As 2016 takes its final bow there is much to reflect on, both happy and successful as well as sad and unfortunate.

With change there is always that element of “what is around the corner for us” and “do we have to?”. At this school, I have been met with an incredible amount of support from staff and community. For this, I am indebted to all of you and I thank you.

There is still a long journey ahead for us. This school has the potential to develop into an effective and successful learning environment. During the time that I am Principal of this school, I will strive to create the best learning environment for each and every child, parent, carer and staff member. This community, this school is a great place to be. I love the feel of this school, I love the direction we are heading in and I love being a part of this community.

There are many people I wish to thank but I will or have already thanked those who have dedicated their time to our school.

The low point of the year was the theft of our equipment. The high point was the immediate response of members of the School Council, Buildings and Grounds and PFA committees. If ever a negative could unite a community then that was a prime example.

We say farewell to two teachers who have taught here at Ballam Park PS for most of their teaching careers. It has been an amazing journey for both Mrs Helen Buxton and Mrs Joan Berry. Throughout this year they have both shared stories of happenings and situations past, leaving the new teachers to this school with tears of laughter rolling down their cheeks. Farewell Helen and Joan, please don’t be strangers.

In 2017 we will see the kinder children becoming Ballam Park Primary School students. We will also have new teachers with new skills and ideas to incorporate into our curriculum. Our new Assistant Principal will have an impact on our approach to how we teach and how we learn. Our School Council will continue to build stability and drive, while our sub-committees will become more sustainable. Accountability will be a key factor in the school’s strategic plan, as will Teaching and Learning.

We at Ballam Park Primary School will continue to step bravely into the unknown.

I also take this opportunity to wish the Year 6 students the very best with their endeavours, to continue to strive to be the best they can be and to remember to be true to yourselves and make your life happy, thrilling and worthwhile.

Persistence and passion will put you on the path to a successful, happy life.
Notice to Parents

End of year early dismissal

Please note that students will be dismissed at the official time of 2.30pm on Tuesday, 20th December 2016, the last day of Term 4.

School Start 2017

* Students in Years 1-6: Students in Years 1-6 commence school on Wednesday, 1st February 2017.

* Foundation Students:
  ♦ Foundation students commence school on Monday, 6th February 2017.
  ♦ There will be no Foundation students at school on 1st, 2nd or 3rd February 2017 unless their teacher has organised an appointment time.
  ♦ Foundation students will finish at 1.00pm on 6th, 7th, 9th & 10th February.
  ♦ Foundation students will not attend on Wednesdays 8th and 15th February unless their teacher has organised an appointment time.

Invitation to Helpers’ Morning Tea

Friday, 16th December

The Principal and Staff would like to thank everyone for your support and commitment to Ballam Park PS during 2016, and would like to invite you to our

Helpers’ Morning Tea
Time: 11.00am
Venue: Staff room

We would like to thank you personally.

Breaky Club

Last day open this year is tomorrow, Friday, 16th December.


IMPORTANT DATES

DECEMBER 2016
Fri 16 Last day for Breaky Club in 2016
HELPERS’ MORNING TEA 11.00am
Grade Parties
Reports sent home
Tues 20 Last day of Term 4
2.30pm finish

JANUARY 2016
Mon 30 CURRICULUM DAY
Tues 31 CURRICULUM DAY

FEBRUARY 2016
Wed 1 Students in Years 1 - 6 commence
Camp Australia OSHC resumes today
Mon 6 Foundation students commence
school
Mon 6 Canteen reopens for 2017
Mon 13 Breaky Club reopens, 8.15-8.45am
Tues 14 School Banking resumes for 2017

School term dates 2017

2017
Term 1: 30 January (teachers start) to 31 March *
Term 2: 18 April to 30 June
Term 3: 17 July to 22 September
Term 4: 9 October to 22 December

* The first day of Term 1 is a student-free day in all government schools to allow for appropriate planning to take place for the arrival of students. Each year government schools are provided with four student-free days for professional development, school planning and administration, curriculum development, and student assessment and reporting purposes. The remaining three student-free days are determined by each individual school, so contact your school for details.

** Please check with your school when other student-free days will occur throughout the school year.

Everyone at Ballam Park Primary School wishes all the Year 6 students every success as they embark on the next stage of their education. For many families, this is the end of their association with the school, and we thank them for their support and assistance over the years.

FAREWELL & GOOD LUCK
2016 GRADUATING STUDENTS

Melanie Addison
Jannali Allwood-Hughes
Madison Barnett
Justin Bell
Phoenix Brennan
Mikayla Bugeja
Alannah Campbell
Trinity Childs
Olivia Cornwall
Lachlan Daws
Alexandra Deane-Freeman
Heidi Delaney
Candece Elliott
Marc Fakos
Seth Fitzgerald
Mandy Garnet
George Gouvousis
Eli Hakaraia-Graham

Leanella Joyce-Pohlman
Jacob Lawrence
Lilly Leahy
Maddison Manners
Tinomana Nikoro
Claire O’Connor
Kane Parry
Kristian Pisano
Caitlin Ridgway
Emma Roebeck
Emily Smith
Mason Sturmey
Hope Tohia
Tali-Grace Tuaitau
Erin Van Den Bos
Cai Venn
Te Aroha Waetford
Lily Whiteside
Calam Wilson

A PROUD TRADITION A GREAT FUTURE!
Parent Payments for Student Requisites and Activities in 2017

This is a summary of information about what parents will be required to pay, for student requisites and how the school can assist at Ballam Park Primary School in 2017.

We always endeavour to keep costs to parents as low as possible.

♦ School based funding will cover the cost for all BPPS students of Mathletics, Play is the Way resources, Life Education, the Lexia Literacy Program and the Renaissance Reading Program in 2017.
♦ If parents hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, they may be eligible to receive the Ballam Park Primary School Education Allowance in 2017, unless there is an outstanding unpaid balance from 2016 or previous years. This allowance will be credited to cover the full cost of Booklist & Essential Student Learning Items in 2017 — once the application has been approved.
♦ Costs such as swimming, inter-school sport, excursions and incursions will be charged in full to parents throughout the year. Parents that are eligible for the Camps, Sports & Excursions Funds (CSEF), can use it towards these activities.
♦ The Parents Payments Policy 2017 was approved at the School Council meeting on 29th November 2016 and was attached to the last newsletter.
♦ The Education Allowance Policy 2017 was also approved at the School Council meeting on 29th November 2016 and the application forms are now available at the school office until Friday, 10th February 2017. Your Health Care Card/Pension Card has to be current on 30th January 2017 to be eligible.
♦ The grade booklists were distributed to all students, and a copy is available at the office. We would appreciate it if payment could be finalised prior to Friday, 3rd February 2017.

John Mace, Principal

Christmas Cavities

Looking after your teeth these holidays

1. **Try to stay in a routine**
   Trying to keep up with your day-to-day routine is hard during the holidays. This is a busy time of the year so it easy to forget to do the everyday routine. By keeping up the oral hygiene routine this will help maintain the health of your teeth and gums.

2. **Moderation is key**
   You don’t need to avoid sugary foods altogether these holidays, it is about moderation. Instead of drinking fizzy drink, drink water or milk. Swap the sweets bowl for the fruit platter.

3. **Avoid leaving sugar on your teeth**
   If you do eat some high sugar foods try not to go too long without brushing your teeth afterwards. The longer you leave sugar on the teeth the more damage it does so brushing soon after eating sugary foods is highly recommended. Alternatively you can rinse with tap water.

4. **Brush morning and night**
   Brushing first thing in the morning and the last thing before bed is a good way to make sure you stay in your routine and a good way to make sure sugar isn’t sitting on your teeth.
Sport News

Walkathon

Thank you to all students who returned sponsors’ money for this year’s Walkathon!

The final prizes were awarded at our school assembly on Monday 5th December as follows:

1st – Leon J (FB) who raised $310
2nd – Christine C (5/6C) who raised $275
3rd – Ryan B (3/4D) who raised $255
4th – Keeley H (1/2D) who raised $245
5th – Luke H (3/4A) who raised $194
6th – Madison B (5/6B) who raised $190

Well done to all these students for their outstanding efforts.

Congratulations also to students who received lucky dip prizes.

The top 3 highest earning grades were: 5/6C ($763), 1/2D ($633.40), and 5/6B ($564.45).

Our final school total for 2016 was: $6,223.95.

Well done to everyone for their fantastic work to raise money this year.
A special thank you to Miss Kewley, Mrs Back, and Mrs Burrows for their assistance with all Walkathon matters, and to Mrs Lefebvre and Ms Sexton for their outstanding work collecting money and distributing notices.

We aim to use the money raised this year for sports equipment, inter-school sport uniforms, ICT equipment, and playground improvements in 2017.

Term 4 Sporting Schools Programs

Well done to those Years 4 – 6 students who participated in this term’s Triathlon program as part of our Sporting Schools Funding.

A big thank you to Michelle from Kelly Sports, and to Miss Kewley, Miss Johnson and Miss Bruce who assisted with some of the sessions.

Our Foundation students also participated in a 4 week gymnastics program conducted by Bay-side Gymnastics.

We have applied for further funding for Term 1 next year and hope to have more programs for students to participate in.

3B and 3C Bike Ed

Students in 3B and 3C completed their 6 week Bike Ed program last Thursday (8th December) with a group ride through Ballam Park.

It was pleasing to see all students show much persistence and improvement in their riding skills in that time.

Thank you to Mr Shotter for his assistance, and to our Year 6 helpers Marc, Madi B, Cai, Ben, Olivia and Claire who did a fantastic job helping the Year 3 students.

Darren O’Brien
Sports Co-ordinator
After School Care News

- **Star of the Week:** Michael L for his positive attitude and always helping others
- **Camp Australia Holiday Club** is at Karingal Primary School, Mallum Avenue, Frankston, starting on Wed, 21st December, and open over the Christmas break.
- The children have enjoyed creating Christmas craft this week.

_Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year!_
From the team at Ballam Park OSHC, Camp Australia

Outside School Hours Care with Camp Australia

Camp Australia is committed to ensuring that children in our care receive a variety of healthy food choices to meet their nutrition requirements for a healthy body and mind.

We also ensure that our Educators are supported in their important role of helping children develop a positive attitude towards healthy choices. That’s why we’ve been working with Nutrition Australia’s Healthy Eating Advisory Service (HEAS) to develop an exciting new initiative—Camp Australia’s Healthy Eating Program.

Nutrition Australia evaluated our food and drinks menu against the Department of Health and Human Services’ Food and Drink Guidelines for Outside School Hours Care, and suggested some enhancements to ensure that children’s nutrition requirements are met and enable us to broaden the variety of nutritious food choices we can offer. So a new menu is now being offered to our young clientele.

HELP PLEASE...DONATIONS OF SECONDHAND UNIFORMS NEEDED

Thank you to those kind parents who have donated pre-loved uniforms to our school. We are still in need of uniform donations to assist us in helping students, and would be grateful if any spare second-hand uniform items could be left at the office.

Your donations are sincerely appreciated. Thank you.

Summer School Holidays — Moonlit Sanctuary Keeper Club

Kids enjoy environmental activities, animal encounters & native animal care. Day includes: interactions with dingo, python, off-limits animals, feeding animals & food prep, animal enrichment activities. Learn about our animals, their conservation & the environment. For ages 7-14 years.

**Summer school holiday dates:**
- Week 1: Mon 9th Tues 10th Wed 11th January 10am –4pm
- Week 2: Mon 16th Tues 17th Wed 18th January 10am –4pm
- Week 3: Mon 23rd Tues 24th Wed 25th January 10am –4pm

Cost: $65.00 per day, or $175 for 3 days (pro rata for additional days). Maximum 16 children per day.

**Bookings essential as spaces are limited**

Dress for the weather & wear closed-toe shoes, long pants & remember your hat or raincoat. BYO lunch or purchase at café.

Moonlit Sanctuary 550 Tyabb-Tooradin Rd, Pakenham — Phone 5978 7935
Web: [www.moonlitsanctuary.com.au](http://www.moonlitsanctuary.com.au) Open daily between 10am and 5pm
The 12 DO's of Christmas

1. Buy good quality decorations that can be reused year after year, or make your own.

2. Set up a recycling station for your workplace Christmas party and make sure the signage is clear so that no matter how much fun everyone is having, they know where the recycling goes. Download signage from BusinessRecycling.com.au.

3. Give thoughtful gifts. Find out what your recipients really want, or choose an experience or charity gift.

4. Choose reusable or recyclable wrapping, like paper. For extra points, use recycled content paper.

5. Go digital and download the free RecycleSmart App for all the information you need to recycle at Christmas and through the year.

6. Prevent food waste by planning ahead, only opening what you need and using leftovers. Compost or worm farm any unavoidable food scraps.

'Tis the season to commit to reduce, reuse and recycle.
7 Most food and drink packaging is recyclable. Sort and flatten it to fit as much as possible in your bin. Check what’s recyclable in your area at RecyclingNearYou.com.au.

8 Recycle old mobile phones, printer cartridges, computers and tablets that get replaced. To find out where, visit RecyclingNearYou.com.au.

9 If you’re giving a battery-operated gift, include a battery recharger and rechargeable batteries too - it’ll save the recipient money! For information on battery recycling, visit RecyclingNearYou.com.au.

10 Reduce the impact of your holiday travelling and fuel costs by making sure your tyres are inflated to the correct pressure and your engine is tuned. Remember to recycle old car oil, tyres and batteries - to find out where, visit RecyclingNearYou.com.au.

11 De-clutter the house - recycle from the yard, garage and attic. For options visit RecyclingNearYou.com.au.

12 If you choose a live Christmas tree, ask your council if they have a special collection or a mulching service, or if you can take the tree to your local recycling facility.

The 12 DOs of Christmas

Do even more for the environment this festive season by sharing this factsheet with others and visiting 12dos.planetark.org to download social media graphics and other resources.
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

★ Bookings open 19 December 2016.
★ Sessions are specifically designed for each age group. We ask that you only book children of the appropriate age into each session.
★ Children under 12 years must be accompanied by an adult.
★ Only book tickets for children attending the event – accompanying adults do not require a ticket.
★ We ask that children not bring food to the holiday program in consideration of other children who may have allergies.
★ For sessions that have a cost, payments must be made at time of booking at either Frankston, Carrum Downs or Seaford Libraries. *No refunds available.

---

CD CRAFT
Monday 9 January
10.30am-11.15am @ Frankston Library
Create creatures from recycled CDs. Bring your imagination and craft skills and we will provide the rest.
Suitable for ages 5-12 years.
FREE - bookings essential.

ZENTANGLES
Tuesday 10 January
1pm-2.30pm @ Frankston Library (Teen area)
Create an abstract artwork for your room.
Suitable for ages 10+.
FREE - bookings essential.

HEROES & VILLAINS STORYTIME
Wednesday 11 January
11.30am-12.15pm @ Carrum Downs Library
Come dressed as your favourite hero or villain! Enjoy some stories, songs and rhymes. Make and decorate a cool mask to take home.
Suitable for ages 3-8 years.
FREE - bookings essential.

FOIL ART
Monday 16 January
2pm-2.45pm @ Carrum Downs Library
Use colourful metallic foil to create a beautiful picture. Select from a range of pictures. Make one or two!
Suitable for ages 5-12 years.
COST $3 - bookings essential.

STORY ISLAND STORYTIME
Tuesday 17 January
10.40am-11.15am @ Frankston Library
Join us for beautifully illustrated stories and a fun craft. Check out the interactive exhibit after the session.
Suitable for ages 3-8 years.
FREE - bookings essential.

SUPERHERO TRAINING
Wednesday 18 January
1pm-2pm @ Frankston Library
Come dressed as your favourite hero (or villain) and join the team from Peninsula Aquatic and Recreation Centre (PARC) for active games that will get you ready to take on the world.
Suitable for ages 5-12 years.
FREE - bookings essential.

PUPPET SHOW ‘DREAMER IN THE DEEP’
Thursday 12 January
11am-11.45am @ Tyrebird Community Centre (Community Room) next to Carrum Downs Library
“In this deep sea adventure, Dreamer’s bed is transformed into an ocean going yacht. Dreamer sets out to rescue a Leafy Sea Dragon being held captive by a greedy Scorpion Fish in the Great Barrier Reef. This is puppet theatre (with no dialogue) to inspire the imagination of all ages.”
Suitable for ages 3-12 years.
COST $5 - bookings essential.

RECYCLED MATERIALS ‘MAKE A SUPERHERO’
Friday 13 January
11am-11.45am @ Seaforth Library
Design & create your own Superhero - let your imagination run wild. All sorts of recycled materials and coloured tape supplied.
Suitable for ages 5-12 years.
FREE - bookings essential.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM
9-25 JANUARY 2017
Bookings essential from 19 December 2016
Phone 9784 1020 or online at library.frankston.vic.gov.au/whats_on

Frankston Library: (03) 9784 1030
60 Payne Street, Frankston.
Carrum Downs Library: (03) 8773 9539
203 Lyrebird Drive, Carrum Downs.
Seaford Library: (03) 9784 1048
1/65 Broughton Street, Seaford.
libraryenquiries@frankston.vic.gov.au
library.frankston.vic.gov.au

---

ORIGAMI BOOKMARKS
Thursday 19 January
11am-11.45am @ Seaford Library
Make unique bookmarks (decorated with your own design) for your books or to give away as gifts. A simple craft for the beginner paper folder that can be used over and over again!
Suitable for ages 8-12 years.
COST $5 - bookings essential.

JUNK CRAFT
Monday 23 January
11.30am-12.30pm @ Carrum Downs Library
Let your imagination run wild and make an awesome creation from recycled materials. Junk provided in all shapes and sizes!
Suitable for ages 3-12 years.
FREE - bookings essential.

MOVIE
Tuesday 24 January
10.30am-12pm @ Frankston Library (Long Room)
A super-villain finally defeats his nemesis (Metro Man) but he becomes bored since there is no one left to fight. He creates a new foe (Titan), who instead of using his powers for good sets out to destroy the world, positioning the super-villain to save the day for the first time in his life.
Suitable for ages 5+ years.
FREE - bookings essential.

SUMMER READING CLUB FINALE
Wednesday 25 January
11am-12.30pm @ Frankston Library
Join us to celebrate the conclusion of the Summer Reading Club. There will be a special guest and our major prize draw, as well as the presentation of certificates to children who have returned a completed reading record.
FREE - BY INVITATION ONLY - open to children who return a completed reading record.
Suitable for ages 5+.
Ballam Park Primary School

Excerpt from

Bicycle Education and Cycling to School Policy

Rationale/Purpose:
To provide specific direction in relation to students riding bicycles to and from school, during Bicycle Education and for activities such as camp and as a supervised lunchtime activity.

Implementation

• Students in Year 3 will participate in a Bicycle Education Program of between 7 and 10 sessions. Students bringing bikes to school for this program, must be accompanied by an adult for the whole journey in both directions.

• Students in Years 4 to 6 may have opportunities to participate in supervised cycling activities at school, in the adjacent park or when on school camp.

• All students are permitted to cycle to and from school if accompanied by a supervising adult for the whole distance in each direction.

• Students must be in at least Year 4 to be permitted to ride to school unaccompanied by an adult.

• Parents are responsible to making the decision that their child who is in Year 4 or above is or is not capable of riding to and from school safely.

• The school provides an undercover, lock up area for student bicycles. It is kept locked during the school day. The school does not guarantee the security of bikes at school at any time.

• Students must wear a helmet at all times when riding to and from school and must walk their bike when in the school grounds.

• Any bike that is brought to school must be legally roadworthy and safe to ride.

• The school prefers that students do not scoot or skateboard to and from school. If a student skates or scoots to school, all the above stipulations apply as non-negotiable school rules.
WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK (WWCC) What is it?

It is a legal requirement that all volunteers and workers involved in any school must have a WWCC. A WWCC can be obtained by completing the online application form at:


1. The applicant completes the online application after logging on.
2. To complete the process, the applicant then takes their required evidence to the Post Office.

When completing your application:

- You must provide true and correct information on the application form.
- You need to provide the Department of Justice with any additional information requested regarding your application or your application will be withdrawn.
- You will be giving the Department permission to obtain information that will help assess your eligibility to hold a WWC Check card.

Before you start child-related work:

You must apply for a WWCC Check.

- You need to show your receipt to every organisation who engages you in child-related work.
- Organisations are obliged to make sure people doing child-related work have applied for and passed the WWC Check.
- Organisations are also obliged to make sure their workers are legally permitted to do child-related work while their application is being processed (see the next point)

Undertaking child-related work during the application process

Most people can undertake child-related work while their application is processed.

However you cannot if you:

- Have been charged with or convicted of a serious sexual, violent or drug-related offence known as a Category 1 or Category 2 offence in the Working with Children Act 2005 (the Act).
- Have previously been given a Negative Notice.
- Are subject to orders or reporting obligations under the:
  - Sex Offenders Registration Act 2004
  - Serious Sex Offenders Monitoring Act 2005
  - Serious Sex Offenders (Detention and Supervision) Act 2009
  - have applied for the Check to supervise a child in employment under the Child Employment Act 2003
  - have applied for the Check for work regulated by the Education and Care Services National Law 2010 (Victoria)
  - Some other organisations also require their staff and volunteers to pass the Check before commencing work. You need to check this with your organisation.

IMPORTANT

- There is no charge for Volunteers.

We value parent/carer help in our breakfast mornings, organised days, activities, excursions, incursions, working bees and classroom happenings, but please understand that without a WWCC we cannot include you.

Please see the office or speak to your child’s class teacher if you require assistance to complete this form.

Update your details

It is essential that you always keep your details up to date.

You must advise the Department within 21 days if you change the organisation that engages you in child-related work.

You must also notify the Department within 21 days of changes to your personal and contact details.

You can update the following details online through MyCheck:

- Address
- Phone numbers (work, home or mobile)
- E-mail address
- Organisation details
- Occupational codes.
The school sincerely appreciates the sponsorship of both our school newsletter and school website by a variety of businesses, but please be aware that the school is not permitted to endorse or recommend any businesses.

Sensitive Santa is coming to Carrum Downs for Christmas 2016

Families can celebrate the magic of Christmas at The Lyrebird Community Centre, as they offer Sensitive Santa. Sensitive Santa allows families with a child on the autism spectrum to have a photo with Santa without the common hustle and bustle and crowds. Families can book during certain times, with a maximum of 10 no queues, and take a photo or photos of their child(ren) with Santa in an autism-friendly environment. There will only be your family and Santa in the room, no professional photographer.

Sensitive Santa will be offered this year in the centre’s Cockatoo Room. Children on the Autism Spectrum will have the opportunity to meet Santa between December 8th – December 10th and December 15th – December 17th between 6:30pm and 8:30pm.

Bookings Essential.

Please note:
• One booking per time slot, but this can include more than one child, e.g. a twin family.
• Please remember to bring your own camera.
• Pay by credit card online or cash at your session.
• A portion of the booking fee will be donated to Autism Spectrum Australia.

SOUTH
★ Boneo Community Market
★ Pearcedale Market
★ Emu Plains Market - Belanaming
★ Mornington Christmas Tree Festival
★ Santa Train - Bellarine Railway
★ Mornington Racetrack Twilight Market
★ Pancakes with Santa at The Big Goose

SUNDAY
★ Seaford Farmers Market
★ Seaford Handmade & Design Market
★ Bittern Sunday Market
★ Frankston Sunday Market
★ Heritage Train Rides - Bellarine Railway
★ Mornington Heritage Train Rides - Christmas Special
★ Mornington Christmas Tree Festival
★ Mt Martha Cricket Club Community Carols

wants.netballclub.com.au/events/