



Balcatta Update

24 March 2023

From the Principal

Our P&C Committee is a very dedicated group of parents who volunteer their time and proactively advocate for Balcatta SHS. The Annual General Meeting was held on Wednesday 8 March with all office bearer positions being declared vacant.

The P&C Committee for 2023 is:

President – Stacey Litchfield
Vice President – Anna Kuhlmann
Secretary – Frank Alvaro
Treasurer – Phillip Saraceni

I would personally like to thank retiring office bearers Georgina Dragicevich-Knight, Helen Notis and Christina Durgutovski for their time and contribution to the P&C over the last few years.

The last couple of weeks have been busy with both NAPLAN (Year 7 and Year 9 students) and OLNA (Years 10 to 12 students) with testing across the school. The school will distribute the students' results when they become available during Term 2. Both NAPLAN and OLNA are one aspect of the school's assessment and reporting process.

Years 7 to Year 12 Interim Reporting Event

All Interim Reports will be emailed to parents on Tuesday 28 March. The Interim Reporting event will be held on **Thursday 30 March from 1.00pm to 6.00pm**. Students will finish school at 11.00am (Transperth have been advised of early finish). All interviews will be held on Level 1 (except Ed Support which will be held in B Block (follow signs as required). Students will commence school as normal on Friday 31 March.

Bookings via SOBS is open for Parents from 9.00am on Monday 27 March 2023 and will close by 3.00pm on Wednesday 29 March 2023.

To book an interview, please click on the following link:

Parent Access:

<https://sobs.com.au/pt3/parent.php?schoolid=536>

If you need assistance, please refer to the following link:

Parent Help: <https://sobs.com.au/docs/sobs-pt3-parents.pdf>

If bookings for teachers have been filled, parents can contact the relevant teacher/s via [email](#) for feedback regarding their child.

WA Student Council 2023

School staff from WA Public Schools nominated Year 10 students for the WA Student Council. The WA Student Council provides an opportunity for students to engage with education policy and help shape the future of education. The council empowers young people to have their say in their education. The council provides the Minister for Education with opportunities to respond to student needs. Councillors represent public education across the state. One of our Year 10 students has been selected for an interview. We wish them all the best.

Secondary GRIP Leadership Conference

Student Councillors from Years 8 to 12 were invited to attend the Secondary GRIP Leadership Conference at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre on Tuesday 21 March 2023. This year's theme was 'We Lead Everybody' and the full day program encompassed presentation sessions, activities, discussions and leadership games.

REMINDER – Vaping Concerns

WA schools have seen a recent increase in young people vaping. E-cigarettes, or 'vapes', are not safe for young people. They come in many shapes and sizes and can be hard to spot as they can look like everyday items including highlighters, pens or USB memory sticks.

Key vaping facts

Many vapes contain nicotine. Nicotine can cause long-lasting negative effects on young people's brain development, including impaired learning ability and altered mood, and can increase the risk of depression and anxiety.

Vapes can contain the same harmful chemicals found in cleaning products, nail polish remover, weed killer and insect spray, which can lead to serious lung diseases.

Young people who vape are three times more likely to take up smoking cigarettes.

Talk to your child about vaping

It is important to take the time to talk to your child about the risks of vaping. Try to start the conversation in a relaxed easy-going way, and remember your goal is to have a conversation, not deliver a lecture. Importantly, get the facts at: www.education.wa.edu.au/drug-education.

Mobile Phone Policy Reminder

I would like to remind parents of the Department of Education's policy regarding mobile electronic devices. All devices should be off and out of sight ("Off and Away") while students are at school. This includes students on tablets, ear pods or phones before school. The only exceptions are when students are directed by a teacher to use their devices or making payment at the school cafeteria.

Confiscated phones will be brought to the Admin office and placed in a locked box. The details will be recorded on file and the parent/guardian will receive the following SMS message:

"Dear [Parent Given Names]. [Student Given Names]'s electronic device has been confiscated today due to unauthorised use during school hours.

[Student Given Names] may collect the device from the admin office at the end of the day.

Please be reminded the Dept of Education policy states all electronic devices are to be "off and away all day".

Associate Principal, BSHS"

We are seeking your assistance in reminding your child about our Mobile Phone Policy.

Helen Maitland
Principal

Balcatta Update

Learning Area News

Health & Physical Education

Swimming Carnivals

The swimming carnivals were held during Term 1. Results are as follows:

Place	Champion Girl	Champion Boy
Year 7 – Tuesday 14 March		
1 st	Maya Szarnyasi	Kristoff Dimitrovski
2 nd	Jade Burnett	Tyler Eyre
3 rd	Elizabeth Deada	Aston Caccetta

Year 8 – Wednesday 1 March

1 st	Lorien Forbes	Liam Letta
2 nd	Tayla Fellows	Charlie Parker
3 rd	Ava Grzelec	Dante Gyorgy

Years 10-12 – Tuesday 28 February

Year 10

1 st	Faith Patrick	Evan Papadopoulos
2 nd	Georgie Hookway	Ben Ellis
3 rd	Olivia Kelly	Matthew Lewis

Year 11 and Year 12 Champions

1 st	Minaida Peters – Year 11 Champion Girl
	Tyson Fisher – Year 11 Champion Boy
	Danny Antal – Year 12 Champion Boy
2 nd	Austin Machin – Year 11
	Asher Beard – Year 12
3 rd	Clinton Dorji – Year 11
	Levi Susac – Year 12

House Points

Place	Year 7	Year 8	Years 10-12
1 st	Aurora	Aurora	Aurora
2 nd	Poseidon	Poseidon	Zeus
3 rd	Zeus	Artemis	Poseidon
4 th	Artemis	Zeus	Artemis

House Points TOTAL

Place	House
1 st	Poseidon 503
2 nd	Aurora 490
3 rd	Zeus 445
4 th	Artemis 353

The Year 9 Swimming Carnival will be held on Tuesday 28 March (results to come after the event).

Education Support

Year 8 Digital Technologies

Students have been working well this term in their mainstream class of Digital Technologies creating business cards. Students also learnt how to use coding on the computers and connecting with the “box set of Micro:Bit microprocessors” to make a “Bit Bot” robot.

Room B14 – Sheree Fishwick

B14 has been learning about ANZAC Day and why it is important and celebrated in Australia and New Zealand. We created some very clever Haiku poems that captured a part of the war. Enjoy!

War by Arun
Bombs exploding! Boom!
Horrible fires burning
Soldiers dying, shot

Artillery - By Liam
Bullets are firing
Artillery in action
And bombs exploding

War - by George
Metal gates open
Bullets firing towards
them

Hitler by Oliver
We all hate Hitler
He invaded our Poland
And ruined our peace

War by Jensen
War is horrible
Buildings exploded with bombs
Good people killed

Hitler by Summer
I can hear noises
Yelling and marching around
And ruined our peace

Silence by Jackson
Cold rain pranced around
War machines laid quietly
A silenced returned

Mrs Fishwick's students have been learning about ANZAC Day and why it is important and celebrated in Australian and New Zealand. They have created some very clever Haiku poems which capture an understanding of the war.

Room B19 – Linsey Williams

Mrs Williams students have had a great time cooking, and karaoke and enjoyed the social games where the students chose an activity to interact with each other. This term we have seen students thriving in this class and friendships blossoming. Students are learning life skills such as buying from Mrs Linsey's shop as a reward for working hard in class. They had to multiply the cost and also consider postage in the price.

News

The Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) Seminar

The Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) will be holding a seminar regarding "How to help your child manage anxiety".

In this session, you will learn:

- Key anxiety-management skills that parents can teach their children
- An understanding of how anxiety works
- How to build resilience in your child and become an effective emotion coach
- Knowledge of how to help children develop coping skills and face feared situations
- How to manage children's anxious behaviour effectively
- An effective constructive problem-solving approach

Where: Balcatta SHS, 56 Amelia Street, Balcatta Performing Arts Theatre

Date: Wednesday 29 March 2023

Time: 6.00pm to 8.30pm

Please [register here](#) to book your place.

If you have any questions, please contact Brendan Everett by email on Brendan.Everett@education.wa.edu.au.

ECU School Holiday Program – CREATE

Following successful programs held in the previous school holidays, ECU School of Engineering is offering a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) April School Holiday Program – CREATE. Students interested in Engineering, Physics or Mathematics are invited to come and explore engineering and applied science concepts through a series of hands-on and engaging workshops. The **one-day workshops** will be held on Tuesday 11 April, Wednesday 12 April or Thursday 13 April from 9.15am to 3.00pm at Joondalup Campus (Building 23). This program is offered at no cost to participating students.

CREATE is designed to support the teaching and learning of STEM subjects for students interested in STEM. It is suitable for students in Years 9 to 12. Through these workshops, students will have the opportunity to engage with multidisciplinary studies relating to a range of different engineering fields, the courses they are aligned to, and the diverse career opportunities they will have the potential to experience as engineers. Activities include Civil Engineering (bridge design and building) and Mechatronics (automation).

Places are still available, and [registration](#) closes on Tuesday 4 April. More information about this program can be obtained from The Administration Team, School of Engineering by email at se-create@ecu.edu.au or by telephone on 6304 2924.



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Academic Task Force – School Holiday Programs

Academic Task Force is offering premium ATAR Revision Courses to Year 11/12 students, Skills Development Courses for Years 7-10 students, ATAR Tuition and ATAR Master Classes during the April school holidays.

For more information, please go to the [school website](#).

Take advantage of the early bird discount by enrolling before 20 March to get the 10% discount!

Health News

[Why Teenagers need sleep](#)

[Health Breakfast Ideas for Kids](#)

Important dates

27 Mar	Years 7/9 NAPLAN Catchup testing
28 Mar	Years 7 to 12 Interim Reports emailed to parents
28 Mar	9.00am SOBS open for bookings by parents
28 Mar	P3-5 Year 9 Swimming Carnival
29 Mar	5.00pm School Board meeting
30 Mar	11.00am Students finish school for the day
30 Mar	1.00pm to 6.00pm Interim Reporting Event – parent interviews (Level 1)
31 Mar	Year 12 School Ball