



Balcatta Update

18 August 2023

From the Principal

It is already halfway through the term, and staff and students have been busy with their learning programs. There have been various excursions and incursions which provide opportunities for our students.

Gifted and Talented Visual Art

The *Young Originals* is an annual exhibition delivered in partnership with the Department of Education, the Sangora Education Foundation and Edith Cowan University School of Arts and Humanities. This is an exciting event for WA public secondary schools and promotes excellence in visual arts.

Congratulations to Sierra Tylor-Gregorio (Year 10) and Jessica Betti (Year 12) whose artwork was selected to be part of this exhibition.

Transition Activities

We work closely with our local intake primary schools, Balcatta, West Balcatta, Osborne, Takari and Tuart Hill Primary Schools, to build on those transition experiences, and to provide leadership opportunities for our students. Transition activities include hosting Year 5 Science event which was held this week, and the annual Year 5 and Year 6 Primary School Art Competition to be held later this term.

NAPLAN

NAPLAN results were sent to Year 7 and Year 9 parents earlier this term. We have had queries regarding the changes to NAPLAN.

2023 NAPLAN should be viewed as a new starting point, as it has changed. The timing of NAPLAN Online also changed from the beginning of Term 2 to the second half Term 1. Schools now receive the data earlier. The previous band system has changed to four proficiency standards: Exceeding, Strong, Developing and Needs Additional Support (NAS).

NAPLAN results for each student are based on both the number and difficulty of the questions the student answered correctly. A student who completes a more complex set of questions is more likely to achieve a higher score, while a student who answers the same number of questions correctly, but follows a less complex pathway, will achieve a lower score.

For further clarification, please click [NAPLAN/OLNA Brochure](#).

Staffing Update

I will be on Long Service Leave from Tuesday 22 August until Friday 22 September. Ms Tessa Curtis will be backfilling as Principal.

Ms Curtis will be on Long Service Leave in Term 4 (from Monday 9 October to Friday 15 December).

Mrs Marita Rozario will be backfilling as Associate Principal (Year 10 to Year 12) commencing Tuesday 22 August until the end of Term 4.

Welcome back Mr Daniel Drummond, Associate Principal (Year 8/Year 9) on Monday 21 August.

I am pleased to welcome two new staff joining Balcatta SHS:

- Tim Oates – Mathematics teacher
- Kiki Van Zijl – Chaplain (M-Tu, Th-F) commencing Week 7.

Dress Up Day

On Friday 25 August, students are encouraged to dress up as their favourite book character or the colour purple for a gold coin donation to our sister school in Cambodia. This is to celebrate the Arts Festival Week, Book Week and "Wear It Purple" Day. Appropriate dress standards must be adhered to such as no masks, no weapons and no bare skin.

Mix 94.5 Masters Milk Carton Regatta

Mr Attey has registered our school in the [Mix 94.5 Masters Milk Carton Regatta](#) which will be held on Saturday 18 November at Hillarys Boat Harbour. We need your help to build a winning vessel. Please drop your donations of **Masters 600ml milk cartons** (all flavours) in the donation bin located in the Admin foyer. **Only Masters 600ml cartons will be accepted.**

Helen Maitland
Principal

Learning Area News

Year 11 Health Expo

On Friday 5 August the Year 11 Health General students presented the annual Health Expo in the school library. In the weeks leading up to the big day, students spent time researching and creating a stall which promoted their chosen health issue. They set up the library presenting a vibrant and engaging hub of activity as over 800 students immersed themselves in the interactive activities and educated themselves on modern health issues throughout the day. Issues such as vaping, various sexually transmitted infections, marijuana use, road safety, menstruation, social media harms, eating disorders and alcohol abuse were displayed and discussed. As part of their stalls, the students were required to create ways in which to engage their audience and they did this in various activities including problem solving, Family Feud, darts, wheel spinners and a period pain simulator.

The students should be very proud of the engaging and relevant Health Expo they set up and presented. There was no rest for the entire day as group after group of visitors came through the expo. It was wonderful to see the students asking questions and getting involved in the stalls. The Health Expo will run again in 2024 as we look to expand on this wonderful initiative to make it bigger and better next year. Well done Year 11s.

Whole School Athletics Carnival

The Whole School Athletics Carnival returns this year after a break due to the new build and subsequent poor condition of the oval. During the weeks leading up to the main event, which will be held on Thursday 31 August, students have been competing in pre-carnival events such as discus, high jump, 800m and 1500m track events.

Attendance: This is a whole school activity and normal classes will not operate. All students must attend school, as on every other school day.

Events: Students will spend the day on the oval competing in track, field and novelty events. Events have been structured to encourage students to compete. Everyone who finishes an event receives at least one (1) point for their House and towards their efforts to become the champion boy or girl for their year group. More points are awarded to students who run faster and throw or jump further. Novelty events are designed to encourage team competition while having a lot of fun with the friends in your House.

Lunch Break: There will be one extended lunch break at 11.30am with a sausage sizzle at lunch time. The best dressed students will win a free sausage sizzle. Activities will be organised in the old canteen area during lunch time.

Dress: Students are to dress in their House colours and wear warm clothing.

Bring: Students must provide their own lunch, snacks and **lots of water** (the cafeteria will be open). Students are to avoid bringing valuables to school on this day.

Parents are welcome to attend **but must sign in** at the caravan on the oval.

Pre-Carnival Events: Some events have taken place before the main carnival event. The high jump is recorded during Phys Ed lessons and those who do not participate in Phys Ed are given the opportunity to have a go during recess and lunch times. Events such as discus, 800m and 1500m are held during lunch times for those students who are keen to do so. The high jump is still being recorded in some classes but the results we have so far are:

High Jump

Year 7: Sibel Hasanova, Adison Fanto-Njirich

Year 8: Nikita Taylor-Sandes, Tenzin Chogyel

Year 10: Riley Lee

Year 11: Minaida Peters, Kuenga Tshering, Dylan Pike

Year 12: Jerome Pazhooparambil

Discus

Year 7: Sonam Samdrup

Year 8: Charli Patrick, Almodather Hussein

Year 9: Daniella Santich, Matthew Santich

Year 10: Faith Patrick, Riley Lee

Year 11: Angelica van der Westhuizen, Dylan Pike

Year 12: Akeisha Reid, Almozamel Hussein

800m Track Event

Year 7: Lekzin Tandin Tshomo

Year 8: Lorien Forbes, Carlo Deluca

Year 9: William Frencham

Year 10: Annie Frencham, Matthew Lewis

Year 11: Pooja Sharma, Thomas Robinson

Year 12: Tiana Crompton, Almozamel Hussein

1500m Track Event

Year 7: Jade Burnett, Aston Caccetta

Year 8: Charli Patrick, Tenzin Kedah Chogyel

Year 9: Leah Visser

Year 10: Annie Frencham, Matthew Lewis

Year 11: Kuenlek T Phuentsho

Year 12: Sonam Leksell, Jerome Pazhooparambil

House Points (as at 18/8/2023)

Aurora 177

Poseidon 171

Zeus 140

Artemis 108

Big Science Competition

At the end of May, Years 7 to 10 students competed in The Big Science Competition which is one of the biggest international science competitions. It is an easy way to challenge students and track their performance against state or national averages. Competition questions are aligned with the Australian Curriculum (Science). Students received a certificate indicating their performance and schools will receive comprehensive reporting on student results compared to class, school and national averages. There are four paper levels which correspond to each year level.

The following students were awarded a Credit (top 30% of the international competition) for their year level:

Year 7: Morgan Nowicki

Year 8: Alexandra French, Ivan Marjanovic, Alias Mortada, Gorjan Saltamarski

Year 9: Joshua Boyce, Rangjung Dorjee, Jaime Jalla, Kaavya Maniktala, Sayre Nagpal, Oliver Nowicki, Chiara Riolo

Year 10: Jasmin Caccetta, Alina Chaudhry, Evan La Galia, Steven Le, Shea Meyers, Anthony Nasteski, Kazandra Posada

The following students received a Distinction (top 15% of the international competition) for their year level:

Year 7: Aston Caccetta, Natalie Gagg, Taylor Jalla

Year 9: Mitchell Burnett, Reza Hasny

Year 10: Harry Le Sueur, Leena Meel, Edoardo Russell

Perth Big Ideas Challenge

On Monday 7 August, Ms Dewi, Miss Christopher and 30 Year 9 students from the Academic Extension and Aspirant classes

attended the Perth Big Ideas Challenge hosted at Bloom: Centre for Youth Innovation. This event was designed and led by Future Anything's experienced educators to explicitly develop students' enterprise thinking and human-centred design skills. Congratulations to the teams who participated, with special mention to our winners: Bell Goodridge, Cerise Nel and Vivienne Antal.

National Science Week

The theme for National Science Week 2023 was "Innovation: Powering Future Industries". With a wide range of events across our lower school classes, it was a great way for students to demonstrate their creativity and ingenuity. On Tuesday 15 August, Ms Dewi's Year 9 Academic Extension class led Year 5 students from four of our local intake primary schools through a range of activities. To celebrate this year's National Science Week, Balcatta SHS invited the Year 5 students from our local feeder primary schools to experience a variety of science experiments demonstrated by our Year 9 Academic Extension students. A majority of these experiments taught the students that science experiments can be attempted at home using simple ingredients. The Year 5 students had a fantastic time being involved in activities such as making honeycomb, dry ice experiments, making ice cream without freezer, magic milk, hidden messages on toast, etc. Our Year 9 Academic Extension students were very positive ambassadors for our school and did an amazing job in demonstrating these experiments which was reflected in how captivated the Year 5s were throughout the event.

Also this week, multiple classes across the Year 7 to Year 10 cohorts have created water filters and were judged by their design process, water quality, closest to neutral pH and efficiency of filtration.

Students across a range of year groups participated in a "Hydrogen: Fuel of the Future" escape room which involved multiple themed challenges for the students to solve within their groups. The students involved managed to escape before lunch which was a relief to many.

Mr Burgis's Year 8 Science class was involved in a 'Dance with Digital Human' session run by CSIRO. The session showcased how technology was being applied to sport science to help athletes perform at their best. Students heard from the CSIRO scientists about artificial intelligence and motion capture techniques to transform humans into digital humans. They contributed to the session by "bopping along" as they learnt the National Science Week dance from Dizzy, the digital dancer, inspired by robots.

Ms Lucas and Ms Williams are taking their Year 8 students to Scitech today to celebrate National Science Week.

Events will continue into next week with the Scintillating Science Quiz (run by Murdoch University) being held on Wednesday 23 August for our Year 9 and 10 Academic Extension students.

Thank you to students and staff for embracing National Science Week. I am already looking forward to the 2024 edition.

Other News

Immunisation

There will be a Year 7 and Year 10 immunisation catch-up day on **Monday 28 August 2023**.

If your child in Year 7 or 10 has not already had the following immunisation and you would like them to have it at school, the following information is for you.

Year 7 students are eligible to have two immunisations:

- One dose of the Human Papilloma Virus vaccine (HPV)
- One dose of the Diphtheria Tetanus and Whooping cough (combined dTpa) vaccine.

Year 10 students are eligible to have one immunisation:

One dose of the year 10 Meningococcal ACWY immunisation if they have not had this in the last 12 months. The consent form has Year 7 and Year 10 consent sections on the same form. The fact sheets are different for the Year 7 and Year 10 vaccines information.

You can consent by:

- registering on the Vaccinate WA online portal here [School-based immunisation program \(healthywa.wa.gov.au\)](https://healthywa.wa.gov.au)

OR

- print the [Consent Form](#), complete, print and return it to the school.

Extra Information

- For detailed instructions on how to register your child, including information relating to the relevant disease transmission and symptoms, please visit [School-based immunisation program \(healthywa.wa.gov.au\)](https://healthywa.wa.gov.au)
- **NOTE:** Paper-based consent forms will be entered onto VaccinateWA and you will receive an email confirming this.
- All vaccines provided will be recorded in the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR).
- If parent/guardian has not given consent, your child will not receive any vaccine.

Parents/guardians can check their child's vaccination (up to age 14 years):

- via their own existing Medicare online account [myGov \(external site\)](#)
- using the [Express Plus Medicare mobile application \(external site\)](#)
- asking their doctor or immunisation provider.

Choreography Night

Our Specialist Dance students are ready to "Seize The Night" with their annual Choreography Nights. They have been engaged in intensive project-based tasks for several weeks and have put together a show that is guaranteed to entertain.

Date: Thursday 24 August and Friday 25 August

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

Time: 7.00pm to 9.30pm

Parking available (via Amelia Street entries)

General Admission Tickets are available for \$10 each via [Eventbrite](#).

Instructions to purchase tickets:

- Click on [Eventbrite](#) link
- Select a date from 'More Options' drop down box (choose either Thu 24 Aug or Fri 25 Aug) ****Please make sure you select the correct date****
- Select the **number** of General Admission Tickets
- Click **Check out**
- Complete **Billing Information**
- Click **Place Order**

Reminder: Book your tickets for the P&C Quiz Night

The P&C are holding a fundraising quiz night on Friday 18 August (tonight). Purchase your tickets through [trybooking](#) or scan the QR code on the [flyer](#).

Triple P Online Sessions

Triple P is presenting two (2) online sessions:

1. "Understanding and supporting your child with ADHD"

Parents of children with ADHD can face special challenges. Parents can feel frustrated that strategies which work for neurotypical children don't seem to work for their child. Some of the innate challenges of ADHD can lead to conflict and disappointment.

Note: this session may also be helpful for parents with children where ADHD is suspected but not yet diagnosed.

Date: Wednesday 23 August

Time: 8.00pm to 10.00pm

Click [here](#) to join online.

NO NEED TO REGISTER – CLICK THE LINK to join online at the scheduled time.

2. "Bedtime Workshop"

Topic: Establishing Bedtime Routines

This session explores different problems parents commonly face at bedtime and some of the reasons why they happen. The skills children need to get into a good bedtime routine are discussed and parents are introduced to positive parenting strategies to help prevent problems. The approaches to encouraging children to stay in their own bed throughout the night are discussed.

Date: Thursday 24 August

Time: 8.00pm to 10.00pm

Click [here](#) to join online.

Important dates

18 Aug	6.45pm P&C Quiz Night
21–25 Aug	Arts Festival Week – "Read/Grow/Inspire"
21–25 Aug	Book Week
24-25 Aug	7.00pm "Carpe Noctem" – Choreography Nights in PAT
25 Aug	"Wear It Purple" Day
Friday 25 Aug	Dress Up Day (gold coin donation) – wear purple for "Wear It Purple" Day or dress up as your favorite book character for Arts Festival Week and Book Week. (Proceeds go to our sister school in Cambodia)
28 Aug	"Write a Book in a Day" Incursion
31 Aug	Whole School Athletics Carnival
2 Sep	Choral Festival at Churchlands SHS