

From the Principal

Welcome to all parents and students to the 2017 school year, especially to our incoming year 7 students and those students who are new to the school. It has been a very busy, smooth start to the school year. It is especially exciting as we are celebrating the school's 50th birthday and it is our inaugural year as an Independent Public School.

At the start of the school year I talked to staff and students about our expectations as a school community and to reinforce our values of Respect, Unite and Excel. I also encouraged all students to endeavour to attain their personal best. I have visited a number of classes and have been impressed with the positive tone displayed by the students.

Staff Update

I am delighted to have been appointed the Principal for Semester One whilst Ms Lesley Street is on leave. Ms Street continues to keep a close eye on the school as she undertakes an administration role at the International School in Morocco.

Mrs Helen Hawley is the Associate Principal for Years 10 to 12 and Mrs Tessa Curtis is the Associate Principal for Years 7 to 9. Ms Deborah Middleton is the VET Co-ordinator for Semester One.

We welcome a number of staff to the school and we are very pleased to have a mixture of experienced teachers and new graduate teachers, all of whom have won their appointments in a competitive selection process. We welcome Jonathon Giles in Art; Kristina Balic in Health and Physical Education, Deborah Cole and Tara Jackson in Humanities, Jaye Christie in EALD, Joshua Perling in Mathematics, Tessa Whiting and Priya Kumar in Mathematics/Science, Margaret Wims in Technologies and Donatella Bono in LOTE. Welcome back to Sherree Tomlinson and Anne Jones who have returned from maternity leave.

2016 WACE Results

One of the key features of Balcatta Senior High School is that all students can pursue their goals. We are very proud of our top students, Khai Nguyen who scored 96.05 who has chosen Engineering at University of WA (UWA) and Sonja Drljaca who scored 95.75 and gained entry into Science at Queensland University. Our results in 2016 followed the excellent trend of recent years. There are many other successes as 87% of our ATAR students gained university entry. Our VET results are even better with 100% of our students achieving a Certificate II or higher. Balcatta Senior High School ATAR English attained the status of being one of the top performing schools in the state.

A 98% attainment was achieved with students either scoring ATAR 55% and/or completing Certificate II/III which allows them to enter university or training college.

The following students were acknowledged by School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA) for the following awards:

Certificate of Distinction

Sonja Drljaca, Caitlyn Richworth, Ysraelle Tan.

Certificate of Merit

George Arman Carpio, Joanne Chen, Rembrandt Dayoc, Ira Fortun, Riki Morrow, Nicholas Notis, Prabodya Ponsuge, Dean Tus.

Helen Maitland
Principal

NEWS

Teen Triple P – Positive Parenting Program

As part of our commitment to nurturing the whole child, Balcatta SHS is pleased to be offering the Teen Triple P – Positive Parenting Program seminar series during Term 1, 2017. These free seminars consist of three 90 min sessions and cover the following topics:

Seminar 1: Raising Responsible Teenagers
Seminar 2: Raising Competent Teenagers
Seminar 3: Getting Teenagers Connected in the Wider Community.

All parents are invited to attend these informative, friendly sessions. You are welcome to attend one or all of the sessions. If you are only able to attend one seminar, it is recommended that you attend Seminar 1 Raising Responsible Teenagers, as it provides an overview of positive parenting. The seminars will run weekly, commencing Wednesday 22 March. Further details will follow. If you are interested in attending, or would like further information, please contact our school psychologist Melanie Lander on 9345 8243 or email Melanie.Lander@education.wa.edu.au

Contributions and Charges 2016/17

Thank you to all the parents/guardians who have paid their child's 2016 Charges and Voluntary Contributions account.

We would like to remind those who have not yet paid, that payment can be made at the office weekdays between 8.15am and 3.30pm using cash, cheque, credit card, EFTPOS. Payment by Mastercard or Visa can be made over the telephone. Alternatively, you may wish to pay direct to the school's bank account.

Details are as follows:

Name: Balcatta Senior High School
BSB: 066 140
Account Number: 00900104
Reference: Students Surname, First Name

Should you have any queries regarding your account or if you would like to discuss time payment options, please contact the school on 9345 8200.

Balcatta Senior High School relies heavily on parent/guardian payments for these course/subject fees which enables our classes to be maintained and updated as required by the curriculum. Please be reminded charges remain compulsory.

Secondary Assistance Scheme (SAS)

Secondary Assistance Scheme (SAS) closes on 7 April 2017. **Late applications cannot be accepted.**

Information Update required

It is important that the school has up-to-date and accurate contact information for parents and caregivers. Not only do we need to contact parents in an emergency but we also email and text important information relating to the educational progress of students. Please take the time to contact the school office on 9345 8200 to update mobile numbers and email addresses.

ThinkUKnow presentation

Balcatta Senior High School will be hosting a ThinkUKnow presentation on Wednesday 15 March at 6.00pm in the School Library. All parents, carers and teachers are encouraged to attend. **This presentation is not for students.**

ThinkUKnow Australia is a cyber-safety education program that educates parents, carers and teachers on how people are using technology, the challenges they may face online, and how to help them overcome these in a safe and ethical way.

ThinkUKnow Australia is a partnership between the Australian Federal Police, Microsoft Australia, Datacom and the Commonwealth Bank. The program is delivered in collaboration with policing partners New South Wales Police Force, Northern Territory Police, Queensland Police, South Australia Police, Tasmania Police, Western Australia Police, as well as Neighbourhood Watch Australasia.

The presentation will be delivered by a local law enforcement member and an industry volunteer. The presentation covers issues relating to children and young people's privacy and security online, their relationships with other users and their online reputation. It provides insight into the devices young people are using, as well as the popular websites, apps and social networking sites they are accessing.

This is a fantastic opportunity for you to learn more about young people and the online environment, and how you can help them to be safe and responsible users of technology.

To register to attend please email:

Balcatta.shs@education.wa.edu.au or contact the school on 9345 8200 and advise the number of people attending with a contact name and contact number. For more information, you can visit www.thinkuknow.org.au or contact Tegan Walker, Student Services Manager on 9345 8200.

From the P&C

On behalf of the Balcatta High School Parents and Citizen Association (P&C) I would like to extend a warm welcome to our students, parents, caregivers, principals, teachers and support staff to our school community for 2017. We hope you are rested and ready for a productive year.

Alongside our Executive Committee, we have a group of dedicated parents and volunteers who are passionate about

our community and advocate for our children's education and regularly attend our P&C meetings and help at our various fundraising and community events. We thank them for their contribution and look forward to their continued commitment and enthusiasm during 2017. Balcatta Senior High School is fortunate to have a canteen that operates 5 days a week. Not many schools have this privilege! We have a very dedicated Canteen Manager in Jenny Young who is assisted by her staff Adriana, Katrina and her volunteers to ensure our children and staff, receive healthy and nutritious lunches and morning teas. We know that Jenny will continue to keep our canteen thriving during 2017. If you can spare an hour or two during the week to help out in the Canteen, Jenny would love to meet you and offer you an opportunity to be involved with our school community.

As most would be aware, the P&C no longer manages the Uniform Shop as the decision was made to outsource to Tudor. The P&C Association is very confident that the uniform shop will be managed effectively and professionally with the interests of our students and school community at the forefront.

The P&C is extremely proud and supportive of Balcatta Senior High School (BSHS) being awarded Independent Public School (IPS) status in 2016. The P&C looks forward to being part of the successes and achievements of BSHS as an IPS during 2017. BSHS also celebrates our 50th Anniversary in 2017 and the P&C is delighted to be involved with the planning for the celebration on **25 March 2017**.

The P&C looks forward to an exciting and eventful year. We welcome all new members to the Committee and take this opportunity to invite everyone to our next Annual General Meeting on **Wednesday 22 February commencing at 7.30pm in the Staff Room**. All positions will be declared vacant and nominations/expressions of interest can be placed with our Secretary, Rachael Johnston by email at pandcbalcatashs@gmail.com. We hope to see you there.

Helen Notis
On behalf of Jenny Ambler
P&C President

Important dates

22-24 Feb	Year 7 Orientation Camp
22 Feb	6.00pm School Board Meeting
22 Feb	7.30pm P&C Meeting
28 Feb	5.30pm Year 7/8 Pool Party
2 Mar	Years 10-12 Swimming Carnival
7 Mar	Year 9 Swimming Carnival
8 Mar	Year 7 Swimming Carnival
9 Mar	Year 8 Swimming Carnival
20-21 Mar	Year 12 Outdoor Ed Camp
22-24 Mar	Year 9 Engagement Group Camp
25 Mar	50 th Anniversary (see BSHS website for details)