

Birchgrove Buzz

Term 2 Week 10 2025

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For your calendar

Term 2 2025:

4 Jul Last day of term for students

Term 3 2025:

22 Jul First day of term for students

29 Jul NAIDOC Cultural Immersion Day

31 Jul Imagine excursion: Kindy - Year 4

5 Aug Music Night performances

15 Aug Balmain Zone Athletics Carnival: select students only

21 Aug Book Parade

3 Sep Stage 2 Zoo excursion

9 Sep Festival of Music performance - Opera House

17 Sep 'Imagine' – whole school performance (matinee and evening)

18 Sep Stage 3 excursion – SSC Balmain Musical performance

26 Sep Last day of term for students

BPS Merit Board



Congratulations to Charlotte B and Leo W. who received a Principal's Merit for the kindness and care they always show others.

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 Birchgrove families

It is amazing how quickly Term 2 has passed. It has been a full term with camp, playground works, incursions and sporting events.

Thank you to the staff who have been involved in organising all these events for our students.

Our attendance rates for term 2 have dropped from 94.7% in Term 1 to 92.5% this term, this is due to illness and students travelling during school time. A reminder that families are required to advise the school when their child is away, providing a reason for the absence.

Thank you to the families who have completed the 2026 school planning survey. We are required to submit projected enrolment numbers to the DoE in early August. The information gathered in the survey assists us with our future planning including staff and programs to be offered. If you have yet to complete the survey, please take a moment to fill in the required details.

We will also be submitting our NCCD data in early Term 3. NCCD refers to Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). Please refer to the information sheet (next page) about what data is collected and how it is used.

Playground works are expected to be completed by the end of the school holidays, ready for students return in Term 3.

Thank you to Hugo T (Flannel Flower class) family for their donation of LEGO, these kits will be perfect for our Just Chilling lunch time club.

Finally, I received an email from our Director - Educational Leadership advising that one of our community members, Stacey Fisher, has been recognised in Parliament for her contribution to the P&C and local community. Thank you, Stacey, for all that you do to support our school.

Extract: Hansard, 24 June 2025 - P&Cs Roundtable:

Ms KOBI SHETTY (Balmain):

"Today I would like to congratulate the incredible women who came together for a successful P&Cs Roundtable of the public primary schools from the Balmain peninsular. The roundtable brought together representatives from local P&Cs to share insights, raise concerns, and explore ways to strengthen collaboration across our schools so every child can access the high-quality public education they deserve. It was an insightful opportunity to identify challenges, look for solutions, and work together to support our kids, teachers, and communities. Congratulations to Stacy Fisher (Birchgrove Public School), Trista Rose (Balmain Public School), Amy Simpson (Balmain Public School), Carly Freel (Nicholson St Public School), Kerrie Fergusson (Nicholson St Public School), Annabelle Berriman (Rozelle Public School), Shona Macleod (P&C Federation Sydney Rep) & Anastasia Scott (Rozelle Public School) for your valuable contributions to school communities in our area".

Wishing you all a happy and safe holiday break.

- Kylie Mitchell, Principal (relieving)

Principal's trophy for excellence

Week 9 Lilly Pilly -for their outstanding space projects and presentations.

Week 10 Spark Squad (Years 4-6) – for their innovative and creative robots. I was particularly impressed with the way the students collaborated to design and build their robots and the way they worked together to problem solve.

Message from our Principal



Dear parents, guardians and carers

Re: Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, in line with the NCCD guidelines (2019).

Information provided about students to the Australian Government for the NCCD includes:

- year of schooling
- category of disability: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional
- level of adjustment provided: support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial or extensive.

This information assists schools to:

- formally recognise the supports and adjustments provided to students with disability in schools
- consider how they can strengthen the support of students with disability in schools
- develop shared practices so that they can review their learning programs in order to improve educational outcomes for students with disability.

The NCCD provides state and federal governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for the support of students with disability.

The NCCD will have no direct impact on your child and your child will not be involved in any testing process.

The school will provide data to the Australian Government in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified – the privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured. All information is protected by privacy laws that regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information.

To find out more about these matters, please refer to the [Australian Government's Privacy Policy \(https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy\)](https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy).

Further information about the NCCD can be found on the [NCCD Portal \(https://www.nccd.edu.au\)](https://www.nccd.edu.au).

If you have any questions about the NCCD, please contact the school.

Kind regards

Kylie Mitchell, Principal (relieving)



Bottlebrush hosted assembly

The Bottlebrush class have been exploring the fascinating relationship between the Earth, Sun, and Moon as part of their Term 3 Science unit. To share their understanding, the students performed a poem titled "The Sun, the Moon and the Earth" at assembly. Each line of the poem was thoughtfully illustrated by the students, bringing the verses to life and helping to visually explain these important celestial interactions. It was a wonderful way to combine science, art, and performance.

Damien Fitzgerald - Teacher Bottlebrush



Snow Gum hosted assembly

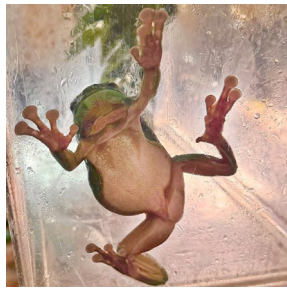
The Snow Gum class hosted assembly on the last day of term. They recited a beautiful, but mysterious poem by Robert Frost called "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening". The class also showed artworks they created in response to the poem and posed questions they had about some of the poem's more enigmatic details.

[You can find the poem here](#) and [read it for yourself here](#).

Benjamin Dodds - Teacher Snow Gum



Zoo Mobile Incursion



Students in K-2 were thrilled to take part in a special Zoo Mobile incursion from Taronga Zoo, where they met live animals and learned about their habitats, needs and life cycles. This engaging experience supported our science learning by bringing curriculum topics to life! We loved meeting a tree frog, blue tongue lizard, turtle, snake and possum as well as many others!

Emma Taksa - Teacher Wattle



In the classroom: Library Reflections



Year 4 Lilly Pilly students Oliver and Hugo exploring the last batch of books received from Scholastic. Thank you again to our generous BPS community for supporting our Scholastic Book Fair in Term 4 last year. This has allowed hundreds of student book requests to be added to our collection throughout this semester.



Year 2 Banksia students enjoying library and the book 'Little White Dogs Can't Jump!'

Emma: "I loved the book so much I'm borrowing it!"

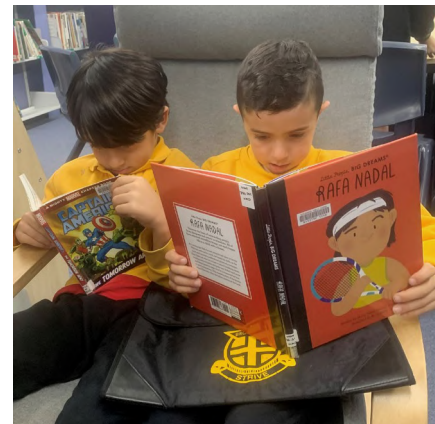


Arabella: "I made the new car so Smudge the dog can get in."

Lexi: "I made the back of the car the skateboard and the ramp for Smudge."



Year 5/6 Snow Gum students locating books across the library with the popular Bring Me game.



Year 5/4 Wollemi students discussed the theme for NAIDOC Week 2025 during their Week 10 library lesson. They enjoyed the text 'Respect' written by Boonwurrung Elder Aunty Fay Muir and Sue Lawson.

The text is beautifully illustrated by Lisa Kennedy, a descendant of coastal Trawlwoolway people of north-east Tasmania. Lily, Cora and Jai's creations were inspired by group discussions regarding art, story and culture.

It has been another busy semester in the BPS library. Enjoy some recent highlights!

Melissa Sarina - Teacher Librarian



In the classroom: Library Reflections



Daisy students were inspired to borrow non-fiction books about sloths after enjoying the fiction picture book 'The Sloth who Came to Stay'.



Kindergarten Flannel Flowers enjoying exploring the library and the book 'Snail and Turtle are Friends'.



Year 4 Lilly Pilly students Oliver and Hugo perusing the latest batch of pre-loved student book donations. They are in excellent condition. BPS students take care of their books.



Year 6 library monitors enjoying some free time in the library after all their hard work this semester.



In Other News...



Athletics Carnival Record breakers

Congratulations to the following students who either broke or equalled records at our recent athletics carnival:

10-year-old boys 100m: Oliver L, new record set of 13.68secs

12-year-old boys 100m: James E, new record set of 13.81secs

Junior boys 200m: Oliver L, new record set of 31.31secs

Junior boys 800m: Oliver L, new record set of 2.36.07mins

Senior boys 800m: James E, new record set of 2.34.88mins

Junior boys 1500m: Oliver L, new record set of 5.21.97mins

Senior boys 1500m: James E, new record set of 5.16.50mins

8-year-old girls 100m: Maelys P, equal record of 17.18secs

Junior girls 1500m: Olivia C, new record set of 6.30.13mins

Roving BPS Street Library

Next school pick up or drop off, keep a look out for our 'BPS street library', by the gate, by the door or in our office foyer!

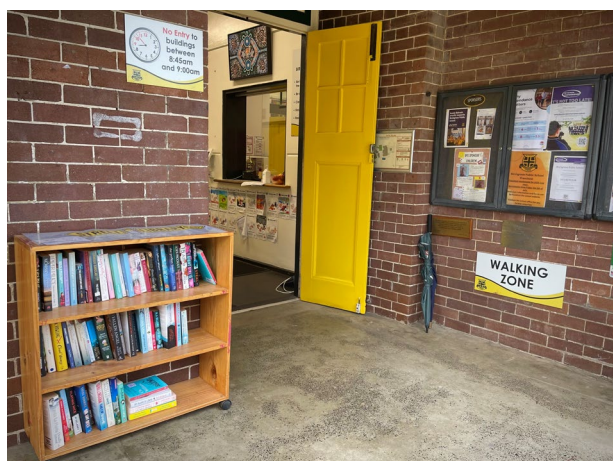
As school staff, we not only love reading, but we also know that when parent carers are avid readers, their children are more likely to pick up the habit. So, we invite you to start or continue your habit with us.

It works just like a regular street library: take a book, leave a book, swap a book. Feel free to stop and browse whenever you get a moment.

There are a few rules:

- * Grown up books only
- * Novels only
- * No over-filling
- * Make sure the books you leave are in good condition

We look forward to sharing a love of good books with you all.
- Dani Corliss, Teacher Waratah



**BPS Whole
School
Performance:
Imagine!**

Wed 17 Sept. 2025

We're excited to invite you to our Whole School Performance on Wednesday of Week 9, Term 3!

This year's theme, "Imagine...!", encourages students to explore their creativity and dream big. We'd also like to acknowledge Birchgrove's 140th Anniversary, a milestone that reminds us of our school's proud history and bright future. We can't wait to share this special event with you! Further information about times and ticketing will be sent to families closer to the date.

Final House points for Term 2:

Congratulations Jackson house

JACKSON	EVATT
1,076	948
FRASER	ROBINSON
876	856

In Other News...

That's Debatable

Well, it's amazing how practice pays off. We had two winning teams in our last debate - this time against Leichhardt Public School. What an achievement!

And it was a hard topic this time round: **There should be stricter regulations on advertising targeting children.** Most of us wouldn't even know what the regulations actually are, let alone how they could be stricter. But both our affirmative and negative teams got their arguments across well enough to convince the adjudicators that they knew what they were talking about. Well done to Lily, Sophie, Elodie and Penny for arguing the need for stricter regulations. And excellent work from Chloe, Frankie and Billie for proving that the regulations were strict enough as they are. Thank you to Sanne who helped formulate the negative arguments. And extra thanks to Saffi for stepping in at the last minute to replace an unwell Sanne as 4th Speaker.

A final huge thanks to Billie's mum, Charlie, for delivering, overseeing and returning our travelling debaters, and for doing it all again next term. You are a big help to us all.

Our next debate is held in Week 3 of Term 3.

Dani Corliss - Debate Coordinator



My first argument is that restricting advertisements won't result in your child never seeing inappropriate things. Inappropriate ads are the least of our worries in the modern world. Everyone sees far worse online or in public these days. This is just ONE of the reasons regulations on advertising that targets children should not be stricter. - Chloe.B

Debating team members
with chaperone extraordinaire Charlie!

Student Parliament

Year 6 stretched their leadership muscles this week by holding their second Student Parliament. Ably led by the School Prime Ministers, Elodie and James, the Student Ministries were able to report on the successes of their recent initiatives, such as the Talent Show and Pyjama Day.

They also reported on activities they have in the pipeline for the coming semester - soccer competition, mufti day, lunchtime Baamboozle competition, etc.

Student Representatives from each class attended and relayed ideas and concerns suggested by their classmates.

Well done to all these very impressive students who have represented themselves, their ministries and their classes most admirably.



In Other News...

Enrichment Tree Fruit

On behalf of all the BPS students and staff, thank you to all our parent/carers who generously donated to the P&C annual enrichment tree to provide extra resources for their classrooms. The children were all so excited to receive their classes' enrichment tree presents and start putting them to good use.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the energy and enthusiasm of our dedicated P&C committee. We thank you for all you do for our school and its community once again!



Semester 1 Reports

Semester 1 2025 student reports were emailed to families last Friday. This report (and previous reports) can also be found on the Parent Portal of Sentral.

To access reports on the Parent Portal:

- when using a computer, click your child's name on the left, and Academic Reports on the right.
- when using the app, click your child's name at the top, click Student Details and then Academic Reports.

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of your child's progress in Semester 1 2025. If you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's report, please contact your child's classroom teacher to arrange a meeting.

Greta Sun - Assistant Principal, Stage 3

Birchgrove Public School

In Other News...

Festival of Instrumental Music rehearsal

On Thursday some of our recorder and string students attended their Festival of Instrumental Music rehearsal with local metropolitan schools at Marsden High School/Meadowbank Public School.

They rehearsed the pieces they will be performing at the Opera House in Term 3.



Birchgrove Public students dressed for career day success!



Stage 1 and 3 PE Excursion

Last Thursday, Stage 1 and Stage 3 students visited Sydney Secondary College Balmain Campus where Year 10 PDHPE students ran a PE lesson for our BPS students as part of their coaching assessment. Students took part in activities for AFL, volleyball, touch football, netball, basketball or soccer.

Our students enjoyed the experience and working with our local high school.

Thank you to the students who attended for representing BPS so wonderfully.

Greta Sun - Assistant Principal, Stage 3



In the classroom: Lilly Pilly

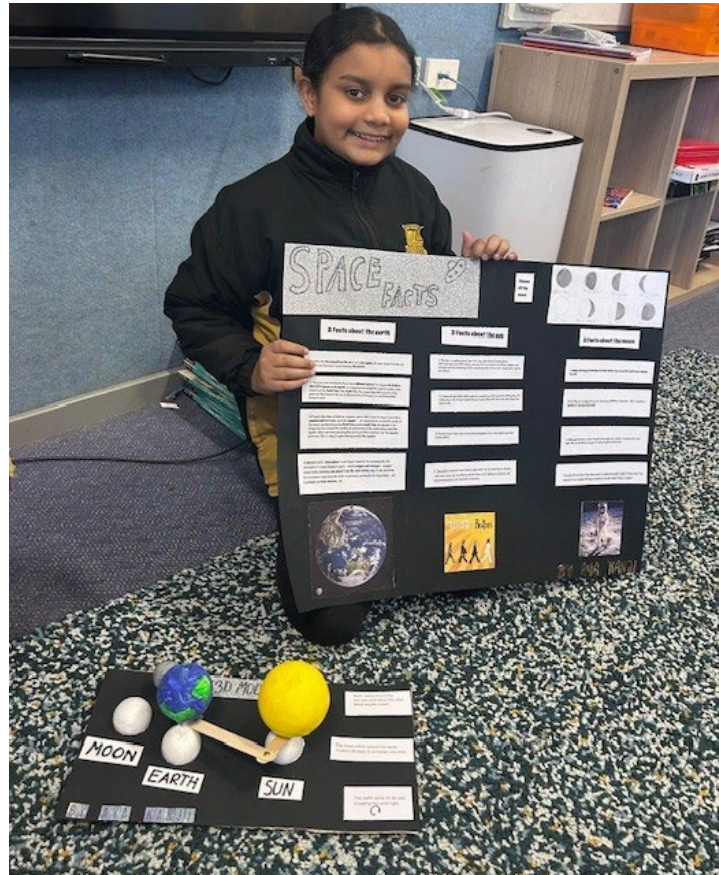


This week, the students in the Lilly Pilly class showcased their understanding of the relationship between the sun, the earth and the moon.

Through creative models and posters, they explained how these celestial bodies interact to create day and night, the seasons, and the lunar phases.

It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm and growing confidence as they shared their learning with the class!

Michelle Preece – Teacher Lilly Pilly



BPS after hours 2025



AFTER SCHOOL DRAMA CLASSES

BIRCHGROVE SCHOOL HALL

Join our fun and engaging drama classes where children explore creativity, build confidence, and develop self-expression through storytelling and performance!

3-4pm Years 1-3

4-5pm Years 4-6

**\$17.5
A CLASS
PAID
TERMLY**

CONTACT LAURA ON 0431136177 / DANCEARAMA01@YAHOO.COM



Level 1 30A George St, Burwood 2134
Office: (02) 9745 1170

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 2 May 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:

office.sydneyacademy@gmail.com

for an enrolment form.

For all enquiries, please contact Sydney Academy of Chess on:
(02) 9745 1170.



ENROL NOW FOR TERM 2

Limited vacancy!

LEARN MUSIC AT SCHOOL

MUSIC KEYBOARD CLASSES AT BIRCHGROVE PS
LESSON ON WED 8.05-8.50AM

- 45-minute weekly sessions in small groups.
- Instrument not required initially.
- \$33 per session - follows the school term. New students are welcome to join mid-term.
- Ideal for beginners!

Music Shapes Minds!
Learning music enhances cognitive skills, builds discipline and boosts confidence!



To enrol, call 9411 3122 or visit:
www.learnmusicatschool.com.au



VIP Music - Bringing music culture to primary schools since 1984

KIDS AT THE ARTHOUSE

ENROLMENTS 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



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.

Birchgrove Public School

BPS after hours 2025

Italian classes are run 3.30 – 5.30 pm Tuesdays, (supervision from 3.00pm).
If your child is interested, please contact Casa d'Italia directly.

2025 Out-Of-School Hours Italian Language & Cultural Program

Children who learn languages today
take on the world tomorrow

(02) 9564 0744
coasit.org.au



Who can participate in this course?

- Classes cater for:
- Children aged 5 to 17 currently enrolled in a day school;
 - All levels from absolute beginners to advanced learners.

Classes are organised according to the following levels:

Primary (Kindergarten to Year 6)

- Primary Classes: Early Stage 1 – Stage 3
- Italian Club (Advanced level. Subject to entry examination)

Secondary (Year 7 to Year 12)

- Secondary Classes
- Stages 4 – 6
- HSC Support (Year 11 & 12)

Where and when are the courses held?

Classes are held outside normal school hours
(Monday to Saturday) in 18 centres across NSW.
Classes commence on Monday 10th February 2025.

What is included in the cost?

The annual program provides each student with 37 weeks of quality Italian lessons, a textbook and interactive activities starting from \$595.

As a registered provider of the Creative Kids Program you can redeem your voucher when you enrol in our program. For less than \$9 per hour, students engage in fun, educational experiences that allow them to explore the wonders of all things Italian.

Our **Basic K-12 program** will engage your child in fun Italian language and cultural activities.

Our **Premium K-5 program** will give your child the edge and deepen their knowledge of the Italian language through the use of our digital resources and full immersion days.

Our **Premium 6-12 program** is your child's passport to Italy. Our full immersion days will give them a leading advantage when sitting the internationally recognised CILS exams.

*See table for all program inclusions

For further information regarding enrolments, terms & conditions, times, classes, early bird and sibling discounts, please call (02) 9564 0744 or visit our website (scan QR code on back page).

Program Inclusions	Basic K-12 \$595	Premium K-5 \$700	Premium 6-12 \$1250
2-hour weekly lessons (Total 37 weeks)	✓	✓	✓
Textbook	✓	✓	✓
Access to Minister's Awards competition	✓	✓	✓
Access to Co As It's Settimana della Lingua Italiana competition	✓	✓	✓
Unlimited access to on-line activities		✓	✓
Exam preparatory materials			✓
Dedicated educational channel with digital resources	✓	✓	✓
Three Italian language experiences in Meadowbank during school holidays		✓	
Six Italian language development days in Leichhardt during school holidays			✓



About the curriculum and the teachers

This program is supported by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation through the Italian Consulate General in Sydney and the Embassy of Italy in Canberra, as well as the NSW Department of Education – Community Languages Program. Co As It teachers are friendly, dedicated, experienced and approved to teach by the Department of Education – Community Languages Program. Our teachers follow the OSH teaching program developed by Co As It in conjunction with the K-10 Italian Syllabus of the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA).

How to enrol

Online
coasit.org.au

By email
learning@coasit.org.au

In person
Casa d'Italia
67 Norton Street
Leichhardt NSW 2040

Scan here to visit our website.



THE ULTIMATE SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

ROCKETEERS
Extraordinary Holiday Adventures



Take the stress out of the school holidays with Rocketeers. Featuring over 200 wonderfully unique experiences that will ensure your child's school holidays are extraordinary!

From our Ninja Showdown experience, brought to you by Proactivity and featuring special guests from a certain Ninja obstacle TV show, to creating a DIY mini golf course right here at Rocketeers – and everything in between! There's something for everyone at Rocketeers.

Plus, a Big Art Day double feature – 2 massive days of creative and social fun!



Build
Friendships



Discover
Adventure



Create
Memories



Have lots
of fun!

DID YOU KNOW?

You don't have to attend the school where we operate to use our awesome holiday programs. Simply book into any of our convenient locations.

SAVE BIG THIS WINTER!

Child Care Subsidy
available for
eligible families.

**BOOK INTO SCHOOL
HOLIDAY FUN NOW!**

WHAT'S ON THESE HOLIDAYS!



Special Event



Experience Takeover



Jet set on an Adventure



Programs vary by location. Jump on our website to find out what's happening at your local Rocketeers.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY BOOKINGS NOW OPEN

ROCKETEERS

campaustalia.com.au

by **Camp Australia**

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.

Birchgrove Public School

A message from Primary Ethics



Could you or someone you know teach ethics at Birchgrove Public School in 2025?

A new volunteer is needed to teach the Stage 1 Australian Daisies ethics group. Ethics classes for this group will not continue until a new volunteer is available.

Teaching ethics is a wonderful volunteering opportunity for anyone looking for a meaningful way to give back to our community.

In ethics, students explore everyday issues suitable for their age. They learn to listen closely to each other, to disagree without putdowns and to think carefully as they form their opinions.

You can teach ethics if:

- You're interested in what children think and you have an interest in learning
- You're willing to learn how to use our lesson scripts to ask children ethical questions
- You can remain neutral and give the children space to think
- You're available each school week at 9:45am Friday
- You complete our free training and pass background checks

You will join a great community of Primary Ethics volunteers – at Birchgrove Public School and across NSW. You'll have the rewarding opportunity of listening to the fantastic students at our school and helping them grow. You'll develop new skills yourself – facilitation skills, plus skills in communication and active listening.

Primary Ethics provides free, comprehensive training with online self-paced learning and trainer-led workshops (by Zoom or face-to-face).

Curious?

Visit primaryethics.com.au/volunteer/

Join a [free webinar](#) *Discover Primary Ethics: Empower Young Minds!* on Thursday 10 April 7-8pm.

Or contact Renee Alborough, Birchgrove Ethics Coordinator - birchgroveethics@gmail.com

Do something life changing!

**Volunteer
as a Primary
Ethics teacher**

"Teaching children ethics is my time to slow down, listen well, think deeply and leave more hopeful"



Dept of Education Notice

NSW Department of Education

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 in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age of 17 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.

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if 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.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. 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 holidays. If travel during school term 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 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 further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

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 working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school, in circumstances where a breach of compulsory 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 opportunities.

Telephone interpreter service

Please 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 with your conversation. You will not be charged for this service.

education.nsw.gov.au

Compulsory school attendance - English 1



education.nsw.gov.au

Compulsory school attendance - English 2

NSW Department of Education

Calendar 2025



January

M	T	W	T	F	Sa	Su	
			1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31			

February

M	T	W	T	F	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

March

M	T	W	T	F	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April

M	T	W	T	F	Sa	Su				
					1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27				
28	29	30								

May

M	T	W	T	F	Sa	Su		
					1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
26	27	28	29	30	31			

June

M	T	W	T	F	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

July

M	T	W	T	F	Sa	Su				
					1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27				
28	29	30	31							

August

M	T	W	T	F	Sa	Su	
					1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

September

M	T	W	T	F	Sa	Su					
					1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14					
15	16	17	18	19	20	21					
22	23	24	25	26	27	28					
29	30										

October

M	T	W	T	F	Sa	Su			
					1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26			
27	28	29	30	31					

November

M	T	W	T	F	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December

M	T	W	T	F	Sa	Su					
					1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14					
15	16	17	18	19	20	21					
22	23	24	25	26	27	28					
29	30	31									

Key dates

* Check with your school as starting and finishing dates may change.

- 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**
 - Term 2 to last days for all students**
 - Term 2: 30 April to 4 July
 - Term 3: 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 for Western division schools**
 - 31 January to 6 February 2025

Public holidays



School development days

The dates are determined by the department. Always check with your local school as dates may change. Parents and carers should not send their children to school on school development days.

education.nsw.gov.au/school-development-days



Scan me for key dates

education.nsw.gov.au/calendars

Birchgrove Public School

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](https://www.facebook.com/BirchgrovePS)



Useful Links (click on hyperlinks):

[NSW school term dates](#) inc. Staff Development Days (pupil free)

[Camp Australia before and after school care](#): Phone: 1300 105 343

[The School Canteen](#): An external company supplying canteen service to our school Thus-Fri each week.

[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:

[Administration of medication at school](#): Information and paperwork required for support at school

[Prior Birchgrove Buzz Newsletters](#)

BPS P&C contacts and sponsors

BPS P&C contacts and further information, including the second-hand uniform store, can be found on the [BPS P&C website here](#).

or by scanning the QR code below. Our P&C would like to thank our local sponsors for their ongoing support.

