



BALCATTa PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone: 9253 4900

NEWSLETTER

Number: 1

8 February 2024



Term 1 2024



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. It's nice to see so many smiling faces (mums and dads too) and enthusiastic students looking forward to the school year ahead.

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.

During the school holidays 'works' continued on upgrading and refurbishing rooms 12 & 13 for our pre-primary students (P/P2 class) to move into. These 'works' are due to be completed within the next two weeks. The teachers and students are very excited to soon being able to enjoy their new classroom.

This year the annual NAPLAN testing (i.e. yrs. 3 & 5 for primary schools) will be conducted in term 1 commencing on Wednesday 13 March. More information will follow in our next newsletter.

Just a reminder that during this hot weather, students need to remember their hats, drinks bottles and sunscreen.

Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable 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 Board, the voluntary contribution amount is **\$40.00** 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 be made on-line - please see the office for details.

PARENT/GUARDIAN CONTACT DETAILS

This information is of great assistance in the event of your child having an accident or becoming ill during the day.

Please notify the school (ASAP) if your address and/or contact details change at any time throughout the school year. (i.e. home, work etc.)

If your child has a medical condition, please complete the Health Care forms which are available at the office.

QUADRANGLE UPGRADE



I'm sure everyone has seen the new green quadrangle. Congratulations and appreciation are extended to the P & C for helping make this happen. The games are already a hit with the students. Kylee Saunders, our Physical Education teacher, is working with the students to develop rules and protocols for safe and fun play. Please note that due to the upgrade, children's bikes are to be parked in the southern quadrangle alongside the wall of our computer lab and room 8. We will also be looking at upgrading our bike racks in the future for better management of bikes, scooters etc.

Nicole Murphy
Deputy Principal

SWIMMING LESSONS

Swimming begins next week and runs over weeks 3 and 4. Due to extended renovations that are occurring at Inglewood Swimming Pool, Balcatta PS is only able to enrol in one week of swimming lessons. Half the school will attend during week 3 and the other half during week 4. A note was sent home on Monday providing details for your child. Please return the Permission Form, Swimming Enrolment Form and your payment (\$25) by tomorrow (9/2/24) if you have not already done so. We strongly encourage all students to participate.



Nicole Murphy
Deputy Principal/Swimming Co-Ordinator

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 posted on the school website and sent home by e-mail. If you do not receive your newsletter, please contact the office on 9253 4900

ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL



Parents are requested to ensure that their child/ren do not arrive at school before **8.30 am**. If for reasons of work etc. your child/ren are required to arrive earlier, written notification is required.

Many thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

CLASSES FOR 2024

Kindergarten (A & B)	Ms Jones / Ms Malajczuk	K
Pre-Primary 1	Mrs Bate	P/P
Pre-Primary 2	Mrs Wagner	P/P
Year 1	Ms Heywood	Rm 11
Year 1/2	Miss Mullett	Rm 10
Year 2	Mrs Ceric	Rm 9
Year 3	Ms Stewart	Rm 8
Year 3/4	Ms Johnson	Rm 4
Year 4/5	Miss McFee	Rm 5
Year 5	Mrs Stelov	Rm 2
Year 6	Mr Rasmussen	Rm 3

PARENT INFORMATION MEETINGS

These will be organised to take place during the next two weeks of this Term. Your child's classroom teacher will notify you 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.

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. Uniform navy blue wide-brimmed hats are available from our supplier Eclipse Universal in Malaga. Ph: 9249 4344

Please **ensure** that your child's name is printed on the tag on the inside of the hat.

MOBILE PHONES



Students **MUST** have a written note from parents if it is essential to bring mobile phones to school. The phones must be turned off and handed in to the office on arrival at school.

NO SMOKING ZONE



Please remember that Balcatta Primary School is a strictly Smoke Free School (in all forms). Smoking is prohibited in all areas of the school which includes the car park, ovals and grounds. We appreciate your cooperation.

ALLERGY AWARE

Balcatta Primary School is an Allergy Aware school. As some of our students have serious allergies to nuts, please do not send items that contain nuts or nut products to school. Be aware that many foods contain traces of nuts (e.g. Nutella type spreads, muesli bars, biscuits, peanut butter etc.).



Please alert the school to any allergies that your child/children may have on enrolment so we can implement the appropriate plan to support them. Your assistance in keeping all of our students safe is appreciated.

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.

SCHOOL CROSSING



Our school crossing is monitored by our two wardens (Laurel and Mario) 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 CROSSING. BICYCLES AND SCOOTERS ETC. MUST ALSO BE WALKED ACROSS.**

Thank you for your co-operation in this most important matter.

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. This is a simple and convenient way to manage the accumulation of these used items.



FROM THE LIBRARY



Welcome to another year of great reading opportunities for the students at Balcatta Primary School.

The school library will be open on Wednesday and Thursday each week for all classes to visit for borrowing.

A reminder that all students require a waterproof library bag to protect the books travelling to and from school. Waterproof bags are available from the library for \$6.00.

Mrs Keen
School Library Officer

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.



IMMUNISATION

IMMUNISATION REQUIREMENTS

Vaccine-preventable diseases, such as measles or mumps, can have serious health consequences for young children and others in the community. Due to various recent outbreaks, all student's immunisation status must be 'up to date' according to their AIR Immunisation History Statement.

This is especially relevant to enrolment.

Please notify the office if there are any changes to your child's Immunisation Schedule so we can adjust accordingly.



**PARENTS & CITIZENS**

Please join our FB page and Parents Community Chat page. Keep an eye out on FB for P & C meeting details. If you would like to be on our P & C email list to receive minutes and reports

email: balcattaps_pandc@hotmail.com

UNIFORM SHOP

Our uniform shop stocks faction shirts **only** at school.

Email: balcattaps_uniform@hotmail.com for bag delivery.

All other uniform items may be purchased from Eclipse Universal in Malaga. Ph: 9249 4344

Online ordering: (click and collect or home delivery)

<https://schooluniformstore.com.au/balcatta-primary> enter code: **BP6021**

**FREEZE FRIDAYS**

Freeze Fridays have recommenced, every Friday from 12.30pm to 12.50pm, so bring your 50c for half or \$1 for a whole icy pole.

**BREAKFAST CLUB**

Breakfast Club is held in the undercover area each Tuesday morning. Everyone is welcome to come along between 8.15 – 8.45am for fruit, smoothies & toasties.



Volunteers needed and would be much appreciated.

Shoshie Lam (Co-Ordinator)

MEGA RAFFLE

This will be held from week 7 this term!!! More details to following the next newsletter.

CONTAINERS for CHANGE

At Balcatta PS we are always looking for ways to teach the students sustainable living habits. Whatever we put in our **Container for Change Bin** (located near the uniform shop) earns our school 8c per container. 2c for emptying and transport.

NOT ACCEPTED ITEMS

- Wine bottlers
- Spirits bottles
- Milk bottles
- Cordials

**ACCEPTED ITEMS**

- Aluminium, steel, (HDPE/PE), glass, liquid paperboard
- From 150millilitres to litres
- Purchased in WA



TERM DATES 2024 (for students)

Term 1	Wednesday 31 January – Thursday 28 March
Term 2	Tuesday 16 April – Friday 28 June
Term 3	Tuesday 16 July – Friday 20 September
Term 4	Monday 7 October – Thursday 12 December

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS – 2024

Labour Day	Monday 4 March
Good Friday	Friday 29 March
Easter Monday	Monday 1 April
ANZAC Day	Thursday 25 April
Western Australia Day.....	Monday 3 June
King's Birthday	Monday 23 September
Christmas Day	Wednesday 25 December
Boxing Day	Thursday 26 December

