

Balcatta Update

17 February 2023

From the Principal

This week we started the first of our Parent Information sessions.

It was pleasing to have such a good turn out for the Year 7 Parent Information Event on Tuesday 14 February. The session covered a lot of information, with presentations from numerous staff, which included:

- Student Services - support, attendance, good standing and the focus on “well-being and positive relationships”.
- Curriculum - Learning Area Heads of Departments - outlined the structure, focus and assessments.
- Careers Practitioner - outlined their role and support strategies for parents.
- House Update - Year 7 students were allocated to their houses. Allocation house points outlined.
- Girls Cricket - opportunity for Year 7 girls to join our inaugural girls cricket team.
- P&C Update - P&C president outlined the role of the P&C.

Parents were reminded there is useful information in the Year 7 Parent Handbook. If you have any queries, please contact the school.

The [Year 7 Parent Handbook](#) and copy of the [Year 7 Parent Information 2023 PowerPoint](#) is available on the home page of the [School Website](#).

Next week the Year 10 Parent Information Event will be held on Tuesday 21 February at 6.00pm in the Performing Arts Theatre. Please RSVP by email to: balcatta.shs@education.wa.edu.au.

Health Reminders

If your child is unwell, please keep them home from school. As you are aware, COVID is still prevalent in the community and it is important to practise safe hygiene.

Ensure you notify the school by telephoning 9345 8228 or by SMS on 0409 686 684 to report your child is going to be absent.

Free RATS kits are available from the Admin office.

Perth Zoo Excursion

On Wednesday 15 February, the Year 12 Human Biology and Psychology students visited the Perth Zoo. They had the opportunity to attend a series of workshops as well as visiting animal exhibits. The Psychology students will use this excursion as part of their assessment tasks and the Human Biology students will use it to aid in their comprehension of content covered in Unit 4 of their course.

North Metro TAFE Joondalup Campus Tour

On Thursday 16 February, our Year 12 IT students were invited to participate in a tour of the North Metropolitan TAFE Joondalup Campus with a focus on IT facilities and courses. The students familiarised themselves with the facility in order to consider attending next year.

Introducing “Pages & Tea” Book Club

The inaugural meeting of Balcatta SHS’s new book club, *Pages & Tea*, will be held next Thursday 23 February at 3.00pm in the

school library.

Pages & Tea is a student driven club. This fabulous group of students behind its creation have planned a lot of different fun activities and competitions, and we look forward to our club growing and being an integral part of the school’s culture.

Pages & Tea will meet every second Thursday, from 3.00pm to 4.15pm in the school library. All students and teachers are welcome!

For further information, please contact Mrs Santarelli by email - louise.santarelli@education.wa.edu.au.

Fogarty EDvance Program

This year, Balcatta SHS embarked on the second year of our 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 Friday 10 March**.

<http://tellthemfromme.com/balcattashs2023>

Amelia Street Parking Concerns

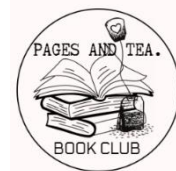
I am still very concerned about student drop off and pick up by parents on Amelia Street. All parents have been advised in previous Balcatta Updates and sent SMS messages to **NOT PARK** on Amelia Street. There are **NO STANDING** signs along Amelia Street as it is a designated cycle path on both sides. There is a parking and drop off area on Amelia Street which is open from 8.15am and from 2.30pm (except Wednesdays which opens from 2.00pm).

Please note: There is NO capacity to park and collect students from the staff carpark.

Poincaire Street is also available to pick up and drop off your child. Students are able to access the school through designated safe walkways.

I strongly encourage you to instruct your child to use Poincaire Street before and after school only as the gates are locked during the day.

Helen Maitland
Principal



Balcatta Update

Saver Plus

Saver Plus – helping take the stress out of back to school time. The Saver Plus community program has helped over 55,000 Australians take the stress out of back to school time. It's free for eligible people to join.

Saver Plus will pair you with a savings coach while you budget and save over the next 10 months. You attend online workshops to learn tips, tricks and information to grow your budgeting and savings skills. Once you reach your agreed savings goal, ANZ matches your savings dollar-for-dollar, up to \$500. You can use that money towards education costs such as uniforms, text books, laptops or extra-curricular activities such as sport or music.

You could be eligible to join Saver Plus if you:

- have a Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card
- are at least 18 years old
- have some regular income from work (you or your partner) including casual, part-time, full-time or seasonal. We also accept child support and carer's payment as income
- have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself.

If you are eligible, start now and we will help take the stress out of next year's back to school. To find out more, or to apply, go to www.saverplus.org.au or call 1300 610 355 .

Tuition for all students

Master classes (Term 1) are one (1) hour tutorial sessions conducted once a week during the school term. Each week these classes reinforce and extend students' understanding of the work they are currently studying at school. The program commenced on Saturday 11 February, however enrolment can be made at any time throughout the term. Classes are held at Christ Church Grammar School. Mastermind Australia is offering a 20% discount into this quality program.

Enrol now at Mastermind Australia:

Website: www.mastermindaustralia.com.au
Phone: 9342 2000
Mobile: 0488 102 907
Email: admin@mastermindaustralia.com.au

From the P&C

The Balcatta Senior High School P&C has a long and proud history of supporting and committing financial support to the school for the purposes of improving educational outcomes for students.

As the current P&C office bearers will all be stepping down from their positions in the coming weeks, we are looking for some energetic, dedicated and engaged members of our school community who would be interested in joining the P&C Committee.

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 in collaboration with our school and Principal to build positive attitudes with students and families;
- raise and pledge funds to provide for additional resources and amenities for the benefit of our students.

If you believe you can make a difference, then why not join the committee. If you would like to know more about the P&C or are interested in taking on a position, please come along to our final meeting before the AGM, which is being held at **6.00pm on Wednesday 22 February 2023.**

The P&C will be holding the Annual General Meeting at **6.00pm on Wednesday 8 March 2023.**

The current committee will make themselves available to make the transition and handover smooth and seamless. There is also a fantastic resource in WACSSO. They are the peak body representing parents and public school students in WA and provide training and support to P&C committees. They have great resources available for members, covering almost every situation a P&C may encounter.

The current committee can be contacted by either email pandcbalcattashs@gmail.com or Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com.au/balcattashs> to answer any questions or provide further information.

Balcatta Senior High School P&C

Important dates

21 Feb	6.00pm Year 10 Parent Information Event in PAT
22 Feb	6.00pm P&C meeting
27 Feb	Year 11/12 OLNA Writing
28 Feb	Year 11/12 OLNA Writing Catchup
	Years 10-12 Swimming Carnival
1 Mar	Year 8 Swimming Carnival
	5.00pm School Board meeting
2 Mar	9.00am Year 7 Immunisation (Round 1) – Enrol via VaccinateWA
	Years 11/12 OLNA Numeracy
3 Mar	Years 11/12 OLNA Reading
	NAPLAN Years 7/9 Practice Writing
6 Mar	Public Holiday