

The Bally Buzz

Balgownie Public School *Living & Learning*

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Term 4 Week 10

Wednesday 9 December 2015

CALENDAR – TERM 4

Wed	9 Dec	Yr6 Graduation 9.15am & Morning Tea
	9 Dec	P&C Christmas Meeting at Collegians Club Balgownie 6.30pm dinner & 7.15pm meeting
Thur	10 Dec	Yr6 Farewell
	10 Dec	Last day for 2015 Uniform Orders
Frid	11 Dec	PBS Whole School Reward Day
Mon	14 Dec	Student Reports to Parents
Wed	16 Dec	Students Last Day

First day back for students in Years 1- 6, is **Thursday 29th January 2016**

Our students will be in their 2015 classes on **Thursday** and when we confirm numbers, we will move our students into their new classes. Currently there will be fourteen classes. The Early Years Team will be assessing our new Kindergarten students Thursday to Monday and these students will start on Tuesday.

Climbing Wall has been installed! Climbing wall is completed and will be ready for action Thursday this week. Year Six will be given ample time on this equipment for the next week before they go to high school. This is the first climbing wall in a school in the Illawarra and we are proud of being innovative for the health and wellbeing of our students.



K-2 Concert full of fun and love. All parents, families and students delighted in the K-2 Christmas assembly where our younger students performed. The hall was packed to the rafters for the extravaganza. They were sensational. It was especially lively with song, dance and poems. It is wonderful to share in some of those times with our children. Thanks to the classes and teachers who came to celebrate the end of the year with our school.

Presentation Day is a success. Congratulations to our award winners and a special mention to those who have achieved whole school awards. It is a wonderful way to celebrate learning. It was lovely to see all of the families proud of our students and celebrating their success.

Dux
Citizenship
Sportsperson

Daniel P
Casey B
Emma L, Kye S
and Harry D

Premier's Sporting Challenge
Arts
Keira High Academic Award
Keira Leadership Award

Kaled B
Holly Mc
Kye S
Jayda P

Our school leaders were also announced and they are:

Hannah D
Romany F

Angus K
Damian L

Resilience - real learning. As parents we want our children to be able to be resilient and learn that in life things will go their way and at other times, life will throw a curve ball at them and they will face disappointment. If we don't provide some challenges for our students, children will not be prepared for life's frustrations. We want to have strong, resilient young people who can be disappointed but have the skills and positive attitude to know that they can handle the ups and downs in life!

Our challenge as adults, is to build children's confidence and skills to 'bounce back.' We need to talk through strategies on how to deal with disappointments and put the setbacks in perspective. If we teach our children these skills, later in life when things can get more difficult, they may have the skills to 'bounce back' from things successfully. We can then celebrate with them in their ability to deal with disappointment and be gracious when things don't go their way.

Respect, Responsibility, Real Learning

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Waratah March commemorates 100 years since WW1. A small contingent of Balgownie Public School represented us at the commemoration of the Waratah recruitment drive.

Goodbye and hello. We say goodbye to Mrs Catherine Hanes who is leaving and thank her for her efforts at Balgownie Public School, both in the classroom and in the wider school community. The staff, students and parents wish her well for the future. Thanks for all of your hard work! Ms Olivia Bormann will be joining the team in 2016.

Year Six Farewell. I would like to congratulate our Year Six students on finishing Primary School and wish them a wonderful holiday before their new adventure begins at High School. Enjoy the Farewell! I am looking forward to seeing our students dressed up for the occasion. I would like to thank the parent team for their tireless efforts in organising and preparing the evening. I would also like to thank the Stage Three teachers for the time and effort they have devoted to ensuring the Year Six Farewell is a success.

At this time I also wish to especially thank our four school leaders, Jayda, Charlotte, James and Jake for their hard work and leadership this year. These students, together with the other student leaders in our school, have excelled in their duties and our school is a better place because of their dedication and enthusiasm. You will be a hard act to follow!

This is the last newsletter of 2015. I want to thank some people. Schools are places where people come together to help our children. They are our legacy and our future. Thanks to the:

- Students of Balgownie who make each day a joy to come to work. Your manners, smiles and hard work are a credit to you and your families.
- Parents and Carers who work in partnership with us to help make our children the best they can be.
- P and C who work so hard to make our school a better place.
- Staff who teach our children and work to maximise each child's potential while caring for their welfare. Our staff are a great team who collaborate to make sure our students have as many opportunities as possible.
- The Administration staff who greet people with a smile and work hard in the background to make sure that events run smoothly.
- The Cleaners and our GAs who make our school a pleasant place to be.
- The Executive team who lead our school in the direction we know will be the best for our children.

Thank you everyone for a fabulous year.

Have a great holiday and spend it doing all the things you enjoy with family and friends. I am looking forward to working with you all, and our new families in 2016.

Aloma Stewart

Making the most of these holidays

By Michael Grose

Often family differences are contained during the year

but spill over when normal routines cease over the holiday period. Here are some ways to help reduce tension over the festive season and make the holidays enjoyable and fruitful for all.

1. Be creative with how festivities are organised For instance, two or more Christmas dinners may be needed so everyone is included. If you are flexible with your arrangements as well as your thinking then the potentially tricky times will flow more easily.

2. Mix up the routines The best part about holidays is the move away from the routines of school-life. Some kids feel comfortable with the routines of school-life and can feel a little lost until the new holiday routine kicks in. Be patient with these routine-junkies! Also make sure you begin adjusting the routine as a return to school comes closer so kids are prepared for going to bed and getting up at earlier times.

3. Mix 'me' time with 'them' time Plan a mixture of outdoor activities or trips with quiet at-home activities where you can relax and recharge your own batteries. It helps to let your kids know that you are having some timeout too.

4. Resist being your child's home entertainment machine Give children opportunities to keep themselves occupied or think of inexpensive, fun ways to keep themselves amused. "I'm bored" is an invitation for kids to keep themselves occupied rather than for you to keep them amused.

5. Team up with other families. Whether it is sharing celebrations with other families or just holidaying with friends, holidays offer the chance to broaden your child's social circle. Create opportunities to spend time with other families preferably with children the same age as yours.

Joke of week

Q: What do you say to a skeleton going on vacation?
A: Bone voyage!

Thought of the Week

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."
Dr Seuss

If you have changed address or contact details, please notify the office so we can update our records.

P&C CHRISTMAS MEETING

**Wednesday 9 December 2015 at the Collegians Club
6.30 dinner and 7.15pm meeting**

Please join us for a meal and our final P&C meeting for 2015 at the Collegians Club Balgownie. We encourage families to come along for a meal with their families, and for members or new members to stay for the meeting. Dinner

from 6.30pm, meeting to start at 7.15pm.

Colliers give us great support and have offered their meeting room for our use for the evening. You are welcome to eat with your family in the Bistro, or retire to the meeting room with your meals.

What a fantastic year. So much thanks is owed to so many amazing volunteers who work hard to ensure our kids enjoy a fantastic school experience. Our heartfelt thanks for all of your help. We look forward to a fantastic 2016.

If you haven't yet come along to a meeting the Christmas meeting is a great one to come along, enjoy a meal, and hear about what we have planned for 2016.

CANTEEN NEWS

A reminder that Uniform orders/money are to be placed in the school office drop slot - not the Canteen.

CANTEEN ROSTER FOR TERM 4 WEEK 11

No canteen operations (lunches) in week 11. The canteen will only be open for selling of perishable items until stock runs out and end of year cleaning. Please ensure children bring exact money if they wish to purchase from the canteen, as no change can be given during this week.

Monday 14 December	Wendy Myers Elissa Kohler
Tuesday 15 December	Karen Rogers
Wednesday 16 December	Joanna Lindenau Jodi Hurt

UNIFORM NEWS

LAST WEEK FOR UNIFORM ORDERS 2015

Orders must be received by 6pm Thursday 10 December for Friday delivery. Any orders received after this date will be processed on the 1st day of school TERM 2016.

Thank you, have a safe and happy holiday.

