



BALCATT A PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone: 9345 8100

Fax: 9344 3665

NEWSLETTER

Number: 1

11 February 2016

KINDY STUDENTS ENJOYING THE START OF THEIR PRIMARY EDUCATION



PRINCIPAL'S PATTERN

Hi Everyone

A warm welcome back to all our students and staff and I hope everyone had a relaxing and safe holiday.

Thank you to all our school community for a wonderfully smooth start to the year. I have seen lots of smiling faces (mums and dads too) and enthusiastic students looking forward to the school year ahead. It's also great to see so many students wearing the school uniform and our broad brimmed hats – fantastic!!

I would like to take this opportunity to especially welcome all our new students and families to our school this year and hope you have a very enjoyable stay with us. I would encourage everyone to become actively involved in the school community, as this benefits your children, you and the school as a whole.

Our Virtues Project has recommenced this year. The Virtues Project booklet has been sent home with today's newsletter (Years 1 to 6 - one per family). The school will be focussing on a particular virtue each month as part of promoting and enhancing good values across the school and the community. Parents are encouraged to promote and support these virtues in the home. Many thanks for your anticipated support of this very worthwhile program.

Finally, may I encourage parents to become involved in our P& C. We are seeking volunteers to help in our canteen. Your support would be greatly appreciated. The P&C meets on the last Tuesday of each month (next meeting Tuesday 23 February at 7.00 pm).

Enjoy your weekend.

Peter Gates
Principal

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Our next assembly will be held on Friday 18 March, starting at 9.00 am with our year 3 class performing the item. Parents, grandparents, friends and community members are very welcome to attend.

PARENT INFORMATION BOOKLET 2016

The 2016 Parent Information Booklet has been sent home with today's newsletter (Years 1 to 6 - one per family). The booklet has been updated and is very useful for checking on general points of interest and procedures about the school. Our new parents are asked to note the student drop off and pick up areas as shown on the school map.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

A reminder to all our parents that the school newsletter is sent home with the oldest child (K- 6) each fortnight on a Thursday. It is also sent via e-mail and available on line. If, for some reason, you do not receive your newsletter, please contact the office on 9345 8100.

PARENT INFORMATION MEETINGS

These have been organised to take place during the first few weeks of Term One. Your child's classroom teacher will notify you (*note home*) when this meeting will be held. The meetings give the teacher/s an opportunity to outline their programs etc for the year and to discuss various classroom matters and for parents to become more informed about their child's education. I encourage all parents to attend. If for some reason you cannot make it, an alternative time can be organised through the teacher/s.

PHYS ED / SPORT

SWIMMING

In Term swimming commences next Monday 15 February at Terry Tyzack Leisure Centre.

Lesson times are as follows:

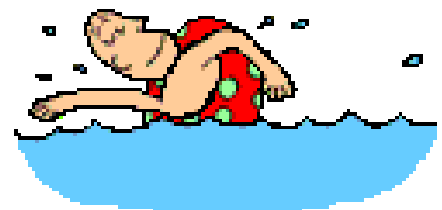
Group 1: (P/P, Yr 2, Yr 5/6) - 1.25pm – 2.05pm

Group 2: (Yr 1, Yr 3, Yr 4/5) - 2.10pm – 2.50pm

Students will change into their bathers at school before they leave for the pool. Please ensure your child has a strong, plastic bag for their towel and clothing.

Permission notes and money need to be returned **to the class teacher** by this Friday 12 February.

Mark Cox (swimming co-ordinator)



VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Many thanks to those parents who have been prompt in paying the voluntary contribution this year. As approved by the School Council, the voluntary contribution amount is **\$30.00** per student from Kindergarten to Year 6. Parents are encouraged to pay this as soon as possible, as funds raised are used by the school to support student programs. The P&C also has a voluntary contribution levy of **\$10.00** per family.

MOBILE PHONES



Students must have a written note from parents if they **NEED** to bring their mobile phones to school (on).

The phones must be turned off and handed into the office on arrival at school.

WIDE-BRIMMED HATS - (No Hat No Play Policy)



The wearing of the school uniform wide-brimmed hats in the school grounds is school policy for the whole school year. Children must wear school wide-brimmed hats at all times when playing in the grounds. Children without hats are restricted to the undercover assembly area and the verandah areas. If a child repeatedly chooses not to wear a hat whilst playing in the playground they will receive a reflection sheet for not following our 'No hat no play' policy. Uniform navy blue wide-brimmed hats are available from the uniform shop.

DOGS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

Dog droppings in the school grounds are a problem for staff and students. It would be appreciated if all users of the park and oval area took into consideration the needs of Balcatta Primary School's students and for this message to be echoed throughout the local community.

For the health and safety of our students we request that dogs not be brought onto school property at all during school hours and that out of hours they are on a lead.



SCHOOL CROSSING



Our school crossing is manned by our two wardens (Neelprabha and Barry) from 8.00 am to 9.00 am and 2.45 pm to 3.45 pm each school day.

It is most important that when the crossing is operating, everyone must wait until the warden blows the whistle twice before entering the crossing. Bicycles and scooters etc. must also be 'walked' across. Thank you for your co-operation in this most important matter.

SCHOOL CAR PARKING

Parents who pick up or set down children by car are asked to note the following:



- ◆ If using the “**SOUTH** car park (behind the Pre-primary Centre) enter via Alford Street and then **left** turn exit into Main Street.
- ◆ The verge area along Albert Street near the school oval can also be utilised.
- ◆ Park in Sylvia Street and cross Main Street using the pedestrian crossing attended by our crosswalk wardens.
- ◆ The **staff/visitors** car parks at the front of the school are for use by the staff and visitors **only** and are **NOT** to be used as a “drop off” or “pick up” area for students, particularly the car park outside the library.
- ◆ Parent Parking Plan and Traffic arrangement information is also included in the Parent Information Booklet 2016 (sent home today).

Thank you for your anticipated support, which can only enhance the **safety** of our students.

VISITING THE SCHOOL

A reminder to parents and visitors to our school!

Our school policy requires all parents and other visitors to the school, during school hours, to first “**sign in**” at the school office before visiting the classroom. This is a safety issue and allows us to keep track of and screen persons entering the school. Parents and visitors are also requested to “**sign out**” at the school office when leaving the school.

It is also requested that when visiting classrooms during class times, parents and visitors do not enter the classroom unless collecting a child. We would encourage courtesy by first knocking on the door and waiting for a response from the teacher.

Your co-operation in this matter is most appreciated.

BATTERY RETRIEVAL PROJECT

Our school collects used batteries in an endeavour to keep batteries out of the landfill. Please help the environment by bringing in your old batteries. Please note that we do not accept car batteries. Our green battery collection bin is located in the office foyer.



PLAYGROUP

Playgroup has recommenced and is held every Thursday morning commencing at 9.00 am. All parents with children from 0 -3 years are very welcome to attend.

Please come and join with us playing, singing, listening to stories, colouring, using play dough, making friends and lots more!

When: Thursdays
Time: 9.00 am to 10.20 am
Place: Playgroup Room

Co-Ordinators
Larissa Mc Carthy (Chaplain) and
Dot Filopante



VIRTUE OF THE MONTH – SELF DISCIPLINE

What is Self-Discipline?

Self-discipline means self-control. It is getting yourself to do what you really want to do, rather than being tossed around by your feelings like a leaf in the wind. You don't lose control of yourself when you feel hurt or angry, but decide how you are going to talk and what you are going to do. With self-discipline, you take charge of yourself.

Why Practise It?

When you practise self-discipline, you are controlling your own behaviour so others don't have to. Self-discipline brings you freedom. You get things done efficiently and have order in your life. Without self-discipline, we procrastinate. We eat things we shouldn't. We lose control of our emotions. Then people feel hurt. With self-discipline, life is more peaceful.

Signs of Success

Congratulations! You are practising **Self-Discipline** when you:

- use detachment so your emotions won't control you
- speak and act calmly when you are hurt or angry
- get things done in an orderly, efficient way
- create routines for yourself
- do what is expected without people having to watch over you
- do things on time



2016 TERM DATES

Term 1	Monday 1 February – Friday 8 April
Term 2	Wednesday 27 April – Friday 1 July
Term 3	Tuesday 19 July – Friday 23 September
Term 4	Tuesday 11 October – Thursday 15 December

P & C NEWS

www.facebook.com/BalcattaPSPandC

WINE and CHEESE NIGHT – (P & C Meeting)



Please join us for our inaugural Wine & Cheese night which will coincide with the first **P& C meeting of 2016 at 7pm on Tuesday 23 February**. Come along to the computer room and see what we do. Children are welcome to use the schools computers during the meeting. Please let us know

via Facebook or the office if you'll be attending for catering purposes. Don't forget to 'LIKE' us on Facebook to keep up to date with all the P & C news!!

UNIFORM SHOP

The uniform shop is open on Thursdays from 8.30 am to 9.00 am.

SCHOOL BANKING IS BACK!!

Win a wildlife family adventure to Australia Zoo!

This year School Banking is giving students the chance to win a family trip for up to two adults and three children to explore Australia Zoo and meet Bindi and Robert Irwin. Students who make 15 or more School Banking Deposits by the end of term 3, 2016 will be automatically entered into the draw. This is another great way to motivate students to save regularly and reach their savings goals.


Check out the 2016 School Banking program information pack for more information or come along to the uniform shop on Thursday mornings.

For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens, they can redeem them for an exclusive School Banking reward item in recognition of their continued savings behaviour.

New and exciting rewards are now available!



TERM 1 CALENDAR 2016

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Week 1	1 February • Start of Term	2 February	3 February	4 February	5 February
	8 February	9 February • Parent Information Meeting Yr 5/6	10 February	11 February • Parent Information Meeting Yr 4/5 2.15pm • Newsletter 1	12 February
Week 2	15 February • Swimming Lessons commence → 	16 February • Parent Information Meeting Yr 3 - 2.30pm →	17 February • Parent Information Meeting Yr 1 (rm 9) - 2.30pm →	18 February • Parent Information Meeting Yr 1 (rm 11) 2.30pm →	19 February • Parent Information Meeting Yr 2 - 2.30pm →
	22 February Swimming Cont. →	23 February • P & C Meeting 7.00pm →	24 February →	25 February • Newsletter 2 →	26 February • Swimming Lessons conclude
Week 3	29 February	1 March	2 March	3 March	4 March
	7 March	8 March	9 March	10 March • Newsletter 3	11 March •
Week 4	14 March	15 March	16 March	17 March • Young Leaders' Day	18 March • Assembly (Yr 3)
	21 March	22 March • School Council Meeting 2.30pm	23 March	24 March • Newsletter 4 • Harmony Day celebration	25 March Good Friday (Holiday)
Week 5	28 March Easter Monday (Holiday)	29 March Easter Tuesday (Holiday)	30 March School Resumes	31 March • Class Photos	1 April
	4 April	5 April	6 April	7 April • Newsletter 5	8 April • Interim Reports home • ANZAC Ceremony (2.30pm)

Term 2 begins Wednesday 27 April 2016 (for students)