

# Ballam Park PS Bulletin

May 2022

[www.ballamparkps.com.au](http://www.ballamparkps.com.au)

(03) 9789 5614

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR ACTING PRINCIPAL - Julie O'Brien

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, thank you all for welcoming me into your learning community over the past two weeks. For those of you I have yet to meet, my name is Mrs Julie O'Brien the Principal at Mount Eliza North Primary School.

I have been asked to take on the role as Acting Principal for Ballam Park for the remainder of the term while Mr Mace is on leave.

In my short time at your lovely school, it has been my great pleasure to visit classrooms each day to get to know your children and their teachers.

I must say, this is a very caring community with staff and students looking out for each other and supporting each other in their learning and wellbeing.

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June is a curriculum day at Ballam Park Primary School. Students are not required to attend school on this day as staff will be undertaking professional learning. The school is implementing the Berry Street Education Model, which provides strategies for teaching and learning to increase student engagement, strengthen relationship skills and the overall general wellbeing of our students. As a staff we are excited to undertake this evidence-based program and I look forward to providing you with updates on our progress and how you as parents and carers can support your children too.

I would like to invite all parents and carers to a special morning-tea next Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 10.00 – 11.00 am in the staffroom. This will be an opportunity for me to meet you and for you to get to know me. Students will be bringing home an invitation to you next week, so please save the date in your diary.

The 2021 School Annual Report is now available to the community on the school website. This report is an opportunity for the principal and school council to share the previous year's achievements and progress with the school community. The Annual Report also provides an opportunity to reflect on the school's performance and understand how school improvement efforts have impacted student outcomes.

Stay safe and warm over the weekend and I look forward to seeing you at the school gate or at the parent and carers morning-tea next week.

Kind regards,

Julie O'Brien

Acting Principal



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## A message from our School Council President

My name is Michaela Keating and I am your School Council President for 2022! First of all, I want to thank all of our parent helpers for making our Mothers Day Breakfast such a wonderful morning.

After 2 years of lockdowns, it was amazing to see everyone be able to come together for some pancakes and good times!

Our vision for 2022 is an extension of what we saw that morning. A rebuild of our school community that took such a hit when remote learning took over.

We are working towards more chances to be together and to see our kids achieving amazing things. Your support as a school community is what we need to continue to be a great school.

My inbox is always open to any comments, queries and ideas:  
[Michaela.keating@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Michaela.keating@education.vic.gov.au)

Finally, a massive welcome to Mrs O'Brien!  
We're very lucky to have you and we look forward to working together this term!



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## ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - Kirsten Edbrooke

It's hard to believe how fast this term seems to be going by. It has been rewarding to see our school community work so well together and achieve and experience so many wonderful things throughout the term. I'm sure every student, teacher and parent can think of many experiences and achievements that are worthy of celebration.

I have had the privilege of conducting many school tours over the term with the majority being for enrolment in Prep for 2023. I am so proud of the learning environments and programs that these parents witness as I take them around the school. Visitors see our school values: Kind, Respectful, Safe & Responsible, in action in our classrooms. Whether it's the friendly welcome we get from students whenever we enter a classroom or the enthusiasm of students reciting sounds in their phonics lessons, there is always powerful evidence of positive relationships and learning on display. If you know of anyone who is looking to enrol their child in Prep, or you haven't yet enrolled your own child for next year, please contact the office to arrange a tour or to organise an enrolment form.

We look forward to having parents involved in many more aspects of our school community to strengthen our partnership between home and school. This may be as a classroom helper, reading with students, attending working bees or gardening, just to name a few. Mrs O'Brien has arranged a **morning tea for next Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June at 10:00 am** which is open to all members of our school community so please come along for a cuppa and a chat. Our School Council fundraising committee also has a number of events planned for throughout the year so if you are interested in helping, please contact the school office or send an email to [ballam.park.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:ballam.park.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

## Student Representative Council (SRC)

We would like to officially congratulate and welcome our 2022 SRC team.

## F/1A: Max & Sebastian

## 1/2A: Aylah & Emma

## 1/2B: Lacey & Indigo

### 3/4A: Michael & Ruby

### 3/4B: Sean & Charlotte

## 5/6A: Michael & Abby

## 5/6B: Ella & Rivar

## 5/6C: Zarah & James



Our Student Representative Council had their first meeting earlier this term. The role of the SRC is to facilitate and act upon student voice within Ballam Park Primary School. Each student has been elected by their peers to actively contribute to our school and surrounding community. These students will have the opportunity to represent the BPPS student body in a variety of forums as well as work collaboratively with staff members to organise and coordinate special events. Through these experiences, SRC students also have the opportunity to develop their leadership skills. Well done to Zarah from 5/6C for reporting back to the school community at assembly following the first SRC meeting.

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### Star Wars Day

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May marks a day to celebrate all things Star Wars. As our amazing Chaplain, Mr Harvey, is quite the Star Wars fan, he decided to create a bit of fun for all of the students. Mr Harvey hid images of Yoda all around the school for the students to search for, and held a competition to see who could find them all. Prizes were awarded at assembly. Special awards were also presented to two exceptional students for displaying attributes of the movie characters... The Luke Skywalker award was presented to Deagan for displaying teamwork and helping other students finish in cross country. The Rey Skywalker award was presented to Brylee for persistence and not giving up when times are tough. Congratulations Deagan and Brylee. May the Fourth be with you!



### Mother's Day Breakfast

A huge thank you to all of our parents, carers and staff helpers for being a part of our Mother's Day Breakfast. It was lovely to see our school abuzz with so many families enjoying this special occasion together. The pancakes were delicious and the company and community atmosphere was even better. The tickets to this event sold out which shows just how much our community has missed the strong partnership with school over the last few challenging years. A special shout out to our wonderful School Council for their work in organising this event, and to Mr Mace and Mrs Don for baking about 300 pancakes.

We all appreciated your efforts!



### NAPLAN

During May, all of our Year 3 and Year 5 students participated in NAPLAN. This year, all of the testing was done online (except for the Year 3 writing test). We are so incredibly proud of all of these students for their efforts and for their commitment to try their hardest to do their best. Well done all!



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## Spotlight on.....



### Mrs Kirsten Edbrooke

Hi everyone, my name is Kirsten Edbrooke and I was lucky enough to come and join the team at Ballam Park Primary School at the beginning of Term 3 last year.

Prior to joining BPPS, I worked at Mount Eliza North Primary School for over 10 years where I taught students from Foundation to Year 6. Before that I also worked for almost 10 years at Dandenong West Primary School.

I have three children of my own who are all in high school; my daughter Charli who is 17, and my sons Hunter, 15, and Jack, 13. We also have two beautiful rescue dogs, Lola and Rosie. Lola and Rosie are black and tan kelpies and are sisters from the same litter. Our little Rosie is blind, as she was born without eyes, but she is amazing and can find her way around my house without bumping into anything.

I spend a lot of my time crocheting. It is not just a hobby but a passion and I find it very relaxing. I make lots of blankets and scarves, but my favourite thing to make is toys for lots of the children at school. It always puts a smile on my face when I make a gift for one of the children at school and see their faces light up. I think I have now made toys for about 30 or more students at BPPS and I have a long list of toys still to make. I always just look out for a student who is particularly showing our school values and make my next project for that child. See some pics of a few of my toys below.

Every Wednesday at lunch time I run a crochet club where I teach some of the students in Years 5 and 6 how to crochet. On Thursdays at lunchtime I have started a Drum Band with other students from Years 5 and 6. They have even started to perform at Assembly each week so make sure you come along and support them.

I really love coming to BPPS each day and I have loved getting to know all of the students, parents and carers. As time progresses I hope I get to know many more of you.



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Primary School

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## Important Dates

6 June - Student Free Day  
10 June - Parent & Carers Morning Tea  
15 June - Open night  
21 June - Student Reports  
22 June - Parent Teacher Interviews  
24 June - End Term 2, 2.30 finish  
11 July - Start term 3

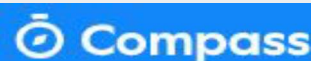
## School Uniforms

School Uniforms are available from PSW in Carrum Downs. You can also order online and they provide a click and collect service. For more information, please click on the logo below



## Compass - How to?

Please take a look [here](#) for a Compass "how to". Otherwise, when you open Compass, press the three lines (top left) and press "open in browser".



Canteen is open every Friday for lunch orders using:



## The Wellbeing Hub

**Our Wellbeing Hub is an exciting addition to Ballam Park this year.**

Housed in our original administration building, the **Wellbeing Hub** is a constant hive of activity ranging from support programs for students, Wellbeing meetings with parents and support teams, students working in our calming breakout space, students joining in fun lunchtime programs and the Wellbeing Team working together on programs to support all of our wonderful students plus many, many more...

Our Wellbeing Team consists of :

- Suzanne Burrows - Primary Welfare Officer
- Pam Lefebvre - Primary Welfare Support Officer
- Baden Harvey - School Chaplain
- Kirsten Edbrooke - Assistant Principal

The Wellbeing Team are committed to ensuring that each student feels **safe, heard and supported**. We work closely with all of our Ballam Park staff and students to ensure that that this happens. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out and have a chat. We greatly welcome any feedback, suggestions and queries.

Our Wellbeing Hub is also a great source of **uniforms** for the students. Please contact Pam through the office if you are in need of any items. We have a wide range of second hand items and we can also order items of clothing through State Schools Relief. We also have a well stocked **food bank** if you are in need. We are here to support you.

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Our Wellbeing Team welcomes **parent involvement**. If you have a skill that you can share in a lunchtime program - maybe you're a skilled dancer, singer, knitter, illustrator - the list is endless! Please let us know if you would be interested in running a **lunchtime program** for our students. We have a range of clubs for the students to choose from but would love to extend this by inviting parents to come and run sessions with a teacher.

We also welcome any parents that would be available to come and **assist with reading** in the classrooms. Please let Suzanne or your child's teacher know if you are interested. We look forward to having parents back in assisting in the classroom. Of course, a valid Working With Children Check would be required if you would like to help out at school.

**Our door is always open or we are just a phone call away.**

**Please do not hesitate to reach out if you need any support or just for a chat.**

**Suzanne, Pam, Baden and Kirsten**

## Attendance Matters



We all want our students to get a great education and come to school each and every day. Missing school can have a major impact on a child's future - a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they will have missed more than a year of school. There is no safe number of days for missing school - each day a student missed puts them behind and can affect their educational outcome. If your child must miss school please enter it on Compass so that they can be marked absent for the appropriate reason. Our goal at Ballam Park Primary School is to have all students at school every day. The entry on Compass, before 9am is sent directly to the teacher.

**Every day matters   -   Every absence needs an explanation   -   Every day counts**



## What sort of start is your child getting?

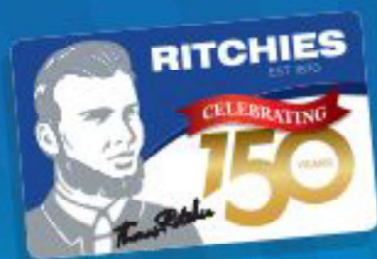
Just a little bit late doesn't seem much but.....

He/She is only missing just....	That equals....	Which is.....	and over 13 years of schooling that's...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly <u>Half a year</u>
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40 mins per week	Over 2.5 Weeks per year	Nearly <u>1 year</u>
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 Weeks per year	Nearly <u>1 and a Half years</u>
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 Weeks per year	Over <u>2 and a Half years</u>

*Did you know your child's best learning time is the start of the school day?*

*That's when every minute counts the most!!*

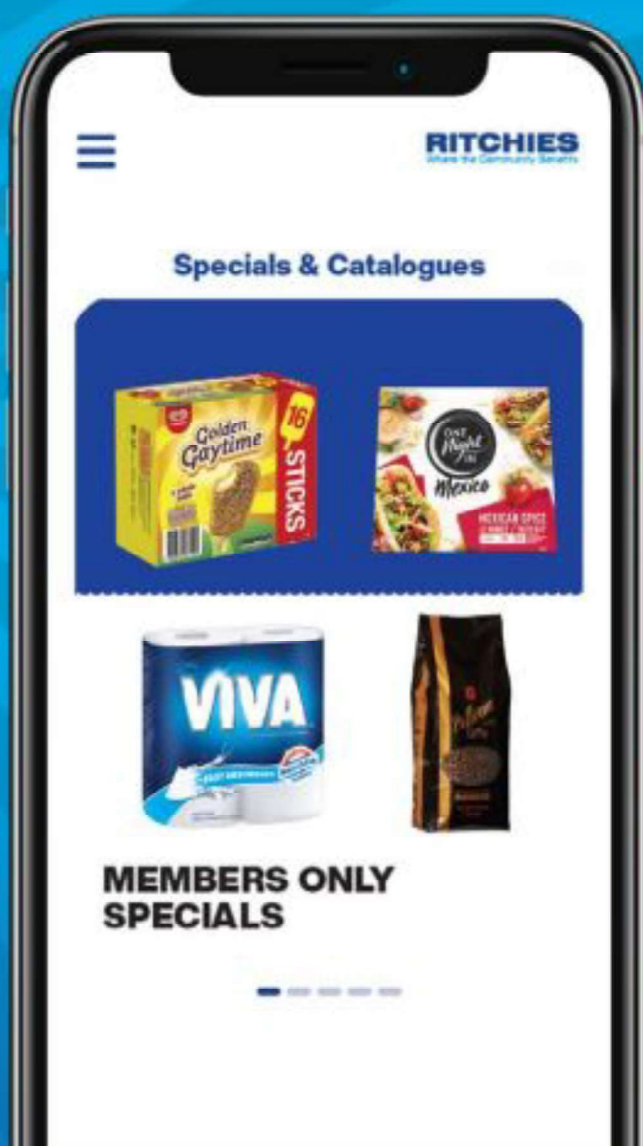
***EVERY DAY COUNTS!***



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## Enriching Outside School Hours Experiences

At Camp Australia we guide children's growth before school, after school and on their holidays. Our engaged educators foster a safe, inclusive environment where the children can relax, have fun and grow.

Ballam Park Primary School has partnered with Camp Australia to enable a before and after school care programme. It is held off site at Karingal Primary School and CA brings the students to and from school by bus each day. For more information please visit [campaustralia.com.au](http://campaustralia.com.au) or Contact our Customer Care Team on 1300 105 343 . The team are available 5am - 9pm (AEST) , 7 days a week.

