

The Bally Buzz

Balgownie Public School

Living & Learning

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Term 4 Week 8

Wednesday 25 November 2015

CALENDAR – TERM 4

Thur	26 Nov	School Starters Final Playgroup 9.15am
Tue	1 Dec	Balgownie Public School Helpers Thank You Breakfast 8.30am - 9.30am in Hall
Thur	3 Dec	K-2 Concert 5.45pm
Mon	7 Dec	Presentation Day 9.15am
Wed	9 Dec	Yr6 Graduation 9.15am & Morning Tea
	9 Dec	P&C Meeting 7.15pm
Thur	10 Dec	Yr6 Farewell
Mon	14 Dec	Student Reports to Parents
Wed	16 Dec	Students Last Day

Helper breakfast next Tuesday 1 December. One of the joys of working at Balgownie Public is the amount of volunteers and quality of involvement of parents and community. As we know that there are so many helpers in our school, we are worried that we might inadvertently miss someone. If you have helped our school in any way this year, you are warmly invited to the helper morning tea next Tuesday at 8.30am. If you could RSVP by Thursday 26 November for catering purposes that would much appreciated.

Staffing Through the merit selection process, Monique Crotty-Moore has attained the permanent teaching position here at our school. Ms Crotty-Moore is currently teaching at Tarrawanna and has also worked recently at Coniston Public. We welcome her to the team and she will begin at our school in 2016.

Classes for 2016 We have possibly the biggest enrolment in recent history in Balgownie in 2016. There will be currently fourteen classes and the number is hovering around 350 students. Our draft planning includes two kindergarten classes and then multi age based classes for the rest including a 2/3 and a 4/5. All this is subject to change as our numbers fluctuate at this busy time of year.

If you are planning on leaving or know if someone is planning on starting at our school, it is helpful for us to

know as soon as possible. Thank you for your understanding.

School Leaders and Captains for 2016. It was an absolute pleasure to listen to the fine young people who spoke so well last Thursday. The speeches were confidently delivered and contained interesting information about the candidates and what they could offer our school as a leader. Thanks to Mrs Burns, Mr Loxton and the team for organising the important and highly regarded positions as school leaders for Balgownie Public. 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 School leaders will be announced at Presentation Day, Week 10. SRC, Environment, IT and Sports Leaders will be chosen in February 2016. All badges will be given to students in the Leaders assembly in 2016.

Fence and banner For the next few weeks, our school is part of a RMS safety program and are promoting our 'Kiss and Drop zone' on Balgownie Rd. This is a place to safely drop your children where they can walk into school without crossing the road. You can also pick them up from there in the afternoon. IT IS NOT A PARKING ZONE. If you are waiting for your children in this area in the afternoon, you are breaking the law.

I also ask that as you drive off in the morning particularly, that you are careful of the crossing in front of you. Some parents are driving off and watching their children walking into school, which is putting other students at risk. None of us would want to be responsible for hurting a child so let's look after our children.

Highway patrol are currently working around our school, targeting inappropriate parking and driving.

Just another safety message. If your child is riding a bike, scooter or skateboard to school, they need to walk their bike/scooter/skateboard at all times in the school grounds. This is for the safety of others. Please speak to your children about this matter. Thanks.



Respect, Responsibility, Real Learning

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

External Validation a success. Our school has been part of a pilot for being 'externally validated' by a panel. The panel used evidence of our achievements in 2015 to ascertain if our evaluations and use of current data is accurate. This is an extremely rigorous process where we had to provide written evidence and annotations prior to the two hour meeting last Wednesday. The results of the validation process were very positive and confirmed our understanding of our school.

Our school is continuing to improve to provide rich, high quality learning experiences for all of our students. We know what we are doing well, and what we need to change to become even better.

Thanks to the Executive team of Jill Hockey, Sarah Steele, Terry McGoldrick and Martin Loxton for their professional approach and high level synthesis of information to ensure that our future directions are based on our evidence and the needs of our students in a rapidly changing world. They are leading our school in the right direction!

Our school achievements will be summarised in the following weeks in the newsletter and will also be published in our Annual School Report in 2015. This will be available on the website and Skoolbag app in the near future.

Have a great week!

Aloma Stewart

Joke of week

Q: What musical instrument is found in the bathroom?

A: A tuba toothpaste.

Thought of the Week

Happiness is not the absence of problems, it's the ability to deal with them." ~ Steve Maraboli



BALGOWNIE PS K-2 CONCERT

Balgownie Public School wishes to welcome all families and friends to our end of year K-2 Concert.

It will be held on **Thursday 3 December 2015** in the school hall. ALL children are to meet at their classrooms at 5.45pm. The concert will begin at 6.00pm to approx. 7.30pm.



BPS GIVING TREE

Every year thousands of children do not experience an enjoyable Christmas. This year you can make a difference to a child's Christmas by brightening their day with a gift.

Please donate to the annual Shellharbour Giving Tree. Buy a gift for a child aged 0-18 and bring it to school, **unwrapped**, and place it under the Christmas tree in the

front office. All gifts will be donated to local children, through The Salvation Army.

Thank you for your support and making a difference!

HEAD LICE

The school has been informed of several cases of students with head lice in recent weeks.

Please check your child's hair for head lice tonight and any signs of eggs. If you find any eggs or lice please commence treatment immediately. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Further information on head lice is available on the NSW Health website and the NSW Department of Education websites at

- <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/headlice/treatment/index.html>
- <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentsupport/studenthealth/conditions/headlice/index.php>

LIBRARY NEWS

THANK YOU

A big thank you to all of the volunteers who have recently assisted us in covering a large volume of newly acquired reading resources for our school. Your assistance is always greatly appreciated.

LIBRARY STOCKTAKE

The library is currently preparing to undertake its annual stocktake of resources. Could you please assist your children to search for any library items that may still be at home and return them throughout the coming week. Official stocktake will commence Monday Week 9, 30 November.

CANTEEN NEWS

Thanks to two wonderful volunteers the canteen will now be OPEN on Thursday 26 November 2015 – Thank you!

Only two and a half weeks of canteen to go!! Canteen will be closed for lunch orders on the 14th, 15th and 16th of December as we take care of the end of year cleaning, so last day for full canteen service is Friday 11 December. As the year winds down some items will go out of stock. This week we are out of tandoori chicken and we won't order more until the New Year. Apologies to those children who enjoy our tandoori chicken, thank you for your understanding and I hope you can choose another item to enjoy instead.

CANTEEN ROSTER FOR TERM 4 WEEK 9

Thank you to the generous volunteers who donate their time to keep our canteen open. Please consider joining our volunteer team to keep our canteen open every day. Next week's volunteers are:

Mon 30 November	Faye Southcombe Sue Mulquin
Tues 1 December	Marissa Bull Sue Mulquin
Wed 2 December	CANTEEN CLOSED UNLESS VOLUNTEERS FOUND

Thurs 3 December	Chantal Sproates Tanya Vlietstra
Friday 4 December	Yuki Nakamura-Bell Naheda Baghdadi Kathy Luck

If any volunteers old or new are available on Wednesday 2 December please text Karen on 0401 729778 asap so we can open canteen that day. Thanks!



COMMUNITY NEWS

TARRAWANNA ROVERS

Boys and girls welcome – come play soccer.

Our AGM will be held on Wednesday 9 December 2015 at 7.00pm, Tarrawanna Public School Hall. Be part of our committee and make a difference. For further information please contact Shelley on 0423 663 672 or Sam on 0403 087 017.

NSW PREMIER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL SPORT CHALLENGE - 2015

