The Bally Buzz
Balgownie Public School
Living & Learning


Term 2   Week 8       Wednesday 10 June 2015

CALENDAR – TERM 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>10 June</th>
<th>Cluster choir rehearsal hosted here at Bally</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>14 June</td>
<td>Museum Open Day 11am-4pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>16 June</td>
<td>School Athletics Carnival for children 8yrs – Year 6</td>
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<td>Frid</td>
<td>19 June</td>
<td>K-2 Athletics Carnival</td>
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<td>Thur</td>
<td>25 June</td>
<td>School Fun Run 9.30-11.00am</td>
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Balgownie values physical activity. We provide two hours physical activity for all students in our schools. Balgownie School has K-6 fitness for two half hour sessions on Monday and Tuesday plus all classes take their children for sport for at least an hour per week. We also encourage activity at lunchtime by providing sport equipment for students to use to play and are active participants in knock out tournaments and carnivals. Obviously, if the weather is bad, this can disrupt our planned sporting activities!

Athletics carnival is on at Beaton Park next Tuesday 16 June for all 8 year olds and over. The Kinder to Year 2 will be having their carnival on Friday 19 June here at school.

It is expected that all eligible students will be at the carnival and competing. Our school values ‘real learning’ and this is an important way our children can learn about their capabilities and their tenacity. The carnival is organized on a round robin basis so the students are active all day.

Our school is always looking for opportunities for our children to find sport that they like, as it is through developing skills and having experiences as a child, that we continue with exercise as an adult.

Keep our kids safe In the local media there have been several reports relating to stranger danger. Our teachers have spent some time chatting with our students about what to do to keep themselves safe. We encourage students to always walk to and from school in pairs, to not stop to talk to any unknown adult and if they see or hear anything that doesn’t look right to tell parents or teachers.

This is part of our Child Protection strategies of “No Go Tell”

- Say/Shout ‘No’,
- Go to a trusted adult and
- tell them.

Please talk with your child about stranger danger, and how to keep themselves safe. We don’t want our kids to be scared but rather, prepared so that at any time, should something out of the ordinary happen, they have skills to use.

There are many great resources on line in particular- http://www.danielmorcombe.com.au/educational-resources.html which has great information that parents can also use to promote this safety message.

Talking and listening tips for children
Kindergarten to Year 4:
- Try to avoid interrupting children and listen to the whole of what they are trying to communicate.
- Try providing opportunities to talk with and listen to children as they talk and share.
- Give positive messages that show you are interested by giving nods, smiles, sounds, words, gestures, but try not to intrude while your child is speaking.
- If your child has trouble remembering what was spoken, a good technique is for him or her to repeat in the mind what has been said, rephrasing it in his or her own words. If it is appropriate, taking notes is very helpful.
- If you are planning something, such as a meal or an outing, try having a brainstorming session with your child. You can do this by asking for ideas for the occasion. You could just listen to one another share ideas or write them down.
- Discuss common dates on the calendar such as public holidays and have your child mark in important events on a family calendar.
- Talk about days, months and years in relation to events such as birthdays and other special occasions.
- Talk about street names and the meaning of signs as you drive around. You could retell or make up stories about the street names that tell how the name came about.

Magna Carta is 800 years old. Monday June 15 marks the 800th anniversary of the proclamation of the Magna Carta. Although only 3 of its 63 clauses remain in British law, one of them is the most famous – and of great relevance to contemporary men, women, boys and girls (acknowledging the “man”, “his”, “him” etc usage of former times).

“No free man shall be seized or imprisoned, or stripped of his rights or possessions, or outlawed or exiled, or deprived of his standing in any other way, nor will we proceed with force against him, or send others to do so, except by the
lawful judgement of his equals or by the law of the land. To no one will we sell, to no one deny or delay right or justice."

You may wish to find out more with your children at home about the value of this historic proclamation for our justice system today. One site that has useful information is http://www.bl.uk/magna-carta/articles/magna-carta-an-introduction#sthash.4nku19UE.dpuf

Reading your child's report  By Michael Grose

Reports can mean anxious times for children. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children.

_Could try harder . . . always does her best . . . lacks concentration . . . easily distracted . . . a pleasure to teach . . ._

Do these comments, taken from a batch of student reports sound familiar? Student reports bring mixed feelings for parents. Pleasure and pride if they are performing well but considerable angst when children are not progressing as you hoped.

Reports can mean anxious times for children too. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children. Kids of all ages take their cues from their parents, so your reaction to their school report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people.

Before you rip open the sealed envelope containing the report do a little self-check to see if you are in the right frame of mind:

1. Are your expectations for your son or daughter realistic and in line with their ability? Expectations are tricky. If they are too high then kids can be turned off learning. Too low and there is nothing to strive for. Pitch your expectations in line with your child’s abilities. A quick check of your child’s last report cards may provide you with a good yardstick.

2. Do you believe that children learn at different rates? There are slow bloomers, late developers and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom, so avoid comparing your child to siblings, your friends’ children and even yourself when you were a child. Instead look for individual progress.

3. Are you willing to safeguard your child’s self-esteem rather than deflate it? Self-confidence is a pre-requisite for learning, so be prepared to be as positive and encouraging as possible.

Here are some ideas to consider when you open your child’s report:

Focus on strengths. Do you look for strengths or weaknesses first? The challenge is to focus on strengths even if they are not in the traditional 3Rs or core subjects.

Take into account your child’s effort and attitude to learning. If the report indicates that effort is below standard, then you have something to work on. If your child is putting in the required effort, then you cannot ask any more than that, regardless of the grading.

Broaden your focus away from academic performance to form a picture of your child’s progress as a member of a social setting. How your child gets along with his or her peers will influence his happiness and well-being, as well as give an indicator to his future. The skills of independence and co-operation are highly valued by employers so don’t dismiss these as unimportant.

Take note of student self-assessment. Kids are generally very honest and will give a realistic assessment of their progress. They are generally very perceptive so take note of their opinions.

Discuss the report with your son or daughter talking about strengths first before looking at areas that need improvement. Ask for their opinion about how they performed and discuss their concerns.

After reports are read and discussed celebrate your child’s efforts with a special activity or treat. In this way you will recognise progress and remind them that the holidays are just around the corner when they can forget about assessment, tests and reports for a while.

_Have a great week!_

_Aloma Stewart_

Joke of the Week

Q: Where do you find giant snails?
A: On the ends of giant’s fingers.

Thought of the Week

_Most great people have attained their greatest success one step beyond their greatest failure.”_ ~Napoleon Hill

FAMILY STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

The School Contribution and Reading Eggs statements have been sent home. These fees contribute towards school resources and equipment for your child's education and learning. Prompt payment would be greatly appreciated and payment arrangements can be made. We have eftpos and online payments available for your convenience.

SCHOOL FUN RUN

The School Fun Run will be held on Thursday, 25th June, at Balgownie School. The event will run from 9.30am to 11.00am. Parents and carers are welcome to attend and stay for lunch. A coffee van will be on site at lunch time. Sponsorship forms and money are to be returned to the office by the date of the Fun Run.

SCHOOL FUN RUN GOODIES

The Year 6 Farewell Committee will be selling cakes, ice-cream and spyders on Fun Run Day, Thursday, 25 June 2015. This is the one and only fundraiser for this cause so please support our Year 6 students by buying something delicious.

CANTEEN NEWS

Thanks to our wonderful volunteers we can operate the canteen for 42 days in Term 3.

There are 6 days in Term 3 where there are no volunteers

_Respect, Responsibility, Real Learning_

Principal: Aloma Stewart  PO Box 192 Fairy Meadow NSW 2519  P&C: www.balgowniepnc.com
at all or only one volunteer is available. We are asking that parents consider volunteering on one of those days. Please contact Karen Rogers to help in the canteen. If volunteers are not found by 18 June then the Canteen will be closed on the following days:

1. Tuesday 21 July
2. Friday 31 July
3. Wednesday 12 August
4. Tuesday 18 August
5. Wednesday 9 September
6. Tuesday 15 September

Please contact Karen at kazrogers@optusnet.com.au or 0401 729 778 for further information or to volunteer.

Could I also please remind all families not to come into canteen in the morning as the volunteers are very busy and distractions at this time can lead to mistakes in the orders. In the gated area is a white folder containing a menu, pen and bags for you to use before placing your order through the slot. Thank you for your consideration.

Canteen Roster for Week 9
Thank you to our wonderful canteen volunteers who keep our canteen open, cooking and serving hot and healthy food each day. Next week’s volunteers are:

| Mon 15 June | Michelle Guiliano  
| Jane Cooper |
| Tues 16 June | CANTEEN CLOSED  
| ATHLETICS CARNIVAL |
| Wed 17 June | Jodie Hurt  
| Fahmiya Haniffa |
| Thurs 18 June | Kate Smith  
| Penny Fraser |
| Fri 12 June | Julie Neal  
| Gayle Galvin  
| Shellie Lavery |

COMMUNITY NEWS

BALGOWNIE HERITAGE SCHOOL MUSEUM
NEW OPENING DAYS - The Museum is now open on the second Sunday of the month from 11.00am to 4.00pm. The next open day will be 14th June.

FAIRY MEADOW NETBALL CLUB
The Fairy Meadow Netball Club are looking for girls turning 10 or 11 this year. Please ring Margaret on 4283 5985 or 0412 103 041 if interested in playing.