



# Balcatta Update

3 August 2023

## From the Principal

The last two weeks have been especially busy, with a number of whole school events and excursions taking place.

### Awards Assemblies

On Thursday 27 July we held the Year 7 to Year 12 Semester 1 Award Assemblies. The purpose of this event is to acknowledge the top performing students for their academic performance in their **subjects** and for students who uphold our school values of Respect-Unite-Excel.

It was wonderful to see our students receiving recognition for their efforts in both academic excellence and demonstration of our school values. Thank you to parents and family members who were able to attend this special event. Congratulations to the following students:

**Academic Excellence Awards (Years 7-12)** are awarded to the overall highest achievement for Semester 1.

Year 7 – Alex Di Loreto  
Year 8 – Enzo Velez  
Year 9 – Kaavya Maniktala  
Year 10 – Mohamdali Mortada and Kazandra Posada  
Year 11 – Kai Saraceni  
Year 12 – Finn Holman

**Respect-Unite-Excel Awards:** Students receive a medallion to show their pursuit of knowledge and commitment to achieve. They work to the best of their ability and are enthusiastic about learning; they have self-respect and respect the rights of others; they strive to show consideration, empathy and kindness to staff and peers alike. They participate responsibly in social aspects of school life, building positive relationships with those around them and they show environmental responsibility.

Year 7 – Hamza Alhendawi Almasalma and Tekiah Inge-Laidley  
Year 8 – Charlize Kwan and Aidan Piacentini  
Year 9 – Vivienne Antal and Tsherab Kinga  
Year 10 – Kazandra Posada and Him Pun  
Year 11 – Umang Bajracharya and Asha Hunter  
Year 12 – Jessica Betti and Martin Di Giovanni

### Education Support Program Awards

**Endeavour Awards** are awarded to students who have strived to improve their attitude, behaviour and engagement. We have seen a huge growth in their endeavour.

Year 7 – Jenson Bowen and Lily Ross  
Year 8 – Xavier Kerr  
Year 9 – Annabella Bujaroski  
Year 10 – Liam Gibbons

**Achievement Awards** are awarded to students who have worked hard to improve their academic performance, and we have seen growth in their data results.

Year 7 – Franklin Gorey and Oliver Parsons  
Year 8 – Xavier Kerr  
Year 9 – Seth Rogers  
Year 11 – Callum Hull

**Respect-Unite-Excel Awards** are awarded to students who demonstrate respect for others within our school community,

actively include and support their peers in all endeavours, and demonstrate sound citizenship skills.

Year 7 – Liam Bailey and Naman Pankhania  
Year 8 – Ellie Alfaro  
Year 9 – Adam Schneider  
Year 11 – Kaylah Fewster-Duncan

**The Life Skills Awards** are awarded to students who have worked hard to improve their life and independent living skills.

Year 7 – Arun Tsalavoutas and Liam Wycoco  
Year 8 – Tye Roesler  
Year 9 – Riley Wycoco  
Year 11 Dario Bobanac

**The Materials Technology Awards** are awarded to students who have demonstrated sound skills in the design and technology classroom.

Year 8 – Justin Haywood  
Year 9 – Oliver Pliaskin  
Year 11 – Kaylah Fewster-Duncan

The Arts Learning Area has been busy with a number of exhibitions being held over the last two weeks, including:

**META 2023 North Metropolitan Central Gallery - 18 July.** Art, design, photography from the next generation – an insight into the hearts and minds, dreams and fears of talented Year 11 and 12 students from WA schools. This is a very competitive and selective process. Congratulations to Elora Atkins-Webb (Year 11) and Jeryn Huntley (Year 12) whose art pieces were accepted for this exhibition.

**St George's Cathedral Art - 20 July.** This is the 20<sup>th</sup> year of this premier annual event in art education, attracting schools from all sectors. The artwork of Elora Atkins-Webb, Lilia Atkins-Webb (Year 11) and Jessica Betti (Year 12) were featured in this exhibition.

**Drug Aware "Hypervision" - 21 July.** This is an annual exhibition promoting the creative expression and talents of young people aged 15-25 years from across Western Australia. Isabella Bunter (Year 10) and Jaime Jalla (Year 9) were finalists whose artworks were accepted for this exhibition.

**City of Nedlands "Emerge Youth Art Awards" - 22 July.** This exhibition offers young artists the unique opportunity to showcase their artworks in a professionally curated exhibition at Tresillian Arts Centre. Ten of our students from Year 8 to Year 12 had their work selected: Taylor Fellows (Year 8); Holly Budalich, Vivienne Antal and Joshua Boyce (Year 9); Annie Frencham, Jaime Macapagal, Charlotte Muller and Diti Patel (Year 10); Asher Beard and Jessica Betti (Year 12). At the awards ceremony, the judges made a commendable mention to Asher Beard for his self-portrait piece.

### NAPLAN

Students' NAPLAN results have been sent to parents. This report indicates how your child's achievement compares with other students, both in this school and across Australia, in the areas of literacy and numeracy. More detailed information is available on the website at [www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support](http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support). Students are encouraged to consider their effort

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and engagement in these important learning areas and take positive steps to improve. The school will be working with all students and families to support successful literacy and numeracy achievement.

### Canberra Civics Trip 2024

Next year the school will be taking Years 9 and 10 students on a civics trip to Canberra and Sydney. This is the first time the trip has been run since COVID. The tour will be leaving on Thursday 20 June 2024 (Week 10, Term 2) and returning on Friday 28 June (the last day of Term 2). Students will be visiting places such as the new and old Parliament House in Canberra, the High Court of Australia, the National Gallery, the National Museum and the Australian War Memorial (yet to be confirmed).

Students have been asked to submit an expression of interest form to Mrs Barker, Head of Learning Area for Humanities and Social Sciences by Friday 4 August. Parents of those students who have submitted this form will be asked to attend an information session at the school, which will outline further details about the trip. If you have any queries, please contact Mrs Barker.

### 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 by dropping your donations of **Masters 600ml milk cartons** (all flavours) in the donation bin located in the Admin foyer. **Only 600ml cartons will be accepted.**

Helen Maitland  
Principal

## Learning Area News

### Skills West Career Expo

Perth Skills West Career and Employment Expo was held on Friday 28 July at the Perth Convention Centre. The expo proved to be an excellent opportunity for our students to explore future career prospects. With 49 enthusiastic Year 9 students and 62 ambitious Year 11 and 12 students from Balcatta SHS in attendance, the event showcased a wide array of educational and professional pathways.

The expo served as a valuable platform for students to interact with industry experts, vocational training providers and institutions from various fields. From information technology to

healthcare, engineering to hospitality, the event catered for diverse interests, ensuring every student found something inspiring.

Students engaged in informative workshops, hands-on demonstrations and meaningful discussions that fuelled their future aspirations.

For the Year 9 students, it was a chance to discover their passions and interests early on and explore potential career options. They eagerly participated in hands-on activities and engaging presentations that sparked their curiosity and ambition. Meanwhile, the Year 11 and 12 students focused on refining their career choices and networking with representatives from leading companies and universities. The expo allowed them to seek guidance on their desired career paths and explore employment and further study opportunities.

Overall, the Skills West Career and Employment Expo encouraged our students to make informed decisions about their future careers. Events like these play an important role in shaping the aspirations of our students and bridging the gap between education and real-world opportunities.

### Volleyball Competition

On Friday 28 July, the Junior Girls' Volleyball team was invited to compete at the Champion of Champions Volleyball Competition held at Warwick Stadium. The Year 9 girls played against the very best of school volleyball teams from other schools and proudly represented Balcatta SHS to a high level of sportsmanship and talent. The team displayed incredible camaraderie and gave their best effort on the day. With a very close final between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> against St James Anglican School, the girls placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the competition. We look forward to having the team continue to represent Balcatta SHS in future volleyball competitions.

### Positive Parenting Program (Triple P)

Triple P is organising a session "[Teens & Tech](#)" to be held in the Balcatta SHS Performing Arts Theatre on Wednesday 9 August. If you are interested in attending this event, please [click here](#) to book a seat.

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

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

The P&C are seeking local businesses to be event sponsors for the quiz night. For more information, please click on [link](#) to read the letter.

## Important dates

7 Aug	Year 9 AEP (Science) Perth Big Ideas Challenge Excursion
9 Aug	5.00pm School Board meeting
9 Aug	6.00pm Triple P session "Teens & Tech", Balcatta SHS PAT
14-18 Aug	National Science Week
18 Aug	6.45pm P&C Quiz Night
21-25 Aug	Arts Festival Week
31 Aug	Whole School Athletics Carnival

