

Birchgrove Public School

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NEWSLETTER

Term 3 Week 4 9/8/2023

Congratulations to the Rosellas who received the Principal's Award for Excellence in Learning for their exceptional kindness towards each other, awesome listening and tidying up during Raw Art lesson and for making Mr Benes feel welcome!



Our rock band are sensational and are nailing their songs. Well done Birchgrove Rockers!



Kindergarten Kangaroos and Koalas enjoyed their 100th day of Kindergarten last week!

Thank you to the students, teachers and Camp Australia for their lovely messages on Principal's Day last Friday. I felt very spoilt.



We acknowledge the Wangal people of the Eora Nations, the traditional custodians of the land on which we play, learn and grow. We pay respect to elders past, present and emerging.

2023 Term 3

14/8-18/8	Science Week
21/8-25/8	Book Week
24/8	Book Parade 9:25
29/8	S3 Money Incursion
1/9	Spring Gala Disco K-6- Evening P&C
6/9	P&C Meeting 7pm staffroom
7/9	Stage 2 Zoo Excursion
12/9	Kindergarten Information Evening
14/9	RUOK? Day
14/9	Opening of Mirrung Playground & Art Show 4pm
20/9	Balmain Athletics
22/9	Last Day of Term 3

2023 Term 4

9/10	Term 4 Commences
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Applications are now open for Preschool and Kindergarten 2024.

Book Week Invitation



Please join
us at our
Book Week
Parade
2023

Who: All students P-6

When: Thursday August 24th 9:25am

Where: Basketball Court

What: Each child comes to school wearing a costume of a book character. Children need to know the name of their character, book and author.

Parents and friends are welcome too and, there will be a book parade and students will be chosen to talk about their costumes and character details on the microphone. Our Choirs will perform as well!

Costumes: can be adapted from existing clothes or involve cardboard masks etc- we understand parents have limited time! We are just trying to make book week a little magical!



Education Week 2023



Education Week 2023



Green & Gold Matildas Supporters



NSW Reconciliation Challenge

The NSW Schools Reconciliation Challenge is one way for students to learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australia. During Stage 3's poetry writing unit, students chose an article, newspaper report, song or story written about important events in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's history as a starting point for a piece of erasure poetry (highlighting words from an existing text and framing the result on the page as a new poem). Here are some of the students' poems.

What Stories Will You Dream?

Stories are how we understand the world around us. They inform what we know and shape how we act. The Australia we live in today is built upon the stories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. These stories are about the Dreaming and Creation, and sharing them connects people to Country and culture. These stories teach us, and are a record of knowledges and traditions that have been passed down over tens of thousands of years.

Throughout the long history of what is now known as Australia, the world's oldest living cultures have told and shared stories of culture and Dreaming, stories of hunt and devastation, stories of strength and resilience, stories of change, and stories still unwritten.

Dreaming stories are a record of history, culture and life. They explain how things came to be and teach ways to care for the environment and each other. They impart knowledge of navigation and how to find food and water. They show us how to treat others and how to keep our communities safe. Stories encompass all aspects of life and are crucial to survival. For generations, they have been shared orally, and through song, dance and art, with Elders playing a vital role in ensuring the preservation of these stories and language.

European arrival and settlement greatly impacted the way these stories were, and continue to be shared. Dispossession of peoples from Country, separation of children from family, and government policies which banned and discouraged Aboriginal people from speaking their languages at school or on Christian missions mean that many stories have been lost. Many Aboriginal languages in NSW are already lost, or at high risk of extinction.

Colonisation also changed the stories that were being told. We now hear stories of historical figures who have paved the way for a more just and equitable society for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Leaders like Vincent Lingiit protesting for fair pay and work conditions, and Eddie Mabo fighting for his people's land rights and overturning the notion of terra nullius. The Aboriginal text ambassadors and their long-running show of resistance against the racist and oppressive treatment of

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ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART

We, gathered at the 2017 National Constitutional Convention, coming from all points of the southern sky, make this statement from the heart: Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander tribes were the first sovereign Nations of the Australian continent and its adjacent islands, and possessed it under our own laws and customs. This our ancestors did, according to the reckoning of our culture, from the Creation, according to the common law from 'time immemorial', and according to evidence more than 60,000 years ago. This sovereignty is a spiritual notion: the ancestral tie between the land, or 'mother nature', and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who were born therefrom, remain attached thereto, and must one day return thither to be united with our ancestors. This link is the basis of the ownership of the soil or better, of sovereignty. It has never been ceded or extinguished and co-exists with the sovereignty of the Crown. How could it be otherwise? That peoples possessed a land for sixty millennia and this sacred link disappears from world history in merely the last two hundred years? With substantive constitutional change and structural reform, we believe this ancient sovereignty can shine through as a fuller expression of Australia's nationhood. Proportionally, we are the most incarcerated people on the planet. We are not an innately criminal people. Our children are removed from their families at unprecedented rates. This cannot be because we have no love for them. And our youth languish in detention in obscene numbers. They should be our hope for the future. These dimensions of our crisis tell plainly the structural nature of our problem. This is the torment of our powerlessness. We seek constitutional reforms to empower our people and take a rightful place in our own country. When we have power over our destiny our children will flourish. They will walk in two worlds and their culture will be a gift to their country. We call for the establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution. Makarrata is the culmination of our agenda: the coming together after a struggle. It captures our aspirations for a fair and truthful relationship with the people of Australia and a better future for our children based on justice and self-determination. We seek a Makarrata Commission to supervise a process of agreement-making between governments and First Nations and truth-telling about our history. In 1967 we were counted, in 2017 we seek to be heard. We leave base camp and start our trek across this vast country. We invite you to walk with us in a movement of the Australian people for a better future.

<https://www.referendumcouncil.org.au/>

LYRICS to "Treaty"

Well I heard it on the radio
And I saw it on the television
Back in 1988, all those talking politicians
Words are easy, words are cheap
Much cheaper than a priceless land
But promises can disappear
Just like writing in the sand
Treaty yeah treaty now treaty yeah treaty now
Nhimba djatpangari nhima yalgar wakang
(You dance djatpangari, that's better)
Nhe djatpayatpa nhima gaya' nhe martjini yakarray
(You're dancing, you improvise, you keep going, you w)
Nhe djatpa nhe walang gumurr-djarark ngutjuk
(You dance djatpangari, that's good my dear paternal grandson)
This land was never given up
This land was never bought and sold
The planting of the Union Jack
Never changed our hearts at all
Now two rivers run their course
(Separated for so long)
I'm dreaming of a brighter day
When the waters will be one
Treaty yeah, treaty now, treaty yeah, treaty now

Nhimba gayakaya nhe gaya' nhe (You improvise, you improvise)
Nhe gaya' nhe martjini walangwalang nhe ya
(You improvise, you keep going, you're better)
Nhimba djatpa nhe walang (You dance djatpangari, that's good)
Gumurr-djarark yawiriny' (My dear young men)
Nhe gaya' nhe martjini gaya' nhe martjini
(You improvise, you keep improvising, you keep going)
Gayakaya nhe gaya' nhe martjini walangwalang
(Improvise, you improvise, you keep going, that's better)
Nhimba djatpa nhe walang (You dance djatpangari, that's good)
Gumurr-djarark nhe ya, e, i, e, i, i, i, i, i
(You dear things)
Treaty ma' (Treaty now)
Promises disappear - priceless land - destiny
Well I heard it on the radio
And I saw it on the television
But promises can be broken
Just like writing in the sand
Treaty yeah treaty now treaty yeah treaty now
Treaty yeah treaty now treaty yeah treaty now
Treaty yeah treaty ma treaty yeah treaty ma
Treaty yeah treaty ma treaty yeah treaty ma

"Treaty" composed by Yothu Yindi in collaboration with Paul Kelly and Midnight Oil to protest against the failure of the Australian Government to honour the Prime Minister's promise to Indigenous Australians.
<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/read/the-lyrics-of-yothu-yindi-song-treaty>

Sandpit

