

# BALINGUP PRIMARY NEWSLETTER



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# PRINCIPAL'S PEN:

Kaya and welcome to our 2<sup>nd</sup> newsletter for the year. We are still enjoying Bunuru season, the second summer and hottest time of the year. Though we have certainly had some chilly days in the mix, I hope you all made use of the lovely weather on the long weekend to enjoy some family time. Bunuru has also brought the March flies! Not my favourite insect personally, March flies can make one think that "nature" can stop you enjoying nature, if you get my meaning! I have heard that Kirup means "place of flies" in Noon-gar, what an unfortunate namesake! There certainly seem to be more March flies there than elsewhere. Anyway, I digress!

## YEAR 3-6 MASK MANDATE

Thank you all so much for your support and positive attitude while this interim mandate is in place to better ensure the safety of our students and staff while at school. I understand that some families have had reservations and continue to support their child/ren through the duration of mask wearing while indoors. I ask families again to please be mindful when discussing strong opinions relating to mandates and/or negatives of wearing masks around your children. If we model our resilience to such challenges, this will help our children develop their resilience in turn.

Since the mandate came into effect, I have observed teaching staff adapting their strategies to enable students to work outdoors, physically distanced without masks. Students are also encouraged to let their teacher know when they may need a minute or two away from the classroom for some fresh air and a break from their mask. I talked with the school yesterday about how proud I am of them all for their fantastic attitudes during this time and let them know that this will not be forever. As I type I am receiving more information about protocols relating to student attendance when classed as a close contact. I expect you will be reading this after receiving further detail on what that involves.

## TECHNOLOGY UPDATES

The school is about to undergo some big technology upgrades with the replacement of 20 laptops with 20 new surface pro laptops which arrived at the school last week. We look forward to getting these all configured within the next week or so and getting them out to our students to use in their class activities.

We have also entered a lease agreement for 5 new smart boards, one for each classroom. These interactive boards will be a fantastic learning tool in many ways, and I can't wait to see them installed and in action which will also happen next

week.

Mrs Stiffle has been getting all of our students in the groove with Digital Technology lessons each Friday which will help us all ensure we can make the most of our updated gear and have our students well versed with Connect and all of our device's capabilities, if they aren't already, I'm sure they'll soon be your own personal technology technicians whenever you're having a problem with a home device.

Further to this, we have invested in a subscription to Jamf, a software that better enables us to manage our iPads and what students can and can't access when using them.

## CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA & HARMONY DAY

Thanks to the wonderful organising of our very own Miss Streeter, our students participated in Clean up Australia last Friday, March 4. The amount of rubbish they collected was quite astonishing and I pointed out to all involved that without their efforts, that rubbish would remain out in our community for indefinite periods, potentially harming local fauna and flora and certainly not looking very nice. What a bunch of environment champions we have at our school!

There's no stopping Miss Streeter as she is also organising our acknowledgement of Harmony Day which will be held on Friday, March 25, so let's start organising our orange clothes and cultural dress in preparation!

## ASSEMBLIES

In the current climate we will not be holding assemblies in the traditional way. Mrs Stiffle has volunteered to work with her class to present a virtual assembly where parents and carers can log in to view a class item, hear of Merit Award winners and catch up on all things school, not forgetting your favourite part, the Principal's address of course! We will give you further information of date, time and log in as it is determined.

## INAUGURAL SWIMMING CARNIVAL

I hope those of you that came to view the recent carnival enjoyed the suspense and nail biting finishes! What an awesome event so well organised by Mr Tweedie and Mrs Stiffle! Miss Streeter was a great support in the pool with swimmers that may not have been as confident or needed a little guidance to stay in their lane. Thanks to Mrs A for her fantastic time keeping and scoring, and the volunteer work of Mrs Clarke with timing to help us be totally sure who the winners were! Finally, thanks also to the amazing Ms Holden for saving the day with her bus driving skills, helping us to get there and back safely.

See you all next time and please remember, my door is always open!

# MATHS IN ROOM 2!



## Maths in Room 3

Year 2/3 students have been busy this term re-viewing number patterns, investigating place value and practising addition strategies. We've been using a combination of our new Mathletics program along with Dr Paul Swan's amazing hands on games.

Year 2 students trying to get the superheroes across the finish line by counting on!



Year 3's racing up and down a ladder by rounding 4 digit numbers to the nearest 10!



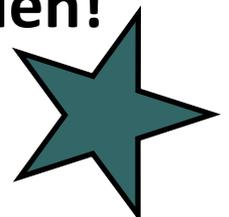
Using MAB blocks to build, draw and expand numbers.



We've made Place Value Castles and Towers. The Year 2's created expanding bats!



Our first Cucumber from our vegetable garden!



# Mary's Mexican Munch



**Mexican Stuffed Spuds**



**Ingredients:**

- 6 potatoes
- 1 small green capsicum
- 1 tomato
- 1 spring onion
- 1 carrot
- 125g tin of 4 bean mix
- 125g tin of corn
- 1 jar salsa
- 1 cup cheese



**Equipment:**

- chopping board, knife, spoons, fork, grater, can opener, oven tray, frypan/pot, oven, bowl, tongs

**Recipe Tip:**

Add cooked mince to the left over mixture & wrap in tortillas for another Mexican meal!

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**1** Cut potatoes in half and place in boiling water. Boil until soft. Scoop out middle of potato to make a hollow and place on oven tray (keeping potato skin intact). Mash the scooped-out filling in a bowl with a fork.



**2** Chop capsicum, tomato and spring onion. Grate the carrot. Drain beans and corn.



**3** Add the capsicum, tomato, spring onion, carrot, beans, corn and salsa to a bowl with the potato filling and mix.



**4** Fill up the potato skins with Mexican mixture until there is no mixture left. Grate cheese and cover each potato.



**5** Place into a hot oven (200°C) for 5 mins, or until cheese is melted.

**Week 6! My goodness where does the time go? Mind you, it means the holidays will be upon us before we know it.**

**Breakfast Club has not suffered from being changed to take away, and is as popular as ever. Having said that, we are still in need of some food supplies to help keep us viable, especially while we wait (patiently?) for the food trucks to find their way to the SW. Sometimes we can just jag something at the shops, so if you come across any of the following items, please consider buying an extra one for Breakfast Club. It will be a great help, as the more eyes we have looking for these items the better. Milo, 1kg blocks of cheese, 1 kg tubs of margarine (salt reduced) and pancake mix shaker bottles. Thank you in advance for your generosity. If each family could manage to buy one item per term or, if preferred, donate \$\$\$\$\$, we would be extremely grateful. Every bit goes a long way! On another note: I am at school every Wednesday and available for your child to speak to, if they would like to. If there is any objection to this, please advise the school office. Enjoy making the stuffed spuds with your darlings. Mary Taylor Chaplain**

# Swimming Carnival

***Congratulations to all our students, your team spirit and personal effort was amazing on our first inaugural swimming carnival in a long time!!***

***Thank you Mr Scott Tweedie and Mrs Alicia Stiffle for organising this fabulous event!***

