



# Balgowlah North Public School

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## Stage 3 Term 2 2022 Newsletter

Dear Stage, 3 parents and carers,

Welcome back to Term 2. We would like to extend our warmest thanks for your positivity and support during last terms complexities. As teachers, we have been delighted by how your children have adapted and developed. We couldn't be prouder. We have had a really positive start to the term and are looking forward to new and different experiences.

### TERM 2: Dates for your Diary

<p><b>All STAGE 3:</b></p> <p><b>Week 2: Thank you, Solar Assembly</b>          Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May  <b>School Cross Country</b>          Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May  <b>Dave Lardner Visit</b>          Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May  <b>Week 3: 3-6 Assembly 2.30pm</b>          Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May  <b>P&amp;C Mother's Day Stall</b>          Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May  <b>Week 5: K-6 Assembly 1.45pm</b>          Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May  <b>Week 6: 3-6 Assembly 2.30pm</b>          Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May  <b>Zone Cross Country:</b>          Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May          (Backup wet-weather day          Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June)  <b>Week 9: 3-6 Assembly 2.30pm</b>          Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May  <b>Regional Cross Country:</b>          Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June  <b>School Photos</b>          Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June  <b>Queen's Birthday Holiday</b>          Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June  <b>Interrelate Session 1</b>          Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June  <b>Interrelate Session 2</b>          Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June  <b>Week 10: K-6 Assembly 1.45pm</b></p>	<p><b>YEAR 5</b></p> <p><b>Naplan:</b>          Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May  <i>Writing</i>          Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May  <i>Reading / Conventions of Language</i>          Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May  <i>Mathematics</i>          Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May:  <i>Make up Test Day</i>  <b>Botanical Garden Excursion</b>          Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May</p> <p><b>Dance Sports:</b> Friday mornings</p>	<p><b>YEAR 6</b></p> <p><b>Botanical Garden Excursion</b>          Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May</p>
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Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> June <b>Interrelate Session 3</b> Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> June <b>Reports home:</b> Week 10 <b>Term 2 ends:</b> Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> July		
We will advise of any changes or additions to dates as we are informed further. We hope that these diary dates will help you to organise your calendar for the term.		
<b>Term 3 commences – (for students) Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July</b>		

**GENERAL INFORMATION:**

**EXPECTATIONS:** We all have high expectations of our Stage 3 students which reflect a high level of responsibility and independence, skills required for leadership roles next year and as Y6 transition to high school.

**POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING (PBL):** Teachers and students use the language of PBL and URStrong throughout the day. Familiarity with it often helps students to make more reasoned choices. We encourage similar expectations out of school.

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be Responsible

**LEARNING FROM HOME:**

The Department of Education has provided Digital Learning Packs for students who are isolating and unable to attend school.

All students from Kindergarten to Year 6 can access the Digital Learning Packs at the following website: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/learning-from-home/learning-at-home/2022-digitallearning-packs/primary>

The Digital Learning Packs are organised into grades. Each learning pack contains 5 days of learning activities. You should start with the first pack and commence on day one regardless of the timing of your period of isolation. Students should complete all the learning activities in the pack before moving onto the next animal pack.

In a situation where your child is isolating and unable to attend face to face learning, they will be counted as attending school if there is reasonable evidence of participation in learning from home.

In Years 3-6 students are asked to upload evidence of their engagement with the Digital Learning Packs to their Google Classroom or bring hard copies when they return to school.

Please note, students who are unwell are not expected to complete learning from home.

If you have any questions relating to how we can support your child in learning from home or about the Digital Learning Packs, please contact the school.

**COMMUNICATION:**

- Whilst use of mobile phones and smart watches have become more commonplace with students, it is school policy that they remain in bags and switched off throughout the day. Students will not need to access phones or their smart watches for any school-based activities.
- ABSENCE NOTES/LATE NOTES/SIGNING OUT BOOK is mandatory.
- Students are not allowed to sign themselves into school. Please sign your child in or out at the office if arriving late.

**Contacting your teacher:**

If you need to contact your child's teacher, please do so via our school email address:

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

The office will forward your email appropriately.

**DROP OFF TIME:**

It is the beginning of the Term 2 and once again we are establishing routines with the children. Part of this routine is bell times. As per usual, children will be supervised in the playground from 8:30am. If it is raining, children 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 material. If you arrive after the morning bell, please sign your child in at the office.

**ENGLISH**

In Term 2 we are working towards increasing our students' understanding of a variety of texts while learning to respond critically to these texts. With the introduction of post-modern twisted fairy tales, it holds the key purpose to explore creative approaches to matters of belief, good and bad, right and wrong and other held intangible values. This term we continue with our participation in Novel Studies which encourages a deeper understanding and a focus on developing skills in literal and inferential comprehension. We carry on embedding the Seven Steps writing model into our Quality Text programs. Explicit spelling lessons are supported by using the Soundwaves program.

**MATHEMATICS**

Stage 3 teachers aim to design mathematics lessons that allow our students to develop and refine their skills and apply them to conceptual problems that involve critical thinking and multi-operational problem solving. This term they will continue to develop their skills with whole number, 2D shapes, multiplication, division, time, fractions and decimals. Our students will continue to participate in challenging and engaging investigations as well as encouraged to think critically and creatively in mathematics. Students are learning to communicate their mathematical thinking orally and online. All students should have access to the online Mathletics program. Teachers continue to assign program related activities that are to be completed at school or home as required.

**MATHS OLYMPIAD** - Maths Olympiad will continue.

**MATHS GAMES** - All Stage 3 students not competing in Maths Olympiad will compete in Maths Games. It is organised by the Australasian Problem-Solving Mathematical Olympiads and encourages problem solving covering all concepts in a fun way.

**GEOGRAPHY**

Stage 3 students will be involved in the design and research behind the development of a yarning circle and native garden area within our school grounds. The driving question for this project is - How can we create a place of wellbeing and connection in our school for our entire school community? What would this look like? The project will be facilitated by our local Aboriginal Education Group to gain knowledge and understanding of our rich local Indigenous history, sustainable practices and customs to ensure decisions and planning are contextually relevant and authentic. Students will research local materials and native plants and use Tinkercad software to represent their design choices.

**LIBRARY:**

Quality literature is promoted during library lessons and student borrowing is supported and encouraged. 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. A book that is simply 'at home, unopened' is simply preventing another student from accessing the book. Not all books are engaging for every student. Encourage your child to change their book if it is not working for them.

## **SCIENCE**

During Term 2, stage 3 will be participating in a 'Living World' unit exploring native plants and animals and how they have adapted to survive in the harsh Australian environment. Students will engage in activities, collecting research and primary data in a hands-on experience. As part of our study students will also have the opportunity to visit Rathborne Lodge in the Royal Botanical Gardens. During the program, Aboriginal Education Officers will facilitate an investigation into a wide variety of local native plants and animals which were integral in the lives of the first Australians.

## **TECHNOLOGY:**

This term our Year 5 will be introduced to our new Lego EV3 Mindstorms! During these sessions, student will be learning to build and program their robots on their iPads. Year 6 will also be using the Lego Ev3 Mindstorms but will be concentrating on programming and the development of coding skills in relationship to their robots and its surroundings. We will ensure that our teaching and learning programs across the stage actively support and promote safe use of the internet. We ask that you also ensure your child is supervised in their use of social media, particularly as they are under the legal age of consent for many apps.

## **CREATIVE ARTS:**

Our creative arts program this term will link with our Geography lessons. How can we best add artistic flair to our yarnning circle? Inspired by Indigenous artists Jimmy Pike, Rosemary Petyarre and Sarrita King we will be creating arts and crafts to hang, decorate and enjoy texturally in the yarnning circle. The activities will engage students using their fine motor skills through yarnning activities involving knitting, creating dream catchers, wind chimes, mosaics, clay sculpture and other weaving activities. The final creations will be displayed when the yarnning circle has been built.

## **MUSIC**

The students in Year 5 and 6 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, reflection time and a reflection. The learning will also have a focus on Aboriginal Music. We will be working in the dance/music room, COLA and Hall, remembering to always be safe, respectful and safe. Students will have the opportunity for demonstrating their expertise, to work in various group situations and to build their skills. We look forward to an exciting term of Music with Mrs McAllister and to continue with Music in Term 3.

## **PDHPE**

In Term 2, we will continue to look at spacing in invasion games with a particular focus on soccer skills. Students will also participate in our yearly Athletics unit where they will have a chance to practice and trial for field events (long jump/ high jump/ shot put) prior to our Athletics carnival early in Term 3.

## **INTERRELATE (Year 5 and Year 6)**

- Peer problems are very normal – As boys & girls are quite different in the way in which they deal with things, we will work with students to help them through the minefield of emotions and hormones where appropriate. This will be underpinned by the URStrong program. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you are aware of issues that we may not be.
- Interrelate will run an intensive course for year 5 and 6 students around puberty and related topics. It is a great opportunity to open communication channels about growing up and adolescence with your child.

## **DANCESPORTS:**

Year 5 students will be participating in the Dancesport Confidence program which runs for 15 weeks. Students will be taught a variety of partner dances (Ballroom Dancing). An expert ballroom instructor will tutor the students once per week during school time. Sessions take place in the school hall on

Fridays and commenced Term 2, Week 1. During the program, students will learn ballroom dancing skills, the development of self-confidence and respect for each other, the ability to perform in front of an audience, and the sheer enjoyment of dance as an art form.

Year 6 will participate in Dancesport Term 4: Week 1 – 8.

**SPORT:**

Please ensure your child has appropriate footwear for all sport activities.

- ★ Wednesday (6S, 6H, 5R, 5S, 6/5M)
- ★ Friday: Sport/PSSA

**HOMEWORK:**

Homework in term 2 will be a project based, where students will complete weekly activities, across several KLAs, designing a 'City Square' that will contribute to an overall rich task assignment. The City Square integrated unit is a fun, hands-on unit that encourages students applying their knowledge and skills to a real-world context whilst solving a problem. Students have a significant amount of control over their project and the direction that they choose to take the unit.

**STAGE 3 CAMP:**

Note for your diaries: -Years 5 and 6 students will be attending camp at the Point Wolstoncroft Recreation Centre. The date is as follow: *Term 4: Week 1: Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October – Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October (2 nights)*  
Costs will be added to your Term 3 statement of account. If you require financial support, please contact Brooke Keevers in writing as soon as possible.

If there is anything you feel we should be aware of regarding your child and school, please let us know.

Chris McCall, Stephanie Rooleht, Lachlan Stewart, Anna Harris, Karina Lewis  
Stage 3 Teachers

Susie Stock  
Assistant Principal (Relieving)  
Supervisor Stage 3

