2013 Dates to Remember

Parent

13/3  K-2 Talent Quest
13/3  Interrelate Years 5&6
14/3  3-6 Talent Quest
15/3  National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence
20/3  Interrelate Years 5&6
20/3  P&C Meeting 7pm in staffroom

Music

21/3  Harmony Day
27/3  Interrelate Years 5&6
28/3  Easter Hat Parade
29/3-1/4  Easter Weekend
2/4  Book Fair- International Day of Children’s Reading

Sport

2/4-3/4  State Swimming Carnival
4/4  P&C Fete Mufti Day
11/4  Cross Country
12/4  Last Day of Term 1

Student Parliament

Term 2

29/4  Pupil Free Day – English Curriculum
30/4  Pupil Free Day- Science Curriculum
1/5  Pupils Return to School

7/5  Music Committee Meeting 7pm in staffroom
9/5  P&C Fete Mufti Day
10/5  Dentistry By Design-Kindy Visit 11:40am

11/5  FETE

14/5-16/5  NAPLAN Years 3 & 5
19/5  Combined Bands Workshop
22/5  P&C Meeting 7pm in staffroom
21/5  ICAS Computer Competition
26/5  Ryde East Music Festival (Concert Band)
2/6  Strings Workshop
5/6  ICAS Science Competition
6/6  Italian Day
11/6  Music Committee Meeting 7pm in staffroom
14/6  Regional Cross Country
10/6  Queens Birthday Public Holiday
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17/6</td>
<td>ICAS Writing Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18/6</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 7pm in staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>19/6</td>
<td>State Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>19/6</td>
<td>ICAS Spelling Competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>20/6</td>
<td>Birchgrove Athletics Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>25/6 - 28/6</td>
<td>Camp Stage 3 Canberra &amp; Snow</td>
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<tr>
<td>28/6</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 2</td>
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<td><strong>Term 3</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>15/7</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>16/7</td>
<td>Pupils Return to School</td>
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<tr>
<td>17/7</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 7pm in staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>30/7</td>
<td>Music Committee Meeting 7pm in staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>31/7</td>
<td>ICAS English Competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/8</td>
<td>Friends of Balmain Library Writing Competition Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/8</td>
<td>NSW School Band Festival (both Bands)</td>
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<tr>
<td>13/8</td>
<td>ICAS Mathematics Competition</td>
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<td>14/8</td>
<td>District Athletics</td>
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<tr>
<td>16/8</td>
<td>District Athletics</td>
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<tr>
<td>21/8</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 7pm in staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>21/8</td>
<td>Music Night</td>
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<td>26/8-29/8</td>
<td>Instrumental Festival-Recorder</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/9</td>
<td>Performance- K-6 Space Jump- Book Week</td>
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<td>4/9</td>
<td>Regional Athletics</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/9</td>
<td>Music Committee Meeting 7pm in staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>17/9</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>18/9</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 7pm in staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>19/9</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>20/9</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 3</td>
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<td><strong>Term 4</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8/10</td>
<td>Pupils Return to School</td>
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<tr>
<td>15/10</td>
<td>Music Committee Meeting 7pm in staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>16/10</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 7pm in staffroom</td>
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<td>16/10-17/10</td>
<td>State Athletics Carnival</td>
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<td>20/11</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 7pm in staffroom AGM</td>
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<tr>
<td>26/11</td>
<td>Music Committee Meeting 7pm in staffroom AGM</td>
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<tr>
<td>18/12</td>
<td>Year 6 Farewell Assembly and Clapout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18/12</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Principal's Report

Welcome Back BBQ
The Welcome Back BBQ ran smoothly and was beautifully organised - thank you to the team of parents and helpers who put it all together. The parents, children and staff all had fun catching up in an informal setting.

School Buildings
A reminder to parents and children not to be in the corridors and classrooms before school.

Balmain Secondary College
Students from Sydney Secondary College Balmain Campus visited us for assembly on Monday to talk about life in high school. It was great to see some familiar faces. Congratulations to the students on their excellent talk.

Parent Teacher Interviews
Parent Teacher Interviews are being held at the end of the term. Notes with days and times available will come home early next week.

Head Lice and Nits
It appears head lice season is upon once again. We ask that you diligently check your children’s hair regularly and treat any outbreaks. We hope that by treating the problem early it will minimise the disruption to your child and the school. Our school policy states that children with head lice or nits need to be picked up from school so the parent can treat the problem. I have included a link below to help if you need to treat your child:

Removing head lice and nits
Here's everything you need to know to rid your kids of head lice and nits.

School Sport Website
I have been asked recently about how to find out information in relation to school sport and the events run in Balmain, Sydney East and NSW. There is a website that provides information for all three levels:

www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au

This site will give you information about all the NSW school sport teams and activities. If you click on the associations link and then the Sydney East link this will give you any information about the Sydney East Area and the activities it runs. Within the Sydney East Site is a link to the zones webpage and here you find information relevant to the Balmain zone. You can also get to this webpage directly by typing in sessazones.com

District Swimming Carnival
Our swimmers competed at last weeks District Swimming Carnival representing the School with Distinction. Most of the swimmers swam faster than they did at the Birchgrove Carnival and six swimmers qualified for the Sydney East Carnival. Congratulations to Reilly, Jack, Hamish, Reuben, Joe and Layla. Reilly also won the age champions medal for the 11 Years Boys at the carnival. Well Done Reilly.

District P.S.S.A. Trials
Congratulations to Ethan and Lily in Year 6. They made the Balmain P.S.S.A. Tennis team.
Congratulations to Luke, Zac and Jaylan in Year 6. They made the Balmain/ South Sydney P.S.S.A. AFL team.

Bounce Back
Our Bounce Back Value this Week is: “It’s O.K. to be Different” This involves acknowledging diversity as a good thing and tolerating those differences we may not like in others.
Kidstuff
Birchgrove Public School accumulated points to the value of $1500 at Kidstuff. Miss Gray went to the store and spent these funds ensuring each class P-6 received new equipment. Thank you to parents for supporting & buying things at Kidstuff. By remembering to mention Birchgrove Public School at the start of your transactions we get points for the school. Thanks to Kidstuff for their great incentive program and support of Birchgrove PS. The Kidstuff staff are always really helpful and supportive when we go there.

EASTER HAT PARADE
The Easter Hat Parade is on again this year. I’m looking forward to seeing all the wonderful creations.
Thursday 28th March, 9:30am on the basketball court.

Robert Cormack
Relieving Principal

Birchgrove Before & After School Care
As we reach the 7th week of the School Term, Children at Before & Aftercare are having fun playing sports, games & enjoying craft activities. The Before & After School Care Staff are very proud of our Kindergarten children. They are all now ready to go into the playground before school, and they can manage to walk themselves to their classrooms. A big thanks to all the Teachers on duty in the morning. With the Afternoon session, Staff still collect all Kindergarten children from their Teacher's, by next week Staff will start giving them instructions on what to do in the afternoon.

Our homework group started 3 weeks ago, If you want your children to participate PLEASE encourage them to join in as the majority refuse to do homework at After Care.
A reminder to all Parents using Before & After School Care to update your contact information with the staff. Please let Aftercare staff know if your children won’t be attending the afternoon session. The afternoon gets very busy and it takes the staff a long time to locate children who were on the roll. To find these children the staff are having to walk around the school and ring parents. This takes staff away from the other children. You can leave a message or send a text message to this number 0405 413 528.
If anyone needs before or after school care please, register & book your Children in online at www.campaustralia.com.au.

thanks
The Birchgrove Team.

LIBRARY NEWS

BOOK FAIR.
To celebrate the International Children's Book Day, we are having a Scholastic Book Fair on Tuesday 2nd April. Children will receive a wish list, there will be time for browsing and the children will be able to buy a book at an allocated class time. I would love some parent help on Tuesday the 2nd of April.

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE-2013.
The Premier's Reading Challenge is not a competition but a reading challenge for all children.
• K-2 read, listen to or share 30 books. The P.R.C. is completed as part of our library lesson.
• Years 3-6 read 20 books. Log on details have been given to the children.
Thankyou for your support,

Mrs Chris Ilieff
Canteen News

We would like to thank Balmain Woolworths for another generous donation of fresh fruit and salad items to the canteen this week it's a great support for your school canteen so don't forget next time you are shopping in Balmain Woolies let the store manager know just how much we appreciate them supporting our school.

We will be having a Easter raffle again this term and we will be sending home the tickets very soon.

If anyone would like to donate a prize for the raffle it would be greatly appreciated, prizes are for the children and valued between $20 to $30 for the minor prizes
Examples Smiggle packs, Games, Books or Balls - tennis soccer footballs
Please speak to Karen as soon as possible if you can donate a prize.
Thank you everyone who has been supporting the canteen by having a recess or lunch order

Karen

Student Parliament 2013

Sports Ministry
The Sportsministry will be running an athletics day on the Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th March. The events included on the day are: basketball shooting; running; discus; hurdles; and shotput; The cost for entry is a gold coin. You pay this at your first event and a year 6 student will mark your hand. You’ll need this mark so you can go in your next events.
The money raised will be used to purchase more sports equipment for the school. There are prizes (tennis balls & mini footballs) on the day for the top 3 in each event.

Spare Change
The Treasury Ministry has decided to run a “Save Your Change” competition. The money we raise will go to our World Vision Sponsor children. All classes from 2-6 will get a chart and a money box, where you can put your change in. Every week the Treasury Ministry will come and collect it and count it. The class with the most money at the end of the term will get a Prize.

The Treasury Ministry
Asthma at School
The Birchgrove staff have just updated their knowledge about treating asthma in schools. I thought it would be
good to revisit the responsibilities of all involved when it comes to dealing with asthma. More detailed
information can be found on the following website.

http://www.asthmafoundation.org.au

Asthma affects around 1 in 9 school aged children. This means that in an average classroom there will be at
least 3 students with asthma. Schools and staff can work together with the wider school community to provide a
healthy and safe educational environment for students with asthma. Student
health and safety are essential in schools to allow all students to achieve their best.

How does asthma affect students?
Asthma is a leading cause of absenteeism in school students, which in severe cases can cause them to fall
behind in their work. Asthma symptoms commonly occur overnight, which can mean a lack of sleep for the
student, leading to a reduced ability to concentrate in class. Students can also show signs of worsening asthma,
especially after vigorous exercise, and may have an asthma attack while
at school, which requires an immediate response.

Whose responsibility is it?
Responsibility for the management of a student’s asthma is shared

Parents should:
☐ Inform the school that their child has asthma and provide an asthma medical plan written by the student’s
doctor.
☐ Provide sufficient information and equipment to school staff to allow them to support the child at
School.
☐ Advise if there has been a change in the child’s health, or in their medical management.
☐ Ensure the child has their reliever medication and a spacer with them each day at school.

Students should:
☐ Take their regular preventer medication (generally taken at home in the mornings and/or evenings)
as advised by their doctor.
☐ Know how to recognise when their asthma is getting worse and what to do.
☐ Carry reliever medication with them at all times.
☐ Tell their friends that they have asthma, and what to do if they have an asthma attack.

Schools should:
☐ Encourage parents to provide up to date information about their child with asthma.
☐ Enable and encourage staff to attend training and obtain information about asthma and how to
manage an asthma emergency.
☐ Ensure sufficient equipment is available and accessible for use in an emergency.
☐ Have policies that support the staff to act appropriately and effectively in an asthma emergency,
including during off-site activities.
☐ Allow students to access (or carry with them) their reliever medication at all times, unless the child
is too young to be responsible for using their medication appropriately.

Robert Cormack
P&C News

Congratulations to everyone who made last Friday Night’s Welcome Back barbeque such a great night! Fortunately the rain held off this time and we were able to mix with old and new friends while taking in the magnificent views from the basketball court. The hard work and faultless organisation of everyone involved in organising and running the event made it very enjoyable indeed.

The barbeque was also a financial success. We are still doing the sums, but the evening looks to have raised at least $3,000, which will be used to enhance the experience of students at the school. Special mention must be made of the event organisers, Yvette Lejins and Lisa Healy, and to all the Year 2 parents whose efforts made it happen. The P&C Executive is very grateful for their assistance and to everybody else who helped on the day and evening.

We are holding the second P&C meeting of the year on Wednesday 20 March at 7 p.m. in the staff room. You are welcome and encouraged to attend. Attending P&C meetings provides an opportunity to meet parents and teachers and contribute to the school community. It also enables you to participate in decisions about fund-raising and the use of P&C funds within the school.

The school has a very active P&C and we are always keen to get more people involved. With the help and generous support of all of the parents at the school, last year was another very successful year for fund-raising. We want to make sure that this year goes just as well. So if you are interested in finding out more about the school or getting involved in the P&C’s activities please come along.

Chris O’Donnell

Birchgrove School Fete

Artisan Market - Expressions of interest

This year's school fete will include an artisan market strip. Think beautiful handcrafted jewellery, framed illustrations, gorgeous handmade woolen snoods. If this sounds like something your artisan business or crafty hobby would like to take part in, I’d love to hear from you.

We have 7 stalls available with trestle table and parasol provided. There is a very reasonable cost for the stall set up, plus a request that a small percentage of your takings be given as a donation to the school.

For further details can all expressions of interest be sent to: Cheli Lawlor - cheli_lawlor@yahoo.com.au
## Birchgrove Public School Community Keyring Deals!!
Simply flash your BPS 2013 keyring to take up these specials on offer through participating businesses....

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birchgrove Buzz</th>
<th>Term 1 Week 7 13th March 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter of the Birchgrove Public School</td>
<td>Ph: 02 9810 2469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A NSW Government School</td>
<td>Fx: 02 9555 8653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birchgrove Road,</td>
<td>E: <a href="mailto:birchgrove-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au">birchgrove-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balmain NSW 2041</td>
<td>W: <a href="http://www.birchgrove-p.schools.nsw.edu.au">www.birchgrove-p.schools.nsw.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Charlottes Café
Grab an afternoon coffee for only $2.50 between 2.30 and 4pm!
127 Rowntree Street
Birchgrove
Ph: 98101119

### 2 x 1 hour personal training sessions for $45. Normally priced at $70!! (Sessions to be held between 9am – noon Monday – Thursday.)
Contact: Dave Woods on 0417650094

### A further 20% off already reduced clothing, bags and accessories.
Ph: 9810 5222

### Balmain Village Sports
10% Off all Football Accessories.
Includes boots, Shin guards, balls etc.
Ph: 98185909

### Loan rebate of $500 for any housing loan above $250,000
Contact: James Grima on 0407 407 104

### Receive a FREE Collagen Eye Treatment valued at $25 with any facial.
(Offer Valid to March 30)
Contact the Girls at Canvas on 98187273
Birchgrove Public School
Community Keyring Deals!!
Simply flash your BPS 2013 keyring to take up these specials on offer through participating businesses....

Sydney CBD Health Oasis
Located at 88 Pitt Street (just north of the corner of Martin Place & Pitt Street)
Specialist back and pain management. Receive 20% off initial visit. Private health insurance rebate applies.

Contact: Tran Ong on 0413 126 826
or email tran@acusense.com.au

Jazma SHOES
Located in the Balmain Village Arcade (across the road from Woolworths)

Limited promotion offer available while stocks last.

Contact: Andrew on 9810 0148

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

The Commonwealth Bank’s School Banking program gives schools an easy, fun and interactive way to teach kids money management skills they’ll use for the rest of their lives. Parents simply need to open a Youthsaver account for them and they can then bank at school.

To encourage good savings behaviour, they run a Rewards Program. Students will receive a silver coloured Dollarmites token every time they make a deposit to their savings account at school, regardless of the amount deposited. When they have collected 10 tokens, they can redeem them for a variety of exclusive Dollarmites reward items, which are available throughout the year as follows:

Term 1 & 2: wallet, handball or knuckles game
Term 2 & 3: torch
Term 3 & 4: calculator
Term 4: headphones
Terms 1-4: money boxes

The more tokens children save, the more rewards items they can redeem during the year.

Participating schools receive commission for every account activated via the School Banking program, i.e. for each student who banks through the school’s program for the very first time, and for each subsequent individual deposit made at school.

Taking part in School Banking is easy:

* If your child has an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account they can start banking straight away. They just need to bring their deposit in every week using their Dollarmites deposit wallet. If your child has misplaced their Dollarmites deposit book or deposit wallet, they can request a new one from either the local branch or contact the School Banking Co-ordinator.

* If your child does not have a Youthsaver account, you can open one at any Commonwealth Bank branch, no forms to fill in! Alternatively, if you are an existing Commonwealth Bank customer with access to NetBank you can apply online. Another option is to download a paper-based application form from commbank.com.au/schoolbanking. Please note this option may take up to 2 weeks before a Dollarmites wallet and deposit book is sent to your home address to start banking at school.

Interested? Please ask the office for a school banking envelope.