

The Bally Buzz

Balgownie Public School *Living & Learning*

W: www.balgownie-p.schools.nsw.edu.au T: 4284 4245 F: 4284 3462 E: balgownie-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Term 1 Week 8

Wednesday 19 March 2014

CALENDAR

Term 1

Wednesday	26 Mar	Stg 3 Assembly 2.15pm
Thursday	27 Mar	School Photo Day
Friday	28 Mar	Gym Sports catch up
Saturday	29 Mar	Working Bee 2-5pm
Monday	31 Mar	WHSPA auditions
Wednesday	2 Apr	World of Maths
Thursday	3 Apr	World of Maths
Friday	4 Apr	School History day
Sunday	6 Apr	BPS 125 th Anniversary
Monday	7 Apr	Cross Country Carnival
Wednesday	9 Apr	P&C Meeting 7.15pm
Thursday	10 Apr	Chess Challenge
Friday	11 Apr	Last Day of Term 1

Balgownie sporting legend continues with several students being selected in Brokers District teams. Congratulations to all of these students.

Netball: Claudia Konza, Lauren Myers and Rebekah Kohler

Rugby league: Curtis Heyman and Reece Penno

Soccer: Harry Drain, Josh Nikolovski and James Kipps.

Newsletter paperless in Term 2. The time has come to change the way we send our newsletter. From the beginning of Term Two, our newsletter and P and C newsletter will be paperless. You will need to access the newsletter each Wednesday either through the website or the Skoolbag app. There will be a small number of newsletters printed and available in the office.

I urge you to prepare for this change. The app is available for iphones, ipads, android smart phones and tablets through either Safari (Apple users) or Google Play for android users. Put in *Skoolbag Balgownie* and you will be directed to the correct app. Download it to your device and each week you will be sent a message when the newsletter is published. Notes regarding excursions etc will be published on paper as well as put on the electronic communications devices. This is because we need a paper copy for our records. Please let me know if you have any concerns.

Learning hub is developed The area in the corridor outside 3/4D and 3HR has been updated to provide a much more usable space with a sink for art and science activities and lino on the floor. This is complimenting the

support teacher's room which has been painted and carpeted to make it a more user friendly space. These upgrades of our historical building are fantastic for our students and staff.

Car park. In the mornings, some parents are dropping their children off in the school car parks, both on Brokers Rd and Chalmers St. This is a dangerous practice. Reversing at such a busy time, with little children around is hazardous as they are difficult to see and sometimes unpredictable. Do not drive into the Brokers school driveway at any time and only those who need to access the disabled carspace are permitted to drive into the Chalmers St carpark.

We want all of our Balgownie parents and students to be safe. It is up to all of us to care for students. We are all in a hurry to get to work or to pick our children up. We need to take care driving where we know that there are a number of children. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Wow! What a turnout for Grandparents Day, which celebrated the start of Seniors Week. Thanks to all who made this day special, the grandparents, the volunteers and the teachers who opened their classrooms to share how our children learn in 2014. What is also lovely is that when some of our students don't have a grandparent who is able to visit, other grandparents take the time to make them feel included. Thank you! It was a wonderful event where I could see the pride in our students as they showcased our school and the pride in the grandparents as they shared in the learning achievements of our students. Thanks to Mrs Lewis for her organization of the event. Well done!

Our new history syllabus is being implemented in 2016 and we are already beginning to plan its implementation. The interviews and discussion about school in the past that was generated on Monday was a real example of how history can be made relevant and exciting to our students. Who doesn't want to know about what school was like in 'the olden days?'

The discussion allowed students to see history as a living subject and that finding out about the past from primary sources such as interviews with people, viewing photographs or artifacts and then forming conclusions gives the opportunity to develop a lifelong interest in and enthusiasm for history.

Respect, Responsibility, Real Learning

Principal: Aloma Stewart PO Box 192 Fairy Meadow NSW 2519 P & C: www.balgowniepnc.com

There was also a great deal of interest in the museum which is unique to Balgownie Public School. Our school celebrates its 125th Anniversary on April 6th and our SRC are leading a history day on Friday April 4th where all students will be invited to dress up in clothing that would have been used 100 years ago and to participate in lessons about the past. Let's get those costumes ready!



Extract from the new syllabus.

Students become aware that history is all around us and that historical information may be drawn from the physical remains of the past as well as written, visual and oral sources of evidence.

It introduces the idea that History contains many stories and that there is never only one uncontested version. There are many differing perspectives within a nation's history, and historians may interpret events differently depending on their point of view and the sources they have used.

History encourages students to develop an understanding of significant historical concepts such as cause and effect, change and continuity, significance, empathy and contestability.

History as a discipline has its own methods and procedures. It is much more than the simple presentation of facts and dates from the past. History provides the skills for students to answer the question 'How do we know?' An investigation of an historical issue through a range of sources can stimulate curiosity and develop problem-solving, research and critical thinking skills.

It develops language specific to the discipline of History and provides opportunities to further develop literacy skills. Students learn to critically analyse and interpret sources of evidence in order to construct reasoned explanations and a rational and informed argument based on evidence, drawn from the remains of the past. Students engage in research involving traditional methods and ICT, including evaluating web-based sources and using a range of technologies for historical research and communication.

GRANDPARENTS DAY

On Monday, the 17th of March, all the grandparents came to see what their grandchildren were up to in class. Overall the day was extremely enjoyable, and was great to see lots of happy faces around the school. The grandparents got to have some nice quality time with their

grandchildren while touring around the school, looking in the museum and having a lovely picnic lunch in the back playground. Students also got to listen to entertaining stories from when the grandparents were younger.

Thank you all the wonderful grandparents for taking the time to come and watch your grandchildren in the class rooms, and getting to see our wonderful school. Everyone had a magnificent day thanks to all the grandparents!

Written by Claudia Konza and Molly Drain.



AGM of P and C was held on Wednesday last week. Thank you to the outgoing P and C executive for your support, wisdom and guidance during the past year. Thanks also to the new office bearers who have stepped up to keep our school support really strong.

Not only do community meet through the P and C but the volunteers at our school include extraordinary numbers doing jobs that need to be done. For example:

- 75 work in the canteen
- 70+ in working bee last year
- 90 at fete in 2012
- Over 10 in museum
- As well as the Grounds and Environment committee, changing reading books, helping in the classrooms, covering books, uniform shop, school starters playgroup, Year Six farewell, and fundraising.

Thank you to all of our parents, grandparents and community who help make this school the best it can be for our students. It is very much appreciated!

National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by all students in Years 3 and 5 at our school in the week beginning Tuesday 13th May. The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each child can do and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child's level of achievement. We will be sending out more information in the next few weeks. The assessments will be held across Australia on Tuesday 13th May Language Conventions and Writing Wednesday 14th May – Reading Thursday 15th May – Numeracy

Kindergarten enrolments We are lucky enough to have a list of applications for enrolments for

Kindergarten. It will be easier to make plans for 2015 if we know how many local enrolments we have. If you know of anyone, or are a parent of a child beginning school next year, please apply to enrol. We will be having an Open Day for prospective parents to promote what our school offers in June this year.

From the SRC (Student Representative Council)

This week SRC have asked the question, "What is your favourite subject?" and this is what they have said.

Alana KK: "I love playing with my friends"

Ashton KK: "I love writing the best".

Bethany 4T: "My favourite subject is art".

Laila 3/4D: "Really like the subject maths".

Jet 3/HR: "One of my favourite subjects is reading."

Charlotte 4/5M: "I have two favourite subjects and they are art and maths".

Bek 5/6B: "I put a lot of effort into art but my favourite subject is maths".

Bailey 6L: "Sport is my favourite subject".

Written by Chloe Heyman

Everyone belongs. Harmony Day is celebrated on 21 March each year. It celebrates the cohesive and inclusive nature of our nation and promotes the benefits of cultural diversity. The key message of Harmony Day is Everyone Belongs. It's about community participation, inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. At Balgownie School we have 29% of our students who come from houses that speak another language at home. Happy Harmony Day!

Annual School Report and School Plan are on the Skoolbag app and will be loaded onto the website before the end of the week. Please take time to read them to see what is occurring in your local school.

Have a wonderful week.

Aloma Stewart

Joke of the week

Q: Why did Cinderella get kicked off the cricket team?

A: Because she ran away from the ball.

Thought of the week

I dream that my children will one day live in a nation where they will be judged not by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character. - Martin Luther King

PLEASE RETURN IMMEDIATELY

A reminder to parents who recently received forms to update their child/rens **Anaphylaxis, Asthma or Allergy** information - please return these forms to the office immediately. It is a Department requirement that student medical information is updated annually and current

information also ensures that students receive the most appropriate care for their condition. If your child no longer suffers from asthma or an allergy, please notify the office in writing.

WORLD OF MATHS

2nd & 3rd April 2014

Numeracy is a compulsory component of our curriculum, and to make numeracy fun and relevant to our students, we have arranged for the *World of Maths* to visit our school. It is an exciting and educational presentation of hands-on, problem solving activities. The *World of Maths* is an ideal opportunity for students to see how maths is applied to real life situations.

Students will be engaged in hands-on activities that will cater for all ability levels and probe their problem solving skills. It is a highly engaging session which will show the students that Maths can be fun!

For more information and to view a video of a session in action, visit the World of Maths website: www.worldofmaths.com

There will be **NO COST** to parents / caregivers for student participation.

Congratulations to the following students who have demonstrated our values of **Respect, Responsibility** and **Real Learning**.

The students have earned themselves a wrist band. Well done!

Jacob 3HR	Michaela 1/2D	Blake 1A
Emily 5/6B	Holly 2S	Caden 3/4D

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

Jacob 3HR	Holly 2S
-----------	----------

STAGE 3 - CAMP

Point Wolstoncroft has been booked for 17/11/14 to 21/11/14. We are asking for a \$50.00 deposit so we can have an estimate of children who will be attending. This deposit will be included in the total camp costing.

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY - THURSDAY 27 MARCH

- Return your photo envelope on photo day. Your child will hand the envelope directly to the photographer.
- You can pay for all children in one envelope however each child needs to have their own envelope on photo day.
- Family envelopes are available at the school office.
- Please enclose correct money as no change is given. Cash, cheques and money orders.
- For any enquiries, please contact MSP Photography on 4261 3009.

ICAS TESTS - 2014

ICAS notes have been sent home with children today.

Respect, Responsibility, Real Learning

Please complete and return by 4th April 2014, if your child is participating.

STRAWBERRY PLANTING SUCCESS



The environmental leaders - Tallulah, Bella, Bailey, Anthony and Kelly, would like to say a big thank you to Bev and Ray Critcher and Vanessa Allen. Bev and Ray showed us to naturally and successfully plant delicious strawberries, which will later be enjoyed by our school. Bev and Ray brought us some big strawberry plants that have started to sprout smaller plants. They first showed us the composted

grass that Ray and Bev had made earlier. We used it to fertilise the new strawberry plants. Then Ray separated the strawberry plants and gave us each one to plant in our veggie garden. Vanessa also planted silver beets, spinaches and other vegetables with us. The day went successfully and was very enjoyable. The garden will soon be greatly underway and we hope you will all enjoy it as much as we have.

Tallulah and Bella

CANTEEN ROSTER

Week 9 Term 1

Day	Date	Name
Mon	24.3.14	Evelyn Knust Marion Payne
Tue	25.3.14	Barbara Picciolini Jodie McLaughlin
Wed	26.3.14	Nicky Kettley Ghada Sultan
Thur	27.3.14	Michelle Hodge Miekell McCreadie Sue Mulquin
Frid	28.3.14	Michelle Reid Matt Lynch HELP NEEDED

CANTEEN NEWS

More Volunteers Needed!

The canteen is thriving this year thanks to the wonderful volunteers we have on board. Unfortunately we have 5 volunteers leaving at the end of the term due to work commitments. We would like to thank you for all your hard work over the years and wish you well in your new adventures. This means we now need 5 more volunteers to step up starting next term. Otherwise we will have to have partial closures again and I would like to avoid this at all costs.

Please contact Delvene Spencer on 0411 286 361 or email ballycanteen@gmail.com if you are able to help for a few hours each month between 8.30am-12pm, even if you are only available from 8.30-9.15am to make mini-muffins and do the bread run, that is a massive help! Thanks again for everyone's commitment and dedication

to making our canteen yummy, fun and a happy place for our children!



UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Important Note: Girls Winter Tunics Not Available from Uniform Shop

Due to sizing issues, the uniform shop will **NOT** be providing girls winter tunics this year. These can be purchased from Crystal Bears at Corrimal. It is advisable to see Crystal Bears ASAP in case they need to make a tunic for you. The uniform shop does however have a small supply of second hand tunics.

P&C NEWS

THE P&C NEWSLETTER CAN BE VIEWED ON THE SKOOLBAG APP UNDER THE CATEGORY P&C

WORKING BEE - SATURDAY 29TH MARCH

We need all available helpers to help at the Working Bee on Saturday 29th March 2-5pm. This working bee is being held in preparation for the 125th Anniversary celebrations the following week.

Jobs to be done include:

- * General weeding and tidying;
- * Spreading mulch;
- * Make painted signs for vegie garden;
- * Fresh coat of paint for area outside canteen.

Please bring wheelbarrows, shovels, paint brushes, trays and rollers, drop sheets, gloves and hats. Green waste bags will be supplied and it would be appreciated if families could take filled bags home to empty into their green waste bins.

Afternoon tea will be provided.

Please ring Emma McIntyre on 0488 774 081 or email p.and.c@hotmail.com if you have any queries.

2014/2015 ENTERTAINMENT BOOK

The NEW Entertainment Book will be available at school on the last day of term, Friday 11th April. There

were over 100 families who purchased books last year and have enjoyed the savings and fun experiences using the fabulous vouchers available in their current books (still valid until June 1st and the new books are valid immediately). If you would like to continue getting huge discounts on your groceries, petrol, eating out and kids holiday activities then please buy the new book and support our school! It is the same price as last year, just \$55 and contains even more local restaurants, cafes, shopping and entertainment vouchers. Every book sold raises \$11 for our school.

This year there is the option of either the same book format OR digital membership (for iPhone or Android). Also, if you pay with the attached form (please drop it into the canteen slot) or online before April 10th then you will receive a code to access 6 of your choice from a list of bonus vouchers (including a voucher for the new Al Aseel in Fairy Meadow and the Outback Steakhouse). We will also be drawing 2 names randomly on the 11th April to win a bottle of wine to take to your first discounted dinner! For anyone who has not experienced the Entertainment Book previously, there will be opportunity to view copies next term before purchasing (however, any purchases after 10th April do not qualify for the bonus vouchers).

If you already love this book then please tell your friends and family as this will ultimately save them money and help our school at the same time!

Please see the link to Balgownie Public School's Entertainment Book payment page and further details on www.balgowniepnc.com

HOT CROSS BUN DRIVE

Order forms for our hot cross bun drive will be sent home next week. Our local Bakers Delight are offering several delicious options for you to choose from and our school will receive \$2.70 for every pack sold. All money raised will help with the construction of the fabulous playground equipment that is planned for our school grounds.

We are looking for volunteers to help count money 1 -2 mornings between 27th March and 7th April. If you're a person who comes up to the school to drop your child off in the morning you would be an ideal volunteer. Help will also be required to distribute the buns on the afternoon of Thursday 10th April. Please call Catherine James on 0405 262 267 or email p.and.c@hotmail.com.

SCHOOL STARTERS PLAYGROUP

It is that time of year again to start the preparations for playgroup.

The success of our school starters playgroup in previous years has not only been the great relationships between staff and parents at our school but to the dedication of an organising committee to ensure playgroup runs smoothly each week.

If you have a child starting Kindergarten in 2015 and would be interested in organising playgroup this year, we would love to hear from you. Please call Donna Guest 0447 790 619

LOST & FOUND

Lost in school grounds – silver ring. Please hand into office if found.

COMMUNITY NEWS



FERNHILL GUIDES

have limited vacancies available for girls 7-10yrs between 4-5:30pm and 10-14yrs between 5:30-7:30. At Fernhill Guide Hall 2 Douglas Rd Fernhill. If you wish to attend please book your place by ringing 'Wattle' on 42837297 or 0437230751

