

# Birchgrove Buzz

Term 4 Week 8 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016

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

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## Dates to Remember

### 2016

	Parent
	Music
	Sport
	Student Parliament
1/12	Canteen Christmas Stall 8:30am
2/12	<b>St John's Christmas Concert – followed by Instrument Return</b> <b>Parent Thank you Morning Tea</b> <b>Music Lunch</b>
2/2	<b>Last Day of Before &amp; Afterschool classes (music, art, drama, coding etc)</b>
5/12	<b>Stage 1 Recognition Ceremony</b>
6/12	<b>Preschool Blue &amp; Green Concert</b>
6/12	<b>Uniform Shop closed</b>
7/12	<b>Kindergarten Graduation</b>
8/2	<b>Stop Work Meeting- K-6 until 10:30 limited supervision</b>
8/12	<b>Stage 3 Recognition Ceremony – 10:30</b>
8/12	<b>Preschool Red and Yellow Concert</b>
12/12	School Picnic K-6 Parsley Bay
9/12	<b>P&amp;C Christmas BBQ</b>
13/12	Preschool Blue & Green Party
13/12	Year 6 Farewell Dinner and <b>Graduation</b>
14/12	<b>Stage 2 Recognition Ceremony</b>
15/12	<b>Tacky Christmas Tshirt Day</b>
15/12	Preschool Red & Yellow Concert
16/12	Year 6 Farewell Assembly ( K-6 & Year 6 parents only- due to hall size) & Arch (all welcome to join in arch as it's outside)
16/12	Last Day 2016

### 2017

27/1	Uniform Shop 8:30-10:45 open
30/1	Year 1 to 6 Return
30/1-	Kindergarten Best Start Assessments
31/1	
31/1	Preschool Blue & Green- Group 1
1/2	Preschool Blue & Green – Group 2
1/2	Kindergarten commence
2/2	Preschool Red & Yellow- Group 1
3/2	Preschool Red & Yellow- Group 2
15/2	<b>P&amp;C Meeting 7pm Staffroom</b>



## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> December

Time: 11.00 am approx.  
(after St John's concert)

Where: On the Terrace/  
Staffroom

Friday  
morning  
Working Bee

Thursday - Help  
with reading

CANTEEN ORDER FORM

hot dog

☐

drink

☐

payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_



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## DREAM BIG

### SCHOOLS SPECTACULAR 2016

Friday 25 & Saturday 26 November  
Qudos Bank Arena, Sydney Olympic Park

On Friday the 25th and Saturday the 26th of November, the senior dance ensemble performed at School Spectacular 2016. The Schools Spectacular is an outstanding showcase of the talent in NSW public schools by the Arts Unit. In terms of sheer size, scale and scope, the Schools Spectacular is unequalled in the world with a 2700-strong choir, 2300 diverse dancers, an 80-piece symphony orchestra, a world-class stage band and a huge number of outstanding solo performers.

The opportunity to be a part of Schools Spectacular was an amazing experience. We got to meet other kids from across NSW public schools and one of my favourite acts was the D(isability)Arts unit of children. We also managed to break a Guinness World Records title for "The Largest Amateur Variety Act in One Location". Thank you to the teachers who made this happen, Mr Cormack, Miss Carroll and Miss Robertson. It is being aired Saturday night at 7pm on Channel 7.

**Ashleigh James**  
Senior Dance Member





# **The NSW Teachers Federation has called a Stop Work Meeting Thursday 8/12/16**

Preschool is Operational (preschool  
concerts going ahead at advised  
times)

Limited Supervision K-6  
Until 10:30

Year 6 Recognition Ceremony has  
moved to 10:30

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## Canteen

Thank you to all the families who have sent in presents for the Canteen Christmas Stall. There are lots of fabulous gifts the children are loving purchasing for the special people in their lives.

The stall will operate again this afternoon at pick up and tomorrow morning from 8:30am

**Karen**



## ST JOHNS CONCERT – FRIDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> DECEMBER

All music students who are performing are due at St Johns at **8am** with their school bags and wearing their **Birchgrove Music Tshirts with black pants / skort / shorts**. The performance is expected to start around 9.30 (when the rest of the school arrives).

**Junior Choir** are to meet in Miss Sarina's room at 8.50am ready to leave at 9am (if they are not already in an ensemble as they will be at the church already).

## MUSIC LUNCH – FRIDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> DECEMBER

Students from **all** music ensembles including Kodaly (K - 3) and Junior Choir will receive free pizza and an ice block for lunch on Friday as a thank you from the Music Committee.

## INSTRUMENT RETURN – FRIDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> DECEMBER

All instruments are to be returned after the St Johns concert this Friday (unless you have a pre-existing arrangement).

## CELLO 2017

On Monday your children were lucky enough to get to hear Kristy Conrau and David Campbell play their cello and double bass. Kristy and David both play in the SSO and the children were mesmerised at the sound of these gorgeous instruments.

We have a couple of spots left for the cello and it may have inspired a budding strings enthusiast.

If your child is interested in learning the cello and our strings ensemble, or you would like to talk through registration for 2017, please contact me on either [michelle\\_stellini@hotmail.com](mailto:michelle_stellini@hotmail.com) or **0417316725** and I will happily answer any of your questions.

## MUSIC DATES FOR THE DIARY

Dec 2nd Friday – End of Year Concert, Music Lunch and Instrument Return





## Politicians face grilling on US election, greyhound racing ban from Year 5 and 6 students in Sydney

By [Raveen Hunjan](#) and [Mazoe Ford](#)

Updated 17 Nov 2016, 8:46pm Thu 17 Nov 2016, 8:46pm

At a time of heightened political debate in Australia and overseas, both sides of politics have taken some difficult questions from Year 5 and 6 students on a range of global and local issues that matter to them.

Grayndler federal Labor MP Anthony Albanese and Liberal speaker Tony Smith paid a visit to Birchgrove Primary School, in Sydney's inner-west, on pyjama day.

They were questioned on issues affecting all Australians — young and old.

Here are some of them:



**Photo:** [Federal MP Anthony Albanese and Parliamentary Speaker Tony Smith face tough questioning from students.](#)



**Photo:** [Thea Gallen got some global responses to her very big question.](#)

### WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE IN TODAY'S SOCIETY?

**Anthony Albanese:** I think long term, climate change is something that we really need to tackle. What we do today will impact you more than us, and will impact your kids even more, so that I think is a big global challenge. But also I think, the economy, giving people jobs and giving people a fair share of the wealth that's created in a society as well.

**Tony Smith:** I think globalisation.

[You're all growing up in a world that is very different to the world Anthony and I grew up in. You're growing up in a globalised economy.](#)

You're growing up with technology that wasn't dreamed of when we were at primary school. When we were at primary school, there were no mobile phones, no internet, and it's changed. Economically, the world's changed a lot too. There's great advantages in that and there's also challenges in that.



Lillian Stock **Photo:** [Tony Smith spoke about the differences between the electoral system of Australia and that of the US.](#)

### WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION?

**Tony Smith:** Each country decides its electoral destiny.

[The wonderful thing about democracy is everyone can have a view and they express it. We have developed the democracy we think is best for Australia.](#)

We copied a lot from the United Kingdom, but we copied some from the United States. We have a House of Representatives and a Senate like the United States do, but because we're a young democracy, we're able to advance things faster than the older democracies.

In the 1920s we introduced compulsory voting. They don't have that in the United States and they don't have that in most other democracies. What you get from that is, a very high participation. We fashioned our democracy to be very accountable.

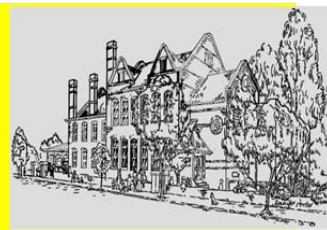
[We have Question Time, which can get loud and it's where the big arguments happen, but we are pretty much the only country in the world where the Prime Minister is at Question Time every day.](#)

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Ashleigh James **Photo:** Mr Albanese was tested about why his NSW counterparts opposed the greyhound ban.

## I WAS WONDERING WHY THE LABOR PARTY OPPOSED THE GREYHOUND RACING BAN?

**Anthony Albanese:** This is a New South Wales issue. I think some people in the Labor Party were concerned with the issue of banning anything. Telling a group of people without notice to stop what you're doing. They were earning a living from it. I think that the concern was with the process. I'm a big supporter of animal welfare. All animals deserve to be treated with respect and we need to outlaw any cruelty at all, but I think the big concern was the idea of banning things.

*The Government sometimes, I think, can interfere a lot with people's lives and I think you have to be very cautious about doing that.*



## YEAR 5 ARE WRITING PARLIAMENT SPEECHES TO BECOME THE NEW PRIME MINISTER OF THE SCHOOL NEXT YEAR. DO YOU HAVE ANY TIPS?

**Anthony Albanese:** What I do is I try and work out what are the three or four points I'm trying to make. I write them down first. Therefore you don't just sort of talk and not say anything.

*Ask, what are the three things I want people to remember about the speech? And maybe as well a little personal anecdote can help. It's something people can remember.*

Eliza Bellas **Photo:** Eliza wanted advice on writing a winning Prime Minister's speech, to help her take the reigns of power.

**Tony Smith:** When I'm preparing a speech I try and do the same thing. For you, what I encourage you to do is, work out clearly why you want the position, why you think you could do the job well, put it in your own words, practice it, don't make it too long and be yourself.



## I WAS WONDERING WHAT YOUR OPINION WAS ON BREXIT?

**Anthony Albanese:** I think in general we need to be more connected to the world, not less. If I had a vote, I would've voted against Brexit. I'm a bit concerned about the rise of nationalism. I think it can be quite dangerous. Your future is with the world being more connected, not less. It's very easy to run an argument against connections, economic connections, migration. We've got some people I think who are frustrated by their lot in life. It's easy to say, 'that's because of those people over there'.

*I think the European Union was a good thing ... But I respect the rights of the British people*

Will Chahoud **Photo:** Will wanted to gauge the reaction parliamentarians had to the result of Brexit.



<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-11-17/when-kids-get-to-ask-politicians-the-tough-questions/8033724>



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## KIDS AT THE ARTHOUSE ENROL FOR 2017!!

**BIRCHGROVE PUBLIC SCHOOL THUS. 3PM TO 5PM**

The Kids At The ARThouse presents an after school Visual Arts Program that will inspire your child's creative spirit. Run during the schools term it is designed to develop and enrich skills in a variety of mediums while allowing each student 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. The Kids At The ARThouse provides all art materials and afternoon tea!

**ENROL NOW FOR 2017!.... contact:**

**Sabina Carney e: [sabina@kidsatthearthouse.com](mailto:sabina@kidsatthearthouse.com)  
m: 0403768282**

### **KIDS AT THE ARTHOUSE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS:**

**STUDENTS CHINESE NEW YEAR EXHIBITION AT THE CHINESE GARDEN OF FRIENDSHIP (DARLING HABOUR) "DREAM" EXHIBITION - 2014, 2015 & 2016**

**WINNERS: CHILDREN'S BOOK COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA POSTER COMPETITION 2015**

**FINALIST: AUSSIE ART COMPETITION 2014**

**WINNER: AVANT CARDS "CALLING ALL ARTIST'S" COMPETITION 2013**

**FINALIST: AUSSIE ART COMPETITION 2013**

**WINNER: SYDNEY PORT AUTHORITY POSTER COMPETITION 2012**

**WINNER: SYDNEY PORT AUTHORITY PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 2011**

**WINNER: AVANT CARDS "CALLING ALL ARTIST'S" COMPETITION 2010**

**COLLABORATIVE PROJECT WITH:**

**THE AUSTRALIAN NUMERACY AND LITERACY FOUNDATION 2013**

**THE TAFE ULTIMO SCREEN PRINTING DEPARTMENT 2011**