

Term 1 Week 8 2025

This Buzz in Bullets...

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BPS Merit Board





Congratulations to Grace S (Lilly Pilly class). Grace's artwork was selected for the Operation Art '50 Exhibition' from 639 artworks from schools across NSW. <u>Full story here</u>.

For your calendar

25 Mar Interrelate incursion day 1 - Stage 3
25 Mar Parent Teacher Meetings: 3 / 4 Lilly Pilly only
25 Mar Taronga Zoomobile - Preschool Platypus / Wallaby
27 Mar Taronga Zoomobile - Preschool Wombats / Quokkas
27 Mar Parent Teacher Meetings:
Kindy Flannel Flower and 5 / 6 Snow Gum
31 Mar Parent Teacher Meetings:
1 Aust. Daisy, 1 / 2 Wattle, 2 Banksia
1 Apr Interrelate incursion day 2 - Stage 3
2 Apr Parent Teacher Meetings:
3 / 4 Bottlebrush, 4 / 5 Wollemi, 5 / 6 Waratah
7 Apr School photos day 1 - whole school
8 Apr Interrelate incursion day 3 - Stage 3
10 Apr School photos day 2
10 Apr Anzac Day assembly
11 Apr Easter hat parade - whole school
11 Apr Last day term 1 for students
Term 2 2025:
20 Apr. First day tarm 2 for students

30 Apr First day term 2 for students

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 and present.

Message from our principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Talk about a proud principal moment! Miss Taksa and I were lucky enough to be invited to the Operation Art opening ceremony, with a BPS student's work selected in the top 50 of the state, out of 639 entries. Congratulations to Grace S (Wattle class) you should be very proud of your contribution to the community. Grace's art will be displayed in the Children's Hospital at Westmead.

All students K-6 will have the opportunity to create an artwork for Operation Art later this term. We will then have the difficult decision of selecting just two artworks from our school to submit to the competition.



Well done to the students in Years 3 and 5, your effort and positive attitude towards the NAPLAN assessments has been outstanding. Thank you to Ms Sun for her organisation of the assessments. The whole process ran like clockwork.

Our focus rule for week 8 was 'Respect Personal Belongings'. In week 9 we will be talking to the students about the rule 'Be a Safe Person'. I will be meeting with student parliament in week 9 to look at our current student rights and responsibilities at school and discuss whether they need to be updated.

The Department of Education has developed a School Community Charter. This will replace our Parent Code of Conduct. A link to the <u>School Community Charter</u> is on our BPS website under 'Rules and Policies'.

Thank you to the families who attended the Learning and Support Information evening and, or the P&C meeting this week. We are very fortunate to have these opportunities to come together and discuss the different programs within the school and to work with the school community.

I would also like to thank the local businesses who generously donate products and services to our school. In particular, thank you to Bonfire Bread, Darling St Meats, Woolworths, Bunnings and QE foods (who provide apples to all our students every week of every term). Please make sure you mention you are a Birchgrove PS family when you visit these businesses, so they know how much we appreciate their support.

Thank you for your support and don't forget to pop in and say hello when you are at the school.

Kylie Mitchell Principal (Relieving)

Principal's trophy for excellence

Week 7 Snow Gums - for their clever calculations using decimals.

Week 8 Bottlebrush -for caring for others by being a supportive and welcoming class.

Upcoming Event: Preschool Open Day

Birchgrove Public School Preschool

CHGROVE P.S

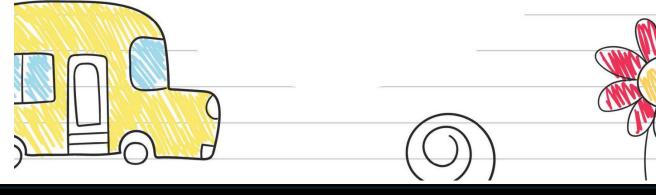
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2026 Enrolments are OPEN NOW!

Preschool will be open for **parent tours** and to meet our team (orientation for children will be held in term 4.)

Wednesday 7 May 2025 3.45pm - 4.30pm





Upcoming Event: Kindy 2026 Information

Birchgrove Public School Parent Information Session Kindergarten 2026

You are invited to meet our team and hear more about our school and our programs

We will discuss

- Curriculum
- Learning and Support and High Potential Learners
- After school care
- Extra Curricular activities
- Our community

Join us on

Monday 19 May 2025, 5 pm in our school Library



Email any questions to rebecca.boyle11@det.nsw.edu.au

Harmony Week 2025



Harmony Week celebrates Australia's cultural diversity. In schools we celebrate inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for all Australians, from the Traditional Custodians of the land to those who have come from many countries around the world.

The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (Harmony Day) is observed on 21 March each year. The ongoing theme of Harmony Week is 'everyone belongs'

At BPS students were invited to wear cultural dress or orange on Harmony Day. Student Parliament also ran a Harmony week themed colouring competition.

Harmony week











BPS Preschool News







One of the best parts of having a preschool onsite is the opportunity we have to be a part of a bigger community and foster a sense of belonging that is so valuable for wellbeing and transition to kindergarten.

Preschoolers are always asking about the "big kids" and today some of our year 4 students visited to join our fun. We played hide and seek, read books, created art, built amazing sand creations and so much more!

- Rebecca Boyle - Assistant Principal, Early Stage 1







In the classroom: Stage 1

Stage 1 have been busy in maths learning about patterns and bonds to 10, 20 and 100.

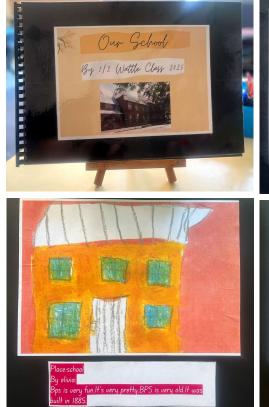
- Natalie Robinson Teacher, Banksia

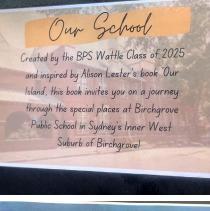




Stage One students have been exploring how context shapes texts. The Wattle Class worked hard to create descriptive texts representing their own setting (our school), inspired by the beautiful book Our Island by Alison Lester. Now, they love revisiting the book during quiet reading time and take pride in their work!

> Emma Taksa Teacher, Wattle













The Banksia class have been experimenting with collage to create our very own banksia flowers.

- Natalie Robinson - Teacher, Banksia

In the Classroom: Flannel Flowers



Flannel Flowers Harmony Day Art

This is the Harmony Day artwork created by the Kindy Flannel Flowers. We are all different but 'we all have hearts' (quoted from one lovely student) - Jo Copping - Teacher, Flannel Flowers

In other news...

Operation Art

Operation Art is an initiative of the Children's Hospital at Westmead in association with the NSW Department of Education. Selection of the hospital '50 Exhibition' was made from 639 artworks submitted in 2024 from schools across NSW. These works will be exhibited at the Art Gallery of NSW and regional galleries throughout NSW during 2025. Following this, they will become part of the hospital's permanent art collection for children and their families to enjoy.







Congratulations to our own Grace S (Lilly Pilly class), whose artwork was selected as part of the '50 Exhibition'. The opening night art show was attended by our relieving principal Kylie Mitchell and teacher Emma Taksa showing our school's support for Grace's achievement.

BPS Sports Update

Cross Country Ribbon Awards

Congratulations to all our cross country carnival ribbon winners.

Everyone put in their all on the day, but ultimately it was Evatt house who came out on top.

Final House placings:

1st - Evatt

2nd - Jackson

3rd - Fraser

4th - Robinson





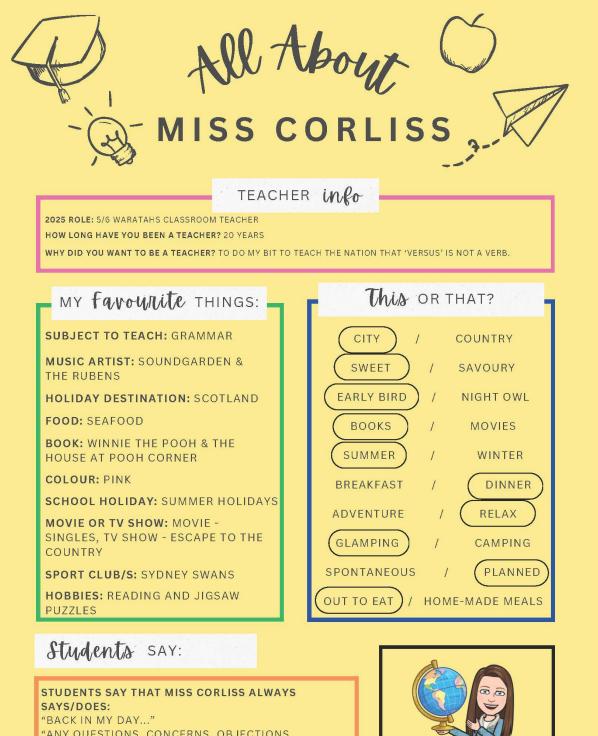
Swimming Carnival Ribbon Awards

Congratulations to our swimming carnival ribbon winners, who also received their ribbons this week.



Get to know

Get to know the staff at BPS! Each fortnight, we will share a questionnaire answered by a staff member at BPS so you can get to know those working within our school community.



"ANY QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, OBJECTIONS, WARNINGS OR DELIBERATIONS?"

STUDENTS DESCRIBE MISS CORLISS AS: KIND, FUNNY, LOVES GRAMMAR AND LOVES ENCYCLOPEDIAS.



BPS after hours 2025



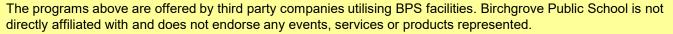




JOIN THE KIDS AT THE ARTHOUSE TUESDAY OR WEDNESDAY 3PM - 5PM BIRCHGROVE PUBLIC SCHOOL FOR LOTS OF FUN & CREATIVE ART MAKING ALL STUDENTS K - 6 ENROL NOW CONTACT

Sabina Carney 0403768282

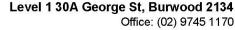
sabina.carney1@gmail.com



BPS after hours 2025

New to BPS after hours activities, Italian classes! These will be run 3.30 – 5.30 pm Tuesdays (supervision from 3.00pm). If your child is interested, please contact Casa d'Italia directly.







CHESS!!

Learn to be a chess champion! Coaching for students at Birchgrove Public School is held on Fridays from 8:00am to 9:00am, starting on 14 February 2025.

Learning and playing chess helps children develop their logical thinking and problem solving skills, improves their concentration and focus, while also being a great source of enjoyment. Activities include group lessons on a demonstration chess board or interactive whiteboard, puzzle solving and fun practice games.

Students earn merit awards by making checkmates, or by displaying skills and positive qualities, which all good chess players strive to develop.

Each student in the Chess program will also receive access to Chess Squad https://www.chesssquad.com/ which is an online teaching/playing platform.

If your child is interested in taking part in the class, please email <u>office.sydneyacademy@gmail.com</u> for an enrolment form. For all enquiries, please contact Sydney Academy of Chess on (02) 9745 1170.

The programs above are offered by third party companies utilising BPS facilities. Birchgrove Public School is not directly affiliated with and does not endorse any events, services or products represented.

Dept of Education Notice

NSW Department of Education



Compulsory school attendance

Information for parents and carers

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

education.nsw.gov.au

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all Education in New South Wale's Ecompulsory for all children between the ages of skyears and below the minimum school leaving age of Ty years. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the NSW Education Standards Authority for home schooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time

- ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- · gives students time to greet their friends before class

reduces classroom disruption.

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child had to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- Being sick, or having an infectious disease having an unavoidable medical appointment
- · being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
 - exceptional or urgent family circumstance e.g. attending a funeral.



NSW Department of Education

Following an absence from school you must ensure a hat within 7 days you provide your child's school with a erbal or written explanation for the absence. However, f the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

decision with you and the reasons wry. Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to liness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays, if travel during school tarm is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.

My child won't go to school, what should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may each further support networks the principal may and further support free thomas Chendu Linkon the support free thomas and the principal may and further support free thomas and the principal may and further support free thomas and the principal may and the support free thomas and the principal may and the support free thomas and the principal may and the support free the support free the support and the support free the support nking your child seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education may be required to take the begat interc of Education may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

education.nsw.gov.au

Some of the following actions may be undertaken

Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

Application to the Children's Court - Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to School and Department staff remain committed to working in partmership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsor schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in partnership

The NSW Department of Education recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school. We look forward to working in partnership with you to

support your child to fulfil their life opportunitie

Telephone interpreter service

Please contact the school if you would like more Prease contact the school if you would like more information. If you need interpreter assistance to contact the school, please call 131 450, tell them what language you need and ask the operator to phone the school. The operator will get an interpreter on the line to assist you will hy our conversation. You will not be charged for this service.

Compulsory school attendance - English 2



Compulsory school attendance - English 1

Term 1 First day for students in Eastern division schools: 6 February First day for students in Western division schools: 13 February Last day for all schools: 11 April Term 2, 3 and 4 First to last days for all students Term 2: 30 April to 4 July Term 2: 22 July to 26 September Term 4: 14 October to 19 December	School development days (students do not attend) Eastern division schools: 31 January to 5 February Western division schools: 7 February to 12 February All schools: 28 April, 29 April, 21 July, 13 Oct School holidays All Schools Summer 2024-25: 22 December 2024 to 30 January 2025	Autumn: 14 April to 26 April Winter: 7 July to 19 July Spring: 29 September to 11 October Summer 2025 - 26: 22 December 2025 to 26 January 2026 Additional summer holidays f Western division schools 31 January to 6 February 2025 Public holidays
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Contact us and useful links

Please contact the school with any queries:

Phone: 02 9810 2469

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

You can find important updates and further information on our website, via the Sentral app, and the BPS Facebook page:

Website: https://birchgrove-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/

Facebook: @BirchgrovePS

Useful Links:

NSW school term dates inc. Staff Development Days (pupil free): https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/calendars/2025

Camp Australia before and after school care: Phone: 1300 105 343

https://campaustralia.com.au/school/?accessCode=9F7B

The School Canteen: An external company supplying canteen service to our school Thu-Fri each week:

https://www.theschoolcanteen.com.au/

Extended Leave form: To apply for leave beyond what is available in the school holiday periods please fill and return this form for Principal approval prior to travel:

https://birchgrove-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/b/birchgrovep/forms/Extended_Leave_Travel_notification.pdf

Administration of medication at school: Information and paperwork required for support at school

https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/parents-and-carers/health-and-physical-care/health-care-procedures/administering-medication

Prior Newsletters: https://birchgrove-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/newsletter.html

BPS P&C contacts and sponsors

BPS P&C contacts and further information, including the second-hand uniform store, can be found here:

Website: https://www.bpspandc.com/

Scan the QR code below

Our P&C would like to thank our local sponsors for their ongoing support.





