Mrs Hobbs’ Headlines…

- The French Trip is underway. We hope that everyone that is attending this trip has a wonderful time and we can’t wait to hear all about their expedition.
- Rotary Bike Ride. Thanks to Mrs Jackie Grant, hospitality students & the kindergarten committee for catering for this event. The riders loved it and it was a very enjoyable day.
- Good Luck to Febey McClure as she competes at the Greater Western Region Swimming Championships in Warrnambool on Wednesday.
- A wonderful whole school assembly was held on Friday. It showcased the developing talents and confidence of our students. Thanks to all attendees, participants, organisers and hosts.
- Check out page 4 for a flyer on building parents and school partnerships. It is a very good read.

Last Day Term 1 this Friday, 2:30 dismissal. Have a safe, happy & relaxing holiday.

Newsletter, Facebook & Website Reminder

A reminder that the school newsletter will include school related news and, if room, some school photos and stories. Community notices and school reminders will be placed on the school Facebook page. Any school news stories and photos, timetables & documents of interest will be on the School Website. Make sure you keep updated with the school Facebook and Website regularly if you wish to view this extra information.
2015 International Competitions & Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

If you would like to enter your child or children in the ICAS competition you would be responsible for the costs associated with the testing. The prices for each student are as follows:

- $8.80 English (Years 2-12)
- $12.10 Spelling (Years 3-7 only)
- $18.70 Writing (Years 3-12)

The **Spelling and Writing** aspects of the competition will be held on **Thursday 18th June** and the **English** testing will be held on **Thursday 30th July**. Closing dates for entries is the 18th of May. If you would like your child or children to participate in this competition, please fill in an expression of interest note (download from the school website under the “For Parents” tab) and return it to the office by **Friday 20th March**. Payment will be organised at a later date. If you would like to discuss this in person, please contact me at school on 55701247.

Thanks, Maryanne Wilson.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

To book an interview time for your child please go to the online booking system [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au)

Booking code is FEJMC.

Parent/Teacher Interviews on 22nd April from 1pm.

What’s on Facebook?

- Net Set Go Information
- Auskick Details
- Youth Holiday Program
- Ballarat Lego Fan Expo
- Bronze Rescue Program

What’s on the School Website?

- Lions Club Speeches
- Bakers Shop Fab Friday Afternoon Tea

White Suffolk at the Balmoral Show

Here is Jacob Duggan and Mr Lewis with the school’s winning pair of White Suffolk Rams at the Balmoral Show. More to come in the next Newsletter.

Do you have something you would like the school to advertise?

Please email photos and details to the schools Publicity Officer, Alex Mason, (mason.alexandra.l@edumail.vic.gov.au) and we will publish it in either the School Newsletter, the School Website and/or the School Facebook Page. Thank you.
News Items

ANZAC DAY

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the dawn landings at Gallipoli, by the Australia New Zealand Army Corps, the Balmoral RSL Sub Branch will be conducting a dawn service beginning at 0630 am. After the dawn service, a traditional ‘rum and coffee’ will be served with an Anzac Biscuit and Breakfast for $5.00. The RSL will still host the traditional street march and service, stepping off from the Post office at 10.15 am, followed by activities at the RSL Hall.

Easter Market & Raffle

The Parents & Friends Association are holding an Easter Raffle. The raffle will be drawn on Easter Saturday 4th April at the Easter Market. 1st Prize is a $100 Easter Hamper. Tickets are $1 each. Tickets and money to be returned to school Wednesday 25th March or returned to the Easter Market Stall.

Lions Club Speeches

Congratulations to the Yr 6 students who participated in the Lions Club Speeches last Wednesday. It was a wonderful event as the students presented speeches about “Their Passion”. The speeches included farming, dogs, horse-riding, horse racing, different sports, the ocean, guinea pigs, nature and building. It was pleasing to see the students present in a confident and interesting manner. After all the speeches had been presented the judges Mrs Di McLean and Mr James Parker gave each student positive feedback and announced the students who would be progressing to the next level. Good luck to Lachlan Craig, Indeya Talay, Evan Grego, Rachel Duggan, Grace Austin and Liam Daffey for when they present at the Lions Club Dinner Meeting on the 20th April. Thanks to the Balmoral Lions Club for giving our students the opportunity to improve their public speaking skills and thank you to Di and James for acting as judges.
Suzanne Smith & Rhonda Merryfull

Bakers Shop Fab Friday Afternoon Tea

Beautiful aromas were wafting from the Home Eco room as the Bakers Shop students prepared afternoon tea for their invited guests. Cupcakes, quiches, brownies, sausage rolls, choc chip biscuits, hedgehog, pinwheels and surprise rumballs were on the menu and boy did they look great. It was a great afternoon for the students to showcase their culinary skills and share their learning with their parents, grandparents, friends and teachers.
Thank you to everyone who supported the Bakers Shop cooks and we hope you had an enjoyable afternoon and enjoyed tasting our cooking.
Bakers Shop Students & Mrs M.

Contact Us!

Principal: Mrs Wendy Hobbs  School Council President: Mrs Lisa Hutchins
Harrow Road, Balmoral 3407  T: 03 5570 1247  F: 03 5570 1419  E: balmoral.k12.cc@edumail.vic.gov.au
Mrs Hobbs’ Something To Think About…

Lost in concentration

It’s more challenging than ever to be present with our kids, and so easy to get lost in concentration on a device. Here are 5 tips to really impact and make the most of every opportunity you have with your kids.

1. Build their language

Spend time together, whether it’s playing a game, reading a book or just chatting. This is language building at its finest. When you talk with your child, you’re helping to build their vocabulary and increase their understanding of the world around them.

2. Encourage exploration

Get outside and explore nature. It’s a great way to disconnect from technology and connect with your child. Whether it’s a hike in the woods or a simple walk in the park, make sure you’re both engaged and enjoying yourselves.

3. Teach them to be good readers

Read to your child as much as possible. Reading is a fantastic way to build vocabulary and comprehension skills. Make sure they’re reading a variety of materials, from picture books to novels.

4. Create a calm space

Set aside a quiet space in your home where your child can read or do homework. This space should be free from distractions, such as a mobile phone or other electronic device.

5. Help them understand their emotions

Teach your children how to identify and understand their emotions. This will help them to express themselves in a healthy way and make better decisions.

More on page 2...