



PIGEON POST

Learn ~ Live ~ Lead

Dates for the Diary

SEPTEMBER

- Sun 3 ~ FATHER'S DAY
- Tues 5 ~ FOIM ~
Sydney Opera House ~
7pm
- Wed 6 ~ P&C meeting
~ 7pm
- Thurs 7 ~ Ultimo Public
Speaking Finals
- Thurs 14 ~ K-2
Athletics Carnival
- Sun 17 ~ Working Bee
~ 8am-12pm
- Fri 22 ~ Last Day of
Term 3

OCTOBER

- Mon 9 ~ First day of
Term 4

NOVEMBER

- Sunday 19 ~ Belle
Property Balmain Fun
Run

Firing up the barbie...



Balmain PS certainly knows how to pitch in and put on an event!

The first day of Spring saw our school become a hive of activity, complete with tantalising aromas arising from the bbq, thanks to these gents.

A special breakfast for our community, by our community...

Maria Lambos ~ Principal



BPS

Parents & Citizens Association

We would like to wish all dads, male carers, grandads, uncles, brothers...

Happy
Father's
Day

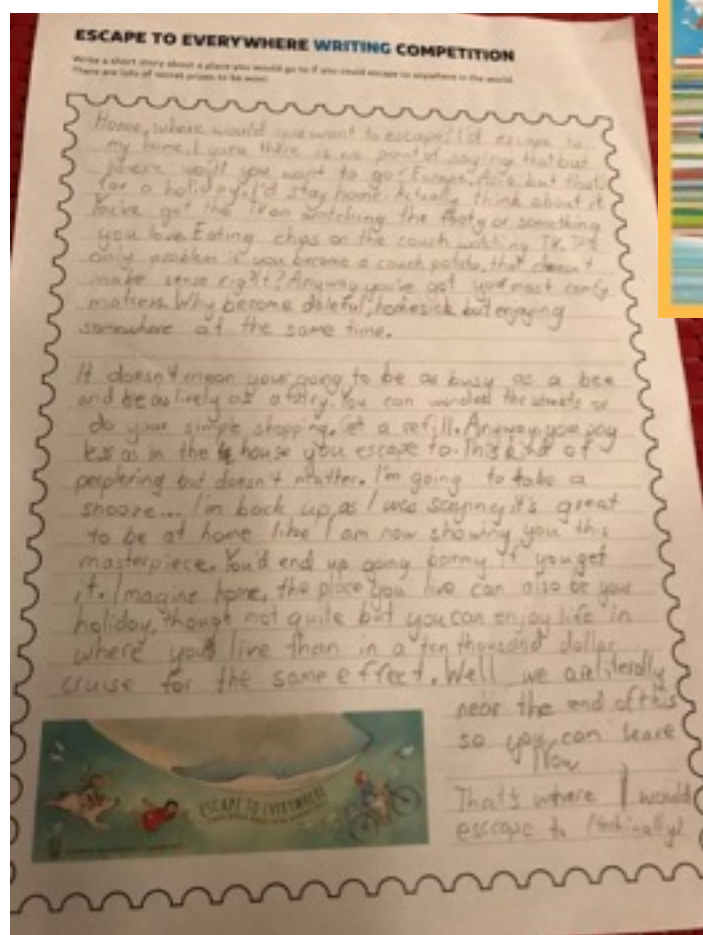
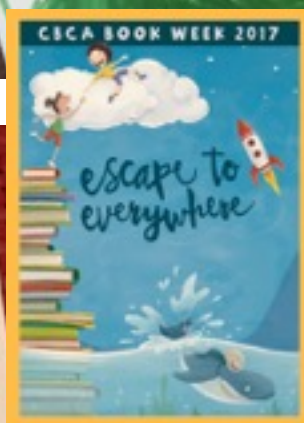
Thanks to Anne I, Lauren R, Louise B, Christine B, Isla & Andrea S, Tony L, Lyn & Nick, Laurence C & Rob S for your efforts in making the Father's Day Breakfast a success for our school community.

On Friday 25 August, the Inner West Council Libraries Book Week Competition prize giving was held.

Across the 8 branches, over 2000 entries were received, from students at 45 different schools.

There were 80 winners chosen across all school years and 2 were from our school - Imogen R from Kindergarten, as well as Brandon L in Year 5.

The children's pictures and stories will be published on the Council's website soon.



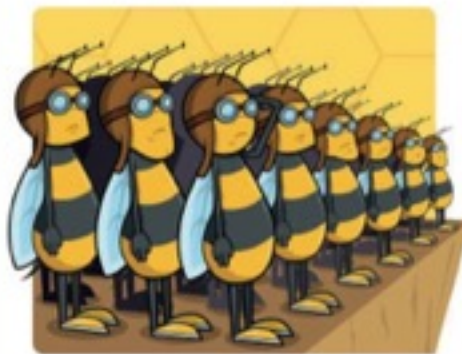
P&C Meeting

Wednesday 6 Sept

7pm

all welcome

CALLING ALL WORKER BEES!



KIDS
WELCOME!

We're holding an old school Working Bee at Balmain Public School!

Here's what's on the list:

- planting trees
- painting tired buildings
- cleaning up the frog pond area
- and so much more...

When: 8am-12pm, Sunday 17 September

Keen to help out? Contact Rob Taubman at rob@taubs.net

Can't make it? Why not donate a:

- plant - \$30
- tin of paint - \$15
- BBQ supplies - \$5

Head to Flexischools: www.flexischools.com.au

BPS ELECTION DAY CAKE STALL

8am-2pm, SATURDAY 9 SEPTEMBER

PLEASE ASSIST BY MAKING SLICES, CAKES, CUPCAKES OR BISCUITS.

CAKE BOXES WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FROM THE FRONT OFFICE, WEEK BEGINNING 4 SEPTEMBER.

PLEASE BRING YOUR GOODS TO THE SCHOOL STAFFROOM ON FRIDAY 8 SEPTEMBER, BEFORE 3:30PM, OR DROP THEM AT THE CAKE STALL BY 10AM ON THE DAY.

ANY QUERIES, PLEASE CALL NYREE MORRIS 0410 592 412 OR LYNDAL RUTGERS 0429 349 694.



NAPLAN Online Trial



IT Levy

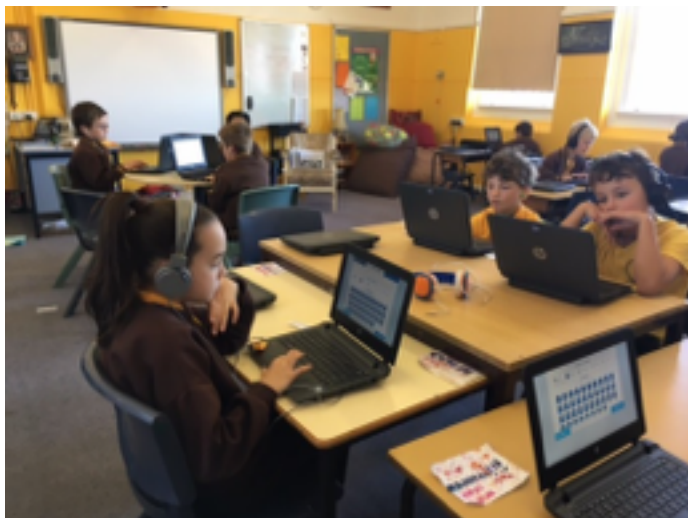
The P&C endorsed, \$75/child IT levy, as part of the School Resources Fee, assists the school in maintaining and upgrading technologies supporting your children's education.

The most recent purchase of 30 HP laptops have just been used, for the first time, for the NAPLAN Online Trial this week.

These laptops will now go into the classrooms.

We thank our community for your continued support!





NAPLAN School Readiness by Luca 5L

This week, Year 3 and Year 5 participated in the school trial for NAPLAN online, featuring two tests: an Omnibus (all subjects except writing) and a writing test. This was the first time the school had trialled NAPLAN online and we must say that it went very smoothly.

Many Year 5's thought it was fantastic and this is what they had to say:

"It was a lot faster to type the writing task."

"It was easier to concentrate because we had headphones on."

"You don't have to sharpen your pencil; it was neat, so the marker could read it and you don't need to rub anything out!"

"The internet worked perfectly. It sure was a great idea."

"It was much easier and faster to type, so I fit more in less time; it was also easier to answer my questions in depth."

Many Year 3's thought it was fantastic and this is what they had to say:

"It was faster and I could go back."

"I liked that I had to type. It helped me improve my typing."

"You didn't need a rubber or a sharpener."

"It tells you if you have missed a question."

"It felt comfortable and I felt very little pressure."

"It was more efficient, as it read to me. It was quicker."

As you can see, NAPLAN Online was a great success and we look forward to having it next year!

On Tuesday 29 August, **Bethan** Mc (5L), **Pascale** W (5L), **Dominic** W (5L) and **James** L (6EN), represented Balmain PS in round 6 of the **ANSTO Top Coder** competition. This competition was set up in 2016 to promote Coding in public schools. Last year, 12 schools were involved, and this year there are 41 schools competing, split over 7 rounds.

In round 6 - which was hosted by Pagewood PS - there were 5 other schools competing in addition to Balmain. Each school had two teams of two students, who had to work together on a coding task. Our teams were Bethan & Pascale, and James & Dominic. The task was to make a Scratch project (game, animation, art music or story) about 'Healthy Living', in 2 hours.

Each of the 12 teams presented their project at the end of the 2 hours and certificates were given out by Mr Matt Thistlethwaite MP, Member for Kingsford Smith.

Both Balmain teams elected to create a game. Bethan and Pascale did very well completing their Scratch project with time to spare, and were commended by the judges for helping other teams with their coding. James and Dominic were selected to go through to the final being held at ANSTO in late October.

We all had a fun day and learnt a lot about coding under pressure!



ANSTO Top Coder competition



SCHOOL HOLIDAY

CODESPACE

CAMPS

LEARN TO CODE!

School Holiday Workshops for Kids

@ Gladesville Uniting Church - Spring Holidays



Code your own Video Games
Build your own app!
Program & Battle Lego Robots
Mod Minecraft
Learn to start a business in Minecraft!
& More...

Ages 6+

Learn more & Enrol Online

Google "CodeSpace Camps"
learncode.com.au/gladesville

CodeSpace Education
(02) 8091 5205



PSSA ~ Soccer

Balmain A's

It was an exciting match this week between Balmain A and Birchgrove A. Early scoring from Santiago from Balmain, in the opening minutes, made it feel like it was going to be a convincing win. 2-0 after 5 minutes. Controversy then happened, as the first goal from Birchgrove was allowed. Made it 2-1.

Santiago scored again to make it 3-1. Then we were definitely going to win. But, hold on, Birchgrove come back and the next 2 goals for Birchgrove were unlucky, because they were own goals scored by Balmain.

And perhaps the best one for Birchgrove was by Santiago and his magic boot. The Birchgrove attackers put in a right, bottom corner shot. The keeper dived to save it. There were attackers and defenders everywhere. Santiago was in the front and he tried to control the ball, but it clipped the back hook of his boot and flicked over everybody's head; the keeper was already down and couldn't recover to save it. Score 3-3. And then, straight away, the referee blew the whistle.

Heartbreak for Balmain. Balmain scored 2 goals in the first minutes and the final two Birchgrove goals were scored in the final minutes. Great game from both sides.

Balmain A's

Double heartbreak. Balmain's heart has cracked into thirds, as an unlucky demolition of Balmain B occurred at the hands of Orange Grove A. They played like they knew how to play soccer. No extremely unlucky own goals from Orange Grove (damn it). We lost 5-0. But Balmain B never gave; they tried hard the whole game, and well done to Lucius for his great efforts in that game.

By Joe F



The Milo & Cookie
fundraising day for
Guide Dogs raised
\$589.70!

PSSA ~ Netball

It's the first day of spring and it was boiling hot. The Senior As had a cracking game and gave it their all, but the other team was successful. The senior Bs had a brilliant game, winning 8-5. The C team had a really good game, but didn't get a victory.

The juniors had a brilliant day, with the A team playing two games; in the first, they won 18-1 and the second game 8-1; that is a good day for the A team. The B team had a smashing game, but lost 1-3. So close B team!

GO BALMAIN!!!! 🍀😊😊😊😊😊😊

By Hannah B and Winnie M



**Want to take part in this year's Belle
Property Balmain Fun Run. But don't
know the first thing about running?**



Calling all Mums at Balmain Public...! Belle Property Balmain Fun Run sponsor Boobs on the Run are offering to train up to 14 Mums, free of charge*, but a \$20 donation to Breast Cancer Network Australia would be awesome..!

The 10 week course starts on the 18th September and will get you ready to run the 5km course at the Fun Run with confidence.

You need to be available on a Friday during school hours for 45mins (and willing to run twice more a week during your own time).

**For more information contact Melanie: 0467 527189
Email: info@boobsontherun.com.au**

www.boobsontherun.com.au

**belle
PROPERTY 2017
BALMAIN
FUN RUN**

THE 5/6S GAZETTE

Friday, September 1st, 2017

Editors: Miss P, Miss H and Miss S

Journalists: Marli, Emily, Yesmina, Ada, Finn, Isaac

Artists: Jade, Elijah, Micah, Hiva

Shortstory: Arno

Masthead Master: Sean

Poetry: Lucy, Elliot

Photography: Natasha, Isla

Mathematician: Felicia

Cartoonists: Jeremy, Connor

Puzzle masters: Will, Will, Jacob, Callum, Marcel, Fehlim



Mr Bones

By Jade

Svalbard acoustic poem By Lucy
Stilts are used in Longyearbyen to build houses
Various islands make up Svalbard
An outbreak of rabies is occurring in Svalbard
Longyearbyen is the capitol of Svalbard
Bungevatnet is one of the largest lakes in Svalbard
All streets have no signs in Svalbard
Rønnbeck Islands are close to Svalbard
Death is forbidden because the bodies are preserved in the cold; they do not decompose.



From Tehran to

Balmain By Hiva

Hiva shared her thoughts on her time in 5/6S so far, in Persian. What a talented student she is to know two languages!

من از تهران به استرالیا سفر کردم و به مدرسه 5/6S رفتم. من در کلاس من و دوست من هستیم.
من یک معلم در آن مدرسه هستم. من در آنجا هستم. من در آنجا هستم. من در آنجا هستم.
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5/6S is very lovely

Southern Hope

By Ada

Last term eight students from 5/6S (Isla, Ada, Lucy, Finn, Fehlim, Sean, Elliot and Isaac) entered a competition run by the Australian Antarctica Division (ADD) to name Australia's new ice breaker ship. The prize, not only naming the ice breaker, but a trip to Antarctica for 6 students and their teacher!

We formed a committee and set to work, researching everything we could about Antarctica during break A and B for weeks on end. With our new knowledge of Antarctica we then started to brainstorm some boat names.

We brainstormed categories like 'Aboriginal names' and 'Antarctic flora and fauna'. But none of them seemed to fit...

Finally we researched explorers. But we soon realized that none of the early explorers were women.

We discovered that women were excluded from early exploration to Antarctica due to the belief that they couldn't handle the extreme conditions. Ridiculous! The first group of Australian women to work on projects in Antarctica were Hope Black, Mary Gilham and Isobel Bennett in 1959. Inspired by this discovery, we decided on 'Southern Hope' as our name for the following three reasons:

1. To recognize Hope Black and all the other female Australian scientists who have contributed to our knowledge of Antarctica.
 2. Because the work of the AAD gives us hope for our future.
 3. Because Antarctica is the world's most southerly continent.
- We entered the competition with a video stop motion on a whiteboard we HOPE you like our name!



*Our fantastic pre-service teachers
Miss Howard and Miss Pajmans*

Svalbard Haiku

By Elliot

Freezing cold all day
The ice never goes away
Trying to keep warm

I'm big and furry
Ice white fur is all I need
I am always warm

Norway

By Jeremy



Interview with our Pre-Service Teachers

By Yesmina, Marli and Emily

Reporters: Why do you want to be a teacher?

Miss Pajmans: I love working with children and I don't want to work in an office all day.

Miss Howard: I have four teachers in my family and I think working with children is very enjoyable.

R: What are you enjoying about Balmain public school?

MP: The kids are friendly and great conversationalists, and the teachers are patient and encouraging. Also the school is beautiful!

MH: The lively students and the wonderful teachers.

R: What was the most embarrassing thing that's ever happened in your life?

MP: The time I caught a Ferry from Italy to Greece and couldn't afford a cabin so I slept under a table. And I woke up to people eating at the table above me!

MH: I only learnt to ride a push bike two years ago.

R: What did you want to be before you decided to become a teacher?

MP: A speech pathologist.

MH: An actor and children's author.

R: If you had to eat any insect which insect would you eat?

MP: I would eat a grasshopper, I heard they taste good.

MH: I would eat crickets because they're in health food shops so they must be good for you.

R: If you had to live in Paris, Greece or Spain, which would you choose?

MP: Paris, because I could travel to other European countries easily and I would love to immerse myself in another culture.

MH: New York, I've never been there.

My Experiences with Pokémon

By Finn

Recently, I competed in the Pokémon World Championships (see my photo to the right with a giant Pokémon). You may be wondering, "How does someone get to play at the Pokémon World Championships?" Well I will explain to you here how I came to compete in this high level of play and the road I took there!

I started playing this strategic turn based game last year in 2016. My first ever competition was the Sydney regionals and to my surprise I got to the quarter-finals and came 5th. Because I did well, I travelled to Melbourne to compete in the National Championships. I didn't expect much, but the first competition was really fun and a great experience. After playing for many hours and winning many rounds, I was able to make it to the semi-finals and become the third best player in Australia!

This year I continued playing, but after last year being in the junior division (ages 11 and under) I was in the senior division (12 to 16). I once again played in many competitions, but this year I won an invitation and flight to the Pokémon World Championships in Anaheim California!

The Pokémon World Championships was another great experience where I made many friends and cheered the Australians on. I was also pretty happy with my place of 39th. I love playing Pokémon because I make many friends and memories!!!



Finding x !

These days 5/6s has been finding x , see if you can solve them.

$$7x = 49 \div 7 \\ x = ?$$

$$5x = 125 \\ x = ?$$

$$x = 125 \div 25 \\ 16 = ?$$

$$5x = 30 \\ x = ?$$

$$7x = 30 - 9 \\ x = ?$$

5/6S Crossword

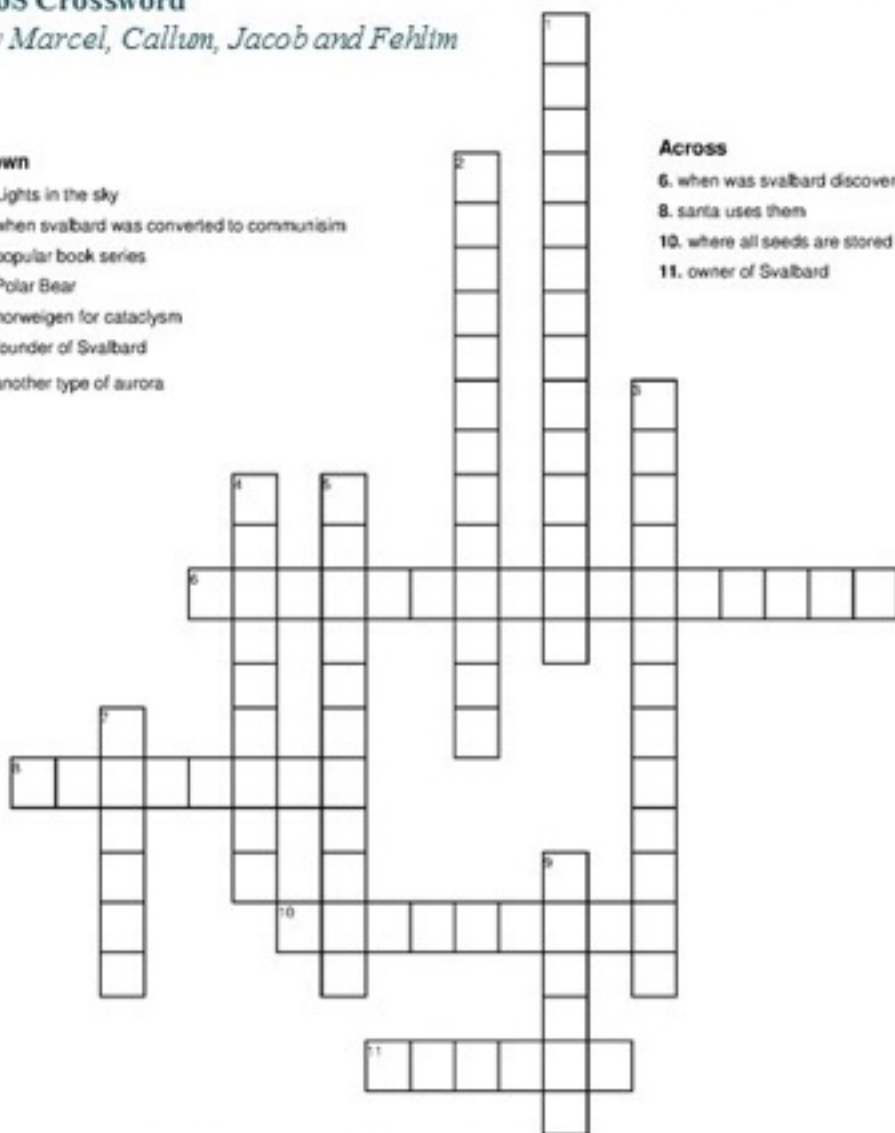
By Marcel, Callum, Jacob and Fehlm

Down

1. Lights in the sky
2. when svalbard was converted to communism
3. popular book series
4. Polar Bear
5. norwegian for cataclysm
7. founder of Svalbard
9. another type of aurora

Across

6. when was svalbard discovered
8. santa uses them
10. where all seeds are stored
11. owner of Svalbard



5/6S Find a Word *By Will and Will*

D	I	V	Q	C	R	G	P	N	C	D	V	W	F	J
Y	F	W	V	F	R	I	E	N	D	S	D	Z	O	C
O	R	Q	Q	C	B	Z	P	N	Q	M	V	K	V	L
D	R	N	V	K	T	K	S	T	G	Z	E	S	W	E
G	M	S	K	Z	Q	O	A	S	D	R	J	E	N	V
K	C	K	P	O	D	R	Q	Q	S	C	W	G	S	E
D	M	P	H	E	C	N	E	I	C	S	R	G	O	R
E	A	Y	O	P	L	Q	E	G	Y	J	J	M	C	S
Z	T	F	K	D	I	L	S	E	G	R	Q	Y	V	I
H	H	K	R	T	C	W	I	X	I	B	R	A	M	D
L	S	Z	I	Z	N	A	L	N	A	J	L	S	E	E
W	H	P	Z	Z	H	X	S	O	G	B	Z	G	Y	C
Z	G	N	M	I	S	S	S	T	A	N	L	E	Y	I
Y	P	K	O	O	B	Z	U	R	W	A	U	P	C	Q
Y	Z	I	R	B	K	K	D	W	Z	S	P	F	M	Q

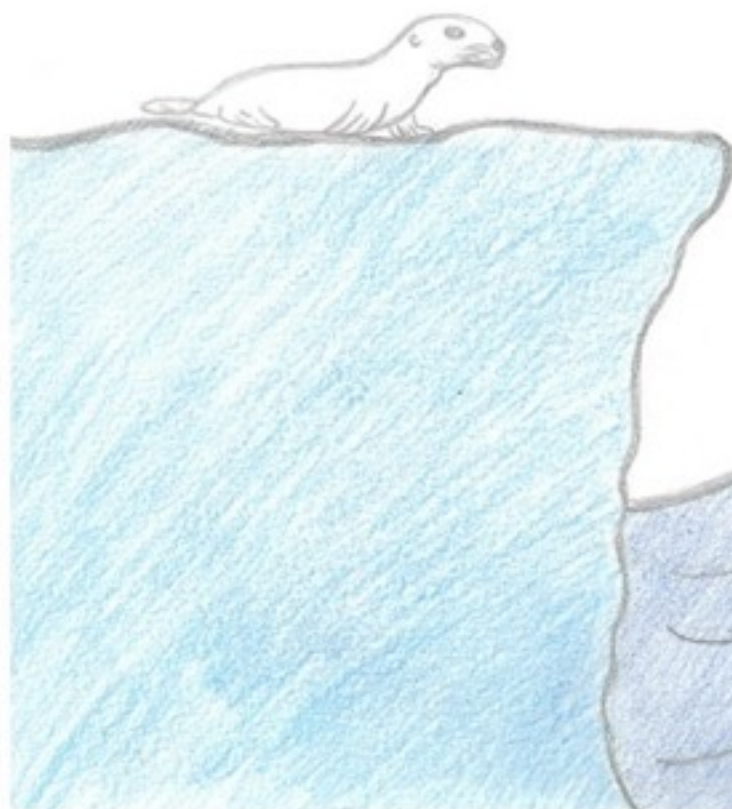
ICE
CLEVER
SPELLING
MISSSTANLEY

BOOK
PODCAST
SCIENCE
FUN

SVALBARD
MATHS
JOKERS
FRIENDS

Svalbard

By Micah and Elijah



Decay – a thriller

By Arno

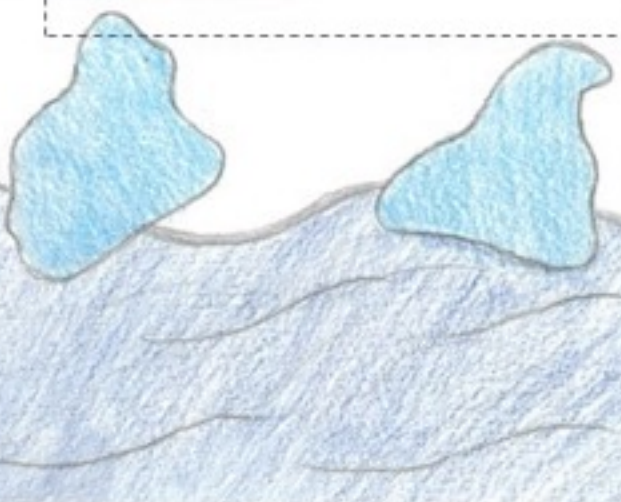
Warning: This story contains mature themes – for mature readers only

I hear an unearthly scream coming from behind me in the woods. My legs immediately lock in place. The scream comes again and I wait in terror, my knees refusing to bend.

I now scan the bushes and undergrowth, catching a glimpse of my stalker, he had hair the colour of mud and nearly bald. But what strikes me as unreal is his skin. His skin peeling away from his sunken white cheeks, his eyes a shade of milky white. His torso wore a ragged white shirt going with his black jeans. And some of his wounds on his knee expose bone and dried up blood. He disappeared into the bush leaving me picture of his skinny limbs.

"No!" I thought. I've been camping for 3 days and now, the walking dead!? Finally my legs break the trance, and start sprinting deeper into the forest. I don't turn to look, but by the sound of its scream behind me, it's catching up. I weave in and out of branches, ducking and leaping over roots. I finally reach a clearing that leads to a grotto with more forest. I scan the area looking for a bridge but there are none in sight. Before I can turn around a loud 'crack' on my head forces me to crumple in pain seeing black spots in my vision before blacking out. One question remains, what about the rest of the world?

To Be Continued...



Young Justice Program

This program is run by Young Lawyers Society to promote social justice awareness in Stage 3 students. Balmain PS was fortunate to be offered 10 places for 2017. The students met The Honourable Geoffrey Justice Bellew, whilst sitting in the Supreme Court; they had workshops in animal rights, legal education, climate change and human rights.

Isaac:

I really liked the climate change session with Ross. He shaved off half his beard and raised nearly \$800 for reforestation. He talked us with half a beard.

Bethan:

I am intrigued why the government didn't know about the 'suspicious guinea pig' when Queensland has a law about keeping rabbits.

Paul:

I think I asked the most questions! I was particularly interested in the rights of the child. There was a story of a girl in East Timor who had to collect water for her family - it took an hour before school and an hour after school. Then she also had to go to school which was an hour each way! This contravenes Article 32 twice every day!

Daphne:

I loved learning about things that I would never expect people to make laws about. Mum said I came home today absolutely brimming with inspiration.



Luca:

What amazed me was the the amount of years it took Justice Bellew to get from being a solicitor to a Justice - 27 years!!! I really enjoyed listening to this man.

Arno:

The crazy penalties for some strange laws - like the fine for carrying more than 50kg potatoes, seems far too much for such a small offence.

Kalanie:

All the odd laws the different states have are interesting, like the potato laws in Western Australia, where you cannot carry more than 50kg potatoes in a vehicle. A potato farmer, called Spud King, argued against the law.

Sandy:

Children are suing Governments overseas about climate change. They believe past generations have compromised their future through running coal plants and other actions.

Ben W:

What weird laws we have in our country. Did you know it is against the law for women to wear nightwear while riding a horse?

Ben S:

This was a really good experience as I learnt about law and how it works.

BALMAIN BASKETBALL SESSIONS

**LEARN BASKETBALL
WITH OUR TERM 3
TRAINING SESSIONS**

**WEDNESDAYS 4-5PM AT
BALMAIN SECONDARY COLLEGE
25/33 TERRY ST, ROZELLE**

**REGISTER YOUR INTEREST AT:
PLAY@CITYHOOPS.COM.AU**

LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE



CITY HOOPS

WWW.CITYHOOPS.COM.AU



Kids' fishing workshop



Kids 8–14 years old are invited to come and learn to fish safely and responsibly. Instructors are experienced volunteers and staff from the Department of Primary Industries.

The day runs from 10 am to 2 pm and involves fishing techniques, bag and size limits, and fish handling for *best release techniques*.

COST is \$40 PER CHILD, and includes * rod and reel combination * shirt * hat * tackle box * show bag—all to take home!

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL.
Maximum 25 participants.

Locations and Dates

Cronulla

Tuesday 26th September 2017
Tuesday 24th April 2018

Balmain

Wednesday 4th October 2017
Monday 15th January 2018
Thursday 19th April 2018

Narrabeen

Tuesday 23rd January 2018
Tuesday 17th April 2018

To book: e-mail daniel.mallen@dpi.nsw.gov.au or call Daniel Mallen on 0417 445 847

Web details: <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/recreational/info/workshop>

NSW DPI fishing workshops are run with the assistance of the Fishcare Volunteers and are supported by funds from the Recreational Fishing Trusts

The Haunted Mansion

School Holiday Workshop

Are you brave enough to enter...
The Haunted Mansion?

Take a journey with us these school holidays to investigate the strange house at the end of the street. Spend time creating weird and wacky characters - goblins, vampires and even Frankenstein!

Students will learn the skills of improvisation, devising and play building to create their own Haunted Mansion for all their friends and family to enjoy at the end of the week.

Details



Monday 25th - Friday 29th September 2017



9:00am - 3:00pm



Balmain Scout Hall
Mort St, Balmain



\$ \$350.00



Primary school-aged children

Early bird discount

Book before September 1st to receive 10% off the booking fee.

For more info and to book, contact Emily
0403 755 031 | mustardseedproductions.info@gmail.com

Mustard Seed Productions Drama is a fun and exciting drama school, teaching children the fundamentals of performance.

We provide students with skills in:

- Confidence
- Team work
- Performance
- Public Speaking
- Devising

