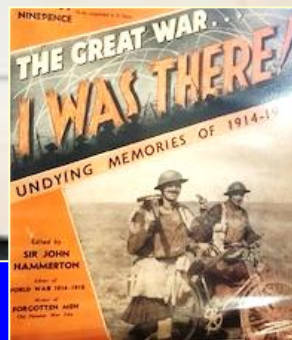


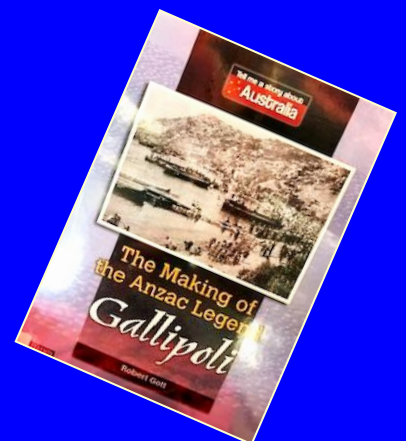
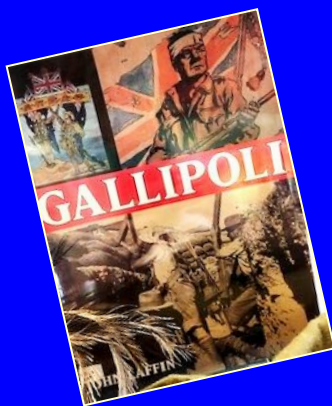
NEWSLETTER

Number: 18

20 November 2025



REMEMBRANCE DAY



Remembrance Day Library Display

Our library featured a fascinating and informative Remembrance Day display this week. Thanks to the WA Army Museum, students were able to view genuine wartime memorabilia, including medals, clothing, and personal utensils.

The display also showcased a range of library books about Remembrance Day, helping students deepen their understanding and appreciation of this important occasion.

PRINCIPAL'S PATTTER

Hello Everyone,

As we continue preparations for the 2026 school year, we kindly ask that any families who know their child will be leaving the school inform the office as soon as possible. Accurate enrolment numbers are essential for our planning and greatly assist us in shaping classes and staffing for the year ahead.

At this stage, it is likely that we will be forming a number of composite classes in 2026. Grouping students of various ages together is not new; primary schools, particularly smaller or growing schools such as ours. Use this structure to ensure equity in class sizes and to support effective teaching and learning.

We understand that some parents may feel concerned when their child is placed in a composite class. However, it is important to know that research and long-standing experience show there is no disadvantage for students in composite settings.

Every class, whether straight or composite, includes a wide range of abilities. One of the key roles of a teacher is to cater for these individual differences. Teachers work with whole classes at times for activities such as class novels, discussions or sharing time, but more often they work with small groups or individual students. This approach is the same in all classrooms.

There are also many social benefits to composite classes. Children have opportunities to form friendships outside their immediate year group, widening their social circle and providing more options in the playground. These broader connections help build confidence, resilience and a stronger sense of belonging within the whole school community.

Additionally, the learning process remains consistent regardless of class structure. Students explore ideas, use resources, plan, experiment, share and record their learning. Throughout this, teachers closely monitor each child's progress and use a range of strategies to assess learning and plan next steps. This cycle of planning, teaching and evaluating occurs in every classroom.

Children in composite classes have nothing to fear, and most adapt quickly to their new environment. We are confident that all students will continue to learn, grow and thrive in 2026.

Our School Board will be holding its Annual Public Meeting on Friday, December 5.

In the coming weeks, the Board will be advertising and calling for new parent representative nominations. If you are curious about what takes place in a Board meeting, or if you are considering nominating yourself or someone else for a position, we warmly encourage you to come along. Board meetings are held once per term and rarely run for more than an hour. Becoming a Board member is a wonderful way to learn more about the school and play an active role in shaping your child's educational experience and journey.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss anything further, please feel free to contact the school.

Earlier this week, our Year 6 students enjoyed a fantastic camp experience. They spent two nights away from home at Ern Halliday Recreational Camp and took part in a wide range of activities including caving, archery, the flying fox, the giant swing, quiz night and so much more. Camp is a wonderful opportunity we are able to offer our Year 6 students only because our dedicated staff willingly give up time with their own families and our families place their trust in us.

A heartfelt thank you to Mr Rasmussen, Miss Smith, Mrs Kolb, Mrs Moschilla, Mrs Murphy and Mrs Bouhla for their commitment, care and enthusiasm in making this camp so memorable. We would also like to thank our Year 6 families for trusting us with your children during camp. Your support allows us to provide enriching experiences that help our students grow, challenge themselves and create lasting memories.

Finally, to our Year 6 students—thank you for your excellent behaviour and for demonstrating our RISE values throughout the camp. You represented our school proudly.

Lauren Hook
Principal

ORIENTATION DETAILS

Kindy A Wednesday 3 December **Time:** 9.45pm **Where:** Kindergarten

Kindy B Wednesday 4 December **Time:** 9.45pm **Where:** Kindergarten

PRE-PRIMARY Tuesday 9 December **Time:** 2.15pm **Where:** Library



YEAR 6 GRADUATION AWARDS - 2025



The Graduation Ceremony for our Year 6 graduating class of 2024 will be held on **Friday December 12** commencing at 9.00 am in the undercover assembly area. The Year 6 students are invited to attend a special morning tea with their parents along with staff and our special guests at the conclusion of the awards presentation.

ANNUAL SCHOOL CLASS AWARDS - 2025

Our Annual School Class Awards will be held in our undercover assembly area on **Wednesday December 17** commencing at **9.00 am**. We would like to invite parents/guardians of all award recipients to attend this very special morning for our students



THANKYOU TO OUR P & C

We thank our P & C for their kind donations to our Year 6 Camp, Year 6 Graduation and our Phys.Ed Programme.

NATURE STORIES - City of Stirling Competition



We are proud to announce that our Year 6 students at Balcatta Primary School won the Upper Primary School category in the Nature Stories Competition 2025 run by the City of Stirling. The competition invited classes to explore how nature and humans coexist in their own homes and neighbourhoods.



250 students from 15 classes across the City of Stirling participated in this competition. Our Year 6 participating students used their literacy talents to write inspiring narratives. A special mention was made to Olivia D'Cruze for her powerful story 'I am Ocean'. Here is her introduction...

'I have lived longer than mountains. I was here before ships carved scars across my surface, before nets dragged across my floor. I have carried storms in my heart and held sunlight in my chest. For millennia, I gave without question - food, passage, wonder, rhythm. But I am tired now.'



Mrs Murphy
Deputy Principal

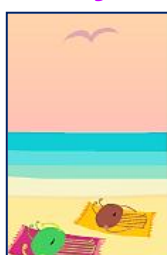
LIBRARY

Book Club Issue 8 – Important Library Update

Please note: Book Club **Issue 8** will close on **November 23**. As this is the final issue of the year, orders need to be submitted early to ensure delivery before the end of term, **so please be sure to get your order in as soon as possible to avoid missing out.**

Every order makes a difference—each purchase helps our library earn rewards to buy wonderful new books for our students. Thank-you for supporting our school library.

Mrs Pruiti-Ciarello
Library Officer



Placed an order in
Book Club Issue 7?
DON'T MISS OUT!

Use your PROMO CODE
(included in your order confirmation)
to save **\$5** on this Issue.

PLUS,
every Issue 8 LOOP order
earns a **\$5** promo code to
spend on Issue 1, 2026.

LOOP orders only.
See LOOP for details.



PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

Friday December 5 at 9am in the library.

If you are curious about what takes place in a Board meeting, or if you are considering nominating yourself or someone else for a position, we warmly encourage you to come along.

Becoming a Board member is a wonderful way to learn more about the school and play an active role in shaping your child's educational experience and journey.

CHAPLAINS CORNER

We have a new Breakfast Club volunteer Phyllis who is greatly appreciated.



We also have Kanako a parent volunteer who has come back to share her origami skills with Years 1-3 on Thursday at lunch in activity centre which students are loving.

P & C NEWS

Like us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/BalcattaPSPandC



Thank you to our volunteers who have signed up to be a part of our P & C, once again, for next year.

President	Sarah Toovey
Vice President	- vacant -
Honorary Secretary	Gina Gill
Honorary Treasurer	- vacant -
Executive Members	Shoshana Lam Christel Newport

Please contact the P&C if you are interested in the Vice President or Treasurer roles. email or Facebook

Much thanks to our past office bearers for their time and commitment to serving our school community through our P&C.



UNIFORM RE-USE

Please place any unwanted clean second-hand uniforms in the collection box in the office for our future stall.

DISCO

The Disco was a night to remember!! - and a huge success.

Thank you to all our volunteers for your support.

WE RAISED \$952.00!!!



END OF YEAR MEGA RAFFLE

Almost \$3,000 in prizes!!!! Opening 1 Dec and drawn 17 Dec.



WATER FUN DAY

On the last day of school there will be water slides and slime. More details to follow.

DATES TO REMEMBER		
NOVEMBER		
WEEK 6	Friday 21	Assembly Year 2 (room 9)
WEEK 7		Swimming Lessons Begin
DECEMBER		
WEEK 8	Wednesday 3	KA Orientation 9.45am
	Thursday 4	KB Orientation 9.45am Newsletter 19
	Friday 5	Swimming Lessons Conclude School Board Meeting
WEEK 9	Monday 8	Volunteers Morning Tea 10.30am
	Tuesday 9	PP Orientation 2.20-3.00pm
	Friday 12	Graduation Ceremony
WEEK 10	Wednesday 17	Class Book Awards
	Thursday 18	Newsletter 20 Last day of Term 4
Term 1 Monday 2 February 2026		

