space. The Arts include Visual Arts, Music, Drama, Dance and Media Arts. The Arts curriculum is also covered in all classrooms and in other specialist areas including Physical Education, Science, Sustainability and LOTE. The Visual Arts work that is already embedded throughout classrooms and other specialist areas will continue in 2023.

We will increase our Science/Sustainability specialist classes to full time and Kate will be working 3 days a week next year. Kate and the BEAT team already have great projects on the go.

We will also increase our LOTE-First Nations program to full time and Mel Brooks will take on this role. We are currently communicating with the Bunurong Land Council and Department of Education and Training teams to formalise the First Nations language program.

Students and Families Leaving

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all Grade 6 students who are the last of their family to finish their primary school education at Balnarring Primary School and the other students and families who are leaving at the end of the year good luck for their future. I know they will take the 'Balnarring Way' and all their fond memories of their friends and times here.

2022 Year 6 School Leaders

Our Grade 5 students worked hard preparing their applications and presentations for 2022 Grade 6 leader roles. They all made us very proud listening to how articulate they were and how knowledgeable they were about what leadership is and how they would embrace leadership roles. Listening to the grade 5 leadership speeches was a pleasure and highlight for us. The 2023 School Captains and House Captains were presented with their leadership badges at our last assembly. All of Grade 6 captains were also announced at our last assembly.

2023 School Captains:

Harper P Indie M Isaac E Will A

2023 House Captains

Warrawee: Lucy W and Sampson M

Coolart: Ella W and Brodie P

Larnoo: Harper T and Xander E

Hurley: Macey G and Oscar L

2023 Plans

We are looking forward to 2023 and have begun our strategic planning to ensure we start the year continuing to build our strong relationships in our caring and respectful learning environment with performance, achievement, growth and progress, being our defining characteristics.

Our staff have already started planning their classroom work to ensure our students experience the thrill of learning and progress as fast as possible when they start their 2023 year.

Parents' Club BPAT- Balnarring Primary School Action team.

We have some exciting whole school projects planned, including continuing fundraising efforts for a new grade 3/4 playground, the completion of our Indigenous Garden, revamping the Wetlands entrance and signs and our BEAT team developing a guided audio tour.

I recently met with some parents who were interested in forming a Parent's Club. Parents' Clubs (alternatively called parents' associations) promote the welfare of, and provide support to, the school and its community. Parents are key partners in their child's learning. By interacting with the school and other parents, parents' club members can use their skills and experience to work collaboratively with others in supporting the school and its students and build a sense of community within the school.

The role of a parents' club is threefold:

- to provide support, in various forms, for the school, its students and community, including raising funds for the benefit of the school
- to work in cooperation with the principal, staff and school council in building effective partnerships between home and school
- to encourage diversity by getting to know the parents of other children at the school, and to support the operation of the school

We will hold a meeting on Friday 3rd February to discuss establishment of BPAT. All interested members of the school community may attend the meeting. If it is decided that a parent's club should be established at this meeting, the parents at this meeting will appoint an interim committee. The interim committee will discuss and prepare the **Balnarring Primary School Parents' Club Constitution**. The proposed constitution and the formation of the parent's club will then be submitted for approval from the Minister.

The BPAT cannot be established and undertake any activities, including fundraising, until it has been approved by the Minister. Once approved all members of the school community will be invited to attend an Annual General Meeting. At this meeting, interested parents/carers can register as committee members. Office bearers, President, Secretary and Treasurer will then be elected by a secret ballot.

2023 Term Dates

Term 1: 27 January (Grade Foundation-6 students start Tuesday 31st January) to 6th April

Term 2: 24th April to 23rd June

Term 3: 10th July to 15th September

Term 4: 2nd October to 20th December

2023 Curriculum days

Term 1: Friday January 27th

Monday 30st January

Term 2: Friday 3rd June

Term 4: Monday 2nd October

I wish you all a happy, safe and joyous Christmas and a lovely summer holiday spent with family and friends.



Nicky Walker

Assistant Principal's Report

Merry Christmas everyone!

How is it that yet another year has raced past? It seems like only yesterday that we were still coming to terms with regulations about how many people could come onsite, where assemblies were able to be held and whether camps were able to go ahead. Thankfully, all of those things were able to occur and we have begun to come to grips with the new normal.

I would like to wish all of our wonderful Balnarring families the happiest of Christmases. I hope that you all get to create some wonderful new memories with your families and friends over the holidays. Please stay safe, happy and healthy. I look forward to seeing you all next year.

Working Bee 27th January

It is with great excitement that our first working bee for 2023 (that still sounds a little odd to say) will be taking place on Friday the 27th January. The response so far has been phenomenal. How wonderful it will be to have our toilets painted and gardens weeded, mulched and spruced up. We look forward to having our families helping to beautify our school.



Welcome to the world Stanley Gilmour!

Congratulations to Andrew Gilmour and his partner Steph on the birth of their fourth child Stanley Gilmour. Stanley will no doubt be the centre of attention in his household as his doting sisters Georgia, Charlotte and Audrey are already having lots of cuddles and kisses with him.



Anne McDonald

SUPERVISION AT SCHOOL

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL HOURS, AND CURRICULUM DAYS

Supervision before school commences at 8.30 am and after school until 3.30 pm. There is no supervision on Curriculum Days.

UNIFORM SHOP

Please place orders via Peninsula Uniforms and Embroidery website.

Orders will be delivered fortnightly.

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 | 20 December LAST DAY 2022 1.30 PM FINISH | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | 27 January CURRICULUM DAY Students are not required at school *Working bee 10am |
| 30 CURRICULUM DAY Students are not required at school | 31 All students return to school | 1 Foundation students do not attend school | 2 | 3 *BPAT meeting 9am *Assembly |
| 6 | 7 | 8 Foundation students do not attend school | 9 *Getting to Know You Interviews | 10 *Whole School House Activities |
| 13 | 14 | 15 Foundation students do not attend school | 16 | 17 *Assembly |