



NEWSLETTER

STUDENT NEWS FROM BALRANALD CENTRAL SCHOOL

13 March 2023 ISSUE 4

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WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY
29th March
at 11.30am

P&C Meeting
Tuesday 14th March
at 6pm
In the BCS Staff Common Room

We understand that everybody is busy, and you might not be able to commit to every meeting or fundraiser. But, come along to the meeting and put your name down to help out wherever you can. Any offer to help is greatly appreciated.

PreLit Program

On Wednesday, 8th March Kinder 2024 children started their transition into big school by being introduced to our wonderful PreLit program. This program is developed to prepare the children for their big adventure and make the transition to school smoother. We started the morning with a play in the playground and when the bell rang, learnt to line up outside the classroom like you do at big school. While sitting in a group on the mat in the classroom, we introduced ourselves and learnt about the Hi 5 of learning.



PreLit saw the children learn the concept of words through speech and books, reading the fantastic storybook 'Dear Zoo'. The children drew a picture of their favourite animal in the story and worked on a worksheet where they were able to practise writing their name. Homework was given to take home which the children were very excited about.

On our tour of the school the children were shown a variety of areas such as the front office, Principal's office, meeting Mrs Matarazzo, sick bay, canteen and most important, the toilets.

The children enjoyed morning tea and a play in the playground to finish off a fantastic day.

This program is conducted on a Wednesday from 9 to 11am and will continue for the rest of the year.

Sue and Danelle



Principal's Page

The focus this week is about achieving GOALS. I will be meeting with the Deni DEL (Director, Educational leadership) tomorrow to discuss my goals for 2023. All staff at BCS meet with their supervisors to discuss goals to develop teaching practice, and students meet with teachers to discuss learning goals. What's your 2023 goal for this year @ BCS?

EVENTS: NAPLAN, P&C AGM, HEADSPACE, VAPING

Students in Year 3, 5, 7 & 9 will be completing NAPLAN online testing on Wednesday & Thursday. This test gives us information in areas of Writing, Reading, Grammar and Numeracy. All students are encouraged to try the best, but also to remember that this is only one test on one day! Get a good night's sleep, pack some brain food for the test days and bring along a set of headphones, if you have your own, and a FULLY CHARGED LAPTOP.

The P&C AGM is this **TUESDAY 14 MARCH at 6pm**. They would love to see lots of new faces 😊

Headspace Swan Hill will be visiting school on Thursday 23rd.

We have booked a smoking cessation officer to workshop with students in Year 5-12 next term. A big thank you to Maari Ma for making this possible. If parents would like to attend a parent workshop about vaping & young people, please indicate to staff or school, and we will be able to add an after-school workshop as well.

SPORTING STARS & PRE-LIT LEGENDS

Congratulations to all students who have been involved in Basketball, Swimming, Tennis as well as getting ready for the AFL/Netball season with a gala day. Thank you, Mr Marsh, for your wrap-up in this newsletter as well as to all staff & helpers who have made these sporting trips possible.

It was so lovely to welcome lots of new faces for the start of PreLit '23. A HUGE thank you to Sue Murphy & Danelle Gervasi for their enthusiasm and great report on Page 1.

BCS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SURVEY and Q&A

Lots of positive comments & constructive suggestions came out of the Survey @ the Expo.

What's your preferred form of communication? Lots are loving the Portal or prefer a quick SMS

What could we add to BCS to make 2023 even better? Music & cultural events; more preparation leading up to the athletics carnival; early careers info for Year 7 & 8; being

able to pay for laptops at the end of the year (ready to start day 1); opportunities for public speaking experience.

Thoughts on homework? Ranged from yes/no in primary, to a little bit of revision in secondary, to 3 set nights per week.

What do you like to hear from us? News about upcoming events, special days, any behaviour issues

If you would like to add any other ideas, please feel free to follow the link below & complete a QUICK Google Form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/12Z4zmD7NjQrHxXrQOTXgR4hB5yG63-oMvbfldU4gEM/edit>

ATTENDANCE

I will be meeting with the HSLO (Home School Liaison Officer) this week for our Term 1 Roll-Check. I will let her know that I'm impressed with the improvements in attendance. Secondary are closing the gap! Only 1.2% behind Primary this fortnight 😊

Don't forget to complete absences on the PARENT PORTAL using one of the drop-down codes. These are the only reasons for school absence in NSW:

- Sickness
- Medical/paramedical appointment
- Participation in non-school special event
- Domestic necessity
- Funeral
- Travel in Australia & overseas

Note: You **MUST** provide a comment to add detail to reason.

PARENT PORTAL

Are you linked to a one-stop shop for the school newsfeed; absences; messages from class teachers; newsletters and setting up interviews? There's always someone at school able to help sign you up. Drop by school anytime!

RECESS FUNDRAISING

When opportunity comes knocking.... A number of YA have approached me about setting up Recess fundraising in the canteen. Year 9 will be selling some recess treats on Wed 15th & Fri 17th. Year 7 will be manning the canteen next week on Thurs 23rd and Fri 24th. Watch this space for more 😊

Nadine Matarazzo

Percentage Attendance this fortnight @ BCS

Primary	%	Secondary	%
Kinder	92.5	Year 7	92.1
Year 1/2	92.6	Year 8	96.1
Year 3/4	89.2	Year 9	92.0
Year 5/6	88.8	Year 10	80.9
		Year 11	86.7
		Year 12	90.0



Congratulations Year 8 – outstanding attendance in Week 6 & 7

PRIMARY PERSPECTIVE

Morning supervision

There is no active supervision at school prior to 8:30am, primary students should not be at school before this time.

Fruit Break

Please ensure your child brings fruit each day for Fruit Break. The fruit needs to be easy for your child to eat, e.g., an orange cut into pieces.

Easter Hat Parade

Students from K-6 will participate in the Easter Hat Parade, on Wednesday 5th April at 12pm. Parents are invited to come and join us for the parade. Lunch will be catered by Year 5/6, at a cost. Further details will be sent home shortly. Students from 5/6 are busy selling their raffle tickets to raise money for the Canberra excursion. Can all families please bring in an Easter egg to support this raffle.

Maths

Year 1/2 students enjoyed estimating and then measuring different objects around the classroom, using informal and formal measuring tools.



Kinder

Kinder had milo and marshmallows with Mrs Matarazzo while we learnt all about the letter 'M'. It was marvellous!!



YEAR 5-6

Charles Darwin by Sienna Comitti

Charles Darwin was a native of England who started his education at Shrewsbury Primary School. He studied medicine at the University of Edinburgh and priesthood at Cambridge University.

Charles was always interested in collecting insects from the garden when he was a child. He was unhappy in the priesthood but still enjoyed botany and entomology. John Henslow, a botany professor, invited Charles Darwin to travel on his ship, on an expedition around the world.

Before going on the expedition Charles had to ask his father. At first, he said no but seeing how keen his son was, he said yes. For the next five years they were going to be studying plants and insects. During this time the crew went to Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Peru and the Galapagos Islands.

The Galapagos Islands were one of the places Charles and John visited. Charles was interested in the birds. He realised that each bird on each island had a different beak. Some beaks were small while others were big. Darwin sketched these birds and their beaks. This led Darwin to write a book when he returned to England.

The Beagle returned to England, in October 1836. Over the next 20 years Charles wrote his book, 'On the Origin of the Species by Means of Natural Selection', which set out his theories on evolution about people and animals. His research had people shocked, not many believed Darwin, they all believed in God creating the world.

Today, Charles Darwin's theory has changed the way people think about evolution. Most scientist have accepted the Darwinian theory. Over his lifetime he has ridden a giant tortoise, written and published a successful book, visited the Galapagos Islands, sailed on the HMS Beagle, and met Professor John Henslow. He was a great science and etymologist. I hope we get more people like him in the future.

Charles Darwin by Jack Renfrey

Charles Darwin was a native of England who started his education at Shrewsbury Primary School. He studied medicine at the University of Edinburgh and priesthood at Cambridge University.

Charles was always interested in collecting insects from the garden when he was a child. He was unhappy in the priesthood but still enjoyed botany and entomology. In 1831 John Henslow, a botanist, invited Darwin to be a naturalist on the HMS Beagle.

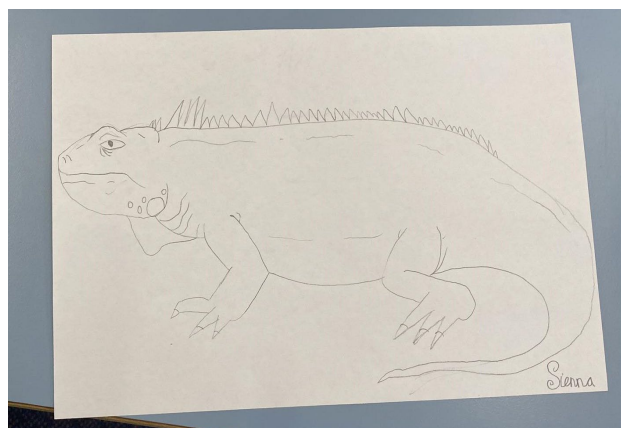
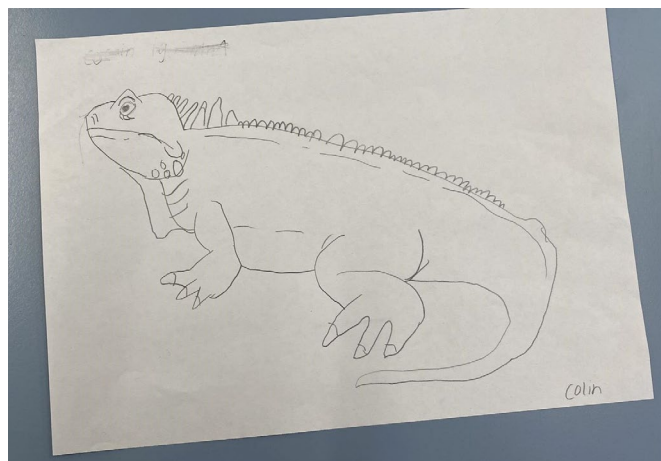
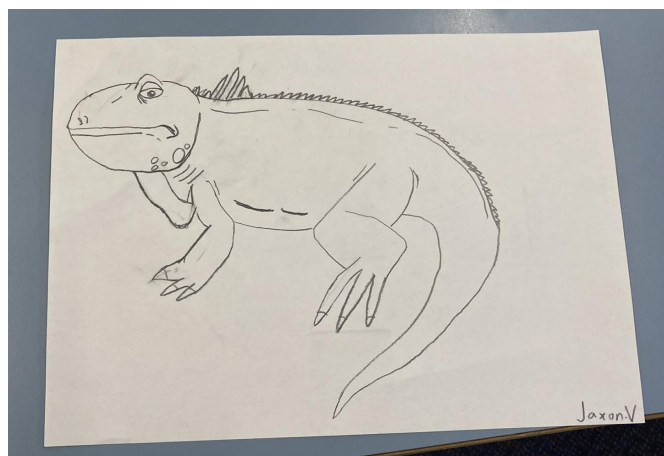
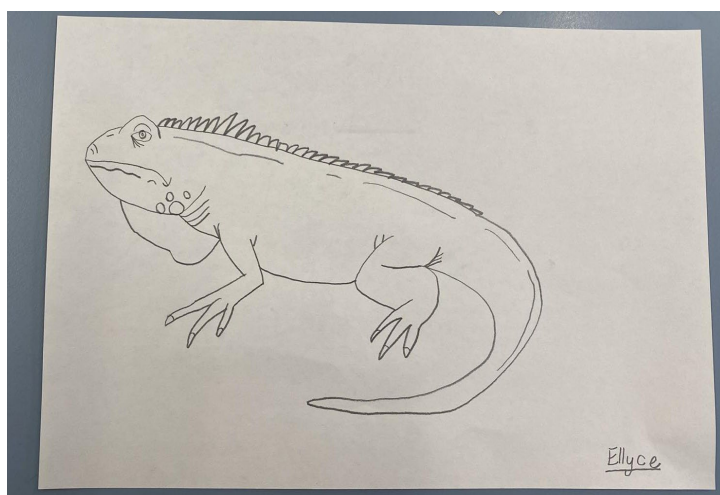
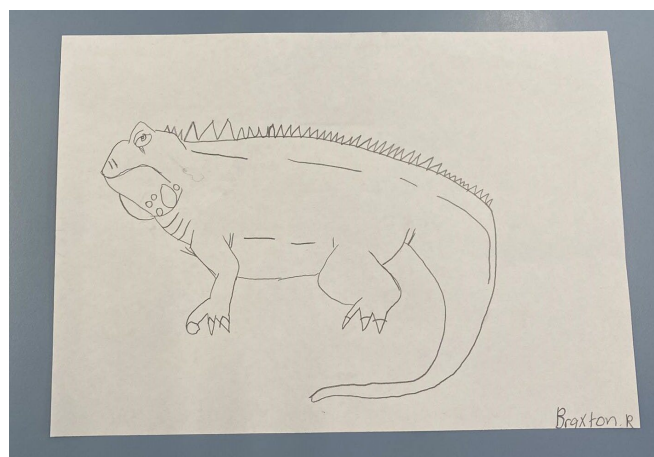
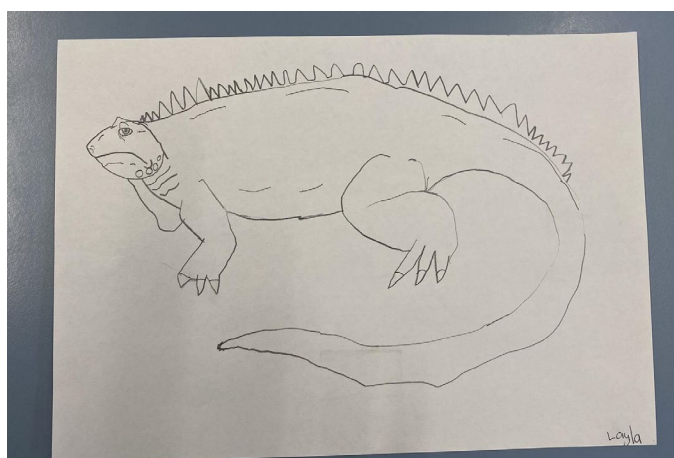
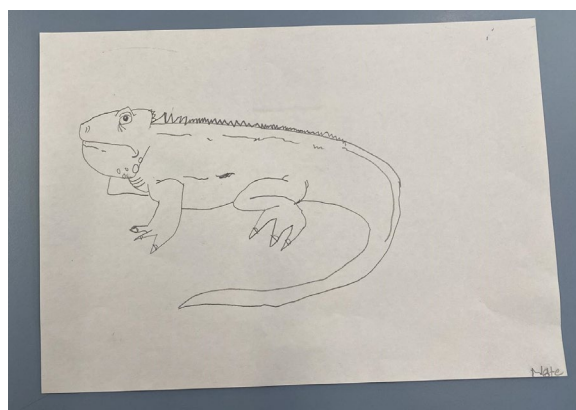
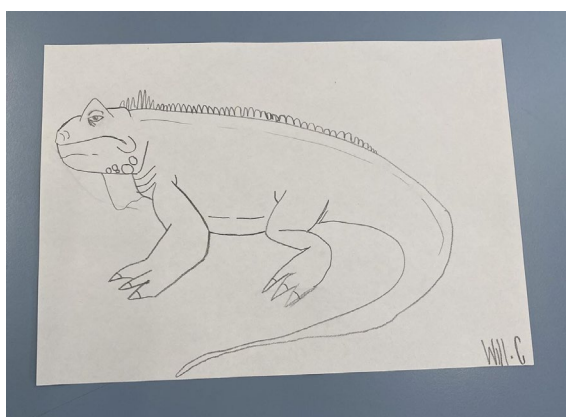
When Darwin was invited to go on the Beagle, he asked his father if he could go. His father was not happy that Charles wanted to go, but seeing that Charles really wanted to go, he let him. The Beagle left in 1831. Charles would be gone for 5 years. He visited Brazil, Argentine, Chile and Peru.

The Galapagos Islands are 10 rocky islands off the coast of Ecuador. The wildlife on each island was very different in many ways. Charles found four types of finches with different beaks. The different beaks allowed them to eat different seeds. Lots of the animals were castaways from the mainland, like the iguana and a little friend of theirs, a little lizard that eats all the flies off the iguanas back.

On Charles return to England on the HMS Beagle in October 1836, he studied the animals and plants he found during his 5-year voyage. For the next 20 years Charles wrote about his findings and published a book called 'On the Origin of the Species'.

Charles was a very prominent scientist in the 1800's who travelled the world collecting samples of animals, plants and fossils. Darwin discovered the theory of evolution and natural selection.

YEAR 5-6 DRAWING OF IGUANAS



BCS Sports Report by Mr Marsh

Open Boys and Girls Basketball Team

On Thursday 2nd March 2023 the Balranald Open Boys and Girls Basketball Team travelled to Deni Stadium to compete in the Zone Basketball Gala Day. The day involved the Balranald Boys and Girls versing students from Deniliquin HS, Finley HS, Barham HS and Hay HS.



The Girls Team were runners up on the day just behind Deni High School by a few points. The Boys Team competed to the best of their ability and displayed high levels of sportsmanship; however, they were unable to come away with a win.

The highlights of the day were Seth Sutton scoring a half-court shot, Jed Paton getting a 3 pointer, Evie Priest's spectacular all round effort, Micaela

Ricevuto's coaching and Bailey Knight being a leader throughout the day.



Afternoon Sport (Years 7-10)

A reminder for students in Year 7-10 that for Weeks 8-11 we will be doing a new set of sports for Wednesday and Friday afternoons. The sports to choose from are:

Dodgeball
Modified AFL
Netball
Walking

If you have not chosen a sport, see Mr Marsh ASAP.



Balranald Central School P & C invites you to the

Annual General Meeting

to be held **Tuesday 14 March, 2023 @ 6pm**
in the BCS Staff Common Room
 followed by our general meeting



All positions will be declared vacant - ALL WELCOME!

We are calling for new members

We look forward to seeing lots of new faces!

Benefits to you in joining Balranald Central School's P & C...

Research shows that children perform better when their parents are involved in their education. You are more aware of what is happening around the school and have more contact with staff and become aware of school programs. Joining the P&C is one of the best ways to show your children how much you value their education and how interested you are in what they do.

What does our P & C do?

The P&C is about people – people just like you – parents, care givers and community minded people who want to help their school! Did you know that last year we:

- ❖ Donated \$3265 towards school excursions, helping to make it more affordable for every child to attend them.
- ❖ Run a Uniform Shop. Uniforms are offered at minimum prices and are ready and available at all times for sale. The Balranald Sports shop kindly support our uniform shop by selling uniforms on our behalf.
- ❖ Gave every new Kinder student a complimentary hat when they started school, and Year 7 students a cap when they started high school.
- ❖ Contributed \$450 towards individual students to attend sporting and academic events.
- ❖ Operated food stalls at sporting events
- ❖ Contributed toward Senior jumpers to make them more affordable.
- ❖ Donated \$2000 to primary and secondary department to spend on resources.

Everybody has a role to play, and your ideas will be heard. The more people involved the more exciting and successful this next year will be. With Covid behind us, we look forward to arranging some exciting fundraising events throughout the year.

The P & C is also a voice:

Through general meetings, committee members can provide advice and recommendations to the Principal on issues & concerns in respect to the student body and the general operations and management of our school.

How you can help? There are a number of ways to be involved (even if you're not an elected member):

- a) Just by joining your P & C you add your voice to what you think is great or could be improved in our school
- b) Attend P&C meetings to learn about what's happening and have your say about what you would like to happen
- c) Uniform Shop Volunteer - You can volunteer your time to help Lisa Dalton in the Uniform Shop. Packing orders, doing stock takes, minding Uniform shop.
- e) Volunteer for fundraising activities – plus we love to hear new ideas about how we can fundraise.
- b) Help us decide how best to spend our fundraising money
- d) Anything to do with our school!?

This will make a real difference in your child's education, so why not join your Balranald Central School P&C? It would be great to have you involved!




EDITION 2 2023

POSTER

Hang me up
in your
classroom!









HOP
INTO A
GOOD BOOK!



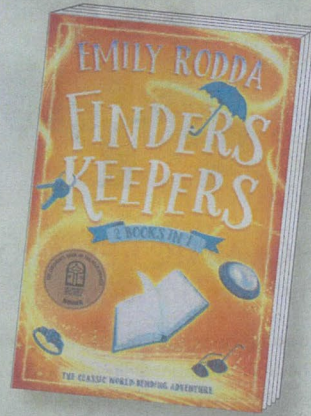


ORDERS DUE:

23 March 2023







15% OF YOUR ORDER VALUE IS GIVEN BACK TO YOUR SCHOOL!



TERM ONE - 2023

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 8	13 MARCH Open Tennis and Lawn Bowls @ Hay	14 P&C Meeting @ 6pm	15 NAPLAN - Yrs 3,5,7 & 9 Secondary Sport	16 NAPLAN - Yrs 3,5,7 & 9	17 K-12 Sports Day NAPLAN – Catch-up U15's AFL Trials @ Narrandera
Week 9	20 MARCH	21	22 Secondary Wellbeing	23 Open Girls Netball Trials @ Wagga	24 K-12 Sports Day
Week 10	27 MARCH	28	29 Whole School Assembly @ 11.30am Secondary Sport	30 U15's Soccer Bill Turner Cup @ Deni	31 K-12 Sports Day
Week 11	3 APRIL	4 Open Boys & Girls Soccer @ Deni	5 Easter Hat Parade @ 12pm Secondary Wellbeing	6 BCS K-12 Athletics Carnival	7 GOOD FRIDAY

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




HAPPY Healthy FAMILIES

MONTHLY GET TOGETHER

Aiming to make our local families Happier & Healthier in 2023

FIRST SESSION
Thursday 16th March 2023
11am - Theatre Royal
Lunch Provided
New Incentives Monthly



ALL FAMILY MEMBERS WELCOME - MUMS, DADS, BUBS, KIDS (0-5yrs), GRANDPARENTS, AUNTIES, CARERS & SUPPORT PERSONS

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT MAARI MA HEALTH BALRANALD (03) 5020 0009