



DANA STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL NO. 33

BALLARAT EST. 1857

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Ballarat Primary School (Dana Street).

Dana Street Primary School maintains a close and supportive community for our students and parents. You will notice the importance of our school values and the support that the community offers its members.

All parents are welcome and encouraged to visit the school and become involved in the school's educational programs. Families are also encouraged to attend and participate in School Council, school functions, fundraising and assemblies.

We look forward to sharing with you the responsibility for your **child's** education.

We **are equally concerned about your child's progress and wellbeing** and you should feel free to arrange an interview to discuss your **child's** progress at any mutually convenient time.

Natalie Toohey

Principal

School Profile

Vision

At Ballarat Primary School (Dana St), we strive to empower every student, in a culture of engagement and excellence, to embrace challenges and reach their full potential.

We provide a welcoming, stimulating, caring and supportive learning environment for our students, teachers and families, with a strong culture of excellence. We aim to connect our students with the wider community, so that they are empowered to participate and contribute within a global community.

School Values

At Dana St Primary School, our school values are very important and provide the foundation for our behaviours in all contexts within our school community. These values are:

Respect & Care

We use courtesy and kindness at all times. We allow ourselves and others to do our best.

Responsibility

We understand that our actions affect others. We own our own **behaviours and respect others' property and personal space.**

Inclusion, Tolerance & Understanding

We value diversity and have equal respect for all members of our school community.

Excellence

We give our personal best at all times. We have high expectations of ourselves and strive to meet them.

Our School

Dana Street Primary School was established in 1857 as the first National School in Ballarat West and its history provides a rich culture and tradition. During the **school's** history the buildings have been the sites of **a technical school and the original Ballarat Teachers' College.** The school is situated on what is now the edge of the Ballarat central business district. The close proximity of the school to the central business district means that our students are within walking distance to many cultural and educational experiences.

The fine bluestone and brick Victorian architecture, not only is aesthetically pleasing to the community it serves, but also provides many spacious rooms for the **school's** activities. Heritage Victoria has classified the buildings as being of '**cultural heritage**' significance. The school is well equipped with a library, multipurpose centre and art room. Dana Street Primary School has a current enrolment of approximately 250 students.

Our school community is diverse and vibrant It has a caring family atmosphere and a strong cooperative spirit. We celebrate and share success and provide a positive and supportive environment where children, teachers and parents are partners in learning.

In our school, we have an average of 35 students in each year level, however the actual numbers in each year level vary widely. Some of our grades are made up of one year level and others are composites of two year levels. It is not possible to have all straight grades, or evenly spread composite grades in each part of the school. In reality, every class is a composite; there is a wide spread of interests, personalities and abilities in every class and our teachers are trained to teach to their **students'** points of need

The school is committed to providing high quality teaching and learning to maximise the learning growth for all students Our school offers a comprehensive sequential curriculum in all key learning areas including Literacy, Numeracy, Science, History, Digital and Design technologies, the Arts, Physical Education and Japanese.

Special assistance is provided in the areas of Reading Recovery, Individual Learning Plans, Literacy Support Programs, and support programs for students with disabilities.

Teachers use evidence-based approaches to teaching and learning which provide challenge, encourage children to foster their unique talents and develop a love of learning. Enrichment programs are offered to support the key learning areas: Student Leadership roles, Student Representative Council, tuition in instrumental music, speech and drama.

The school community celebrates the **students'** success in the arts with the annual Soiree and biennial school concert/ Art Show.

Transition programs assist our new pupils settle into our school quickly, as well as enable our Grade 6 students to approach their secondary education with confidence.

TERM DATES - 2021

Term 1:	29 th January -1 st April 28 th
Term 2:	19 th April- 25 th June
Term 3:	12 th July- 17 th September
Term 4:	4 th October – 17 th December

TERM DATES - 2022

Term 1:	1 st February- 8 th April
Term 2:	26 th April ~ 24 th June
Term 3:	11 th July ~ 16 th September
Term 4:	3 rd October ~ 20 th December



SCHOOL COUNCIL

The School Council represents the school community. It endorses the **school's educational policy and controls the school finances and resources.**

Dana Street School Council comprises:

- 8 Parents – Non-Department of Education employees.
- 2 Community members- Non Department of School Education parents or community members.
- 4 Department of Education members - including Staff and Principal.

All parents are advised when elections are to take place and we urge you to consider accepting nomination to the School Council, if approached.

Meetings are usually held on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 pm.



BEING A PARENT AT OUR SCHOOL

We enjoy a great deal of support from our families. Parents can help in myriad ways, including helping in classrooms, on excursions and camps, on School Council, on fundraising rosters. The most important way to **support the school is by being in contact with your child's classroom teacher and approaching your child's education as a partnership with the school!**

THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE STARTING

ATTENDANCE:

Regular attendance is important for the progress of your child. There is a great deal of research demonstrating the strong relationship between attendance, achievement and positive wellbeing. Please try to maximise your **child's** attendance.

ABSENCES:

If your child is going to be absent please let the school know first thing in the morning so they can be marked as absent on the roll. At approximately 9:30am each morning an SMS is sent to families of students who are absent without notification.

If you are going on holiday a note to the school giving the dates you will be away would be greatly appreciated.

There are absentee forms at the office. They can be filled with the appropriate information. These are also on the website under School Documents (Absentee Form).

IMMUNISATION CERTIFICATE:

We require all new enrolments to present a certificate of immunisation. This can be obtained by contacting ACIR on 1800 653 809. If you have a conscientious objection to your child being immunised, the school will also need a statutory declaration stating your objection.

MEDICATION:

Children are sometimes required to take medication at school. It is essential that if medication is required at school **that the teacher is made aware of the child's requirements** and takes charge of the medication. A form advising the school staff of the dose and time the medication is to be administered is available from the office or on our website. We are unable to administer medication without official consent and the necessary forms completed. All medication is administered at the office. Asthma inhalers are stored in the classroom. Please contact the office for more information.



EMERGENCIES:

Sick children:

The best place for children who are ill is at home. It is important that we are able to contact parents or some adult who will take responsibility in cases of illness or accidents. *There is a sign out book in the office. This will need to be completed before taking your child off the premises.* Please come to the office if you have been called to collect your child.

Please ensure that you keep information of this nature up to date, including all emergency contact phone numbers.

NEWSLETTER & NOTICES:

A newsletter is emailed every Friday and is also on our website. Please check your **child's** bag each night for notices. If you are unsure about the notice please ring the school on 5332 1301 to clarify any problems. [Forms and notices are also available on the school website.](#) www.danaps.vic.edu.au

SUPERVISION:

Children will be supervised at school between the hours of 8:45am and 3:45 pm.

Children walking or on bicycles are to go straight home after school.

If a parent is unavoidably delayed after 3:45 pm children will be supervised in the foyer near the office.

Where an emergency situation arises, eg. car breakdown, please notify the school to make arrangements for the care of your child.

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE:

Before and after-school care is available in conjunction with the City of Ballarat and the YMCA. Children are pick up from Dana St. Primary School at the end of the school day and are taken by bus to Newington Primary School. The program is run extremely well, with both parents and children providing positive reports.



TEACHER PROFESSIONAL LEARNING DAYS:

There are usually four pupil free days in a year. During these days the teachers participate in professional learning related to **the school's** Annual Implementation Plan. This learning is aimed at improving teaching practices across the school. Advance notice is always given of professional learning /curriculum days.

BOOK LISTS

Each year families receive a book list, which is completed onlie with a local supplier. can of course choose to fill the book list at an alternative supplier.

CURRICULUM SUPPORT LEVY/ PARENT PAYMENTS

Families are charged a Curriculum Support Levy for each child. The cost of this is determined by the year level of the student. The Curriculum Support Levy will cover all excursions, incursions, camps, learning resources and class programs. This levy can be paid in one lump sum or paid off in instalments.

EXCURSIONS:

The school organises excursions at intervals during the year to enable children to have a variety of first hand experiences. Care is taken to make sure that there are educational objectives for the excursion and that there are preparatory and follow-up lessons.



Continuing regard is given to the costs to parents, and any family suffering financial hardship is invited to discuss the matter with the Principal.

Parents will be notified in advance of any proposed excursions. At the beginning of each year, a consent form is sent home for walking to local excursions throughout the year. We still send a note letting families know that the excursion will take place.

ART ROOM:

Our Art/Craft program uses a considerable quantity of scrap and waste materials. Your assistance in collecting a wide variety of materials would be appreciated when requested. Children need an art smock for Art lessons.



WET DAY TIMETABLE:



When it is wet or very hot, children are supervised indoors during recess and lunch times.

BICYCLES AT SCHOOL:

Young children are not capable of riding to school without supervision. Helmets must be worn by children riding bicycles. Any bicycles brought to school must have a lock.

LUNCH ORDERS:

A local store provides the school with lunches on Thursdays and Fridays. A lunch order price list is sent home at the start of the year. The **child's** order is written on an envelope or paper bag with the money enclosed and placed in the lunch order box in the office prior to school starting each day. Lunches are then delivered to the **child's** classroom

SCHOOL UNIFORM:

The school colours for Dana Street Primary School are *Navy & Gold*. *Please see our Student Dress code on our website for details about the uniform.*

New Uniforms may be purchased at BELEZA – Doveton St Sth Ballarat (just up from the school).

A uniform helps to make a school distinctive and greatly helps with its promotion. It also helps to make the children more identifiable on excursions. Uniforms also assist families to have a smooth start to the day!

We have a large range of secondhand uniforms that are available to all families. We also encourage families to bring in clean uniforms that children have outgrown. This means that second-hand uniforms are free. Please ensure that uniform items are clearly marked with your child's name.

SunSmart School:

We are a SunSmart School and student will need to wear a navy blue wide brimmed sun hat (available for purchase from Beleza), from 1st September to 30th April. At this time, students are required to wear hats at recess and lunch times and for any outside activities. Sunscreen is provided in the classrooms for the students to administer during the day. Singlets are not allowed to be worn on sports days due to the risk of sunburn.



