



Balcatta Update

September 2016

From the Principal

Term 3 is rapidly drawing to a close and Year 12 ATAR students will soon be sitting their mock examinations during the September holidays. We hope that students have spent their time wisely and are fully prepared for these important examinations. ATAR students may wish to take advantage of holiday revision seminars. Details of venues and the discounted prices can be obtained from Mr Pestana, Associate Principal.

NAPLAN results were recently made available and we are pleased with the Year 9 results. Our students performed above 'like' schools in Reading, Writing and Numeracy which is commendable. The Year 7 NAPLAN results indicate that there is a group of students whose Literacy and Numeracy is of concern. These students will be provided with additional support in order to assist them to secure the needed improvement in their results.

Over the next few weeks, Year 10 and 11 students will have their course results reviewed to ensure they have made satisfactory progress in their studies. There are now more stringent WACE requirements which make it imperative that every student is fully engaged and committed, not only in completing classroom activities, but handing in assignments and homework in a timely manner.

Year 9 and 10 students will soon have the opportunity to select their options for next year. Specialist teachers will be speaking to students to outline what subjects are on offer within each Learning Area.

I remain concerned about the number of students who are arriving late at school. As well as missing out on valuable learning time, arriving late disrupts the learning of other students. Parents are reminded that students should not phone them directly to ask to leave school early but should sign out through Student Services office. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

A very successful Athletics Carnival was held on Thursday, 1 September. A full article about the carnival and photos will feature in the Term 3 edition of the Balcatta Bulletin. Congratulations to Mr Birkett and his team, the entire staff and students for their wonderful participation and sportsman-like behaviour. It was also pleasing to see a number of parents who came along to support their children.

Finally, later this term, parents will be invited to take part in the

National Schools Opinion Survey. The survey, which is conducted every two years, is an important tool that enables parents to give us feedback about the effectiveness of the school. We are keen to have more parents undertake the survey as, in 2014, only 30% of parents participated in the survey. The survey information will be sent via email and will be available on the school's website:

www.balcattashs.wa.edu.au

**Lesley Street
Principal**

News

Year 11 Exams and Last Day

The Year 11 ATAR students will sit for exams from 14 to 21 November 2016. Year 11 students do not need to attend school after that date, except for the compulsory Year 11 Awards Assembly on Tuesday, 6 December at the school. More information will be provided at a later date.

Leavers Jackets 2017

First round orders for the Leavers Jacket will close on 19 September 2016. A second round will be offered early in Term 1, 2017. It is preferable that students order in the first round offer as these jackets will arrive before the end of 2016. The student-designed jackets cost \$100. Extra order forms are available on the Student Services pin up board.

Year 12 Update

Tuesday, 18 October 2016 (Week 2) will be the final day for Year 12 students. The day will feature a farewell assembly followed by a morning tea. It is anticipated that students will finish by 10.30am.

The clearance day will be Monday, 28 November followed by a rehearsal at the Victory Life Centre. This year's Presentation Ceremony will be held at the Victory Life Centre in Osborne Park on Tuesday, 29 November 2016. The event will run from 6.00 to 8.00pm, followed by a dinner.

Dance - Upcoming Events

Dance Auditions for entry into 2017 Year 7 program will be held on Friday, 16 September 2016. To apply, download an [application form](#) available from our website and return it to Balcatta SHS administration by Friday, 9 September 2016.

The Dance Department has been invited to participate in a community event run by Westfield Innaloo launching their Christmas season with a "Christmas Pageant". This will be held on Sunday, 12 November.

Our final showcase for the year will be held at the Dolphin Theatre at University of WA on Friday, 25 November.

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Reward Excursion Criteria

During the year, a number of reward activities are held for eligible students. They include events such as river cruises and excursions. However, to earn an invitation, students are expected to follow particular criteria that include;

1. Attendance - Attending school 90% of the time, unless medical certificates are provided to explain absences. Students who regularly truant will also not be invited to participate in the activity.
2. Behaviour – students who have been suspended or have ongoing behaviour referrals.
3. Uniform – failure to follow the uniform code.

Whilst we take individual circumstances into consideration, we encourage parents and guardians to communicate all medical issues to the respective Year Coordinator. We will endeavour to support your child to achieve these criteria. It is important to maintain high expectations of students and we ask for your support in ensuring these standards are maintained.

Free Seminar

Understanding Conflict with your Teen

The seminar is designed for parents and caregivers who want to improve their relationship with their teenagers.

Adolescence is a time of great transition and challenge for young people and their families alike. Communication difficulties, conflicts and a lack of understanding may often occur. At such an important time, it can be easy to lose confidence in the ability to parent successfully. This group is designed to assist you:

- To understand the nature of conflict between teenagers and parents;
- To provide opportunity to enhance conflict resolution skills.

When: Thursday 29 September

Time: 9.30am – 12.30pm

When: Tuesday 27 September

Time: 5.00pm – 7.30pm

Venue: Centrecare Mirrabooka, 12 Brewer Place, Mirrabooka

Registration is 15 minutes prior to Seminar

Bookings are necessary. For further information or to book your place, please call: 9440 0400



Various seminars will run during September at a cost of \$30 per person:

- Dads Raising Girls, Tues 20 Sept, West Leederville
- Successful Single Parenting, Wed 21 Sept, West Leederville
- All About Anger for Parents and Teens, Wed 21 Sept, West Leederville
- Dads Raising Teenage Boys, Wed 21 Sept, Fremantle

Ring 6164 0200 to enrol or go to www.relationshipswa.org.au

From the P&C

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my appreciation to the Committee for their support and commitment this year. Thank you to those parents who have attended our meetings and participated in the discussions pertaining to our school, our children and our community.

What are the functions of our P&C?

- Raises funds and provides additional resources and amenities for the benefit of our children.
- Gives parents/carers an opportunity to learn about our school's programs.
- Brings parents/carers together to share information and views.

The P&C meetings are open to all and we welcome to new members. We keep the best interests of our children at the forefront of our discussions and decision-making. We pride ourselves on being a dynamic and dedicated committee who seek the best outcomes for our children.

The P&C manages the School Canteen and Uniform Shop. The success of the Canteen is attributable to the dedication of a small group of individuals. Under the supervision of Jenny Young and the motivation of her staff Adrianna, Katrina and her small contingency of volunteers, the Canteen has been thriving during this term. Jenny is always looking for new volunteers to assist in the Canteen.

Hopefully by now most parents and students have taken advantage of our "Big Sale". The aim is to reduce excess stock at discounted prices.

The P&C have been very supportive and excited about the Independent Public School campaign put forward by our School Council. Lesley Street, Stephen Pestana and myself, recently presented our case to the panel and we now wait until later this month to find out if we have been successful.

The Committee will continue to work well with our Principal and community for the remainder of 2016. We will make informed decisions for the best outcomes for our school and our students. We will address matters pertaining to our canteen and uniform shop and with the help of our volunteers, the Committee will seek opportunities to fundraise for much needed resources and amenities. We look forward to a busy and successful Term 4.

Helen Notis
P&C President

Important dates

21 Sep	Year 8 AFL Cultural Carnival
22 Sep	Year 9/10 Assembly
23 Sep	Attendance Reward
26 Sep – 09 Oct	Term 3 School Holidays
03 Oct – 07 Oct	Year 12 Exams
10 Oct	School Development Day
10 Oct	Arts Festival for G&T Years 7/8 Students
12 Oct	Interschool Athletics Carnival