



Balcatta Update

23 May 2024

From the Principal

It is hard to believe we are halfway through the term. As usual it has been busy with students engaged in their learning, with a number of students participating in excursion activities or representing the school.

This year we had our first team in a number of years compete in the Secondary Champion Schools Cross Country event which was held at UWA Sports Park on Thursday 16 May. The school was represented by 16 students from Years 7-12. The fields were filled with over 200 students in each race, mostly with students who have had previous experience in such athletic events. Feedback from Adam Taseff (Physical Education teacher) was our students performed superbly and should be proud of their efforts. Congratulations to all participants and to Year 7 Mila Menchetti who was our highest placegetter.

Our Year 7 students participated in their first Lightning Carnival on Tuesday 14 May, competing in a range of sports including soccer, basketball and netball. Such events provide the opportunity for healthy competition of team sports played against other schools.

Celebrate P&C Day WA – Friday 24 May

We would like to thank and celebrate our P&C Association for their fantastic work. P&Cs have worked tirelessly over the years on initiatives which benefit children at public schools. P&Cs are involved in many activities, from facilitating parent participation and involvement in the school, to acting as a forum for parents to discuss school issues and providing resources to the school via fundraising.

Each year, we pause to celebrate and acknowledge the magnificent contributions of our P&C Associations; this year, P&C Day WA is acknowledged on Friday 24 May.

The Balcatta SHS P&C members are all volunteers who are passionate about ensuring all students have the opportunities to succeed.

Over the years the P&C has raised funds through a number of fundraising avenues and have funded resources and programs for all Learning Areas.

Click the link to view a P&C Day WA message from the Minister for Education, Mr Tony Buti - https://youtu.be/uiXKh_WytM.

Waste Sorted Schools Program

I am pleased to announce that Balcatta SHS is now accredited under the Waste Sorted Schools Program. Congratulations to Mr Daniel Gribbon, the HASS department and the Sustainability Club for driving this initiative. Watch this space as we start to implement strategies/projects from the newly developed Waste Management and Sustainability Plan.

Balcatta SHS is now able to apply for Waste Sorted School grants which will assist the number of planned projects to be instigated.

Helen Maitland
Principal

News

Year 11 and Year 12 Exams

Please note the following information for Year 11 and Year 12 students.

Week 7 (27-31 May) No timetabled classes

- Exam Week for ATAR courses – students who are doing one or two ATAR courses, as well as those doing an ATAR pathway.
- There is an expectation any students who are behind in any General course will negotiate with their teachers to come in and catch up on work. They will need to know when/where they are meeting their teachers.
- The library **will not be available** as it is set up for exams all week.
- Students who come in to catch up on work must wear their school uniform and sign in and out via the Front Admin desk as a visitor NOT Student Admin. Those attending exams will be marked on-site at the exam.
- ALL Year 11 and Year 12 students are not required to attend school in Week 7 unless they are doing their scheduled exams or catching up on work (as per arrangement with teachers).

Year 10 Exams

Year 10 students will be sitting their exams on Thursday 30 May and Friday 31 May. Normal timetable applies for Period 5.

Thursday 30 May	Period 1 and 2 - English Period 3 and 4 - Science
Friday 31 May	Period 1 and 2 - HASS Period 3 and 4 - Maths

Year 10 students going into Year 11, 2025

On Thursday 9 May, we held a Parent Information Event in the Performing Arts Theatre. We appreciate the time and effort some of our staff showed in supporting our Year 10 students by making course presentations. Thank you to the parents who attended. It was a great turnout. The Year 10 PowerPoint presentation, the [Year 11 and Year 12 Academic Handbook 2025](#) and a generic Course Selection Form are also available on our [website](#). A personalised copy has been distributed to Year 10 students.

Bookings for the Year 11 in 2025 course counselling interviews will be conducted between Thursday 20 June and Friday 19 July (excluding school holidays and Monday 15 July). Parents will be able to access [SOBS](#) from **9.00am Monday 17 June** to make appointments (25 mins timeslots) with either Tessa Curtis, Dimi Martino, Jane Balcombe or Miles Attey. **Students must bring their personalised Year 11 Course Selection form to the meeting.**

Health News

Year 10 Immunisations Rescheduled

Year 10 School-Based Immunisation Program 2024 vaccine ([Meningococcal](#)) is available to all Year 10 students and is scheduled for **Tuesday 11 June 2024**. No immunisation will be given unless a consent form has been registered.

Balcatta Update

Please see the link below to the new online consent form – [consentpublic \(health.wa.gov.au\)](https://consentpublic.health.wa.gov.au).

Nexus Dance Concert

The Specialist Dance students will be presenting their annual Nexus Dance Concert together with students from Shenton College and Cecil Andrews SHS on Friday 7 June. The performance will be held at the Octagon Theatre, University of WA, Nedlands commencing at 7.00pm (approximately 1.5 hours). Tickets are available for \$35.00 via [TicketsWA](#). Use the promo code **balcatta**.

Student Services News

Attendance Process

All students are expected to attend every school day and to be on time. Students who arrive late to school may miss information at the start of the lesson. Arrivals after 8.50am are classified as a morning absence and require students to bring a note from their parent/guardian explaining their absence.

Leaving School Early

No student is permitted to leave the school grounds without permission from their parent/guardian. Parents requiring permission for their child to leave the school grounds **must**

provide the student with a note and contact Student Services either via SMS on 0409 686 684 or via email at balcatta.shs@education.wa.edu.au. Students must sign out at Student Admin, allowing them to leave the school grounds. Parents **must not contact** their child direct. Communications must be made through Student Services.

Late Students

Reminder: Poincaire Street gates close at 8.45am. Students who arrive after 8.45am must enter through Amelia Street electronic gates and make their way to Student Admin office or to sign in.

P&C News

The next P&C meeting will be held on Monday 10 June commencing at 7.00pm in Admin. If you are unable to attend the meeting and would like to receive an invitation link, please send your request via email to pandcbalcattashs@gmail.com.

If you have any queries, please feel free to contact us either via email to 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

27-31 May	Year 11 and Year 12 Exams (no school unless attending exams or assessment catchup as requested with teachers)
27-31 May	National Reconciliation Week
3 June	Public Holiday
5 June	Year 9 Lightning Carnival
7 June	Nexus Dance Concert at Octagon Theatre



The Stirling Junior Football Club are excited to announce that we are kicking off a brand new Starkick All Abilities football program this season, with our **season launch and Come and Try Day on Saturday 25 May from 9.00 am - 10:30 am at Richard Guelfi Reserve, Balcatta.**

Starkick is a multi award-winning non-contact All-Abilities football program that caters for boys and girls. This program promotes inclusion equality and opportunity and runs as an integral part of the clubs Auskick Centre.

Children who by circumstance, may be unable or unwilling to participate in a traditional, sporting team environment, are provided the support and resources they require to enable them to participate and most importantly - have fun!

We welcome all kids from P/P to Year 12, who would like to play football in an inclusive environment to come along and give it a go. Starkick aims to cater for all disabilities and the motto for this program is **"If you want to play, we'll find a way"**.

Bruno, who is featured on our flyer, is our first Starkick player who is signed up and ready to go, he is the son of our first Starkick Coordinator at the club, Michael Theodos.

If you would like any more information about the program, please email Michael on starkick.stirlingjfc@gmail.com