

# STAGE 1

## YEARS 1 AND 2

# Acknowledgement of Country

*We acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians on whose land our school rests. Their footsteps and whispers blow in the wind, drift on the clouds, remain deep in the sandstone and float on the waterways of this place.*

*Their memories and Dreaming stories will continue to connect us to the land and guide future generations of our school community.*

*Country is alive if you take the time to look, listen and learn.*



# Welcome

*An overview of this evening:*

- \*Introduction of the Stage 1 teachers
- \*Organisation and procedures
- \*Learning overview
- \*Communication



# Our Stage 1 Team

1C Claudia Mete

1ES Carol Saab (Mon-Tues) and Katherine Evans (Wed-Fri)

1M Meghan Parsons

2/1P Alice Pond

2A Amy Mussett

2MR Michelle Mandalidis (Mon-Wed) and Jenni Reinhardt (Thur-Fri)

**Assistant Principal Year 1:** Sascha Carroll

**Assistant Principal Year 2:** Jenni Reinhardt

## **Specialist Teachers:**

Teacher Librarian: Debbie Horsley

Physical Education: Kerry Kelly

Creative Arts: Eliza McAllister

# Diverse Learner's Team (DLT)

Our Diverse Learner's Team supports any students with additional needs. These may be academic, social, emotional or behavioural needs.

If your child's class teacher is concerned about your child they will discuss these concerns with you. If it is deemed necessary for these issues to be referred to the Diverse Learner's Team, your consent will be obtained.

The Diverse Learner's Team will develop a plan to support your child and you will be updated on how program modifications and adjustments are progressing.

Our Diverse Learner's Team is comprised of our Principal, School Counsellor, Learning and Support Teacher, the Assistant Principal and Class Teacher of identified students.



# MiniLit Program

MiniLit is an evidence-based, explicit and effective early literacy intervention program for teaching reading skills to children who need support in Year 1 or 2.

An information session on MiniLit will be held with Mrs Amanda Mason on

**Wednesday 1st March 2:15-3pm.**

All welcome to join.

# Attendance

Establishing positive attendance practices for your child is essential.

Partial absences must be recorded at the school office when the child enters the school late or leaves early for any reason.

Appointments should occur outside of school hours wherever possible.

If your child is participating in a support service with an external provider, this should not interrupt the school day. If you wish for your child to seek external support during school hours on an ongoing basis, a submission for approval must be made to the Diverse Learner's Team.

# Homework

- ★ Homework for Stage 1 students will begin in Week 5.
- ★ Students will bring home their homework book on Monday and it is completed and returned by Friday.
- ★ Students will have a weekly homework grid stuck in their homework book. It will include spelling, revision mathematics tasks (including Mathletics) and other activities. Most tasks will be recorded in this book.
- ★ If your child is unable to complete their homework, please write a quick note in their homework book.

The logo for Mathletics, featuring the word "Mathletics" in white text on a blue, stylized background that resembles a stack of papers or a brushstroke.

Mathletics



# Home Reading

- ★ Daily reading is the most important of all homework tasks. If you are finding it challenging to get through homework, we ask that you prioritise your child's reading.
- ★ Students will bring leveled readers home in their reader folder each Friday. We ask that these are returned the following Friday. Students will then select new readers to bring home.
- ★ Keep an eye out for your child's reading log which is to be filled in and returned each week as part of their homework. We love to see all the books your child has been reading.
- ★ Your child will also have access to readers on Wushka. Your child's Wushka login will come home in your child's reader folder on Friday. Books from the school library and your home library are a wonderful option as well.



## Year 1 Homework Term 4 Week 7 2022

My homework is due on Friday 25th November.

**Topic Talk:** Tell us about your favourite book.

### Reading

Write what you have read onto your reading log.

Library books can be used as well as home readers.

### Sight Words

Have you been practicing your sight words? This means you can read your words without sounding out **OR** spell your words correctly without looking.

Try these words:

celebrate wanted really  
beautiful lights



Our spelling focus is the sound 'th'.

- Write 10 words with the 'th' sound in them in neat writing.
- Write these words a **second** time **BUT** this time, use **FANCY** writing.
- Optional - Put 5 of these words into sentences.

### Random Act of Kindness

What is one thing you've done this week to help someone else or to make someone else smile?

My random act of kindness this week was:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



### Active Homework

What is something active you have done this week?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



### Maths - Fractions

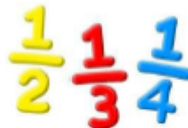
Draw 3 circles in your homework book.

Circle 1: Divide into halves with your pencil and colour one half. Write the fraction next to the circle.

Circle 2: Divide into quarters with your pencil and colour one quarter. Write the fraction next to the circle.

Circle 3: Divide into thirds with your pencil and colour one third. Write the fraction next to the circle.

At dinner time, cut up the different foods on your plate into halves, quarters or thirds.



### Reminders:

- This is the last week for homework for the year. From weeks 8-10 please still prepare your news, read every night and complete any *mathletics* tasks set by your teacher.



## My Reading Log

Write down what you have been reading each morning/night.

It might be a reader, library book or book from your own bookshelf.  
It is so important to get reading!

| Term 4             |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Week 2</b>      | <b>Week 3</b>      |
| Monday<br>_____    | Monday<br>_____    |
| Tuesday<br>_____   | Tuesday<br>_____   |
| Wednesday<br>_____ | Wednesday<br>_____ |
| Thursday<br>_____  | Thursday<br>_____  |
| <b>Week 4</b>      | <b>Week 5</b>      |
| Monday<br>_____    | Monday<br>_____    |
| Tuesday<br>_____   | Tuesday<br>_____   |
| Wednesday<br>_____ | Wednesday<br>_____ |
| Thursday<br>_____  | Thursday<br>_____  |
| <b>Week 6</b>      | <b>Week 7</b>      |
| Monday<br>_____    | Monday<br>_____    |
| Tuesday<br>_____   | Tuesday<br>_____   |
| Wednesday<br>_____ | Wednesday<br>_____ |
| Thursday<br>_____  | Thursday<br>_____  |
| <b>Week 8</b>      | <b>Week 9</b>      |
| Monday<br>_____    | Monday<br>_____    |
| Tuesday<br>_____   | Tuesday<br>_____   |
| Wednesday<br>_____ | Wednesday<br>_____ |
| Thursday<br>_____  | Thursday<br>_____  |

# Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

Teachers and students use the language of PBL throughout the day. Familiarity with it often helps students to make more reasoned choices.

Each week there is a different whole-school focus. We encourage parents to model similar language at home.

- ★ *Be Safe*
- ★ *Be Respectful*
- ★ *Be Responsible*



# Reward System

Our reward system involves an accumulation of certificates over your child's school years as follows:

- ★ 10 Mini Merits = 1 Merit Certificate
- ★ 5 Merit Certificates = 1 Principal's Certificate
- ★ 2 Principal's Certificates = 1 School Banner
- ★ 2 School Banners = School Medal

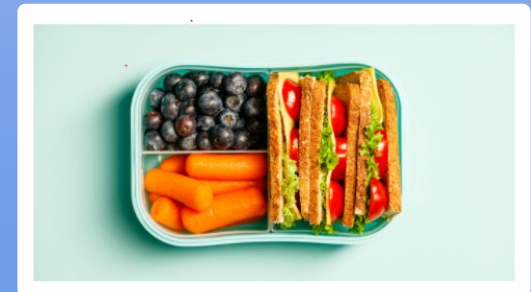


*Class merit certificates will be awarded at the Year K-2 assemblies (Monday alternating weeks).*

*Please encourage your child to keep their mini merits and certificates in a safe place.*

# Waste Free Wednesday

- ★ Balgowlah North Public School values environmental education and promotes sustainability across our school every day.
- ★ Each Wednesday, students are asked to reduce the amount of waste they produce by packing a waste free lunchbox.
- ★ Waste free numbers are collected by the SRC with classes competing to have the least amount of waste. Photos of the SRC reps from the winning class will appear in the newsletter. Our mascot, “Waste Free Wendy”, spends the week with the winning class.

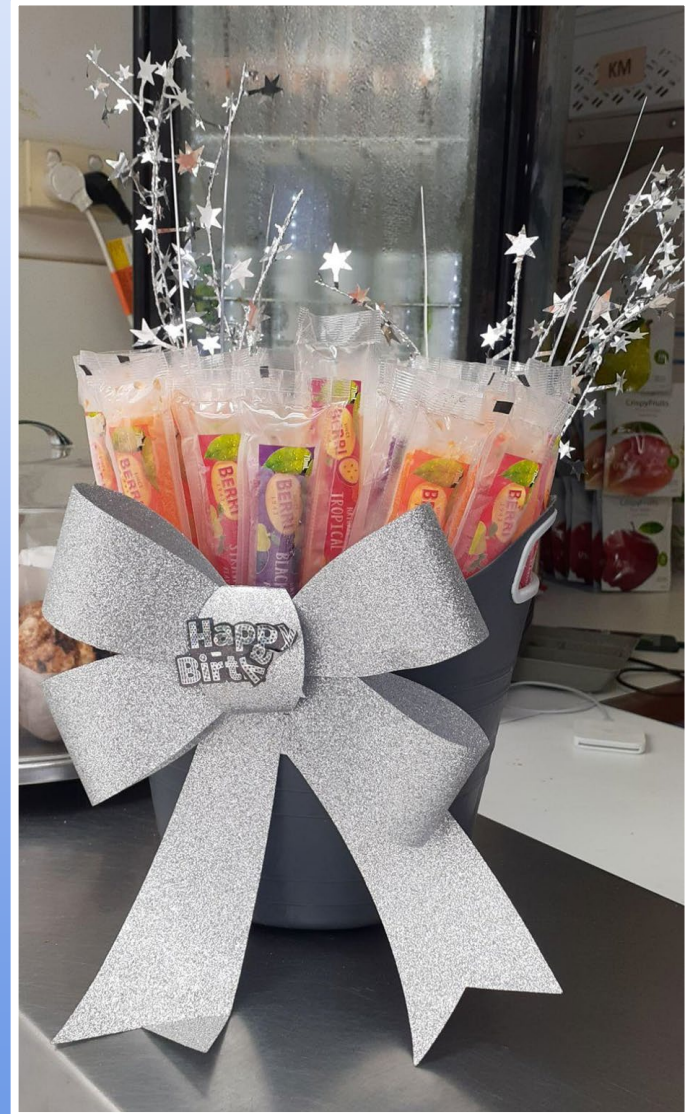


# Birthdays

We love to celebrate our students' special day.

If you would like to send in treats for your child to share with their class, please ensure they are ready as individual serves and that you are mindful that we have numerous students with allergies at the school.

The canteen has **birthday buckets** available for order on Flexischools. These are a popular choice as they are inclusive of students with various allergies.



# SEAT Scripture, Ethics and Additional Act

- ★ SEAT will commence in Week 5.
- ★ SEAT is from 2.10-2.40pm on Thursday afternoons.
- ★ Please ensure you send in your General Permission form ASAP with your preference.
- ★ If the first choice isn't available, your child will attend 'Additional Activities'.
- ★ No academic instruction or formal school activities can occur during time set aside for Scripture and Ethics.

# Building Relationships Across the Grade

- ★ Students eat recess and lunch with their grade and play together at recess and lunchtime.
- ★ Weekly sport on Wednesday afternoons, in social groups.
- ★ Incursions and excursions.
- ★ Special Events - Assemblies, Book Week Parade, Sports Days, etc.





# Differentiation across the curriculum

## What is differentiation?

- ★ Differentiation is a high impact strategy used by teachers to craft lessons that have the right amount of support and challenge for every student.
- ★ Differentiation engages all students in meaningful ways, including those working below, working at or working past expected learning outcomes.
- ★ All students are exposed to the same core content and taught the same key concepts and big ideas. Teachers differentiate for their individual students whilst maintaining high expectations of all students. An example is setting individual learning goals.
- ★ In every class, including composites, there are a wide range of ages and abilities. Teachers are experts in finding key opportunities to meet learners where they are 'at' in order to propel them forward in knowledge, understanding and skills.

# Instructional Leadership

- ★ At its core, Instructional Leadership is a framework embedded within our school practice that puts quality teaching and learning at the center of all that we do. Instructional Leadership is the strategic and intentional focus on facilitating evidence-based teaching practice that delivers strong impact on student learning.
- ★ Mrs Jenni Reinhardt, Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Instruction will lead Instructional Leadership in K-2 classes this year, focusing on implementation of the new K - 2 English and mathematics syllabuses.
- ★ Ongoing teacher professional development and collaboration with Classroom Teachers is aimed at strategic resourcing, implementation of instructional programs and establishing a strong focus on high expectations for all students.

# Stage 1 Curriculum

The NSW syllabus is organised in stages. Our Year 1 and 2 students are working towards meeting the outcomes of the Stage 1 syllabus.

All Stage One teachers are currently involved in professional learning focussed on implementation of the **new NSW English and Mathematics syllabuses**.

Our teachers are experts at differentiating their programs, lessons and teaching strategies to meet the needs of each and every student.

# English

In Stage 1, students learn to communicate through;

- ★ speaking and listening,
- ★ reading,
- ★ writing,
- ★ viewing and representing

In Term 1, students will explore quality texts with a focus on the theme of 'Belonging'. Students respond to and compose texts based on the books they read together in class.

We will be holding a  
**Parent Reading Information Session**

Tuesday, 28th February  
9am-9:45am in the school library.



# English

Students read and view imaginative, informative and persuasive texts. They read with developing fluency and intonation and use an increasing variety of skills and strategies, including knowledge of text structure, context, grammar, punctuation, word usage and phonics.

Student understanding is deepened through participation in regular reading groups, which focus on developing reading fluency and skills in literal and inferential comprehension.

Students also create imaginative, informative and persuasive texts on familiar topics by planning, proofreading and editing their own writing.





# Library

Library lessons occur every week for 40 minutes with our Teacher Librarian, Mrs Debbie Horsley. This program supports our Quality Text program and English concepts taught in the classroom.

Students in Stage 1 will be have time to borrow books at the end of their library lesson. Your child will need their library bag and books to return on their library day.

The library is open at lunch time on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for reading, drawing and quiet games.

Students also have the opportunity to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge. Details to come.



# Maths

We aim to design mathematics lessons that allow our students to use hands-on materials and learning games to develop and refine their skills. Students will use mental strategies to make calculations and problem solve. Students are encouraged to make connections between mathematical concepts, explain their thinking and develop different ways to demonstrate their understanding.

Learning in numeracy includes:

- ★ Forward and backward counting
- ★ Number recognition
- ★ Combining and partitioning
- ★ Sharing and forming equal groups
- ★ Repeating patterns
- ★ Shape and object recognition
- ★ Measuring length, area, volume
- ★ Positional language
- ★ Time



# Maths

This year all students have access to the online Mathletics program. Passwords will be sent home and teachers will assign program related activities to be completed at school or home as required.

The logo for Mathletics, featuring the word "Mathletics" in white, bold, sans-serif font, centered within a blue, rounded rectangular shape. The shape is layered with several semi-transparent, overlapping copies of itself, creating a sense of depth and motion. The background of the entire slide is a light blue gradient.

Mathletics



# Science

This term students will be investigating the physical world. They will be conducting hands-on science investigations around the properties of light and sound. Students will be involved in STEM investigations into how the properties of light and sound can be applied to real world applications.

An important part of this process is using the Scientific Method to create questions, conduct experiments and draw conclusions.



# History and Geography

Students will focus on history this semester and geography in semester 2.

During our focus on history in terms 1 and 2, students will ask the key inquiry questions:

What aspects of the past can you see today?

What do they tell us?

What remains of the past are important to the local community?

How have changes in technology shaped our daily lives?



# Creative Arts

- ★ Teacher: Eliza McAllister
- ★ Term 1 - Dance
- ★ Term 2 - Music
- ★ Weekly 40 minute lesson
- ★ Focus on performing, composing and appreciating dance.
- ★ Aboriginal Dance, dances through time and dance around the world.
- ★ Lessons will include a warmup/stretch, explicit teaching, learning activities, reflection time and a cool down/meditation.

Visual art lessons will be taught by the class teacher.



# Personal Development, Health Physical Education



Students will have a 40 minute P.E session once a week with our specialist sport teacher, Mrs Kelly. This term, students will practice ball control with large balls. Specific passing, catching, dribbling and shooting skills will be taught. We begin to add movement to combine skills together. In the second part of the term students will participate in school gymnastics lessons focussing on moving the body with control.

Stage 1 students also have grade sport time on Wednesdays. During grade sport time, students are allocated into mixed, social groups which provides further opportunity for them to develop relationships with peers across the grade.

Students are to wear their sports uniform for P.E lessons and grade sport on Wednesday. If your child is injured and unable to participate, please send a note.



# Communicating with the School

Clear, open and effective communication between parents and teachers is vital to ensuring our students are supported and meet their full potential.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's learning, development or well-being it is important you contact your child's teacher to schedule a time for an interview.

All email correspondence should be directed to the school email address. Please put your child's name and class in the subject heading.

[balgowlahn-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:balgowlahn-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

# Communication

## Modes of communication include:

- ★ School App/Website/Newsletter (Newsletter is sent out via the app every Wednesday.)
- ★ Parent-Teacher Interviews - End of Term 1
- ★ Student Reports - Emailed out at the end of Term 2 and Term 4.
- ★ Emails
- ★ Phone Calls (in some instances a phone call to a parent/caregiver will be the preferable mode of contact)
- ★ P&C Meetings
- ★ Notes
- ★ The school **Communication Policy** is available on the **School Website**.

# Communication

## **If your child is sick:**

- ★ If your child is unwell, please keep them at home. In addition, children exhibiting any covid symptoms must to be tested before returning to school.
- ★ **Please lodge all absences through the school app.**
- ★ **School email address:** [balgowlahn-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:balgowlahn-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)
- ★ **School contact number:** 9949 4499

# Communication

## Class Parent Role:

- ★ Make a list of names and contact details of class families.
- ★ Support your class teacher as required.
- ★ E-mail important information to class families from the school or P&C Committees.
- ★ Organises social activities for class families.
- ★ Attend P&C Meetings or read the minutes if unable to attend.
- ★ **1C is still looking for a class parent.** If you're interested, please contact the school.



# Seesaw Class

- ★ **Seesaw Class** is a digital platform that empowers students to demonstrate and share their learning.
- ★ During the year, teachers will post photos of students at school events.
- ★ Teachers will send home instructions, **Seesaw Class** learning codes and important privacy information you need to read. **Please ensure you download the Seesaw Class app.**



# URSTRONG

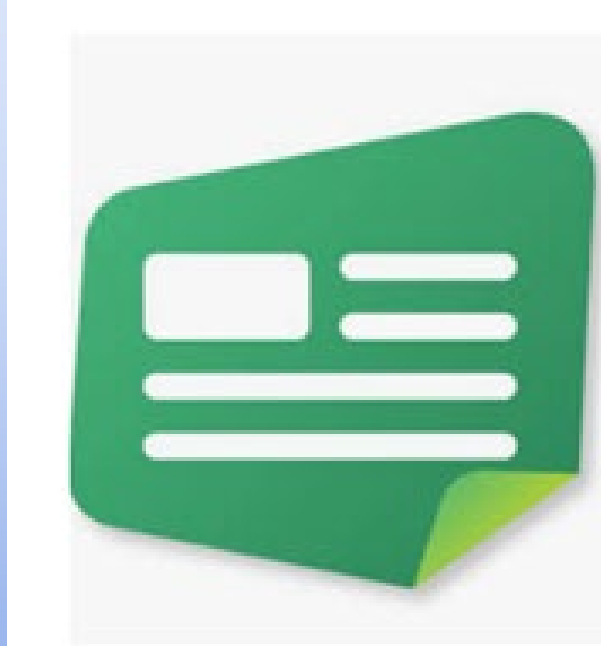


- ★ URSTRONG is a K-6 friendship skills program.
- ★ The program creates cultures of kindness in schools.
- ★ Child-friendly approach to help children navigate the ups and downs of friendships.
- ★ Empowers children to make healthy decisions about friendships.



Parents have access to a free membership.  
(See the Week 4 newsletter for details)

# SchoolZine



Please ensure you download the Schoolzine app  
for all communication in 2023.

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# Thank you

