From the Principal’s desk
Happy holidays!
As you know, this Friday is our last day for Term One. It has been a big, busy term and I am grateful to our boys and girls, parents and teachers for getting 2014 off to such a terrific start. I feel privileged to lead such an outstanding learning community. Have a happy, restful holiday and we’ll see you back at school on Tuesday 29th April.

School development day
On Monday 28th April, the teachers will take part in a professional learning day at Beacon Hill PS. Our keynote speaker is the well-renowned psychologist, Dr Michael Carr-Gregg. Michael will be addressing the latest research in resilience, brain science, positive education, positive psychology and mental health issues.

Trivia Night
Thank you to all of the parents who attended our Trivia Night. It was a huge success and it was great to see so many parents getting into the spirit of the evening. We obviously have a very clever school community with many teams still in contention leading into the final round. Congratulations to “The Wild West” team who took out first prize in a tie break. Helen Ludgate and her team of helpers did an amazing job to coordinate the night and we managed to raise around $8000 for the school. Thank you all for your generous support of our school.

ANZAC Day ceremony
I had the pleasure of taking our captains and vice captains into Hyde Park today to take part in the annual school’s ANZAC Day Commemoration Service. The service was completely run by students from public schools in NSW and the speeches were very heartfelt and moving. Our captains represented our school with pride. Our school will be hosting our own ANZAC Day assembly for the Year 3-6 children on Tuesday 29th April at 10:30am. Able Seaman Dayne Grindley will play the ‘Last Post’ and ‘Reveille’ on the bugle and also address our assembly on what the ANZAC legend means to him. Parents are welcome to attend.

Web statistics
This term, the average number of weekly visits to our school website has been 1584, with a high of 2015 and a low of 1056. It’s wonderful that so many parents and community members are using our website to access school information. The website is updated regularly to cover upcoming events and sports cancellations. Whenever notes get lost, you can navigate to our ‘Notes’ pages where all our permission notes are posted online. We are also using social media to help spread our message. Our Facebook page [https://www.facebook.com/balgowlahnorthps] has 106 likes and we have 73 followers of our Twitter account [https://twitter.com/BalgowlahNthPS]. Thank you for your support.

Mothers Day Breakfast
The teachers will be cooking up our Mothers Day Breakfast again this year as a thank you to our fabulous Mums. The breakfast will be held from 8am – 9am on Friday 9th May. We will be serving short cut bacon with free range eggs on tasty bread rolls this year. You can order a half ($2.50) or whole roll ($5) online via the Flexischools website: [https://www.flexischools.com.au/]. Coffee and tea will be available for the parents in attendance.
Cross Country Carnival
It’s time for the boys and girls to get into training for our Cross Country Carnival early next term. Boys and girls in Years 3-6 and those in Year 2 turning 8 this year are eligible to participate. Children aged 8, 9 and 10 will run 2km and the older children will run 3km. The carnival will be held on the morning of Thursday 8th May. You are most welcome to attend and cheer from the sidelines.

Owen Taylor,
Principal

Important Dates
Monday 28th April School development day (teachers only)
Tuesday 29th April First day of Term Two
Tuesday 6th May Year 5 to the Zoo
Wednesday 7th May School Photo Day
Thursday 8th May Cross Country Carnival
Friday 9th May Mothers Day Breakfast
Tues 13 – Thurs 15th May NAPLAN Testing for Years 3 & 5

Stars of the Week
All of our children who performed at our special Grandfriends’ Day last Wednesday. Our Grandfriends were entertained by beautiful singing, musicianship and poetry readings.

From the Deputy Principal’s Desk
Well Done Training and Concert Band and String Groups.
Approaching the end of Term 1, all the children in Training Band and Concert Bands are showing great progress in playing their instruments. The concert band played extremely well at our Grandfriends assembly and we will look forward to hearing them play again at our K-6 assembly this Thursday. Thankyou to Cassie White and Angus Bullough for leading our bands so well. Our string group is practising for their first performance at our K-2 assembly on the 8th May. We look forward to hearing them perform ‘Secret Agent’.

Building Teacher Capacity
There is a strong research foundation that tells us the best investment we can make is to continually improve the performance of our teachers. Like all professionals, we continually update our skills and work together to improve practice. The implementation of the new English curriculum is a focus and we have been working on all aspects of literacy and literature across the school including the literacy continuum and literature circles.

Our Stage 2 team is in the process of implementing an innovative maths program ‘Taking off with Numeracy’ (TOWN) which focuses on improving numeracy skills of students in the middle and upper primary years. This is extremely valuable work we do to continually build stronger classroom practices. So far this term we have also sent staff away to look at 21C learning, curriculum, pedagogy, incorporating iPads in meaningful ways into our classroom programs, Best Start, and building upon our sport program.

Academic Enrichment News
There are some excellent, extra curricula opportunities for our academically minded children at the moment. There are opportunities in writing that would be excellent enrichment opportunities for outstanding writers. The Sydney writers’ festival holds an enrichment day where students can listen to authors speak about their work and bring literature to life. Students get to meet and talk with the authors behind well-known stories. Go to www.swf.org.au for more information.

Also, there is a writing competition for Year 5 and 6 students run by the Australian Storytelling Guild (NSW). Entry is $10 and there are cash prizes for the most outstanding entries. Students have the opportunity to write their story or present a bit in a digital format. Go to www.storytellersnsw.org.au for more details.

The Whizz Kids workshops are now open. These whole day workshops are run by the University of Technology Sydney. They are aimed specifically at gifted and talented students. The sessions are subject specific and intend to engage students and improve their knowledge. For more information and enrolment details go to: http://www.inspirationeducation.com.au/

School Photographs
School photos will be held on Wednesday 7th May. Order envelopes are being sent home in the first week back at school in term 2 and will need to be returned on or before Wednesday 7th May. The photographers instructions also indicate that an envelope needs to be returned separately for each child. Family photos for siblings at school will also be taken and order forms will be available from the school office on request. Please ensure your child is wearing their full winter school uniform on the Wednesday even if they have a scheduled sport lesson. Please tie long hair back with school coloured ribbons and make sure school shoes are polished.

https://www.facebook.com/balgowlahnorthps  https://twitter.com/BalgowlahNthPS
Playmates Program
Thank you to our dedicated Playmate Coordinators, Hayley Dalton, Madison Bulloch, Sarah Murdoch, Lucy Parkinson, Chloe Martin, Gabby Young and Alani Darke. Playmates runs on first half Tuesday lunchtime where our Yr 6 students support Kindergarten students in gross motor skills, turn taking, listening skills and following instructions through peer interaction. Each Kindergarten class has participated in the program this term, the program will continue on a class rotational basis throughout term 2. It is wonderful to see our Yr 6 students taking on roles of responsibility and care. You do such a fantastic job!

Combined Scripture Easter Assembly
The scripture Easter service will be held on 10th April in the hall at 10.30am. Parents are welcome to attend. The scripture assembly is organised by our scripture teachers. Non-scripture and ethics students are invited to attend this assembly, however, if you would prefer your child not to attend please let your child’s class teacher know.
Working with children, watching them learn, witnessing their enthusiasm and laughter is a great joy. I have this pleasure on a daily basis! After a busy term, I wish all children and their families a very happy and safe holiday as you enjoy time together and a break from the busy routines of the school term.

Far and away the best prize that life offers is the chance to work hard at work worth doing. Theodore Roosevelt

Marita Nieuwenhuis
Deputy Principal

Library News
We wanted to say a huge thank you to all the Grandfriend’s who donated books last Wednesday on Grandfriend’s day. We are lucky enough to have nearly 400 new books for our library! A lot of these were books the students and staff have been requesting. These will be available to borrow next term once they have been accessioned. Thank you also to Naomi Champion, Caroline Graham and Marlene Gudman for helping in the library that morning.

This term year 5 and 6 have been doing an ongoing project on Characterisation. As a culminating activity the students were to become a character and present these to the class.

They have done a wonderful job researching their characters and doing some dramatic performances. Well done Stage 3!

Kindergarten have had a great first term in the Library. At the beginning of term students were introduced to the rules and routines of the library and revised book structure - both fiction and non-fiction. Each week we have read and discussed Premier's Reading Challenge titles with a focus on Characterisation, learning about adjectives and using a wide variety of them to describe the characters we have read about.

Year 1 have continued their study of families in the Library using a variety of resources both fiction and factual. We have analysed a number of Premier's Reading Challenge titles relating to a wide variety of different family structures and members. In addition to this we have explored several interactive websites which look at the family tree and compared elements of the family from the past, the present and the future.

Well done again to KT for being the Library stars of the week with all students returning and borrowing books! Have a Happy Easter and a wonderful holiday!

Debbie Horsley and Nicole Grover

NSWPSSA Tennis Knockout Victor J Kelly Trophy
On Tuesday the Balgowlah North tennis team played the third round of the NSWPSSA tennis knockout. The team of Shante Lai, Rigby Whearty, Georgia Singleton and Charlie Brown were defeated by Artarmon Public School. They played gallantly but the Artarmon team were better on the day. A wonderful effort! Thank you to Michelle Lai for managing the team. Well done team! Susie Stock

Junior boys relay team
The Bear Pit Manly Primary Schools Public Speaking Competition 2014
Mike Baird and Balgowlah North Public School are again proud to hold the Bear Pit Public Speaking Competition for Manly Primary Schools. Please find information, including speech topics below. The information will also be emailed to parents via your class parent and can be found on the school website.

Mike Baird and Balgowlah North Public School are again proud to hold The Bear Pit Public Speaking Competition for Manly Primary Schools.

The competition will consist of three levels. The competition begins at Class5 level, followed by a Year competition, then a School competition. The winners of the school competition will compete at Parliament House. The task of preparing the speech will be a homework task.

Aims of the competition
1. To promote the public speaking skills of all students.
2. To develop effective listening skills.
3. To encourage confidence in students and the ability to speak in front of an audience.
4. To develop the public speaking skills of students who have a talent and to promote this talent through a competition.

How the competition works
1. Class competition: Each student will be required to present a speech. The speech is to be selected from one of the set topics. The same speech will be used at all levels of the competition. Three speakers will represent each class at the next level. The class teacher will adjudicate and will use a scoring sheet that will be provided.

2. Year competition: Three speakers will speak from each class. In the primary competition, two winners will be selected to represent their year. For Year 1 (Kindergarten) and Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) the competition finals here. For Stage 2 and Stage 3 (Years 3 – 6) at this level two speakers will be selected to represent their year at the school competition.

3. School competition:
   - Stage 2 (4 speakers) – one winning representative will be chosen
   - Stage 3 (4 speakers) – one winning representative will be chosen

Participating schools
Participating schools will send one Stage 2 and one Stage 3 winning representative to compete at Parliament House on Friday 29th August 2014.

Suggested timeline for the competition
CLASS COMPETITIONS: to be held by Term 2 Week 5 (by Friday 30th May)
YEAR COMPETITIONS: to be held by Term 2 Week 8 (by Friday 23rd June)
SCHOOL COMPETITION: to be held by Term 3 Week 5 (by Friday 13th August)
The Bear Pit Competition Finals will be held at NSW Parliament House, Term 3 Week 7 (Friday 29th August 2014).

Length of time for speeches
Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten) – 1 minute with no warning bell
Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) – 2 minutes with a bell at 1 minute
Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4) – 3 minutes with a bell at 2 minutes
Stage 3 (Years 5 and 6) – 4 minutes with a bell at 3 minutes

2014 topics
Stage 1
- The best rainy day activities are...
- If you could be an animal, which one would you be and why?
- If you were going on an adventure with a book character who would you go with and why?
- What can children do to help the environment?

Stage 2
- Is it important to help others?
- Are good places and why?
- Is it better to be a kid than an adult or an adult than a kid?

Stage 3
- The impact of technology on family life.
- How and why should we conserve nature?
- What would happen if children taught teachers for a day?

School Banking
Well done to all the savvy savers who have been banking consistently throughout Term 1. We have had plenty of new bankers join - and now have more than 250 students part of the program. This of course means the 30 minute window we have to process deposits is an incredibly busy time. Please remember all our helpers are mums volunteering their time so we appreciate your patience.

A few things that can help us speed things up are:
- Please fill out the deposit slip prior to coming to the school banking desk
- Count the money being deposited accurately
- Student bankers only in the queue

Rewards Program
There have been many bankers that throughout the term have reached 10 tokens and redeemed a prize. We have trialled this term a “redeem as you go” system which has proved to be more time consuming during that brief banking time on Thursdays. So we have decided to revert back to the system we have used previously - having two Prize Redemption Days per term.

Redemption Days - Thursdays in Week 5 and 8 of each term.

How it works - Students who have 10 tokens by Week 4 (and 7) are able to order the prize of their choice and it will be available for collection at the school banking desk on the Thursday of Week 5 (and 8).

If you have any queries please don’t hesitate to contact us.

Yogi Johnstone
0402780167

Dear Mum,
You are invited to
Balgowlah North Public School's Mothers Day Breakfast
on
Friday 9th May 2014
From 8.00am to 9.00am

Bacon and Egg Roll with Tea or Coffee $5
Kids’ Bacon and Egg Roll $2.50

This year all Mothers Day orders will be done through Flexichool. Please go to www.flexichool.com.au to place your Mothers Day order.

All breakfasts must be pre-ordered and prepaid by Wednesday 30th April. Students will receive their free tickets from their classroom teacher before Mothers Day.

Thank you
CANTEEN ROSTER

THU
10 APR
9.30 - 11.30
Kate Albert
VOLUNTEER NEEEDED

9.30 - 1:30
Ingrid Gray

1:30 - 2:30
Fiona

FRI
11 APR
9.30 - 11.30
VOLUNTEER NEEEDED

Jenny

9.30 - 1:30
VOLUNTEER NEEEDED

1:30 - 2:30
VOLUNTEER NEEEDED

TERM TWO ROSTER OPENS SOON

Please visit Signup Genius to register:
www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e44adae2be2ff2-bnps/14122370

OR SCAN THE QR CODE

CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

JOIN OUR EASY ONLINE ROSTERING SYSTEM TO BROWSE THE AVAILABLE SHIFTS

www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e44adae2be2ff2-bnps/14122370

OR SCAN THE QR CODE ABOVE

ROSTER ENQUIRIES EMAIL: petrocanteen@optusnet.com.au

PLEASE DO THE RESPONSIBLE THING. IF YOU CAN’T MAKE IT, PHONE OR SWAP. PLEASE BRING AN APRON!

COMMITTEE: CHAIRPERSON: Brigitte Campbell
SECRETARY: Shelley Buckley
TREASURER: Alzondra Tucker
ROSTOR MANAGER: Petr Mazzarini
COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Liz Appleton, Bronwyn Norris, Tanja Mullen
CANTEEN MANAGER: Mylene Stimpson
NEWSLETTER: Sara Linden

Enquiries: Mylene 9949 4499

ORDER ONLINE www.flexischools.com.au

GUESS WHAT IS HAPPENING

at BALGOWLAN NORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL later this year?

SAVE THE DATE
Saturday 15th November 2014

CONGRATULATIONS

Your class has the most
FREE WEDNESDAY lunches for
week

WE ARE ALL ONE STEP CLOSER

bear aware FUN DAY

SAT 10 MAY

SOLD OUT

Attractions on show all day
AND MORE!

$30 for half an hour. $ North Balgowlah. Contact: Marina Grinham (DIP TCL) 0401 850628

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