



Balnarring Pre-School

& Infant Welfare Association

Learning and Living with nature



Presidents Report

Welcome 2020 families to Balnarring kinder. We hope you all had a fantastic, relaxing time over the Christmas break and managed to have lots of family time together. I would like to begin by introducing you to our 2020 committee members. We have 13 lovely ladies who have stepped up to the plate, some new to committee and some returning. We have myself, Fiona Fredrickson as president; Anne Pelemis as Vice President; Kate Mullan as Secretary; Rachel Jacobson as Treasurer; Emma Hicks as Assistant Treasurer; Valeska Noeske-Smith as Minutes Secretary; Tamara Blank as Enrolment Officer; Danielle Antoniou as Fees Officer; Emily Womersley as Newsletter; Meg Colvin as Maintenance; Eva Barcikowski as Grants Officer; and last but definitely not least Jarna Browne as Fundraising Committee. Here is a little information about myself and why I decided to take on this role.



This is my son Hunter's second year at Balnarring Kinder and he will be in Manameet with Jill, bracing ourselves for an early morning start each Friday. I also have a 7 month old boy named Xander and 12 year old boy named Brett. My husband, Matt, and I decided to send my son to Balnarring kinder firstly because I wanted him to go to a bush kinder, but when I came to the AGM I fell in love with the way the teachers spoke about teaching the kids about resilience and their passion for First People. Last year I stepped into the treasurer role, mainly because I wanted to guarantee a position for my son the following year at the kinder, turns out it guarantees nothing as this is done through the Shire. Thankfully though I really loved being on committee, after the initial adjustment to the role. I loved knowing what was going on in the kinder, connecting with the other women and knowing that I could have input into decisions. I am a bookkeeper by profession, so treasurer was an obvious choice. Stepping up to president was a big decision, not only because I had some big shoes to fill following on from Amelia and the amazing job she did, but also because it's something I haven't done before. I made the decision though because I love the kinder and want to see it thrive and be able to support the teachers to do that, I love working with people and encouraging others to be their best and I'm not afraid to have the difficult conversations and process hard decisions.

2020 will be a big year for all of us and there is always a lot going on at the kinder, please keep an eye out for the monthly newsletter as it will have all the important dates for your calendars as well as hearing about the exciting things the teachers are doing with your kids each month. Thankyou for your time and I look forward to seeing you around.

Fiona

Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday 25th February 2020 @ 7pm

UP COMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 1st February

Balnarring village information day re Bundjil's nest

Wednesday 19th February 6:30 – 9:30pm

Cultural Awareness Training @ Balnarring Hall for kinder teachers/committee

Friday 21st February

Djeembana/Weelam groups – family night with Lionel – flyer to follow

Friday 28th February

Manameet/Gareeal groups – family night with Lionel – flyer to follow

Sunday 1st March

Weelam group kinder working bee 10-1pm (other groups to follow later in the year)

Saturday 14th/Sunday 15th March

Womin Djeka community festival – see flyer attached

Sunday 29th March

Bunnings fundraiser BBQ – flyer to follow

ATTENTION ALL FAMILIES

Working with children check (WWC) –Creating a Child safe environment.

Parents will not be required to have a WWC as they are not regularly with the children. However.... When in our group please be aware that a parent is always to be in sight of the staff when with the children. Any change of clothing or toileting challenges will be managed by the staff EVEN IF YOU KNOW THAT CHILD. Please let a team member know if a child requires support.

Acknowledgement: Balnarring Preschool acknowledges that our children and families play and learn on Boon Wurrung Country. We acknowledge the Boon Wurrung of the Kulin Nation as the First Peoples of this land. We thank them for caring for the land and the waterways and value the sharing of their knowledge and stories. We pay our respects to their Elders: past and present.