

BALINGUP PRIMARY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 17 2022



WELCOME/KAYA TO
OUR 2022
KINDERGARTEN
STUDENTS.



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Principal's Pen



Hello and welcome to our first newsletter of 2022. I hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable school holiday with lots of special memories made. There's something so magical about a lack of packed lunches and more relaxed bedtimes! Routine is a welcome comfort though I must admit, and I have really enjoyed getting back into the swing of things, feeling fresh and energised. Getting together with staff on the first two school development days was very enjoyable and there was a palatable sense of zest and motivation for an excellent year ahead. This has been followed up with a smooth transition into the 2022 school year in all classrooms, with students engaged and eager to see what the school year will bring for them.

Thank You All

I would like to start by really thanking and acknowledging each and every one of you for your support and sensibility as we have begun the school year under new conditions due to our current pandemic climate. None of us are responsible for the rules and conditions that have come into effect due to COVID however, we all have our role to play in doing what we can to follow health advice and keep one another safe. Our opinions about different aspects of mandates and health strategies may vary nonetheless, we must ensure we maintain respectful and positive interactions with one another. It is also important to be mindful when our children may be present during discussions around COVID and consider if topics may be unsettling for them. Being considerate of exposing your children to strong opinions, whether it be your own or that of others, can also ensure our children do not contribute to, or become victims of, any potential social difficulties.

It has been so reassuring that each visitor to the school has complied with the requirements appropriate to them, doing so in a positive and amicable fashion. I really am grateful for everyone's support.

We are all saturated with COVID information daily, and I have previously sent out communication on Schoolstream and by email regarding practises taking place at school in line with health advice for our students, staff and family's safety. Please feel free to get in touch if you would like more information.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Over the next few months, I am sure many of us will undergo testing for COVID at different times. I would like to request that should you or a family member return a confirmed positive result, that one of your first port of calls be to the school. I would be very grateful if results were not posted to social media etc, particularly before the school is aware. This will greatly assist us in our management of any COVID cases at school.

JOHN McCUMISKEY RETIREMENT

Our fantastic gardener of 10 years, John McCumiskey has retired from his position here at Balingup Primary School. John has been a passionate and committed member of the Balingup Primary School community during his time as a gar-

dener and during his time as a Music teacher back in the mid 90's. When John came to see me about retiring I was interested to hear about what he had got up to over his working years and was entertained to discover he began his career at South Hedland Primary School as a Music Teacher in the late 70's, then making his way south for some time teaching in the city. He then took on a role as the music coordinator of the North West metro area, followed up by a role as the cultural planner for the City of Wanneroo! After working in local government, he came to Balingup to work at our school as Music teacher and then returned to the city to continue working at another school. John then had a decent stint of time as a yoga teacher at his own studio in Fremantle before returning to Balingup for work at the Tinder Box. After a couple of years settling into the town he joined us at Balingup under the leadership of our previous gardener Lizzie and has cared for our school grounds, enhancing the learning environment for our students until his retirement. We wish John all the best on his next chapter and thank him for his work and care here at Balingup Primary School.

ATTENDANCE

It's a new year with new attendance goals! We currently have 67.6% of our students classed as regular attenders which is lower than I was hoping for at this early stage in the year.

Please remember, **every day counts** for your child and unless they are too unwell, or there is another special circumstance, it is expected that they will attend school every day. Our teaching staff work hard to provide excellent and engaging programs and poor student attendance impacts their ability to deliver these learning opportunities as effectively.

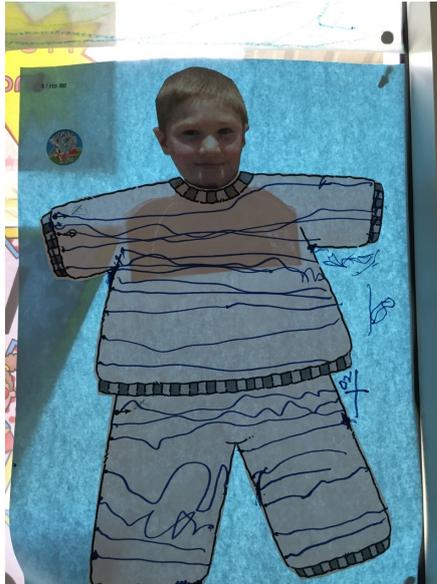
CONNECT

Thank you so much to those of you that have already dabbled with our Education Department platform Connect. We have begun working with this platform in the hopes that not only will it enhance our communication and in class learning experiences, but that it will also provide a more seamless move to distance education should students be required to isolate for a period of time.

I am hopeful you have all received a registration email providing you with your "P" number and guidance as to how to set up your password. Within the Connect platform, we have placed guides in the "library" section to provide more information about what is available to you through Connect and how you can best access the variety of functions. Staff and I completely empathise with the practicalities of learning about a new platform and difficulties in navigating through, but we all hope with more experience and practise, things will become easier. Don't hesitate to get in touch if you have not received any information about Connect and we will do our best to get you up and running. It would also be helpful if you could ensure we have a current email address on our records.

Thanks Everyone!

²Nicole Corcoran—Principal

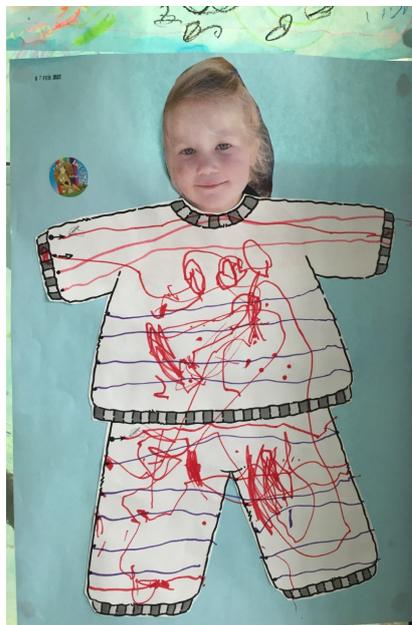


It has been a busy start to our year in the K/P/1 room where we have welcomed 7 new class members. The first week flew past in a flurry of painting, cutting, and writing alongside getting to know each other, building with the Duplo and discussing the attributes of Kindness and Teamwork. We have started our Science topic of water and wrote down many 'wonderings' that we will investigate during the Semester. We looked at the Noongar mythical creature the Wagyl and it's creation of our river systems. Everyone was amazed when we found Balingup on Google maps and tracked the length of the Warren Blackwood River and we are looking forward to exploring this further during Digital Technology lessons.

This week we read the Hungry Caterpillar and our caterpillars are displayed in the hallway outside our room for you to admire. We painted them using balloons filled with water, stamping the balloons in paint.

Miss Streeter

Welcome 2022 Kindy!



Mary's Munch for this week!



Toasty Flat Bread

Makes 10 - 12



Ingredients:

- 1 cup low fat natural/Greek yoghurt
- 2 cups self raising flour
- 2 tablespoons mixed herbs
- Pepper



Equipment:

- Bowl, cup measure, tablespoon,
- rolling pin, frypan or BBQ, tongs or spatula

Recipe Tip:
Serve bread with dips such as Crazy corn dip, tzatziki or beetroot dip.



1 Combine flour, mixed herbs and pepper together in a bowl.



2 Add yoghurt and mix until it forms a dough. If required, keep adding flour so that the dough is not too wet.



3 Dust the bench and your hands with flour. Place dough on bench and knead until smooth.



4 Break the dough into small balls and roll out into flat circles with the rolling pin.



5 Place on frypan or BBQ and cook until a nice brown colour. Use tongs or spatula to flip bread over and cook the other side.



BREAKFAST CLUB DONATIONS REQUIRED

Breakfast club is going take-away for now!

Students will take their toasted sandwiches and eat outside, with parents if they wish to join them.

Any donations of 1kg blocks of cheese, 1kg tubs of salt reduced margarine and tins of milo would be greatly appreciated!

Breakfast Club is held every Wednesday morning from 8am to 8:45am.



PLAYGROUP

Every Wednesday
morning from
8:30am to
10:30am.



'Balingup Playgroup had its first play session at the school on the 9th of February and will be running every Wednesday during school term from 8.30am-10.30am for ages 0-5. This space gives local parents and caregivers a chance to meet other families and create a support network in the community whilst the little ones explore, learn and create in a safe environment.'

Regional LGAs – PSHB Trap Placement

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) has confirmed the detection of the Polyphagous Shot-Hole Borer (PSHB) in the Perth area.

PSHB is a wood-boring exotic beetle that severely damages host trees, with some species dying within two years of infestation.

To determine how far the pest may have spread, the department is implementing a surveillance program in the Mid West, Wheatbelt, South West and Great Southern.

As part of these surveillance efforts, DPIRD staff will soon start placing traps in your local government area. Up to five traps will be placed in each town – these will remain in place for up to six months.

Traps contain a yellow sticky trap in a cage (to prevent trapping birds, micro-bats, rodents etc) with a lure. The lures contain Querciverol, an aggregation pheromone to attract any PSHB beetles that may be in the area. Querciverol is naturally derived and therefore considered safe and environmentally friendly.

If you would like to discuss the placement of these traps with DPIRD please email pshb@dprid.wa.gov.au or contact the Pest and Disease Information Service (PaDIS) on (08) 9368 3080.

LGAs and residents are encouraged to monitor their trees and shrubs for any signs of PSHB to make sure it has not made its way into the regions. Symptoms include multiple entrance holes on the trunk or branches that are about the size of a ballpoint pen tip, often associated with bark discolouration, gumming, frass, crystalline foam (sugar volcanoes) exuding from the entry holes and tree wilting or dieback.

We will be having a visit from a Biosecurity officer on Monday 21st Feb. The year's 4 to 6 will learn about this invasive beetle and help set up sticky traps.





Bridgetown Netball Association



Registrations Now Open!

PLEASE NOTE:

The online registration system has changed from MyNetball to PlayHQ, you will need to create a new user profile within PlayHQ

Ages as at 31st December 2022

Net \$95 all genders turning 5 & 6 years, 10 week skills program including participant pack, start Thursday 28th April 2022 4:15pm - 5pm

Registration link Net

<https://www.playhq.com/netball-australia/register/f5e361>

Set \$110 all genders turning 7-9 years skills & game, including participant pack, 15 weeks, start Thursday 28th April 2022 4:15pm - 5:15pm

Registration link Set

<https://www.playhq.com/netball-australia/register/b9102e>

Junior B \$170 all genders turning 10-12 years, training & fixtured games start Tuesday 26th April

Junior A \$175 girls turning 13-16 years, fixtured games start Tuesday 26th April

Registration link Junior B & Junior A

<https://www.playhq.com/netball-australia/register/5ad8eb>

Seniors \$175 girls from 17 years, start Thursday 28th April, 6pm & 7:15pm games
(Senior women 17 years \$170.91)

Player enquires & Seniors Team Managers, contact Seniors

Co-ordinator for team registration details 0438 204 660

Registration closing date 16th March 2022

any registrations after this date will be put on waiting list

For eligible participants using KidSport vouchers for payment, you will need a valid code before proceeding to register in PlayHQ, online application link:

<https://kidsport.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/kidsport/apply-for-kidsport-2019-1/>

Netball Australia has a national Support and Service Hotline available 9AM – 7PM ADST during the week. You can submit an online request to <https://support.netball.com.au/> or call 1800 NETBALL or email support@netball.com.au. Committee available for registration help, Wed 16th March 2022, 3:30–5:30pm at Bridgetown Leisure Centre, enquires to 0427 526 523

WELCOME/KAYA TO
OUR NEW STUDENTS
FOR 2022

Austin—Kindy

Matilda—Kindy

Charlie—Kindy

Octavia—Kindy

Hunter—Kindy

Zakaiyah—Kindy

Balthazar—year 5

Samuel—year 4

Octavian—year 3

Indiana—year 1

Lachlan—year 5

Lynlee—year 4

Darcy—year 1