



BALGOWNIE RD, BALGOWNIE NSW 2519

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WHAT'S ON?

4.12.13

TERM 4 – WEEK 9

Frid	6.12.13	K-2 Concert
Tue	10.12.13	Volunteers Thank You Morning Tea 11.15am in hall
Wed	11.12.13	Presentation Day 9.15am in hall
Thur	12.12.13	Yr6 Graduation & morning tea
Frid	13.12.13	Big Day In – Fun Day (Mufti)
Mon	16.12.13	Talent Quest Day 1 12.00-1.50pm
Tue	17.12.13	Talent Quest Day 2 12.00-1.50pm
Wed	18.12.13	Students Last Day

Term dates for 2014 – for students

Term 1	Wed 29 th Jan – Fri 11 th Apr for Yrs 1-6.
Kindergarten	begin on Monday 3 rd Feb
Term 2	Tues 29 th Apr – Fri 27 th June
Term 3	Tues 15 th July – Fri 19 th Sept
Term 4	Tuesday 7 th Oct – Wed 17 th Dec

Change of date for Volunteers Thank You morning tea. Due to industrial action that was held on Tuesday 3rd December, morning tea has been rescheduled to Tuesday 10th December.

Ryan Park will be at our assembly on Monday as we have been successful in receiving a \$2500 Environment Trust Grant for weed removal and biodiversity. Thanks to the Grounds and Environment P and C Sub committee for their submission.

K-2 assembly on Friday 6th December. All students need to be with their teachers by 4.45pm in pre-arranged clothes/costume. The concert will run for approximately 45 minutes. Please leave front area of hall for Balgownie students only. We are reserving the front row for the elderly. Seating will be tight and we expect lots of people to be standing.

School Leaders and Captains for 2014. Thanks to Mrs Burns, Mr Loxton and the team for organising the nominations for our leaders for next year. It is an honour to be nominated for a leadership position and good luck to all of you as the votes are being tallied.

The process includes:

- Stage Three students nominating candidates.
- Nominations accepted and announced to school.
- Speeches and voting was held on Monday 2nd December. Student ballot papers had candidate's photos on them to assist our younger children.
- Years 2 to 5 vote for the Leaders.
- The School Captains and leaders will be announced at Presentation Day, Week 10.
- SRC, Environment, IT and Sports Leaders will be chosen in February 2013.
- All badges will be given to students in the Leaders assembly in 2013.

Congratulations to the following students who have been nominated by their Stage 3 peers for the position of school leader in 2014.

Emily Balkwill
Molly Drain
Claudia Konza
Clancy Lowe
Tatiana Luzaic
Bella Rodgers
Ritchie Welsby
Max Whalan

Kate Critcher
Chloe Heyman
Rebekah Kohler
Teodora Zelkovic
Kelly Newman
Natannia Nikolovski
Mitchell Welsh

These students presented their candidate's speeches on Monday and they astounded us with their poise and confidence. They have a clear vision for the school and are prepared to work hard to achieve great things for all students. Our best wishes to them all.

There are many leadership responsibilities available next year as there are leadership positions per House, IT, Library and Environment Leaders as well as SRC positions. Our students will be working hard to uphold our reputation as a school which values learning, behaviour and caring for each other in school.

Email: balgownie-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

www.balgownie-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

P&C: www.balgowniepnc.com



LIVING AND LEARNING

Balgownie celebrates learning. We are giving four class awards for each class at Presentation Day, Wednesday 11th December. This is apart from the traditional whole school and sports awards. We want to celebrate learning and this is one of the many strategies that we are using to acknowledge academic excellence, improvement, citizenship and a teacher's choice award.

Of course, with only four awards per class, it can be a difficult decision for teachers and I know they spend a long time deliberating over which student that they believe to be the most deserving. Help your child learn from this experience, to celebrate with their friends (or themselves) if they are the student awarded with a certificate, and to be gracious and resilient if they do not get an award this time. Who knows what will happen next year?

School Reports are being finalised in the next two weeks and will be given on Monday 16th December. The teachers have worked hard, both individually and in teams to ensure consistency with each other and against syllabus standards. This is another time to celebrate the learning and progress that your children have made this year. If you have any questions about your child's report, please see your class teacher.

Effort ticks for reports are consistent across our school. When you are reading your child's report, the effort ratings for your child have been assessed using the following common understandings. Please keep this to discuss the effort ticks with your child when your reports come home.

Effort Rating for Reports

1. Minimal effort. Rarely completes work, even with encouragement.
2. Inconsistent effort. Does some work when encouraged or work is not of standard expected of the student's ability.
3. Completes required tasks to student's own ability at expected level most of the time.
4. Completes required tasks to student's own ability to expected level all of the time. May or may not complete extra work.
5. Completes tasks to expected level all the time. Does extra work and shows initiative.

Remember:

- Teachers plan teaching and learning programs using syllabuses developed by the Board of Studies.
- The syllabuses describe standards that apply across the state for each learning area.
- Your child's teacher uses their knowledge of syllabuses and knowledge of the children in their class to plan their teaching and learning programs.

- Teachers use their professional judgement, internal and external data gathering about each child's achievement against the statewide standards to award the grade.
- If your child has achieved a Sound on their report then he/she has achieved what is generally expected. If your child has achieved an Outstanding or High then he/she has achieved more than is generally expected. If your child has achieved a Basic or a Limited, then he or she has not yet achieved what is generally expected compared to other children of a similar age.

Classes in 2014. Currently we have 13 classes planned for 2014. Hopefully, we will maintain our school numbers and we will be starting next year with 13 classes and not 12 very full ones.

Thus, at the start of 2014, our students will be going back into their classes from this year for at least part of the first day, possibly a few days. By placing our students into their classes from this year, while we determine class numbers, hopefully will minimise changes that may need to be made to classes further into the term. Thank you in anticipation for your patience in this matter.

Three of our staff will be conducting the Best Start assessments with our new Kindergarten students for the first few days, and Kindergarten will start on Monday of Week 2.

'Textbooks' for 2014 the same as this year, we are asking for a \$20 levy per child to purchase Reading Eggs K-6 and School Magazines for 3-6. This is different to the voluntary contribution, as this is in place of traditional text books. All students are expected to pay this 'subscription levy.'

In 2014, our Year 3-6 classes will be receiving ten school magazines to help with reading different texts. We will be asking parents to pay for these at approximately \$15 per student for the whole year. After they have been used in class, the students will be able to take them home to use to practice their reading skills.

Our Kinder to Year 6 students will be accessing Reading Eggs and Reading Express 24/7 (the version of Reading Eggs for older students). This subscription if bought by individual families is over \$70 per student. We will be asking parents to pay approximately \$20 per student which will mean that they can access it at school and at home. This is the way of the future where traditional textbooks may not be the only way forward and that subscriptions to websites etc are a more engaging, interactive way to help students both at home and at school. More information about these costs, and our voluntary school contributions at the beginning of 2014.



LIVING AND LEARNING

Thank you to all who paid the voluntary school contribution. We had the biggest percentage of families paying yet and the money has gone towards ongoing costs to the school. The money donated to the school helps us to ensure that our school can continue to function and provide a quality education to our students.

Class Resource List for 2014 We are sending out a class resource list for next year, with your child's report. This is so you can take advantage of the sales etc to get those 'Back to School' items. We will also put this on the website and the Skoolbag app for you to refer to as needed.

Have a wonderful week.
Aloma Stewart

Congratulations to the following students who have demonstrated our values of *Respect, Responsibility* and *Real Learning* and earned themselves a wrist band! Well done!

Scarlett Ward	Emily Gonzalez O'Neill
Connor Finlay	Hannah Sproal
Joel Hammersley	Rebekah Kohler
Libby Churchill	Cooper McAndrew
Jaxon Stokes	Layla Anderson-Bull
Brysen Firth	Cameron Welsh
Brodie Hawes	Haleigh Tunstall
Nicole Issa	

And well done to the following students who achieved their PBS badge!

Liam Hamilton	Tyler King
Yasmin Baghdadi	Daniel Cohen
Natasha Trajcevski	Abby Spencer
Ruby Mulquin	Sky Rogers
Helena Halios-Lewis	Olivia Sheppard

Joke of the Week

Q: What did one plate say to the other plate?
A: Dinner's on me tonight!

Thought of the Week

As I hurtled through space, one thought kept crossing my mind – every part of this rocket was supplied by the lowest bidder.
~ John Glenn

LIBRARY STOCKTAKE

A reminder, that it is time to return all outstanding library items for our annual stocktake. Could all families please check at home for any books which need to be returned.

TALENT QUEST INFORMATION

Talent Quest information will be sent home with participants early next week.

CANTEEN ROSTER 2013 Week 10, Term 4

Day	Date	Name
Mon	9.12.13	Alison Knight Wendy Myers <i>Help needed for an hour</i>
Tues	10.12.13	Callie Heyman Rachael Quinn
Wed	11.12.13	<i>Canteen closed due to School Awards Assembly</i>
Thurs	12.12.13	Nazneen Nowsher <i>Help needed!</i> <i>Last day of Canteen</i>
Fri	13.12.13	CLOSED

P&C NEWS

Grounds & Environment Subcommittee

Our school has been successful in securing a **\$2500 Ecoschools grant** for environmental weed control and tree planting. A big thankyou to Emma McIntyre and team for putting the grant application together!

A **working bee** has been scheduled for Saturday, March 29, from 2pm-5pm to spruce up the grounds for the 125th anniversary celebrations the following week. Put the date in your 2014 diary and stay tuned for updates next year.

Recycle your old mobile phone: Please donate your old mobiles by placing them in the marked box in the library. We're a few short of reaching our next target of 30 phones. Money raised from this ongoing fundraiser is used for environmental initiatives at the school.

Thank You!

The P&C Fundraising committee would like to say a huge THANK YOU to our school community. We have been able to give our school money to purchase a great amount of resources thanks to your volunteering, attending or purchasing items in our fundraising efforts this year. We hope that you enjoyed all your

RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY AND REAL LEARNING



LIVING AND LEARNING

items/food/experiences and this is how you have helped our school:

Entertainment Books >\$1000 ... Bought Caterpillar bookshelves for the school library
Mother's & Father's Day stalls \$2000 ... Men's Shed equipment and Playground Story Wheel
Walkathon >\$5000 ... Purchased literacy resources for the school and library
Bunnings BBQ \$1300 ... Allocated to the new playground slides
Hot Cross Buns \$870 ... Allocated to the new playground slides
Pie Drive \$300 ... Allocated to the new playground slides
Trivia Night \$4800 ... Allocated to the new playground slides

END OF YEAR MUMS NIGHT OUT

We made it through another year and decided we Mums deserve a night out together.
Please join us at The Hideaway Cafe on Friday 13th December at 7.30pm and BYO.
Contact Delvene on 0411 286 361 to RSVP.

All welcome!

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop is open on
TUESDAY mornings from
8.30am each week.

80% OF PEOPLE WITH A PEANUT ALLERGY WILL HAVE IT ALL THEIR LIFE. BE SAFE CHECK THAT NUTS ARE NOT ON THE LIST OF INGREDIENTS IN FOOD SENT TO SCHOOL



**BE SAFE - BE A MATE
LEAVE PEANUT PRODUCTS AT HOME**

COMMUNITY NEWS

GO4FUN

FREE healthy lifestyle program for 7-13 year olds

Register now for Figtree's Term 1 program:

4-6pm every Monday and Thursday

3 Feb - 10 April

Figtree Community Hall, Princes Highway

Call 1800 780 900

SMS 0409 745 645 for a call back

Visit go4fun.com.au

(run by the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District)

BALGOWNIE FIRE BRIGADE

Christmas Lolly Drop will be on again this Christmas Eve. Santa along with his Fireman helpers will be driving around Balgownie and neighbouring suburbs, giving out lollies to the children - starting from 3pm.

myFamilyLaw

myFamilyLaw is a free family law app where you can submit your family law query to a real family lawyer in your State in Australia.

Also find information about divorce, property settlement, parenting arrangements, child support, family violence and your financial future. You can also use myFamilyLaw to find and connect with family law professionals, view inspiring motivational quotes and attend family activities listed in myFamilyLaw Events.

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