



Balcatta Update

19 November 2021

From the Principal

We are half way through the term and students have been busy with their learning programs. A reminder to students they need to always be trying their personal best, submitting their completed assignments, handing them in by the due date, studying for tests and completing any other curriculum-based activities.

The last two weeks have been busy with students involved in a number of events.

Writer's Workshop

Teacher/Librarian, Ms Sanzogni, was successful in receiving funding from the P&C for a Writer's Workshop, which is being conducted by award winning WA writer, Ms Deb Fitzpatrick. The workshops have been running over the last three weeks with groups of students having the opportunity to workshop and complete a creative piece of writing under the guidance of Ms Fitzpatrick.

Remembrance Day

On Thursday 11 November, as a community, we reflected on the significance of Remembrance Day. Two of our Year 10 students made the announcement over the PA system. Amani Hashmi read the poem 'Flanders Field' (John McCraw 1914) and Jeryn Huntley read the 'Farmers Remembers the Somme' (Vance Palmer, 1920). We had a great response from students regarding the RSLWA Poppy Appeal, selling a large number of poppies. The money raised will be donated to the RSLWA.

Year 11 Reward Excursion to Adventure World

On Friday 12 November a number of Year 11 students and teachers spent the day at Adventure World. This was a reward activity offered to the students. Everyone involved enjoyed the day.

Arts Showcase

On Thursday 11 November and Friday 12 November, the Years 7 to 9 Music students showcased their musical talents at the 'Balcatta on the Green' performance held in the A Block quadrangle. Students and staff were entertained by the various solo artists and bands. The art students set up 'market stalls' and had a range of items on display and for sale.

National School Opinion Survey

The National School Opinion Survey is administered by the Department of Education every two years. The survey falls into three categories:

1. Student Survey
2. Staff Survey
3. Parent Survey

Feedback from the surveys is used in future planning for the school. Balcatta SHS has completed the Student and Staff surveys and we are inviting parents and guardians to use the following link to complete the Parent Survey. All responses are anonymous. Link for Parent Survey:

<https://www.schoolsurvey.edu.au/s/BalcattaSHSParentSurvey2021>

Year 12 Student Representatives for 2022

As part of the election process, Year 11 students were invited to make a speech to their peers and staff on what they hoped to achieve as a Student Representative and how they would represent our school. I listened to their speeches and they were very sincere in what they could bring to the role and what they hoped to achieve for their year group as well as the whole school. The Year 11 cohort cast their votes on the final six representatives. Ms Tessa Curtis, Mr David Curtis and I interviewed the finalists and found them worthy ambassadors for our school.

Congratulations to the following Year 11 students who have been nominated for Head Prefect positions for 2022 – Saadah Mahmoud and Adzi Zein.

A special mention to the following students who were nominated as part of the election process – Mobina Hashimi, Lauren Holman, Samuel Kimamura and Kaitlyn Pope.

As a school community, we will present our Year 12 leaders at a whole school assembly at the start of next year.

House Captains

The following students were the successful candidates for House Captains. They have been informed of their successful appointment, received congratulations and will be acknowledged at a whole school assembly at the start of next year. More information on their roles will be addressed early next year.

Artemis

Sport - Sergio Lomerio
Community - Ellie Brandis
Art - Izhary Fortun

Aurora

Sport - Luna Win
Community - Erika Legaspi
Art - Kaitlyn Pope

Poseidon

Sport - Kinga Lham
Community - Marina Minic
Art - Khurt Baylon

Zeus

Sport - Gabriela Vogler de los Santos
Community - Wade Homewood
Art - Sara Avramovic

Finally, as we count down the second half of Term 4, we are looking forward to meeting our new Year 7 students for 2022. This is always a very exciting time for the Year 6 students leaving their primary schools. In our final Balcatta Update in December, I will give you a report on our transition program including the Orientation Day to be held on Tuesday 30 November.

Helen Maitland
Principal

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Important dates

24-26 Nov	Year 9 Outdoor Recreation Camp
25 Nov	Year 5 Academic Challenge
26 Nov	7.00pm Dance students performing at Osborne Park Show
29 Nov	6.30pm Parent Information Event for Year 7 students enrolled in 2022 (5.30pm Uniform Shop will be open in the Admin foyer)
30 Nov	9.00am to 2.30pm Orientation Day for Year 7 students enrolled in 2022
30 Nov	6.15pm Year 9 and Year 10 River Cruise
1 Dec	5.00pm School Board meeting
1 Dec	6.00pm P&C meeting