



BALCATTa PRIMARY SCHOOL

Telephone: 9253 4900

NEWSLETTER

Number: 14

25 September 2026



EXCURSION - PASTA IN THE VALLEY

PRINCIPAL'S PATTERN

Hello Everyone

As we come to the end of another busy and rewarding term, I have been reflecting on all that we have achieved together as a school community. I am genuinely in awe of the dedication, enthusiasm and commitment shown by our students, staff, families and volunteers throughout the past ten weeks. This term has been filled with an incredible range of learning opportunities, celebrations and community events, including:

- NAIDOC Week and our NAIDOC Assembly
 - Book Week celebrations and Character Parade
 - 100 Days of School celebrations
 - Koora Waangakininy Boodja and Djurapin Kaa Kaa incursions
 - Science Week activities and STEM learning experiences
 - Excursions, including visits to Balcatta Senior High School, Caversham Wildlife Park and Pasta in the Valley
 - Birds of Prey and Black Cockatoo incursions
 - Three-Way Interviews
 - Breakfast Club
 - Father's Day Stall
 - Athletics Carnival, Interschool Jumps and Throws, and the Interschool Athletics Carnival
 - Balcatta Senior High School Art Competition
 - Wacky Sports Day and our Faction Reward Lunch
 - Ongoing P&C and School Board meetings
- These events represent only a small snapshot of the rich learning experiences that take place beyond the everyday work occurring in classrooms and learning spaces across our school.

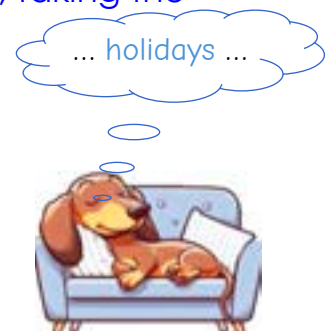
Behind every lesson, wellbeing check, intervention, parent conversation, playground duty and learning opportunity is a dedicated staff member who cares deeply about supporting every child to thrive. Their commitment to our students and school community is extraordinary, and I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved together this term.

I would also like to thank our families, P&C members, School Board representatives and volunteers for their ongoing support. Your partnership plays a vital role in creating the positive, caring and connected school community that makes Balcatta Primary School such a special place.

As the holidays begin, I wish all members of our community a safe and restful break. I hope you enjoy spending time with family and friends, taking the opportunity to recharge and reflect on a successful term.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back next term for more learning, growth and success together.

Lauren Hook
Principal



PLANNING FOR 2027

As we begin planning classes and staffing for the 2027 school year, it is very important that we know if any students will not be returning to Balcatta Primary School next year.

Even one or two students leaving can have a significant impact on class structures, staffing allocations, and school planning. If your child will be attending another school in 2027, please notify the school office as soon as possible.

Thank you for helping us plan effectively and ensure the best possible learning environment for all students.

PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE IF YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE RETURNING IN 2027

SMART GLASSES BAN

Smart glasses are banned from Balcatta Primary School grounds and from school events.

This ban applies to students, staff, parents, carers, visitors and contractors.

On 22 September 2026, the Director General of the Department of Education issued a CEO Instruction that bans smart glasses on any government school premises or at any school organised event or activity.

Smart glasses are wearable devices that incorporate technology traditionally associated with mobile phones and computers into eyewear. Many smart glasses can:

- take photographs
- record audio and video
- make and receive calls
- access the internet
- use artificial intelligence applications
- connect to other devices using wireless technology.

Smart glasses are becoming more accessible and widely used. This has raised public concern about privacy, wellbeing and safety in school environments, including from the eSafety Commission.

Every student, staff member, parent and carer has the right to be safe in our school. This instruction helps us to maintain a safe, appropriate and effective learning environment.

Exemptions are permitted for school-approved medical, accessibility or assistive technology purposes, or for educational programs specifically authorised by the principal.

We ask for your help to ensure these items stay at home.

Further information on this technology, and other online safety resources for parents, is available via the eSafety Commission website.

Thank you for your support to keep our students and school community safe

Lauren Hook
Principal

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY



Our next assembly will be held on Friday 23 October, commencing at 9.00 am with our music students performing an item. Parents, grandparents, friends and community members are most welcome.

NOTE: This was previously scheduled for tomorrow 25 September.

Merit Awards



Congratulations



AUSSIE of the MONTH



Congratulations



2026

Balcatta PS students demonstrated outstanding enthusiasm for reading, with **175 students registering and an incredible 5,772 books read over the 11-week challenge**. While we narrowly missed out on taking home the title this year, we came very close and are incredibly proud of our students' commitment, perseverance and love of reading.

Congratulations to all participants and a sincere thank you to our staff and families for supporting our readers throughout the challenge. Together, we have achieved our highest participation rate and book total to date, making 2026 a fantastic year of reading success.

Mrs Anthea Bouhlas
Deputy Principal



INTERSCHOOL CARNIVAL RESULTS 2026

SCHOOLS	SCORE
East Hamersley	598
Balcatta	520
Lake Monger	483
Takari	321
Osborne	210

Our Balcatta Primary School Interschool Athletics Carnivals were exciting events. We enjoyed two great days of competing against East Hamersley, Osborne, Takari & Lake Monger Primary Schools. Our Balcatta PS students were amazing to watch in running and team games. We finished with a win in the Grand Baton Relay! We also won the most improved Patterson Shield!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING INTERSCHOOL CHAMPIONS!

- Z F - Intermediate Champion Girl
- M F - Senior Runner Up Champion Girl
- C F - Senior Champion Boy
- A S - Senior Champion Boy

We are so proud of our Interschool team for their dedication and sportsmanship when representing Balcatta PS. Thank you to our P&C for organising the delicious sausage sizzle and to our parent volunteers assisting during the day. Thank you to Chris Hatton for bringing a trailer to help with set up and packing away at the end of the day. Well done to Mrs Murphy for her amazing work as announcer at the carnival. You really

set a positive tone for the event. Thank you to all Balcatta staff for your commitment and support during and leading up to this big event. I appreciate all the help I have received this term!

Go Team Balcatta!

Ms Kylee Saunders
(Phys – Ed Teacher)



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.

YEAR 6 ITALIAN EXCURSION - *PASTA IN THE VALLEY*

On Tuesday, September 22, our Year 6 students enjoyed a wonderful excursion to Pasta in the Valley, nestled amongst the picturesque grapevines of the Swan Valley.

During the visit, students participated in a hands-on pasta-making workshop, enjoyed a friendly game of bocce, shared a delicious Italian lunch, followed by a homemade gelato for dessert!



This excursion was an important part of our Year 6 Italian curriculum and complemented our classroom learning. Students had the opportunity to experience Italian language and culture in an authentic setting, using Italian in real-life contexts, including ordering their meals in Italian.

The day provided a meaningful and engaging way for students to apply their language skills while gaining a deeper appreciation of Italian traditions and cuisine.

Signora Franchina
Italian Teacher



CELEBRATING OUR YEAR 5 & 6 ARTISTS!

This term, our Year 5 and 6 students had the wonderful opportunity to participate in the Balcatta High School Annual Art Competition, with this year's theme being Portraits.

Students from both year groups created amazing artworks inspired by self-portraits from photographs we had taken in class. I was incredibly proud to see their creativity, dedication and artistic skills shine through. Their talent was showcased alongside students from several other schools in our community, with many of our students demonstrating drawing skills well beyond their years.

A huge congratulations to all the students who participated in the competition. Your hard work, creativity and willingness to share your artwork should be celebrated!

🏆 YEAR 5 WINNERS

- **Jacqueline E** – Merit Award
- **Vansh S** – Award of Excellence

🏆 YEAR 6 WINNERS

- **Agam Khinda** – Merit Award
- **Abhijot Singh** – Award of Excellence



A special congratulations to our award recipients and well done to all of our talented artists who took part. We are so proud of you!

A special congratulations to our award recipients and well done to all of our talented artists who took part. We are so proud of you!

Daniela Fego
Specialist Art Teacher





DATES TO REMEMBER

SEPTEMBER

WEEK 10

Friday 26

Free Dress
Final day of term

Term 4 begins on Monday 12 October 2026

enjoy your



holidays !!