



BIRCHGROVE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Birchgrove Road,

Birchgrove, 2041

Ph: (02) 9810 2469

Fax: (02) 9555 8653

Email: birchgrove-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au



Term 2 Week 5 27/5/2020

2020 Dates to Remember

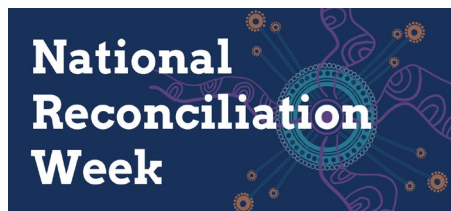
-  Parent
-  Music
-  Sport
-  Student Parliament

- 3\7 Last day of Term 2
- 21\7 First day of Term 3
- 25\9 Last day of Term 3
- 12\10 First Day of Term 4
- 16\12 Last Day of Term 4



Magnus from the preschool Platypus class was very happy to share his great fine motor skills making his name.

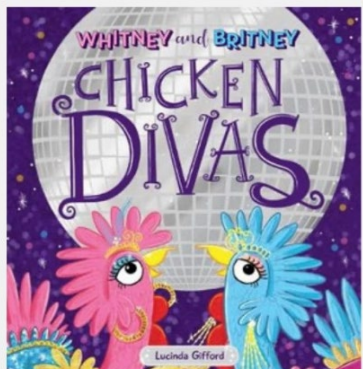
From the Principal



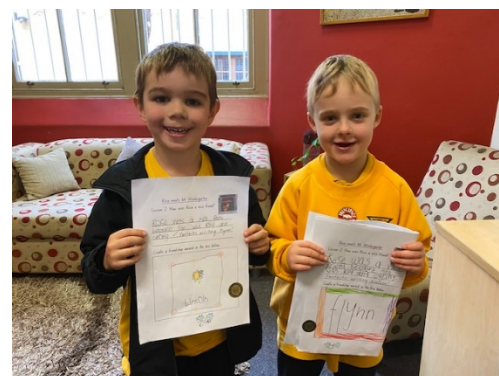
Today marks the start of National Reconciliation Week. The theme this year is "In This Together".



Today is National Simultaneous Storytime Day. We all listened to a live reading of Whitney and Britney Chicken Divas by Lucinda Gifford. I'll send home the PDF version on Skoolbag attached to this newsletter so you can all enjoy the story at home tonight.



Lara and Penny drew about how happy they were to come back to school Monday. Penny even made her name run to school on the drawing!



Flynn & Lincoln were very proud of their writing based on the book Rose Meets Mr Wintergarten. They wrote about why Rose was a good friend and then designed a friendship award for one of their classmates.



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Welcome back Birchgrove students it's been lovely to have you all back at school! We missed spending time with you! It was great to see most of our K to 6 students back at school, with only 14 children not back with us at the moment. Some are still overseas and interstate, so hopefully there will be some changes that enable them to join us soon. To those families and students we are missing you, take care.



This week our students are in their classrooms, with their class teacher. Every student was welcomed to their classroom. Our priority for your children is firstly their wellbeing, followed by their learning. That is why we will be focusing on lessons in our classrooms on wellbeing, reconnecting with our class, and getting used to our routines all over again... including all our Covid-19 safety measures.

Thank you for supporting us by not coming onto the site in the mornings. In the afternoons we will dismiss from the two designated areas and again I respectfully urge parents to take care of their own wellbeing and remember to socially distance from other adults. Please

remember to leave the site as soon as you have connected with your children.

Welcome New Families

Since the beginning of this term, we have seen a slow and steady increase of students to our school. New families have moved into our area coming from other parts of Sydney and beyond. Some of these students have had one day at school as per Phase One of the managed return to school. This week they are in their own classroom with their teacher and class mates. We extend a very warm welcome to those families, we assure you that we will make it our priority to support your children as they settle into our school. Joining a new school community is a very different experience with Covid 19 restrictions, but I've been pleased to watch how quickly our new students have settled in and have thrived with the support of their teachers and classmates.

Home Readers and Library Books

Library books and home reader can be returned and next week we will start borrowing again.

Current departmental policy involves returned books being placed in a tub by the students, which is not touched for 24 hours and is then returned to library shelves or home reader boxes for reborrowing. Students need to be able to put their own book back and put their new book\ s in their folder or bag as teachers will not be touching them.

The PM readers online program was purchased by the school for 12 months so it will still be available for home reading for all the parents who feel this is a safer option.

Thank you to all the parents who have completed our **home learning survey**. We currently have 136 responses, but would love to have more responses from those who participated in home learning.

The survey will close on Friday so we can distribute the responses to class teachers. The link is below for anyone who missed the Skoolbag notification.

<https://forms.gle/LnpCBifAuitRJu1A>



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Pick up & Drop Off

We are adjusting the school pick up times to hopefully improve the pick up routine (There will only be one time, rain or shine.) It is dependent on parents being prompt as there is only 10 minutes pick up for each group of students before the next group needs the space.

Drop off (unchanged just here as a reminder!)

* Children not at before school care should not arrive before 8:30am

The gates close each morning at 8:15am and **don't open** until 8:30am.

* Before school care children need to be in by 8:15am.

Drop off K-6: 8:30am-9:00am (Entry via main gates only.)

At bell time, children go straight to class, there is no need to line up on Basketball court.

Preschool: Sign-in at table outside front gates 9am to 9:15am

We also ask everyone to use the **pedestrian crossing** as it is safer and teaches our children the right way to cross the road.

Pick up (finish time will continue to be staggered.)

We ask parents and carers **NOT TO STAND ON THE ROAD** as our neighbours are concerned that they may hit someone. We've had emails.

Also the neighbours drive way is private property...they park their car there!

2:30 Preschool - through main gate on Birchgrove Rd, sign out at table outside gate.

2:30 Kangaroos / Koalas/ Echidnas - Kindergarten waiting in driveway, exit through driveway gates.

2:40 Possums/ Quolls/ Sugar Gliders/ Bilbies/ Flying Foxes Rosellas (Year 1 & 2 + Rosellas 3's waiting in driveway, exit through driveway gates.)

2:50 Kookaburras/ Galahs/ Cockatoos/ Cassowaries (Year 3 & 4 + Cassowaries 5's waiting in driveway, exit through driveway gates.)

3:00 Great White Sharks/ Crocodiles/ Stingrays (Year 5 & 6 waiting in driveway, exit through driveway gates)

Parents and carers are not allowed on site.



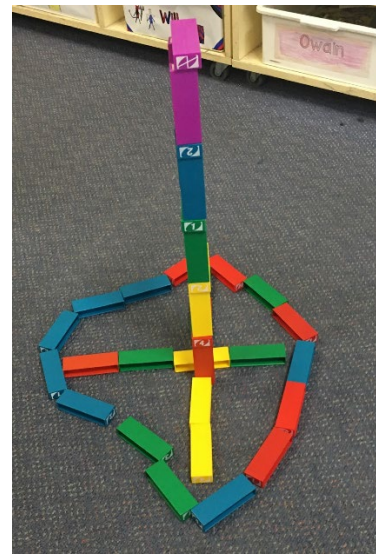
To our amazing parent body who have worked so hard to help and support us along this interesting journey. It's been so much easier having you as our partners in this learning journey.

As we are focussing on wellbeing, literacy, numeracy and getting back to our school routines we are pleased you are here working with us! There will still be bumps in the journey so please make sure you let us know when we can help and support yourself or your family

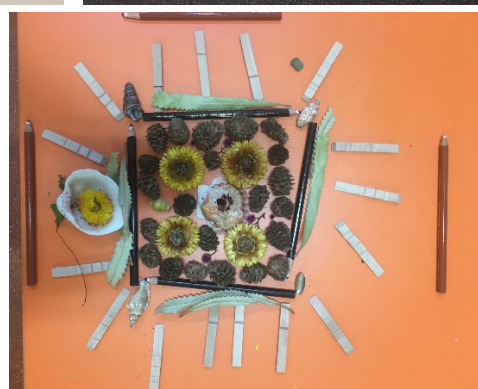
Tracy



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The Kookaburras Mandalas made in their art lesson on their first day back at school.





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The Koalas have enjoyed exploring and investigating at our new play-based areas as we settle back into routine. This is a great opportunity for children to engage in social interactions and experiences based on their interests, strengths and developing skills.



The staff are all enjoying being back at school with the children and each other. Our Tuesday afternoon bootcamp with Mr Trent was a welcomed release of energy and socially isolating togetherness.





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The Galahs made thank you cards for their parents. They were so helpful, patient and kind while their children were learning at home!



The Great White Sharks are excited to hang out with each other again... not just on google classroom & teams meetings, but actually where they get to work and play together !



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During investigations on Monday the Possums were reconnecting and welcoming our new student to the class.



Cassowaries during DEAR- Drop Everything and Read !



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The Echidnas made flags while learning about Reconciliation.

