

Birchgrove Buzz

Term 4 Week 9 5th December 2012

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

Ph: 02 9810 2469
Fx: 02 9555 8653
E: birchgrove-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
W: www.birchgrove-p.schools.nsw.edu.au



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Term 4	
7/12	Christmas Concert St Johns Hall P2 Concert 1pm P&C Disco
11/12	Year 6 Formal
11/12	P3 Concert 1pm
11/12	Kindergarten Graduation
12/12	Stage 1 Recognition Ceremony
13/12	Stage 3 Recognition Ceremony
14/12	Stage 2 Recognition Ceremony
14/12	Year 6 Day Out
17/12	Picnic Day 3-6 Pool K-2 Movies
19/12	Year 6 Farewell Assembly and Year 6 Clap Out
19/12	Last Day of Term 4

Stage 3 Sleepover

The stage 3 Sleepover was a great success. Everyone enjoyed it and had a fun time. Spotlight with the teachers was terrifying. Everyone enjoyed it and had fun looking for the hidden objects and people. We watched Hairspray the movie and everyone enjoyed singing along to the songs. At night I don't think that anyone got any sleep. In the morning we watched half of Madagascar because it was raining. Then we had some delicious croissants and juice. At eight o'clock all the parents came and unfortunately for the students and fortunately for the teachers, it was time to leave.

The school raised around \$1500 for the Exodus Foundation which is really amazing. Thank you to all the teachers who gave up their time to supervise us

Lilli Taranto
Social Functions Minister



Canteen Christmas Stall Thursday 6th December

Gifts on sale from 8.30am outside the canteen area



Preschool to Year 6 need to wear their hats in the playground

Leaving your child at home alone

Making some clear 'home alone' rules with your child gives them an understanding of their boundaries and can also keep you from worrying. Most kids will be fine on their own when the appropriate time comes, so long as some guidelines are followed. Find out more: <http://www.schooltoz.nsw.edu.au/en/wellbeing/development/leaving-your-children-at-home-alone>

Developing a team spirit

Team sports help kids to learn that things don't go their way all the time, and that they need to respect their peers. They also help kids with resilience and how to respond to setbacks. Find out more: <http://www.schooltoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/fitness/benefits-of-team-sports>

Confidence in public

Kids need to develop their skills for speaking in front of others long before their 21st birthday. If your tips for keeping nerves at bay during public speaking are limited to imagining your audience in their underwear, here is some advice to help your child prepare for their big moment in the spotlight. <http://www.schooltoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/english-tips/public-speaking-in-primary-school>

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the
exodus
foundation | Rev. bill
crews

Each year, as a school community we collect food and presents for The Exodus Foundation which services families in need and the homeless in the inner west. There will be a donation box in the school foyer next week. Food items need to be non-perishable or have long expiry dates as they will not be picked up until the last week of term. Presents need to be unwrapped, but donations of wrapping paper are appreciated.



KIDS AT THE ARTHOUSE 2013 TERM 1 ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN!

**BIRCHGROVE PUBLIC SCHOOL EVERY
WEDNESDAY 3:15PM TO 5PM**

The Kids At The ARThouse presents a Visual Arts Program to inspire your child's creative spirit. It is designed to develop and enrich skills in a variety of mediums while allowing children to express themselves individually in the art making process. Creative thinking skills learnt in the Visual Arts such as the ability to express, observe, envisage, concentrate and explore ideas can be easily transferable to other areas of learning. Taught by an experienced and qualified Art Educator.

Kids At The ARThouse provides afternoon tea!

CONTACT: Sabina Carney m: 0403768282 e: sabina@kidsattheartthouse.com

Our students have achieved:

WINNER: Avant Cards "Calling All Artists" Competition

WINNER: The Sydney Port Authority Poster Competition

WINNER: The Sydney Port Authority Photographic Competition
SECOND PRIZE: The Sydney Port Authority Poster Competition

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SPECIAL EDUCATION IN ETHICS FOR YEARS 3 AND 4

Following the Dec 2010 amendment of the NSW Education Act 1990, students who don't attend Special Religious Education (SRE)/Scripture classes in NSW public schools now have a legal right to receive philosophical ethics classes (known as Special Education in Ethics) as an option to supervised 'private study.'

The NSW government has authorised Primary Ethics, a not-for profit organisation, to deliver these classes. The philosophical ethics classes that make up the Primary Ethics curriculum are inquiry based. Children use dialogue and discussion, learning how to think about ethical matters through the give-and-take of reasoned argument.

We currently have two classes for Year 5 and 6 children. We will be ready to start classes for Years 3 and 4 in Term 1 next year. Those children who already opt out of SRE will have priority access to this class over others who might want to join by opting out now.

For further information about the content of the philosophical ethics curriculum or to see a short video, *What Happens In Ethics Classes*, please go to www.primaryethics.com.au

If you are interested in having your Year 3 or 4 child attend this class, please complete the form below and return to the office before Friday, December 14.

Signed,
Justine Ellis
Ethics Coordinator

Signed,
Tracy Gray
Principal

Child's Name: _____ Class: _____

Tick one box only...

☐ My child currently opts out of SRE or ☐ I would like my child to opt out of SRE*

I would like my child to attend Special Education in Ethics until further notice.

Parent Name: _____ Signed: _____

* If demand for Special Education in Ethics exceeds positions available and your child cannot be accommodated in the ethics class, he/she will remain in SRE until you notify the office otherwise.

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BIG DAY OUT

Concert Band and Senior Strings had their Big Day Out last Friday. This year, for the first time, they travelled to Chester Hill Primary School in south-western Sydney where they played for a large, multicultural audience in the Community Hall adjacent to the school. Both ensembles both sounded fantastic with our conductors, Aeree Kim (Strings) and Rod Mason (Band) doing a terrific job of engaging the audience. The performances went down very well and students, teachers and parents alike enjoyed bopping and singing along. Thank you to all the people involved in organising and running this event and particularly to Mr Dodds and Mr Nyugen for supervising the children on the excursion.



Concert band performing at Big Day Out

Big Day Out student report

On Friday, Concert Band and Senior Strings went to perform at a school called Chester Hill Primary School. First the Senior Strings performed. Then the Concert Band performed. After that we went to a park but not many people ran around because it was 35-40 degrees! After that we got an iceblock to cool off. It was a really great day.

Finn O, 4F (bass clarinetist)

Christmas Concert - 7 December

The Christmas Concert is on this Friday at St John's Church, Birchgrove (corner of Birchgrove Road and Spring St) at 9.30am. All music students need to be at the Church by 8am dressed in music uniform with their instrument/s and music. All hire instruments are to be returned to Michelle, the Instrument Coordinator, at the Church after the concert.

Birchgrove Music Students Lunch – 7 December

All students in the Birchgrove Music Program are cordially invited to a free end of year lunch on Friday, 7 December at 12.30pm. The lunch will be served on the school basketball courts. There will be pizzas, drinks and iceblocks.

Band, String and Recorder Parents

We are currently planning next year's Music Program. If your child will not be continuing in their current ensemble in 2013, please let your parent contact know as soon as possible.

Dates for the Diary

☺ **5 December** – Birchgrove Music Christmas Dinner, Royal Oak Hotel, 7.30pm

☺ **7 December** – Christmas Concert, St John's Church, Birchgrove, Hire instrument return at the Church Birchgrove & End of year lunch for Birchgrove Music students



HELPER MORNING TEA

We want to say
THANK YOU
to all the parents and carers
who have helped in many
different ways

milk
bread
butter

ham
cheese

carrots
beans
apples
banana

biscuits

WHEN: Friday 7th December 2012

WHERE: The terrace/staffroom

TIME: 11.15am

(after the St John's Christmas Concert)

Thursday - Help
with reading

Saturday
morning
Working Bee

CANTEEN ORDER FORM

hot dog

drink

payment \$ _____



Donut Day at the canteen

Monday 10th December

Recess Special

\$2.50 each

Name: _____ Class: _____

Please tick what type of donut you would like

Iced Chocolate _____

Ice Caramel _____

Pink Chocolate _____

Pineapple _____

All donuts come individually wrapped and are a larger size donut.

Please return all order forms and money to the canteen by Friday 7th December. Please don't return this form to the office or class teacher, your child will miss out as no extras will be ordered.

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Get your tickets quick!
NO tickets sold on the night.



Cash bar, glowstix and sweet treats available for sale on the night.

Birchgrove Public School P&C

Christmas Disco!!

Friday
7th
December

P-2: 5pm - 6.30pm

3-6: 6.30pm - 8pm

TICKETS:

(incl DISCO, BBQ sausage and a soft drink)

Single (Child or Adult): \$7

Family (4 or more): \$25

This is a P&C function so parents **MUST** attend to supervise their children at the disco.

Offers of assistance are greatly appreciated.

Tickets available online at <http://www.trybooking.com/CDNG>. Simply print your ticket for entry on the night.
Tickets also available to be purchased after school the week prior.



this form to the office or class teacher, your child will miss out as no extras will be ordered.