



Balgowlah North Public School

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Stage 2 Term 2 2022 Newsletter

Dear Stage 2 parents and carers,

Welcome to Term Two! After a busy start to the year, our Stage 2 team of teachers are looking forward to another term of engaging and enriching learning with our Year 3 and 4 students. The term ahead is full of exciting programming and special events and activities, so here are a few important dates for your diaries.

TERM 2 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Monday 9th May: 3-6 Assembly (Week 3)

Tuesday 10th May: NAPLAN Writing (Year 3)

Wednesday 11th May: NAPLAN Reading and Conventions of Language (Year 3)

Thursday 12th May: NAPLAN Numeracy (Year 3)

Monday 23rd May: K-6 Assembly (Week 5)

Monday 30th May: 3-6 Assembly (Week 6)

Thursday 9th June: School Photos

Monday 13th June: Queen's Birthday Long Weekend

Monday 27th June: K-6 Assembly (Week 10)

Friday 1st July: Last day of Term 2

We recommend parents check the school calendar and app and read the school Newsletter for other events that may occur throughout the term.

CURRIULUM AREAS

English

Students are exploring a range of quality literature and continue to discuss, read, write and compose in creative and thoughtful ways in response to these texts. Sound Waves continues to be a program that teachers will focus on to reinforce spelling strategies. These, along with grammatical skills, are embedded into lessons and students are being given opportunities to think critically and creatively about texts with which they engage. Literacy groups will be a part of the Stage 2 English program this term, with a focus on students' fluency, comprehension, vocabulary and phonics skills to support their reading.

Mathematics

In mathematics, we will be focusing on open-ended problem-solving skills and developing strategies to work and think mathematically. Hands-on investigations and real-world application of numerical concepts are a big focus for our Stage 2 teachers. It is essential students continue to develop their mental and written strategies for solving problems and are provided with opportunities to reason, explain and justify their mathematical processes.

Library and History

During library lessons, Stage 2 will continue to learn about Australian history by investigating the big question: *Why do people choose to remember significant events of the past?* This will include exploring significant days and weeks celebrated or commemorated in Australia including ANZAC Day, Harmony Week, Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week. Students will inquire into the origins and significance of these events. Students will also identify and describe local, state and national symbols such as Australian, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags and the Australian coat of arms. In history, students will explore the significance of international celebrations and commemorations and explore their origins.

Stage 2 students will be able to borrow from the library on a Thursday (odd weeks). We encourage parents to take an interest in what their child is reading and support them (if required). Regular reading and changing of books will help maintain interest.

Science & Technology

As part of Living World, students will focus on the classification, life cycles and survival of living things. They will learn about the agricultural processes used to grow plants and raise animals. The planning and conducting of investigations is a vital part of science and students will be involved in the processing and analysing of data to draw conclusions. As part of digital technologies, students will be introduced to the Lego Spike robotics kits, giving them an opportunity to develop their skills in coding, problem solving, critical thinking and collaboration.

Music

Stage 2 students will continue to engage in weekly music lessons with Mrs McAllister this term. They 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 warm up, explicit teaching, learning activities and a reflection. The learning will also have a focus on Aboriginal Music. Students will have the opportunity for demonstrating their expertise, to work in various group situations and to build their skills.

Personal Development and Health – Child Protection

This term, Stage 2 students will be exploring the unit 'Standing up for the rights of myself and others'. Through this unit, students will investigate whether the rights of others are being respected in given scenarios and use this information to identify behaviours that constitute various types of abuse. They will recognise that everyone has the right to be safe and that they can use their personal power and strengths to stand up for their own and others' rights in a safe and positive way. It is mandatory to teach child protection education in every stage of learning from Kindergarten to Year 10 as part of the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA).

Sport & PSSA

Students in Stage 2 will continue to participate in weekly Physical Education (P.E.) lessons and have the opportunity to play PSSA sport. Trials for winter PSSA will be held in week 1 and 2 of this term. The winter PSSA sports are girls and boys soccer and netball. Students may wear their sports uniform of the day of their P.E. lesson:

- Wednesday – 3M, 3E
- Thursday – 4KG, 4/3V, 4W

Communication

Effective communication between home and school is vital to the success of a child's education. If you have any queries or concerns regarding social, emotional or academic progress, then the classroom teacher is the first point of contact. Semester One Reports will go home in week 10 of this term.

Drop Off Time

Students will be supervised in the playground from 8:30am until bell time at 8.57am. Students who arrive before 8:30 are asked to sit outside the school office until the 8:30 bell rings. If it is raining, students will be supervised in their classrooms from 8:30am. It is vitally important that students arrive to school on time so they do not miss key learning. Please ensure you sign your child in and get a late slip from the office if you arrive after 9.00am.

Homework

Stage 2 will continue with curriculum-based projects for students to complete. This term, students will be required to complete at least two projects from different subject areas. The first is to be presented in week 5, and the second in week 9. We appreciate your support in allowing the students regular access to either the iPad or Android phone and tablet apps or computer internet to complete these tasks.

Thank you for your assistance in helping students become organised and responsible for their homework! Please keep in mind that the students work very hard at school during the day and shouldn't be spending any more than 20 minutes a night on homework. If you need to adjust the amount of homework your child is doing, please speak to your child's teacher. We do understand the very busy schedules of students these days and value the time they spend with their family.

Thank you for your enthusiastic and supportive start to the year. We are excited to be working with your children and look forward to continuing to get to know you throughout the year.

Katherine Evans, Julia Gough, Eliza McAllister, Molly McIndoe, Patricia Vitale
Stage 2 Teachers

Sarah King
Assistant Principal
Stage 2 Supervisor