

Bellata Public School



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BELLATA PUBLIC SCHOOL

VISION STATEMENT

Our school is place of inclusion, belonging and learning, where all learners are equipped for life as confident, creative, and resilient global citizens.

SCHOOL FEATURES

Situated off the Newell Highway, Bellata Public School has well grassed play and shaded areas with tree-lined boundaries. We have extensive play equipment and our own 'Quarry' where students enjoy creative free play. The school has three well-resourced and newly furnished classrooms and a brand-new library that is used for a variety of activities.

The school was established in 1899.

Bellata Public School receives an intake of kindergarten students from the Gwydir Mobile Pre-school which operates next to the school one day per week. Our senior students transition into surrounding local high schools at either Narrabri or Moree. Some of our students may join the Agricultural High School in Tamworth, or one of the many other private boarding schools.



WHAT IS SO SPECIAL ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

Each child is treated as an individual.

Children participate in teaching and learning programs that are designed to meet their specific and individualised learning goals. We support the individual child to flourish intellectually, socially, physically, emotionally, morally, and spiritually. Children are supported to develop a strength and confidence within themselves to achieve life goals and to be successful adults who contribute positively to the school, broader community, and society in general.

The school actively promotes a caring and safe work and play atmosphere. Children are supported to make good choices and develop their own moral compass.

Children are given every opportunity, and are encouraged to, participate in extra-curricula activities such as: eisteddfods; debating; public speaking; writing and poetry competitions; local shows; representative sport; external competitions; and other extra curricula activities.

Each classroom is fully equipped with personal learning devices and is fully stocked with new learning equipment to support engagement and high performance.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Bellata Public School

Gurley Street

BELLATA NSW 2397

Telephone 02) 6793 7514

E-mail bellata-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Website www.bellata-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

ROUTINES

Monday to Friday	8.30am	School opens
	9.00am	Morning lessons commence
		Fruit Break (Crunch & Sip)
	11.00am	Recess
	11.30am	Mid-morning lessons commence
	1.00pm	Lunch
	1.45pm	Afternoon lessons commence
	3.00pm	Students dismissed

SCHOOL COLOURS

Maroon and Gold

SPORTS HOUSES AND COLOURS

Chappell - Maroon

Goolagong - Gold

Student numbers need to exceed 20 before House's are operational.

STAFF DIRECTORY

Mrs Lisa Kelly	Principal (Relieving)
Ms Martine Smith	Teacher
Mr Edwin Currall	Teacher
Mrs Elizabeth Jackman	Teacher - Part-Time
Mrs Jacki Ward	Teacher - Part-Time
Mrs Louise Hobson	School Administration Manager (Relieving)
Mrs Susan Promnitz	Administration Assistant
Mrs Kristy McPherson	School Learning Support Officer



SCHOOL AWARD SYSTEM

We have an award system that supports children to have-a-go and achieve their best at all times. Class awards are linked to ‘Honour Badges’. Children work for the duration of their Bellata Public School years to achieve one or more Honour Badges.

We use ‘Class DOJO’s’ to instantly recognize and acknowledge student achievement, strengths and attitudes. It is a layered approach to supporting students as they work towards achieving an ‘Honour Badge’.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Our building is of timber construction. Every room is air-conditioned for summer and heated in winter. The rooms are light and airy, creating pleasant working environments.

The school covers an area of 1.5 hectares. We have newly established gardens that children have helped to develop. Our playground consists of a large covered sandpit, an extra-large playground with a slippery dip and plenty of climbing and balancing equipment. We have open spaces for children to run and play sporting activities in, and a monster sized quarry for children to unleash their imagination and creativity onto as they play, build and construct with a large variety of trucks and other machinery. There is a great selection of dolls, prams and ‘housekeeping’ type toys for all students to access during recess and lunch times.

Our grounds are well maintained and during the drought we maintain healthy green grassed areas for children to utilize.

On site we have a nature reserve, that provides us with a great foundation for exploring and learning about nature.

During eating times, seating is available undercover, out of the elements as well as a selection of outdoor seating for when the weather is just right.

The school is fortunate to have both the Tennis Club and Golf Club within easy access to the school.





CANTEEN

The canteen is serviced by parent volunteers and operates each Friday.

Children order lunches by writing their name, class and order on a paper bag, including the correct money where possible and placing it on the bench inside the canteen.

The canteen has been classified as meeting the requirements of The NSW Healthy Canteen Strategy, offering a variety of nutritious, well-priced foods. Price lists are periodically sent home.



CURRICULUM

The school provides a well-balanced program of educational experiences for all students in the six Key Learning Areas. These are:

- * English
- * Mathematics
- * Science and Technology
- * History and Geography
- * Health, Physical Education and Personal Development
- * Creative and Practical Arts

The Curriculum documents issued by the NSW Department of Education form the basis for the planned learning experiences.

SCHOOL UNIFORM



Summer Uniform



Winter Uniform

The wearing of a school uniform is actively encouraged at Bellata Public School.

A metal **school badge** is available for purchase from the school.

Orders available through the P&C.

PLEASE LABEL ALL CLOTHING

GIRLS

Summer

Maroon/white check dress.

Black leather shoes and white ankle socks

Maroon school printed sloppy joe may be worn.

School hat - available from school

Winter

Dress - Maroon/grey check with gold stripe tunic. Orders available through P&C.

Lemon long-sleeved Midford brand blouse (no skivvies)

School tie

Black leather shoes, white ankle socks or black stockings

Maroon school printed sloppy joe

Slacks - Maroon/grey check. Orders available through P&C.

Midford brand lemon blouse

Maroon school printed sloppy joe

School tie

Black leather shoes, white ankle socks or black stockings

BOYS

Summer

Grey shorts

Lemon short-sleeved shirt

Black leather shoes with grey socks

Maroon school printed sloppy joe may be worn.

School hat - available from school.

Winter

Long grey trousers or grey shorts

Lemon long-sleeved shirt

School tie

Black leather shoes with grey socks

Maroon school printed sloppy joe.

N.B. Full School uniform is to be worn on all official occasions.

SPORTS UNIFORM

Girls Maroon pleated sports skirt with maroon or black gym pants
OR maroon shorts
Gold polo T-shirt with collar and printed school logo
Leather sports shoes with white socks
School hat
Maroon trackpants may be worn in winter instead of skirts.
Skirts and trackpants should not be worn together.

Boys Maroon shorts
Gold polo T-shirt with collar and printed school logo
School hat
Leather sports shoes and white socks
Maroon trackpants may be worn.

Sports day is Friday. Students should wear their sports uniform on that day.



SUPPORT SERVICES

* **Department of Education School Counsellor**

Available to assist with individual assessments, counselling and assistance regarding any learning or behavior issues.

* **Community Health Service**

The local Community Health Services in Narrabri and Moree have many specialized services which are available to assist with all health-related issues.

* **Dental Clinic**

Available at Narrabri District Hospital Phone 6799 2800

SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

A feature of the public education system in NSW is the opportunity to provide time in class for education in ethics, faith and morality from a religious or non-religious perspective at the choice of parents.

The school website provides information on these options to support parent/carer choice.

At Bellata Public School religious development and instruction for Christian denominations is held on Monday afternoon.



HOMEWORK

Homework provides a natural link between the school and the home. At home children should have the opportunity to practice, consolidate and extend the work of the classroom. They should be given opportunities to develop home study habits.

In addition to incidental homework tasks, regular home-reading is expected.

It is recommended that each day parents:

- Discuss the events of the school day with your child.
- Review times tables and spelling with your child.
- Listen to your child read or read with them.
- Check for any notes or information from school.

SCHOOL BANKING

Students may open a Commonwealth Bank account at school. Banking is conducted by our School Administration Officer, Mrs Susan Promnitz, on Tuesday.

Students bring their money in their deposit book. Application forms are available from the school office.

ABSENCES

When a student is absent from school, be it for sickness or for any other reason, an absence note, explaining the absence, should be sent to the class teacher upon the student's return. Please ensure that all notes explaining absences are dated. There is an absentee note template on the school website which may be used. The SkoolLoop app for phones may also be used to send absentee notes.

If your child is likely to be absent a number of days, we would appreciate a phone call, or a message passed on to us about the impending absence. Any illness absence over 2 days requires a medical certificate.

Absences for which no note of explanation is received, or absences where an acceptable reason is not given, will be recorded at the school as 'unjustified'. We are required by law to do this. Officers of the NSW Department of Education visit the school periodically (at least 4 times a year) to check our class rolls for high or frequently unexplained absenteeism. They then follow up by visiting parents.

SCHOOL FEES / PAPER LEVY

Each year parents are requested to pay a Textbook Fee / Paper Levy. This fee is a portion of the total cost of expenses that are incurred each year to support children with their learning. The rest of the cost is met by the school. Last year our paper levy was \$30 per child for the year. *This fee may be paid in instalments.*

BUS TRAVEL

All out-of-town children have free bus travel. Most intown children are supported with free bus travel.

Two country buses support families, one for the East and one for the West. Buses deliver and collect children each school day.

Bus proprietors are:

DKD Buses

Mr & Mrs David and Kerri Dufty Ph: 0474 937 402

Applications for bus travel are online at School student travel | transportnsw.info

Some families are eligible for a travel subsidy to drive their children to the nearest bus pick-up point. Details and application forms are available online from School student travel | transportnsw.info



PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

The school has a very supportive and active P&C Association to which all are welcome.

The P&C meets regularly in the school library. Membership is \$2 per annum.

The prime objectives of the P&C are:

- to promote the interest of the school by bringing parents, citizens, students and teaching staff into close co-operation; and
- to assist in providing the equipment and resources required by the school.

NEWSLETTER

School news and activities are sent out via the School Bytes app. This highlights school, P&C and community activities. Newsletters and the school calendar are also available on our website .

LIBRARY

Bellata Public School has a well-resourced library that has a wide range of fiction and non-fiction books. Our students are encouraged to borrow weekly for their own enjoyment or to share with others.



COMPUTERS

The school is well equipped with computers, laptops and interactive boards for use in all classrooms. All devices have internet access. Students K-6 are exposed to a wide variety of activities to support and encourage learning.

SPORT AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Your child's sports day will be advised early in the first few weeks of returning to school. Physical Education lessons occur at least once a week.

The emphasis is on participation, enjoyment, and skill development. We aim to provide as wide a variety of sports and games as possible. All students are given opportunities to develop fundamental movement skills while engaging in team and individual challenges.

The school competes in a small school's athletics carnival with the Western District Small Schools alliance, known as Quad Sports.

Students in Years 3-6 are encouraged to participate in PSSA sports throughout the year.



INTENSIVE SWIMMING

Each year the school holds an intensive swimming school program. This is usually held in November at the Narrabri pool. All children are encouraged to attend.

KINDERGARTEN

IS MY CHILD OLD ENOUGH TO START SCHOOL?

The NSW Department of Education guidelines state that children must be 5 years of age by 31st July in their year of enrolment in Kindergarten.

You must provide the school with proof of your child's age prior to enrolment. A birth certificate must be provided, so please bring this proof along when attending your child's enrolment interview at the school

Your child's enrolment application can be completed several ways, either by:

- completing the paper enrollment package available from our school,
- online via the Bellata Public School website, or
- through your Service NSW account.

DOES MY CHILD NEED IMMUNISATION?

It is recommended that your child has up to date immunisation prior to enrolment.

The Public Health (Amendment) Act 1992 requires parents of children starting in Kindergarten to provide an Immunisation Certificate at the time of school enrolment.

Unimmunised children will be required to stay home during any immunisable health outbreak – such as chickenpox.

DOES MY CHILD NEED A CHECK-UP?

Examinations by your doctor and dentist are encouraged. It is suggested that you organize a pre-school screening for your child with Community Health. This screening will test such things as hearing and eyesight.

WHAT DOES MY CHILD NEED TO TAKE TO SCHOOL?

Students are expected to bring their Crunch & Sip, Recess, Lunch, water bottle, school hat, sunscreen and a library bag. Kindergarten to Year 2 students will be provided with their stationery requirements.

If other items are needed, a note will be sent home detailing them.

GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL

Starting school is a big change for children. There are some things you can do to make your school a happier place for your child.

Over the next few months, try to let your child get used to:

- putting on and taking off clothes
- putting on and doing up shoes
- eating and drinking without help
- carrying and using a tissue or handkerchief

It is important that your child knows how to:

- use and flush a toilet
- ask clearly for things
- say their name and address
- cross a road safely

Also, try to get your child used to:

- recognizing their own name in lower case letters with a capital / upper case letter for the first letter.
- playing with groups of children the same age
- sharing toys and taking turns at activities
- staying at a friend's or relative's house for a few hours without you around
- caring for and putting away playthings



ABOUT YOUR CHILD’S HEALTH

Regular attendance is very important to your child’s success at school, however, keep your child at home if they have a sore throat, runny nose, coughing, diarrhea, skin rash, inflamed eyes, nausea, earache, or any common contagious disease.

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on how we manage illness. Children who display any COVID like symptoms **MUST** stay at home until they have had a COVID test. Children cannot return to school until they are symptom free and have produced a copy of COVID clear test result to the office. Remote learning packages are available for students during times such as these to support attendance.

The NSW Department of Education requires that parents send a note to the class teacher to give reasons why your child was absent from school. Whilst a phone call is always welcome, it is not sufficient.

A medical certificate is required for more than 2 days absence due to illness.

Let your children know that school is important by establishing routines for:

- going to bed early, getting up early, dressing, eating
- arriving on time, being ready to learn

HEAD LICE (nits).

Check your child’s hair regularly and don’t be surprised or upset if your child gets them. Many children do. Please inform us immediately if your family has an outbreak of head lice as early notification can control a major outbreak.

Head lice, nits, don’t do any harm but they do make the head feel itchy and can significantly impact on a child’s concentration. We have information at school on how to treat the problem and your pharmacy will be helpful.

WHAT WILL YOUR CHILD LEARN?

When asked, “What did you do at school today?”, many children will reply, “Nothing” or “We just played”. In fact, children do many different things which may be called “play” but which are actually an important part of learning.

It is important to remember that all children learn at different rates. Please do not expect your child to achieve particular skills at the same time, or earlier than other children.

ENGLISH

Your child will be learning to read books as well as other signs, labels, names and pictures.

The children will:

- be writing their names
- begin to develop their handwriting skills
- learn to listen to and follow instructions
- learn new words, new ways to make sentences and new ways to express their ideas
- use their own language as a basis for reading activities
- learn about stories and poems
- act out short stories
- learn to write stories

MATHEMATICS

Number, Space, Measurement and Working Mathematically

Your child will be introduced to the concepts:

- groups
- numbers 1 - 10
- informal measurements and shapes
- looking for patterns and relationships in all sorts of materials
- the meanings of some mathematical terms
- preliminary problem solving



H.S.I.E. (Human Society and Its Environment)

Children will develop:

- a better understanding of themselves and others
- an ability to talk about themselves and their families
- an understanding of the local environment

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Science is more than a body of knowledge. It is also a process of investigation.

Technology is concerned with the purposeful and creative use of resources to meet perceived needs or goals.

Children will develop:

- an enriched view of themselves, society, the environment and the future,
- an enthusiasm for future learning of science and technology.

CREATIVE ARTS

Music/Drama and Dance are part of the school curriculum and are embraced as fundamental skills for all students. Children will enjoy the world of music through singing, responding and playing. They will learn to express themselves, their feelings and their creative ideas by painting, modelling, drawing and constructing. It is recommended that you send a waterproof paint shirt, labelled with your child's name, to be kept at school and used for protecting clothes when painting and creating.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Children learn about safety, health and good manners. Each child will be involved in activities to develop skills in climbing, throwing, catching, running, skipping and balancing.



ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY

Help your child to learn:

- their first and last name,
- their address,
- their phone number,
- their parents' names,
- that school is an enjoyable experience and an important part of their future.

Teach them that they must:

- refuse rides with strangers,
- ask before putting something unfamiliar in their mouths,
- cross streets safely and at corners and crossings,
- not step out between parked cars, or in front of, or behind, buses,
- remain seated in buses and not kneel on the seats facing rear of the bus,
- always wear a helmet when riding a bicycle,
- always get out of a car on the passenger's side

ENJOY YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL LIFE

Our school is open and friendly. Parents and carers are welcome in the classrooms and to join in with special learning activities throughout the year.

At times, COVID-19 health restrictions may impact on who has access to school grounds. If this occurs, we provide you with the most recent information and will continue to support families as needed.

Families are encouraged to:

Visit our school to:

- gain information about Kindergarten programs,
- talk with your child's teacher if you are having difficulties with your child at home, or if your child is having difficulties at school,
- observe classroom activities,

- find out if there is anything you can do to help your child at home.

Volunteer your help at school to:

- assist your child's teacher,
- share your hobbies and special skills with students,
- become involved in P & C activities.

Assist with activities such as:

- going on excursions,
- reading to groups of students,
- helping during art, craft, writing and Mathematics activities,
- helping during sport,
- helping with computer lessons.

Remember to:

- look in your child's bag each day for artwork and samples of work,
- have a special place to pin up your child's work,
- show you are interested in what your child is doing at school,
- reply to school requests promptly,
- read the school newsletter each fortnight,
- advise the teacher, school of any planned absences,
- contact the school to clarify any matter of confusion

TO HELP YOUR CHILD LEARN

Give them responsibilities. Encourage your child to:

- put away toys,
- hang up their own clothes,
- do simple household chores,
- actively listen to others,
- help brothers and sisters,

- consider the feelings of others.
- wash hands before a meal,
- brush teeth after meals,
- wash hands after going to the toilet.

Children learn through imitation. Help your child to be a good listener and to show consideration for others by:

- always setting a good example,
- not swearing,
- responding appropriately to others,
- taking a deep breathe when frustrated
- actively listening to others

Children will be more successful at school if you:

- share their school experience,
- read them a story every day,
- refrain from comparing your child to others,
- talk to your child about what they do at school,
- speak positively about teachers and classmates,
- write messages for your child in lower case letters,
- walk and talk with your child,
- encourage them to acquire interests,
- ask them to share the school day with you,
- go straight to the source of truth if you hear something that doesn't sound correct or bothers you.