## Dates to Remember

### Term 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20/2</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 7pm in staffroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21/2</td>
<td>Student Parliament Induction Ceremony 9:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22/2</td>
<td>Welcome Back BBQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/3</td>
<td>District Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/3</td>
<td>Regional Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15/3</td>
<td>National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20/3</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 7pm in staffroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21/3</td>
<td>Harmony Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28/3</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29/3-1/4</td>
<td>Easter Weekend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/4-3/4</td>
<td>State Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/4</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/4</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Term 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29/4</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30/4</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/5</td>
<td>Pupils Return to School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/5</td>
<td>Music Committee Meeting 7pm in staffroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14/5-16/5</td>
<td>NAPLAN Years 3 &amp; 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22/5</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 7pm in staffroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21/5</td>
<td>ICAS Computer Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>ICAS Science Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/6</td>
<td>Music Committee Meeting 7pm in staffroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14/6</td>
<td>Regional Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/6</td>
<td>Queens Birthday Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/6</td>
<td>ICAS Writing Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19/6</td>
<td>ICAS Spelling Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18/6</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 7pm in staffroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19/6</td>
<td>State Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20/6</td>
<td>Birchgrove Athletics Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28/6</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Term 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15/7</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/7</td>
<td>Pupils Return to School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/7</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 7pm in staffroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30/7</td>
<td>Music Committee Meeting 7pm in staffroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31/7</td>
<td>ICAS English Competition</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- **P&C** meetings are held in the staffroom unless otherwise specified.
- Dates for upcoming events are subject to change.
**Term 1  Week 4  20th February 2013**

**Friends of Balmain Library Writing Competition Due**  
1/8

**ICAS Mathematics Competition**  
13/8

**District Athletics**  
14/8

**District Athletics**  
16/8

**P&C Meeting 7pm in staffroom**  
21/8

**Music Night??**  
21/8

**Instrumental Festival-Recorder**  
26/8-29/8

**Performance- K-6 Space Jump- Book Week**  
2/9

**Regional Athletics**  
4/9

**Music Committee Meeting 7pm in staffroom**  
10/9

**School Photos**  
17/9

**P&C Meeting 7pm in staffroom**  
18/9

**School Photos**  
19/9

**Last Day of Term 3**  
20/9

---

**Term 4**

**Pupils Return to School**  
8/10

**Music Committee Meeting 7pm in staffroom**  
15/10

**P&C Meeting 7pm in staffroom**  
16/10

**State Athletics Carnival**  
16/10

**P&C Meeting 7pm in staffroom AGM**  
20/11

**Music Committee Meeting 7pm in staffroom AGM**  
26/11

**Year 6 Farewell Assembly and Clapout**  
18/12

**Last Day of Term 4**  
18/12

---

**Canteen News**

I would like to thank Justin Evans & Steve Baveas from Balmain Woolworths for donating a large box of fresh fruit & salad items again this week to the canteen.

Don't forget to hand in your donut order form by 9:30 am Friday 22nd so you don't miss out as we will not have any extras.

We will be sending home forms for a chicken nugget meal deal very soon. Don't forget to use your school canteen so we don't loose it.

---

Karen Peters

Thank everyone for raising stickers for the Earn and Learn Program. Our new resources arrived last week. We are so happy and thankful for all our new learning resources.

From the preschool staff and children
Principals Report

Meet the Teacher K to 6 and Preschool both went well, and it was good to see so many of our parents there. If you missed the meeings please make sure you pick up the handouts. I’m looking forward to seeing many of you at tonight’s P&C Meeting and the Welcome Back BBQ.

I’ve been visiting classes whenever possible and managed to join in with a couple of celebrations this week!

K/1 C finished their learning about Chinese New Year with a delicious sampling of chinese cuisine.

IU completed their learning about the stories of Valentine Day with a tea party.

Years 3&4 had their teacher planning day this week and have developed some great programs for Semester 1. Years 1 & 2 will be having their planning day this Monday. The collegial discussions, goal setting, event planning and shared understanding of the curriculum gained on these days makes for great learning experiences for the children.

Our Bounce Back Value this Week is: “Fairness”

Being fair means following the rules and not cheating; it means returning favours and kindnesses, and helping others to get justice and a fair deal.
School Banking

School banking takes place every Monday during the school term.

Can you help? We are looking for a new co-ordinator(s). It’s quite straightforward and can be done at home at your leisure (two people can alternate terms if that’s preferred). Please contact Trish on 0417 472 060 or t_power@hotmail.com and she can explain what’s involved.

Chess Coaching

Chess coaching for students at Birchgrove Public School is held on Tuesdays from 1:10pm – 1:55pm. Term 1 lessons will commence on 12th February, 2013

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.

If your child is interested in taking part, please pick up an enrolment form from the school office or call the Sydney Academy of Chess on 02) 9745 1170.

Mind Quest

St George Girls HS Victoria St Kogarah

On Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 April 2013 the 68th NSW Talent Enrichment Weekend MindQuest will be held for primary students from Years 1-6 at St George HS. These include gifted and talented students, gifted underachievers and students with above average ability with special interest. Students will have an opportunity to participate in over 38 exciting, fast-paced courses in the two day program. They include courses in chemistry, earth sciences, drama, lego robotics, art and much more. Many of these highly successful courses have been run in the past and students’ evaluations suggest that they have been challenged and enriched by the experience. The cost of the weekend is $170 (including GST)

Contact Di Ford through the school office or email dianne.p.ford@det.nsw.edu.au for a brochure or Shelagh Por ay 02 4232 2494 from MindQuest.

Closing Date Friday March 8 2013
Bounce Back Program

If you are resilient you are able to cope reasonably well with difficult situations and things that go wrong and then ‘bounce back’. Throughout life children will need skills and attitudes to help them to bounce back. They will encounter everyday challenges such as making mistakes, falling out with a friend, moving house or school and losing in a sports competition. Many will also face challenges such as adapting to family breakdowns, a step-family, the illness or death of a family member, or being bullied.

The BOUNCE BACK! Wellbeing and Resilience program teaches children the skills and attitudes to help them become more resilient. It uses literature as a starting point for discussions and follow-up activities. These ten coping statements are a core part of the program.

**BOUNCE BACK!** stands for:

Bad times don’t last. Things always get better. Stay optimistic.
Other people can help if you talk to them. Get a reality check.
Unhelpful thinking makes you feel more upset. Think again.
Nobody is perfect—not you and not others.
Concentrate on the positives (no matter how small) and use laughter.
Everybody experiences sadness, failure, rejection and setbacks sometimes, not just you.
They are a normal part of life. Try not to personalise them.

Blame fairly. How much of what happened was due to you, to others and to bad luck or circumstances?
Accept what can’t be changed (but try to change what you can change first).
Catastrophising exaggerates your worries. Don’t believe the worst possible picture.
Keep things in perspective. It’s only part of your life.

The program can help your child to get better at:

- Using helpful thinking when faced with a problem or a difficult situation
- Thinking more optimistically, i.e. expecting bad times to get better
- Understanding that everyone has setbacks and difficulties, not just them
- Talking to people they trust so they get a reality check on their thinking
- Being brave and facing their fears
- Managing strong emotions and turning a bad mood into a good mood
- Getting along with others and cooperating
- Setting goals, being resourceful and not easily giving up
- Being kind, fair, honest, friendly, responsible, and accepting of differences
- Respecting other people and not bullying others.

You can help your child get the best out of their involvement with Bounce Back! if you reinforce the key messages they are learning.

The Bounce Back message for each week will be in the newsletter. There is going to be a parent information kit on the website.
It’s been a great start to 2013 with all the music ensembles settling in well and the tutor lessons now underway.

**Extra Early Childhood Music class**
Due to strong demand, an additional Beginners Early Childhood Music class will be starting up on Monday mornings from 8.30am to 9.10am. If you have a child in Kindergarten and would like them to join this class, please contact Lisa Healy rich@rdhinchliffe.com.

Early Childhood Music classes are an ideal way to introduce your child to music. Children learn rhythm reading, singing using the Kodaly approach which is one of the most successful ways to teach children to sing in tune. They also learn various musical concepts (such as pulse and dynamics), explore musical instruments and learn how to “decode” high and low notes into the musical language of sol-fa (do, re, mi etc). The use of hand signs to accompany this adds a kinaesthetic element. Every skill that they learn can be transferred to an instrument down the track – and they also have a great deal of fun!

**Training Band**
The students in the Training Band are very excited to be learning their instruments and beginning to play their first few songs together. Many parents are also coming to watch and help out, where needed. There are still some signed Codes of Conduct to come back so, if you haven’t already done so, could you please get these to Kirsten Nicholl or hand them into the school office as soon as possible.

**Music invoices**
These are currently being prepared and will be emailed out to parents directly in late February/March.

**Dates for the diary**
- Tuesday, 7 May – Music Committee meeting in staffroom at 7pm. All welcome
Dear Parents,

Welcome to new families at the school and welcome back to returning families. Birchgrove Public School has an active P&C that aims to raise funds to enhance our children’s enjoyment of the school. It also runs social events for parents. Each year the funds the P&C provide to the school greatly benefit the children’s education. In 2012, the P&C allocated $145,000 to the school for a number of projects, including:

- Maths and Literacy Teachers: $25,000
- MultiLit Reading Program: $10,000
- Computers/Technology: $28,000
- Reading Books: $4,000
- Infrastructure Fund: $50,000
- Mathletics: $3,000
- Teachers’ Aids: $8,000
- Bush Tucker Garden: $2,500

Over the years, the P&C has been fortunate to have the generous support of parents, especially through their time and effort, and also their financial contributions. We would be grateful for your help in 2013. These fees are voluntary. However, they are a major source of the P&C’s fund-raising activities. Payment by every family would result in $30,000 before additional fundraising is considered.

**How to pay**

The P&C is now accepting fees for 2013. Payment can be made via direct deposit, by cash or cheque (box in the office) and there will be an EFTPOS machine available at school pick up on Tuesday to Thursday during week 3 and 4. The annual fee is $120 for the first child, $100 for the second and $80 thereafter. The annual fee for the preschool is $60 per child. Prompt payment of the levy helps significantly to fund priority items early in the year. There are already a number of projects on the wish list for 2013 so your help is needed!

**BPS Keyring**

This year parents who pay the P&C fees will receive a bonus BPS keyring as a small token of appreciation from the P&C in recognition of the contribution that Birchgrove Families make by paying their P&C fees each year. The keyring also allows Birchgrove Public School families access to special offers from local merchants. The offers will be published each month in the Birchgrove Buzz. All you need to do to take up any of the offers is show your keyring at select shops throughout the peninsular. Shop locally, show that you are a BPS family by showing the keyring and support the shops who support BPS.

Yours sincerely,

P&C Executive
Chris O’Donnell, Angela Davis, Matthew Garvey, Tony Board, Kate Myles & Amy Large

---

**Direct Debit Payment Details** (refer to fee schedule below)

Bank: CBA  
Account Name: Birchgrove P&C  
Account: 00900746  
BSB: 062 110

Please include *family name* in reference section (keyrings will be distributed shortly after payment is received)

---

**Cash/Cheque Payments** (place payment and completed form in the green box at the office)

**FAMILY NAME:** ____________________________  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Paying</th>
<th>K-6</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First child</td>
<td>$120</td>
<td>$120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second child</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third or more</td>
<td>$80</td>
<td>$80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total P&C Levy Contribution: $ _____
WELCOME BACK BBQ

Free Sausage Sizzle

Please join us for the first social event of the year.

Meet new families, catch up with old friends and enjoy the free sausage sizzle. Both alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks will be available for purchase.

Members of the P&C will be there, so come and say hello and find out what’s happening in 2013. You can also pay the P&C Levy on the night (EFTPOS available).

When: Friday, 22nd February
Time: 5-7pm

For catering purposes, please email yvette.lejins@gmail.com if you will be attending (with numbers), or complete the form below and return it to the school office by Friday 15th February.

--------------------------------------------------

WELCOME BACK BBQ – Friday, 22nd February

Yes, we’d love to come along!

Family Name: ________________________________
Number of People: __________________________
Special Dietary Requirements: ____________________________________________________________
Birchgrove Public School
Community Keyring Deals!!

Simply flash your BPS 2013 keyring to take up these specials on offer through local businesses....

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Charlottes Café</th>
<th>BODYGO FITNESS STUDIO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grab an afternoon coffee for <strong>only $2.50</strong> between 2.30 and 4pm! 127 Rowntree Street Birchgrove <strong>Ph: 98101119</strong></td>
<td>2 x 1 hour personal training sessions for $45. <strong>Normally priced at $70!!</strong> (Sessions to be held between 9am – noon Monday – Thursday.) <strong>Contact: Dave Woods on 0417650094</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Balmain Village Sports</th>
<th>STEM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>10% Off all Football Accessories.</strong> Includes boots, Shin guards, balls etc. <strong>Ph: 98185909</strong></td>
<td>A further <strong>20%</strong> off already reduced clothing, bags and accessories. <strong>Ph: 9810 5222</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WESTMINSTER</th>
<th>CANVAS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loan rebate of <strong>$500</strong> for any housing loan above <strong>$250,000</strong> <strong>Contact: James Grima on 0407 407 104</strong></td>
<td>Receive a FREE Collagen Eye Treatment valued at $25 with any facial. <strong>(Offer Valid to March 30)</strong> <strong>Contact the Girls at Canvas on 98187273</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All offers are subject to availability and are at the discretion of the merchant. No rainchecks.