



# BNPS NEWS

Issue No 1 - 3rd February

Term 1 2022

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### Welcome Back to 2022 and new staff

Welcome back to the 2022 school year here at BNPS, and a big, warm welcome to all our new families. It has been a wonderfully positive and focussed start and has been such a pleasure to get to meet all the students this week. I'd also like to extend a welcome and introduction to our new staff: Emily Carlon in 1/2C, Samantha Christie in 3/4S and Emily Scott in 5/6S. Next week we will also have a new business manager working with us in the office for the next 6 months while Fiona is on leave – Kaitlyn Govan, who joins us from Tarneit P-9 College.



Kaitlyn Govan

I'd also like to say I have very much enjoyed my first few weeks in the role here at BNPS, coming from Myrning Primary School where I have been Principal for the past three-and-a-half years. I look forward to getting to know more of our community as the term progresses.

### School Hats

Just a reminder that in Term One all students are required to wear school hats at recess and lunchtime breaks as part of the SunSmart policy. Please ensure your child/ren have school hats which are clearly labelled.

### Meet and Greet Sessions

We had planned to run parent-teacher-student meet and greet meetings in the next couple of weeks, however due to the DET guidelines to minimise school access at this point in time, we have decided to move these later in the term to Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March. We will be in contact closer to the date with booking details.

### Student Illness

Just a general reminder about managing children with general illness (COVID or not COVID-related). I fully understand for families managing work commitments that having to continually leave work or take time off work can be frustrating. However, we need your support in managing the prompt collection of students if they do display the mentioned symptoms at school, and also not to send students to school when they display cold-like symptoms. This can also be a timely reminder for families to have up-to-date Emergency Contact details. If parents are at work, we will happily use an emergency contact to collect students. Simply put, students who display any symptoms of

illness related or not related to COVID-19 are not to attend school until they are well.

### COVID Information and Processes

In 2022 there will yet again be a number of processes we need to employ as a school to help stop the spread of COVID and keep all members of our community safe. It's important to take the time to read and understand these so your family can play their part. These may differ from previous protocols so please take the time to read them carefully and contact the school if you have any questions regarding them.

#### Symptoms

The best tool we still have to manage the spread of Covid remains isolating when we have symptoms related to this disease.

<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/symptoms-and-risks#what-are-the-symptoms-of-covid-19>

The symptoms to watch out for are:

- fever
  - chills or sweats
  - cough
  - sore throat
  - shortness of breath
  - runny nose
  - loss or change in sense of smell or taste.
- Some people may also experience headaches, muscle soreness, stuffy nose, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea.

Please, do not send your child to school if they display these symptoms. If students present at school with these symptoms the current advice for a symptomatic person in the community who is experiencing Covid-19 symptoms should undertake a Covid-19 PCR test as soon as possible.

### What to do if you or your child test positive

A COVID positive result must be reported to:

the school by phone or the [RA Test Portal](#); this is so the school can support them, record that they will be absent while in 7-day isolation, and let the rest of the school community know there has been a positive case onsite and that they should monitor for symptoms

the Department of Health via the [COVID-19 Positive Rapid Antigen Test Self-Reporting Form](#) or call centre on [1800 675 398](#).

Continued Page 2...

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL Cont...

If your child returns a positive result, your child has COVID-19. You must:

- quarantine your child for seven days
- advise the school about the positive result
- Your child must stay home until their symptoms have resolved and they are well
- Everyone in your household is a close contact and must isolate for 7 days.

Information about how to do a test and how to read RAT results, including a how-to video translated into 33 languages, is [available online](#).

### Vaccination

Parents and carers must have had two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine or have a valid medical exception (with limited exceptions) to enter school buildings. All staff working in schools need to be fully vaccinated or have a verified medical exception.

**COVID-19 vaccinations for students are not required for them to attend school but vaccination for students is highly encouraged.** For more information on how to book a vaccination, including important information about vaccination for children aged 5 to 11, visit [Vaccination information for children and teenagers](#).

### Masks

Mask wearing will continue as compulsory in years 3-6 unless students have a lawful medical exemption. The school **MUST** be presented with the medical exemption for this to be approved.

In years Foundation to Grade 2 masks remain a recommendation. Staff will continue to wear masks indoors with the exception of communicating when teaching.

### Ventilation

We will also make sure that classrooms are well ventilated by opening windows and doors to minimize the risk of infection. We have received air purifiers, which will be used in all classrooms around the school as an added safety measure.

I wish you all the very best as we face the challenges ahead of us this term, and look forward to eventually meeting everyone face-to-face.

Until I see you in person,

*David Garner*

# CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Jan 31st	Feb 1st	Feb 2nd	Feb 3rd	Feb 4th
		Preps not at school		
Feb 7th	Feb 8th	Feb 9th	Feb 10th	Feb 11th
		Preps not at school		
Feb 14th	Feb 15th	Feb 16th	Feb 17th	Feb 18th
		Preps not at school		
Feb 21st	Feb 22nd	Feb 23rd	Feb 24th	Feb 25th
		Preps not at school		

### 2022 Term Dates

Term 1 28th Jan - 8th Apr    Term 2 26th Apr - 24th Jun    Term 3 11th Jul - 16th Sep    Term 4 3rd Oct - 20th Dec

# FROM THE OFFICE

## CSEF

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) provides payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions. Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. \$125 per year is paid for eligible primary school students. A special consideration eligibility category also exists. Payments are made directly to the school and are tied to the student. A CSEF application form and information outlining how to apply and eligibility is available at the office.

**You only need to complete the form to claim CSEF if:**

You are a new family to the school with a health care or pension card or existing family with a prep starting this year or have a health care or pension card and have never filled out a CSEF form.

Please contact Kaitlyn or Katrina in the office if you would like further information.

## Centrepay

Ballarat North Primary School is a registered provider for Centrepay. Centrepay is a voluntary bill-paying service which is free for Centrelink customers. You can use Centrepay to arrange regular deductions from your Centrelink payment to help with the costs of camps and excursions and other school expenses.

You can start or change a deduction at any time. The quickest way to do it is through your Centrelink account online or you can call into the Office and fill out a deduction form.

Go to:

[servicesaustralia.gov.au/centrepay](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/centrepay) for more information.



## Mathletics 2022

At Ballarat North Primary School, our students use *Mathletics*. *Mathletics* is a web-based learning program which integrates home and school learning via the internet. It is used in over 4000 Australian schools and has over 3.3 million users globally.

Normally Mathletics has a fee of \$99 per child, if parents purchase individually. We have been able to access a deal where the cost per child is **\$15.00** for the entire year. This enables the child to have access at any time, both at home and at school by using a unique user name and password. Please ensure payment is made so your child can access Mathletics at school and at home throughout 2021.

**Mathletics cannot be paid out of CSEF funds.**



# FROM FIRST AID



If your child requires any medication (other than Ventolin) during school hours, this must be stored in the First Aid room or staff fridge. The medication will be given by Lynda Stuttard or another staff member as per written consent by the parent/guardian or doctor. Please ensure your child's name, dose, time to be given and route (ie topical, oral etc ) are clearly marked on the form supplied at the office. If medication from a script, we need to view packaging to ensure we are giving to the correct child.

**(A template is available at the office)**

Children requiring Ventolin need to bring their own puffer to school each day. This can be kept in the classroom for easy access. It is now a requirement of the Asthma Foundation that students using a nebulizer should have their own and not be using a shared one.

We have a supply of disposable nebulizers at school, which will be used if required at a cost to parents of \$7.00.



## School Uniforms

It has been great to see students back at school proudly wearing their school uniform. All students are expected to wear their school uniform every day including footwear that allows them to participate fully in all school activities. Black pants/ shorts need to be plain black with no other colours or patterns. Please ensure hair is not an unnatural colour and that long hair (below shoulder length) is tied back and not covering your child's face.

Jewellery is not part of our school uniform so students should not be wearing rings, bracelets and necklaces to school. Students with pierced ears can wear small studs or sleepers only. Make-up and nail polish is also not part of our school uniform and can only be worn on special dress up days.

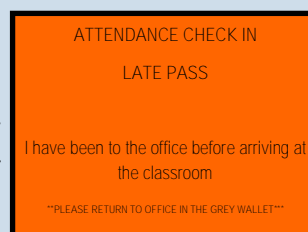


## Student Attendance

At Ballarat North we highly value regular attendance at school. Frequent absences from school result in students missing valuable teaching and learning time. We believe that more than 10 unexplained absences a year is a concern. If your child is absent for any reason, it is important that you either telephone the office on the day of the absence or put in an attendance note through Compass or our website. As a school we are required to follow up all absences. If you know about an absence in advance, please let your child's class teacher or the office know so this can be recorded.

## Late to School

All students are encouraged to arrive at school by the first bell at 8:50am so they have time to organise their belongings ready for learning to start at 9am. If your child arrives at school after the 9 o'clock bell, they must report to the office first to collect a late pass before going to their classroom.



## Healthy Eating/Nude Food

As in previous years, we encourage parents to provide a healthy, balanced and nutritious lunch and playlunch for their child/ren. All students are also asked to bring a water bottle to school each day.

Our school promotes nude food and encourages students and staff to bring food without wrappers. Any wrappers brought to school must be removed before students leave the classroom. This helps to keep our school grounds clean and tidy for everyone to enjoy.



## Lunch Orders

Lunch orders will be available every Friday via an online ordering system called QuickCliq. To access the lunch order menu and make your order, you will need to register through QuickCliq. A flyer detailing how to do this is attached to this week's newsletter.

At lunchtime, orders will be dropped off at school and delivered to classrooms. The lunch order menu is available on QuickCliq. The menu is also available on our school website and as a hard copy from the school office. If you need any assistance, please contact Katrina in the office.

**\*\*Lunch orders will commence tomorrow Friday 4th February**

## Instrumental Music Teachers

We are pleased to announce 'SoundCheck Studios Ballarat' will begin offering private or small group music lessons at Ballarat North Primary School this term.

Lessons in guitar and singing will be provided.

Instrumental Lessons are available for students in Grade 3-6.

'SoundCheck' teachers will come to school during the week, and in consultation with Mrs Macdonald, a timetable will be arranged for students to attend lessons during the school day. The schedule will be rotating, so students do not miss the same 30 mins of their classroom program each week.

Families will be engaging 'SoundCheck' privately. Information about booking and the fees are attached at the end of today's newsletter. All bookings and payments need to be arranged with 'SoundCheck' directly. When filling out the 'SoundCheck' registration form, be sure to select you are interested in the Primary School Program.

Mrs Macdonald is still investigating options for a keyboard teacher; more details will follow as they become available.

*If you have further questions, please see Mrs Macdonald.*

## WE'RE BRINGING THE MUSIC LESSONS TO YOU!

SoundCheck Studios are excited to announce that we will be conducting singing and instrumental lessons in schools.

### Solo Lessons:

One on one singing or instrumental lessons with one of our wonderful coaches. \$38.50 for 30 minutes.

### Group Lessons:

Sing, play instruments, learn how to play in a band and work together as a team. \$12 per student. (Minimum 3 students required)

By signing up to lessons you are committing to one lesson each week on the agreed upon day.

### How do payments work?

Invoices will be emailed through to you. You have the option to pay weekly, fortnightly, monthly or upfront for the term. Payments can be made by direct debit or online.

### How do I sign up?

To enquire, please sign up using our online form and under what classes are you interested in, please select 'Primary School Program' <https://www.soundcheckstudios.com.au/book>



## Book Club

Book Club Catalogues for Issue 1 were sent home this week. Could all orders be placed online at [scholastic.com.au/LOOP](https://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP) by Wednesday **16<sup>th</sup> February**. No cash sales. Online orders only. Thank you for supporting Book Club. Ms Lee

Thanks for buying books from



**Book Club**

they help build our classroom resources



## Senior School Athletics

When: Monday 28<sup>th</sup> of February

Where: Llanberris - Ballarat Regional Athletics Centre

Who: Grade 3 – 6 students

Our senior school athletics are coming up quickly. Students will catch the bus to Llanberris from school on Monday the 28<sup>th</sup> of February.

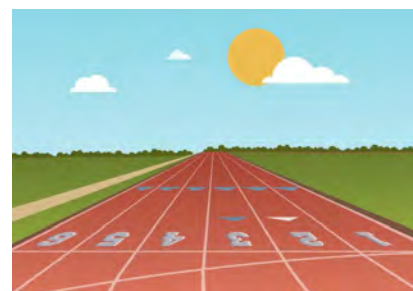
We are currently looking for volunteers to help with events and chauffeuring age groups between different events.

Due to the regulations in place at the moment any volunteers will need to have a Working With Children Check and be **triple** vaccinated.

If you would like to volunteer please contact me through Compass or let your child's teacher know that you are interested.

In order for this event to go ahead we will need to limit the amount of people moving in and out of the area meaning unfortunately spectators are not encouraged.

Kind regards,  
Mr. Shaun Allen.





## AFTER SCHOOL CARE

An Afterschool care program is provided to students by the OSHC (Outside School Hours Care) team from the Y Ballarat. This service offers families a leisure based program for children to attend after school hours. Children engage in a variety of activities, based on children's interests accessing both indoor and outdoor spaces.

The OSHC program is licensed by the Department of Education and Training and Commonwealth funding has been approved to provide families the option of applying to receive a government rebate on all attendances. All educators have current working with children checks, police checks and current first aid qualifications.

### How to enroll your child:

Families have the option of permanent and casual bookings, but please note the places are limited to 30 and are filling up fast. Enrolment can only be completed online through accessing the Y website on [www.ballarat.ymca.org.au](http://www.ballarat.ymca.org.au). Select 'what we do' tab then the 'children's services' tab, on the left hand side select 'Ballarat venues- Enrolments & Bookings' then simply select Ballarat North and commence your enrolment. A Family handbook is available and outlines in detail the steps and provides more information regarding the operations of the service. This can be emailed to you from the school office or directly from the service. The service coordinator Danni is onsite from 1.30pm each day to answer calls until 6pm.

Outside these hours please email the service at [ballarat.northoshc@ymca.org.au](mailto:ballarat.northoshc@ymca.org.au) or leave a message on the phone 0492 890 932 to receive a return call after 1.30pm



### TERM 1 PROGRAM

### MULTI-SPORTS (90 MINUTES)

Wednesdays After-School 3:35pm - 5:05pm  
(2nd of Feb) to (6th of April)

Tennis, Soccer, T-Ball, Basketball and Cricket  
Preps to Grade 4

\$220 for the 10 week program

Enrol online [www.kellysports.com.au](http://www.kellysports.com.au)

Any queries call or text Dom on 0417 967 621

## Before and After School Duty

Yard supervision commences at 8:45am each morning with Mrs Cooper-Kennington and Mr Garner alternating between the front and back of the school. If students arrive at school before this time and they are not with their parents, they need to wait in the courtyard area until 8:45am. The first bell goes at 8:50am. This is when students are able to come inside. There should be no students inside the main building or classrooms before the first bell.

After school there are three teachers on yard duty, one in Walker St, one in Ligar St and one out the front in Landsborough St. Supervision finishes at 3:45pm. Any students who have not been collected by this time will be taken to the office to wait until they are picked up.



**Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

# SIMPLE STEPS TO HELP STOP THE SPREAD.

**Cough or sneeze into your arm**

**Use a tissue**

**Bin the tissue**

**Wash your hands**

**HELP STOP THE SPREAD AND STAY HEALTHY**

**TOGETHER WE CAN HELP STOP THE SPREAD AND STAY HEALTHY.**  
For more information about Coronavirus (COVID-19) visit [health.gov.au](http://health.gov.au)

Australian Government

# happy families®

## Lighten The Load

with Dr Justin Coulson



January is over. Routines have recommenced. School is heading back. For some of us it's all new and exciting. But for many of us, it feels like Groundhog Day (or it will soon).

I love this quote from author and activist, Helen Keller, on doing ordinary things in an extraordinary way.

"I long to accomplish a great and noble task; but it is my chief duty and joy to accomplish humble tasks as though they were great and noble...The world is moved along, not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker."

Dr Justin

### **Grade Prep Citizen of the Term4 2021 - Lachie Notman**



For those of you that haven't come across Lachie yet, he is one of the happiest, kindest students that you will meet. He has a big, bright smile which lights up any room that he is in. His positivity is infectious and his kindness makes everyone feel included and welcome. Lachie goes about his work diligently without ever making a fuss. He always works hard to do his very best but is never one to want to be in the spotlight.

In the classroom, Lachie is a super focussed learner. He takes time to think things through and can often be seen supporting his classmates and cheering them on. He genuinely cares about his classmates, and always cares about what others are saying. He is an exceptional role model to his classmates through his excellent learning choices and the beautiful way he treats others – through his words and actions.

Lachie has a love for all things heroes, which includes Batman, Firefighters and even James Bond. Our class loves hearing all of Lachie's amazing facts about his heroes!

It has been so lovely to see and hear the beautiful way in which Lachie treats everyone he comes across. Whether you are someone he knows or not, a student or an adult, Lachie treats everyone the same, with the utmost respect and kindness. Lachie puts out a positive and fun energy that makes everyone around him feel happy.

One of the greatest areas of growth I have witnessed in Lachie is his self-confidence and his belief in what he is capable of.

He continually challenges himself and always acts on feedback to improve his learning. Lachie shows persistence when learning something new and bounces back when things don't go to plan.

This year has thrown many new challenges our way, and just like everything else, Lachie has taken it in his stride.

During Remote Learning, Lachie lit up our computer screens each day with his fabulous superhero costumes and his amazing Lego creations. Lachie has made our classroom (both at school, and remotely) such a happy place to be.

Congratulations Lachie for receiving the Prep Citizen of the Term. We are all very proud of you!

*Mrs Watson*

### **Grade 1/2 Citizen of the Term4 2021 - Neve Wardeiner**



It is my great pleasure to announce that the 1/2 Citizen of the Term is to be awarded to Neve Wardeiner.

I have had the pleasure of having Neve in my class this year. I have seen her continue to grow in confidence and take on the challenges that this year has brought, including lockdowns which resulted in going in and out of remote learning.

Neve shows the BNPS Learning Behaviours every day.

Neve works together with all class members and does this through being cooperative during activities. She listens carefully to her peers when they are speaking, and will ask interesting questions when they share their show and tell.

Neve persists with all of her tasks to achieve her best. She is always organised and is always eager to do little jobs around the classroom without being asked to do so. Neve likes to squirt the sanitizer on to the hands of children as they come in to class.

Neve goes about her day quietly helping others in the grade. She always has an interesting little anecdote to share with the class of a morning or before she goes home.

Neve is always polite and well-mannered to staff and students.

Congratulations Neve,

*Mrs Kerrie Thomas.*



### **Grade 3/4 Citizen of the Term4 2021 - Lilah Block**



It gives me great pleasure to announce the grade 3/4 citizen of the term is Lilah Block.

Lilah is a kind-hearted and considerate student who greets each day with a warm smile and positive attitude. She is a passionate learner and always embraces new learning opportunities with enthusiasm.

Lilah is a respectful and helpful member of our grade who can always be relied upon to aim high and do her absolute best. She approaches problems and challenges in a compassionate manner and consistently upholds our school values of care, respect and excellence. Lilah is a good friend to her classmates. She stands up for what she believes in and is inclusive when choosing peers to work collaboratively with.

Lilah listens carefully when instructions are being given and encourages her peers when working in groups. She consistently sets high standards for herself when working and takes pride in her efforts.

Congratulations Lilah, you are a most deserving recipient of the 3/4 Citizen of the Term award, and you should be very proud of your achievements.

*Ms Ange Govan*

### **Grade 5/6 Citizen of the Term4 2021 - Xavier Steffens**



Xavier is a friendly, polite, kind, and considerate student. He is a valued and respected class member who consistently upholds our school values of care, respect and excellence in both the classroom and in the yard.

Xavier is a conscientious and diligent worker who always strives to achieve his best. He has an excellent work ethic and willingness to learn which often sees Xavier seeking clarification on tasks, asking thought provoking questions and seeking feedback on his work. Xavier is able to apply new skills and techniques with confidence to new situations enabling him to produce work to a consistently high standard.

In Grade 5 and 6 we often speak about the importance of being good role models for others around us. Xavier is an excellent role model to others in the class, he works effectively with all students and can be relied upon to contribute ideas and do his share of the work. When working with others, he respectfully supports and encourages them.

Xavier has been one of our 2021 school captains. He has carried out his duties diligently. It has been a pleasure to watch his confidence develop over the year especially when co-comparing our school assemblies.

Xavier conducts himself well at all times. He is a caring student who takes care of himself and others. He is always willing to lend a helpful hand to both his peers and teachers.

Xavier is proud of being a student at Ballarat North Primary School and has always represented our school in an exemplary manner.

Congratulations Xavier, on being such a worthy recipient of the 5/6 Unit Citizen of the Term.

*Mrs Fitzgerald*