The Bally Buzz
Balgownie Public School
Living & Learning

Term 4  Week 1  Wednesday 8th October 2014

CALENDAR – TERM 4

TERM 4 CALENDAR ATTACHED

P and C Meeting on Monday 13 October 2014 at 7.15pm. Please note the change from this Wednesday to following Monday.

The term planner is included in this Buzz. It is correct as of today, but as you know, schools are flexible and dynamic places where changes happen! Keep it on your fridge and add to it as new events are decided.

School Fete is on in ten days! There are still some spaces left to be filled. Come on volunteers! Just one hour can make a difference to everyone and it’s easy to fit in while the kids are busy on the rides! Please see Donna or Megan if you can spare an hour on a stall. I want to say a huge THANK YOU to all of the volunteers who have spent hours of time to coordinate and organise the fete which makes an enormous difference to our school. We are aiming to be able to install playground equipment with the funds raised, which will be of social and physical benefit to our children now and in the future.

There are also spare tickets for the circus performance which is being held in the hall from 10.30am, before the rides begin. The ‘Try Out Circus’ will be in 15min time slots between 11.30am and 1.30pm.

Flashing School Crossing signs installed. Our school has had the flashing signs installed over the holidays. This should increase community awareness to be vigilant about the safety of our children. Please remember that when the crossing flags are out, pedestrians have the right of way.

We listen to community to improve communication. While we are not going back to printed newsletters, we are endeavouring to provide a variety of communication methods to meet the needs of our families. We are providing at the beginning of each term, a paper copy of the term planner and the canteen roster. The whiteboards in the playground are for the updates as they occur and events for the week.

There has been a community suggestion to provide an online version of the newsletter in a format which is easier to read on mobile phones. To this end, we are putting two different versions of the newsletter on Skoolbag app and also on the website. There is an ‘online’ version which is larger font and single column, and a ‘print’ version which is the traditional version of the newsletter. This should make communication more accessible for all families.

Gala day last term was a success. Thanks to the teachers who organized, coached, and umpired our students to have a positive sporting experience. Children need to try as many sports as possible while young, as this promotes continued physical activity as adults. The students had a great day and as always, were impeccably behaved. Well done, Balgownie!

Stage 2 assembly showcased history. In the last week of Term 3, our Stage Two team held a wonderful assembly which gave through song, dance and drama, a short history of Australia pre and post 1788. The students were confident in their presentation and it was fabulous to watch our children perform with poise and pizzazz.

This performance allowed our students to deepen their understanding of history of our country through representing their learning in song and dance. It was also high level learning as some of the children were responsible for sourcing the images to accompany the presentation. This is an example of the shifts in learning in what we are asking our students to do in the 21st Century and part of our English syllabus.

Killalea Climate Watch Camp. Late last term, nine Stage 3 students attended a climate watch observation camp at Killalea State park. While we were away, we learnt about flora and fauna and how the changing climate affects our environment. Coniston Public and Keira High also attended the camp. We made lots of good friends while learning how we can help the environment. We participated in many fun activities such as; late night bush walks, animal spotting, slacklining, mountain bike riding, canoeing and traditional Aboriginal dancing and music around the campfire. We also visited many traditional Aboriginal knowledge sites. Ailin, Anthony, Bailey, Bella, Chloe, Ritchie, Tallulah, Rachel and Kelly from Bally had a great time!

By Chloe, Bailey, Bella and Ritchie 6L

Sun safety. Well done Balgownie kids for taking responsibility for wearing hats to school and in the playground. It means that more students can play safely in all areas of the playground. Keep up the effort! We want to...
see 100% of students with a BALGOWNIE school hat on their head in all breaks!

Remember that in 2015, from Day One, all students will need to have a Balgownie bucket or wide brimmed hat or will need to play in the shade. Please make sure that your children are prepared for this change for next year.

**NO CAPS WILL BE ALLOWED TO BE WORN IN 2015.**

**Hard Work this term.** The units of work being studied by the stages are:

**Kindergarten**  
Science ‘On the Move’ (Physical Sciences)  
HSIE - Places We Know

**Stage One**  
Science ‘All Mixed Up’ (Chemical Sciences)  
HSIE - Celebrations

**Stage Two**  
Science ‘Package it Better’ (Chemical Sciences)  
HSIE - Who Will Buy? (product design and Marketing)

**Stage Three**  
Science Light Shows (Physical Sciences)  
HSIE - Making Cents (Financial Literacy)

**Balgownie continues to build learning communities**  
with our student teachers here for three with five week practicums. The teachers of the future are working with our staff and students to learn the skills needed to be expert teachers.

They offer a fresh perspective to classes and learn a great deal from our fabulous staff. It is part of our commitment to building the future to share knowledge with teachers who are going to be an asset to our profession.

The student teachers are:

- Louise O'Toole - 1S
- Belinda Fabrianesi - 1/2D
- Trent Richards - 2S
- Jordan Starr - 3/4D
- Elise Facci - 6L

Welcome to our wonderful school!

**Lock down practice in the next few weeks.** In the next few weeks we will be practising our Lockdown procedures. We are required to hold safety drills regularly as part of our OHS schedule. Lockdowns are in case there is a danger outside the classrooms eg intruders and we need to keep the school community safe.

As a parent or volunteer, if you are in the school grounds when you hear our ‘woop woop woop’ siren, you also need to go into lockdown. If you are a parent working in a classroom, eg listening to students read, you stay there. If you are in the playground, we need you to move to the nearest building and follow the directions of school staff.

If you hear the bell from outside the school (ie from your house) please do not come into the school. The purpose of lockdown is to minimize people in the playground so that the Executive staff know all children and adults are safe, and can then focus on handling the potential situation.

**All is not bad in Primary schooling**

*Media release from Australian Council for Educational Leaders*

Primary teachers need acknowledgement of a job well-done. Despite polarizing views about what is best, confusing policies that favour quick fix over long-term change, primary school teachers and leaders excel at adapting curriculum content and pedagogy to meet the needs of the diverse range of students in their classrooms, but of course there is always room for improvement.

Any suggestion that content is not a focus of a primary education is misplaced. The Australian curriculum is content focused and primary teachers are embracing the documents. Primary teachers integrate content across many areas of the curriculum, and teaching curriculum as discreet bodies of knowledge, mimicking secondary school organization will not be helpful to students.

Primary students are very different people than they were 50 years ago. Primary students need high order skills to access, sort and synthesize this knowledge, not just facts. More than ever before Primary teachers are challenged to adapt the curriculum taking into account huge knowledge differences between students.

Teachers use evidence-based strategies that are proven to be effective. Teachers use direct instruction but are also aware that to teach and reach all students a repertoire of strategies is required.

*The Australian Council for Educational Leaders (ACEL) gives access to world-class empirical research along with the practical support to achieve excellence in leadership in the education sector.*

**Have a great week!**  
Aloma Stewart

**Joke of the week**

Q: Why did the rooster cross the road?
A: To prove he wasn’t a chicken

**Thought of the week**

“*The time is always right to do the right thing.*”

Martin Luther King

**ICAS MATHEMATICS**

Congratulations to the students who challenged themselves to complete a Mathematics ICAS examination. The following students are to be congratulated on their achievements.

**Year 3**
William N – High Distinction  
Campbell W – Credit  
Cameron W – Merit  
Jacob I - Merit

**Year 4**  
Stephen K – Distinction

*Respect, Responsibility, Real Learning*

Principal: Aloma Stewart  
PO Box 192 Fairy Meadow NSW 2519  
P&C: www.balgowniepnc.com
Maenee B - Distinction
Ashton R - Credit
Emma L - Credit
Kalia S – Credit
Felix W – Credit
Kelly Z – Credit

Year 5
Sydney M – Credit

Year 6
Claudia K – Credit
Ritchie W - Credit
Mitchell W - Merit

SCHOOL FETE
What Are You Most Looking Forward To About The School Fete?
Ritchie 6L Me going in the dunk tank.
Bailey 6L Hanging out with friends.
Bella 6L I am looking forward to eating the food.
Reece 6L I want go on the JUMPING CASTLE!!!!
Jared 6L Food!! And the cheap hats.
Molly 6L I am looking forward to hanging out with the friends.

Mrs Birchall : I am so looking forward to dunking Ritchie in the dunk tank.
Claudia 6L: So looking forward to eating lots of yummy FOOD!!! And hanging out with friends.
Written by Chloe Heyman

P & C NEWS
P & C meeting Monday 13 November 2014
Hi folks, please come along to the P&C meeting to be held next Monday at 7.15pm in the library. All members of the school community are welcome. Please come along and contribute your ideas.

Agenda
1) Attendance
2) Apologies
3) Minutes of Previous meeting
4) Business arising from previous minutes
5) Reports
Canteen
Fundraising (Fete)
Principal’s
President’s
Treasurer’s
Secretary’s
Uniform shop
Grounds & environment
Grants
Museum
6) General Business

COMMUNITY NEWS
PLAY CRICKET WITH BALGOWNIE THIS SUMMER
Many of the BPS students were involved in the cricket program in term 3.
Balgownie Junior Cricket Club is still looking for players for the Under 10 and Under 12 ages.
The game format is inclusive and everyone bats and bowls.
Training is generally 1 hour per week and games about 2 hours on Saturday mornings.
For more information please phone Cathy Harding on 0431259389

Respect, Responsibility, Real Learning
Principal: Aloma Stewart  PO Box 192 Fairy Meadow NSW 2519  P&C: www.balgowniepnc.com
When kids ask “the” questions...
Interrelate has the answers!

Interrelate is a specialist organisation with over 85 years’ experience teaching sexuality and relationship education in NSW schools. Interrelate educators are highly trained and skillful presenters.

The topic of sexuality is handled with sensitivity, openness and humour. The program offers an interactive approach to learning, with a variety of audio-visual materials, discussions and games.

Session 1: Where did I come from?
1-hour session: years 3-6

Session 2: Preparing for puberty
1-hour session: years 5-6
Years 3-4 can attend at parent’s discretion

Date: Tuesday, 28th October 2014

Specialty books are available for purchase on the night.
Keep a look out for flyers (coming home with your child before the program) outlining session content.
## Term 4 Planner 2014 - Parent Version

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<th>Thursday</th>
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<th>Sat/Sun</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
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<td>School Starters Playgroup in hall 9-11</td>
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<td></td>
<td>P and C Meeting 7.15pm</td>
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<td>Playgroup in hall Parent Evening – Kinder 2015 -7-8.30pm</td>
<td>Plant Mufti Day</td>
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<td>Playgroup in hall</td>
<td>Netball Gala day</td>
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<td>Lock Down this week</td>
<td>St 3 to KHS – music day? Interrelate 6pm St 2 7.15 St 3</td>
<td>Kinder orientation in classrooms 9.10 and 10am</td>
<td>Playgroup in hall Music – Count Us In 11.50 under COLA</td>
<td>Stage 2 Milo Cricket – Judy Masters Oval</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>3 Nov</td>
<td>4 Nov</td>
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<td>6 Nov</td>
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<td>8 &amp; 9 Nov</td>
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<td>Kinder orientation 9.30-11am</td>
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<td>Playgroup in hall</td>
<td>Brokers Gala Day Girls Dragon Tag and Boys AFL</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>10 Nov</td>
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<td>12 Nov</td>
<td>13 Nov</td>
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<td>15 &amp; 16 Nov</td>
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<td>Swim scheme starts 1.45-2.30pm Corrimal</td>
<td>Remembrance Day</td>
<td>Kinder orientation 9.30-11am</td>
<td>Playgroup in hall – Buddies</td>
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<td>17 Nov</td>
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<td>19 Nov</td>
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<td>Stage 3 Pt Wolstoncroft Swim scheme continues</td>
<td>Stage 3 Pt Wolstoncroft</td>
<td>Stage 3 Pt Wolstoncroft Playgroup in hall</td>
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<td>Playgroup in hall</td>
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<td>1 Dec</td>
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<td>Scripture/parent m tea 11-11.30</td>
<td>Yr 7 Orientation Day</td>
<td>K-2 Concert</td>
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<td>8 Dec</td>
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<td>13 &amp; 14 Dec</td>
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<td>Presentation Day 9.15am</td>
<td>KHS Presentation Night</td>
<td>Yr 6 Grad 9.15 + Morning tea P and C Meeting 7.15pm</td>
<td>Yr 6 farewell 5.30pm</td>
<td>Reward Day</td>
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<td>Reports to Parents</td>
<td>Talent Quest 11.30-1pm</td>
<td>Party Day Students Last Day</td>
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