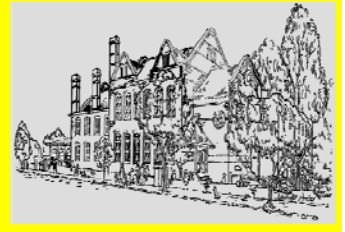


# Birchgrove Buzz

Term 4 Week 8, December 1, 2010

Newsletter of the Birchgrove Public School  
A NSW Government School  
Birchgrove Road,  
Balmain NSW 2041

Ph: 02 9810 2469  
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Gemma Gardiner- Savannah Grasslands (with real grass)

## 1/2C - Wet and Dry Environment Projects.

As part of Stage One's unit on Wet and Dry Environments, students were given the task of researching and giving a presentation on a particular environment, using a model, poster, diorama or powerpoint.

The projects have been of a fantastic standard and we have all learnt so much from each presentation more about a variety of environments from the cold, sparse tundra to the lush dense Amazon rainforest and even the more familiar NSW coastal beach environment. Some children even went on a field trip to carry out their research, some budding David Attenborough's perhaps?

**Ms Copping**

### Twitter account for parents

Visit [www.twitter.com/myschoolkids](http://www.twitter.com/myschoolkids) and follow My School Kids to see helpful and practical advice to support your child.

### Encouraging your child to read at home

1. Be yourself and involve your child in everyday conversations from an early age.
2. Read aloud to your child. It will help your child to learn the language of books and encourage the enjoyment of books and reading.
3. Talk about books together - make reading a shared, enjoyable activity.
4. See that there is a range of reading material for your child at home, both fiction and non-fiction.
5. Read to your child in your first language - research shows that using your first language will help your child when he or she learns to read English.
6. Try not to let television intrude on reading time - set aside some uninterrupted time to read with your child.
7. Listen to your child read every day, even if only for a short time.
8. Give books as treats and presents.
9. Discuss the meanings of stories and words.
10. Join your local library. Borrow books for yourself as well as your child.

More tips at [www.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au)

### Water

Pack a water bottle for your child each day and remind them that they can also get water from the taps or bubblers throughout the day.

### Whooping cough

There has been a recent increase of whooping cough (pertussis) among primary-school-aged children and a modest increase in high schools.

### What's On

3/12	Concert Band Randwick Childrens Hospital
3/12	Preschool Concert (2 day)
3/12-4/12	Birchgrove 125 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Movie
6/12	Recognition 1R, 1,K, 1/2C, 2S, 2D
7/12	Preschool Concert (3 day)
8/12	Recognition 4/5W, 5D, 6N
8/12	Preschool Party
9/12	Preschool Party
9/12	Kindergarten Graduation 10am
9/12	Year 6 Formal
10/12	Music End of Year Concert & Party
10/12	125th Birthday Party & Disco pm
13/12	Recognition 3F, 3/4B, 3/4C
13/12	Year 6 Big Day Out
14/12	Pool Picnic
14/12	K-2 Picnic Day
15/12	Last Day for students 2010

Whooping cough caught at school can spread to younger brothers and sisters at home and can be especially dangerous for babies.

Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and is worse at night. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children.

- Children with symptoms should see a GP.
- If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken five days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.
- Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades. If your school-aged child has younger siblings, it's a good idea to check that they are up to date with their vaccines.

More information at [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au)

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## Birchgrove Public School is **125 years old**

Come and help celebrate  
at our movie night



Tickets: \$5 per person or  
\$20 a family  
(cash only)

On sale after school in  
the front courtyard

**FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER &  
SATURDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
6:15PM FOR A 6:30PM START  
AT BALMAIN HIGH SCHOOL  
HALL**

**NB: All children need to  
be accompanied by an  
adult. Tickets need to  
be purchased before  
the evening.**

### 1/2C Projects Continued

Zahllie- Rainforests



Harris Barker Mangroves



Jordan Viladecas l'anson Alpine





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## Principals Report



### Congratulations to

**Georgia Briggs NSW Multicultural Public Speaking Champion for 2010.** On Monday Mr Nguyen and I went to see Georgia compete against the twelve other state finalists. The standard was extremely high. Her competitors included the 2009 Multicultural Public Speaking Champion, the 2010 State Debating Champion and the 2010 State Spelling Bee Champion. Over 12 000 students had entered the competition across the state. Georgia gave a prepared speech entitled "Belonging" and an impromptu speech with the theme "time out".



Along with many of the KG parents I enjoyed attending **KG's pirate party** on Friday. The 'pirates' looked very authentic and loved playing in their own private pirate cove



**125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Movie-** the classes from preschool to year 6 have worked really hard to make this wonderful production. Each class is presenting a section of history through dance, music, singing and drama. Every child can be picked out in their classes production. The DVD will make a great keepsake. I am looking forward to seeing you at our screenings on Friday and Saturday evening.



Signorina Koumi has won a scholarship to visit Italy over the summer holidays and further develop her Italian teaching skills. This is a fabulous achievement and a great opportunity. Congratulations Signorina Koumi.

I am starting to look at possible class formations and groupings for **2011 Classes**. Each child will have some of their friends in their class and teachers look at the learning needs of the students to help with class placement. We also try to split any students who might have issues with each other where possible and look at which teachers' suit which children best.

If there may be an issue I need to know about concerning the placement of your child for 2011, please let me know as soon as possible.

**1K** enjoyed making healthy pizzas with Karen in the canteen yesterday. They enjoyed eating them for lunch even more. Look out for the article in next week's news letter. **1R** will be making pizzas next Tuesday.

The three senior classes visited **Balmain High** last Friday, for their **drama production** 'Who done it', a murder mystery with a twist and next Monday afternoon the Y9 music students from St Scholastica will be visiting to perform the new musical they have written.



**Lyn Doppler**, Rozelle Public School's Principal is **retiring** after many years of dedication to Public Education. I would like to wish Lynn well and thank her for all her help and support. Lynn is planning on travelling the world teaching Restorative Practices. We are looking forward to working with her in that capacity.

Tracy Gray

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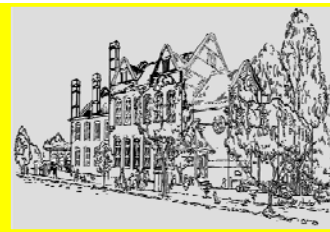
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## RECORDERS FOR NEXT YEAR

If you want to learn recorder next year please contact Denise at:

[denise@tpg.com.au](mailto:denise@tpg.com.au) this week.

## SCHOOL HIRE INSTRUMENTS

**ALL INSTRUMENTS MUST BE RETURNED  
AFTER THE CONCERT ON FRIDAY 10<sup>TH</sup>  
DECEMBER**

If you are hiring a school instrument this year please note that they are for one year hire only. From next year you will have to purchase or rent your own instrument. The exception to this is the bigger brass instruments such as trombone and French horn and the string instruments.

## Music Fees are now Overdue

All parents who owe fees for Term 4 should have received an invoice by now. If not, please contact Suzanne at [birchgrovemusic@hotmail.com](mailto:birchgrovemusic@hotmail.com).

## Band & Strings & Recorder Parents

If your child will not be continuing in 2011 please let the Conductors or parent contacts of those groups know ASAP.

## Christmas concert 10<sup>th</sup> December at St John's church

Rehearsals for all the groups performing begin

at 8am at the church. All the strings, recorders and both bands are performing.

If you have music stands please bring it along.

If you can help moving stands and percussion instruments down to the church at 7:50 and return them after the concert please contact Kim Ireland ASAP

The performance starts at 9:45am.

## The new music committee for 2011

Coordinator – Kim Ireland

Treasurer- Nicky Bennett

Secretary- Allison Cummins and Lisa Healy

Tutor coordinator –Allison Cummins

Instrument coordinator – Lisa Healy

Concert Band parent –Jacki Fortune and Trish Power

Training Band parent- Suzanne Shipard

Senior strings parent – Weiyun Yu

Intermediate strings Parent – Susan Yuill

Junior strings parent –Kate Myles

Advanced consort parent – Audrey McGibbon

Consort recorder parent –

Intermediate recorder parent –

Beginner recorder parent – Elizabeth Burrows

Adv ECM parent -Lisa Healy

Int ECM-

## Calendar for term 4

- Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December – the concert band has it's BIG DAY OUT when they perform at the starlight room at the children's hospital
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December – end of year Christmas concert at St John's church. Followed by the return of all hire instruments and the music Christmas party with free pizza
- There will be no lessons or rehearsals in the last week of term 4

## School Spectacular

On Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> and Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup> of November, represented Birchgrove Public School in the School Spectacular for 2010. We had two concerts on both Friday and Saturday, a matinee performance and an evening one.

There were two choirs, a Choral Choir and an Arena Choir. I was in the Arena Choir, The Arena Choir backed most of the songs and sang a few of their own. It was a great experience, involving many late nights, but it was definitely worth it!

Tara McKenzie