Thanks to the Athletes Foot for their kind donation of $120.00. Every time you buy shoes at the store and say you are part of the Balgownie School Community, a percentage of the sale goes to our school. We have purchased two coolers to use at events with the money donated by Athletes Foot.

Thanks to those parents and carers who have paid for the subscription to Reading Eggs and School Magazines and those who have also paid their voluntary school contributions. It makes a big difference to our school. If you have not yet paid for these, please do so as soon as possible. We have Eftpos to make it easier for you!

After School Supervision is provided by class teachers and then by a member of staff who supervises the after school care and bus students. This teacher, usually a member of our executive, is also responsible for ensuring that any children who can’t find their parents, or vice versa are cared for and arrangements made.

We have a number of children and families who are playing in the school grounds for a short time after school. You are more than welcome to do this, but please remember that parents are responsible for their children. It becomes confusing for students if they are permitted to do things after school, that during the day they are not allowed to do.

WHAT’S ON?

Week 11 Parent teacher interviews this week
Wed 10.4.13 P&C meeting 7.15pm
Thu 11.4.13 Cross Country at school 12pm onwards K-6
Frid 12.4.13 Dance2bfit
Last day of Term 1
Mon 29.4.13 Term 2 Teachers return
Wed 1.5.13 Term 2 Students return
Anzac Day ceremony 10.20am for 10.30am start

Anzac day service has been changed from Friday 12.4.13 to Wednesday 1.5.13 as we have Dance2bfit on Friday.

Reunion of the class of 1956 is a huge success. Over seventy ex-Balgownie students gathered at the school to reminisce about their school days, say hello to old friends and visit the school they attended in their younger days. One gentleman travelled from Cooktown (3500km away) to attend the gathering.

In 1956, there were only 4 classes in the heritage building. The principal’s office was in what is now a store room next to Mr Mac’s classroom. The support teacher room at the other end of the building was the staff room.

The library is located where the ‘Head master’s residence’ once stood and there was a well that has been covered over, that was in the laundry attached to the residence.

It was a fabulous event and the ex-students enjoyed fond memories (some of them had visited the head master’s office more than others!) and loved seeing the school as it is today! Thanks to Colin Flanagan and the museum volunteers for a wonderful event!

Congratulations to the following students who have demonstrated our values of Respect, Responsibility and Real Learning and earned themselves a wrist band! Well done!

Kalia Spencer 3HR
Chloe Lavery 1S
Charlotte Howie 1D
Morgan Williams K/1M
Zac Rutter K/1M

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Please support us and help your children by following school guidelines and making sure that students are not in the car park unsupervised or down near the neighbours’ fences as we want to keep our children safe and maintain good relationships with other people. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Update of student enrolment data is becoming increasingly important. The importance of maintaining accurate and current information, while always necessary, continues to become increasingly important for school management and operation.

In particular the student information held on ERN, initially captured at enrolment and ideally updated at regular periods, is important for meeting student health and welfare needs, student learning and in managing emergency situations.

The accuracy of data held also potentially impacts on all schools and their students. In particular, data on parental background including occupation, school education and qualifications, current address, language background and Aboriginality, while perhaps not considered necessary for day to day teaching and administration in a school, are becoming more widely used (in aggregated form only).

Student and parent background data entered on ERN is used for example in;

- compiling the Index of Community and Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA) applied to each school on the My School website by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) and;
- needs based resource allocation at state government level.

It is important to keep all details updated about your children and yourself. While current medical information assists in any emergency situation, other information provided may also benefit our children and our school, in terms of the provision of funding and levels of additional educational support.

Enrolment records and background data are updated by the end of February and April each year. Please call in and update student details and other information as soon as possible.

Have a great holiday and see you all back on WEDNESDAY 1ST MAY 2013 FOR TERM 2!

Aloma Stewart

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**Joke of the Week**
What goes down but never goes up? An elephant in an elevator.

**Thought of the Week**
Life isn't fair, but you and I should be.
-anonymous

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**STAGE THREE ARCHIBALD EXHIBITION EXCURSION**

Last Thursday, the 4th of April, all of stage three travelled by bus to the NSW Art Gallery to see an art exhibition called the Archibald Prize. This is an exhibition of talented artists who paint, draw and model portraits of distinguished Australian personalities.

It was fun picking our favourites, seeing the many different styles of artwork and recognizing some familiar faces. Over all it was a fun and exciting day giving some of us some inspiration in our creative arts endeavours.

The reason for the trip was because stage three has just completed our own portraits and some have been selected to be entered and displayed in our own Keira Community of Schools exhibition called the “Keirabald”.

Thank you stage three teachers for taking us and encouraging creative arts in our school.

By Jordan Kipps, 6/L

**NETBALL NEWS**

Our Senior Girls netball team played against Fairy Meadow Demonstration School on Tuesday 9th April. The girls played a wonderful game and won 29-3. Each and every player should be congratulated for their superb skill, tenacity and sportsmanship. Even though we dominated each quarter, the girls showed real team spirit and fantastic ability. We now progress through to Round 2 of the competition, with a game to be played early in Term 2. Well done girls, I'm very proud of you!

Mrs Lynch

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**UNIFORM SHOP**
The Uniform Shop is open on TUESDAY mornings from 8.30am each week.
UNIFORM SHOP NEWS
GIRLS WINTER TUNICS
Tunics will be delivered to classrooms this Friday. If you have not yet paid and would like yours to be delivered on Friday, please place your Money in the canteen slot by Thursday afternoon. Alternatively, unpaid tunics can be paid for and collected on the first day that the uniform shop is open next term - Tuesday 7th May. If you have any questions please call Megan on 0403 233 875.

CANTEEN NEWS
CANTENE CLEANING - THE MORE THE MERRIER!
Please come and give us a hand to clean the canteen on Friday, 12/04/2013. See you at the canteen around 9 am. Please bring your cleaning tools you like/need :)

PLEASE SERIOUSLY CONSIDER - CANTENE IS FOR OUR KIDS
It has been 1 term since we started advertising vacancy positions below. Unfortunately, there has not been any interest from the BPS community to fill these vacancies. Canteen subcommittee is now seriously considering CLOSING THE CANTENE if we cannot get new helpers to fill these positions, as they are essential to keep the canteen OPEN.

BPS canteen has been serving and providing much needed resources including whiteboards, home readers and more for BPS children over years. But this service cannot happen if the BPS community does not SHARE the work load. Many activities at school are supported by numbers of volunteers who have children, jobs and own commitments. Please seriously consider a way to spare your time to help your own child/children’s school.

We currently have over 50 monthly canteen volunteers to serve our children 4 days a week. We would like to thank all the helpers for their continuous support :)

POSITIONS NEED TO BE FILLED URGENTLY - JOB SHARE POSSIBLE
Food Preparation - Some food preparation on Mondays.
Fresh Food Shopper - Fresh food shopping by 9am Mondays.
Pantry Food Shopper - Pantry food shopping weekly/fortnightly.
Roster Coordinator - Looking after the roster and canteen volunteers.
You can arrange a group of friends to share the work too :)

Please contact the canteen subcommittee at ballycanteen@gmail.com

FIRST DAY OF CANTENE IN TERM 2
First day of canteen in Term 2 is WEDNESDAY, 01/05/2013.

CANTEEN ROSTER
2013 Week 1, Term 2

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P&C NEWS
2013/2014 Entertainment Books
The Entertainment Books are here! If you would like to buy, browse, or borrow one to take home, please come to see us before school by the canteen on Thursday or Friday morning or during the Cross Country Carnival outside the hall. You can also pay online (www.balgowniepnc.com) or drop in your order form to the canteen. You can even purchase other regions, like Canberra, Western Sydney, Sydney or Newcastle/Central Coast. These make great and easy gifts for Mother’s Day.
We need your help with a letterbox drop in Balgownie - if you can deliver leaflets in your street then please highlight that area on the map outside the canteen and take the flyers with you. Remember that every sale earns our school $11 and if you ever buy groceries, petrol, or even occasionally go out for dinner, family activities or book holiday accommodation then these books will ultimately save you money too! Even discounts for Thredbo lift tickets are included this year. So far we have sold 53 books - thank you!

FOUND
A set of keys have been handed into the office. The set includes house keys and a Mazda car key, attached to a yellow key tag.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Opportunity for students to participate in a research study looking at the use of computer software to improve behaviour and learning outcomes. This is being conducted by Stuart Johnstone and his team at University of Wollongong. As a school, we are providing parents with the information. To register your interest, please contact the University via the site below. This study has the approval of the joint Illawarra Area Health Service and University of Wollongong Human Research Ethics Committee (HE12/420) and the State Education Research Approval Process. You would of course have the right to withdraw from part, or all, of the project at any time.

Focus Pocus: a training program to improve behaviour and learning.
The ability to control impulses, focus attention, and keep information in memory are essential for good behaviour and successful learning. Our research shows that we can enhance these abilities, and also behaviour, by playing specially-designed computer games for 15-20 minutes/day for 5-6 weeks.

We are looking for children in stages 2 and 3 to participate in an improved training program. Children with ADHD (professionally diagnosed) are required, as are children who do not have ADHD. The training and before- and after-training assessment sessions will be carried out at your home, or at the University (whichever is most convenient). We will supply the software and hardware, and install it on your Windows or Mac computer. At the end of training, a report is provided on training outcomes.

The study is conducted by the School of Psychology at the University of Wollongong.

To view an information pack and register your interest, please visit:

http://tinyurl.com/focuspocus13

If you have any questions, please contact A/Prof Stuart Johnstone via email sjohnsto@uow.edu.au

Arcadians Children’s Theatre Presents
“Cabbage Patch Dragon”
3rd, 4th and 5th May 2013
Miners Lamp Theatre, 141 Princes Highway, Corrimal
Ph: 02 4284 8348   www.arcadians.org.au

CARESOUTH
CareSouth is a not-for-profit organization that provides out of home care services for children and young people. CareSouth is seeking Foster Carers to care for children aged 8 – 14 years. CareSouth offers quality support including ongoing training, generous tax free allowance, regular visits from a Caseworker, 24/7 on call support from local trained staff and clinical support, including a Child Psychologist if required. To find out about being a Foster Carer, call 4225 7588. For information on CareSouth Programs in your community go to www.caresouth.org.au

ST GEORGE ILLAWARRA DRAGONS APRIL HOLIDAY CLINICS
Looking for a fun day out these school holidays? Why not experience Rugby League first hand and meet some Dragons at the same time. The Dragons and NRL are conducting a clinic in the Illawarra APRIL 17 – WIN Stadium, Wollongong. For more information go to DRAGONS.COM.AU/CLINICS