



Balcatta Update

1 March 2024

From the Principal

We are already halfway into Term 1 and so much has happened. Students from Years 7 to 12 Gifted and Talented Visual Art attended art camp at Nanga Bush Camp in Dwellingup from Tuesday 20 February to Friday 23 February. They enjoyed the bush environment and were very busy with various workshops provided by the art teachers and art tutors. There will be an exhibition showcasing their artworks before the end of the term.

The Years 8 to 12 swimming carnivals have been underway and it was great to see the number of students participating.

The first P&C meeting for the year saw the largest number of parents in attendance. I sincerely hope there will be a similar attendance for the upcoming Annual General Meeting on Monday 25 March. The support of the P&C is greatly appreciated by the whole school community.

I would like to acknowledge and welcome new members to the Balcatta School Board:

Chair of the School Board – Mr Chris Hatton.

Parent Members – Ms Samantha Bevan, Ms Christel Newport and Mr Steven Summers.

Student Representatives – Eva Veljanoski and Jaeger Peters (Year 12), Ashleigh Sharman and Edoardo Russell (Year 11).

Tell Them From Me (TTFM) survey

This year, Balcatta SHS embarks on the final year of our three-year school improvement program with Fogarty EDvance.

The program is evidence-based and has been running for over 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. The **survey is now open** and we encourage you to complete it as we value your feedback.

Please click on the [link](#). The survey will take approximately 10 minutes and **will close on Thursday 28 March**.

Information for Year 11 and Year 12 Parents

All Year 11 and Year 12 students who are studying Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) Units 3 and 4 and sitting the 2024 ATAR course examinations are requested to complete the [Student Declaration and Permission](#) document **by Thursday 22 August 2024**.

Further information on Student Declaration and Permission is available on the Authority's website at <https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/the-wace/student-declaration>.

Visitors to the School

All visitors to the school **must** report to the Admin Office. If they have an appointment with a teacher, the teacher will be contacted to come and collect them. **Parents visiting the school are not to go direct to classrooms.**

I would like to remind visitors, while on school premises, to be respectful towards all school staff.

e-Scooters

Balcatta SHS supports the Road Safety Commission with ALL rideable device rules. Please ensure you and your child are familiar with the following rules to maximise safety for everybody in our community:

- Riders must wear an approved helmet
- Riders must wear / display lights and reflectors
- A bell or warning device must be fitted to the device
- No doubling up / dinkying
- No device is to be ridden on Balcatta SHS grounds.

Please ensure your child follows these rules for their own safety. All e-scooters must be locked up at the bike racks provided. Balcatta SHS take no responsibility for theft or damage.

Helen Maitland
Principal

Health News

Health Reminders

Sun Smart information:

[How much sun is enough?](#)

[Sunsmart Information](#) – sun-protective clothing.

[UV Meters](#) – gives an accurate, visible and local measure of Ultra Violet radiation.

[Shade Information](#).

Learning Area News

Science

Year 7 Science Explorers

The Year 7 students are diving headfirst into the world of science labs. From learning about equipment and safety protocols to obtaining their individual Bunsen Burner Licences, these young scientists are eager to explore the wonders of the scientific world.

Year 8 Cell Models in Action

The Year 8 students have been hard at work creating intricate cell models and diving deep into the world of organelles and microscopy. With hands-on projects and engaging discussions, they are unravelling the mysteries of life at the cellular level.

Year 9 Atomic Adventures

The Year 9 students are embarking on atomic adventures from understanding atomic structure to exploring the importance of radiation. The students are on a quest for scientific knowledge. They are also investigating the difference between physical and chemical changes including precipitation reactions to create foxy colours and burning magnesium metal. The students who chose the Criminal Investigation and Justice elective have been analysing theoretical crime scenes and following the investigative process.

Year 10 DNA Discoveries

The Year 10 students are unlocking the secrets of DNA and hereditary traits from extracting DNA from strawberries to understanding inheritance patterns. The budding geneticists are on a mission to unravel the mysteries of life's blueprint. They also received a special guest lecture from Mr Michael Briggs on

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the genetics of bees. The students who chose the Psychology elective have been looking at theories of dreams while the students who chose the Criminal Investigation and Justice elective have been getting an introduction into crime scene analysis.

Year 11 and Year 12 Experiment Explorers

Year 11 and 12 students are exploring a wide range of experiments. Human Biology students are investigating the concept of surface area to volume ratio. Chemistry students recently used flame testing, which is an analytical technique where a sample is placed in a flame and the characteristic flame colour is used to identify the substance.

Swimming Carnivals

The Year 8 to Year 12 Swimming Carnivals were held this week. The results are as follows:

Year 8 Swimming Carnival – Monday 26 February

House Points

1 st	Poseidon 299 points
2 nd	Zeus 279 points
3 rd	Aurora 149 points
4 th	Artemis 147 points

Champion Girl	Champion Boy
1 st Maya Szarnyasi	Nathanael D'Alessandro
2 nd Jaida Dragicevic	Kristoff Dimitrovski
3 rd Elizabeth Deada	Aston Caccetta

Year 10 to Year 12 Swimming Carnival – Tuesday 27 February

House Points – unavailable

Year 10

Champion Girl	Champion Boy
1 st Chiara D'Alessandro	Mitchell Burnett
2 nd Daniella Santich	Eric Barone Major
3 rd Vivienne Antal	Ollie Pliaskin

Year 11

Champion Girl	Champion Boy
1 st Romi Oxley	Evan Papadopoulos
2 nd Faith Patrick	Edoardo Russell
3 rd Georgie Hookway	Steven Le

Year 12

Champion Girl	Champion Boy
1 st Minaida Peters	Tyson Fisher
2 nd N/A	Amar Palic
3 rd N/A	Tyler Ugle

Year 9 Swimming Carnival – Thursday 29 February

House Points – unavailable

Champion Girl	Champion Boy
1 st Lorien Forbes	Dante Gyorgy
2 nd Tayla Fellows	Lhasel Jigme Yoezer
3 rd Nicola Vlahos	Ugyen Thuktob Dorji

The Year 7 Swimming Carnival will be held on Monday 11 March.

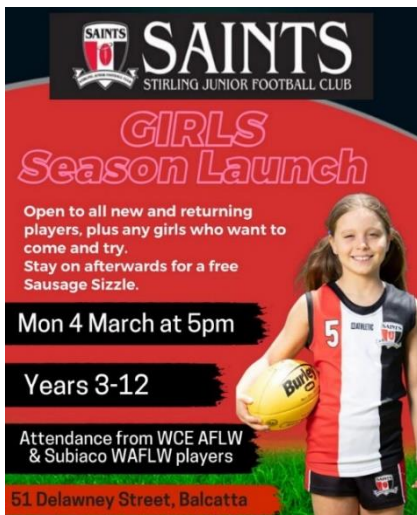
P&C News

The P&C next meeting is the Annual General Meeting to be held on Monday 25 March 2024 in the Administration building commencing at 7.00pm. Although our current Executive team has expressed interest in holding the executive positions again, all positions will become vacant and voting will take place. New financial members are required to keep the P&C running so don't be shy, we are only asking for a total of seven (7) hours commitment over the year with seven (7) one-hour meetings remaining for the year. Your support will make a huge difference to the school and we encourage everyone to join the P&C and show your support for the school. If you have any queries, 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.

Stacey Litchfield
President

Important dates

4 Mar	Labour Day Public Holiday (no school)
5 Mar	Years 11-12 OLN Numeracy and Reading Catchup
6 Mar	Year 7 and Year 9 NAPLAN Practice Test
6-8 Mar	Year 12 Outdoor Ed Camp to Rottnest
6-7 Mar	Year 9 Excursion to Francis Burt Law Education Centre
7 Mar	Year 9 excursion – Career Taster Program – Cabinet Making at NMTAFE
8 Mar	Year 7 and Year 9 NAPLAN Practice Test
11 Mar	Year 7 Swimming Carnival
12 Mar	Year 7 and Year 9 NAPLAN Practice Test (catchup)
13-25 Mar	Year 7 and Year 9 NAPLAN Testing



SAINTS
STIRLING JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

GIRLS
Season Launch

Open to all new and returning players, plus any girls who want to come and try.
Stay on afterwards for a free Sausage Sizzle.

Mon 4 March at 5pm

Years 3-12

Attendance from WCE AFLW & Subiaco WAFLW players

51 Delawney Street, Balcatta

Girls 2024 Season Launch!

If you are a girl in Years 7-12 and thinking of playing footy for Season 2024, come down to our season launch. Open to all returning and new players or anyone who wants to come and try.

When: Monday 4 March

Time: 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm

Where: Richard Guelfi Reserve, Balcatta

No experience required, bring a friend along and stay on afterwards for a free sausage sizzle at the club after training.

We will also have players from the Eagles AFLW and Subiaco WAFLW teams during and after the training session.

We look forward to seeing you all there.



SIGN UP FOR
JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE!

PLAYNRL.COM/REGISTER

NORTH BEACH SEA EAGLES
EST. 1991

BLUEFORCE PARK
CHARLES RILEY RESERVE, NORTH BEACH
(OFF KITCHENER STREET)
juniorpresident@nbrflc.com.au

COME & TRY DAY - 10TH MARCH 2024 (11am - 2pm)

ONLINE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

TRY RUGBY LEAGUE | A FUN DAY OUT FOR THE FAMILY

SKILLS & DRILLS
CLUB PRIZES & MEAT RAFFLES
SAUSAGE SIZZLE
MUSIC

FREE BOOT
BAG & BALL*

*You must be registered and paid in full to receive your gift

NRLWA FUEL TO GO AND PLAY JUNIOR AGE GROUPS

U6 - U12 NON-COMPETITION
U9 & U12 MIXED LEAGUE TAG (NEW)
U13 - U17 BOYS COMPETITION

U12 - U16 GIRLS LEAGUE TAG
U14, U16 & U18 GIRLS COMPETITION
U19 BOYS COMPETITION