



Balcatta Update

25 October 2024

From the Principal

It has been a busy start, with our students involved in a number of events both in and representing the school and it is only Week 3.

Year 7 to Year 12 Dance Showcase Performance

The Year 7 to Year 12 students from the Approved Specialist Program in Dance presented the "Querencia" showcase event over two nights on Thursday 17 October and Friday 18 October, which were both a sell-out.

All the students' performances, including a special performance on Thursday from our Education Support students and staff were exceptional. The students confidently showcased dance techniques and choreography skills. This was also the last performance from our Year 12 students, Yassmin Ahmed, Faith Ambler, Sherab Lhazin Dolkar, Angelina Lalley, Stephanie Litchfield, Mim McQuie, Elliot Simons, Angelica van der Westhuizen, Eva Veljanoski, Lilly Walton and Matilda Woodard. As a school community we wish them all the best and congratulate Mim McQuie, Year 12 student, who has been accepted into WAAPA.

Year 12 Presentation Ceremony

On Monday 21 October, we acknowledged and celebrated the Year 12 Class of 2024 on their successful completion of 12 years of schooling. The event was held at the Winthrop Hall, Nedlands, which provided a very prestigious and formal ambience. The students looked splendid in their new graduation gowns which were kindly provided by our P&C. This was a massive undertaking to organise such an event, and I thank all staff who contributed to this significant milestone event for the Year 12 students.

The evening showcased special performances from our Music students:

Year 10 – Sadie Woodard and Madeleine Glasson

Year 12 – Matilda Woodard, Lakeisha Arifianto, and former student, Sabrina Tengku.

Congratulations to the following Special Award winners:

Senior School Special Commendation Award – Adam Merenda

North Metropolitan Education Region Commitment to Excellence Award – Grace Palden

ADF Future Innovators Award – Thomas Robinson

ADF Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award – Kaiser Htat

Act-Belong-Commit Community Service Award – Minaida Peters

Sportsperson of the Year Award – Minaida Peters and Dylan Pike

Ampol Best All Rounder Award – Lakeisha Arifianto

Principal's Recommendation for Outstanding Achievement Award

– Thomas Robinson

John Curtin Scholarship Program to Curtin University Nominee –

Lakeisha Arifianto

Principal's Recommendation to Curtin University Nominees –

Thomas Robinson and Matilda Woodard

General Dux Award – Elliot Simons

ATAR Dux Award – Grace Palden

Congratulations to our Year 12 students. We wish them the best for their future endeavours and look forward to hearing about the next part of their learning journey. Good luck to the ATAR students sitting their final WACE exams. It is also the end of the Balcatta SHS journey for a number of our families. I thank them for their support of the school over the years.

Interschool Athletics Carnival

The Interschool Athletics team started the day on Friday 18 October, with a breakfast at the school's cafeteria and a presentation of their new athletics shirts. Due to our performance last year, we went up a division. The team performed well, with so many students participating in a number of events. Congratulations to Daniella Santich who was awarded the Champion Girl for Year 10.

Staff Changes

Ms Tessa Curtis has taken leave (due to knee surgery) and will be off until the end of Term 4. Mrs Sookraj is backfilling as Associate Principal (Years 10-12) and Ms Leanne Duong is backfilling as HoLA English. We wish Ms Curtis a safe and speedy recovery and look forward to welcoming her back for the start of 2025.

Helen Maitland
Principal

News

Compass

Balcatta SHS is working towards a streamlined communication platform – **COMPASS**.

Compass enables parents/guardians to communicate with our school and provide essential information with the following:

- Attendance notes
- Events calendar
- Parent/Teacher/Admin communications

PLEASE NOTE: Compass is our preferred communication platform for attendance. If you have not logged into Compass, we will be sending you log in details to get you started. If you have any questions, please email:

Balcatta.SHS.Attendance@education.wa.edu.au.

Learn more about Compass using our parent guide available by clicking on the link – [A guide for parents & families | Compass Education AU](#).

World Teachers' Day

We are celebrating World Teachers' Day 2024 on Friday 25 October by shining a spotlight on the passion and dedication teachers bring to the classroom and communities every day. From shaping young minds to inspiring future leaders, we are grateful for the pivotal role teachers play in guiding and nurturing students to reach their full potential.

Year 7 and Year 10 Immunisation

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

If you wish your child to receive their vaccination outside of school or want to catch up sooner, please click on this [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 5 November**.

Year 7 Immunisations

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

Balcatta Update

Important dates

25 Oct	World Teachers' Day
28-29 Oct	Year 9 OLNA
1 Nov	School Development Day (student-free day)
5 Nov	Year 10 Immunisations (Catchup from Term 2)
7 Nov	6.00pm Gifted & Talented Visual Art Exhibition in the Ron Murphy Art Gallery (via Poincaire Street entry)
8 Nov	Last day for Year 11 students
11-22 Nov	Year 7 In-term Swimming Lessons (Period 1-2)
11-15 Nov	Year 11 Exams
18-19 Nov	Year 10 Exams

