



BALCATT A PRIMARY SCHOOL

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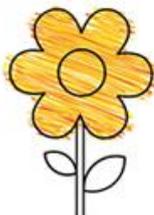
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NEWSLETTER

Number: 1

9 February 2017

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 so we can re-open in the near future. Your support would be greatly appreciated. The P&C meets on the last Tuesday of each month (next meeting Tuesday 28 February at 7.00 pm).

Enjoy your weekend.

Peter Gates
Principal

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.

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 will be 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 13 February at Terry Tyzack Leisure Centre.

Lesson times are as follows:

Group 1: (Yrs 1, 1/2, 2, 3, 5) - **11.30am – 1.00pm**

Group 2: (Yrs P/P, 4, 6) - **12.30pm – 2.00pm**

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 10 February.

Mark Cox (swimming co-ordinator)



BATTERY RETRIEVAL PROJECT

Please help the environment by bringing in your old batteries & placing in our **RED** battery collection bin located in the office foyer.



MOBILE PHONES



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

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. 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 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.

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.

2017 TERM DATES (for students)

Term 1	Monday 1 February – Friday 7 April
Term 2	Wednesday 26 April – Friday 30 June
Term 3	Tuesday 18 July – Friday 22 September
Term 4	Tuesday 10 October – Thursday 14 December

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Welcome back for 2017! It has been great to see everyone and to welcome some new families into our school community. We look forward to another great year at Balcatta Primary School. This year my hours will again be: Tuesdays 8:00am -3:30pm and Thursdays 8:30am -3:30pm.

I can be found in the Canteen running **Breakfast Club** with some great helpers (we would love to have some more) on Tuesday mornings (8:15 - 8:50am) and I coordinate the School community **Playgroup** on Thursday mornings from 9:00 - 10:25am. If you have younger children who have not started school yet we would love you to bring them along to Playgroup to join with us playing, listening to stories, colouring, using play dough, making friends and lots more!

I am looking forward to a great year.
Until next newsletter,



Larissa McCarthy
Chaplain ☺

VIRTUE OF THE MONTH – RESPONSIBILITY

What is Responsibility?

Being responsible means that others can depend on you. You are willing to be accountable for your actions. When things go wrong and you make a mistake, you make amends instead of excuses. When you are responsible, you keep your agreements. You give your best to any job. Responsibility is the ability to respond ably. It is a sign of growing up.

Why Practise It?

When you take responsibility for your own actions, others can trust you. When people are not responsible, they break their promises, fail to do what they said they would do and let people down. People who make excuses instead of amends keep making the same mistakes. When you are responsible, you get things done with excellence.

Signs of Success

Congratulations! You are practising **Responsibility** when you:

- take your agreements seriously
- respond ably by doing things to the best of your ability
- are willing to do your part
- admit mistakes without making excuses
- are willing to make amends
- give your best to whatever you do

Get involved in the School Banking program.

Balcatta P&C is excited to offer the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program to all students. School Banking is a fun, interactive and engaging way for young Australians to learn about money and develop good savings habits. Children who deposit money into their Youthsaver account through School Banking earn Dollarmites tokens, which they can save up and redeem for exciting rewards.

The rewards available during 2017 are:

- Cyber Handball
- Colour Change Markers
- 3D Chalk Set
- Tablet Case
- Smiley Emoji Key ring
- Volt Handball
- Pencil + Tech Case
- Epic Earphones



School Banking is also a great fundraiser for our school. Our school receives \$5 when a student makes their first ever School Banking deposit and 5% on every deposit made through the school (to a maximum of \$10 per individual deposit).

Getting involved in School Banking is easy!

All you need to get involved in the School Banking program is a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account. You can open an account for your child in one of two ways:

1. Online

Visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking and click on the link to open a Youthsaver account.

2. In branch

Visit a Commonwealth Bank branch with identification for yourself and your child, like a driver's licence and birth certificate.

If your child has an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account they can start banking straight away. They just need to bring their deposit in every week on School Banking day using their Dollarmites deposit wallet.

School Banking day is each Thursday in the uniform shop, 8.30am – 9.00am. Each week you just need to bring along your deposit book and money.

New FAST DEPOSIT BOX

Due to the increased number of bankers, we sometimes have a delay in getting through all of your deposits before the siren; to help speed up the process we now have a "fast deposit box" in the banking room for you to drop your deposit book and money into. All you need to do is ensure that all of your details are completed on your deposit slip correctly, pop your money into your wallet and ensure that it is labelled with your class number. We can then process and drop your deposit book wallet back to your classroom.

UNIFORM SHOP

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

Welcome Back To



SCHOOL