

Balgowlah North Public School

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Kindergarten Newsletter

Term Two 2022

Dear Kindergarten Families,

Welcome back to our second term of learning at Balgowlah North for our Kindergarten students. We are all looking forward to an exciting and busy term ahead.

There are some important events coming up this term. Please add the following dates to your diary:

Thursday 5th May – *Mother's Day Breakfast*

Friday 6th May – *Excursion to see "Edward the Emu" at the Glen Street Theatre.*

Thursday 9th June – *School Photos (winter uniform)*

Monday 13th June – *Queen's Birthday Public Holiday*

Friday 17th June – *Secret Ninja Incursion (new date after the postponement in Term 2)*

Friday 1st July – *Final Day of Term 2*

We strongly recommend parents make sure to check the school calendar and read the school newsletter for other events that may occur throughout the term. Messages are communicated on the school app regularly.

Literacy

This term, Kindergarten students will be consolidating the phonological skills developed in Term 1 and will begin to explore short and long vowel sounds and common digraphs (two letters that make one sound i.e sh, th, ch, ng). We will be introducing the concept of 'magic e' which is when the letter e at the end of a word makes the vowel sound 'say its name'. i.e. cake, rode, bike, home, name.

Students will continue to be involved in daily writing activities where they will apply their concepts of print, phonological awareness, and sight word knowledge. We will continue to use Quality Literature as the basis for modelled reading and text exploration and response activities. This term, all our Quality Texts focus on the concept of persistence and perseverance. Our students will interact with books including, Edward the Emu, Princess Smartypants, The Very Cranky Bear and Mad Magpie.

Talking and Listening Program - News

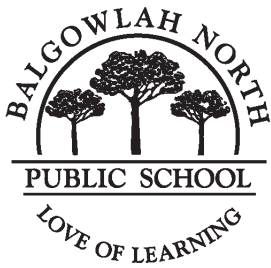
The Kindergarten News Program will continue weekly. All news presentations are intended to provide our students with the opportunity to develop their public speaking skills. We recommend discussing your child's news topic with them at home and supporting them in thinking of what they would like to tell their classmates. Written notes are unnecessary and can be confusing for students. Some students benefit from creating picture prompts for themselves or bringing in a prop to assist them in remembering what they would like to speak about, but the focus should always remain on their oral language skills. Topic details were sent home in Week 1. Here is an overview:

Week 2: Favourite book, Week 4: Explain a time when you have been brave and persisted.

Week 6: Toy presentation, Week 8: Three qualities of a good friend, Week 10: Term reflection – what are you most proud of? (Odd weeks 3, 5, 7, and 9 are free choice.)

Mathematics

Kindergarten students will continue to participate in daily mathematics lessons. Each lesson aims to explicitly teach and develop mathematical thinking and problem-solving strategies that are underpinned by a deep, conceptual understanding of numeracy. Number is a main focus in Kindergarten with ample opportunities to develop and refine fluid, flexible concepts of how numbers can be represented, combined and partitioned. The other strands of mathematics that we will be covering this term include measurement and geometry, patterns and algebra and data.



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Home Consolidation Activities

Home Reading is an integral part of the Kindergarten literacy program. We encourage parents to read with their child for 10 minutes every day. Home readers are intended to consolidate emerging reading skills at home and are pitched slightly lower than the instructional level they are reading at school. In addition to physical books, students have access to wonderful assortment of books through our Wushka membership. Login details were sent home in Term 1.

We encourage all our Kindergarten students to continue to share beautiful picture books, interesting information books and engaging chapter books with their families. Independent reading is a very important part of your child's literacy development, but their reading experience should not be limited to home readers. Reading from a variety of sources encourages the children to widen their interests, understanding of genres and authors, fluency and comprehension.

The sight and high frequency word program is another important part of our Home Activities Program. We remind parents to ensure your child is revising **ALL** of their sight/high frequency words regularly, rather than just focusing on their new list of words. This will assist them in transferring their sight word knowledge to their reading and writing.

Parent Helpers

In Term 2, parent helpers will continue to assist small groups in differentiated activities to help develop and consolidate foundational literacy skills. Your assistance is greatly valued and the students love having parents in the classroom. If you would like to volunteer your time and help in your child's classroom, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Science - Move it!

Kindergarten will be inventing their own toy this term! We will investigate and explore foundational properties of movement and use our knowledge and skills to design our very own toy at the end of our unit of work. We would love your child to bring in materials to use in the construction of their toy that, spins, slides, stacks, rolls or bounces.

Please start to bring in your labelled bag of items from week 5. Materials could include recycled cartons/containers (cardboard or plastic), string or wire, foil, masking tape, material pieces, plastic etc.

Geography – Special Places

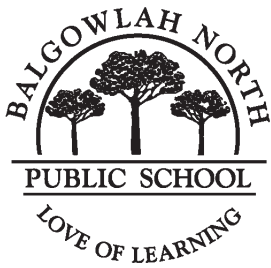
In this unit, Kindergarten will be exploring and identifying places to develop an understanding of the importance of places to people. Students will use skills to compare, observe and interpret different dwellings as well as communicate geographical information.

Music

Students in Kindergarten will be learning about performing (singing, playing and moving), organising sound (improving, arranging and composing) and listening (musical concepts, repertoire and instrumental music). Lessons will include a warmup, explicit teaching, learning activities and a reflection. The learning will also have a focus on Aboriginal Music. We look forward to an exciting term of Music with Mrs McAllister and to continue with Music in Term 3.

Personal Development and Health – Child Protection

This term, our Kindergarten students will be looking at developing strategies for keeping themselves health and safe. This will include being able to identify and name their emotions, discuss situations that make them feel safe and unsafe and establishing an understanding of their personal safety network of trusted adults they can ask for help. Students will also be taught the correct anatomical names for their body parts (private and non-private). It is mandatory to teach child protection education in every stage of



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learning from Kindergarten to Year 10 as part of the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA). For more information on the child protection content, go to <https://education.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/main-education/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/key-learning-areas/pdhpe/media/documents/pdhpe-cpe-es1-keeping-myself-safe.pdf>

Library

In library lessons, students will explore the English Textual Concept of Character through viewing and responding to quality texts with wonderful examples of characters. Each of these characters display the qualities of persistence and/or patience extending on the classroom English program. Students will learn that characters are constructed by authors to reflect lived experience and invite students to share their opinions. Children will borrow and return books weekly. Please make sure they have a labelled library bag. Library Days: 1/KM- Monday KC, KH, KW- Friday

Monday Morning Lines

To develop greater independence, Kindergarten students are encouraged to start walking to morning lines under the COLA by themselves on Monday morning at 855. Your child's teacher will be there to guide them into the correct class line.

School Photos

On Thursday June 9, students will have their school photos taken. Information will be distributed prior to this date. Students are asked dress in full winter uniform.

Canteen

Recess and lunch orders can be ordered online via Flexischools. Kindergarten students cannot bring money to school to purchase items.

School Reports

At the end of Term 2, students will receive their first school reports. This will provide parents with specific feedback about their child's progress in relation to the NSW Syllabus Outcomes for Early Stage One students. If you have any questions or concerns about how your child is progressing at school academically, socially or emotionally, we remind you not to hesitate in making an appointment with your child's class teacher.

Personal items

Please ensure that your child brings their school hat every day. We're hopeful for sunny skies this term but would ask that your child's raincoat is always kept in their bag in case of inclement weather. Clearly label all items including water bottles, lunch containers and clothing. We encourage students to be independent in putting on and taking off their school jumpers.

We look forward to an engaging and successful second term of the school year. We'd like to thank all our families for their ongoing commitment to supporting our Kindergarten students.

Thank you,
Kindergarten Team.

Sascha Carroll - Assistant Principal (relieving)
Camille Hadley
Jenny Mercer
Mae Short
Georgia Witton

Debbie Horsley – Teacher Librarian
Kerry Kelly - PE
Eliza McAllister – Dance/Music and PE