

Birchgrove Buzz

Term 4 Week 9 4th December 2013

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



Principal's Report



On Monday students from Years 3-6, teachers and parents all went to an information session on cyber safety. The sessions were run by Greg Gebhart from ACMA. For those of you who could not make the presentation you can find resources at: <http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/>



Last year Mrs Karnaros started the Christmas tradition of Carolling for the elderly patients at Balmain Hospital with her class. This year the Senior Strings took up the baton on Tuesday morning. There was an audience of around 30 people who thoroughly enjoyed the performance and there were some tears shed during the touching performance.

There is a lovely **thank you letter from Winmalee Public School** that I have included in today's newsletter, I'm really glad our community was able to reach out to them.

Congratulations to Mr Fitzgerald on the great job he has done as relieving Assistant Principal, while Ms Ford has been on leave. He has brought some terrific mentoring and organisational skills to the role.

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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.



Rosey Pearce 3B recently competed in the **Taekwondo STNNSW State Championships** for Team Musa. Rosey sparred valiantly and came away with a silver medal.

Over the last few weeks we have been revising a different rule in class each week and at home. I have attached **the 5 school rules** and some statements that describe them in this week's newsletter so you have the whole collection on one page to refer to at home. Thank you for your support at home over the last few weeks.



Kindergarten Graduation was celebrated by the children, families and teachers today. The children all remembered their items and were very excited with their certificate. The parents and children enjoyed morning tea on the terrace with the teachers to celebrate their fabulous year.



The Canteen Christmas Stall is open on Thursday and Friday mornings before school.



Congratulations to Toni and Mel in the Finance Office! We had our official review of our finances and they balanced with the first attempt before lunchtime!!!

Looking forward to seeing you at the Parent Volunteer Thank you morning tea,

Tracy Gray

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Birchgrove Public School Rules

I am in the right place at the right time when I:

- stay within the playground boundaries
- play quietly in the green area
- walk in all walking areas
- eat recess in the playground
- stay in the playground before school and during breaks
- ask for teacher permission and a green card to go into the building during breaks
- keep my school bag in the bag shelves

I am being safe when I:

- move safely around the corridors and stairwells
- move quietly around the school
- walk in all walking areas
- behave sensibly in the toilet area
- report any visitors that are not wearing a visitors pass to a teacher

I care for my school when I:

- ask to use school equipment
- put away school equipment in the right place
- respect hall displays
- replace my things in my bag
- place rubbish in bins provide

I respect others when I:

- look after other people's property
- follow school rules
- move without making noise around the school
- expect the best

I respect my personal belongings by:

- writing my name on my things
- keeping my personal belongings in my bag or in my tote tray
- placing my bag in the bag shelves

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Winmalee Public School

LESLIE STREET WINMALEE NSW 2777

PHONE: 02 47541574 FAX: 02 4754 3410

EMAIL: winmalee-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

WEBSITE: www.winmalee-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

A.B.N: 42 348 705462

Birchgrove Public School
Birchgrove Road
Balmain NSW 2041

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

We are writing to express our heartfelt thanks for your kind donation to help rebuild the lives of our students and staff who have had their homes destroyed and their personal property lost.

Your donation has given hope and encouragement to all of our families and reflects that we, as Australians, stand together in terms of adversity.

Our school community is resilient against all odds, however, building that resilience takes time and your support has been an important foundation for that process to take place.

Any funds or gifts in kind, are being used directly to support our students in terms of critical need. All we can do is help ensure they participate fully in their educational experiences, in life of the school and within the broader community.

On behalf of our school community, thank you once again for your kindness, and your desire to ensure the needs of our students are met.

Yours Sincerely,

J. Curmi
J. Peters

SRC Representatives and
School Captains

Mark Myles

Principal

Paul Cole

Director, Public Schools

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We have started doing everything Christmas here at **Birchgrove Before & After School Care!** With School Holidays just around the corner, we are busy preparing for the upcoming Holiday Program. Some exciting activities we have planned include Sports Spectacular, Summer Party and Enchanted Wonderland! We'd love for you to come along for a day, everyday or anything in between! For more details visit Camp Australia website on www.campaustralia.com.au or visit us at the centre.

Thanks,
Birchgrove Team

2013

Dates to Remember

Parent

Music

Sport

Student Parliament

5/12

Years 5&6 Recognition Ceremony 9:30 seating for a 9:45 start

6/12

Christmas Concert St Johns Church

6/12

Parent Volunteers Thank you Morning Tea

6/12

Preschool Concert (2 Day classes)

10/12

Year 6 Farewell

10/12

Year 3 & 4 Recognition Ceremony 9:30 seating for a 9:45 start

10/12

Preschool Concert (3 day classes)

11/12

Year 1 & 2 Recognition Ceremony 9 :30 seating for a 9:45 start

12/12

Picnic Day K-6 K-2 Movie Day Y3-6 Swimming

13/12

Year 6 Darling Harbour

18/12

Year 6 Farewell Assembly and Arch

18/12

Last Day of Term 4

Summer holiday fun Sport and Recreation is giving away a kids' camp for two. Simply tell them in 25 words or less why you'd love to win a Sport and Recreation holiday, and like their [Facebook page](#). The competition closes on 13 December, 2013. Enter the competition: dsr.nsw.gov.au/win

Avoiding homework drama Bell Shakespeare's artistic director, John Bell, discusses Shakespeare and how to make it accessible. He says to tell your teen not to worry about the language; to concentrate on the characters, the dilemmas, and the problems they face, and find out how to identify with the protagonists in the story. Coping with Shakespeare: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/english-tips/helping-kids-cope-with-shakespeare>

For the love of science Science is a method of engaging with, and trying to understand, the world. Professor Tim Flannery says if a child is interested in pursuing science, encourage them to develop persistence and humility – the idea that they won't always be right. Listen to the podcast: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/other-subjects-and-projects/science/science-tips/for-the-love-of-science>

Pleasures of free play Allowing free time for children to play on their own, making up games and activities, can help kids to be comfortable in their own company, teach them how to cope with boredom and, importantly, foster their imagination. Under scheduling your child: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/benefits-of-underscheduling-your-child>

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BAND NEWS

Training Band and Concert Band have a combined rehearsal at St John's Church this Thursday starting at 7.50am.

END OF YEAR CONCERT

The End of Year Concert will be held this Friday, 6th December, in St John's Church. Audience members need to be seated by **9.30am**. Training Band and Concert Band members are to arrive at the Church by **8am**. Could all other ensembles please check your emails from contact parents regarding arrival times. Performers are to wear music uniform (Birchgrove Music t-shirt, black trousers/skirt, black socks and shoes).

INSTRUMENT RETURN

School hire instruments must be returned to the Instrument Coordinator at the Church following the End of Year Concert on 6th December.

MUSIC LUNCH

The Music Committee will be holding a **free** Music Lunch on Friday, 6th December at 12.55pm on the basketball courts. There will be pizza and an iceblock with vegetarian and gluten-free option available. All members of the Early Childhood Music Program, Recorder Ensembles, Strings Ensembles and Bands are invited to come along. If you are able to help serve the food/drinks please contact jackifortune@yahoo.com.

TUTORS FOR 2014

All band recruits for 2014 need to contact their new tutors to arrange lesson times for next year. If you don't know who your tutor is, or haven't heard back from them, please contact jackifortune@yahoo.com. Strings students will be notified as to their tutors shortly.

If your child is participating in the Birchgrove Music Program in 2014, a signed acceptance form must be provided to the school office as soon as possible.

ROCK GUITAR ENSEMBLE

Birchgrove Music students have the opportunity to join a new Rock Guitar Ensemble in 2014. It will be open to students who have been learning guitar, bass guitar, drums, keyboard or a brass instrument for at least 12 months and will rehearse on Wednesday mornings before school. The idea is to offer an alternative way for young musicians to experience the ensemble dynamic. Members of the Concert Band will not be excluded but, if there is more interest than we can accommodate, preference will probably be given to those who are not otherwise playing in a group. If you are interested, please contact jackifortune@yahoo.com.

MUSICAL DATES FOR THE DIARY

☺ **Friday, 6th December** – End of Year Concert, St John's Church followed by instrument return and Music Lunch



HELPER MORNING TEA

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

bread
butter

ham
cheese

carrots
beans
apples
bananas

biscuits

When: Friday 6th December

**Time: 11.15 am approx.
(after St John's concert)**

**Where: On the Terrace/
Staffroom**

Thursday - Help
with reading

morning
Working Bee

CANTEEN ORDER FORM

hot dog

☐

drink

☐

payment \$ _____