

Ballam Park PS Bulletin

Term 2 2024

www.ballamparkps.com.au

(03) 9789 5614

A message from Peita Cooper - Principal (Acting)

Dear families,

It's hard to believe that we are nearly at the end of Term 2! When we sit down at the start of the year to make plans, the end of Term 2 feels like a long time away but we are already here and once again, have achieved so much.

This term was very busy with the continuation of great learning as well as PLC training for our teacher leaders and the school review. We have also had some lovely celebrations and successful sporting events. The learning, the events and the general wellbeing of our students does not occur without the amazing hard work of our staff.

This term we have had visiting teachers, Education Support staff and leaders from other schools who have all made the same comments. Our classrooms are calm, students are more engaged in their learning and they understand the purpose of the task. To receive this consistent feedback from a multitude of people affirms the hard work we are undertaking is having an impact and Ballam Park PS is continuing to strengthen.

READING

This has been a hot topic both at school and in the media. We are so proud that we have followed an evidenced based approach in our school. We have seen a fantastic increase in reading results over the past year across the school which is due to our explicitly teaching, calm classrooms and the dedication of students. Students who have not made as much growth in reading are being supported through classroom focus groups and tutoring.

One thing all teachers have noticed is that the students who read regularly either to their families, or to themselves, make growth in reading. Those who do not, have found it harder to develop. Home reading is essential and we ask you to support your child in this area.

We compared our assessment data from Semester 1 2023 to Semester 1 2024. We have had an 11% increase in students achieving in the higher bands of PAT assessments.

STAFFING

I'd like to inform the school community that Dahlia Atia, our STEM teacher, is unable to continue with her contract this year. We wish Ms Atia all the best and hope to see her back one day soon! We are excited to announce that Bronwyn Howell will teach STEM in Semester 2.



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Primary School

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KELLY SPORTS

Kelly Sports has started off with a bang with 9 students attending Cheer and 25 attending Multi-sports. We are lucky that next term we can offer another night of Kelly Sports - basketball and soccer for our Year 3-6 students. This will be offered at the same great rate of \$5 per child, per session. The Active Schools Sports grant has provided us with the opportunity to offer this discounted rate and well as purchasing sports equipment and bicycles for our school.

SCHOOL REVIEW

The school review was a great opportunity for our school to reflect on the last four years. The review panel members consisted of the leader, Branko Lukic, our Senior Education Improvement Leader, challenge partner (leaders from other schools), our School Council president, Michaela Keating and the leadership team from BPPS. This panel looked at data, conducted observations of classes and ran forums to ascertain how the community viewed BPPS. We had many positive conversations around the improvements that have been made and what our next goals are. Thank you to the parents who attended the forums in May, we really value your contribution

STUDENT DATA

Recently our Year 4-6 students participated in the Attitudes to School survey which is done every year in all schools. We use this data to gauge how our student cohorts are feeling about themselves and school. This year we have seen a significant increase in some areas including:

- Differentiated learning, increase of 28 students providing a positive response
- High expectations of students 92% positive response
- Sense of inclusion 90% positive response
- 13% increase of positive responses for positive classroom behaviour

We will continue to analyse the data which will then guide the decisions we make around academic and social and emotional learning. **More data on the following page.**

UNIFORMS

Last week I sent out a survey to obtain feedback about some of the changes we are considering. We really appreciate the families who completed this and we have received some interesting comments and questions.

A couple of clarifications regarding the black element. We are not removing the blue pants or skorts, we are considering adding the option of black as this is an easier colour to purchase from other stores. We will not be adding any logos or piping etc. to the black element.

In terms of timing, we anticipate that we will be selling items from school sometime in Term 3. We will take the next few weeks to investigate the best uniform supplier for our new polo and tops. Once we have engaged with them, we can share some samples with you all.

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Primary School

Student Attitudes towards School Data

All Year 4-6 students in Victoria complete this survey. The data helps us as a school understand what we are doing well and areas we need to focus on. It also helps us provide families with information around how children view themselves as learners and community members. They reflect on if they have trusted adults to speak to, they identify how often they are on social media and devices and how physically active they are. Below is a snapshot of our recent data.

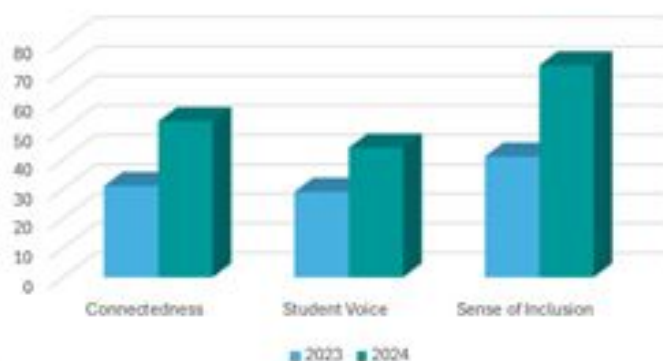
STIMULATED LEARNING

2023 58% positive response
2024 73% positive response

92% of our students believe our staff have HIGH EXPECTATIONS of them!

Only 22% of students indicated they feel they have excellent physical health. 70% said they had fair or good physical health.

Social Engagement



83% of student know the emotions they feel

EMOTIONAL REGULATION



42% know how to get through something even when feeling frustrated

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

- 23% of students say they are on devices 5 hours or more a day
- 45% of students say they are on for 5 hours or more a day on the weekend
- 15% more males are on devices than females
- 49% of students contact friends online at least 5 days a week

CYBER SAFETY

53% of students say they have been sent something on the internet that made them upset or uncomfortable

HELP SEEKING

81% of students have a friend or caregiver who they can talk to when something is bothering them

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STUDENT REPORTS

Over the past few weeks, teachers have been assessing, observing and analysing data to provide feedback to families about student progress. It's important to read the front page of the reports which explains how to read them. If you have any concerns, please don't hesitate in contacting your classroom teacher to arrange a meeting in Term 3.

MARKET MONDAYS

We are excited to introduce a new concept next term. To support our families and to encourage families coming into school, we are holding Market Mondays! See flier below!



Ballam Park
Primary School

MARKET MONDAYS

Every fortnight in the
BOOM BOOM room 2.45-3.15pm
Commencing July 22nd!

Pop in to see what we have to offer! We invite families (students with an adult!) to see what we have to offer. Each fortnight we will have a range of items available including:

- Second-hand uniform items
- Other donated clothes
- Books
- Food boxes
- Freshly grown produce from our gardens
- Other donations

Our Market Mondays will provide an opportunity for parents to meet each other and let their siblings play on the spider web playground. There will also be members of our Wellbeing team available to ask questions or get advice from.

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Congratulations!

Our school is one of two chosen by Frankston City's Environmental Policy and Planning Team to be a Schools Tree Day Ambassador. This entitles our school to 300 indigenous plants donated by Frankston City and a visit by Janet Wheeler from 'Living with Wildlife' to give a presentation to the students at our school involved in Schools Tree Day.

Thank you Mrs Howell for your hard work with the application for this wonderful project!



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FRIDAY 28TH JUNE

You're invited to

Come in your PJs to
celebrate our
favourite puppy's
birthday .
Bring a gold coin and
all money raised will
be donated to
Starting Over Dog
Rescue.

**MARLEY'S
2ND BIRTHDAY**



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

PIC•COLLAGE



SAVE THE DATE - TERM 3

More details to follow...

ASSEMBLIES - Monday 15th July - Monday 5th August - Monday 26th August - Monday 16th September (Citizenship Assembly)	AFRICAN DRUMMING INCURSION Tuesday 23rd July Details on will be on COMPASS prior to event
100 Days of School - WEDNESDAY 31st JULY Foundation students only - Special celebrations for our Foundation students - Dress-up - '100' theme!	
BPPS OLYMPICS CELEBRATION Thursday 8th August - Whole-school event (TBA) - Dress-up - (TBA)	
BOOK WEEK 19th August - 23rd August BOOK PARADE Wednesday 21st August - Dress up as your favourite book character/<u>theme</u> - Parade at 9.15am - families invited!	
JUNIOR SCHOOL SWIMMING Years F -2 Monday 26th - Friday 30th August Parents helpers invited - must have WWC to come on bus	FATHERS' and SPECIAL FRIENDS BREAKFAST Friday 6th September - Families invited to see our <u>classrooms</u> - Special breakfast
YEAR 5/6 MUSICAL Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th September Evening performances for everyone to see!	
FOOTY DAY - LAST DAY OF TERM Friday 20th September - Whole-School parade at 9.15am - Early finish - 2.00pm	

SCHOOL DATES 2024

TERM 1	
Monday 29 th January	Curriculum Day
Tuesday 30 th January	Year 1-6 Students Commence
Thursday 1 st February	Foundation Students Commence
Monday 11 th March	Labour Day
Tuesday 12 th March	Curriculum Day – Numeracy Focus
Thursday 28 th March	Last day of term (2.00pm dismissal)
Friday 29 th March	Good Friday
TERM 2	
Monday 15 th April	Students Commence
Thursday 25 th April	Anzac Day
Friday 17 th May	Curriculum Day – Berry Street
Friday 7 th June	Curriculum Day – Report Writing
Monday 10 th June	King's Birthday
Friday 28 th June	Last day of term (2.00pm dismissal)
TERM 3	
Monday 15 th July	Students Commence
Friday 20 th September	Last day of term (2.00pm dismissal)
TERM 4	
Monday 7 th October	Students Commence
Tuesday 5 th November	Melbourne Cup Day
Friday 20 th December	Last day of term (1.00pm dismissal)

Professional Practice Day TBC