We survived Week 1 😊

Congratulations everyone! We all survived the first week back at school and what a busy one it was!

Friday was another important day - Kindergarten’s first day at school! Well done Kindergarten on a great start to the school year. Everyone was very settled and engaging in the many activities that were set up around the room.

Thank you parents for preparing your child so well to get them ready for school. Credit must also go to the volunteers in the school starters playgroup, our Kindergarten teachers Mrs Kerema and Ms Scott together with their helpers Mrs Hockey, Mrs Cliff, Mrs Phillis and Mrs Robson and not forgetting their wonderful Year 6 buddies who have made their beginning a wonderful experience.

The Illawarra Mercury interviewed and videoed our students. For those of you who haven’t seen our gorgeous new students, head to the online facebook link: https://www.facebook.com/Illawarramerc/posts/10155050230186237

Pictured: Ruby and Amelia on their first day in Kindergarten 😊

Newsletter communication in 2018

How can we access information about happenings at Balgownie Public?
1. The website.
2. The Skoolbag app. See below for the full details. This is the method which gives you not only the weekly newsletter but also ‘push’ notifications which come in the form of texts. It is a really convenient way for the school and P and C to communicate reminders, canteen closures etc. The app can be downloaded onto smart phones and tablets.
3. The newsletter can be emailed to you (see below for how to subscribe to the email list through the Skoolbag app.)
4. There will be a limited number of printed paper copies of the newsletter available at the office.
5. You can request a paper copy from the office.
6. A paper copy is placed on the wall near Miss McSweyn and Mrs Lynch’s classroom for you to be able to read.

**How to install skoolbag on your smartphone**

**iPhone & iPad Users**

1. Click the “App Store” icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click “Free” then “install”.
4. If iPad, change the drop list to “iPhone Apps”, your school will then be visible, click “Free” then install”.
5. When installed click “Open”.
6. Select “OK” to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the “More” button on the bottom right of the App, then “Setup”.
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

**Android Users**

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the “Play Store” button on your Android Device.
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the “Install” button.
5. Click “Accept” for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click “Open” when installed.

7. Click the “More” button on the bottom right of the App, then “Setup”.
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

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**Meet the Teacher**

Meet the Teacher meetings will happen as of NEXT WEEK commencing Monday 12th February. Come along and take the opportunity to find out about your child’s learning this year and how you can support it at home. If you need to discuss any individual concerns, please make a time to meet with your child’s teacher. We are always willing to meet with you and come to a solution. **Notes have been provided by classroom teachers. Please check for the day, time and venue of each meeting.**

**Uniform shop REMINDER!**

The uniform shop is open on Fridays at 8.30am - 9.00am and otherwise families can order online or through the drop box in the office. If there are any concerns with this a time to talk to me about it. We really want all of our students to wear school uniform proudly!

**Joke for the Week:**

Now class, I’d like you all to welcome our guest speaker.

And his friend, Mike.
IMPORTANT! CHANGES to Contact Details & Medical Conditions

Please come to the office and update any contact details or changes in medical conditions for your children. We need to be able to reach you in case of an emergency. This is for the safety of your children. If your child has asthma or anaphylactic reactions, it is your responsibility to update your child’s medical plan and medications.

Staff train to keep our children safe. All teachers are trained in CPR and have their skills updated each year. This is part of our ongoing commitment to keeping students safe. Our staff also updated their emergency care training.

Our school cares for each other. A number of our students have allergies which require them to have EpiPens in case of contact with certain substances. To keep our entire school safe, we ask that no nut products are brought to school. This includes items such as muesli bars, peanut butter etc. We also ask that if you are sending cake etc in to share for birthdays, that you check with your child’s teacher if there are any children with food restrictions. Thank you for your help in this regard.

Gymsport Term 1

As a result of the success of the Gymsports Program over the past few years, the program will continue at Balgownie Public School in Term 1, 2018. The cost of the program is $50 for 10 sessions ($40 for Kindergarten students). The third child in a family is half price and the fourth child is free.

Each week students will participate in a 45 minute lesson (30 minutes for Kindergarten students) facilitated by qualified gymsports instructors. Lessons focus on locomotor skills, non-locomotor skills, spatial awareness, movement themes and rhythmic gymnastics. The program incorporates new activities every year and aims provide a fully developmental movement program which complements the PD/H/PE syllabus.

Gymsport will begin this week - Please make your payment to the office ASAP.

P&C Meeting

Wednesday 14th February 2018

All community members are invited to attend first monthly meeting of the P&C for 2018 to be held on Wednesday 14th February at 7:15pm in the school library.

Below is the agenda for this month’s meeting:
1) Welcome
2) Attendance
3) Apologies
4) New members
5) Minutes of Previous meeting
6) Business arising from previous minutes
7) Reports
   - Canteen
   - Principal’s
   - President’s
   - Treasurer’s
   - Fundraising
   - Uniform shop
   - Grounds & Environment
   - Grants
   - Museum
8) General Business
   - Future P&C projects
We hope to see you there.
Kind regards
Balgownie Public School P & C Association
http://balgowniepnc.com/

I look forward to seeing you all there!
Have a wonderful week everyone! ☺

Sarah Steele
Relieving Principal
Sydney Swans Visit Balgownie PS

On Tuesday the 6th February, Balgownie students had the opportunity to meet players from the Sydney Swans AFL team. Unfortunately, Buddy Franklin was not able to attend as he was busy honing his goal kicking skills for the upcoming season, however two up and coming stars, Will Hayward and Toby Pink capably answered many questions from the students. They gave the students an insight as to what life is like as a full-time professional athlete and described what it takes to compete at the highest level. The players stressed the importance of eating lots of vegetables and said that smashed avocado and eggs on toast was their favourite meal. The players were also here to promote the AFL Auskick program.

Balgownie PS After-school AFL Auskick Program
- The program is a 5 Week AFL introductory Program run by qualified AFL development coaches
- The program starts in week 4, Term 1 and will run for 5 weeks
- Boys and girls from Kindergarten to Year 6 are welcome to participate
- The program takes place straight after school on the Balgownie PS playground
- Students receive a gift bag containing lots of AFL goodies
- Cost of the program is $50

Mr Barrett

The Library
Balgownie school library contributes to student learning outcomes by providing services and resources that support teaching and learning programs throughout the school. The library is well resourced with a large book collection and a computer lab that enables students to use electronic learning materials and to access the Internet. All classes from Kindergarten to year 6 are scheduled to visit the Library at least once each week. These visits aim to promote a love of literature and learning and consist of borrowing time, storytelling, educational program viewing and library and information technology training. The library and computer lab are opened to our students at lunchtime. Please see the timetable below for your child’s library day.

Borrowing
All students are required to have a library bag to borrow. This helps to protect library books and to keep them separate from other books at school or at home. Children may borrow up to 4 items per week (some of our avid readers borrow more), to be returned on the following week library visit. Children may RENEW their loan on books that are required for longer periods.

Overdue Books
There are no fines for overdue items, however students who do have an overdue book may not borrow again until the overdue book is returned. Notes will be sent home for very overdue items. If books are lost or damaged, we will ask you for the replacement cost of the book. Students are welcome to return books on any day of the week.

2018 Library Class Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library day</th>
<th>Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>3/4M, 5/6B, 4/5G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>1/2M, 1/2D, KS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>1/2H, 1/2L, 3/4B, 5/6T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday (with Mrs Robson)</td>
<td>KK, 3/4M, 5/6L</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is a pleasure to teach in a school where students value their library so highly. I will look forward to a wonderful year of reading and learning with everyone.

Mrs. Birchall – Teacher Librarian

Library Welcome 2018
Hello, my name is Mrs. Birchall and I am the Teacher Librarian at Balgownie School. This year, I am joined by Mrs Robson who will be the library teacher on Fridays. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all to the 2018 school year and to provide you with some information about our library and its services.
Tuesday Sushi Day

Sushi needs to be Pre-Ordered and Pre-Paid at your canteen. Please finalise your order by FRIDAY each week.

Selections available $4.00
TERIYAKI CHICKEN – Cucumber
VEGGIE - Tofu, Carrot, Cucumber VEGAN
CHICKEN SCHNITZEL – Cucumber
TERIYAKI BEEF – Cucumber
VEGETARIAN - Tofu Carrot, Cucumber (BROWN RICE) VEGAN