10 February 2017

PRINCIPALS REPORT!

Dear Parents

Welcome back to the new school year! The festive season seems to have passed in a whirlwind and already the month of February is upon us. I trust you enjoyed a relaxing break with your families, and savoured time together as well as the slower pace of life for a little while. The summer months have brought many challenges around the world and at home, and I was excited to see every child return to school in good health and with anticipation for the start of the 2017 school year.

The children looked magnificent with new uniforms, shoes and class materials, excited about their new classes and teachers. We welcome all of our Kindergarten and the 41 new students through Pre-Primary to Year 6 that have enrolled at our school. Due to ongoing demand for enrolment places, our numbers have swelled beyond 715 students. The school is just about at capacity and as was the case last year, we have no classrooms available for any further expansion.

I welcome all our new families to the Ballajura community and hope you have enjoyed your first week with us. We head into 2017 with 4 Kindergarten classes, 4 Pre-Primary classes and 21 Primary classes. Yes, it’s been a busy start!

We hope that all parents have a wonderful year engaging with the school and your child reports on a daily basis the exciting learning they are achieving in their classroom. If you have any questions regarding your child or their learning, please do not hesitate to contact us.

What’s Important at Our School

At Ballajura Primary School, your child is very important to us. We accept it is both a privilege and responsibility to be entrusted with their education. We believe the school has earned your trust through hard work, commitment and passion. It is our goal to ensure your child attains high academic performance, achieves social competence and demonstrates emotional resilience.

The following attributes form part of our commitment to high quality education for your child.

1. Relationships - Respect, manners and belief are behaviours we practise every day. We have high expectations about how students, staff and parents conduct themselves at school.

2. Expectations - All children can be high academic achievers; they are expected do their best every day!

3. Presentation - Every child’s handwriting and book work must be of the highest standard. Furthermore, the way staff and students dress and conduct themselves is a reflection of the pride in our school and of themselves.

4. Correction - All student work will be marked and corrected by your child’s class teacher. Children will receive feedback from their teacher on how they can improve and achieve the next level of their learning.

5. Display – Our classrooms and school grounds will always be well presented. Our school should be a pleasurable place to learn, work and visit.

6. Setting Tone - Our school always strives to be excellent. Our behaviour, culture and efforts will reflect this expectation. Our focus is to ensure every child becomes an exceptional person.

Your child is expected to actively participate in school life; make the most of their opportunities; be positive; strive to do their best and live to the values of Ballajura Primary School. We want students to love their school, family and community.

Uniform Matters

I would like to remind all parents that Ballajura Primary School has a strictly enforced uniform policy. Please make sure your child is in uniform every day.
Friday is ‘House Shirt Day’. House Shirts are on sale in the Uniform Shop. The wearing of a red school bucket hat during recess and lunch is compulsory for all students.

Students must wear good quality closed in sneakers (runners) or sturdy sandals to school. The wearing of ballet flats, slip-on-shoes, thongs and flimsy foot coverings is not allowed.

The P&C Uniform Shop is open every Friday morning from 8.30am and Monday afternoons from 2.30pm.

Our Uniform Shop is run by volunteers; we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the ladies for their outstanding efforts in ensuring students are appropriately attired for school.

Homework

It is expected that all students at Ballajura Primary School complete homework. Our school policy dictates that children should complete homework Monday to Thursday and is inclusive of:

- Home Reading - Your child will need to read every night.
- Spelling - Your child must practise their spelling or extension words.
- Maths - Your child must practise their times tables and mental computations.

Your child may have an additional weekly homework sheet or revision activity to complete. As a rule of thumb, children in the junior school should not be doing more than half an hour of homework each night. Senior students may be expected to complete up to 40 minutes of homework per night.

All homework should be revision or practise of work previously covered in class. If you have any questions about homework expectations, please see your child’s teacher.

Buildings and Grounds

I am very excited to announce that the school is about to have a huge fan installed in the Undercover Area. This fan has been specifically designed to cool locations in open conditions where air conditioners are ineffective due to the nature of their use.

The new fan (which you won’t help but notice) has been scheduled to be installed to assist us in managing heat in the Undercover Area in the summer months. The fan’s cost is $25 000 and has been made possible through the wonderful work of the Parents and Citizens Association (P&C).

Over the holiday period, the school was fortunate to have our Wi-fi coverage upgraded so all areas of the school can be accessed by our Ipads. Ballajura Primary School looks forward to continually improving and upgrading your child’s learning environment.

Welcome New Staff

We would like to welcome the following staff to Ballajura Primary School. We hope your time with us provides a fulfilling experience in working with our children.

- Ms Harvey - Year 2 Teacher Room 6
- Mrs Reichelt – Education Assistant in Pre-Primary 1
- Ms Bout - Education Assistant in Pre-Primary 2

Reminders

- Parents are reminded to ensure the school has your current address, phone contact numbers, your child’s medical conditions, custody advices, etc. If any of these have changed since last year, please contact the Office to update the details.
- All of our teachers are always available to discuss your child’s progress. If you have any concerns or questions about your child’s start to the year, please see your child’s teacher as soon as possible. It is recommended that you make an appointment to receive dedicated attention.
- At this time of year, we ask parents to ensure all their children’s books are covered in contact. This helps them to look great and endure the rigors of being used daily. You child’s teacher will inform you of how and when this process is to be completed.
- Don’t forget to name all your children’s items, particularly hats, jumpers and lunchboxes. If lost, it makes it so much easier for us to find the correct owner. Lost property is located in the ‘yellow bin’ located outside the school office.
- Encourage your child to be independent. See how much of their daily preparation and before school routine they can do by themselves.
- Don’t ask your child ‘what did you do today?’ ask them ‘what did you learn?’ Don’t ever do homework for your child, but assist them to be better organised and efficient in it’s completion.
- If your child is in the junior school, make sure they read to you every night. If in the senior school, encourage your children to read novels and books that engage their interest.
- Thank you to all parents who have already paid their School Contribution ($60.00 per child). If paid in full in first term you will go into a draw to win a $100 voucher to the Uniform Shop. We also thank those that have paid their P&C Contribution ($40.00 per family) for 2017. These funds are vital in providing your child with the best in education.
- It is a legal requirement that all student absences from school be explained in writing or via the school’s SMS system - 0437 905 875. Your child’s absences are monitored by the school and the Department of Education.
- Please sign children out from the Office if you are collecting them from class during school time. Also, if you are running late to school, children must be signed in at the front Office.
- Please be safe and considerate of others and obey all parking and street laws. Don’t park on the school’s paths or verges. City of Swan Rangers patrol the school on a random basis and will fine parents caught offending city by-laws and street signage.
I wish everyone a very successful year and look forward to partnering with you in the education of your child.

School Board

The school is seeking three new parents for the School Board. The School Board’s role is to assist in setting the school’s long term future and maintaining oversight of the school’s operation. It provides additional expertise to help the school achieve the best outcomes for students.

A position on the Board is for one or two years. If you feel you would like to contribute to the school by being a member of the Board, we encourage you to nominate. Nomination forms are available from the school office and nominations close 3pm, Tuesday 14th February 2017. Nomination forms are to be handed into the front office. Should there be a number of parents nominating, voting slips will be forwarded to all parents during the following week. If you would like more information please contact my Associate Principal Judy Hayden.

David Wanstall
PRINCIPAL

TERM DATES 2017

TERM 1

- Wednesday 1st February 2017 to Friday 7th April 2017
- Public Holiday - Monday 6th March 2017 (Labour Day)

TERM 2

- Monday 24th April 2017 to Friday 30th June 2017
- Public Holidays - Tuesday 25th April 2017 (ANZAC Day) and Monday 5th June 2017 (WA Day)

TERM 3

- Monday 17th July 2017 to Friday 22nd September 2017

TERM 4

- Monday 9th October 2017 to Thursday 14th December 2017

Student Free Days - Staff Professional Development

Student Free Days are not necessarily held on the first day of each term. The dates, once they are set, will be advised via the School Newsletter.

YOU CAN DO IT AWARD WINNERS

TERM 4 WEEK 9 2016 - THEME - ‘RESILIENCE’


TERM PLANNER 2017

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
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<tr>
<td>FEBRUARY</td>
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<td>2pm Assembly Year 4 Rooms 17 and 18</td>
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<td>Wednesday 22nd</td>
<td>7.30pm P&amp;C “Sundowner”</td>
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<td>1.20pm School Board Meeting</td>
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<td>MARCH</td>
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<td>Thursday 2nd</td>
<td>2pm Assembly Year 2 Rooms 3 and 7</td>
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<td>Monday 6th</td>
<td>Public Holiday - Labour Day</td>
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<td>Friday 10th</td>
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<td>Thursday 16th</td>
<td>2pm Assembly Year 2 Room 5</td>
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<td>Wednesday 22nd</td>
<td>7.30pm P&amp;C AGM</td>
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<td>Thursday 23rd</td>
<td>9am Harmony Day Assembly Year 6 Rooms 14, 15 and 21</td>
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<td>Friday 24th</td>
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<td>Friday 31st</td>
<td>1.20pm School Board Meeting</td>
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<td>Wednesday 5th</td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
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Term 1
Thursday 6th  9am Easter Assembly
Miss Goves and the School Choir
Friday 7th   P&C Free Dress Day

SCHOOL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

The $60 we ask parents to pay for School Contributions is vital in ensuring high quality resources and amenities for your child. Contributions should be paid as early as possible in the school year. We believe $60 for a whole year of education to be outstanding value for money. Parents are reminded that all school voluntary contribution payments can be made through the Office. Cash and EFTPOS facilities are available. All payments paid in full in first term will go into a draw to win a $100 voucher to the Uniform Shop.

SMS Communication for Student Absences

Ballajura Primary School has a parent communication system that uses Short Messaging Service (SMS) and will send a text message to the mobile phone of the parent/guardian listed as Contact 1 on our data base, when your child is absent from school.

Parents/guardians can use the SMS system to notify the school of their child’s absence. If you do this before 9.15am you will not receive an SMS. Mobile: 0437 905 875. You can program the school’s SMS number into your mobile phone so that you know when we send you a message. Please note, you cannot ring this number; it is for messaging only.

P & C UPDATES

CANTEEN - 'THE LUNCH BOX'

Did you know that Ballajura Primary School students in Pre-Primary to Year 6 can order from the canteen for their school lunches? We offer student lunches on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Pre-Primary recess orders are not available, only lunch orders.

Orders can be placed at the canteen in the morning or via our online canteen ordering system. You can place an order from any smart device or computer up to two weeks in advance, simply go to the link below to sign up.

http://www.ouronlinecanteen.com.au

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop is open Monday afternoons (2.30pm-3.00pm) and Friday mornings (8.30am-9.00am)

You can purchase in person with cash or card during these hours, otherwise all uniform items can be purchased online 24hrs a day through the same system we use for the canteen. Simply go to the link below to sign up.

http://www.ouronlinecanteen.com.au

P&C CONTRIBUTIONS

We are really excited about being able to raise funds and support the school in providing the much needed cooling of the Undercover Area in 2017. It will be of outstanding benefit to every student to be able to watch our amazing assemblies without being hot and sticky. Every single payment of contributions will directly go to making this possible and we thank you all for so generously donating.

The P&C ask for a $40 contribution per family per year. This, along with other fundraisers held throughout the year, enables us to provide much needed equipment and resources to help our children get the most out of their education. It’s important to note that this is separate to the $60 school contribution.

Contributions can be paid several ways:

1. Cash or card in the Uniform Shop during opening hours.
2. Complete a contribution envelope and leave it in the P&C box in the front office.
3. Pay directly into our bank account using your child’s surname as a reference.

Commonwealth Bank
BSB: 066167  Account: 10476535

SCHOOL BANKING

Student School Banking each Thursday 8.00am to 8.40am in the Uniform Shop.

The banking program provides children with an opportunity to deposit money into their Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account at school each week. The program is about how often your child makes deposits, not how much they deposit. To encourage regular savings behaviour, the program offers exciting rewards for every 10 deposits your child earns. New prizes are available for 2017.

Getting Involved - To participate in school banking, you will need to open a Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account. To open an account for your child, you can visit your local branch or you can now open an account online by visiting the link below. Note: You do not need to bank with the Commonwealth Bank to open a Youthsaver account.


Thank you - I would like to take this opportunity to thank Melissa Payne who has volunteered as the School Banking Coordinator over the past few years. I am very excited to
take over as School Banking Coordinator and look forward to meeting all the new and existing school banking families.

Any parents or carers of students who are not registered with the School Banking program, that would like more information, please feel free to come in and have a chat with our friendly parent volunteers. Alternatively, you can drop us an email at ballajurapandc@hotmail.com and we will forward you an information pack.

We look forward to seeing you at school banking soon!

*Kylie Davis*
School Banking Coordinator

### P&C Event Planner - Term 1

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<td>Scholastic Bookclub - orders due</td>
<td>Friday 17th February</td>
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<td>P&amp;C Sundowner 7.30pm</td>
<td>Wednesday 22nd February</td>
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<td>Easter Raffle notes to go home</td>
<td>Wednesday 15th March</td>
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<td>Canteen Treats Day</td>
<td>Friday 17th March</td>
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<td>P&amp;C Annual General Meeting 7.30pm</td>
<td>Wednesday 22nd March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Easter Raffle tickets go on sale</td>
<td>Monday 3rd April</td>
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<tr>
<td>P&amp;C Free Dress Day</td>
<td>Friday 7th April</td>
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### LIKE MORE INFORMATION?

If you have any questions about the P&C, please don’t hesitate to contact P&C President, Lisa Asher, at ballajurapandc@hotmail.com

### COMMUNITY NEWS

**Shooters Netball Club**

The 2017 Netball Season is fast approaching. Shooters Netball Club are looking for new members of all ages and skill level. Support your local club and community. Please visit our website at the link below or for further information, email our Registrar Jenny Shaw at registrar@shootersnetball.org.au.

http://www.shootersnetball.org.au

### SUBSCRIBE TO SCHOOLZINE

http://ballajuraps.schoolzineplus.com/subscribe

We still have a number of families that have not yet subscribed to our Schoolzine online newsletter. When talking to family and friends from the school community please encourage them to go online and subscribe so that they are not missing out on vital school information and events.