



NEWSLETTER

STUDENT NEWS FROM BALRANALD CENTRAL SCHOOL

25 October 2021 ISSUE 16

INSIDE

- **Principal's Ponderings**
(page 2)
- **Term 4, 2021**
Calendar (page 10)

Bandanna Day Friday, 29th October

Fundraising event for Canteen, an organisation that supports young people in the fight against cancer.

During the week the SRC will be selling Bandannas for \$5 each. On Friday students are encouraged to come to school in uniform sporting a fashionable Bandanna. There will also be a BBQ and drinks sold at lunch.

Kinder Transition

On Wednesday, 20th October we had our first visit from our Kinder 2022 students. We look forward to getting to know our newest little BCS family members as they visit us each Wednesday up until the 1st December.



PRINCIPAL'S PONDERINGS

Level 3 Covid restrictions continue for BCS and most other regional schools with staff and students making the best out of a less than ideal situation. There is quality teaching and learning occurring from K-12 amid all the restrictions and attendance levels continue to be consistently high. There have been confirmed cases in Mildura and Barham and I implore all the BCS community to continue to follow the health advice and sanitise, socially distance and wear your mask. BCS staff have been briefed as to the protocols in place in the event that we have an outbreak at school – fingers crossed that we do not need to enact it.

Week 4 is Senior's Week at BCS and to replace the normal Grandfriend's Day that we normally run, our Primary school under the co-ordination of Mrs Harper are organising another goodies drop-off for our Seniors in the local community. This will occur from Tuesday to Thursday and will mainly involve the 5/6 class as well as other junior students. Thanks in advance to all students and staff involved in this positive initiative.

Welcome to Marysia Dunn who is our new Chaplain. Marysia has been involved with our students as a Student Learning Support Officer and continues in this role as well as balancing the Chaplain role on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We are very fortunate that we have a very able replacement for Mrs Dajczer and Ms Sengoz who can continue the important pastoral care role that caters for the myriad of academic, personal, and spiritual needs of students.

Kinder Transition began last Wednesday with 14 little ones turning up and participating in the learning activities. It is a credit to the organisation of Mrs Helgeland and Mrs Harper who have left no stone unturned in ensuring that the students have an enjoyable and informative experience and develop good habits for the 2022 school year. Transition will run for another 6 consecutive weeks, concluding on the 1st December.

Year 6 to 7 Transition will occur on Wednesday 10th November with students participating from BCS, St Josephs and Euston PS. Mr White has put together a program of activities and experiences from 10am-2pm that will give students a taste of secondary school and assist with any fears or anxiety about making the transition. Thanks to Mr White and the participating staff and students involved with the program.

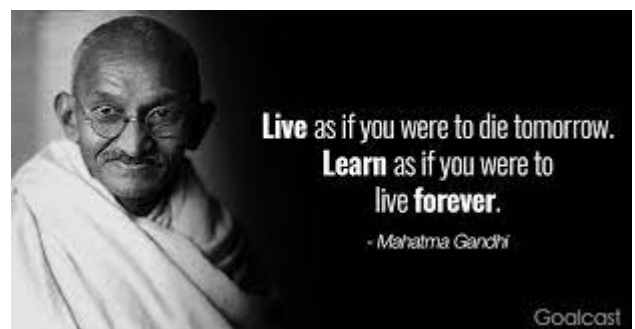
The School Liaison Police Officer (Steve Dohnt from Broken Hill) will be at BCS this week from Tuesday to Thursday. He will be speaking to students from K-10 on a variety of topics from Road Safety to Racism and will be speaking to our Legal Studies class regarding procedures when arresting individuals. We are very lucky to have a great working relationship with Steve and if any parents would like to ask him any questions, please contact Admin by Wednesday.

Our Year 12 students are entering their final weeks prior to their HSC exams. Year 12 teachers have been conducting lessons for the first 3 weeks with this week being set aside for the students to do some fun activities in the lead up to their Week 5 STUVAC and ultimately their final exams commencing on Tuesday 9th November. The Year 12 Formal has been postponed until Friday 3rd December.

My word of the week is "myriad"- countless or extremely great in number

My saying for this week comes from Mahatma Gandhi "Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever."

Gus Comi



Year 2 Science - Car Launcher

Students had a great time creating a car launcher to help them with the understanding of forces in our Push and Pull Unit this term.



Year 3-4

This week Year 3-4 re-hashed an old game – a variation of Scissors/Paper/Rock, but with hula hoops. We all had fun and students improved their co-ordination very quickly.

For CAPA we kneaded, shaped, carved and etched some white clay to make 2D and 3D face tiles. Now we are hoping that the kiln will work for us! I'm sure it will.

Students did a great job and learned some new skills. They worked as a team to clean up afterward, like the champions that they are.



PRIMARY PERSPECTIVE

5/6 Canberra Excursion has been cancelled

Due to COVID restrictions the cancellation of the Canberra excursion has been taken out of our hands. Money paid (not fundraised money) can be reimbursed or can be kept at the school for the following year to pay for computers or excursions next year.

PAT - ACER Testing

Progressive Achievement Tests, commonly known as PAT

Primary students will be participating in PAT testing over the next 2 weeks. PAT testing is important because it maps student learning and demonstrating progress over time. Students at BCS have been participating in PAT testing for the past 3 years.

PAT tests are multiple-choice tests designed to help teachers determine achievement levels of students in Mathematics, Reading Comprehension and Vocabulary, and Listening Comprehension and Writing. The test results help teachers decide what kinds of teaching materials are needed and which methods or programmes are most suitable for their students. PAT tests are also important because they identify the progress a student is making from year to year. If you are interested in your child's results, please contact their classroom teacher.

Transition to School

Kindergarten Transition started last Wednesday from 9am till 11am. Mrs Helgeland was so excited to see all the new faces. She has some very exciting activities planned for the following weeks. Parents are advised to drop their child off in the kindergarten classroom. *Please remember check in with the QR code at the Front Office and provide vaccination status.* Morning tea will be provided for students. Please advise Mrs Helgeland if your child needs to be walked back to the BELC.

Amelia Calleja

Welcome to Mrs Calleja who will be teaching the Kinder/Year 1 class on Wednesday mornings, while Mrs Helgeland is running the Kinder Transition Program. She will also teach Mrs Lockhart's Year 2 Class period 4 for Measurement and Geometry. Period 5, Mrs Calleja will teach Mrs Harper's Year 5/6 class for Drama and Music, where the students will be learning to play the ukulele.

School Chaplain

Welcome to Marysia Dunn who is starting in the role as the BCS School Chaplain. Marysia will be working as the Chaplain on Tuesday and Thursdays. The Chaplain's role is to support the spiritual, social, and emotional wellbeing of students. Marysia will support students to build self-confidence, help with self-esteem, develop skills in peer and other relationships, manage life transitions, deal with bullying, and work through grief and loss and family breakdowns as well as pastoral care conversations to build resilience and connect students with support networks. If you would like your child to discuss any issues with the school Chaplain, please contact your child's classroom teacher.

The Importance of Home Reading

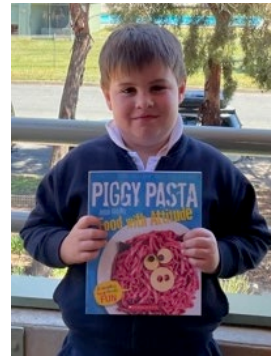
Home reading is a fantastic way of developing a student's love of reading. It should be an enjoyable activity where students practice fluency, build confidence, learn about the world around them and develop their imagination. It needs to be a pleasant experience and is not a time for introducing new skills. Harder texts are given in the classroom under the guidance of a teacher. It is the teacher's job to teach your child to read. Your job as a parent is to listen, support and encourage.

The book should be easy and, it is OK to read the book many times. (Students do have their favourite book)

Do not be concerned that your child has the same home reader for a week. It is important that children re-read texts to develop a natural rhythm, fluency and clear reading voice.



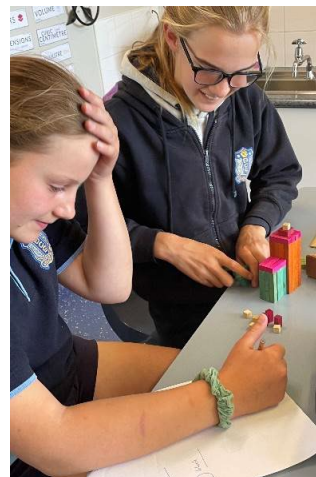
Congratulation Beau Muscat on achieving 100 Nights of Reading.



Out and About the Primary Classes

During a Mathematics lesson on Volume, Year 5/6 found the Cuisenaire Rods tucked away in the storeroom. They dusted them off and built towers. Students needed to work out the volume of the rods used. Many inventive ways were formulated.

Year 5/6 have been lucky to use the Film Making STEM Kits borrowed from the DET. They have been making short films about the importance of washing your hands. They have used a Green Screen and Movie Maker on the iPad to create their short films. We can't wait to see what Year 3/4 come up with next week when they get to have a play.



Kinder and Year 1

Kinder and Year 1 have become immersed in the world of frogs, thanks to Fletcher who brought in some tad poles. They have been learning all about the lifecycle of frogs, what they eat at different stages and where they are found. It has been very interesting to see how quickly the tad poles have changed over the week.



In Science and Technology, they are studying the unit 'Push and Pull'. Karson has bought in a very treasured tractor that was a gift from his great grandfather to his grandfather. Karson's great grandfather was given a block of land in Robinvale after his service in the Army, where he grew grapes. The treasured tractor is a replica of the tractor (Massey 35) that was instrumental in not only building Robinvale but also the irrigation district of Mildura.

Mrs Harper and Mrs Lockhart



Primary Students of the Week (Week 3)



Year 5/6 – Lucius Stevens & Reagan McCartney



Year 3/4 – Layla Sutton & Lucas Paton



Year 2 – Logan Durso & Isla Old



Year K/1 – Cash Hutchinson & Ava Moore

Primary Students of the Week (Week 4)



Year K/1 – Olivia Johnstone & Jaylah Murray



Year 2 – Keith Ellis & Emma Sutton



Year 3/4 – Lewis Hussey & Ethan Dixon



Year 5/6 – Alayna Dalton & Adrian Butler

TERM FOUR - 2021

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 4 B	25 OCTOBER <u>Exec meeting</u>	26 School Liaison Police Visit	27 <i>Kinder Orientation</i> School Liaison Police Visit	28 School Liaison Police Visit	29
Week 5 A	1 NOVEMBER <u>Exec meeting</u>	2	3 <i>Kinder Orientation</i>	4	5
Week 6 B	8 NOVEMBER <u>Exec meeting</u>	9	10 <i>Kinder Orientation</i> Yr 7 Orientation	11	12 White Card Training
Week 7 A	15 NOVEMBER <u>Exec meeting</u>	16	17 <i>Kinder Orientation</i>	18	19
Week 8 B	22 NOVEMBER <u>Exec meeting</u>	23	24 <i>Kinder Orientation</i>	25	26
Week 9 A	29 NOVEMBER <u>Exec meeting</u>	30	1 DECEMBER <i>Kinder Orientation</i>	2	3 Yr 12 Formal
Week 10 B	6 DECEMBER <u>Exec meeting</u>	7 K-12 Presentation Night	8	9	10
Week 11 A	13 DECEMBER Year 6 Graduation	14	15	16 Last day of school for students	17 SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAY – PUPIL FREE DAY

Italic: K-Yr 6 Normal: Yr 7-12 **Bold: K-Yr 12**

CANTEEN SPECIAL
 Wednesday 27th October
 Marinated Chicken Burger \$5