



# Balcatta Update

12 June 2024

## From the Principal

The last couple of weeks have been exceptionally busy as we acknowledge national events.

National Reconciliation Week is an important time at Balcatta Senior High School. It is a time to remind our students and community about our shared histories, cultures and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

The *'Now More Than Ever'* theme provided students with the opportunity to engage with lessons and activities in a time of learning, reflection and the opportunity to take action to create a more just and inclusive Australia. Together as a community, we acknowledged the unique histories, cultures and contributions of Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders in the form of commemorating historical events, creating paper chains signifying unity, sampling cultural foods and watching documentaries highlighting the significant milestones in the reconciliation journey – the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively.

We believe we all have a role to play when it comes to reconciliation. In playing our part, we collectively build relationships and communities which value Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders, histories, cultures and futures.

The Derbal Yerrigan Health Services provided a very informative presentation to all Year 7-10 students regarding the health concerns from vaping and smoking.

Students from Years 7 to 9 have participated and represented the school at Lightning Carnivals in a range of sports. The Year 9 basketball and volleyball teams were successful in winning their division. The Year 10 Lightning Carnival will be held on Tuesday 18 June.

On Friday 7 June, the Years 7-12 Dance students performed at the Octagon Theatre. The Nexus Dance Alliance is an annual event presented by students from Shenton College, Cecil Andrews College and Balcatta Senior High School. This event provided the students with the opportunity to experience a working theatre environment and a chance to see their peers from other schools perform. Our students performed exceptionally well and are a credit to their dance teachers. Congratulations to all involved in this event.

We have had a number of firsts in Semester 1, including:

Mock Trials: a competition for Year 10 and Year 11 students run by the Law Society of Western Australia. The students competed in three preliminary rounds, to prepare legal cases to argue in the Supreme Court of Western Australia.

This is a difficult competition, with students needing to understand the complexities of the law and how it applies to a set of facts. This was the first year Balcatta has participated in this competition, with 14 students from Years 10 and Year 11. The students have spent hours before school preparing cases with Mr Gribbon coaching them and being supported by Mrs Barker. Whilst our students did not make it into the finals, they are to be congratulated on their effort and the way in which they

represented the school.

Gravity Discovery Centre: Year 11 and Year 12 Physics students participated in an overnight excursion at the Gravity Discovery Centre at Gingin. The program included students engaging in the Leaning Tower, Solar Walk, Cosmology displays and night-time observatory, and solar viewing in the morning.

The Year 11 Dinner Dance will be held on Thursday 13 June commencing at 6.00pm at Beaumonde On The Pointe, East Perth. The event finishes at 10.00pm. Please ensure students are collected promptly.

### Uniforms

Most of our students adhere to our school dress code. I am seeking your assistance to ensure your child always adheres to the school dress code.

### Reminder:

- Leggings must be navy blue only and can only be worn with shorts or skirts over the top. Leggings cannot be worn as an item on their own.
- Footwear must be closed-in shoes/sneakers (thongs, Ugg boots and Crocs **ARE NOT** suitable footwear).
- Hoodies of any colour **ARE NOT** acceptable. They are not to be worn under the school shirt.
- Sweatpants of any colour **except** navy blue school pants/shorts **ARE NOT** acceptable.
- Collared shirts of any colour **except** navy blue **ARE NOT** acceptable and **ARE NOT** to be worn under the school uniform.
- Students are required to wear the correct school shirt, i.e. Years 7-9 (blue) and Years 10-12 (white).

Balcatta Senior High School's uniforms are supplied by Tudor Uniforms, with uniforms ordered on-line 24 hours per day via their website: [www.tudorschooluniforms.com.au](http://www.tudorschooluniforms.com.au).

Helen Maitland  
Principal

## News

### Year 10 students going into Year 11, 2025

The Year 10 PowerPoint presentation, the [Year 11 and Year 12 Academic Handbook 2025](#) and a generic Course Selection Form is 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.**

## Balcatta Update

### Semester 1 Parent Reporting Event – Wednesday 19 June

Bookings via SOBS are open for parents from 9.00am on Friday 14 June. To book an interview (10-minute timeslots), please click on the following link:

**Parent Access:**

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

If you need assistance, please read the following link:

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

Date: Wednesday 19 June 2024

Time: 1.00pm to 6.00pm

Where: Level 1 (follow signs as required)

Level 2 – Education Support

All Semester 1 Reports will be emailed to parents on **Monday 17 June 2024**. If bookings for teachers have been filled, parents can contact the relevant teacher/s via [email](#) for feedback regarding their child.

**Students will finish school at 10.45am on Wednesday 19 June 2024 ONLY.** Normal timetable applies on Thursday 20 June 2024.

### Career Expo – Wednesday 19 June

This event has been cancelled.

## Important dates

12 Jun	5.00pm School Board meeting in Admin Conference Room
13 Jun	6.00pm Year 11 Dinner Dance
14 Jun	9.00am <b>Semester 1 Parent Reporting Event bookings</b> open for parents (see article for details)
17 Jun	Years 7 to 12 Semester 1 Reports emailed to parents
	9.00am <b>Year 10 Course Counselling Interviews (for Year 11 in 2025) bookings</b> open for parents (see article for details)
18 Jun	Year 10 Lightning Carnival
19 Jun	1.00pm to 6.00pm <b>Semester 1 Parent Reporting Event</b> (see article for details)
20-28 Jun	Civics & Citizenship Tour to Sydney/Canberra

## Health News

### Immunisations

If you have not registered your child, please click on [link](#) to the new online consent form.

**If you wish for your child to receive their vaccination outside of school or want to catch up sooner, please click on [link](#) for a list of clinics.**

### Year 10 Immunisations

Year 10 School-Based Immunisation Program 2024 vaccine ([Meningococcal](#)) is available to all Year 10 students. If your child did not receive their vaccination on Tuesday 11 June, there is a catchup day scheduled for **Tuesday 19 November**.

### Year 7 Immunisations

Year 7 immunisations have been rescheduled for **Tuesday 3 December and Wednesday 4 December**.