

# BALGAZETTE



*The Newsletter of Balga Senior High School*

2 Markham Way, Balga Tel: 9247 0222

[www.balgashs.wa.edu.au](http://www.balgashs.wa.edu.au)

Term 1 2022

Principal: *Mr M Carton* Associate Principal: *Dr R Evans* Deputy Principals: *Ms H McGill & Mr N Samuels*

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

2022 started with significant challenges being presented across the community due to the COVID outbreak. Circumstance has presented our students with challenges that included having to socially distance, wear masks, in many cases isolate and for a number of students and families actually deal with having contracted COVID. I wish to commend our students for the outstanding way they have adapted to the changes that had to be implemented. We have been very fortunate to have the vast majority of students working maturely to ensure the health priority of limiting spread at school was maintained.

I wish to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of staff. They have worked tirelessly to ensure student learning has remained our priority. Learning packages have been delivered to families where isolation has been necessary and this has been managed whilst continuing to deliver normal lessons in classes. The workload has been significant but staff have been enthusiastic and determined to ensure our students needs have been the priority.

It is important for me to address the issue of student attendance over this period. As COVID spread, there has naturally been concerns about keeping our families safe. At school we have clearly defined strategies to ensure spread, at school, is minimised and that has been evidenced by the very low number of cases that could be attributed to school based contacts. The overwhelming majority of cases originated through community settings.

Students are required to attend school unless directed to isolate due to being a defined close contact or due to actually having contracted COVID. Our attendance rate dropped down to nearly 50% at times during this term and it is essential that we have everyone back on board in Term 2. From a health and well-being perspective, students are best served by maintaining as much of the "normal" as possible. Additionally, we still need to ensure each student has the opportunity to progress in

their studies. I look forward to things settling to a more manageable level across the remainder of this year.

I am pleased to advise that despite the challenges that COVID has delivered, we have still had progress and planning continuing around the building of our new Performing Arts and STEM centres. Architects have been finalising the design work and just this week, the process has moved to budgeting with the tender process for building planned to happen over the course of the next few months. Once the final design has been approved, I will ensure it is placed on our website for all to see. I must say, this is an exciting project and I look forward to it being operational for the beginning of the 2024 school year.

Our fully upgraded Science block is now in operation and it has been great to see students and staff benefitting from this state of the art facility.

We recently had a full audit undertaken of the school by the office of the Auditor General and it was pleasing to receive an excellent result. Our financial management processes were determined to be exceptional and I wish to thank all staff and the School Board for the level of oversight that is embedded in our everyday operations.

I would like to thank our P&C for agreeing to contribute to the roll out of our Positive Behaviours in Schools strategy. Part of this strategy has been to overhaul our House structure and to have new House names – Walitj (Blue), Doonart (Yellow) and Karak (Red). There will be more information in our next newsletter regarding this exciting development. Finally, I encourage everyone to have a safe and relaxing break over the school holidays and I look forward to Term 2 being more settled for all.

*Mr Mark Carton - Principal*

## MATHEMATICS

This year began with a déjà vu feeling as teachers and students once again got to know each other while wearing masks.

### Can you recognise your teachers?



We were fortunate to be able to welcome Phil Sekendy back to the Mathematics department to fill in for Quirin Sappl while he has been absent. We wish Quirin all the best and hope to see him back next term.

This semester the Year 7 and 10 students will focus on learning content from the Number and Algebra strand and it will be reported on midyear.

Next term the Year 7 and 9 students will revise essential skills needed for the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests, which will occur in May. If the Year 9s can achieve a band 8 standard they will not need to participate in the Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (OLNA).

The students in Years 10-12 who needed to sit OLNA have done so this term. The results will come out after the holidays. We are confident with the additional intensive OLNA preparation classes that more students will achieve the Numeracy component of OLNA.

Next term, the Year 12s will sit an Externally Set Task (EST), that goes towards 15% of their overall mark. Teachers have adjusted their programs to ensure the students will be prepared for the EST.

The Mathematics department wishes all students a safe and successful year.

**Ms Jennifer Bulloch – HoLA Mathematics**

## ENGLISH

### Mentoring through Literacy

This year our Year 7 students are fortunate to be taking part in the Scotch College Community Service Program. This involves Year 10 students from Scotch College visiting our classroom and working with the students to further support students' literacy development. The Year 7 students are loving these sessions, working with their new friends to complete a range of fun activities that engage their literacy skills, while also focusing on students' social and emotional development. Each lesson is something different. Students have created their own character, by blending their personalities and appearance together, they have created comic strips showing how they can self-regulate their emotions, and they have designed their ultimate tree house. It has been a delight working with all of the students involved in these sessions. The students look forward to this lesson each week and are loving their new friendships!



**Ms Lisa James – Year 7-10 Program Coordinator**  
**Mr Rhys Collard- Teacher**

## ENGLISH

The beginning of the school year is a busy time in our department as students commence their new courses and teachers become familiar with their classes. We encourage all students to complete work to the best of their ability in order to set the tone for a positive learning journey in 2022.

In Senior School, our Year 11 students are familiarising themselves with the expectations required to complete their courses successfully. The Year 12 students have already swung into action for their final year at high school and have begun counting down the weeks till their graduation. To assist in planning and organising their personal and school commitments, each student has been provided with a diary and they are encouraged to bring it to school every day and use it to note important deadlines for tests and assessments. If your child does not have one, they can go to the Senior School office to grab a copy.

In the Middle School, our Year 9 students have been learning about persuasive writing techniques and putting them into practice with various class activities. These activities should prepare them well for the NAPLAN testing which occurs in Term 2. Year 10 students have been exploring the theme of Homelessness through diary writing, as well as learning the important skill of letter writing. In the Junior School, our Year 8 students have been exploring the genre of Fairy Tales through reading and writing activities. The Year 7 students have been learning about poetry techniques and reading classical poetry in the form of Ballads.

### Year 7 & 8 Spelling Bee



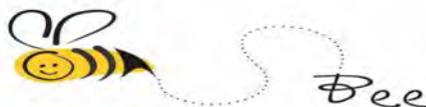
Pictured – Tina Le one of our student participants

## ENGLISH

On 22 March, we held a Spelling Bee in the Library to acknowledge the end of Harmony Week. Students who participated were awarded points for their House Faction and they also received prizes. Well done to the following winners – Niew Sing-Se, and An Quoc Vuong and Glancey Bautro who both received the top score of 90%. Thank you to the staff for promoting the competition and also to Ms Tammy Allen in the Library for assisting on the day.



Left Niew Sing-Se participant/winner and Glancey Gail Bautro winner and one of the top scoring participants on the day



As we come to the close of what has been a somewhat challenging term, I would like to thank the dedicated English staff for the support and guidance they have provided students to assist them in staying on track with their studies, whilst away due to illness or isolation. Our priority is for our students' learning to continue with the least amount of interruption as possible. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher directly.

**Ms Silvana Cockroft – HoLA English**

## SCIENCE

During Term 1, Biological Sciences was the topic covered across the Year 7 to 10 classes.

Year 7 students used preserved specimens to classify objects and construct simple dichotomous keys. They then applied their knowledge to identify animals and plants into various kingdoms, created food webs and constructed simple ecological systems using recycled materials.



Yr 7: Growing mushrooms



Yr 7: STEM students busy with their tower building

Year 8s covered the systems of the body and carried out interesting activities like tracing the journey of real food down the digestive tract. Dissecting the heart and lungs was an eye opener for the faint hearted!

Year 9 students were fascinated by the nervous and immune systems. Students made colourful brain caps for their heads and produced ear and eye paper models. The immune system was a hot topic with the outbreak of the Omicron virus in the state and students were very interested in vaccination and community health. Life cycle of a virus was an eye catcher to the amazed Year 9 group and they related this well to the pandemic.



## SCIENCE



Yr 9: Students with their brain caps and ear models

Year 10s covered DNA, Inheritance and Variation and tried mapping their features with their ancestors. They constructed DNA models and traced traits in their family trees when constructing family pedigree charts. Genetics problem solving was challenging but students became confident as the topic progressed.

Senior school students are working on their Semester 1 courses. In Human Biology, students are learning scientific skills, cells, systems, homeostasis and related disorders and medical procedures. In Integrated science students are using scientific methods for solving crime scenes and relating their findings like DNA profiling, ballistics etc. to real life crime investigations.



All Humanities and Social Sciences classes, across years 7 to 10 have started 2022 with students focussing on developing their skills in Geography. The Year 7s studied Water in the World and the importance of this precious resource. They also studied Place and Liveability to determine the factors that make a particular place a wonderful place to live. The Year 8s researched landscapes and landforms, with Mr Penstone's 8.1 Class using Oreos to develop their understanding of Plate Tectonic Theory and the impacts of earthquakes.



The 8.1 HASS class has been learning about Geomorphic Hazards including earthquakes. One engaging activity they participated in was simulating how tectonic plates move using Oreos. The students, with clean hands, separated the biscuit, broke the top layer and added different types of pressure. Students enjoyed the activity, modelling how tectonic plates move, and enjoying the Oreos once they have served their educational purpose.

The Year 9s studied Biomes and Food security, a topic that is of growing importance as a result of climate change and the number of people being forced to move from their home countries as a result. The Year 10s studied environmental change and human wellbeing, another topic that is of huge importance to us all, and conducted research on the same.

In lieu of attending a whole school ANZAC Day Assembly all HaSS classes participated in activities to learn about the significance of ANZAC Day and the sacrifices made by those involved. Poppies were made by the students to decorate wreaths that were then placed in the school grounds as a mark of respect.

The remainder of the year will see students studying Economics and Business, History and Civics and Citizenship respectively. All subjects covered are designed to ensure students are equipped to take their place as knowledgeable citizens of their country and the world.



**Year 12s Creating Careers**

In Senior School the Career and Enterprise classes have focussed on developing an individual pathway plan in Foundation CAE, whilst in the General Year 11 and 12 classes the students have studied career development theories, global workplace trends, problem solving strategies and various career pathway options.

There are only 20 school weeks left before our Year 12 students make the exciting transition to the world of work and further study. To support their decision making throughout this process they will be attending the annual Careers Expo held at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre on Thursday, 12 May. The expo displays a vast range of post school options along with the opportunity for networking with people already working in a variety of industries. A vast majority of our students have completed the first stage of the Careers Fast Track program that builds an individualised and interactive pathway plan for the medium to long term. The program engages students in a process that looks at their personality, skills and abilities to help develop a career plan for the future in conjunction with a qualified careers counsellor.

In addition, as with all Balga SHS students, the Year 12s have access to the schools' Career website, [balgashscareers.com](http://balgashscareers.com) that has a wealth of activities and information for the students to work through to assist them through the important transitions that they are about to embrace.

***Ms Mandy Hampson – LAC HaSS***

## CAREERS

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and my new role at Balga SHS. I am the schools new career practitioner, Mr Kane Pittard. Part of the new initiative to support students in schools.

My role is a broad one, but with a central focus of supporting students in developing work readiness skills and bridging the gap between school and industry. I am a resource for teachers, students and parents to imagine new possibilities and emerging careers and the pathways to reach different jobs, to help students and parents engage and link with career opportunities, to work with and assist teachers in making that happen and connect with the workforce to make that happen in the form of career tasters, incursions, excursions, and career counselling. Ultimately, I'm here to support students, parents and staff and to be the bridge between school and the pathways beyond school, whether it be employment or further studies.

Several activities have already been planned for the year to increase the awareness of the different career opportunities and pathways available to the students. Year 10 and 12 students will be attending career expo's and engaging with the Aspire program with an incursion from the University of Western Australia (UWA) in Term 2. The Years 7,8 & 9 will be working with UWA in Term 3 and 4 on different activities. Other activities are also in development but are still in the planning process. All these activities are aimed at assisting students in making informed decisions as they plan their future career pathway.

I look forward to sharing the new opportunities and career resources that will become available to our school community.

**Mr Kane Pittard – Career Practitioner**



## IEC

### IEC 3.1

This term, my focus was on developing the students' speaking and listening skills. Emphasis was put on verbal and non-verbal skills. The students participated in many speaking and listening activities and 'Show and Tell,' was one of them. For this particular speaking and listening activity, the students chose their topics and brought in interesting objects for other students to view. Here are some of the topics: Mohamed Salah (Famous Egyptian football player), The Rubik game, customs and traditions of their countries, Genghis Khan (Former emperor of the Mongol Empire) and many more. The students really had a ball! Well done, IEC 3.1 for taking part in this activity.



The Rubik Game

Genghis Khan The emperor of the Mongol Empire



Demo on Alkaline water



Mohamed Salah Professional Egyptian footballer



**Ms Lorraine Marie – Teacher IEC**

## DRAMA NEWS

Sixty of our talented Drama students from Years 9-12 were fortunate enough to view two outstanding Perth festival performances this term.

JALI was performed at the Underground theatre, Perth. It was a one person show that shared the intimate story of Oliver Twist, a Rwandan born comic, playwright and actor. The monologue explored Oliver's lived experiences as a refugee. After fleeing the Rwandan civil war, Oliver shared his childhood journey and experiences of living in Malawi and then finally being accepted into the Australian Government's refugee intake. JALI highlights Oliver's experiences of racism in Australia and provided a perspective on displacement and made us aware why so many people must seek refuge from political instability.

Our pupils also viewed PANAWATHI GIRL, presented by Yirra Yaakin Theatre at His Majesty's Theatre, Perth. This musical was written by David Milroy and followed the story of an Indigenous girl from the city, who travels back to the small town of her birth as she searches for her birth mum. Our students loved the comical elements and the musical theatre interludes.

Our Drama students related to both productions and enjoyed the question and answer session that followed both performances. It was fantastic to see so many of our students engaged and responsive to both performances. It was also pleasing to see so many of our pupils ask questions of both the actors and the design team following both shows.

We were all super excited to be inspired by such creative, passionate professionals and we look forward to including a lot of what we have learned from the shows into our own work this year.

*Ms Kate Maughan – Teacher Drama*  
*Ms Jenna Broadhurst – Teacher Drama*

## LIBRARY NEWS



## POP UP LIBRARY

Students are enjoying a new Pop-up Library Installation. This display was created to bring an outdoor vibe to the library while promoting books in a unique way. It has become a popular space to read, chat or play board games with friends.

We have also converted an old shelving trolley into a Mobile Book Cart to raise the profile of the library to the whole school community. The Book Cart will be popping up around the school to promote new books and to encourage students to read for pleasure.

*Ms Tammy Allen - Librarian*



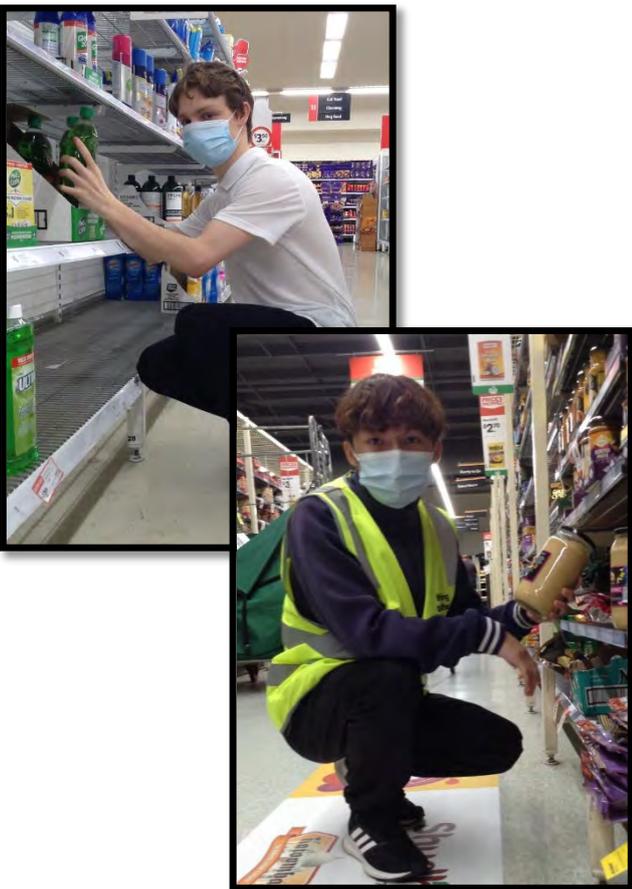
## LEARNING SUPPORT

### EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS FOR SUCCESS

Our Learning Support Senior School students have had a wonderful start to the year. After successfully completing the Work Readiness Program and achieving Worksafe Certificates, students have commenced work in various industries.

The Learning Support Program has excellent community connections, working alongside retail and hospitality businesses, providing work and training opportunities for our students. It is an invaluable program that teaches employability skills but most importantly, it leads to the development of students self-esteem and confidence. It is a perfect opportunity to gain experience of an industry that the students are considering pursuing once they complete high school.

Despite COVID restrictions and challenges, the students displayed great enthusiasm and positivity to undertake work. Learning Support staff are very proud and supportive of them towards achieving their career goals.



*Ms Salina Mathews – Teacher Learning Support*

## VET/WPL

Despite the interruptions to the start of 2022, there are a large amount of students participating in off-site learning involved in TAFE, Pre-apprenticeships, Certificate courses and Traineeships.

2022 has seen an increase in the School Based Traineeships (SBT) which are invaluable opportunities for Balga students. A SBT allows students to become an employee for 1 or 2 days a week as well as complete a Certificate II or III in that field.

Currently we have students completing SBT at:

- Coffee Club – Certificate II, Hospitality
- Aged care facility (AMA)- Certificate III, Health services
- GMS Warehouse - Certificate II, Supply Chain operations
- Reece Plumbing - Certificate II, Supply Chain operations
- Department of Justice - Certificate II, Government
- Landgate - Certificate II, Government

The School based traineeships are proving to be a great opportunity for students to get a taste of working life, earning a wage, working with an employer, train towards an accredited qualification while undertaking their high school certificate.



*Mr Jason Bristow – VET Coordinator*

## STARS FOUNDATION

Welcome back to our wonderful Balga Stars girls, who have coped so amazingly well through these times. We can't wait to continue our year and create bigger and better than last year, with plenty more successes for our girls.

“Make sure you stay in school and finish Year 12! Keep pushing forward towards your dreams and don't give up.” That's the message from 2022 Transitions team to our Year 12 Stars students. Together, the transitions teams and Stars girls went through the program, highlighted what to expect and what support there is to further help the girls with the final year of schooling and as a graduate after completing Year 12. The girls each received a portfolio where they can start building up a work profile ready for job journeys which covers resumes and important documents for employment.

Each girl will then start meeting regularly to gain further support from transition teams to further their plans with education and work readiness.



It has been a cautious start back for The Balga Stars girls with the COVID cloud around, but that hasn't stopped our Stars mentors from organising some fantastic COVID safe activities and lunches. Our weekly lunch includes all girls from Year 7 through to Year 12 who join in the program. This creates a safe place for all students to check in with staff and also participate in the program and gain further support within the school environment.

All girls involved who display the Stars pillars and values earn a ticket for the prize draw as well as any positive behaviour shown around the school and Stars Room.

This year the Balga girls and their mentor Camilla have been working together towards a birthday month display.

The girls are always learning about their culture, so we have implemented culture and artwork to display the important special days they each have 'Birthdays'.

On the back of each month Camilla and the girls have also put the Noongar seasons so the girls can visually see and continue to learn their language.



*Ms Danielle Toy  
Ms Camilla Sawford*

## DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

### HOME ECONOMICS

On top of all the challenges facing a regular Term 1 start, this term has been one for the record books. In Home Economics, we have faced the challenges of COVID head on, with food supply challenges and a reduction of student numbers but this has not impacted on our ability to deliver excellent courses to the Balga Senior High School students.

We have had a few staffing changes this term with a new teacher addition, Ms Kerryn Arthur, after the retirement of our previous Learning Area Coordinator, Mrs Annette Connop. Ms Arthur has been a fantastic addition to the team, bringing fresh ideas and a new energy to the department. Mrs Rosie Symes, a long standing Home Economics Technician, has been on leave this term, and her replacement, Ms Liza Thompson, has brought her energetic and focused attitude to the department. We want to thank Ms Thompson for her efforts this term, and we look forward to having Ms Symes back next term. I would also like to thank Mrs Brigette Ricci for working an extra day each week, and for her continued hard work and motivation. We appreciate all of the hard work and consistent effort that goes into being a Home Economics Technician.



The Year 7 to 10 students have started the school year with new courses and assessment items. In Food and Nutrition, the focus has been heavily on Nutrition, with Years 7 and 8 focusing on healthy breakfast options, and the 9 and 10s focusing on the six essential nutrients. The 9/10 textiles class has been working on developing their practical sewing skills and creating face masks very suitable for this COVID climate. IEC classes have been focusing on their vocabulary and developing simple cooking skills, with some outstanding results.

## DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY



Yr 7-8 Healthy Breakfast options

In senior school, Year 11 General Materials, Design and Technology – Textiles is a new course being taught by Dr Roslyn London. This term has focused on developing sewing skills, developing design ideas, and reviewing the properties of materials used in developing garments – a very busy class indeed!

The Certificate II Hospitality course had an influx of over 30 Year 11 students (staggering numbers!). The students are working to complete their units online, whilst also developing their preparation and service skills.

The Year 12s commenced the year with a smooth transition to completing their units online, all working extremely hard to complete the course. Year 11 and 12 general course Children, Family and the Community is running this year again, with this term's focus being on the development of children up to the age of four and the impact of social injustice on families within our community. The class has grown from an average of 12 students last year to a full 22 students this year, with a very focused and mature group of students participating in the course.

With the first term coming to a close, I have noticed an air of positivity and a good response to change, not only within the Home Economics department, but also the wider school community.

***Ms Jess Brown – LAC Home Economics***



## DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

### Design and Technology

We have had a great start to the year with students working on new projects, including mobile device stands and model fighter jets. Students have worked with a variety of materials including a range of natural and manufactured timbers, steel and aluminium.



### Certificate II in Applied Digital Technologies.

Our students from both Balga SHS and participating NNEI schools have started the year with a new Training Provider. The work is all based online which has made it easier for those who have had to work from home. Students have begun the year learning about Occupational Health and Safety and have conducted Hazards Assessments of the school. They have found that hazards and risks are well managed and have learnt from participating in the process of continual improvement in safety.

### Gardening

The hottest summer on record has created challenges for our gardeners but despite this, our students and teachers have worked together to harvest produce including great zucchinis, water melons and rockmelons, carrots, leafy greens and corn. New crops have been planted for the autumn harvest and beyond.

## DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY



### F1 in schools

New teams have formed for the 2022 competition and they are working on their names and logos. Balga Senior High School continues to build on its great tradition. Students have been working on the design process and have each had success manufacturing and using a 3D printer. Another area they have been investigating is careers in STEM. The staff attended a seminar about Defence Careers in STEM and then shared this information with the students.

*Mr Liam Penstone – LAC Design & Technology*



## VISUAL ART

Balga's Visual Arts students are working hard, exploring challenging concepts this term. In many classes, students are expressing themes of isolation, optimism and conflict in their work. Importantly, Visual Arts continues to provide opportunities for our students to imaginatively express feelings and perspectives in paint, print and sculpture. A Slice of Life is the title of our upcoming Business Enterprise Visual Arts exhibition, due to open early August, at The Square Mirrabooka. The exhibition seeks to uncover the diverse inspiration our students draw upon in their everyday lives. A common scene or moment, under an artist's eye, can develop into a beautiful work of art. Our enterprise students are working meticulously on their unique, sculptural creations.

Finally, I must mention the fabulous talent of our year 8 Visual Art students. We started the term investigating the cultural significance of East Kimberley X-ray Art, which depicts the internal organs and bone structure of food sources, people and ancestral beings. Our students have nearly finished their sculptural clay fish, incorporating some of the intriguing features of this art style.



## VISUAL ART

Congratulations to our Year 9/10 Indigenous Art and Culture students who entered the 2021/2022 Rotary, Indigenous Artist Poster Competition. Kayleigh Issacs Nettleton, Will Stevens, Amani Gabriel and Remese Dickie submitted fantastic posters, highlighting the exceptional talent that exists not only across Western Australia, but right here at Balga SHS. I would like to thank Camilla Sawford and Rubeun Yorkshire for sharing their inspiring creative journeys. Late last year, Rubeun was interviewed by Kayleigh, here's a bit of what he had to say.

### **How did you get started as an artist?**

Friends inspired me to be creative.

### **What is your favourite music style?**

90s music – the music I grew up listening to.

### **What inspires your artwork?**

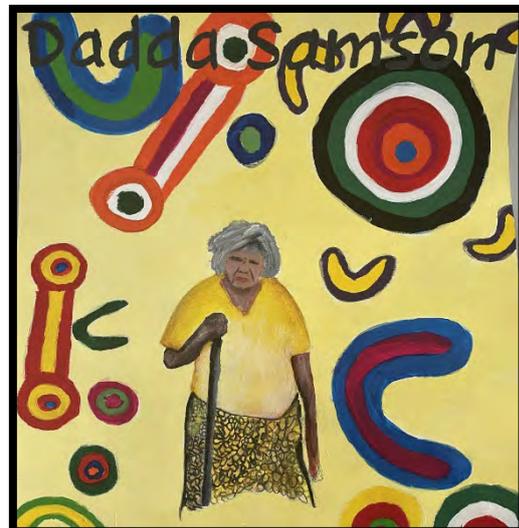
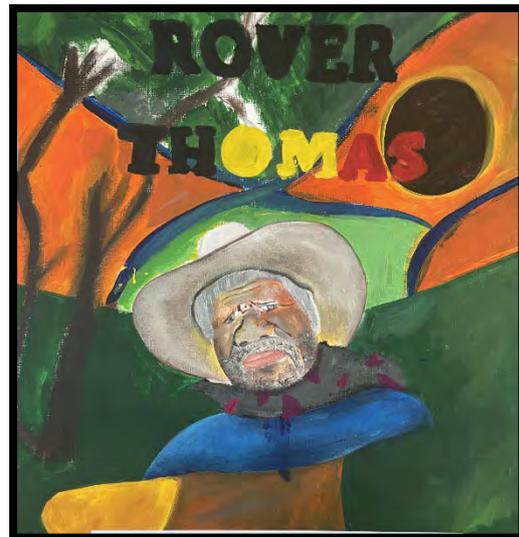
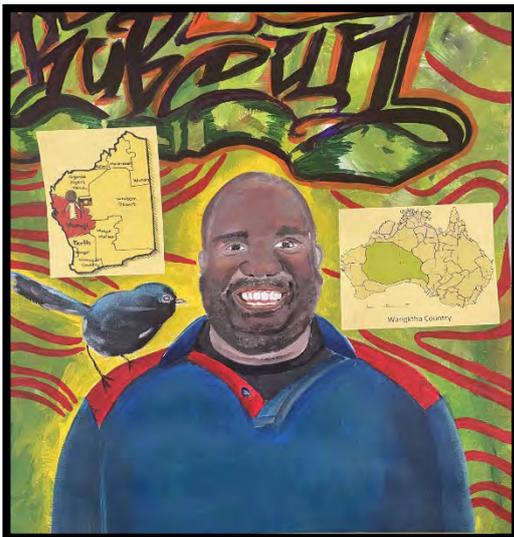
Culture has become the most important inspiration in my artwork. I enjoy using symbols to communicate themes of identity and connection to community.

### **What is your preferred medium?**

Spray paint.

### **What would you like to achieve in the future?**

I would love to see Noongar language spoken regularly in the community, not just in the classroom.



## VISUAL ART



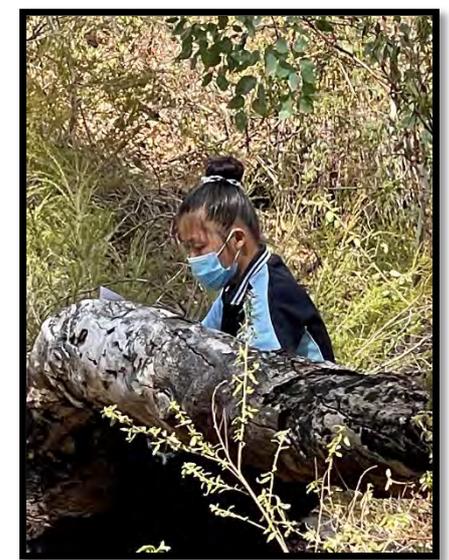
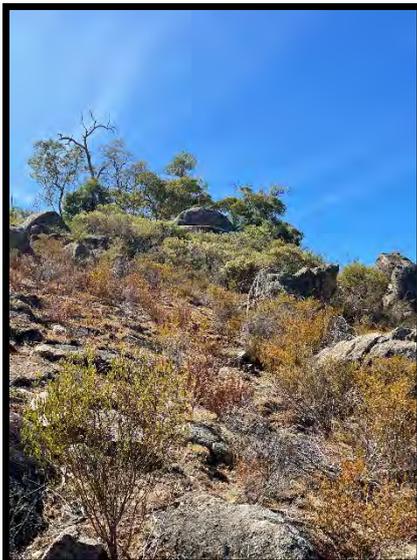
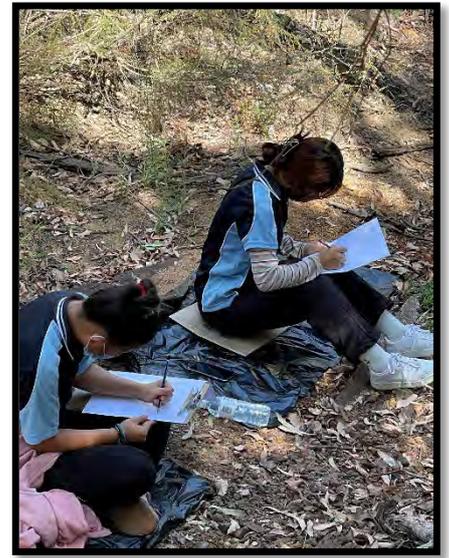
JOHN FORREST  
NATIONAL PARK

YEAR 12  
EXCURSION

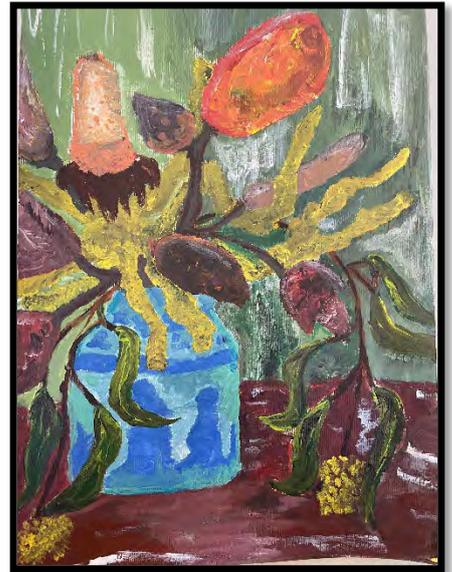
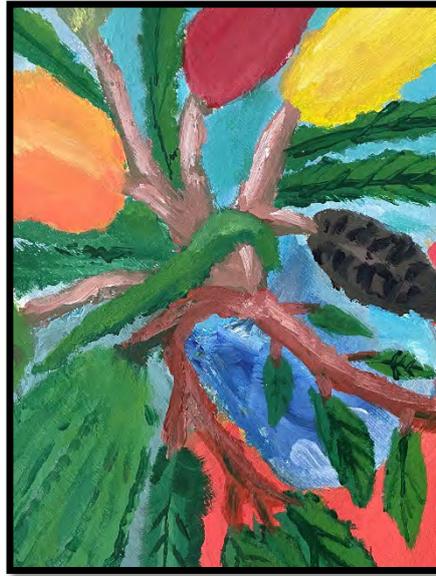
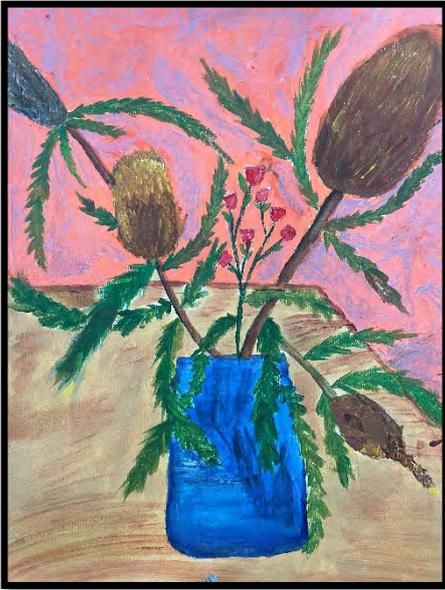


On 9 March, our Year 12 students spent the day at John Forrest National Park.

Students explored the beautiful natural surroundings, captured photographic images and sketched the local environment, *en plein air*, just like the impressionists. Our students are in the process of developing their inspiring compositions into acrylic landscape paintings.



VISUAL ART



YEAR 12  
STILL LIFE  
PAINTINGS



## STUDENT SERVICES

### Introducing the Student Services Team

The Student Services team includes a range of staff from across the school. We are focussed on supporting students with their educational, social and health needs.



#### Program Manager Student Services

##### Ros Playforth

I coordinate all the Student Services team to monitor attendance, behaviour and well-being for students. I work collaboratively with students, families, carers, teachers and external agencies to get maximum benefit for students. Most afternoons you can see Mrs Playforth chatting to the students as they leave school.

#### Student Services Office Staff

##### Miss Debbie and Miss Christine

We are the ladies in the Student Services office. We assist with phone enquires, signing students in and out of school, tracking attendance and provide first aid. We assist with Breakfast Club that runs each day from 8.15-8.45am.



#### Years 7 and 8 Pastoral Care Year Coordinator

##### Jeanita Andy

My name is Jeanita Andy and I would like to formally introduce myself as the Year 7 and 8 Pastoral Care Coordinator. In this role, I work as part of a team to support the students' overall growth, development, social and emotional wellbeing so that they have a greater chance at success in all school experiences. This also involves supporting them to engage in healthy school cultures, as well as meaningful and successful learning. I am looking forward to building stronger relationships with our students' families, so that all students have the very best education at Balga Senior High School.



#### Years 9 and 10 Pastoral Care Year Coordinator

##### Bridie Guatta

Kaya! My name is Bridie Guatta and I am now in my eleventh year teaching at Balga SHS. I am fortunate enough to have taught across many learning areas and programs within the school. This has gifted me with the opportunity to meet many of the students and their families. I have extensive experience in creating engaging classrooms and strengthening educational outcomes for Aboriginal students. I am looking forward to rewarding positive behaviours and attendance within the Year 9 and 10 cohort, raising school spirit especially during this challenging time. Boorda.



## STUDENT SERVICES



### Learning Support Program Manager and Administration Assistant

**Lenka McPherson and Jenny Johnson**

We are the friendly team in the Learning Support office. Attendance calls, coordinating therapy visits and behaviour support including recognition for good work and attendance is just some of the things we do.

### Program Coordinator Teaching and Learning Years 7-10

**LISA JAMES**

I am excited to be working with the students in the 7-10 space as Program Manager. In this new role, I will be working with students to support them in their learning. Tracking students' academic progress, to ensure that each student is achieving outcomes that align with their ability, will be a key responsibility. Another focus will be to monitor student progression, targeting any gaps a student may have in their learning, by providing targeted strategies to develop these skills. Quality teaching and learning will be at the centre of how our classrooms operate. Ensuring students are exposed to evidence based high impact teaching strategies that engage the young people in our classes will further support our focus on the health and well-being of each individual student. I am looking forward to working with the families at Balga Senior High School, building a school community, that supports all our students to achieve their goals.



### Intensive English Centre Program Manager

**Enda Gilbert-Rosette**

I am the lady you meet at enrolment. If your child is unable to come to school, please call and let me know why. Good work and attendance is rewarded at the IEC assemblies I run twice a term.

### Student Services Attendance and Engagement Officer

**Dave Pascal**

I have the pleasure of working with students from Years 7, 8 and 9. I support the students in some classes and work with agencies to increase attendance at school.

I am a badged Attendance Officer and may visit if your child is away from school without a valid reason.



## STUDENT SERVICES



### Student Services Youth Engagement Coordinator

#### Craig Webster

I work with the students in Years 10-12, assisting them with accessing community support and completing driving hours through our driver training program. I have worked with migrant families for many years and have valuable connections with many agencies to assist families.

I am a badged Attendance Officer and might visit if your child is away from school without a valid reason. I work with District Office staff to assist students transition to training.

### School Chaplain

#### Susan Earle

Hi my name is Susan Earle and I am the Chaplain at Balga Senior High School. My role as Chaplain, is to provide pastoral care to students, families and staff. My office is located in Student Services and the days I am at Balga are Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

A quick message from me. At a time like this with COVID spreading through our homes and community and we feel out of control, here are a few simple things we can control.



### STUDENTS LATE TO SCHOOL

Students need to be in class at 8.50am  
If your child is late, please send a note or call the school and ask for Student Services  
Students late without a reason may be given a detention

### UNIFORM

Students need to have a uniform with the Balga logo visible. Long sleeve tops and jumpers can be worn under the school shirts. School jumpers are available for \$50.00. Loan uniforms can be borrowed from Student Services for one day.



# BALGA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

An Independent Public School

## SCHOOL TOURS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

To arrange contact school on 9247 0222



### INNOVATIVE AND OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

- ATAR PROGRAMS AVAILABLE
- UNIVERSITY PREPERATION COURSE (Partnering with ECU)
- NNEI PROGRAM
- CERTIFICATE II COURSES (Sport, Hospitality, Child Care)

### CHALLENGING AND REWARDING EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- POLICE RANGERS
- AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS (AFL, Badminton, Soccer, Netball)
- ROBOTICS CLUB (Partnering with Google)
- YOH Fest (Drama)
- HOMEWORK CLUB (Weekly)



### KEY SCHOOL PARTNERS



# The Whole School for the Whole Student



**BALGA**  
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL  
Strength in Unity

## BALGA SPIRIT

