

PRINCIPAL'S PATTERN

What a fantastic start we have had to the year! It has been wonderful to see all of our students returning to school with smiling faces, settling into their new classrooms, and quickly adapting to new routines. The positive energy across the school has been terrific.

As you are aware, we have adjusted our recess and lunch break times. Recess is now from 11:00am – 11:30am, and lunch is from 1:30pm – 2:10pm. Students continue to have access to Crunch and Sip during class time. Please remember to pack appropriate Crunch and Sip items each day. If you are unsure what is suitable, please check with your child's classroom teacher. With a longer learning session before recess, you may find your child is needing some additional food in their lunchbox. We encourage you to check in with your child and work together to ensure they have enough snacks and lunch for the day.

A gentle reminder that students should not bring large bags of lollies or other treats to school to share with friends. If your child is celebrating a birthday, please communicate with the classroom teacher about the best way to celebrate. Small cupcakes (such as those available from Coles or Woolworths) are usually a simple and popular option.

Edu-Dance classes have now commenced for all students from Pre-Primary to Year 6. Information notes were sent home last week and payment is now requested. Payments can be made by:

- Cash at the office
- Cash placed in the locked box - don't forget to put it into an envelope or bag clearly labelled with your child's name and room number
- Direct deposit

You may have noticed that the cost of Edu-Dance has increased slightly this year compared to previous years. As a school, we always endeavour to keep the cost of extra activities as low as possible and encourage all students to participate. If you are experiencing difficulty with payment, please contact the office. In past years the school has heavily subsidised activities such as this; unfortunately, this is no longer possible.

A very warm welcome to all of our new families. We hope you have settled in well to the Balcatta Primary School community. I would also like to welcome back Mrs Hall (Science) and Mrs Stelov (Year 4/5 Room 3) from leave and extend a welcome to Mr Alivanja (Year 2 Room 8) who joins our teaching team this year.

Tomorrow we will hold our Student Leadership elections. Year 6 students who have nominated for Student Councillor or Faction Captain/Vice Captain roles will present a short speech to staff and students in Years 3–6. They will outline why they are the best candidate and what they will bring to the role before their peers cast their votes. I am incredibly proud of the many students who have put themselves forward for these important leadership positions. Votes will be tallied as quickly as possible, and our 2026 student leaders will be announced shortly after.

Finally, a reminder that we are no longer printing hard copies of the school newsletter. We will continue to publish a newsletter each fortnight, which will be shared with families via email. Please ensure the office has your current email address so you don't miss any important updates.

I am truly looking forward to all of the wonderful and exciting adventures that await us this year.

Lauren Hook
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 **\$50.00** 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.

CLASSES FOR 2026

Kindergarten (A & B)	Mrs Corrigan/ Miss Galambos	K
Pre-Primary 1	Mrs Bate	P/P
Pre-Primary 2	Mrs Wagner	P/P
Year 1	Ms Heywood	Rm 11
Year 1	Mrs Stewart	Rm 10
Year 1/2	Ms Claxton	Rm 9
Year 2	Mr Alavanja	Rm 8
Year 3	Ms Johnston	Rm 4
Year 3/4	Miss McFee	Rm 5
Year 4/5	Mrs Fego (Wed) – (Art Tues,Thur,Fri)	Rm 3
Year 4/5	Mrs Stelov (Mon,Tues,Thurs,Fri)	Rm 3
Year 4/5	Mr Lubich	Rm 2
Year 6	Mr Rasmussen	Rm 1
Phys Ed	Ms Saunders	
Science	Mrs Hall	
Music	Ms Pinakis	
LOTE - Italian	Ms Franchina	

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.

ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL



Parents are requested to ensure that their child/ren do not arrive at school before **8.35 am**. If for reasons of work etc. your child/ren are required to arrive earlier, written notification to the office is required. Many thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

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 inside of the hat.

SCHOOL CROSSING



At present our school crossing is monitored by our warden (Mrs Thi Thanh & Mr Ben Smith) 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.

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.

LIBRARY NEWS

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB – ISSUE 1

Orders will close on **21st February**

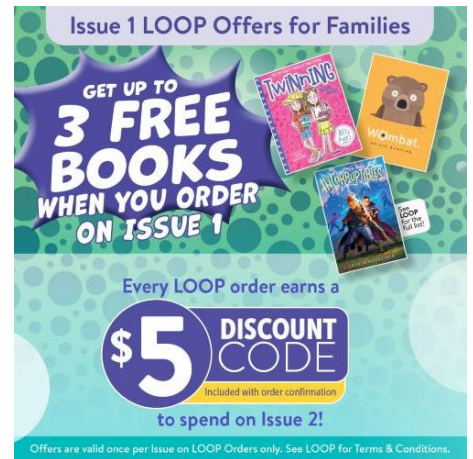
Issue 1 of Scholastic is out now and includes some great offers. Thanks to the incredible support of our school community, we earned **\$1400 in Scholastic rewards last year!** Our Book Fair in October was a huge success and contributed a large portion of these rewards. Every purchase through **Book Club** also adds to our rewards, allowing us to buy many new books and refresh our library collections for students to enjoy.

As you can see, having our school community behind us makes a real difference!!!

*****PLEASE NOTE ONLINE CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS ONLY *****

How parents order from Book Club online

1. Log in, or create a new account at **LOOP**
2. New parents can follow the Wizard to set up a child's profile
3. Click the ORDER tab, and select the child's school and Issue of Book Club
4. Select your child's name
5. Enter the product item number from the Book Club catalogue
6. Apply promotional codes that children may have earned from previous issues
7. Make a payment via **CREDIT CARD**



BIKES & SCOOTERS



It is great to see a number of students and families coming to school on bikes and scooters. To support the safety of both the riders, families and students we ask that once on school grounds students dismount and walk their bikes and scooters on verandas and pathways. We are lucky to have several bike racks for storage in the 'old' quadrangle, please support and encourage your child to store their bike in the racks and not lean it up against the wall.



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.

DOGS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

It is Ed. Dept as well as CEWA policy that dogs are not permitted on school grounds. For the health and safety of our students we request that dogs not be brought onto school property at all during school hours .



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 when enrolling so we can implement the appropriate plan to support them. Your assistance in keeping all of our students safe is appreciated.

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.



P & C NEWS

Like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/BalcattaPSPandC



PARENTS & CITIZENS MEETING

Join us for the upcoming P & C meeting on **Friday 20 February** at **9am-10am** in the **staffroom**. This is a great chance to hear what's planned for 2026, share ideas and get involved in supporting our school community.

FREEZE FRIDAYS

Freeze Fridays are back every Friday from 1.45pm to 2.10pm, so bring your 50c for half or \$1 for a whole icy pole.



LUNCH ORDERS

Lunch Orders will begin in **Week 3**. We're kicking things off **with Subway on Thursday 19 February**. Orders close Monday 16 February at 9:00am, so please get in early. All orders will be done via the Spriggy App. Families will need to log in and update their child's class on the app before ordering lunch.



SECOND-HAND UNIFORMS

Please continue to bring in any uniforms your children have outgrown and drop them off in the front office.

The last second-hand uniform stall for the term will be held after school on Tuesday 17th February, 2.45 to 3.20pm.

UNIFORM SHOP

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



Online ordering: (click and collect or home delivery)

<https://schooluniformstore.com.au/balcatta-primary> enter code: **BPS6021**

STAY CONNECTED

Keep up to date with what's happening at school - like and follow our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/BalcattaPSPandC

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Greetings for Term One! Balcatta PS has once again been bubbling with bright and smiley faces.



As Chaplain, I'm here to support staff, students and families with social and emotional wellbeing — whether you need a listening ear, a sounding board, or help connecting with additional support services.

I am on-site Tuesdays and Thursdays and I also run Breakfast Club and the Activity Centre during these times.

BREAKFAST CLUB runs Tuesday mornings from 8:15am until the bell in the undercover area.



THE ACTIVITY CENTRE IS OPEN:

- Tuesdays – Years 4–6
- Thursdays – Years 1–3

On Thursdays, Lilly W's mum kindly volunteers to run origami activities with students.

LUNCH ORDERS: With the P&C, I coordinate lunches every fortnight starting Week 3 (Thursdays). Lunches can be ordered through the **Spriggy App** (register under Balcatta PS) and alternate between Subway and Sushi.

Please do not hesitate to email me at shoshana.lam@youthcare.org.au, and we can organise a time.

Shoshie Lam
(School Chaplain)

TERM DATES – 2026 (for students)

Term 1	Monday	2 February	Thursday	2 April
Term 2	Tuesday	21 April	Friday	3 July
Term 3	Tuesday	21 July	Friday	25 September
Term 4	Monday	12 October	Thursday	17 December

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS – 2026

Labour Day	Monday	2 March
Good Friday	Friday	3 April
Easter Monday	Monday	6 April
ANZAC Day	Monday (<i>in lieu</i>)	27 April
Western Australia Day	Monday	1 June
King's Birthday	Monday	28 September

Important Dates for Term 1

Fri 6 March	Assembly - room 9
Fri 27 March	Assembly - Harmony Day
Mon 30 March	Edu Dance Concert
Thur 2 April	Last Day – Free dress

