Dear Parents, Grandparents and Friends,

The school year has started in earnest, and after a very busy few days, everyone appears happy and settled. Well done to our Grade Preps especially who started with us yesterday!

Over the school holidays 4 classrooms and our library were refurbished (repainted, new blinds, new joinery and new lights). The rooms involved are those on the Dana Street side of the school.

This morning we farewelled one of our long-serving teachers Mrs. Janet McKenzie. Janet has taught at our school for over 20 years and has made many and varied contributions during this time. She has been a very popular and well-respected teacher of many children over the years and much-loved colleague of ours. On behalf of our school community I’d like to congratulate Janet on her outstanding career and wish her, Ian and her family all of the best for the future!

Yesterday marked the 160th anniversary of the opening of our school. Many thanks to our Grade 6 student leaders who this morning at assembly gave a presentation on the 160 years of education at Dana Street.

Below is a summary of the history of our school …

Dana Street Primary, Ballarat

160th Anniversary

This year we are celebrating our school’s 160th birthday. Dana Street Primary School is the oldest operating Government Primary School in the Ballarat region.

On February 2nd, 1857 the National School on Doveton Street was officially opened. On the first day of school 50 students commenced school with Mr. Charles Martin our very first Principal. His wife also taught with him and they had 6 children of their own. The school was known locally as the National School Doveton Street.

Some famous people were on the very first School Council of the National School. These included Peter Lalor and James Oddie. By 1870, 235 students were enrolled. Today, Kylie and her 22 Grade 2 students are located in there making this the oldest operating classroom in the Ballarat region.

Often students would not turn up to school, because they would prefer to play on the goldfields. Many of the students who did turn up were reported as being very naughty.

In 1876 the Education Act was passed making the Government fully responsible for education. It was then that the red brick building was opened on the corner of Dana Street and Doveton Street. It was officially called Dana Street State School and Mr. Robert Armstrong was appointed Principal.

The school was designed by the famous architect Bastow and much of it is in original condition today. The school population grew quickly. In 1877, the school had a staggering student enrolment of 1,260. This included a 17 year old male student and an 18 year old female student.

Both the National School and parts of the State School have been used by different cultural and educational organizations over the years. The Royal South Street Debating Society was founded here and the Young Men’s Training College and Ballarat Junior Technical School operated from here.

Ballarat High School was founded in 1907 and operated out of the National School before it moved to its current site on the corner of Gillies and Sturt Streets. It was originally called the Continuation School. Also, the Ballarat Teachers College was opened in 1926 and the National School was used to train many of the state’s teachers until it moved to the current site of the Ballarat Specialist School. In 1978, the Ballarat Teachers College became part of what is now Federation University, Mount Helen Campus.

Some notable figures are associated with Dana Street Primary School. Peter Lalor is perhaps the most well-known figure in the Eureka Rebellion in December 1854. After he was officially pardoned by the Government, he became a member of the founding School Council of our school. James Oddie was also a member of this council and was a leading member of Ballarat Society in the mid 1800’s.
Nathan Spielvogel was a student, teacher and Principal at our school. He was also a well-respected writer of non-fiction and fiction books and a renowned historian. The Spielvogel Letters remain today as key primary documents of local Ballarat history. The Spielvogel Learning Centre is named after him, since he embodied our school values of respect, care and understanding.

Thomas Curnow was a teacher at Dana Street in the 1890’s. Before being transferred here, he taught at Glenrowan State School in northern Victoria. He has often been called the Hero of Glenrowan for his part in the arrest of Ned Kelly and his gang.

He was held captive by the Kelly gang in the Glenrowan Hotel. He managed to escape by convincing them his wife was gravely ill and they let him go. He then flagged down a train that the gang had planned to wreck and saved the lives of police officers aboard.

Because many people saw Ned Kelly and his gang as heroes, Thomas Curnow was transferred to Dana Street State School in Ballarat for his own safety.

Today Dana Street Primary School has just over 250 students. The site has always played an integral role in the educational life of Ballarat.

During the 1850’s Gold Rush our school comprised of families from Australia and all over the world, particularly Europe and North America. In 2017 our families also come from Australia (both indigenous and non-indigenous) and all over the world, including Africa, Asia, the Indian sub-continent and the Middle East. Thus, our school is, and has always been truly multi-cultural.

So let’s celebrate 160 wonderful years!

PAUL NOLAN
PRINCIPAL

Artroom News: We in the artroom would like to welcome old and new students to the 2017 school year.
At times throughout the year we will require recycled goods for art lessons, we will let you know via the newsletter what these may be. If you are ever cleaning out at home and have goods you think we could repurpose/recycle bring them in, we will happily take them off your hands.
Please make sure your child has an appropriate art smock for art lessons.
Thankyou
Kelly and Jillian

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR CSEF? DO YOU HAVE A HEALTHCARE CARD? NEW 2016 FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE. FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE SEE VICKI. THANK YOU

2017 BALLARAT RELAY FOR LIFE - Dana Street Primary School community is invited to join in the Ballarat Relay For Life. The team name is Dana Destiny.
team_id=51013&pg=team&fr_id=4215#_ga=1.16855993.1299133039.1473992837
Or Search team name on https://www.relayforlife.org.au/
Also, this Team we will be running 50c icy pole Fridays with all proceeds going to the Team.
Any support would be greatly appreciated! The registration fee is $25 which includes a T-shirt. It is a great community event!
For more information contact Jodie Downey on 0418308497.

Curriculum Support Levy - covers the cost of all excursions, incursions, camps and materials used collectively by students in classrooms.

- Prep - $235.00
- Grade 1 - $235.00
- Grade 2 - $210.00
- Grade 3 - $150.00
- Grade 4 - $213.00
- Grade 5 - $500.00 (includes camp)
- Grade 6 - $465.00 (includes camp)

2017 Curriculum Support Levy includes:

Prep/1 - Excursions and Incursions
- Sovereign Hill and Wildlife Park
- Theatre performance at Her Majesty’s Theatre
- CocoSound music program

Grade 2 - Melbourne Museum Excursion
- Sovereign Hill
- Theatre performance at Her Majesty’s Theatre
- CocoSound music program

Grade 3/4 - Local excursions and Melbourne Aquarium
- Quantum Victoria
- Ecolinc science excursion and incursion
- Inter-school sports program
- CocoSound music program

Grade 5/6 - Camp Currumbene
- Biocats and Biolab excursions
- Sovereign Hill Ragged School program (*Grade 5 only)
- Inter-school sports program

Breakfast Club - Watch this space!!

Upcoming Dates

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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 7th February</td>
<td>No school for Preps</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 20th February</td>
<td>School Council Meeting</td>
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