



THE BALLYBUZZ

LIVING & LEARNING

BALGOWNIE RD, BALGOWNIE NSW 2519

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WHAT'S ON?

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Thur 25.7.13 | Choral Festival rehearsal & evening performance 7.30pm |
| Mon 29.7.13 | Stg 3 Theatre Excursion IPAC |
| Tue 30.7.13 | Book Week celebrations |
| Wed 31.7.13 | ICAS English |
| Thu 1.8.13 | Whole School performance – Great Galaxies |

Thank you to all those families who have reviewed their children's uniforms and improved the details! The standards are improving and our students look much better. If you have not yet sat and spoken with your child about expectations of uniform and whether what they are wearing is part of our school uniform please do so. If finance is a concern, please make a time and come and see me.

Congratulations to Noah Bailey and Hayley Bannerman for achieving a place at Smiths Hill Selective High School. It is a wonderful achievement and we are very proud of you both.

Values Poles are in the process of being completed and they are looking sensational! A big thank you from me to Mrs Shum for her organization and drive, Mr Mac for his artistic flair and Mrs Birchall for being flexible and minding some extra children so that we could make sure that the poles are of an incredibly high quality! It is a bit tricky to get all students to put paint on one hand, (and nowhere else) and then print accurately on a pole.

The students and staff are really enjoying the process of seeing the garden emerge. All students spent last week celebrating NAIDOC and sharing the Yandelora story about peace. This garden will be a visual reminder about our history, about reconciliation and about the values that we actively teach our children.

Roadworks have begun on Balgownie Road and Ian Bruce Drive. When they have finished, it will mean that it is much safer for our families to cross the road and to access our school. Please be patient as it will become more disruptive in the next few days. It will be worth it in the long run!

24.7.13

TERM 3 – WEEK 2

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

Lachlan Neal
Joshua Spark
Ella Campbell
Gemma Foreman
Jay Penno
Teagan Myers
Sofia Sepulveda

Sam Rolfe - Sam also achieved his PBS badge after receiving all 3 wrist bands

Choral Festival 2012 Tomorrow night is a celebration of song at the 59th Annual Wollongong Schools Music Festival. Good luck to our singers and their conductor Mrs Lynch!

Celebrating Education and Book Week! Come and visit us and share in the extraordinary things that occur every day in our school.

Monday 29th July - Stage Three IPAC Theatre visit – My Giragundgi

Tuesday 30th July - Open Day

11am-11.50am Picnic Lunch – Bring your own picnic and share our playground with your children.

12-12.50pm Open Classrooms. All parents and carers are welcome to visit rooms and see our fabulous teachers and students in action.

1pm-1.50pm Book Week Parade in Hall. All children are welcome to dress as their favourite book character or as part of the theme "Read Across the Universe". Come and celebrate a love of literature!

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

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

P&C: www.balgowniepnc.com



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Wednesday ICAS English test

Thursday Whole school performance in the Hall – Great Galaxies.

Friday – Final Illawarra South East Region Teaching Awards which our wonderful Mrs Phillis will be receiving an individual award for excellence in teaching. We hope to see you here!

Surveys. While in the classrooms, you will be asked to complete the five minute survey for parent satisfaction and reviewing the findings from last year's surveys. We are trying to get as many responses as possible to find out what you think about our school.

In 2012, the school sought the opinions of parents and community about the school. Your responses are presented below.

From our survey, strengths that were identified were:

- Excellent teaching
- Approachable, caring, committed, knowledgeable staff
- Positive values and welfare programs
- Inclusive, welcoming sense of community
- Pride in the school grounds

From our survey, recommendations for improvement were:

- A greater variety of communication methods are needed.
- More information evenings to learn about various aspects of school life.

We have introduced a School App, and whiteboards in the playground as well as reviewing our notes, newsletters and our website. There have been 3 information evenings, one per term for ½ hour before the meeting. The topics covered so far have been school direction, antibullying and numeracy. This term, the topic will be technology.

If you can't attend on Tuesday, and would like to complete a survey, please contact the office after Tuesday. The results will be shared at a P and C meeting and used as one part of the evaluations for our school's future planning.

During Education week it is time to stop and reflect what Balgownie, as part of the Public Education System of NSW delivers every day to all students:

- **World class education programs.** The public education system sets the direction and standard for education across NSW for everyone.
- **Quality teaching.** Highly educated, skilled and dedicated workforce.
- **Responsive and flexible education.** Broad and relevant educational programs meeting student and community needs.
- **Values, care and citizenship.** Safe and nurturing learning environments that develop respect, understanding and responsibility. Public education provides a well-rounded education that values and supports the intellectual, creative, physical, social and emotional development of every child.
- **Choice and diversity.** A broad range of opportunities catering for individual needs and interests.
- **Opportunities for all.** Environments where all students, regardless of background, can realise their full potential.
- **Local and accountable.** Meets local needs and statewide standards.
- **Competitive.** By any standard our results are outstanding.

Balgownie Public is proud to be part of a system that plans and delivers quality education for every student in our school, both in the classroom and in the broader life of our school. Happy Education Week!!

Vocabulary development is a key skill to students' success and is one determinant of how well students will be able to comprehend the texts they read. A strong vocabulary aids in improving reading and writing. For primary school children, vocabulary games are an effective way to help build their vocabulary while having fun at the same time.

Developing vocabulary in children can be easier with the help of engaging activities and games that can be played at home. With any new skill, practice makes perfect, so be sure there are many opportunities for children to practice vocabulary. Engage children in other word-related activities such as *crosswords*, *word searches*, *fill-in-the-blanks*, *Boggle* and *Scrabble*.

For the next few weeks there will be a series of games in the newsletter that can be used with your children at home to build their vocabulary. There is a wonderful website for finding word lists for both children and adults called What is Vocabulary.com? Vocabulary.com combines an adaptive learning system (The Challenge) with the world's fastest dictionary (The Dictionary) so that



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you can more quickly and more efficiently learn words. I had some fun with 'The Challenge' when I was looking for some word list sites. Otherwise, start with your child's spelling words and see if you can build from there.

Game One – Brainstorm - On a large sheet of paper or drawing board, have your child write a vocabulary word and draw a circle around it. Set a thirty second timer and tell them to write down as many words as possible around the word. Encourage the student to write down anything that comes to mind and to write as fast as possible. When the timer goes off, discuss with your child why they wrote down specific words. Make comments about related words and explain how they are related. Similarly, note whether or not they wrote down antonyms or unrelated words and discuss those as well. At the end of the exercise, the student will have thought through and discussed the word on a deeper level than he/she might have otherwise. Maybe keep a chart of how many words they wrote each day to see if they improve.

Have a wonderful week.
Aloma Stewart

Thought of the Week

Our goal is for all of our students to maximise their life chances and choices. By families and the school working together we can make this happen.

Joke of the Week

What do young goats watch on TV?
Kids' programs

REMINDER

Please ensure that all notes and money envelopes handed into the office are clearly marked with your child's name and class. Thank you.

LIBRARY NEWS

Children's Book week 2013

This year we will be celebrating Book Week in Week 3 of Term 3. This coincides with Education Week so there will be lots of fun activities to look forward too! This year we are having a fancy dress parade and picnic lunch on **Tuesday the 30th July 2013**. The theme for Book Week is 'Read Across the Universe' so we will be asking

children to come dressed as either their favourite book character or as a character associated with the 'universe/space' theme. A coffee van and an ice-cream van will be on site at lunch time on the day of the parade. Many thanks, Mrs Birchall

BOOK CLUB REMINDER

Book Club money and orders are due back by Friday, 26th July. Please ensure that correct money is provided. Remember, if you place a phone or internet order to Scholastic, you will still need to put the order form through the school.

GREAT GALAXIES

Permission notes have been handed out to students for the Great Galaxies science show on Thursday 1st August. Please return the permission note with payment to the school office by Tuesday 30th July.

CANTEEN NEWS

New Canteen Menu

A revised canteen menu is available on the school website. Please note that the following hot amber food items are no longer available individually. They are only available as a meal or snack deal.

- Meat Pies
- Sausage Rolls
- Party Pies
- Chicken Wedges and Goujons
- Chicken Burgers (crumbed only)
- Chicken noodle cups
- Pizza singles

Commencing next week, if an individual item is ordered, an IOU will be given for the full meal deal price. This change has been made in response to recommendations by the Healthy Kids Association in our recent menu assessment.

PIE FUNDRAISER

A big thank you to all the families who supported our pie and cake fundraiser. With over 300 pies ordered, the P&C fundraising committee raised \$650 for the school. Special thanks to all the ladies who came in early on Tuesday to compile the orders ready for pick-up, your help was greatly appreciated! My family thoroughly enjoyed their pies for dinner last night and can't wait to have more next week. We hope you enjoy yours just as much, and all feedback is welcome.
Delvene Spencer



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CANTEEN ROSTER

2013 Week 3, Term 3

| Day | Date | Name |
|-------|---------|--|
| Mon | 29.7.13 | Hazel Merola Emma Kipps Alison McKillop |
| Tues | 30.7.13 | Mary Papakosmas Mandy Fanning Jo Mortimer |
| Wed | 31.7.13 | Joanne Welsh Nicole Prior-Sproal |
| Thurs | 1.8.13 | Sharyn Ross Sharren Eftting Help Needed |
| Fri | 2.8.13 | CLOSED |

Mobile phone recycling

Donate your unwanted old mobile phones and raise money for environmental initiatives at the school. Drop them into the marked box in the school library.

UNIFORM SHOP

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

P&C NEWS

Thanks to Delvene Spencer!

The Fundraising Committee would like to say a huge **THANK YOU** to Delvene Spencer for running the Pie Drive. We really appreciate your time and effort that has resulted in some yummy easy dinners for our families and some fabulous educational resources for our school!

Next meeting of the P&C

The next meeting of the P&C will be held at 7.15pm on Wednesday 14th August.

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**

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PAPER COPY OF BUZZ IS NOT REQUIRED

I **do not** require a paper copy of the Bally Buzz each week, as I am able to access this information through the Balgownie Public School Web site or Skoolbag App.

Student Name Class

Signed (Parent/Carer) Date



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