



BALGAZETTE



Balga Senior High School – Strength in Unity

2 Markham Way, Balga Tel: 9247 0222

Email: www.balgashs.wa.edu.au

Term 4 2023

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

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



As the school year comes to an end, I would like to begin by thanking my staff for an outstanding year. All staff across all areas of the school have worked tirelessly to provide each student with the best opportunity for success. Their tireless energy and commitment to our students has been commendable.

During the year, we have been anxiously awaiting advice regarding our new Performing Arts Centre. I am delighted to say that during the last week of term, I was involved in meetings with the Department of Education and architects, and the building program will commence in May next year. Tenders will be called early in the New Year and then the appointment of the construction company will be announced by the end of March. Construction will take 50 weeks and it is scheduled to be operational for Semester 2, 2025.

Our new STEM centre will also be completed during Term 3 next year and will be operational for the commencement of Term 4.

There will be a significant amount of building workers onsite for the 2024 and 2025 school years, and we will put strategies in place to ensure there is no interruption to student learning.

I am also pleased to announce that we have been successful in obtaining \$60,000 in funding from Australian Schools Plus to fund our Berry Street Education Model (BSEM) training and implementation program. This is very exciting news as the process to obtain this grant is extremely competitive from schools across Australia. A feature of our plan was the inclusion of our local primary

school network, who are also going to be involved in the implementation of the BSEM. North Balga PS, Boyare PS and Balga PS will be joining us in 2024 in the training phase and then implementation across their schools in 2025 and 2026. This is an exciting strategy that will benefit all our students.

Our enrolment numbers for next year are projected to increase again as we consolidate with an expected enrolment of more than 620 students. This is pleasing and it is great to see our Year 7 enrolments continue to grow.

I remind students and parents of our school pillars – **RESPONSIBILITY, RESPECT, SAFETY and LEARNING.**

Balga SHS is a place where learning takes place, and it must be a place where students feel safe to attend and engage in the learning programs. It has been a concern this year, and there are three areas that need to be addressed, which will be focused on in 2024. Firstly, students who engage in threatening behaviours will be dealt with to ensure every student is safe at school. Importantly this includes coming to school and returning home in the afternoon. Our school has a zero-tolerance policy with regards to fighting and threatening behaviours. Secondly, a small minority of students have been choosing to disrupt the learning of others. Balga SHS is not prepared to accept that a student or group of students has the right to disrupt the learning of others or attend school without any intention of engaging in our learning programs. Again, this type of behaviour will not be tolerated at this school. Finally, student attendance is a concern. It is a requirement that every student attend school every day unless they are unwell or due to family circumstances. We need students to attend every day because when they are absent, their learning program is interrupted, and it is not possible to progress and achieve success. Please ensure that students attend school every day except in the above circumstances.

PRINCIPALS REPORT Cont.

On a more positive note, I wish to congratulate the majority of our students for the great results achieved based on their reports. I also wish to praise the vast majority of our students for their excellent behaviour over the course of the year.

Our local area network of schools has continued to grow in our collaborations, and we are excited to see how this expands into 2024. Balga SHS is our local area secondary school, and we are striving to work more closely with our local feeder primary schools so that we become the first-choice school for all local area students as they transition into secondary education.

I would like to thank all our community partners who have supported the school throughout the year. Their engagement has been broad and has included counselling services, mentoring, tutoring, work placements, excursion visits to worksites, sponsorship of programs and the Wadjak Community Partnership. Our school is dependent on the support of these groups as they have a purposeful connection with our students.

Finally, we have a very supportive and active School Board led by our Chair, Mr Ross McLean and I thank them for their ongoing support, guidance, and reflections regarding our school. In addition, our P&C Association has been meeting throughout the year with some exciting fundraising plans for 2024 and I encourage our school community to support them as they are announced throughout next year.

I wish everyone a safe and relaxing break over the summer and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I look forward to students returning ready to engage in learning for the start of 2024 on WEDNESDAY, 31st January.

Kind Regards

Mark Carton

Principal

From all the staff at Balga SHS

We wish all our families

A happy and safe holidays

Merry Christmas



MATHS

It has been another rewarding year in Maths, and it has been wonderful getting to know our students, staff and community members this year. A big thank you for all the hard work from both students and teachers alike.

Congratulations to our Year 12s for achieving some great results and a special mention to the students across the school who participated in the Australian Maths Competition. These students gave up their own time to attend meetings with Mr Sappl and did their best in the competition. Congratulations to Lachlan Gan, Uyen (Aires) Ngo and Minh Toan To who all achieved a Certificate of Credit.

I have to say thank you to all members of our school community for creating such a friendly and welcoming school. Balga SHS is a wonderful, kind place and I look forward to seeing our students go from strength to strength every year.

*Mr Haydn-Smith
Program Coordinator Maths/Science*

UNIFORM SHOP WILL BE OPEN

MONDAY 29 JANUARY 2024

TUESDAY 30 JANUARY 2024

9.00AM TO 3.30PM

STUDENTS RETURN ON

WEDNESDAY 31 JANUARY

MONDAY 4 MARCH

LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

REPORTING TO PARENTS

12.30PM TO 7.00PM

TUESDAY 26 MARCH

LAST DAY OF TERM

THURSDAY 28 MARCH

The 2023 school year is almost over; however, students have continued to work hard this term to ensure their final assessments are their best quality work in the lead up to reporting. Our teachers have also encouraged their students to set high standards to achieve success in the English Learning Area. Let's reflect on what the students have been working on in Term 4.

Students in Year 11 completed their course work a couple of weeks ago and teachers have begun to introduce their classes to the Year 12 syllabus, as well as preparation for the Externally Set Tasks, or ESTs. Students who are yet to pass the OLNAs are encouraged to make the most of the holidays and continue to work on improving their reading and writing skills. Online activities, such as Read Theory and Education Perfect, are engaging and provide instant feedback to the student. Visiting the local library to read or borrow books, is also an easy way to consolidate vital literacy skills, especially as the first round of OLNAs for Year 12 students will be in Term 1.

Our Year 10 classes have read and analysed Indigenous Poetry and examined the techniques used by poets to convey their powerful messages. Students were then asked to select a poem and present this work to the rest of the class. Our Year 9 students worked on Memoir Writing and then moved on to creating a cover for the film *Edward Scissorhands*. This activity challenged their creative skills in design, focusing on their choices of colour and graphics, as well as the layout of the drawings selected for their cover. The students put a great deal of effort into their final designs and should be proud of their fantastic work.

The Year 8 classes have been analysing still images, learning about visual techniques and how to present their ideas in TEEL paragraphs. Students have also explored global issues and written persuasive open letters, giving them an opportunity to revise persuasive devices. Year 7 classes have been looking at Picture Books, with a focus on recount and visual elements. They then created a collage with found materials based on a happy memory. Have a look at some of the wonderful work that has been produced by our students, (pictured, right).

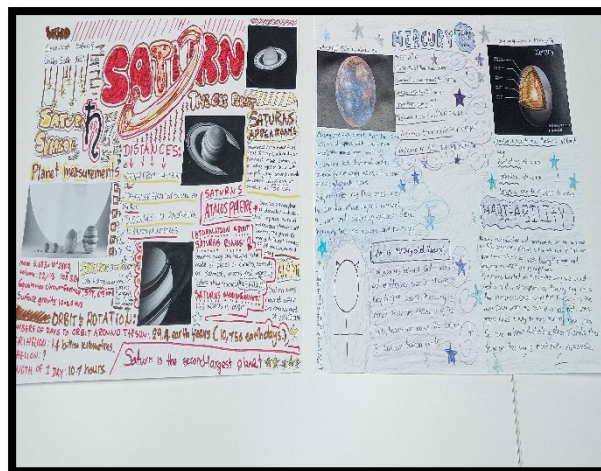


During the upcoming summer break, students and families are encouraged to allocate time to reading, especially when there are days that it is too hot to be outdoors. It is also a great alternative to being on electronic devices for long periods of time, which is certainly not healthy for our teenagers. Studies have also shown it helps to develop the imagination, as well as improve spelling, grammar, punctuation, and comprehension skills.

As 2023 concludes, I would like to thank the wonderful English teachers for their hard work over the year. It is their commitment to Literacy and Learning that has enabled our students to achieve their own individual successes in the English Learning Area.

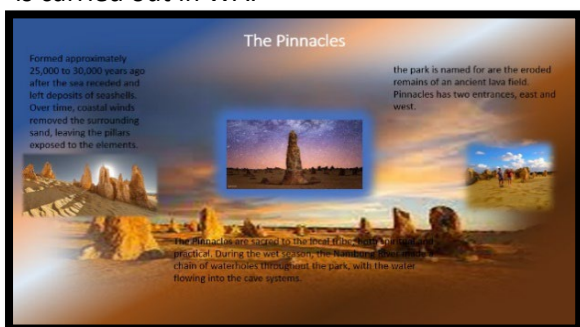
Ms Ellie Crowley
Program Coordinator English/HaSS

Students in Science participated in several incursions and excursions this term and students in the lower school classes carried out hands-on activities. All Year 7 students covered the Solar System and observed Earth and Moon activities. They researched a planet from our Solar System and directed their imagination as to how life would be on this planet. They made posters and presented them to their class. They learned about the Earth's rotation linking day and night and its revolution around the Sun to generate different seasons. They used Oreo biscuits and cream to recognize the phases of the Moon. They constructed model telescopes and learned how they are used to see distant objects. Students also studied the six Noongar seasons and how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders use these to find food and water all year round.



Year 7 – Student posters. *Life on another Planet*

Year 8 students studied the structure of the Earth and the Rock Cycle. They were fascinated by the incursion from the AusEarthEd#WASP team where they used guiding keys to classify different types of rocks. They named the rocks and minerals, studied their properties, and used ultraviolet light to see the rock crystals. They studied physical and chemical weathering and related these to crystal formation in caves. Students also researched different landforms and related these to the rocks they had studied. They completed class presentations and gained confidence in public speaking. As mining is the main source of income in WA, students were exposed to the mining sector through the Roy Hill ROC Ed excursion where they understood how remote-controlled mining is carried out in WA.



Year 8-
Australian
Landform
Posters



Year 9 students also had the privilege to attend an incursion by AusEarthEd#WASP where they used Mars bars to study the movement of tectonic plates resulting in the formation of mountains and volcanoes. They investigated the densities of oceanic and continental crusts and used animation lessons to understand converging, diverging and transform plate movements. They identified and constructed models of different types of volcanoes and demonstrated the effects of ash cloud on flora and fauna. Students also explored the relationship of volcanoes and earthquakes and learned the science behind an earthquake. They modelled earthquakes and learned to use the Richter scale to measure the magnitude and how to design buildings to withstand earthquakes.

Year 10 students learned about the Global systems and how they interact to maintain sustainability on our planet. They covered the Carbon, Nitrogen and Water Cycles. They used models, created posters, and carried out class presentations to understand the complex processes that function within each cycle. They experimented with dry ice as a carbon source to see how oceans absorb carbon and act as carbon sinks. They calculated and analysed data to see the effect of carbon dioxide on temperature and its impact on our climate. They also studied greenhouse gases and the ozone layer and compared their roles in relation to our planet. Students had open discussions on how they could make a difference to save our planet from further damage.

For STEM this term, the Year 7 students from all three classes have been learning about sustainability and how to reduce, reuse, recycle or repurpose waste. They have researched how to repurpose waste such as plastic bottles and lids and cardboard containers to give something a second life. The items are turned into something else that would be wanted and kept since it now has a new, useful purpose and looks attractive. Students came up with a range of ideas using paper cups, plastic bottles, bottle caps, string, and cardboard to make toys and other useful items such as piggy banks, vases, pot plants containers, stationery holders, organisers, ornaments, and coasters, to name a few. Some students used coloured pens for decorating their product and others used acrylic paint or spray paint. There was only a limited selection of spray paint available, and gold was the students' favourite colour.



Piggy banks were a popular item that was made by several groups in the 7.2 STEM class. Other items included slides, cups to hold pens, vases, and a holder for multiple toothbrushes.



Toys were another favourite item chosen for the repurposing projects. Students made a robot and a toy car using cardboard and paint. Two girls (Karma and Chi Chi) took on the challenge of making a self-propelling toy using recycled cups, bottle tops and an elastic band. This project required problem-solving and several re-designs to make it work.



Pot planters were another popular item that was made by several groups in 7.1 STEM with varying success. Other items were coasters and a different style of vase.



Students above from 7.3 were still in the process of completing their project of making a Christmas wreath like the one pictured.

The Year 8 STEM classes have also been learning about sustainability and how to reduce, reuse, recycle or repurpose waste. The 8.1 STEM class was given two choices for projects this term: (a) finding ways to reduce waste and promote recycling and (b) developing a simple water filter using recycled material and everyday items that could clean dirty water, so people in the Third World could build it readily. The class was divided with half the groups choosing the first project and the other half the second project.

The 8.2 STEM class started the term finishing their project of repurposing waste such as plastic bottles, cups and lids and cardboard containers to make a variety of musical instruments. They then spent the rest of the term developing a simple water filter the same as 8.1 STEM.



A half-finished guitar made from recycled cardboard and plastics.



A drum kit made of recycled cans and cups.



Stringed instruments made from recycled cardboard and pop sticks.



A simple rattle made from a recycled plastic bottle, beads, and a wooden stick.

The clean water challenge, required the students to build a filter able to clean 50 millilitres of dirty water in less than five minutes, producing the cleanest looking water. The groups working on the water filter in the 8.1 class, also made a short PowerPoint presentation for the class. They explained their filter design, what contaminants can be found in water including pollutants that cannot be seen such as micro-organisms, toxins, and chemicals and how these impurities can be removed. This tied in with the class discussions in Science of non-renewable natural resources, of where our water comes from and how we can conserve it since the amount of uncontaminated fresh drinking water is decreasing each year in Perth, around Australia and the World.

The other groups in the 8.1 STEM class worked on reducing waste or encouraging recycling and came up with some novel ideas. These included: giving out house points and small prizes for students bringing in items to Student Services for recycling that could generate its own funds from the “containers for change program”. Some groups designed posters to educate the students about recycling and the cost to the environment and ultimately people for not recycling. Setting up clubs where students can come together to design and build up-cycled or repurposed products such as terrariums, was another idea presented. Finally, suggestions for punishments such as picking up rubbish around the school to deter the chronic litterers.

The MS Technologies class completed their computer game design, demonstrating the successful use of their STEM skills to work together on a shared project finishing with a presentation of their work.

The Year 7-8 Technologies class learnt about drones: how they work; the safety rules all drone pilots must follow to fly within Australia, and how to program a drone to fly autonomously with most students also learning how to fly a drone manually. The students also completed a research assessment on careers using drones after hearing a talk and seeing a demonstration of a large drone flown on the football oval here at Balga by Senior Constable Clarke from the Western Australian Police Air Wing. The students enjoyed the talk and demonstration asking many questions about careers in the Police Force and the jobs they perform. Students and staff alike were impressed with the speed at which the drone rose to 150m, the height they are legally allowed to fly, with the spectacular view of the City and Burswood displayed on the large screen located on the back of the police truck.

Over the course of this year, most of the students from Years 7 to 9 have been successfully developing their STEM skills with a few still needing to improve. They have learnt about and have been trying to practise these skills, especially creative and critical thinking, problem-solving, communicating respectfully with each other, working together in teams, and collaborating to achieve a common goal or finding a solution. These skills are what the employers are looking for, so it is important for all students to keep working and practising these whilst they are at school.

High Court Decision and Referendum add huge interest to Civics and Citizenship in HaSS

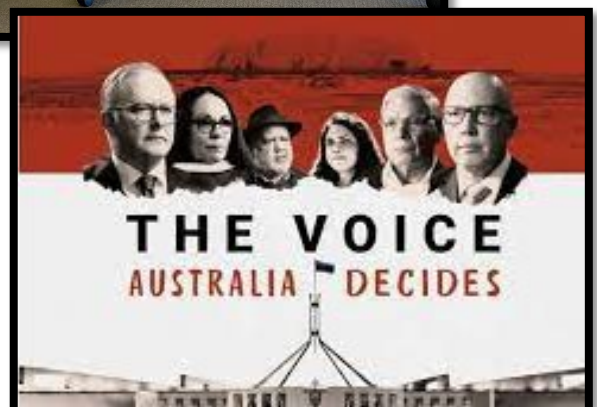
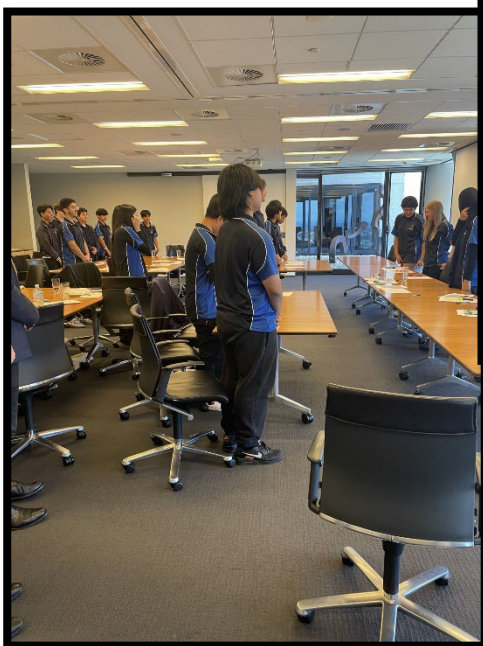
As part of their studies in Civics and Citizenship, students in Year 7 Humanities and Social Sciences participated in interactive sessions on the Australian electoral system presented by the Electoral Education Centre. All the students voted in a mock election and are now ready to exercise their democratic right to vote once they reach 18. In addition, the students studied the process for constitutional change through a referendum and researched information on the 1967 and 1999 referendums. This engendered much discussion and interest in the latest referendum on the Indigenous Voice to Parliament.

The focus in Year 8 was on people power. In particular, the students completed an assessment on how citizens can participate in democracy through their elected representatives, lobby groups and direct action through social media. Through their research, the students have developed an understanding of the importance of participation in the democratic process to ensure the principles and freedoms enshrined in democracies are not taken for granted and therefore lost.

The Year 9 students focused on the Australian Court System and factors that can undermine justice. Particular focus was given to the role of the High Court, and the importance of its independence in upholding human rights, as reflected by its decision to overturn the past government's policy to hold people in indefinite detention.

Once again, to augment their studies of Civics and Citizenship, the students in Ms Spanier's 10.1 class have enjoyed incursions presented by the law firm KW Mallesons to learn about different types of law and the impacts on young people. The workshops covered the many areas of law that young people encounter as they move into adulthood. The finale involved a trip into the law firm's head office in the city for a mock trial and morning tea. This wonderful pro bono program runs Australia wide and offers students the opportunity to become involved in the machinations of the law and its impact on them.

Ms Mandy Hampson – LAC HaSS



Careers Report: A Term of Enriching Experiences

As we approach the end of another bustling term, it's time to reflect on the exciting career-related activities our students have participated in. These experiences are invaluable in broadening their horizons and providing a glimpse into various professional fields.

Our 9.1 students had an enriching day at the University of Western Australia, engaging in a variety of courses that the University offers. They delved into the realms of creative writing, sports science, and participated in a lively debate on the significance of Arts vs Science.

In sports science, students had hands-on experience with equipment to measure 10-meter sprints, vertical jumps, and agility. This not only showcased some impressive physical feats but also introduced them to the science behind athletic performance and decision-making in sports. The creative writing session was a hit, with students finding inspiration in the unique setting and even longing to bring some of those amazing chairs back to our classroom!

Building on last year's success, our visit to the Song Factory at Leederville TAFE was even more engaging. Students stepped into a professional recording studio, learning the intricacies of mixing various instruments and tracks. The experience was enhanced by live performances from TAFE student bands, offering a real-world glimpse into the production and control of live music. This hands-on experience might just be the stepping stone for some of our students to one day support famous performers on stadium tours.

This term there was a thrilling excursion to Safe, where students explored the world of computer game design. Additionally, some of our Year 9 students participated in a two-day work inspiration program with The Smith Family.

And let's not forget the excursion to the Wheatstone Natural Gas facility on December 1. This was a fantastic opportunity for a group of our deserving students to learn about the energy sector. Keep an eye on our social media for updates on this exciting trip!

This year has been incredibly productive in terms of career exploration and experiences. Our students have not only gained new experiences but have also received support in applying for work and scholarships. These activities are crucial in helping them understand the vast array of career paths available and what it takes to succeed in them.

As we wrap up this term, we look forward to continuing this journey of exploration and discovery, helping our students unlock their potential and envision a future full of possibilities.



What an exciting term it has been for IEC 3.2. Our students delved into a myriad of fascinating subjects, fostering both individual and collective growth. In Science, they explored the intricacies of the digestive system, gaining a profound understanding of its organs and functions. The culmination of their learning was creatively showcased through vibrant posters that vividly depicted their newfound knowledge.



In English, our students honed their writing skills and deepened their grasp of the exposition text type. The highlight of this activity was the democratic process of electing class leaders. Through persuasive speeches, students vied for leadership roles, convincing their peers with eloquence and conviction.

In Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS), our learners immersed themselves in understanding the Australian Government. They not only absorbed this knowledge but also shared it with Year 6 students during their orientation visit, creating informative models that illustrated their insights.

To add a personal touch, students in extended form activities crafted vision boards, offering glimpses into their aspirations and dreams. These boards became a platform for self-expression and a means of fostering connection within the class.

Cheers to IEC 3.2 for a term filled with fun, learning, and accomplishment. Your engagement in these diverse activities is truly commendable. Well done!



Ms Lorraine Marie – Teacher IEC

Interview to Impress Leads to Coldplay Concert

In Term 3 a group of Balga SHS students attended an Interview to Impress excursion at the Optus Perth offices in the city. This excursion was made available to the Balga students through the school's partnership with the Australian Business Community Network (ABCN). As part of the excursion, students were given practical skills and advice on how they should engage in employment options and opportunities beyond school.

Christine Llanto, a Year 11 student actively and positively participated in the excursion and as a result was rewarded with two tickets to the Coldplay Concert on Saturday, 18 November 2023. These tickets were presented to Christine by Paul O'Neill – General Manager Regional WA Optus at a special presentation at Balga SHS on Wednesday 15 November 2023.



DRAMA

Term 4 proved to be a productive and exciting time for our Drama students. Once again, we were given the incredible opportunity to send 20 of our outstanding students to take part in a 4-day musical theatre workshop at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) culminating in a short dance and song performance. The students were outstanding, displaying their creativity, talent, passion, and energy. Their performance was well received by the audience and WAAPA staff. We would like to take this opportunity to thank The Smith Foundation and WAAPA for sponsoring our students and enabling them to showcase their talents.

Jenna Broadhurst and Silvana Cockroft would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank our talented, passionate, creative, enthusiastic, and outstanding Drama students. Throughout 2023 our Drama family have produced outstanding devised and scripted performances. We never fail to be inspired by our students' energy, passion, and generosity of spirit.

We are very excited for 2024. Our school year will commence with our Drama students viewing Perth Festival theatre events. We are confident that these learning experiences will inspire our Drama students to be the best they can be.

Ms Jenna Broadhurst – Teacher Drama



ABCN Accelerate Scholarship Program

Balga SHS is delighted to announce that two of our Year 10 students, Nakita Tomich and Mohammad Al-Ahmad have been awarded 2023 Accelerate Scholarships from the Australian Business Community Network (ABCN). The ABCN Scholarships provides the scholars with the following:

- \$7000 for educational expenses over Years 11, 12 and the first year of further education, or training.
- A business mentor selected by ABCN from their network of member companies
- A 3-year leadership program comprising regular facilitated sessions, one-on-one meetings and a 2-day Leadership Summit
- A network of role models and like-minded students outside the scholar's existing community
- Workplace and tertiary education access and opportunities.

Congratulations to Nakita and Mohammad. This is a great achievement.



How time flies. It is hard to believe it is December. This term, we have finalised programs, said goodbye to our Year 12 students, and have begun the planning process for 2024.

This term has been, like usual, very busy. The 2023 Graduation was the biggest event for the term, with two students receiving awards from the Home Economics area. A huge congratulations to Paw Thaw Thaw for receiving the General Children, Family and Community Award, and Azada Mohammadi for receiving the Certificate II Hospitality Award. Both students are very deserving and have worked hard for their achievements. Classes across all other year levels are now beginning to wind down and finish for the year, with our focus now moving to Christmas around the world.

Sadly, we had to say farewell to one of our teachers, Kerry Arthur. Ms Arthur had been with our department for some time, and it was a tough farewell for many students. I would like to thank Ms Arthur for her bright ideas, her unique energy, and her willingness to improve and update programs. I would also like to thank our other Home Economics teacher, Ms Sylvia Wernicke for her efforts during Semester 2. Ms Wernicke has made a positive impact on students and staff, being a wonderful addition to the team.

Finally, and on behalf of the Home Economics Department, I would like to wish all staff, students, and their families a very Merry Christmas. I hope that all students have a safe holiday break, starting the 2024 school year fresh and energised.

Ms Jess Owen – LAC Home Economics



Building and Construction

The Year 11s have expanded their wings with the departure of the Year 12s and have been very busy working on their final projects. The students have designed and are creating a tiled-top table. They considered what they may need it for, be it a place for resting their drinks, a plinth for a pot plant, or a bedside table, and looked at existing ideas before creating a custom piece. Students have chosen their tiles and layout, cut and welded a metal frame, and are adding finishing touches, such as paint to the metal, stain on the wooden border, and grout for the tiles.

Woodwork

Our Year 9s and 10s are also creating a custom table, but using all timber with traditional joinery. Some have extended themselves and turned their table legs on a lathe. Other middle school students have also completed projects including unique cutting boards and sliding lid boxes.

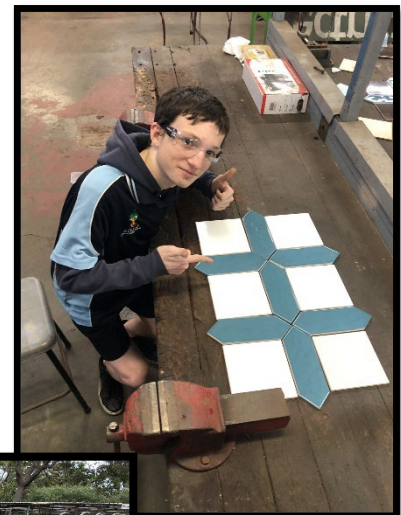
Gardening

Like many of us, the plants in the garden enjoy the sunshine and longer daylight hours, but sometimes get a bit tired from the high temperatures. Regardless, students have continued to cultivate, plant, pick, and market a range of produce. Some have enjoyed continuing to develop the garden area through paving and concreting the edges.

Digital Technologies

Our Year 11s have completed their certificate work for 2023 and are preparing to conclude their course in 2024. They have been able to explore emerging technologies such as Virtual Reality (VR) as a method of digital communication. Another area they have been training in is Workplace Health and Safety. They have been building knowledge about hazards and risks in the workplace and their rights and responsibilities as employees and as future employers.

A task that many of our Year 7-8 students have been working on and enjoying is coding. They have built on skills learned in primary school and in our STEM classes to understand and use computer languages to achieve outcomes. Students have started with block coding and are moving on to text languages including Java and Python.



Term 4 has been very busy with students conducting applications and interviews for several VET opportunities in 2023. Many students have now received news of successful applications and look forward to starting their Vocation Education and Training next year.

We also had the opportunity to farewell our Year 12s at the graduation event. I would like to acknowledge all our Year 12 VET award winners for 2023:

Shabana Raz Muhammad	School Based Trainee Award
Yoa Hey Yu Htoo	Overall VET Award
Siraj Kassim Jima	Painting Pre-Apprenticeship Award
Minh To Toan	Certificate II in ICT and NNEI award
Day Eh Paw	Certificate II in Work skills and Vocation Pathways
Azada Mohammadi	Certificate II in Hospitality
Simon Tual Mang Hat Zawh	Certificate II in Music
Shegufa Haidari	Work-Place Learning Award

These students all completed their courses, traineeships or work experience at a very high standard. They displayed great enthusiasm, organisation and other skills which will help them in their future endeavours. I would also like to congratulate all other Year 12 students who have completed a certificate course this year.

The VET and Workplace learning team looks forward to working with the 2024 Senior school students and supporting them in their Vocation pathways.



Shabana Raz Muhammad



Yoa Hey Yu Htoo



Siraj Kassim Jima



Minh To Toan



Day Eh Paw



Azada Mohammadi



Simon Tual Mang Hat Zawh



Shegufa Haidari

YEAR 7-10 MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHING & LEARNING 🎅

PAT Testing and student achievement

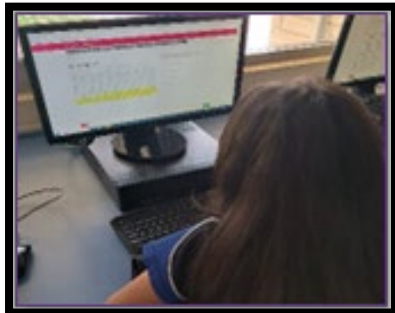
This term our Year 10 students completed their last official testing for Middle Years before heading into Senior School next year. To support student learning, each student (mainstream, IEC and LS) take part in the pre and post testing, so that we can refine our teaching and learning practices. The results overall have been extremely pleasing, as all students have indicated they are progressing in their learning. The students below have achieved excellent results for this widely used assessment tool. Congratulations to the students below, you should be extremely proud of your achievement. These are outstanding results against the Year 10 achievement standard.

READING COMPREHENSION	NUMERACY
TOP 90%	TOP 90%
Gina Nguyen	Kevin Thein Tan Quach
Kevin Thein Tan Quach	Jason Klay Paw Tay
	Joszeif Karniewicz
	Jian Marco Caleja
EXCEEDING YEAR 10 BENCHMARK	EXCEEDING YEAR 10 BENCHMARK
Baneen Alrashid	Jazmyn Lakatani
Gemwill Baldomar	Mara Huai Hat Zawh
Jian Marco Caleja	Mary Fiel Angeli
Jason Klay Paw Tay	Logan Stainger-Herewini
Savannah Garlett	Gina Nguyen
Samuel Jimenez	Mahdi Qourbani

Each student in all year levels completes PAT Testing so we can track students' progress. The testing takes place at the beginning of each year, and in the last few weeks of term. Student results are then reviewed for learning gaps and then teaching strategies aim to close these gaps to support each student on their learning journey.

Berry Street- Well-being Extended Form Activities

As part of our Berry Street practices and well-being activities, our Year 9 students were able to select 'Cookie Decorating' as one of their chosen activities for form. We had the best time decorating our cookies with lots of different decorations like popping candy, smarties, sprinkles and lollies. While students created their designs we had a chat about school life, and things we like to make at home. It was a very nice way to spend the morning. Thank you to our PCYC coordinator for organising the morning. The students had a great time, as did the staff.



Ms Lisa James
Program Coordinator Teaching &
Learning Years 7 - 10

ABORIGINAL LANGUAGE & CULTURE 🇺🇸

It has been a busy term.

A highlight of this term was our performance at the Wadjak Northside, City of Stirling Reconciliation Day event at Bina Park. Students from Years 7-10, staff and Elders performed an Acknowledgement to Country song in Noongar. We would like to thank Mr Les Blurton and Mr Nik Cullum for making this happen. The song was well received by the community. Students enjoyed the rest of the day taking part in various activities.

This term we have worked alongside our Teaching and Learning Coordinator, Lisa James to implement 1:1 tutoring for 10 of our students. We have three university students tutoring for classroom task assessments and three of our Elders tutoring in Literacy and Numeracy, with a focus on developing reading fluency, times tables, and time to read timetables. All students and tutors are enjoying this new initiative and success has already been evidenced. A great job to all!



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

We have also been busy with the support of Wadjak Northside jointly initiating three after-school programs and a Learner Driver Program. The after-school programs involve Elders, Aunty Dot, Aunty Dulcie, Aunty Dawn, and Mentor Kayla Dickie from Wadjak.

Each Monday, the Elders teach the girls to make Bush Ointment and Lip Balm. Homework Classes are every Tuesday with a focus on Ed Perfect Maths, thanks to Mr Haydn-Smith for helping set this up and his continued support throughout each week.

Each Thursday the girls have workshops at Edmund Rice Centre. We want to thank Wadjak Northside for using their bus to transport students home. Aunty Dot is also coordinating the L Plate Drivers Program through Wadjak Northside. This will enable 5-7 students to gain their drivers license.

ABORIGINAL LANGUAGE & CULTURE 🇺🇸

Some of our Year 10 and 11 students had a great term completing their Certificate 1 in Leadership. They completed the Noongar Bush Garden with the Year 6s at Warriapendi Primary School, planting bush food and medicinal bush plants. Next year, these students will progress to Certificate 2 in Leadership. Congratulations, a great effort!



Noongar Language and Culture classes have continued this term. We thank Mr Derek Nannup for passing the Noongar culture on at Balga SHS, North Balga PS and Warriapendi PS. This term our students have made message sticks and yandi dish.



Mercycare has joined us this term to deliver Health and Wellbeing workshops to our Year 7-10 girls. The sessions were very informative, and the girls enjoyed the different hands-on and interactive games throughout.

Boordawn

Ms Donnelle Slater
Aboriginal Cultural Learning Coordinator

BALGA SPORTING NEWS 🎅

This term the Middle School Girls Sporting Engagement Program have been studying Cricket and developing their coaching skills in the game of Netball.

Every Monday, primary school students from our local catchments have attended our Netball lessons and increased their netball skills through Middle School students sharing drills and skills they have previously learnt.

Our students have shown fantastic leadership and coaching skills, while working with younger netballers and can be proud of the skills they have shared and developed in the Year 5 and 6 players.



Ms Brydie Donald – Teacher Health & PE

BALGA SPORTING NEWS 🎅

Throughout Semester 2, Year 10 students have been completing the Keys for Life course learning the rules and practising safe behaviours on our roads. Students (below) attending the Drinks Drugs Driving session wearing the Goggle Glasses whilst attempting to catch a tennis ball, simulating Alcohol and Drug consumption.



Students pictured are happily participating in boxing sessions run by Competitive Boxing & Fitness during extended form session this term.



Mr Brad Stevenson – Teacher Health & PE

Interschool Athletics Carnival 2023

A select squad of 51 Balga SHS students were chosen to be part of the Year 7-10 Interschool Athletics Carnival at the WA Athletics Stadium in Claremont on 28 October. Our students conducted themselves exceptionally well with some great individual and team performances. Well done to all our Boys and Girls 4 x 100m Relay teams on a fantastic effort on the day. Congratulations to the Year 10 Boys Relay team who won gold on the day with a time of 51.9 seconds.

Highlights of the day included:

- Hai Eh Say Htoo - 1st Yr 8 Boys Long Jump, Div. B
- Hai Eh Say Htoo - 1st Yr 8 Boys 200m, Div. A
- Phay Thang - 1st Yr 10 Boys Long Jump, Div. A
- Exose Tumsifu Ndambira – 1st Yr 10 Boys Long Jump, Div. B
- 1st Yr 10 Boys 4x100m Relay Team, Div. A
Exose Tumsifu, Mahdi Adiley, Baruku Cirhuza, Phay Thang
- Ruth Gbangaye - 2nd Yr 9 Girls 200m, Div. A
- Teodor Bocheski - 2nd Yr 7 Boys 100m, Div. C
- Cody Baker– 2nd Yr 9 Girls High Jump, Div. A
- Gideon Faustin- 2nd Yr 8 & Under Boys 1500m Div A
- Ragheed Mansoor- 2nd P Yr 9/10 Boys 1500m, Div A



- Exose Tumsifu Ndambira – 3rd Yr 10 Boys 100m Hurdles, Div. A
- Exose Tumsifu Ndambira – 3rd Yr 10 Boys 100m, Div. B
- Mary Angeli Fiel - 3rd P Yr 9/10 Girls Shot Put 3kg, Div. B
- Jarred Bardon - 3rd Yr 9 Boys 100m, Div. A
- Pler Ker - 3rd Yr 9 Boys 200m, Div. A
- Hai Eh Say Htoo – 3rd Yr 8 Boys 100m, Div. A
- Angara Lucky - 3rd Yr 8 & Under Boys Shot Put 3kg, Div. B
- 3rd Yr 9 Girls 4x100m Relay Team, Div. A

Ruth Gbangaye, Aaliyah Roberts, Cody Baker, Nahla Ali Abdalla



Mr Rob Milevski – LAC Teacher Health & PE

The Balga Tigers - Girls Football Enrichment program

What a year it has been for the Balga Tigers - Girls Football Enrichment program. With the FIFA Womens World Cup coming to Australia, female sport was thrust into the spotlight. At Balga SHS we made the most of this. The Balga Tigers football team had a superstar year, filled with opportunity and recognition. It was all made possible thanks to the Department of Education, FIFA Australia and Football West. Some of the highlights from 2023 were:

Womens World Cup

The Balga Tigers attended a training session with the Haitian Womens World Cup team and had an exciting and autograph filled day. The students were beaming, and the Haitian players could not have been more welcoming and kinder to the students. Balga SHS was the only school in WA to be offered the opportunity for students to be flag bearers at a FIFA Womens World Cup game. It was such an exciting opportunity and a real honour for our girls. The Balga Tigers students also starred in the WA advertising campaign for the FIFA Womens World Cup and womens football, which was broadcast throughout all forms of media. Balga SHS hosted four local schools for the FIFA Womens World Cup Aspiration Day this year. Students from Dianella Secondary College, Emmanuel Christian College, Mercy College, and Carine SHS came together with our students for a day of inspiration and fun. The girls enjoyed presentations from world renowned and local football players, a mindfulness workshop, skill development session and the opportunity to compete in a tournament.

Junior Girls Futsal Championships

This semester the Balga Tigers (Years 7-9) participated in the SSWA Northern Junior Girls Futsal Championships at Kingsway Indoor Sports Centre. We had two teams compete and perform extremely well. Although we did not go through to the finals, the girls learnt some valuable lessons about sportsmanship, teamwork and strategy. The students were spoken about with high regard for their conduct and leadership on and off the field by coaches and officials alike.

The final word from our graduated Year 12 student Captain Moo Nay Paw

Here is an inspiring message to all the girls in our Girls Football Enrichment Program from our Senior Girls Captain Moo Nay Paw who graduated from Year 12 recently.

Football is a sport that brings everyone together. It's the kind of sport that builds strong relationships between teammates that eventually turns into long time friendships. As the team captain of the Senior Football Girls, I would like to wish all the younger girls from Year 7-11 all the best with their future achievement. I encourage you all to keep doing what you're doing, build your teamwork, and create special friendships between one another. When playing your Football matches, do not be discouraged if you lose, but learn from that experience in a positive way. Remember don't be discouraged by a failure. I hope that when you all play Football, you'll play with your heart and not just your feet. Lastly, I'd like to thank all the coaches and teachers that helped the Year 12 Football girls. We wouldn't have gotten this far with our Football skills without you all. You will be missed.

Looking to 2024

Girls interested in being part of a strong, proud, kind, and unified football team, should speak to Ms Bagshaw.



Ms Sarah Bagshaw – Girls Football Enrichment Coordinator

SCHOOL UNIFORM

School Uniform – Students are required to wear the school polo and school jumper with the logo showing.

As the weather turns cold, students can wear a long sleeve top or jumper underneath their school shirt.

Pants/Tracksuit/shorts/skirts must be plain black with no logo.

Closed in shoes must be worn. Slides with socks are not correct footwear due to safety issues in the playground and specialist classrooms.

Students not in correct uniform need to go to the Student Services Office before Form and change into borrowed uniform for the day.



MIDDLE SCHOOL
YR 7,8 &9



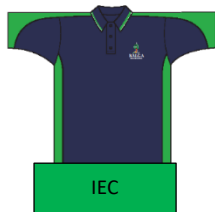
FLEECE ZIP JACKET



SENIOR SCHOOL
YR 10, 11 & 12



BLACK PLAIN TRACKSUIT CUFFED



IEC



BLACK BASKETBALL
OR UNISEX SHORTS



BLACK PLAIN SKIRTS

Ms Ros Playforth
Student Services Program Manager

As we wind down for another full year, I would like to acknowledge the volunteers that help in the Breakfast Club. Without their commitment to running the Breakfast Club each week, it wouldn't run as smoothly. Every day a variety of food such as pancakes, toast, fried eggs and hot milo are prepared for the students to enjoy before the school day starts. While the students come and eat with their friends, they are also enjoying hanging out with some wonderful people from the community and local Churches.

A big thank you to Bev and Norm Leighton and the volunteers from Victory Life Church and Southern Cross Church, Mark Aninon, Anna Haensel, Daniel Wheat, Tim Otto and Ester Ward.



At the end of each year they make up around 70 food hampers for students to take home, this cannot happen without the financial support of the Church Community. I would like to thank Grace Life Church Malaga, Duncraig Church of Christ and C3 Hepburn Heights for their continual financial support.

Ms Susan Earle - Chaplain

The Visual Arts learning area at Balga Senior High School is thriving, with an array of stunning artwork emerging from our school studios. This year, our students had the opportunity to participate in art workshops and showcase their talent in an exhibition with REMida, alongside artists from across Western Australia. These community-based opportunities not only provide a chance to share work with a larger audience, but also help build student confidence and self-esteem.

Balga Senior High School's Arts Week 2023 was a resounding success, with musical performances and a Visual Arts exhibition held in the school library. The exhibition showcased the incredible talent and imagination of our students across Years 7-12, and featured an impressive collection of prints, portraits, landscapes and mixed media sculptures. We are thrilled to congratulate our highly commended award winners, whose hard work and dedication were on full display.

Ms Foster's and Ms Brodie's Senior School students have once again demonstrated their artistic vision by creating an amazing collection of mixed media, figurative ceramic sculptures. Our students' passion shone through as they explored a range of student-led themes, including identity, mental health, repression, memories of home, immigration and war. Their powerful stories leave a lasting impression on our school community, and we are grateful for their contribution to the Arts at Balga.

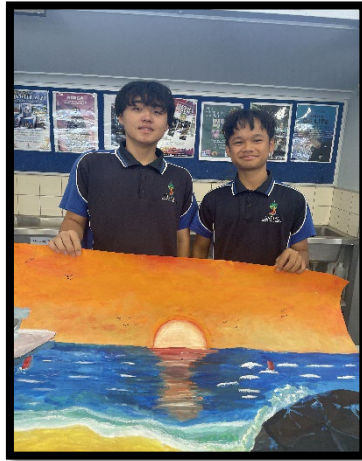
This term, several art classes explored Western Australia's diverse coastal environment. Ms Foster's IEC class, focused on observational drawings as a design prompt to create shell-inspired ceramic bowls, and our Be Creative Business Enterprise students worked on large-scale seascapes, reflecting Perth's beachside lifestyle. Our Enterprise students learnt new painting skills and developed collaborative work practices, resulting in clever compositions that are both visually strong and thought-provoking.

It has been an exciting year for the Visual Arts Learning Area, and we are proud of the hard work and creativity of our students. As we wrap up 2023, we can't help but feel excited about what the future holds. We are confident our students will continue to amaze us with their creativity and passion for the arts, and we will remain committed to providing students with the best possible opportunities to grow. We can't wait to see what next year brings! Thank you to all our students, staff members and families for your support. We wish you a safe and happy holiday, and we look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Ms Cindy Foster – Teacher Arts







2024 Uniform Price List

Uniform shop will be open:

Monday 29 January 2024 9.00am - 3.30pm

Tuesday 30 January 2024 9.00am - 3.30pm

Polo shirt with School Logo		
		
Middle School Years 7, 8 & 9 \$25.00	Senior School Years 10,11 & 12 \$25.00	IEC \$25.00
Black Shorts - Unisex or Basketball		
	\$25.00	
Stationery Pack		Fleece Jacket with Logo
		
\$30.00		\$50.00
Black Skirt	Black Long Fleece Trackpants	
	\$28.00	
\$28.00		

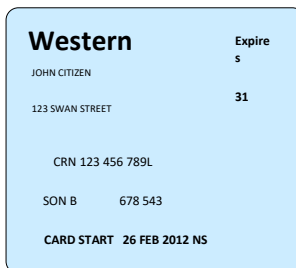
Please note price increase for the skirts, trackpants and stationery packs

Attention Parents/Guardians

If you have one of these cards, you may be eligible for:

Secondary Assistance Scheme or Abstudy

- Valid to claim with Parent/Guardian card ONLY
- Student cannot claim with own card if living with parent(s)
(Student and Parent/Guardian cards to be provided)
- Not eligible if student born in year 2005 or before
- If living as an Independent Student, a letter of proof
from Centrelink must be provided with it clearly stating student is an Independent



SECONDARY ASSISTANCE SCHEME

Education Program Allowance

of \$235 paid directly to the school towards the cost of school fees.

Secondary Assistance Clothing Allowance

of \$115 paid directly to the school towards the cost of providing school uniforms.

Applications Close

Thursday 28 March 2024

SEE SCHOOL RECEPTION FOR MORE INFORMATION

ABSTUDY

Supplement Allowance

Funding is made available to the school for eligible applicants.

All Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students need to apply for the Federal Government School Fee Allowance (Abstudy Grant) from Centrelink.

This enables the payment of school fees and the provision of a set of school uniform.

Please contact Reception if you have any questions or need assistance.

Phone number: 9247 0222