From the Principal’s desk

Parent Information Evenings
Thanks for coming along to meet the teachers on Monday and Tuesday evenings. Please be sure to introduce yourself to your child’s classroom teacher and develop those important communication links between school and home. We will be having parent/teachers interviews during the last week of this term which will be booked online. More information will come home later in the term.

Safety Vests
From yesterday, our teachers began wearing bright orange safety vests when on playground duty. This helps to easily identify staff in our playgrounds which will benefit all of our children, but particularly our youngest students. In an emergency situation time is critical and these safety vests will make it much easier to quickly locate the teacher on duty. We often have casual teachers on duty whom the children don’t know or recognise so the vests will also eliminate confusion.

Working With Children Checks
There will soon be opportunities for you to help out in your child’s classroom during maths or reading groups or you may wish to volunteer in our Learning Lab. Your teachers will provide more specific information shortly. To be involved you will need to complete a Department of Education declaration which needs to be presented to the school office with 100 points of identification. These declarations last five years. Alternatively, if you already have a WWWC from the Office of the Children’s Guardian for work or other activities like teaching, coaching etc. you may bring it in for verification without requiring the 100 points.

Swimming Carnival
Our fingers are crossed for glorious weather next Tuesday for our swimming carnival. All children in years 3-6 attend and any 8 year old swimmers from Year 2 are also invited. For the rest of Year 2 it is a schools day as normal. Children with the fastest times in each event go on to represent our school at the Manly PSSA Zone carnival in a few weeks’ time. Please ensure you return your child’s permission note ASAP.

Class Parents
Thank you to all the parents who have volunteered to be the class parent representatives their child’s classes. This role is mainly one of information dissemination but more details regarding the expectations of this important role will be presented by Monique Tompson, P&C President, and Louise Clarke, class parent coordinator, on Tuesday 1st March at 2:30pm in the 2M classroom (just north of the library).

Term Invoices
Our term invoices are being sent home this week. Your prompt payment is much appreciated. If there is a problem with payment, please come to the office and see Mrs Tobler to complete the required paperwork.

Kindy Welcome Drinks
I would like to extend an invitation to all of our Kindergarten parents to our Kindergarten Welcome Drinks at the home of Andrew & Monique Tompson at 24 Waterview Street, Seaforth on Friday 26th February from 6:30pm onwards. There is no need to RSVP, light refreshments and finger food will be provided. It will be an informal get together in a relaxed environment. You will have the opportunity to mingle with other Kindy parents and get to meet key members of the P&C and school executive team. I hope to see you all there.

Emergency Access Driveway
We recently installed a layback at our emergency access driveway on Mons Road. This driveway must be kept clear at all times. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Working Bee
Lock in the date: Sunday 13th March. If you are available to help with painting, cleaning, gardening, among other things, please contact Adrian Molloy at adrianmolloy@gmail.com.

Owen Taylor, Principal

https://www.facebook.com/balgowlahnorthps    https://twitter.com/BalgowlahNthPS
Term 1 Week 4
Wednesday, 17 February 2016

Important Dates
20th February        Summer PSSA commences
23rd February        Swimming Carnival
25th February        K-6 Assembly – 1.45pm start
26th February        Stewart House Collection

From the Deputy Principal’s desk
Student Wellbeing - PBL
We are very proud of the success of our Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) program that is used to support student wellbeing in our school. This approach recognises that safe and happy school communities are achieved when a community works together to foster positive and healthy relationships based on mutual respect and support.

This is how the system works:
• Students collect Mini Merits for a range of positive behaviours. For every ten Mini Merits collected they will receive a Merit Certificate. Mini Merits should be handed to their class teacher for exchange.
• Students receive Merit Certificates at K – 2 and 3 - 6 assemblies in their respective assemblies each fortnight.
• When a student receives ten Merit Certificates, he/she is presented with a Principal’s Award. All certificates are posted in the ‘Star Box’ at the front office when the amount has been collected.
• When a student receives two Principal’s Awards they receive a Balgowlah North Banner.
• When a student receives two Banners they are presented with a Balgowlah North School Medal.
• Our Banner and School Medal are a most significant event and these are presented at K-6 assemblies in Week 5 and 10 each term.
• Teachers also implement their own classroom based reward systems (stickers, house points etc).

Three simple rules form the basis of our expectations of our students as learners and members of our school community. To support students to understand the expectations of being a safe, respectful and responsible learner there’s a behaviour matrix developed to outline what the rules ‘look like’ in each setting across the school. These expectations are consistent in every classroom and teachers discuss each expectation through a weekly focus. This focus is announced at each Monday morning lines. Our expectations are also clearly outlined in the signage at key points around our school.

We find this inclusive and consistent approach promotes a safe and happy school community. Our school matrix and PBL expectations are also explained on our school website.

Assembly
This week our Student Leaders will be running our 3 – 6 assembly. The assembly will commence at 1.45pm in the school hall. We welcome parents and friends to join us.

Musical Notes
Congratulations to all our bands and strings for attending their rehearsals on time and being well prepared.

Upcoming Dates:
Band Committee Meeting – 25th February 7pm
5 Illalong Street North Balgowlah.
We look forward to you joining us.

Band Camp
All children of the bands and string ensembles are required to attend this event. Please add these dates and times to your diary.

Sat 30 Apr - 1pm - 6.30pm
AND
Sun 1 May - 9am -1pm

Band Camp is held on the school premises. More details will follow shortly.

If you have any questions or wish to contact the Band Committee please email bnpssband@hotmail.com.au or contact the Band Liaisons, Mrs Jenny Mercer, 3J class teacher or myself.

Junior Band Rehearsals

https://www.facebook.com/balgowlahnorthps    https://twitter.com/BalgowlahNthPS
From the Sports Desk

School sports lessons are once again in full swing. Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for their sports lesson. For Years K-2, this means full sports uniform and appropriate shoes. In Years 3-6, students do not wear their sports uniform for weekly sports lessons, but must bring a change of shoes so that they can participate fully in the lesson.

If your child is injured in any way and is not able to participate in their lesson, please provide a note explaining what they are not able to do so that we can best accommodate their injury. Thank you.

Kerry Kelly Sascha Carroll
(2-6 Sport Teacher) (K-1 Sport Teacher)
School Banking
Welcome to all the new school bankers who have joined the program. We now have over 350 students registered which is fabulous but means the half hour we have to process all the deposits is very busy. Please assist us by:
- ensuring deposit slip is filled out prior to arriving at the desk
- ensure amount noted on slip matches the amount the student is banking
- check that each week your deposit slip is removed from the bank book and contact me on 0402780167 if you have any queries regarding this.

New Accounts
Students who signed up at Kindergarten orientation day last year - your bank books are available to collect at the school banking desk this Thursday.

Want to join?
If you are interested in the program and would like to find out more information please visit us at the school banking desk outside the library between 830am and 9am on Thursday mornings. Alternatively send me an email yolandajohnstone@gmail.com.

New Prizes
The new year brings new prizes available to order when bankers have collected 10 tokens. This term the prizes available are the Flying Snake Tail and the Wildlife Writers set. Once ordered please be patient as prizes often take 2 weeks to arrive.

We are looking forward to a fun year of banking as great savings habits are created.

Yogi Johnstone