Welcome to our Kindergarten Students

Welcome to our Kindergarten students who started school on Monday, 8th February 2016. The Kindergarten students are pictured with their classroom teacher Mrs Kate Harper.

Combined Primary and Secondary Twilight Swimming Carnival

The annual combined Primary and Secondary Twilight Swimming Carnival is being held at the Janelle Masters Memorial Swimming Pool on Thursday, 11 February 2016 from 3.30pm

Students can wear their house colours on this day.

NO THONGS OR SINGLETs ALLOWED

Due to the arrangements for the Swimming Carnival, students are not required to come to school on Friday, 12 February 2016.

The P&C will once again be providing chicken burgers, steak sandwiches, sausages in bread etc. Any helpers would be welcome!!
Welcome to all parents and students to another year of quality education and a special welcome to all new students and families to Balranald Central School, I am confident that you will be embraced by the friendliness of the Balranald community.

I encourage all students’ to have high expectations, work hard and strive for academic excellence. **Our study centre will open every Tuesday afternoon from 3.00 – 4.00 in the library.** The study centre will be supported by numerous staff every week. It is an opportunity for all students to work quietly on homework, assessments, general study and reading. Staff will maintain a study environment while supporting students with extra help.

We are excited to have the services of Michelle Hartmann this year. She has been appointed to Balranald Central School from the Newcastle/Hunter region to teach Science. Miss Hartmann brings a high level of enthusiasm and a wide range of skills to the position.

Congratulations to Miss Hartmann on her appointment.

We are blessed to have the services of Rachel Johnson this year. Miss Johnson has been appointed as the Rural Area Relief (RAR) teacher. Miss Johnson will be based at Clare Public School for 5 or 6 days a fortnight and she will be available for appointment between Balranald and Tooleybuc for the remainder of her days. Miss Johnson is very excited about her role in the district. Congratulations to Miss Johnson on her appointment.

A very big welcome to Abbie McElevey. Miss McElevey has made herself available to Balranald Central School for any relief/casual teaching work that may pop up from time to time. Miss McElevey is currently teaching Ms Chalk’s classes while she is away on special leave for family reasons. Miss Chalk is due back on Monday 15th February.

**The Zone** is now officially open. The zone is a specialised classroom space for exclusive use by our senior students. The room is designed for students to attend by choice and a space to go to when senior students have non face to face lessons, study, assessments, reading, research and exam preparation. The Zone is open for extended hours from 8.00am to 5.00pm so that students can maximise their time at school.

Our staff and students are excited to start the new whole school **Merit and Award System.** The new system will recognise student’s efforts and contributions to the school community across five merit categories. (Academic, Sporting, Cultural, Community and Values) Merits will automatically be calculated and accumulated culminating in Awards (Bronze, Silver, Gold, Opal and Platinum) to be given out at our whole school assemblies in week 5 and 10 of each term.

A reminder to all parents that there is an open invitation to meet with myself to discuss school business and your child’s education. I am always interested to hear parent’s perspectives on how our school is going and what future directions parents would like to see.

I am looking forward to our annual twilight swimming carnival this Thursday evening. Last year was a fantastic atmosphere and the number of parents and family friends there supporting our students was impressive. I wish all students the best of luck and a fun filled evening.
It was pleasing to work closely with staff last week at the staff development days recognising and reminding ourselves of the current quality practices at our school while launching some new ideas and directions. The enthusiasm from staff was pleasing. I look forward to working with staff, students and the broader community in continuing to enhance the learning opportunities for our students at Balranald Central School.

**SPORTS HOUSE CAPTAINS**

**PRIMARY**  
Mungo - Mitchell Carmichael and Zahlia Field  
Yanga - Nicholas Allen and Lizzy Bell

**SECONDARY**  
Mungo - Samantha Renfrey and Jacob Lister  
Yanga - Connor Soraggi and Isabella Harding

**NOTE FROM THE FRONT OFFICE**

**CHANGE OF ENROLMENT DETAILS**
If you have recently changed address, telephone number, place of employment, family situation or would like to change your emergency contact details you will need to complete a form at the school’s front office. It is particularly important that we have correct details in the case of accident or illness.

**SENDING MONEY TO SCHOOL**
Often students need to bring money to school to pay for activities, excursions and performances. Could all parents ensure that the correct money is sent in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the child's name, grade, activity and amount enclosed. Primary students should hand their money to their classroom teacher, whilst secondary students should hand their money in at roll call or to the front office.

**WHEN YOU VISIT OUR SCHOOL, PLEASE SIGN IN**
Whenever you visit the school, please call at the front office and sign the visitor's book. It is essential in case of emergency, for security and safety of the students that we know who is in the school buildings and grounds at all times.

**SCIENTIFIC CALCULATORS**
The front office has scientific calculators for sale for $20 each. Students from Year 7 to Year 12 require a scientific calculator for use in mathematics lessons.

**LOCKERS**
Lockers are available for hire by all secondary students. Payment of $20 can be made by students wishing to hire a locker for their duration of enrolment at Balranald Central School. If students lose their padlock they can get a replacement at a cost of $20. Please contact the school’s front office for further details.

**LOST CLOTHING**
Please label all clothing, as our lost property box is always full of unnamed articles. Unclaimed items are put in the welfare box in the Uniform Shop at the end of each term.

**LEAVING SCHOOL GROUNDS**
No students are permitted to leave school grounds unless they have been signed out through the front office and a reasonable explanation is given, eg. Doctor’s appointment. Primary students may only leave school grounds during the school day if they are collected by a parent or caregiver. Secondary students are able to leave school grounds if they have a signed permission note from their parent indicating the time they are leaving/returning, where they are going and why they are going. Secondary students with notes are asked to bring them to the school’s front office before roll call. All students are required to sign back in through the front office upon returning to the school.

**NEWSLETTERS**
In these times of greater access to and use of technology, parents and community members are increasingly accessing the school’s newsletter via computers and portable devices. Hard copies of newsletters will only be provided to those families who specifically request them by completing the form on page 4 of this newsletter or contacting the school office. If you would like the newsletter emailed to you please return the form with your email address on it. (If you were getting them emailed to you last year and still wish to, you need not do anything!!) We are extremely conscious of the importance of parents and community members keeping up to date with school events and in support of this, newsletters will be emailed directly to all those families who provide email particulars and newsletters will continue to be uploaded onto the school website and skoolbag each week. Newsletters are also available at the Newsagency, Foodworks and IGA.

**SKOOLBAG**
To install the App on your iPhone click the “App Store” icon on your Apple device. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click “Free” then “install”. When installed click “Open”. Select “Ok” to receive push notifications, when asked.
COPY OF NEWSLETTER

I would like my child: __________________________ of Year: ______ to be given a hard copy of the Newsletter each week.

I would like a copy of the Newsletter emailed to this address: _____________________________________

Parent Signature: ____________________________

Date: / / 

SPECIAL WELCOME TO ALL OUR NEW BCS STUDENTS!!!!!!
### SPORT DATES TO REMEMBER!

**Swimming**

**Primary**
- BCS 11/2/16: 3pm to 9pm Balranald
- PSSA 19/2/16: 9am to 2pm Swan Hill
- Riverina 7/3/16: 9am to 3pm Albury

**Secondary**
- BCS 11/12/16: 3pm to 9pm Balranald
- Zone 23/2/16: 9am to 3pm Hay
- Riverina 4/3/16: 9am to 3pm Leeton

**Athletics**

**Primary**
- BCS 8/4/16: 9am to 3pm Tooleybuc
- PSSA 29/7/16: 9am to 3pm Albury
- Riverina 2/9/16: 9am to 3pm Albury

**Secondary**
- BCS 8/4/16: 9am to 3pm Balranald
- Zone 3/6/16: 9am to 3pm Deniliquin
- Riverina 5/8/16: 9am to 3pm Albury

**Cross Country**

**Primary**
- BCS 5/5/16: 1pm to 3pm Wakool Burraboi
- PSSA 13/5/16: 9am to 2pm Gundagai
- Riverina 16/6/16: 9am to 3pm Gundagai

**Secondary**
- BCS 5/5/16: 1pm to 3pm Balranald
- Zone
- Riverina 17/6/16: Gundagai
ART CLUB IS STARTING BACK UP THIS YEAR!
All students in primary are welcome to join. It will be held Monday afternoons in the art room from 3-4pm. Starting date is Monday the 22\textsuperscript{nd} of February. Please sign and return the slip below before the 17\textsuperscript{th} of February so that numbers can be confirmed.

**ART CLUB PERMISSION NOTE**

I give permission for my child __________________ of Year ___ to attend Art Club on Monday afternoons from 3-4pm starting Monday, 22\textsuperscript{nd} February 2016.

Parent Signature: ___________________________ Date: / /

**SCHOOL BAND**

School band is starting back on Tuesday the 16\textsuperscript{th} of February. If you are interested in joining please speak to Miss Woods or Thom Connellan. You must be able to play an instrument or sing to join. Bands will be the same as last year. Rehearsal will be in the music room.

Band 1 (younger students) - Tuesday afternoons from 3-4 pm
Band 2 (older students) - Thursday afternoons from 3:30-4:30pm
**Weekly Quiz**

Each week a 3 question quiz will be put somewhere in the Newsletter!! Students need to cut out and return their responses to Mr Flagg by the Friday of each week.

Correct responses will be put in a hat and drawn on Monday mornings.

1. What country is hosting the 2016 Olympic Games?

2. How many Gold Medals did Australia win at the 2012 London Olympics?

3. Which female swimmer currently holds the Australian record in both 50m and 100m freestyle?

All entries will go into a major draw at the end of each term.

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**This week’s quiz**

Student’s Name: ______________________ Year: _____

1. What country is hosting the 2016 Olympic Games?

2. How many Gold Medals did Australia win at the 2012 London Olympics?

3. Which female swimmer currently holds the Australian record in both 50m and 100m freestyle?