



Balcatta Update

25 March 2022

From the Principal

The last couple of weeks have been very busy. This week, we celebrated Harmony Day. It was very pleasing to see a large number of students dressing up representing their culture, and staff and students wearing orange which is the colour that signifies Harmony Day. We are a very diverse community with staff and students from over 40 different nationalities.

As a school community, we acknowledged inclusiveness, respect and belonging. Throughout the day, students were involved in a range of classroom-based activities acknowledging Harmony Day and during recess and lunch breaks, students were able to participate in various activities including:

- Fashion parade (MC's were Year 12 Student Representatives, Adzi Zein and Saadah Mahmoudi).
- Dance
- Drumming
- Music
- Nail Art
- Food stall
- Circus skills
- Crafts e.g. daisy chain, colouring, etc.

Students distributed Harmony Day school pens and respect/honour cards for students to complete and hand over to another student as a way of celebrating and honouring them for 'who they are'. A sincere thank you to the Student Services team as well as staff and students for their contribution.

Parking Reminder

Over the last few months, there has been information provided to the school community regarding issues on parking on Amelia Street. Recently, I was taken aback with feedback I received from the City of Stirling Rangers. They stated that some parents told them the school allowed them to park in Amelia Street. This is not true. I wish to confirm and remind parents again, **parking is not allowed in the designated cycle lanes on both sides of Amelia Street.** Refer to the [Balcatta Update dated 3 February 2022](#) under **Amelia Street Parking Concerns.**

Yesterday, the City of Stirling Rangers were at the school on Amelia Street at the end of the school day reminding parents again the cycle lanes are not a parking area. The City of Stirling may enforce Infringement Notices. It was very disappointing to hear and witness some parent behaviour, such as blaming the school about parking and rudeness towards the Rangers. I am seeking your support, once again, please do not pick up or drop off students on Amelia Street (in the designated cycle lanes). The completion of the new pick up and drop off area should be available at the start of Term 2 (details to be confirmed soon).

Interim Reporting – Thursday 31 March

Students' Interim Reports will be emailed to families by Wednesday 30 March. We are not able to have person-to-

person interviews due to COVID-19 restrictions. Staff will be contacting selected parents via email on Thursday 31 March. If you do not receive any contact on this date and would like feedback on your child from a staff member, please feel free to contact the teacher directly via [email](#). If there are any issues, please contact the school by telephone on 9345 8200.

COVID-19 Reminder to Parents

Thank you to everyone who is doing their best to keep up with COVID-19 regulations. Currently we are dealing with a number of close contacts and positive cases and we are following the Department of Health guidelines. For the safety and well-being of our whole school community, it is essential you notify the school if your child is COVID-19 positive or is a close contact to a positive case.

A reminder of the guidelines for schools is as follows:

- If there is a positive COVID case in the family, students are required to isolate for 7 days. If there are no symptoms and a negative test after 7 days, the student can stop isolating and return to school.
- If the student is a 'close contact' of a positive case at school, they will be required to take a RAT. If the test is negative and the student displays no symptoms, they can return to school but still need to isolate for 7 days from the community.
- If a student tests positive to a RAT, they are required to isolate for 7 days. If after 7 days, the RAT is negative, they may return to school.

More information for parents regarding close contacts can be found on the [school's website](#).

Fogarty EDvance Program

This year, Balcatta SHS embarked on a three-year school improvement program with Fogarty EDvance.

The program is evidence-based and has been running for nearly 10 years, with over 100 schools in Western Australia having successfully completed the program. Fogarty EDvance provides specific tailored support to schools with a focus on improving student outcomes.

Your feedback is extremely valuable, which you can provide through the Tell Them From Me (TTFM) survey tool. Data from this survey will provide us with baseline data in moving our school improvement journey forward. Thank you to those parents who have completed the survey. The survey is still open and we encourage you to complete it as we value your feedback.

Please click on the link below. The survey will take approximately 15 to 20 minutes and **will now close on Monday 28 March.**

<http://telltthemfromme.com/ks48y>

Helen Maitland
Principal

Learning Area News

More information and photos of the following activities can be found on the [school's website](#).

[National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence](#)

[Harmony Day](#)

Year 12 Chemistry ATAR

The amount of acetic acid in vinegar can vary widely and Dr Rea's Year 12 ATAR Chemistry students are practising their performance of titration to determine by exactly how much.

Saturday Art

During Saturday Art workshops, the Gifted and Talented Visual Art students created artwork following the theme of Salvador Dali.

FUN FACT: Salvador Dali, the wacky surrealist known for his signature pointy moustache and painting melting clocks, was also the graphic designer behind the classic Chupa Chups logo in 1969, an enduringly sweet, bright rendition of a daisy.

These oil paintings were created students who are currently working with a very talented artist Symone Ishak.

Technologies Department

Technologies participated in both Harmony Day and the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence this term. For the National Day of Action, students were able to get their nails painted to help raise awareness against bullying and violence. On Harmony Day, the students were again able to paint their nails orange. They were also able to decorate biscuits in orange and eat their choice of lollies. Orange is chosen for Harmony Day as, traditionally, it is the colour that was used to signify social communication and meaningful conversation. Thank you to Anne Jones, Sharon Holmes and Val Terry for making it happen.

Commencing in Week 9 and continuing into Term 2, Mrs Jones will be running a Textiles club in Room A:HE on Mondays during both Recess and Lunch. Come along and learn a range of textiles and craft skills and learn how to

make bookmarks and a scrunchies.

Ms Holmes has brought back the Nail Art Club every Monday at Lunch 2 in A:Beauty. Come along and learn a range of nail art techniques, have a chat and hang out with your friends.

P&C News

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 6 April 2022 commencing at 6.00pm in the Staff Common Room (1st Floor). There can be no extension to this date.

All positions, including President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, will be declared vacant. If you are interested in nominating for a position, can you please send an email to: pandcbalcattashs@gmail.com with your name and the position for which you would like to nominate. We will arrange to email the formal nomination form prior to the meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The success of our P&C relies on the involvement and support of parents, carers and the wider school community. Being involved with our P&C provides an opportunity to:

- learn about the policies and programs of the school
- engage with other parents and carers to share information
- work closely with our school to build positive attitudes with students and families
- raise funds to provide for additional resources and amenities for the benefit of our students.

As always, please feel free to contact us either via email on pandcbalcattashs@gmail.com or message us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com.au/balcattashs>. Ideas and comments are always welcome.

Georgie Dragicevich-Knight
President

Important dates

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| 30 March | Years 7 to 12 Interim Reports to be emailed to parents |
| 6 April | Year 8 Immunisations – Round 2 (carried over from last year's Year 7 students) |
| 6 April | 6.00pm P&C meeting |
| 8 April | Last Day of Term 1 for students |
| 25 April | ANZAC Day Public Holiday (Monday – no school for students) |
| 26 April | School Development Day (Tuesday – no school for students) |
| 27 April | Students commence Term 2 (Wednesday) |