



BALCATT A PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone: 9345 8100

Fax: 9344 3665

NEWSLETTER

Number: 1

8 February 2018

KINDY STUDENTS ENJOYING THE START OF THEIR PRIMARY EDUCATION



♥ Welcome to
Kindergarten

PRINCIPAL'S PATTTER

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. It's nice to see so many 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 our new polo shirts 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.

The students are currently attending our annual swimming lessons at the Terry Tyzak Leisure Centre, which will conclude on Friday 16th February. Many thanks to all our parents for making sure that their child/ren are well prepared for their lessons.

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 the 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.

Please note: Payment can now be made on-line. Please see the office for details.

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 commenced this week. It runs from 5 February until 16 February at Terry Tyzack Leisure Centre.



Lesson times are as follows:

Group 1: (Yrs P/P,3,5/6) - 1.10pm – 1.50pm

Group 2: (Yrs 1,1/2,2,4/5) - 2.00pm – 2.40pm

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 in to the office on arrival at school.

ART REQUEST

We are seeking any empty ice-cream containers, plastic yoghurt tubs and egg cartons to use for upcoming art projects? If you can help please, deliver to the front office.

Thanking you,

Mrs Fego (Art Teacher)



COMMUNICATION APP (FlexiBuzz)



Please register for FlexiBuzz on your phone, tablet or PC to receive our news, messages events and other communications.



Balcattaps6021 (password)

At **Balcatta Primary School** we utilise the *FlexiBuzz* app to send news, messages, events & other communications to our families. The app has some great features that enable us to get information through easily and quickly. You'll be reminded about important upcoming calendar dates, and everything we post can be translated into over 100 languages!

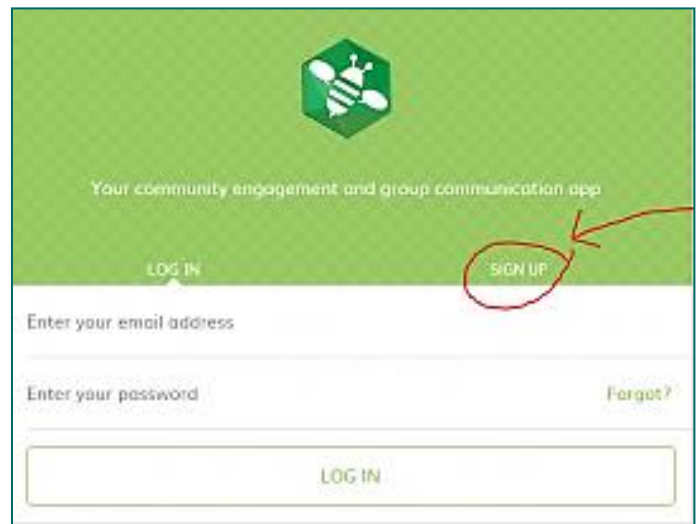
The app is free and can be added to your iPhone, iPad, iPod, Android Phone, Android Tablet and any other type of device or computer via a website version.

See the **4 step instructions** below.

Stay in touch with FlexiBuzz

- STEP 01** Sign up for FlexiBuzz and then login
Search "FlexiBuzz" in your app store. Go to web.flexibuzz.com and click "Sign Up".
- STEP 02** Connect to us
Select the "Search" icon and type in our name. Select us from the results.
- STEP 03** Select your communication groups
Click the "Add" icon beside the communication groups that apply to you.
- STEP 04** Get started
Click the "Home" icon to view our recent posts.

For further information or assistance please visit our website www.flexibuzz.com or email us via support@flexibuzz.com



UPDATE - Please remember to update **FlexiBuzz** in 2018 to reflect your child's year level.

If you are new to the School, you need to register for the correct 'boxes' for your child/ren.

If your child has left our school, you will need to unsubscribe from our newsfeed by removing yourself from ALL communication groups.

If you wish to be completely removed from FlexiBuzz, and your account deleted from the system, you will need to email support@flexibuzz.com

If you have any queries whatsoever please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

Julie Walker (Manager Corporate Services)

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.

SCHOOL CROSSING



Our school crossing is manned by our two wardens from 8.00 am to 9.00 am and 2.40 pm to 3.40 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.



NOTE: 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.

2018 TERM DATES (for students)

Term 1	Wednesday 31 January – Friday 13 April
Term 2	Tuesday 1 May – Friday 29 June
Term 3	Tuesday 17 July – Friday 21 September
Term 4	Tuesday 9 October – Thursday 13 December

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.

CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

Welcome back for 2018! 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 at the School **Community Playgroup** helping & having fun with all our families that attend on **Thursday mornings** from **9:00 -10:25am**. If you have younger children who have not started school yet we invite you to bring them along to Playgroup & join with us playing, listening to stories, colouring, using play dough, making friends and lots more!



At other times I can be found in the Student Activity Centre or in classes around the school.

Please contact me through the school office if you need to see or speak to me.

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

Larissa McCarthy
Chaplain 😊

PARENTS & CITIZENS MEETING -

Wednesday 28th February, 2pm, in the Staff Room next to office.

All welcome, even if bringing little ones.

These meetings give parents a voice and platform to contribute to the decision making and planning of our school. Volunteers are always needed to help with fundraising and events. Please come along to offer your ideas and support.

Children thrive when parents are interested in their school life. It's a wonderful thing to be able to take some time out to encourage and support their progress.

Keep up to date with what's happening in school on our Facebook page, like us and follow us. www.facebook.com/BalcattaPSPandC

UNIFORM SHOP

Please note that the uniform shop this year will be open every **Wednesday** during school terms **8.40-9.00am**.



SCHOOL BANKING IS BACK!



Help raise money for our school and at the same time teach children the valuable discipline of saving and managing money.

All you need is a Youthsaver Account with Commonwealth Bank. This can be arranged at any CBA branch or online by visiting commbank.com.au/schoolbanking.

Come and visit Shoshie every Wednesday from 8.40-9.00, bring your deposit to the uniform shop with your Dollarmites deposit book, and after every 10 deposits they can pick a prize. Deposits can be as little as 5c.

***Be in the running to win an exciting family trip to Hawaii by making more than 15 deposits before the end of Term 3!!!**

A big THANK YOU to Linley Simons for volunteering her time, and her dedication to this program for many years previously. It's easy to see the children enjoy saving and look forward to their rewards in return.



COLES SPORTS FOR SCHOOLS

Start collecting Coles vouchers now to earn sports equipment for our school (every \$10 earns 1 voucher). We will inform you in our next newsletter whether our collection box has arrived, which will be placed in the office.

W E L C O M E

B A C K T O

S C H O O L