

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 3 Week 9

Wednesday 10th September 2014

CALENDAR – TERM 3

Wed	10 Sept	6.45pm Maths Focus Group and 7.15pm P & C meeting. All welcome.
Frid	12 Sept	Brokers Gala Day – Stage 2 & 3
Sat	13 Sept	School Working Bee 1pm - 4pm
Thur	18 Sept	Stage 2 Assembly 2.15pm in Hall
Frid	19 Sept	SRC Mufti Day – Footy Colours World Vision Child Sponsorship fundraiser
Tue	7 Oct	Term 4 begins

School Working Bee A Working Bee will be held this Saturday 13th September 1pm - 4pm to help tidy up the school grounds in preparation for the fete. The main tasks will be weed removal, panting of some ground cover species along the western boundary, general garden tidy and painting art work outside the school canteen.

Many hands make light work so please come along and help. Bring your garden gloves, hats, sunscreen, and garden tools. Afternoon tea will be provided.

Sound Naplan results for Year 3 and 5 students. In May, students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 completed the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy. The 2014 NAPLAN test results were released and reports to parents and caregivers were distributed last week. Well done to all of our students who have done their best in this important assessment.

At school, we can use the results to assist us to understand where we have done well and which areas we need to focus on to continually improve our teaching and learning programs to benefit our students.

Sometimes in the public arena, external testing results such as NAPLAN are the method on which a school is judged. Scores matter, but they are the indication not the definition of a good education. We are always striving to improve our results, not because of the publicity, but because we can use the information from them to help our students to be the best they possibly can. If you have any

questions about your child's results, please see their class teacher or the Assistant Principals; Mrs Hockey, Mr McGoldrick (Stage 2) or Mr Loxton (Stage 3).

Focus group discussion about maths is happening next Wednesday at 6.45pm. This is the re-scheduled discussion from the cancelled P and C meeting. Everyone is welcome to this event. The P and C meeting will follow this at 7.15pm.

What is PBS? Positive Behaviour for Success.

All schools and families want their children to be happy confident individuals who contribute well to society. We have a consistent approach to our students to try to build the skills needed to make good choices in behaviour and learning and to accept responsibility if required.

Positive Behaviour for Success (PBS)

1. PBS is a whole school approach to enhance the capacity of schools to teach and succeed with all students. This is done through a school-wide management framework which:
 - clearly defines *outcomes* that relate to academic and social behaviour.
 - has clear, consistent, durable *systems* that support the work of staff.
 - *has effective efficient teaching practices* that support student success.
 - *uses relevant school data* to guide decision making.
2. PBS is a process for developing whole school and individualised approaches to promoting *positive behaviour* to maximise learning engagement. PBS involves sustained planning, decision making, problem solving and the implementation of school wide PBS elements.
3. PBS has a teaching focus where emphasis is placed on teaching behaviour expectations explicitly to maximise academic engagement and success. Staff teach skills to remediate behaviour errors before resorting to punishment.
4. It is based on empirically sound practices and significant research that is reliable, easily accessible, and can be used to design, modify or maintain school wide PBS.
5. PBS works to enhance the skills and knowledge of teachers about effective systems and teaching practice

Respect, Responsibility, Real Learning

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

to maximise positive behaviour and increase learning engagement.

PBS is a whole school approach based on our school values of Respect, Responsibility and Real Learning. Our discussions with students are based on these three core values both in the classroom and in the playground. This is reinforced by the signs you will see around the school about expected behaviours.

Our school has used this framework for a number of years with success. It is being constantly reviewed and monitored to help students grow and make good choices about their behaviours.

The secret to confident kids by Michael Grose

The first habit from Stephen Covey's wonderful book "The 7 habits of highly effective people" states that we should start every project or undertaking with the end in mind. This principle holds true for any activity whether it's planting your vegie patch; renovating a house or raising children. When you know what you are trying to achieve then choosing the right strategies becomes easy.

The end game or goal for parents and teachers is Redundancy. Yep, you read it right. Your job is to make yourself redundant as an adult from the children you raise and teach at the earliest possible age. It always has been and always should be.

When redundancy is your aim most of your time, effort and energy will go into promoting independence. You'll stop doing things for kids and start giving them opportunities to do things themselves. You'll spend most of your active parenting and teaching time teaching, explaining and prodding your child toward independence.

Independence leads to the 4 C's

When independence becomes your priority then suddenly you've found a pathway to the development of other positive qualities and traits in your children including the key four - confidence, competence, creativity and character. Here's how:

- Confidence comes from facing your fears and doing things for yourself.
- Competence comes from the opportunity to develop self-mastery that independence offers.
- Creativity is developed when kids solve problems themselves as opposed to someone solving them on their behalf, or worse, keeping kids safe. It's amazing how resourceful kids can be when they are given the chance to resolve their own problems.
- Character, which is essential for success, is forged under hardship and is needed if kids are to live a sturdy life. Kids need to be exposed to disappointment, failure and conflict if character strengths such as grit and perseverance are to be forged.

Independence takes many forms

Adults are the gatekeepers for children's independence. And of course, independence takes many guises. On a basic level it's about developing children's autonomy. Without realising it, many adults make choices on their

children's behalf. Kids build self-confidence when they do things for themselves, and make their own decisions.

Independence is built when children spend time in unpredictable circumstances and environments such as the bush, and also have the opportunity to navigate their neighbourhoods on their own. There may be some risk involved but that is where the learning lay. Eliminate the risk and you eliminate the learning.

Allowing kids to follow their own impulses even if they are different to yours is the key to gaining independence. This may mean that children choose healthy interests and pursuits that adults are unfamiliar with, or even swim against the tide of their parents' wishes.

Allowing kids to take responsibility and own their own problems builds confidence and competence. Start by expecting kids to help out at home and at school. Look for ways to develop self-help skills and don't take their problems on as your problems.

Manage visually When your end game is redundancy and your priority is independence building then managing your kids in a visual way becomes your most obvious strategy. Management by mouth is a dependency strategy so talk less, use signs, lists and rosters backed up consequences to develop independence and responsibility in your children.

Create junior versions of independence It can be scary and also difficult developing independence in one big step. So smart adults intuitively develop junior versions of independence by breaking up big activities into digestible bits. Want your three year old to make the bed? Then start by arranging the teddies and the pillows (a junior version of making the bed) and let them work their way up from there. Similarly, want your five year old to walk to school yet it's currently out of his skillset? Then accompany him most of the way and let him walk the last 200 metres to school on his own. That's a junior version of walking to school.

In all the noise and commotion about raising kids today it's easy to forget that the job description for parents hasn't changed since the dawn of time. Love them, bond with them, teach them and spend time with them. But also work like mad to develop their real independence so they become capable of handling what life will throw their way.

Have a great week!

Aloma Stewart

Joke of the week

Q: Why did the watch stop?

A: He was running fast all week.

Thought of the week

If you love what you do, you'll never work a day in your life. Marc Anthony

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

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

Elle Y KS	Will N 3HR	Bryce P KK
Gemma K 1S	Gabriela L 1S	Katie-Ann C KK
Kirsten J KK	Hamish K 2S	Tien B 2S
Ella P 1A	Jenna B KS	Chelsea M 5/6B
Hanna R 4/5M		

And well done to the following students who achieved the PBS Badge.

Casey B 5/6B	Ella G 2S	Maddy R 2S
Zac V 2S		



BPS Switch off the TV/ Switch on your MIND

Thank you to the families and students who made the effort to turn off the TV each night during Literacy and Numeracy Week (in Week 7).

The data in the below table

shows our whole school progress and the clear popularity of this initiative.

I hope that all involved enjoyed this positive experiment.

Home Survey Results

I turned off the TV for:

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
More than one hour	57%	48%	57%	57%	57%
One hour	9%	20%	9%	8%	7%
Half an hour	13%	9%	12%	14%	15%
I didn't turn off the TV	21%	23%	22%	21%	21%

UPDATE ACTION PLANS

Student **asthma, anaphylaxis and allergy** action plans are currently being reviewed. If your child's action plan is out of date, they will be given a letter requesting an updated action plan from their Doctor. If your child no longer requires the school to monitor and administer medication, could you please sign the letter and return it to the office.

CANTEEN NEWS

The canteen has had an increase in closures due to a shortage of volunteers. We are currently seeking 6 new volunteers and 3 positions within the canteen committee. All new volunteers will be supported in learning the ropes of whatever role you take on. Your commitment can be as

little as a few hours a month, and including holidays not every month in a calendar year!

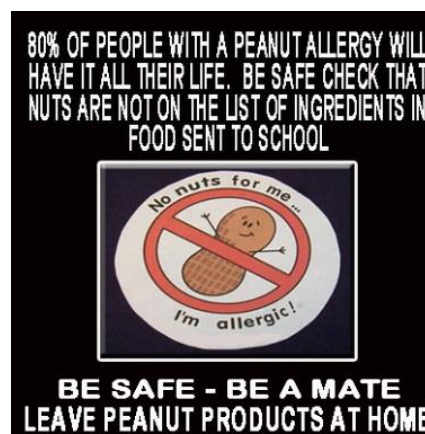
If you are able to volunteer any amount of time, please let Faye or anyone on the canteen sub committee know (0401520632 | ballycanteen@gmail.com).

Without a boost to volunteers we will be forced to reduce our days of opening.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CANTEEN IS CLOSED FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS WEEK (Wk 9)

CANTEEN ROSTER TERM 3 - WEEK 10

MOND	15/9/14	Kim Mercieca Faye Southcombe
TUES	16/9/14	Merek Deacon Martha Newman
WED	17/9/14	Sam Halmay Ljuba Rodic
THUR	18/9/14	Corina Firpo Megan Hammersley Kate Smith
FRID	19/9/14	Julie Neal Gayle Galvin Shelly Lavery



P & C NEWS

MILK BOTTLES

Julie Gallan is collecting "worm wee" from our school worm farm to sell at our school fete. Julie needs 2 litre milk bottles to collect the worm wee. Please bring clean empty 2 litre milk bottles to school, and place them near the worm farm for Julie to use. Thank you!

MUFTI DAY - DONATE A PLANT!

Friday 17th October will be a mufti day, and all students are asked to bring a plant to school to be donated to the school fete. More information will be provided soon on the types of plants that sell well, based on our last fete!

P & C MEETING TONIGHT

Please come along tonight to the P&C meeting. The meeting starts at 7.15, with Mrs Stewart presenting a maths focus group at 6.45.

Agenda:

- 1 Attendance
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Minutes of Previous meeting
- 4 Business arising from previous minutes
- 5 Reports
 - Principal's
 - President's
 - Treasurer's
 - Secretary's report
 - Fundraising
 - Uniform shop
 - Grounds & Environment
 - Canteen
 - Grants
 - Museum
- 6 General Business
 - Closing of school gates during school hours
 - Canteen
- 7 Next Meeting – 8 October 2014
- 8 Meeting close

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.*

COMMUNITY NEWS**BALGOWNIE VILLAGE COMMUNITY CENTRE****Annual General Meeting**

Please join us on **Wednesday 17 September 2014, 7pm** in CWA Room (building at rear of main hall and accessed from western gate) 113 Balgownie Rd, Balgownie.

Once a year we come together to find out what's been happening as well as what is planned for Balgownie Village Community Centre. There is no expectation to join the management committee however we always welcome newcomers. For further information please phone the office on 42853225.

NORTH WOLLONGONG SANDPIPERS

We're inviting all kids aged 5 – 13 years (as at October 1st 2014) who would like to have some fun in the sun, meet new friends and learn some surf safety and surf skills, to come along and join the North Wollongong Surf Club Nippers at the Illawarra's premier beach.

We're holding registration days at the surf club on:

Sunday September 21st: 10am – 12pm

Sunday September 28th: 10am – 12pm.

New child members are required to bring their birth certificate along to registration for age verification. For further information please refer to our website:

www.nwslsc.com.au

See you on the beach!

WONDER IN ALICELAND

"The Arcadians Children's Theatre presents "Wonder In Aliceland". Come and disappear down the rabbit hole with this fun show at the Miner's Lamp Theatre to delight everyone! 19-21 September - Fri/Sat 7pm, Sat/Sun 2pm - tickets available at www.arcadians.org.au - \$15/\$10 - Don't miss out!"

JUNIOR WATER POLO PROGRAM

We are gauging community interest for a **Junior Water Polo program** to run this Summer. We currently run a successful adult competition all year round and with help from parents would like to form a committee to run junior competitions and coaching. We encourage Parents and Students to attend our AGM on 20th September or contact us at info@illwp.com to express their interest in volunteering. The Illawarra Water Polo AGM will be held on 20th September 2014 at the Wollongong City Library Theatre.

For more information on Water Polo please visit

<http://www.waterpoloaustralia.com.au/get-involved/join-a-club/>

ILLAWARRA SPANISH LATIN AMERICAN FESTIVAL

SALCO invites you to the Mowbray Lane Outdoor Fiesta **Saturday 27 September 2014**

1.00 - 5.00pm

Mowbray Lane, Warrawong (next to Gala Cinema)

www.islaf.org.au 42 953493

TOWRADGI JUNIOR SLSC NIPPERS REGISTRATION DAYS

We are a family friendly club and would love any new members to join.

Sat 13th Sept and Sun 14th Sept 12noon - 4pm at

Towradgi surf club, Towradgi Beach

Pool proficiency swim for U8's and above, being held Sun 14th Sept 1pm-3pm at Northern Stars Swim School, 9

Watts Lane, Bellambi

Check out our facebook page for the latest news -

www.facebook.com/towradginippers or ph Bec McCarthy 0439730460