From the Principal

Dear Parents, families and wider community,

Next week our Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) value will see staff explicitly teaching the importance of wearing a hat in the playground.

As a member of the Ballandean State School Community I am…

PBL Value: Safe
Focus Behaviour: Wearing a hat in the playground.

What does this look like?

With Queensland having some of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world, being sun safe is a vital part of our daily lives. At school, students are required to wear a wide brimmed hat in the playground or play under shade sails. As parents, you can ensure that your child has the appropriate hat, which is clearly named, every day for school.

As always, we thank you in advance for your support and reinforcement of this behaviour in the home setting.

Kindest regards,
Nathan Brown

Weekly Awards

Congratulations to our weekly winners!
Apple & Grape March

Thank you to everyone for the wonderful turn out at the Apple and Grape march last Saturday. Although I wasn’t there to see it first hand, the comments I have received from the public, school staff and my colleagues has been very positive. A special thanks to Michelle for sparking the idea, to Aaron for being our marshalling co-ordinator, and to Shane and Sharon for supporting our students. Thanks also to all of the parents who stayed with their children and picked them up promptly at the end of the march, this made sure the event ran as smoothly as possible.

Student Leader Ceremony

Our student leader ceremony will take place at 9:30am next Friday the 18th of March. This will be a great chance for us all to acknowledge our older students as they officially accept their leadership roles. Joining us to present the badges will be Mr Lawrence Springborg MP, Mr Peter Blundell SDRC Mayor and Mr Ross Bartley SDRC Deputy Mayor. We hope to see as many parents as possible at this event and would be grateful if you could bring a small plate to share for morning tea afterwards.

Play Group Expressions of Interest

This year, Ballandean State School would like to begin a playgroup for our community members that have pre-school aged children at home. We are currently working with our school Chaplain, Mrs Chasely Paech, to get this project off the ground and would love to gauge the interest in the community. If you would be interested in bringing your children to playgroup, please contact the school on 4684 1254, send an email to the principal at nbrow158@eq.edu.au or comment on the playgroup Facebook post at www.facebook.com/BallandeanSS.

NAPLAN

Please don’t hesitate to come and speak with your teachers regarding support measures for our upcoming NAPLAN testing. As mentioned in previous newsletters, as a school we can provide additional support for students, giving them the best chance at success. If you think your child would benefit from this support or wish to discuss any concerns about NAPLAN testing, please come and see us… our doors are always open!

GRIP Leadership Conference

Next Tuesday, our Year 6 students and Maple Egerton will be joining Glen Aplin and Severnlea students as they travel to Toowoomba for a leadership conference. We are very excited to be able to provide this opportunity to our student leadership group and we hope they take away something valuable from the day. Students will be travelling by bus with pick-up from Ballandean State School at 5:45am and the Stanthorpe Civic Centre at 6:30am. The bus is anticipated to leave Toowoomba at 2:45pm and should arrive back at Ballandean somewhere around 5:30pm. A staff member will remain with the students until picked up but we appreciate you being on time to collect your child.

Attendance

As a region our expectation is to maintain at least 93% attendance across the year however as a school I believe we can realistically aim for a target of 95%. Below is our most recent attendance data. Congratulations on these excellent attendance results.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DDSW Target</th>
<th>Ballandean SS Target</th>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Year to Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93 %</td>
<td>95 %</td>
<td>95.7 %</td>
<td>95.7 %</td>
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Interschool Sport Transport

Next week the cricket competition will move into the first round of finals. Once these have been confirmed (following today’s games) transport arrangements will be sent home to parents. Thanks again for help around transporting our children to sport.

Celebrating the 2016 Italian Carnivale Festival

Hamish 11th March
Harrison 15th March
Trentham 15th March
Severnlea Community Market Day

Sunday 20th March
8:00am - 1:00pm
14 Turner Rd, Severnlea (Severnlea SS)

For enquiries, or to book a site contact:
Karen on 0459 027 316
or
Katie on 0421 661 790

Bush Dance Fun Day Gyumkhana

Saturday 2nd of April
Allora Show Grounds
For further details contact:
Erin 0499 995 770
or
www.cvc.org.au

Ballandean Hall and Sports Association Centenary

Saturday 16th of April
Activities begin at 11:00am
Please see attached brochure for details.
Apple & Grape March

Photo Credit: Sarah Betts. Thank you Sarah!