



# BALCATT A PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## NEWSLETTER

Number: 1

12 February 2015



Pre-primary students enjoying the start of a new school year.

## **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. I have seen lots of 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 the school uniform 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.

Our Virtues Project has recommenced this year. The Virtues Project booklet has been sent home with today's newsletter. The school will be focussing on a particular virtue each month as part of promoting and enhancing good values across the school and the community. Parents are encouraged to promote and support these virtues in the home. Many thanks for your anticipated support of this very worthwhile program.

Finally, may I encourage parents to become involved in our P&C. We are seeking volunteers to help in our canteen. Your support would be greatly appreciated. The P&C meets on the last Tuesday of each month (next meeting Tuesday 24 February at 7.00 pm).

Enjoy your weekend.

**Peter Gates**  
**Principal**

## **SCHOOL ASSEMBLY**

Our next assembly will be held on Friday 6 March, starting at 9.00 am with our school choir performing the item. Parents, grandparents, friends and community members are very welcome to attend.

## **PARENT INFORMATION BOOKLET 2015**

The 2015 Parent Information Booklet has been sent home with today's newsletter (Years 1 to 6 - one per family). The booklet has been updated and is very useful for checking on general points of interest and procedures about the school. Our new parents are asked to note the student drop off and pick up areas as shown on the school map.

## 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 have been 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 commences on Tuesday 3 March and concludes Friday 13 March (Weeks 5 & 6). The 9 lessons will be held at Terry Tyzack Leisure Centre, and the cost will be \$60.00. Swimming forms will be sent home on Wednesday 18 February, and need to be completed and returned to your child's class teacher by Wednesday 25 February.



## STUDENT LEADERS 2015

Congratulations to the following students for being elected as a Student Leader this year. They will receive their badge at our minor assembly next Friday morning.

Zoe Danzi and Liliana Stjepanovic (Student Councillors).

Condoleezza Deada (Captain Hutt faction), Nitin Kumar (V/Captain Hutt faction), Kunj Patel (Captain Walters faction), Neel Patel (V/Captain Walters faction), Eiman Manyang (Captain Odin faction ) Jovan Ristoski (V/Captain Odin faction).

## MOBILE PHONES



Students must have a written note from parents if they **NEED** to bring their mobile phones to school (for emergencies only).

The phones must be turned off and handed into the office on arrival at school.

## 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 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.

## 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. Children without hats are restricted to the undercover assembly area and the verandah areas. 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.

## 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.**



## SCHOOL CROSSING



Our school crossing is manned by our two wardens (Neelprabha and Barry) from 8.00 am to 9.00 am and 2.45 pm to 3.45 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.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Parent Parking Plan and Traffic arrangement information is also included in the Parent Information Booklet 2015 (sent home today).

Thank you for your anticipated support, which can only enhance the **safety** of our students.

## 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.

## PLAYGROUP

### PLAYGROUP

Playgroup has recommenced and is held every Thursday morning starting at 9.00 am. All parents with children from 0 - 3 years are invited to attend.

When: Thursdays  
Time: 9.00 am to 10.25 am  
Place: Playgroup Room



## BATTERY RETRIEVAL PROJECT

Our school collects used batteries in an endeavour to keep batteries out of the landfill. Please help the environment by bringing in your old batteries. Please note that we do not accept car batteries. Our green battery collection bin is located in the office foyer.

## VIRTUE OF THE MONTH - RESPONSIBILITY

### ***What is Responsibility?***

Being responsible means that others can depend on you. You are willing to be accountable for your actions. When things go wrong and you make a mistake, you make amends instead of excuses. When you are responsible, you keep your agreements. You give your best to any job. Responsibility is the ability to respond ably. It is a sign of growing up.

### ***Why Practise It?***

When you take responsibility for your own actions, others can trust you. When people are not responsible, they break their promises, fail to do what they said they would do and let people down. People who make excuses instead of amends keep making the same mistakes. When you are responsible, you get things done with excellence.

### ***Signs of Success***

Congratulations! You are practising **Responsibility** when you:

- take your agreements seriously
- respond ably by doing things to the best of your ability
- are willing to do your part
- admit mistakes without making excuses
- are willing to make amends
- give your best to whatever you do

### 2015 TERM DATES

2015 TERM DATES	
<b>Term 1</b>	Monday 2 February – Thursday 2 April
<b>Term 2</b>	Monday 28 April – Friday 3 July
<b>Term 3</b>	Monday 20 July – Friday 25 September
<b>Term 4</b>	Wednesday 12 October – Thursday 17 December

## **P & C NEWS**

The P&C are holding their first meeting for 2015 at 7pm on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February and we would like YOU to join us. Come along to the computer room and see what we do! Children are welcome to use the school's computers during the meeting.

Don't forget to LIKE us on Facebook to keep up to date with all the P & C News.

[www.facebook.com/BalcattaPSPandC](http://www.facebook.com/BalcattaPSPandC)

### **UNIFORM SHOP**

The uniform shop is open on Thursdays from 8.30 am to 9.00 am.

### **SCHOOL BANKING**

Don't forget that Thursday is School Banking day and students should bring in their weekly deposit. For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for an exclusive School Banking reward item in recognition of their continued savings behaviour. New and exciting rewards are now available!

Taking part in School Banking is easy.

- You can get involved in the School Banking program by opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account at any Commonwealth Bank branch, over the phone on 13 2221, or via NetBank if you are an existing customer with NetBank access. Remember to take in identification for you and your child (driver's license and birth certificate).
- If your child has an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account they can start banking straight away. They just need to bring their deposit in every week using their Dollarmites deposit wallet. If your child has misplaced their Dollarmites deposit book or deposit wallet, they can request a new one from the School Banking Co-ordinator.

### **CANTEEN**

We are seeking parent help in our canteen.

If you can be of assistance, please notify the school office.

**Your free February edition of Perth's Child  
has been sent home today.**

# TERM 1 CALENDAR 2015

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Week 1	2 February • Start of Term	3 February	4 February	5 February	6 February
	9 February	10 February • Parent Information Meeting Yr 5/6	11 February • Parent Information Meeting Yr 1 (2.15pm)	12 February • Newsletter 1	13 February
Week 2	16 February	17 February • Parent Information Meeting Yr 4 (2.15pm)	18 February • Parent Information Meetings Yr 3 (2.30pm)	19 February • Parent Information Meeting Yr 2 (2.30pm)	20 February
	23 February	24 February • Staff Meeting (3.30 pm) • P&C Meeting (7.00 pm)	25 February	26 February • Newsletter 2	27 February
Week 3	2 March	3 March Swimming Starts →	4 March →	5 March →	6 March • Assembly Choir • Young Leaders' Day
	9 March	10 March →	11 March →	12 March → • Newsletter 3	13 March Swimming Ends
Week 4	16 March	17 March	18 March • Staff Meeting (3.30 pm)	19 March	20 March • Harmony Day Assembly and Luncheon
	23 March	24 March • School Council Meeting (3.30 pm)	25 March	26 March • Newsletter 4	27 March
Week 5	30 March	31 March • P&C Meeting (7.00 pm)	1 April	2 April • Interim Reports home • Last Day of Term	3 April GOOD FRIDAY

**Term 2 begins Tuesday 21 April 2015 (For Students)**