

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 2 Week 8

Wednesday 18th June 2014

CALENDAR – TERM 2

Thur	19 June	Pizza orders due to Canteen
Frid	20 June	K-2 Athletics Carnival Pizza Day Boys' Touch 11:30 at Guest Park
Wed	25 June	Reports to parents Girls' Netball 1:00
Frid	27 June	Last day of Term 2
Tue	15 July	Students return for Term 3

School athletics. Thanks to the team for re-organising the carnival and to all the other teachers who are flexible and adaptable to ensure that all of our students get all the opportunities that we can provide. The students had a great afternoon last Friday doing the field events and are competing in the track events today.

The presentation of places will not occur next Monday but will be rescheduled.

Reports. It is that time of year again and I have been reading the reports. The teachers at this school continually impress me with their depth of understanding of the content and skills needed by our students and provide quality teaching to help the children learn. They really know our students both as people and as learners and their care and respect for them shines through. This highly professional team of teachers bring their individual and collective knowledge, skill and wisdom to their work of educating your children.

It has been a pleasure reading the reports which show how well the students in our school are progressing and the provision of teaching to meet their needs. If you would like to clarify any information in your child's report or have specific questions you would like to ask regarding your child's progress, speak with your child's teacher and arrange a time. The reports will go out to parents next Wednesday.

Balgownie values physical activity. We provide two hours physical activity for all students in our schools. Balgownie School has K-6 fitness for two half hour

sessions on Monday and Tuesday plus all classes take their children for sport for at least an hour per week. We also encourage activity at lunchtime by providing sport equipment for students to use to play and are active participants in knock out tournaments and carnivals. Obviously, if the weather is bad, this can disrupt our planned sporting activities!

Praise Phrases. Our school subscribes to Parenting Ideas by Michael Grose. He suggests focussing on one statement a day with our children, to praise and encourage them.

- You do a fantastic job of....
- You're really improving in....
- You can help me by....
- You're really trying super hard...
- I really appreciate the fact that you...
- You won't know unless you really try.
- I know you can do this. Don't give up!
- It's great to see you love doing....
- Super effort! I love that you are trying so hard.
- So, you made a mistake. What can you do differently next time?
- I know you can figure this out yourself. You know where I am if you need me.

STAGE 1 EXCURSION TO WOLLONGONG BOTANIC GARDENS

On Monday 16th June, Stage 1 attended a wonderful excursion to the Botanic Gardens. This excursion complemented our classroom teaching and learning in Science and HSIE. We participated in a range of exciting activities including, searching for mini beasts of the land, a habitat walk, shelter building and learning about protecting our habitats. Every child was beautifully behaved and everyone had a fantastic day.

Stage 1 Teachers

STAGE 2 CHORAL FESTIVAL REHEARSAL

On Tuesday 17th June, Stage 2 Choir members attended a cluster rehearsal in preparation for our Choral Festival in Week 3, Term 3. As usual, Balgownie students were wonderful in both singing and behaviour. Kalia Spencer was also chosen to perform as a soloist in one of our songs, 'Ordinary Miracle'. I am sure Kalia and all of the Balgownie students will represent Balgownie Public School very well.

Mrs Lynch

Respect, Responsibility, Real Learning

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

K-2 ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

On Friday our Infants Athletics Carnival will be run on the back oval. The event will begin with the age races before the students participate in rotating tabloid activities. The aim of the day is to encourage fun and participation. Parents, families and friends are invited to attend as spectators. After the event, families may like to stay and share recess with the children. Starting time 12:15pm.

PSSA BASKETBALL

Last Thursday, another exciting game of Balgownie basketball was played out at the Sankepit when our senior girls took on Keiraville Public. All girls worked as a team, with great communication, defence and some spectacular shots dropping in. In a high scoring event, three quarter time arrived with the scores all locked up at 28 all. In the final quarter, Keiraville's experience shone through with the eventual result 45-35 Keiraville's way. Congratulations to all involved. Every girl represented the school proudly, showing respect and having a lot of fun. Thanks goes to parents who assisted with transport and scoring duties. Please ensure all singlets are washed and returned to school.

Congratulations to Chloe Heyman who recently competed in the Wollongong Eisteddfod and came first in the "Country Music Solo 12yrs and under" section. Well done.

Have a great week.

Aloma Stewart

Thought of the week

Find the good. It is all around you. Find it. Show it to others, and you'll start believing in it. -Jesse Owens.

Joke of the week

Q: Why does it get hot after a soccer game?
A: *Because all the fans have left!*

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!

Gemma K 1S Amelia B 1S

And well done to the following student who achieved the PBS Badge:

Lucas C 1S

CANTEEN NEWS

DONT FORGET Pizza Day Friday. The canteen will be closed for all other orders and counter service. Please get your order for pizza meal deals to the canteen by Thursday. Orders received on Friday will not be able to be filled.

HELP NEEDED

If you think you can help with roster coordination or stock management we need your help. Please contact Faye (0401520632) | ballycanteen@gmail.com



CANTEEN ROSTER

Week 9 Term 2

Monday 23 June	Cindy Burton-Woods Marion Payne
Tuesday 24 June	Jodie McLaughlin Barbara Picciolini
Wednesday 25 June	Hazel Merola Nicky Kettley
Thursday 26 June	Miekell McCreadie Sue Mulquin
Friday 27 June	Michelle Reid Sharyn Ross

UNIFORM SHOP NOW OPEN

<http://balgowniepnc.com/uniforms>

Have the ease of paying via Credit Card, PayPal, Direct Deposit or even Cash* or Cheque*.

No more queues... Just order online, choose one easy payment method and deliveries are made every week to you nominated child's classroom.

For further enquiries or appointments please email uniformshop@balgowniepnc.com

**Cash or cheque payments are to be made through the canteen slot in a sealed envelope with your order number.*

P&C

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

We are still selling the Entertainment Books, please order at www.balgowniepnc.com

Some example savings are buy 1 ticket and get 1 free at Merrigong shows; buy a main meal and get one free at Towradgi Beach Hotel; 25% off Winter 3 day lift pass at Thredbo for 4 people. You will save money and the school is currently going to receive over \$700 for your efforts in sharing this fundraiser with friends and family - thankyou.

And a very big THANKYOU to Suz McAndrew for coordinating this valuable fundraiser.

FETE NEWS.....

Fete volunteer request letters were sent home last week. If you feel you are able to commit to any of the tasks or roles please complete the form and return to the canteen slot by the end of term. We have an amazing team of wonderful volunteers working to organize our fete. It is very exciting what we have in store for October 18th!

But many hands make for light work and we would love it if you had some time to spare. Look out for fete coordinators before and after school this week. Show bags are available for preorder for one more week! You can pre-order and pay for your show bags online!

Just visit <http://balgowniepnc.com/fete/> and follow these steps:

1. click on showbags on the top of your screen
2. click on the showbag image to open up a complete list of available showbags and their contents
3. select desired showbags by using the add more tab and then click checkout when you are finished
4. check your order is correct, fill in your child's name and class and click continue
5. then select pay pal or credit card fill in your details and email and complete your purchase!

Paper copies are available from the front office for cash orders.

Show bags will be delivered in the week before our fete and distributed on fete day from a designated stall/area. In the week leading up to the fete, families will receive a letter of confirmation and where they can collect their show bags from on the day. Please be aware that we will only have a very limited number and variety of show bags available to purchase on the day so don't be disappointed and order your show bags early.

CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER!

Chocolates have arrived. Thank you for your efforts to sell these chocolates and contribute to our new playground fund! Full payment of \$50 can be made online <http://balgowniepnc.com/ourschool/fundraising/> or every morning we will have volunteers available to collect your chocolate money and/or unsold chocolates or provide you with another box to sell! We will be located in front of the canteen. All money is due back Friday 18th July.

Help Wanted!!!

If you are available to help with the collection of chocolate money before school on any given day until 18th July please let Catherine James know (0405 262 267) or at p.and.c@hotmail.com.

APPLE FOR THE TEACHER WAVE FM

Travis and Emma from Wave FM's Hot Breakfast are on the search for the Illawarra's favourite school teacher. Yes, Wave FM's Apple for the Teacher is back! And this year it's bigger ... with the winning teacher and every kid in their class scoring Apple iPad Mini's!

Students and parents – Do you have a great teacher at your school? Nominate now on the website below. Teachers, you can nominate yourself too... in fact, maybe check with the principal and see if you can get every teacher at the school nominated.

Wave FM's Apple for the Teacher is all thanks to Domayne Computers, Warrawong - the home of Apple & The Illawarra Credit Union.

Apple For The Teacher - Registrations are open on WAVE FM's Website.

HAVE YOU PURCHASED A NEW MOBILE PHONE RECENTLY?

Is your old phone lying around collecting dust? Why not turn it into something useful? We are running an ongoing mobile phone recycling fundraiser. Simply take your mobile to the box in the library! Thank you to everyone

who recycled their phone last year. All money raised will be put towards environmental initiatives for the school.

NETBALL

In the July School Holidays Netball NSW will be holding a Holiday Clinic at the Shoalhaven Netball Association.

If there are any questions with regards to the clinic please do not hesitate to contact me on 6299 4491 or 0420 960 886.



We offer **FREE** Saturday morning Go4Fun programs to students and their families for term 3. The program is fun and interactive with lots of games and activities to keep children active and at the same time boost their self esteem. This program is run and funded by the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District. **Call 1800 780 900, SMS 0409 745 645 for a call back or visit go4fun.com.au**



Parenting *ideas* INSIGHTS

Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Michael Grose

Reading your child's report

Reports can mean anxious times for children. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children.

Could try harder . . . always does her best . . . lacks concentration . . . easily distracted . . . a pleasure to teach . . . Do these comments, taken from a batch of student reports sound familiar?

Student reports bring mixed feelings for parents. Pleasure and pride if they are performing well but considerable angst when children are not progressing as you hoped.

Reports can mean anxious times for children too. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children. Kids of all ages take their cues from their parents, so your reaction to their school report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people.

Before you rip open the sealed envelope containing the report do a little self-check to see if you are in the right frame of mind:

1 Are your expectations for your son or daughter realistic and in line with their ability?

Expectations are tricky. If they are too high then kids can be turned off learning. Too low and there is nothing to strive for. Pitch your expectations in line with your child's abilities. A quick check of your child's last report cards may provide you with a good yardstick.

2 Do you believe that children learn at different rates?

There are slow bloomers, late developers and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom, so avoid comparing your child to siblings, your friends' children and even yourself when you were a child. Instead look for individual progress.

3 Are you willing to safeguard your child's self-esteem rather than deflate it?

Self-confidence is a pre-requisite for learning, so be prepared to be as positive and encouraging as possible. School reports come in different formats. Some are prescriptive while some use grading systems such as A, B, C, etc. with room for teacher comments. Regardless of the format school reports should provide you with an idea of your child's progress in all subject areas, their attitude and social development.

Here are some ideas to consider when you open your child's report:

Focus on strengths Do you look for strengths or weaknesses first? The challenge is to focus on strengths even if they are not in the traditional 3Rs or core subjects.

Take into account your child's effort and attitude to learning. If the report indicates that effort is below standard, then you have something to work on. If your child is putting

in the required effort, then you cannot ask any more than that, regardless of the grading.

Broaden your focus away from academic performance to form a picture of your child's progress as a member of a social setting. How your child gets along with his or her peers will influence his happiness and well-being, as well as give an indicator to his future. The skills of independence and co-operation are highly valued by employers so don't dismiss these as unimportant.

Take note of student self-assessment

Kids are generally very honest and will give a realistic assessment of their progress. They are generally very perceptive so take note of their opinions.

Discuss the report with your son or daughter talking about strengths first before looking at areas that need improvement. Ask for their opinion about how they performed and discuss their concerns.

After reports are read and discussed celebrate your child's efforts with a special activity or treat. In this way you will recognise progress and remind them that the holidays are just around the corner when they can forget about assessment, tests and reports for a while.



Stay one step ahead of your kids with great ideas & expert advice from Michael Grose. Join Michael's **NEW Parentingideas Club** today at parentingideasclub.com.au. You'll be so glad you did.



parentingideas.com.au

