Spelling Bee representatives chosen

Good luck to our four representatives at the district Spelling Bee. This is being held at Farmborough Road Public School on Wednesday 17th September. It was hotly contested to be one of our school representatives in the junior and senior sections and it is wonderful to see a number of our children wanting to compete in a spelling competition. Congratulations to our senior representatives Kate Critcher and Charlotte Adams and our junior representatives Daniel Merola and Connor Finlay. Thanks to Mrs Robson for selecting and now training our super spellers! (Connor Finlay absent for photograph)

Reading is Magic. I have included Mem Fox’s Ten Read Aloud Commandments for you to use at home to promote a love of reading. Although she focuses on younger children, there are some parts of this that are valid for older students as well.

1. Spend at least 10 wildly happy minutes every single day reading aloud.
2. Read at least three stories a day: it may be the same story three times. Children need to hear a thousand stories before they can learn to read.
3. Read aloud with animation. Listen to your own voice and don’t be dull, or flat or boring. Hang loose, and be loud, have fun and laugh a lot.
4. Read with joy and enjoyment: real enjoyment for you and joy for the listeners.
5. Read the stories that the kids love, over and over and always read with the same ‘tune’ for each book; ie with the same intonations on each page, each time.
6. Let children hear a lot of language by talking to them constantly about the pictures, or anything connected to the book; sing any old song that you can remember; or say any nursery rhymes in a bouncy way; or be noisy together doing clapping games.
7. Look for rhyme, rhythm or repetition in books for young children, and make sure the books are really short.
8. Play games with the things that you and the child can see on the page, such as letting kids finish rhymes, and finding the letters that start the child’s name and yours, remembering it is never work, it is always a fabulous game.
9. Never teach reading, or get tense around books to small children.
10. Read aloud every day because you love being with your child, not because it is the right thing to do. This is as important for fathers as it is for mothers!!

Book week was fabulous

Thanks to Mrs Birchall for her efforts in the Book Week celebrations held last week. Thursday was fun with a book character mufti day and an author visit from Sandy Fussell. Sandy is a local author who wrote the children’s book series ‘The Samurai Kids’. She entertained the Years 3-6 with her stories and her description of how she developed the characters was also successful!

Balgownie Policy for the Use of Mobile Phones, Portable Computer Games, MP3 Players/iPods, Cameras and Similar Devices in Schools by Students. (Revised August 2013)

There is a range of technology available today including mobile telephones, pagers, digital cameras, portable CD and MP3 players/iPods, personal digital assistants and other similar devices. All of these have the potential to be incorporated appropriately into lessons, opening exciting
new approaches to learning. When these technologies are misused by students they can be very disruptive to teaching and learning and in some cases cause harm.

Balgownie Public School acknowledges that students may need to be in possession of a mobile telephone at school for reasons relating to their safety in travelling to and from school.

Taking photographs or videos while at school or engaged in school-related activities by students may only occur if there is a sound reason for the photography and approved by a teacher. Depending on the particular circumstances and purpose of the photography, the permission of staff, parent/carer or student may be required.

Where students bring a mobile telephone, portable computer game, MP3 player/iPod, camera and similar devices to school:

**Student Responsibilities**

- The student must take full responsibility for these devices. The school or staff will not be responsible for their loss, theft or damage. Students who bring them to school do so at their own risk.
- Students will use their mobile phone in a way which reflects the core values being taught in schools, including the values of respect, responsibility and real learning.
- Students must not use mobile telephones or other devices to disrupt the learning environment or interfere with the operation of the school. Such activities may incur disciplinary action including suspension.
- Students must not use mobile telephones or other devices to threaten, bully, intimidate or otherwise harass other people through any SMS or text message, photographic, video or other data transfer system available on the telephone or for any illegal activity. Such activities may incur disciplinary action including suspension.
- Under no circumstances will inappropriate use of mobile telephones with cameras be tolerated. Students found to be using any camera contrary to this acceptable use policy will be dealt with under the school discipline policy. Disciplinary action will be taken in all cases.
- Parents must sign a form stating that they know their child has a phone or other device, that it is necessary for safe travel and that their child will not use it to contact people during school hours.

**Improper use of mobile telephones or other electronic devices may result in:**

- Detention or other appropriate disciplinary measure as determined by the school’s disciplinary policy.
- The student being required to hand in their mobile telephone or other electronic device at the beginning of the school day for collection when the student goes home.
- Confiscation of the mobile telephone or other electronic device until such time as their parent or caregiver is able to attend school to collect the device.
- Other disciplinary action in cases where students have bullied or threatened or harassed other students or staff via the mobile telephone or other personal communication device or where the device has been used to take photographs or display inappropriate material.

**Emergency Contact**

- If a parent or caregiver needs to contact a student at school as a result of an emergency, they are required to call the school’s main office and a message will be sent immediately to the student.
- If a student needs to make emergency contact with anyone they can do so through the school’s main office.

Have a great week!
Aloma Stewart

**Thought of the week**
How we spend our days is, of course, how we spend our lives. Annie Dillard

**Joke of the week**
Q: Why do golfers carry two pairs of trousers with them?
A: Just in case they get a hole in one.

**BPS CELEBRATES NATIONAL LITERACY AND NUMERACY WEEK**
Throughout Week 7, Balgownie students and teachers will celebrate NLNW. Along with the usual classroom activities that take place each day, students and teachers will have the opportunity to take part in a range of Data collecting activities revolving around Literacy and Numeracy. For more information on National Literacy and Numeracy Week visit [http://www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au/](http://www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au/)

Below are some suggestions for some activities that are easy to complete in the home.

**Fun activities in the home**

- See who can find longest word in a book?
- Estimate how many books are in your home?
- List up to 10 words or short statements that describe the characteristics of a good book (eg: exciting, good pictures, gripping story, dinosaurs, etc).
- Play a board game- Monopoly, Snakes & Ladders, Guess Who
- Play a card game- Uno, Go fish, Snap
- Play a dice game- Yahtzee, add up the dice, dice multiplication
- Perform a play, play charades or play Who am I?
- Sketch a map of your house/ backyard.
- Conduct a survey of car colours/ or car brands in your street.
- Measure the height of your family. Measure the length of the furniture.
- Create a tessellating pattern using blocks.

**Respect, Responsibility, Real Learning**
Principal: Aloma Stewart  PO Box 192 Fairy Meadow NSW 2519  P&C: www.balgowniepnc.com

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Below are some suggestions for some activities that are easy to complete in the home.

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- ...
**BPS Switch off the TV**

Switch on your MIND - Students are encouraged to make an effort to turn off the TV each night and participate in Literacy and/or Numeracy activities. Students will collect data each morning to monitor our whole school progress.

This is an exciting celebration of Real Learning and I hope all will be eager to participate... Enjoy

**Home Survey**

*I turned off the TV for:*

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**SOUTHERN STARS #WEBELIEVE2014**

There are only two more weeks until Southern Stars hits the stage at the WIN Entertainment Centre on Friday August 29 and Saturday 30 and there are still tickets available to all four shows, with Saturday night selling quickly.

The Saturday matinee is a great opportunity for families to attend and with a family ticket at $140 dollars (two adults and two children) it’s great value too. Friday night tickets are also still available.

If you don’t have a child involved in the show this year don’t let that stop you from getting a ticket to biggest arena style show to take place in Wollongong each year.

The show has something for all ages and musical tastes, and the little ones in particular will love seeing the segment on their childhood heroes – both the traditional ones and new ones like Elsa from Frozen. Let them go!

The show is a celebration of all that we believe in, from our earliest memories right through to adulthood. We believe that you will be amazed by the talents of our public school children and that you will really love the show.

Thank you to all the businesses and individuals who have taken on our challenge to find 100 Friends of Southern Stars in August. We have nine so far including Mortgage, Peoplecare, Dion’s Buses, Danz Gallery and individuals Rae Mitchell and Jeannette and Stan Warren, Lynn and Norman Saad, and Jacqui McGee. We are still looking for more to secure the show’s future so if you or your business would like to become a friend of the show contact Sharon Buikstra 0419 402 033 or email sharon.buikstra@det.nsw.edu.au

Please support Southern Stars by getting along to the show. Buy your tickets today through Ticketmaster.

**CANTEEN NEWS**

**URGENT HELP NEEDED!!!!**

The canteen is in desperate need of help. Without a boost in volunteers we will have difficulty maintaining service. If you can help with any of the roles below please contact Faye M: 0401520632 ballycanteen@gmail.com

**FRUIT SHOPPER**

Purchase fruit and vegetables weekly using a float provided by the canteen. You will receive an email at the end of the week for what to purchase. Purchase produce over the weekend, and drop it off on Monday morning.

**STOCK MANAGER**

This position requires 1-2 hours weekly. You will follow a checklist to check stock on a Friday, then call the distributors to place the order.

**ROSTER COORDINATOR**

This position can be done from anywhere. It requires someone to manage any changes in the roster, including recruitment of new volunteers, changes in days for volunteers and notifying people of their upcoming shift.

**MONTHLY VOLUNTEERS**

We currently have SIX vacancies in the roster on Wednesdays and Thursdays. If you are able to volunteer PLEASE contact Faye or anyone from the canteen.

**CANTEEN ROSTER TERM 3 - WEEK 7**

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| 25/8/14 | Cindy Burton-Woods  
Marion Payne | Jodie McLaughlin  
Barbara Picciolini | Hazel Merola  
Nicky Kettleley | CLOSED | Catherine James  
Shirley Butterly  
Nicole Prior-Sproal |

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P & C News

1. Milk bottles needed!
Julie Gallan is collecting "worm wee" from our school worm farm to sell at our school fete. Julie needs 2 litre milk bottles to collect the worm wee. Please bring clean empty 2 litre milk bottles to school, and place them near the worm farm for Julie to use. Thank you!

2. School Working Bee
A Working Bee will be held on Saturday 13th September 1pm - 4pm to help tidy up the school grounds in preparation for the fete. The main tasks will be weed removal, panting of some ground cover species along the western boundary, general garden tidy and painting art work outside the school canteen.

Many hands make light work so please come along and help. Bring your garden gloves, hats, sunscreen, and garden tools. Afternoon tea will be provided.

3. Plant Mufti Day
Friday 17th October will be a mufti day, and all students are asked to bring a plant to school to be donated to the school fete.

More information will be provided soon on the types of plants that sell well, based on our last fete!

Balgownie Public School P & C Association

COMMUNITY NEWS

Celia Lashlie - Growing Gorgeous Boys into Good Men!
- Adolescent boys – they seem to disappear into another world where they barely communicate, and where fast cars, alcohol and drugs are constant temptations.
- Will they survive to become good men?
- How can parents and schools understand and help them through this difficult and dangerous time?

Celia knows what can happen when boys make the wrong choices. As the first female prison officer and during her "Good Man Project" she talked to 180 classes of boys throughout. The result was a significant insight into the minds of teenage boys and what they are feeling in this period of their lives. There are challenging suggestions for parents if they want to see their sons become the good men they want them to be. Celia gives parents food for thought and plenty of hints to work with their teenage sons. *All parents will find something valuable in this talk - regardless of whether they have sons or not.*

**ALL WORKSHOPS ARE FREE** and that while it is more directed at Boys - all parents - regardless of whether they have sons or not will benefit from her workshop. Parents/ carers are able to book directly through trybookings.com.

Shellharbour, October 29th
http://www.trybooking.com/100049
Wollongong October 29th
http://www.trybooking.com/100045

UNIFORM SHOP NOW OPEN
http://balgowniepnc.com/uniforms

*Cash or cheque payments are to be made through the canteen slot in a sealed envelope with your order number.*