The Bally Buzz
Balgownie Public School
Living & Learning


Term 4  Week 3  Wednesday 21st October 2015

CALENDAR – TERM 4

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>23 Oct</td>
<td>Music Trial Band Day @ Keira High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>26th Oct</td>
<td>Swimming Scheme</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>28 Oct</td>
<td>Kinder Orientation Stage 2 Choir Performance</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
<td>30 Oct</td>
<td>Netball Gala Day Last Book Club for 2015 Due Pizza Day Deal - Canteen</td>
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Stage 2 assembly a huge success. We certainly have some budding journalists, newsreaders, alienologists (is there such a word?) scientists, space explorers, comedians and singers who enjoyed presenting some English learning they undertook last term. The knowledge and skills they gained through an exciting alien landing were on display in both a matinee performance and later show.

The cast and crew were sensational and all audience members enjoyed viewing the performance as much as the crew enjoyed being on stage. Thanks to the classes of Stage Two and their teachers for a thoroughly entertaining show. The hard work you put into the rehearsals paid off with a professional production. Well done!

Lego Robotics
Last Tuesday, 5/6L started building Lego EV3 robots. The students enjoyed connecting pieces together and building their very own robot. Josh Nikolouski, an SRC member, said “Building the robots was the best part”. The students then programmed their robots on Friday. They had to make them travel in a perfect square then finish where they’d started. Daniel Papakosmas said “I liked the trial and error used in the programming. If something went wrong you would go back and change the program”. We are all looking forward to some more robotics work each week. Josh N and Daniel P.

Thanks for the Working Bee
Yet again Bally community showed how much they care. Over thirty parents, staff and children weeded, mulched, composted and tidied. The sand pits are moved and filled ready for action. Many new plants have been added to our gardens from generosity of families. Thank you! Our school looks sensational and we can be proud of the things we are doing to continually improve the school. Fantastic job everyone! A special thanks to the grounds and environment sub-committee who organised the working bee. We couldn’t do it without you!

Developing your child’s social media scripts By Michael Grose

It’s important to start conversations with children about using social media at a young age to prepare them to be savvy users when we’re not around.

Parents of every generation have always found ways to frame messages of safety and success for their children to remember. Parents of past generations who only had to contend with the offline or real world intuitively knew that they needed to teach child important lessons about safety and manners rather than assume they’ll be understood.

The same maxim holds true for the world of social media that children now inhabit from an increasingly young age. Even though our children are growing up with technology as a part of their everyday lives, they will still make plenty of mistakes while using it. This means we need to have direct conversations with our kids about the comments and posts that are okay to make using social media of all forms.

As parents we teach our kids to talk politely and clearly so
that they know how to speak to others when we’re not around. In effect, we give our kids social scripts to fall back on when they talk to friends, teachers and relatives. There’s no guarantee they’ll look an adult in the eye when they speak to them, but our discussions, reminders and lessons about manners will hopefully hold up when we’re not around.

The same applies to social media. Our conversations and lessons will prepare them to be savvy users when we’re not around. Here are some ideas to get you started:

1. “Is this worth posting?” The relatively impersonal nature of social media means that we can post information and pictures with relative immunity. Also its immediacy means that we can do so without much thought. This means that kids need to be very critical about what they see online. ‘Is this accurate?’ and ‘Is this worth posting?’ are two valid questions children can ask when they read posts placed by others.

2. “Have you taken a big breath?” A child who blurts out everything that comes into his mind without thinking is sure to put plenty of people offside. ‘Think before you speak’ is the type of message that every child should have in mind. The same applies to social media. Just because they think something doesn’t mean they post it. ‘Take a big breath’ may just about be the most important message to give your kids about social media.

3. “Do you want the principal to see this?!” An invitation to a teenage birthday party posted on social media is one way to get more attendees than you bargained for! The viral nature of social media means that kids should only post messages and photos that they want to be spread and read by a large audience.

4. “How does this post make you feel?” We need to teach kids that not every post needs to be commented upon and not every thought needs to be shared, particularly when they are angry. Teaching them to walk away and then to step back in when they’ve calmed down is perhaps the most important communication lesson of all. It is very relevant to social media as emotions are often the last thing on many people’s minds when they haphazardly post a message.

5. “How will you fix this?” Social media just like any social space requires kids to behave ethically and with kindness. When kids overstep the mark and post hurtful things then it’s fair that they fix their mistakes, and apologise. It’s reasonable that we teach our children to act with tolerance and with empathy online, and if mean things are posted then they should be expected to try to repair relationships through social media, just as they should offline.

I agree with Galit Breen author of Kindness Wins who says that parents should have conversations with children around social media before they reach the teenage years. Starting these conversations when they are younger means that they are more open to our parenting opinions, as well as being a little more amenable to the messages of tolerance, kindness and empathy that we need to encourage.

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Thought of the Week

Where is the wisdom we have lost in knowledge? Where is the knowledge we have lost in information?

T.S. Eliot

Joke of the Week

Q: Why didn't the oyster share the profits from his pearl?
A: He was shellfish.

Have a great week!

Aloma Stewart

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Stage 2 Choir Performance

On Wednesday 28th October, Stage 2 Choir and K-2 students will be presenting some musical items to Tarrawanna Salvation Army Home League. The Stage 2 students will then be serving morning tea and mingling with our visitors. This is a wonderful event that will strengthen Balgownie Public School’s ties with the local community.

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ICAS Math’s Testing

Congratulations to all the children who participated in the ICAS Math’s Tests.

Mrs Robson and Mrs Cliff

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High Distinction

Rahil.S (Year 2)
Zachary.R (Year 2)
Adil.S (Year 4)

Distinction

Penelope.G-B (Year 2)
Nazif.S (Year 2)
Yianyou.Z (Year 3)
William.N (Year 4)

Credit

Hamish.C (Year 2)
Sam.D (Year 2)
Annabelle.D (Year 3)
Aaliyah.H (Year 3)
Risha.K (Year 3)
Joshua.S (Year 3)
Abby.S (Year 3)
Campbell.W (Year 4)
Maenee.B (Year 5)
Darcy.F (Year 5)
Emma.L (Year 5)
Ashton.R (Year 5)
Felix.W (Year 5)
Kelly.Z (Year 5)

Merits

Amelia.B (Year 2)
Max.W (Year 2)
Sky.R (Year 3)
Hannah.D (Year 5)
Romany.F (Year 5)
Charlie.F (Year 5)
Sydney.M (Year 6)
Road Safety
Our afternoon Lollypop lady, Tracey would like to say a big thank you to all the students who ride their scooters and bikes to and from school. There has been a great improvement with regards to their safety and others.

A BIG thank-you from the BPS P&C!!!
The Balgownie Public School P&C would like to thank all who attended the working bee on Saturday and those who donated plants to liven up our school's garden beds. We had a very productive afternoon with lots of trees and shrubs planted throughout the school, dead plants and timber removed, sandpits filled, raspberries rescued, compost turned, water tanks fixed, mulching, weeding, sweeping and lots of other activities which have made our school look just beautiful!

Well done everyone!

Swimming and Water Safety Program
We are offering an intensive learn to swim program, which is directed at students who have not reached a satisfactory standard of water safety and survival skills and are unable to swim 25m confidently unaided in deep water. A note was sent home in Week One and there are only limited spots available. If you would like your child to participate please return your permission note and payment ASAP to the office.

YEAR 6 PHOTOS
A reminder that all year 6 students are to provide photos for their Yr6 DVD. Please label them clearly on USB or CD and place in box in office foyer.

Canteen Roster for Term 4 Week 4
Thank you to the generous volunteers who donate their time to keep our canteen open. Please consider joining our volunteer team to keep our canteen open every day. Next week’s volunteers are:

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Volunteers</th>
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<td>Mon 26 October</td>
<td>Jameela Krishna/Bianca Ljubicic</td>
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<td>Tues 27 October</td>
<td>Barbara Picciolini/Sue Mulquin</td>
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<td>Wed 28 October</td>
<td>Nicky Kettley/Karen Rogers</td>
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<td>Thurs 29 October</td>
<td>CANTEEN CLOSED NO VOLS AVAIL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 30 October</td>
<td>CANTEEN CLOSED PIZZA DAY ONLY</td>
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Canteen News
A reminder to everyone that banana or strawberry smoothies are now available but soup and sushi can no longer be ordered. Smoothies can only be ordered at lunchtime and the children will need to come to collect them as they are made fresh to order. They are healthy, high in calcium, contain fresh fruit and are DELICIOUS! You will also notice there is at least one day’s closure forecast each week during term 4. This is due to lack of volunteers so anyone who can spare a few hours a month please call Karen urgently on 0401 729778. Your children love to be able to purchase refreshing cold drinks and frozen treats during hot lunchtimes in summer.

Pizza Deal Day Friday 30th October!
On this day canteen will be closed for all other sales. $5 Pizza Deal canteen fundraiser Friday 30th October. Order forms went home yesterday. If your child did not get one there are more forms in the front office. Please return one completed order form per child and correct money to the canteen by this Friday 23rd October.

Thank you for supporting our school canteen.

Community News
WAVE FM Apple for the Teacher 2015
This year, 3 schools could win a share in over $14,000 of Apple products including a Macbook Pro, iPod Shuffles and iPad Minis!

If you have a great teacher at your school, nominate them now at wavefm.com.au

GOOD LUCK!

96.5 WAVE FM