Clarifying after school procedures to keep our students safe. It is expected that you make arrangements for your child to be collected directly after school or if they are older, to make their own way home. Younger children can become distressed if their parent/carer is late.

We have a teacher on duty for bus children after school. This teacher is also the teacher responsible for students whose parents may be occasionally held up. Help us to help our students by reinforcing with your child that if you are late, to come and sit on the silver seats outside the main administration building. It is hard to know which child still hasn’t been collected if they are waiting outside a gate. It is important that all children know there is an adult available to care for them.

**One more reminder** In the morning there are too many people on the top quad for any large balls to be thrown or kicked. Handballs only are to be used in the morning. Thanks for your understanding.

At lunch and snack attack (recess) large balls may be used on the top quad, but only for throwing and catching. Any games involving kicking are to be played on the grass where there is more space.

**Pavers** Last chance to purchase pavers by 31st May - money and orders need to be completed and into the Museum by then..... No more orders to follow.

**Thank you Balgownie Parents and Carers for keeping our students safe.** I am just reminding everyone to take special care of our kids when picking up, dropping off and also walking home. PLEASE remind your children about safety in and around our school, and take care when driving. We all know how unpredictable they can be.

It would be great if you could talk to your neighbours and friends about the rules regarding Children’s Crossings. At the P and C, we were discussing that maybe others in our community are not aware of the rules about stopping when the flags are out until pedestrians are completely off the road. Let’s get the message out there for all of our children!

**Don’t forget!** If you know of any families who are looking for a great school for their child for 2015 and live in our area, encourage them to apply to enrol. The best way to choose a school is to visit and meet the staff and students to see if it is the school for your child. Please invite them to come along! On Monday 2nd June we are having an open day for prospective Kinder students from 9.30-10.30am. All are welcome!

**Teacher Professional Development** As part of our ongoing commitment to provide our students with the best education possible, teachers are involved in ‘inservice’ (training) or courses. Some of these are held outside school hours and some of them are held during our class time. Our teachers are extremely hard working professionals and we are lucky to have such a dedicated bunch teaching our students.

If a teacher is involved in training during class time, they leave the day’s work for the casual teacher. This is to ensure that our students follow the same teaching program as would have occurred if the teacher was on the class. As you can see, this adds to the teacher’s work but allows us to maintain routines and quality teaching and learning. Our students are expected to follow the same rules and expectations with any teacher in the school, including casual and scripture teachers.

As a school that prides itself on quality teaching and learning, we need to be constantly updating our practice to make sure that our students achieve excellence. We value the time to work together to lift standards of teaching and learning. You wouldn’t go to a doctor who hadn’t attended any ongoing training since they left medical school. It is the same for teachers. We need to be up skilling all the time for the benefit of our students.

**NAPLAN** tests were held last week for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Parents or carers of students who sit for the NAPLAN tests will receive a written report of their child’s
achievement in September 2014. The student report will show your child's results in the key areas of reading, writing, language conventions and numeracy.

The report also shows the national average, the range of results for the middle 60% of students nationally and your school's average for each test. That means you'll be able to clearly see how your child compares with other students in the same year of schooling.

An additional report lists all the questions in the test, along with a brief description of each question and shows you which questions your child answered correctly. A common assessment scale is used on each NAPLAN report so that you can track your child's progress through the years. For more information go to www.naplanforparentsnsw.com.au

REFORMS TO P&C FEDERATION

The NSW Parliament has introduced legislation to reform the NSW Federation of Parent and Citizens Associations, which has suspended operation pending Supreme Court action. While these reforms will not affect the day-to-day operation of individual school P&Cs, they will introduce a new executive structure which will ensure the Federation operates as a modern and representative body on behalf of school P&C Associations.

Each school's P&C Association will be asked to vote for councillors and delegates who will represent their electorate at the Federation's Annual General Meeting and councillors who will serve on the Federation's Board of Management. More information will be available on the Department's website at http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/gotoschool/a-z/involvement.php.

ANTI BULLYING LESSON 3: Telling Someone To Stop Annoying You

Why Learn This Skill?

All students will at some stage be teased, called names or annoyed in some other way. It is important that they have skills to handle these situations.

One way of handling this kind of provocation is to tell the other person to stop it in a firm way. You will need to stress that telling someone to stop will not always work, and that ignoring the provocation and or leaving the situation is often the next sensible step. This lesson can be taught in conjunction with lesson 4 which focuses on ‘ignoring someone who is giving you a hard time’. Role play at home!

Do's

- Stay Cool
- Stand tall
- Say their name (if you know it)
- Say firmly, and in a slightly louder voice, something like “cut it out” or No More. If they do it again, tell them more firmly to cut it out.
- If they keep doing it you can:
  - ignore them
  - walk away
  - ask an adult for support

Don’ts

- Don’t get aggro
- Don’t argue with them
- Don’t annoy them back
- Don’t smile.
- Don’t use a whingeing tone of voice
- Don’t try to get them into trouble

“I statements' are another way of being verbally assertive. Students need to practice saying

“I don’t like it when....
And I want it to stop.”

This can be effective when it is delivered confidently. Students need to have rehearsed this skill to be able to deliver it well in a stressful situation.

Have a great week.

Aloma Stewart

Thought of the week

“I cannot for the life of me see why the umpires, the only two people on a cricket field who are not going to get grass stains on their knees, are the only two people who are allowed to wear dark trousers.” - Katharine Whitehorn.

Joke of the week

Q: What do you call a story about a broken pencil?
A: Pointless.

Congratulations to the following students who have demonstrated our values of Respect, Responsibility and Real Learning.

The students have earned themselves a wrist band. Well done!

Risha K 2S  Liesl L 2S  Miles Mc 2L
Annabelle 2L  Baylee C 2L  Sofia S 2L
Sky 2L  Adem D 2L  Callum 2L
Tuler G 2L  Liam 2L  Rosie 2L
Sara D KK  Xavier Q 1A

And well done to the following students who achieved their PBS badge!

Miles Mc 2L

OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS

A reminder that all outstanding school accounts must be paid as soon as possible. Please contact the office if payment arrangements need to be made.
SPORTS NEWS

Girls Soccer Team
The Balgownie Public School Girls’ soccer team has made an impressive start to their campaign in the NSW PSSA state football knockout. In an entertaining and high scoring Round 1 game against Fairy Meadow Demonstration School, our girls scored a decisive 9-1 victory. The girls will be playing their Round 2 game against Russell Vale Public School next Tuesday afternoon at 1.00pm at Cawley Park, Russell Vale. The Balgownie school community wishes the team the best of luck.

Netball Knockout
Our Stage 3 girl's netball team will be paying in a two-game knockout on Monday 26th May at Guest Park Fairy Meadow. The other schools participating are Corrimal East, Fairy Meadow and Stanwell Park. I am sure our girls will make us very proud with their sporting skills and excellent sportsmanship, regardless of the result and we wish them the best of luck.

SMITH’S HILL HIGH SCHOOL EXPO NIGHT
Monday May 26, 2014
6.00 p.m. - 8.00 p.m.

Smith's Hill High School is a government selective co-educational high school catering for Gifted and Talented students.

Year 6 students who sat the entrance test for 2015 admission and their parents are invited to attend our Expo to view our facilities and examples of the work of our students. Year 5 students and their parents may wish to take the opportunity to see the school with a view to applying for admission in 2016.

Phone enquiries directed to the Relieving Principal Mr. Walker on 42294266 during school hours.

UNIFORM SHOP TO RE-OPEN
Thank you to Evelyn Knust and Brad Stokes who came along to the P&C meeting on Wednesday night to present a proposal to implement and run an online uniform shop system. This proposal was enthusiastically supported by the P&C. Evelyn and Brad are currently in the process of setting the system up on the P&C website. Thank you also to Suzanne McGuinn and Lorren Godfrey who have also offered to assist with the running of the uniform shop. This is great news as it means that we can continue to offer this convenient service within the school and ensures that prices will be kept affordable for families. The online ordering system will available shortly and we will let you know a soon as you can start ordering.

CHOCOLATE FUND RAISER
Are all of your Easter eggs are gone? Don't fear. The time for a chocolate fundraiser is here! We will soon be placing an order for boxes of chocolates. If your family does not want to receive a box of chocolates please email the following statement to p.and.c@hotmail.com

"Please DO NOT give my family any chocolates to sell. My child/ren's name is...... they are in class........"

Alternatively you could place the same note in the canteen slot.

If we have not heard from you by Friday 30th May we will order your family a box of chocolates that you would be required to sell over the school holidays and return your money in Term 3.

FETE NEWS
We have a Facebook page! Balgownie Public School Fundraising Like our page to receive updates on Fete News...... SAVE THE DATE 18th OCTOBER...... Planning for the Fete is going full steam ahead. Our entertainment program is jam packed with exciting performances including a special ticket only Circus Monoxide show! Pre purchase tickets will be on sale soon!

Keep an eye out in the coming weeks for your pre-purchase show bag order forms. We will only have a very limited number of show bags available to purchase on the day so don’t be disappointed and order your show bags early.

We have some exciting things planned but as always many hands make for light work and we would love your help if you can.

We are seeking three people who would be able to take a list of 10 local businesses to approach for sponsorship requests. If you could do this please get in touch with either Donna or Megan for more information. If you own or know of a business who would like to sponsor our fete or make a prize donation for our monster raffle we would love to hear from you. Do you own a marque/gazebo or perhaps know of someone who would be able to loan it to a stall for the day? It is a great way to advertise your business. If so please let Donna or Megan know. Thank you to Peoplecare and Bendigo Bank who have booked us one day? It is a great way to advertise your business. If so please let Donna or Megan know. Thank you to Peoplecare and Bendigo Bank who have booked us one in for the day. Contact us. Donna 0447 790 619 or Megan 0403 233 875 or send us an email-balgonwie.fete@gmail.com

To keep up to date with what's happening at our fete, check out our website http://balgowniepnc.com/fete/

CANTEEN ROSTER

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**CANTEEN NEWS**

WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS!

We urgently need more volunteers. In particular, we need people available on Thursdays. We currently have vacancies on the first and fourth Thursdays of the month as well as the 31st July and the 30th October.

If you have just one hour available a month we would greatly appreciate your help, and you will be well supported in learning the ropes.

If you are able to join the canteen team please contact Faye 0401520632 or ballycanteen@gmail.com.

A very big thank you to our team of volunteers, we cannot work without you.

Thanks, Faye.

**LOST & FOUND**

Found – a silver link bracelet (adult size) in the school playground. Please contact the office for more information.

**P&C NEWS**

HAVE YOU PURCHASED A NEW MOBILE PHONE RECENTLY?

Is your old phone lying around collecting dust? Why not turn it into something useful? We are running an ongoing mobile phone recycling fundraiser. Simply take your mobile to the box in the library! Thank you to everyone who recycled their phone last year. All money raised will be put towards environmental initiatives for the school.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**BALGOWNIE MARKETS**

Balgownie Markets is on at Balgownie Village Community Centre, on Saturday 31 May from 9am to 2pm. There are lots of homemade and locally produced goods as well as entertainment, face painting and BBQ.

All profits from stallholder fees are being donated to the local charity Community Cancer Link which supports cancer sufferers in the Illawarra.

**TAFE FURTHER STUDY OPPORTUNITIES**

The Prevocational Programs Unit at TAFE NSW Wollongong Campus will be conducting an Employment and Training course for people who want to develop skills for employment or further study. The course will commence in July 2014.

This course is suitable for women and single parents and covers employment and further study skills. The course is the Certificate 111 in Employment and Training, course number 10699, and includes units in English, Computing Skills, Science, First Aid, Employment Skills and Maths for Work.

Please contact Antonia on 4229 0036 for further information or attend one of the following information sessions: Wednesday 18 June 2014, 4pm to 5.30pm or Wednesday 25 June 2014, 4pm to 5.30pm at Wollongong Campus, Building L, Room L 2 17.