



Balcatta Bulletin

Issue 3 2018

Highlights

Page 3
Chelsea Football Club Visit

Page 5
Channel 9 Visit

Page 7
Electronics Club Flying Machines

Page 8 - 9
Our People

Page 13
Academic Excellence

Page 14 - 15
Athletics Carnival





From the Principal

As the end of Term Three approaches it is important to reflect on the many activities, excursions, visits, music and dance presentations, art exhibitions, sporting events and carnivals that have occurred during the term. While many extra-curricular activities have taken place it is also important to remember that our main business in the school is the teaching and learning that happens with all teachers and all students every day in every classroom. I thank all the staff who have worked hard to keep this important focus on their classroom learning as well as all those who have organised and participated in the out-of-class activities.

This term our Year 7 and Year 9 students have been involved in a nation-wide School Readiness Test trial to prepare for undertaking NAPLAN tests on-line in 2019. The tests involved a writing test and a test covering all the other sections of NAPLAN which were designed to try out the new national on-line assessment in a real classroom environment. The school will be transitioning to on-line tests in 2019 and it is hoped that this new format will give a quicker turnaround time for the results.

During Term Three the school has undertaken a range of activities and initiatives that promote Act-Belong-Commit, including the Athletics Carnival which provides the whole school with an opportunity to participate in a range of sporting activities. This year's carnival atmosphere included both traditional and novelty events so that all students could be involved. Congratulations to all students who participated and our champion students in each year group. The social highlights on the school calendar this term were the Year 9/10 and Year 11/12 river cruises. The students enjoyed singing, dancing, great food and much excitement on board the Crystal Swan as they sailed up and down the river.

Our Academic Extension Program has involved a number of challenging and exciting activities for students this term. The creative team competition, Write-a-Book in a Day, challenged our Years 7, 8 and 9 students to write and illustrate a whole book from beginning to end in just 12 hours. The sponsorship funds raised were donated to a national children's cancer charity. This is one of the many events in the school that demonstrates our students' commitment and support to help those in need of support. Opti-Minds is a creative team Sustainability challenge which encourages students to think, create and communicate. It was another challenging activity for our Year 7 and Year 8 students who were involved in a six week cross-curriculum problem-solving STEM task. They had to investigate, find and communicate their solutions.

The future of our Music Program looks very exciting. At a School Board meeting this term, our music students showcased their abilities and Year 7 student Mali Frazer addressed the Board. Music teacher Daniel Rees outlined to the Board a unique specialist Digital Music Year 10 course that could be offered at the school.

Last term to commemorate ANZAC our students sent care packages to Australian Defence personnel serving overseas. During the term we have received letters of thanks from many of these personnel. I would like to share the response from one of the letters received from Warrant Officer David Wilson, in Iraq: "It was a pleasure to read your letter received in the welfare parcel and know that our efforts in the service of Australia are appreciated back home." Receiving such a letter is a real acknowledgement of the generosity and thoughtfulness of our students. Thank you to all involved.

School Upgrade: The Project Consultative Group has been meeting with key staff from the various learning areas to review the plans to date. The process for the Percentage Art has been undertaken with the four short listed artists presenting their design proposals. The successful artist will be announced soon. I am pleased to announce that the first official signs erected announcing "Redevelopment commencing 2019", have been placed on Poincaire and Amelia Streets.

Our Year 12 ATAR students will be sitting their 'mock exams' in the second week of the forthcoming holidays. This will be their last chance to experience exam conditions before the 'real' ATAR exams in November. From these results students will be able to address the areas they need to revise and work on in the weeks leading up to their final exams. On behalf of the staff, I would like to wish all students success in their forthcoming exams.

Helen Maitland
Principal



Exciting times ahead for our school



Chelsea Foundation Club member presenting to Balcatta SHS soccer students see page 3

Special Events

Chelsea Visit

We were very privileged to have members from the Chelsea Foundation (Chelsea Football Club International Development Squad) visit our school on 18 July. Football West facilitated the event and the coaches conducted a two hour drill training session with our soccer teams.

The feedback from the coaches was extremely positive regarding the engagement and attitude of our students. Chelsea coaches really enjoyed working with our students and mentioned "What wonderful ambassadors they were for the school and Western Australia".

Chelsea only visited two schools in Western Australia and our school was one of them.



Chelsea Foundation Club member presenting to Balcatta SHS soccer students



Chelsea Foundation Club Soccer Workshop



Chelsea Foundation Club Coach working with Balcatta SHS soccer students

Write a Book in a Day

On Thursday 23 August 2018 from 8.00 am to 8.00 pm, a group of Years 7, 8 and 9 Balcatta Senior High School students participated in Write a Book in a Day.

Write a Book in a Day is a creative and challenging team competition for adult writing groups and students in Years 5 to 12. Teams of up to ten have just twelve hours to write and illustrate a book from start to finish. To make it even more exciting, unique parameters must be included in the story. Completed books are donated to children in hospitals all across Australia.

Funds raised through sponsorship go to The Kids' Cancer Project, a national charity with a mission to support scientific research to help children with cancer.



Group photo of the Write a Book in a Day students



Write a Book in a Day students brain-storming their ideas

Curriculu

Robotics Projects

Two of our students, Blake Robertson and Leroy Sassine, have created videos of their Edison robotics projects. The students were given the challenge of creating a robotic device to assist with a real-life situation.

Blake created an automated prison cell lock to protect prison staff when they enter a prison wing. Leroy created a boom gate to allow for the flow of traffic in only one direction. Use the links below to view their work:

Blake: <https://youtu.be/gdkn237C-Mo>

Leroy: <https://youtu.be/67CUEbTDgtU>

EnvirArt Competition

All Year 10 students are working on a cross-curricular project in their Science and Humanity and Social Science (HASS) classes. The final art piece is due by Wednesday 19 September 2018 (Week 10). Student work in previous years won Balcatta Senior High School the City of Stirling's Living Green Award - Art to Inspire. Students are busy planning and preparing for this exciting event and we hope parents and other family members can visit the gallery in Week 1, Term 4.



EnvirArt Poster by Kate Vu

Year 10 Grazing Table Assessment

On Tuesday 12 June, the Year 10 Café Foods class was tasked to produce a grazing table for both staff and students to enjoy. The class split into four large groups, with each team having a metre long space to fill with delicious cheeses, cold meats, home-made dips and home-made crackers. One team challenged themselves to make fresh brownies and cookies. After their 60 minute period, the Home Economics doors were opened to staff to come and graze on the food. Wonderful feedback was given to all groups and each staff member voted on their favourite table for the day. The winning table was awarded to Maye Deada, Marilyn Jacinto, Franchesca Mojica, Lauren Pope and Chloe Skordas for their beautiful decoration and large variety of foods. Every student should be proud of their food and presentation of their table.



Grazing Table winners - Maye Deada, Marilyn Jacinto, Franchesca Mojica, Lauren Pope and Chloe Skordas

Health Expo

On Friday 22 June we held our first Health Expo, which was organised by Kirsty Johnson and her Year 11 Health Studies class. The gymnasium was transformed into an interactive health zone for the day and each year group was allocated a half hour session to attend. Students engaged in different interactive stalls, won prizes, snacked on some healthy food, and most of all, learnt some very valuable health lessons. The theme was "lifestyle diseases". We were fortunate to have external providers from The Amanda Young Foundation for meningococcal disease, Act Belong Commit, Hepatitis WA, WA Aids Council, Donate Life and displays from our students. St John Ambulance members also came to teach CPR and first aid and gave the students a tour of the ambulance.

m Events

English News

Final Debating Competition Night 2018

Tuesday 19 June 2018 was the final Debating Competition Night of 2018. All six teams competed on the night and walked away with three wins – the school's best effort of the season!

Of special mention is the fearless Year 7 team of Boni Hockley, Gemma Holman and Lucas Agostino, who won for the second time in a row and have made such incredible progress since the beginning of the season. Their topic was "That alcohol should be banned from sporting events" and they were the affirmative team.

The second special mention goes to the Year 10 team of Maye Deada, Muneira Jibril and NeeYanta Nakarmi. They had their first win of the season debating the topic, "That feminists should boycott Hollywood" (after missing two rounds due to a bye and a forfeit). They were also the affirmative team. The girls did a fantastic job and were debating at a high level.

Appreciation goes to Tess Curtis, Kevin Fraser and Helen Maitland for coming at different times to support our students.

Thank you to all the teachers who allowed their students to use class time to prepare for the debates. Their co-operation is greatly appreciated.

A big thank you also goes to last year's head prefect, Domonique



Boni Hockley - Year 7

Comics Short Course for Credit at Edith Cowan University

From Monday 25 June to Friday 29 June 2018, four Year 11 and Year 12 students attended a Comics Short Course for Credit at Edith Cowan University. These courses are intended for motivated students with a passion for comics and telling stories. They were taught how to:

- develop characters through which to tell a story
- write a short story for the characters
- do comic layouts and tell their story visually
- obtain drawing tips, tricks, getting the best out of pencilling, inking, colouring and lettering
- develop their own short comics, which were printed, bound and sold at the PCAF market fair on Saturday 30 June.

Students who pass the requirements of this course will receive Advanced Standing (credit) for a unit once gaining successful admission to an ECU undergraduate course. This means students will save time and money before commencing their university studies.

Year 11 ATAR English – Channel 9 News Excursion

On Tuesday 7 August, Ms Blitvich's Year 11 ATAR English class visited Channel 9 News in Perth to learn more about how the news is made and the different ways that people are represented in the mainstream media. Students participated in a tour of the studio, the control room, the newsroom and had the chance to speak to journalists about what it is like to work for a major news organisation.

A highlight of the experience was several students having the opportunity to read the news bulletin at the desk. We discovered some real naturals who have a shining career in the media ahead of them. This excursion was another opportunity to show students how their studies in the classroom are applicable in the real world and gave them an opportunity to imagine a future career in journalism or related fields.

Students were all incredibly engaged, well-behaved and asked insightful questions, representing the school to a high standard. A big thank you to Mr Curtis who gave up part of his day to attend the excursion and provide supervision for the students.



Group photo from Year 11 ATAR English Excursion behind the Channel 9 desk



Year 11 ATAR students intrigued by Channel 9 Tour

Inaugural Spelling Bee

As part of our Year 6 Transition Program, we hosted our first Spelling Bee on the last day of Term 2 in the Performing Arts Theatre. This was followed by a sausage sizzle which gave the competitors, teachers, hosts and audience members an opportunity to socialise.

The following local intake primary schools sent students to compete - Balcatta Primary School (one team), Osborne Primary School (one team), Takari Primary School (one team) and West Balcatta Primary School (two teams).

We also had two teams of Year 7 students competing alongside the Year 6 students. They were allocated more challenging words in order to level the playing field. Our Red Team competitors were Lucas Agostino, Asha Budalich, Sonam Dorji, Jeryn Huntley and Shukri Jibril. Our Blue Team competitors were Gemma Holman, Grace Mojica, Amber Nguyen, Herin Patel and Maniha Tahir.

A large number of students was involved in the organisation of this event, including our head prefects, Ana Rychlak (compere), Alicia Gregg, Robert Kollie and Simon Naumoski (host duties and running activities during the intermission). The Year 10 students who ran the Spelling Bee were Evangeline Armstrong (lead pronouncer), Keisha Dawson, Georgia Ellis, Holly Fitzpatrick, Muneira Jibril, Neeyanta Nakarmi and Janet Pazhooparambil. In addition, there were approximately twelve Year 7 student hosts who worked very hard all term to earn this opportunity. The students did an outstanding job in preparing for and running this event and each and every one of them represented our school with pride and maturity.

All the competitors did a superb job, and are to be congratulated for managing their nerves and apprehension very courageously. The two teams from West Balcatta Primary School tied for first place, with the runners-up from Osborne Primary School.

Thank you to all school staff and students from our local intake schools, as well as Balcatta Senior High School, for making our Inaugural Spelling Bee such an enjoyable and memorable experience.



Spelling Bee in action



Year 6 & 7 students enjoying the Spelling Bee

Crown Brushes Workshop

On Thursday 23 August 2018, the Certificate II in Retail Cosmetics students and staff participated in a one hour workshop presented by Crown Brushes. The workshop was held at the Balcatta Beauty Training Clinic and the focus was on make-up brushes. The workshop offered valuable industry information and was thoroughly enjoyed by all involved.



Certificate II in Retail Cosmetics students and staff

STEM Outreach Curtin University Excursion

As part of National Science Week celebrations, a selection of our Specialist Dance students was given the opportunity to participate in a STEM from Dance workshop hosted by Curtin University. Yamilee Toussaint and her colleague from 'Stem From Dance' in the USA hosted the celebrations.

Curtin University invited three schools, with only five dancers and five ICT/coding students from each school to attend. Workshop participants were able to engage and interact in activities that spark creativity and fun. They were able to create pressure sensors that triggered lights to flash when pressed. They also learnt and created a dance routine using pressure sensors. Participants were inspired to explore the ways that science and technology enhance the arts.



Balcatta SHS STEM students practising their dance routine, combining science and art

Download a free QR Scanner from the app store/playstore to access more images for articles.



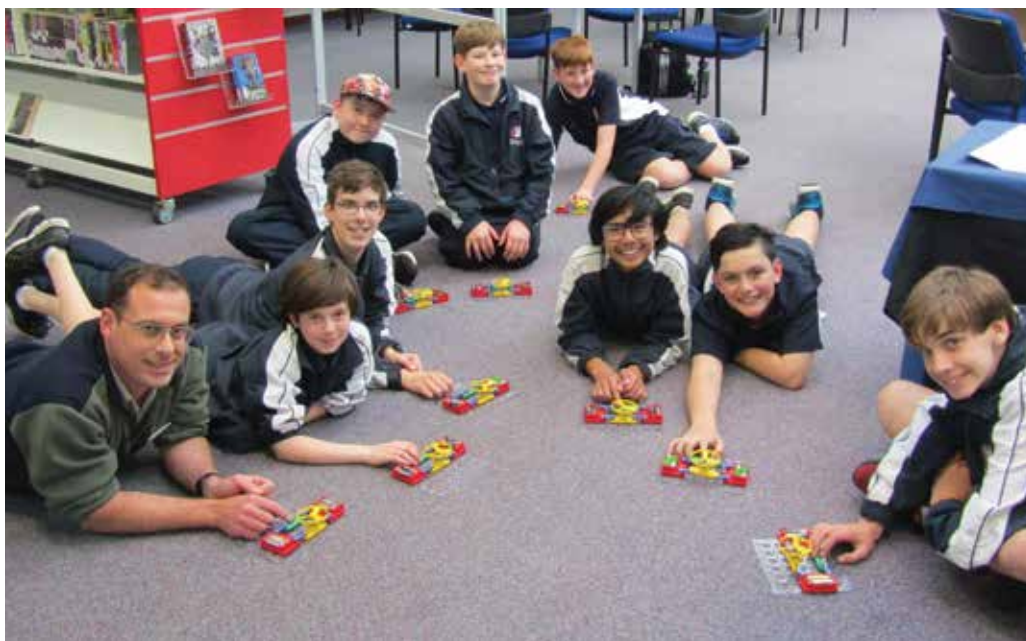
Scan me

Electronics Club – Flying Machines

Our Electronic Club members have been meeting in the library each Thursday after school. They have been experimenting with electronics and learning in a fun-filled environment. Students have investigated voltage, resistance, current and covered electrical safety. The students are using Brain Box electronic kits and have been creating parallel and series circuits and learning about polarity.

They recently used their new-found skills to boost an electric motor to create a flying spinner.

To view, search the link below:
<https://youtu.be/qAaeAEUEdMw>



Electronics club students with teacher, Mr Witcombe, proudly presenting their Flying Machines

On Friday 3 August 2018, the Year 11 and Year 12 ATAR Physics classes, and a number of aspiring Year 10 Physics students, attended the Force of Nature excursion at Murdoch University, presented by The Australian Institute of Physics and the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering. It was a sellout event, with students from all over Perth coming together to celebrate the physical and life sciences and meet eminent scientists to hear about their work.

Students first got the opportunity to listen to Dr Ceri Brenner, a physicist from the UK, using the most powerful lasers in the world, and how her work is helping to take medicine to the next level. Students then heard from Dr Kingsley Dixon, who opened our eyes to amazing unique biodiversity in Western Australia, and how animals and plants have evolved and adapted together to create fascinating symbiosis. There were hands-on activities for the students, who were able to see some of the things they learn in the classroom brought to life in front of their eyes. Finally, students were treated to a question and answer session from a panel of physicists, where students learnt about the many different career options for scientists and where physics and mathematics can take you.



Group of Electronics Club members creating their Flying Machines



Electronics Club student preparing to make his Flying Machine



Year 11 and 12 ATAR Physics students at Murdoch University



Congratulations to Katerina Rufov who was selected in the Calisthenics Association of Western Australia's (CAWA) State Team, to compete in the Australian Calisthenic Federation's 30th National Championships held at the Canberra Theatre in July 2018. Katerina is one of 19 girls in the Intermediate Team aged 14-16 years.



Katerina Rufov

St George's Art Awards 2018 Winner

It is with great pleasure that we announce Year 11 Visual Art student, Torren Whisson's mixed media piece "Rise of a New Light" won the Mixed Media/Textiles Award at the prestigious St George's Art Awards.

This vibrant and complex work depicts the uprising of African women who are breaking with their traditions of being the spinners and dyers of wool and taking on the male tradition of weaving.



St George's Art Award Winner Torren Whisson

Chloe-Bree enters Triple J Unearthed Contest

Mr Rees has assisted Chloe-Bree Schmiedte to record her own original music and vocals at our school. He said "I am blown away with Chloe's professionalism and writing maturity".

Mr Rees has entered Chloe's original song into the Triple J Unearthed Contest for High Schools.

To listen, search the link below to hear Chloe's song 'Waiting for You to Come Around':
<https://www.triplejuneearthed.com/artist/cb-0>



Chloe-Bree Schmiedte performing

People

Students of the Month – July

Phillip Klimoski (Year 7) - in recognition of using his initiative in the pursuit of knowledge.

Zoe Rowland (Year 8) - in recognition of her fantastic effort growing as a guitarist.

Sam Said (Year 9) - in recognition of his excellent engagement in his novel study.

Zirui Wang (Year 10) - in recognition of his amazing effort in the exam and his amazing progress during the semester to achieve an "A".

Ruben Sassine (Year 11) - in recognition of his positive attitude towards class tasks.

Tyler Ambrose (Year 12) in recognition of being a very determined, well-behaved student. He is a calm and pleasant student who is always ready to give his best.



Year 7 Phillip Klimoski



Year 8 Zoe Roland



Year 9 Sam Said



Year 10 Zirui Wang



Year 11 Ruben Sassine



Year 12 Tyler Ambrose

Arts Roadshow

On Wednesday 25 July, our very talented Year 7 Vocal Ensemble, Year 8 Special Dance students and solo vocalists/guitarists went on the road. Our travels in the morning took us to local intake schools Takari Primary School and Tuart Hill Primary School. Some of our presenting artists attended these schools through their primary years before coming to Balcatta. It's always special returning to students' old schools and displaying the skills gathered and how much they have grown and achieved.

The Year 8 Dance students have been on a previous roadshow this year and have consistently displayed a very high level of technical and artistic skill. Without any warning, their Spanish hip hop tune "Soy Yo" begins, and like 100 metre sprinters, they are in action, flipping and spinning around the stage. Their timing, form and cohesion were a pleasure to witness.

The excitement in the undercover area was electric as the audience clapped, sang and swayed their arms to our Music instrumental and vocal performers. Well done to the performing students for entertaining the audience with their maturity and skill in song writing, playing and singing. The Gallery of artworks was on display and classes had an opportunity to view these before returning to their rooms after the show.

Engaging our local intake primary schools is a vital process in creating a strong connection for the future generations of students involved in the Arts. We have highly dedicated teachers who put an enormous amount of time and care into ensuring all our students have opportunities, such as our performances today, to gain experience and knowledge in Dance, Music and Gifted and Talented Visual Art.

All performers should be very proud of their efforts and we can't wait for the next one.



Year 8 Special Dance students



Year 7 and 8 Arts Roadshow performers

META Artwork

Our Visual Art students, Torren Whisson, Greer Medley and Georgia Pope had their art exhibited until Saturday 18 August 2018 at Gallery Central, North Metropolitan TAFE.

This year's exhibition included 67 artists from 30 schools. There were some great art works exhibited.



Georgia Pope - Gingerbread House



Greer Medley - Riot Girrrl

University of Western Australia – Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery

Our Gifted and Talented Visual Art students attended the University of Western Australia on 17 August to view and analyse artwork at the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery.



GAT Visual Art students in front of The Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery

Zoo Excursion – Year 7 Gifted and Talented Visual Arts Students

The Year 7 Gifted and Talented Visual Art students attended an excursion to the zoo. They were able to take lots of photos and some quick sketches of the moving animals.



GAT Visual Art students sketching at the Zoo



Choreography Nights

On Thursday 26 July and Friday 27 July, our Specialist Dance students presented "Serendipity" to a packed crowd in the Balcatta Senior High School Performing Arts Theatre.

All Specialist Dance students from Year 7 to Year 12 were required to choreograph and present their own pieces, sourcing their music and costumes to suit their chosen theme. Our talented Year 12 students were responsible for all backstage organisation, including lighting, music operation, ticket sales, advertising and various associated tasks.

The audience was treated to performances with themes ranging from friendships to struggle to love, with a step back in time to "Grease" thrown in for good measure. All students participated with great enthusiasm, particularly our Year 7 students who successfully made their choreography night debut.



Serendipity Specialist Dance students performing

Young Originals 2018 Exhibition

The Exhibition was an exciting event which promoted excellence in visual arts across a range of mediums, including computer generated works; graphic design; printing; photography; printmaking; time-based video art; sculpture and textiles.

Congratulations to Asher Read (Year 7), Meg Bradsell and Aaliyah Geyer (Year 10) and Greer Medley (Year 12) for their successful entries in the 2018 'Young Originals'.

The exhibition was held at Gallery 25 at Edith Cowan University, Central Avenue, Mt Lawley and was open to the public until 24 August 2018.



Outside the Square



Preoccupied



Whisper

Children Book Week Excursion

Our Gifted and Talented Visual Art students attended Osborne Park Library for 'Children's Book Week' with author Tamara Moss.



GAT Visual Art students at Children's Book Week at Osborne Park Library



GAT Visual Art students participating in Children's Book Week

Health & Phys Ed News

Whole School Athletics Carnival

Thursday 30 August 2018 saw the whole school get together for the Athletics Carnival. The emphasis is on the word Carnival. It is a day when the Year 12 students dress up and express who they really are whilst all students have the opportunity to try all the traditional athletic events and a variety of novelty events.

Students earn points for their house as well as have the opportunity to be competitive as an individual and compete for Champion Boy or Girl. Being active and having fun are the key components of the novelty events and these are attempted by all students.

Everyone's hard work really paid off. A visitor at the school remarked how well-behaved the Balcatta students were. Compliments and congratulations to both staff and students who worked together tirelessly throughout the day.



200m sprint



Tug of War



Our Champion Athletes



Mr Birkett starting the day



Striving to win

Year 11 and 12 Indoor Soccer Tournament

Our Year 11 and Year 12 Form indoor soccer tournament finished on 16 August, after three weeks of competition. It was an all Year 11 grand final with 11.3 taking the title with a 2-0 victory over 11.4.



Year 11 and 12 Soccer winning team

Academic Excellence

Balcatta SHS Science students commended for their academic performance in ICAS this year

Students from Balcatta SHS achieved outstanding results when they participated in the ICAS Science quiz this year.

ICAS is a comprehensive educational assessment program available for schools. Every year thousands of schools participate in ICAS in over 20 countries, giving an international benchmark that can be relied upon. ICAS is developed by UNSW Global Pty Limited and has had more than 8.9 million students participate since 2002.

Developed for students in primary and secondary school years, ICAS assesses the problem-solving skills needed for success in English, Mathematics, Science, Writing, Spelling and Digital Technologies.

The students whose achievements were outstanding were rewarded with Certificates of Merit, Credit and Distinction are:

Year 8	James Edwards	Distinction
	Dante McGee	Distinction
	Django Nelson	Credit
	Caesar Htat	Merit
	Adzi Zein	Merit

Year 9	Kaida Law	Credit
	Elise Beirne	Credit
	Condoleezza Deada	Merit
	Shreyas Gangully	Merit
	Jacqlin Parker	Merit
	Jenny Tran	Merit
	Tahlia Wells-Vasile	Merit

Year 10	Igor Pavkov	Distinction
	Lilian Johnston	Credit



ICAS Award winners at the front of Balcatta SHS

Semester One Awards Assembly

On Friday 20 July 2018 we celebrated the achievements of many of our students at the Semester One Awards Assembly. Students from Year 7 to Year 12 were recognised for achieving the status of Top Student or Merit Student in each learning area, as well as the prestigious "Respect Unite Excel" award, which encompasses Balcatta Senior High School's values.



Year 7, 8 and 9 Semester One Award recipients



Year 10, 11 and 12 Semester One Award recipients

Athletics



Carnival





Balcatta Senior High School students at the Whole School Athletics Carnival