Our beautiful Birchgrove bears seem to have been finding lots of hiding places in my office. If the parents can find them they will be available for sale at the fete on Saturday……. I personally think they are far too happy and comfortable in my office to go and find a new home!
Naplan Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TUESDAY 13 MAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 14 MAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY 15 MAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy (Number, Algebra, function and pattern; Chance and data; Measurement and space)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Naplan is next week please take extra care to make sure your Year 3 & 5 children are here on time in the mornings!
It is also important that all children remember to walk quietly around the school in the morning as the tests will be happening. Please remind your children about this on the Naplan mornings.

Locations:
Year 3 will be in 3D and 3/4C’s room for the testing.
Year 5 will be in 5/6K and 4/5H.
Year 6 will be in the hall with Mr Cormack and Year 4 will be in 6C with Ms Ford.
Preschool Blue have been having fun with Mrs Weber.

Preschool Applications 2015
Enrolment applications for Birchgrove Preschool 2015 will be accepted from: Monday 19th May 2014 to Friday 30th May, 2014 9:30am - 3:00pm daily
Applications are to be delivered to the main school office and placed in the application box. Applications received after 3:00 pm on Friday 30th May will not be considered in the first round of offers. Applications will be processed from Monday 2nd June 2015.

To comply with National Standards Birchgrove will in 2015 offer a 3 Day/ 2 Day alternate semesters program.
Example: Term 1 & 2 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday Friday
Term 3 & 4 Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
If your choice is three days for Terms 1 & 2 two days only will be offered in Terms 3 & 4.

Our Anzac service was a beautiful event. Thank you to all our parents for sending in flowers and to Rod & the concert band for the fabulous music, it really helped make the morning special.
It’s that time of the year when we all start to rug up against the cold, please make sure all the children’s winter clothing is clearly labelled as they get hot when playing and easily misplace jumpers and jackets.

Congratulations to Ms Shanahan and Ms Ussher who have both received their accreditation from The Institute of Teachers!

3 sleeps until Fete Day! See you Saturday,

Tracy Gray

**Choir**

In preparation for our performance at the school fete, the choir performed in the plaza area in front of Woolworths on Darling St on Tuesday. Thank you to Sarah Welch’s mum and Chloe Davis’ mum for helping to escort the children on the trip there and back.

Please come and encourage our budding performers as they sing the 3 songs we have been practicing; 'Hey Brother', ‘Claude Monte’ and 'These boots are made for walking'. On Saturday 10th May the choir will be performing at the fete at 11am. Students are asked to bring a pair of boots for the performance. These can be any sort of boots-cowboy boots, Ugg boots, soccer boots, gum boots etc.
The Premier’s Reading Challenge is heating up, a few children in Stage 3 have almost finished the challenge, Kindergarten, Year 1 and 2 are completing the challenge in the classroom and during Library lessons. Any questions please see me.

The Book Fair is happening in Week 5 set the children some household chores so they can earn some money to spend. The children always look forward to the fair.

Thank You Mrs Illief

Birchgrove Public School Rules

I respect my personal belongings by:

- writing my name on my things
- keeping my personal belongings in my bag or in my tote tray
- placing my bag in the bag shelves

BIRCHGROVE FETE
The following groups will be performing at the Fete, Saturday 10th May and they will need Birchgrove Music Tshirts. If they don't currently have one, these can be bought from the uniform shop, which will be open next Tuesday morning:

- Beginner Recorders – 11.15am
- Consort Recorders – 11.20am
- Advanced Consort Recorders – 11.20am
- Intermediate Strings – 12pm
- Senior Strings – 11.40am
- Training Band – 12.15pm
- Concert Band – 12.30pm

The Choir will also be performing at 11am, but they do not need to wear Birchgrove Music Uniform.

MUSICAL DATES FOR THE DIARY

😊 Sunday, 18 May – Training & Concert Band Workshop
😊 Sunday, 15 June - Solo Soiree, School Hall, more details to follow next week
Bounce Back – Courage

Fear is a normal human response to situations that might harm us. Fear motivates us to check out whether or not the situation really is as dangerous as it seems and then, if it is, to take action to protect ourselves. Everyone feels scared at times. However we don't necessarily fear the same things as other people. Some people feel scared about riding on a roller coaster but others really enjoy it. But the same people who don't fear going on a roller coaster might feel very nervous when they have to give a speech. Courage means facing fear and not being overwhelmed by it. We need courage if we experience misfortune. We also need courage to face some of the 'everyday’ challenges in our lives such as learning a new skill or sorting out friendship issues.

Key points to communicate to your child about being brave

Everyone feels scared sometimes.

Some people pretend they never feel scared but everyone does. Different things scare different people. One person might feel nervous about learning to dive but not about acting on stage. For someone else it might be the opposite.

We all need to use a lot of ‘everyday courage' in our lives.

Everyday courage is shown when you try to do something that is ordinary that still makes you feel a bit nervous such as giving a talk to the class, trying out for a part in a play, sleeping over at a friend's house or going to camp.

Weigh up the advantages and disadvantages of trying to be a hero.

A hero is someone who puts himself/herself at risk to protect the safety and wellbeing of another. It is very rare for someone your age to be in a situation where heroism is required. If you are, think carefully before you act as you might not have enough skill to do it and you could get badly hurt or make things worse. Consider calling 000 or ask an adult to help. You can be a hero in smaller ways (e.g. by standing up for someone who is being mistreated at school).

There’s a big difference between courage and being foolhardy.

Being foolhardy means being stupid and doing a risky and scary thing (e.g. jumping from a tree branch into a river) just to show off or because people are daring you to do it. If you do something really dangerous, the best you will get are bragging rights and the worst you might get is serious injury or death.

What can you do to help your child to be brave?

- Talk about when you have felt scared and what you did to overcome your fears and be brave. Give examples of times in your life of when you tackled your fears and ‘had a go’ at something that was difficult. Stress how pleased you felt afterwards.
- Discuss the gains that being brave can bring (e.g. self-respect, confidence, skills).
- Look for examples of courage, heroism and foolhardiness in the media and discuss them with your child to help them to understand the differences between courage, heroism and foolhardiness.
- Encourage your child to have the courage to do what they believe is ‘the right thing’ even if others don’t agree with them.
- Remind your child about the things that took courage for them to do when they were little but now seem easy to them. Explain that things that take courage for them to do now will seem easier and less scary as they get older.
- Stress that throughout life there will always be new challenges that will require courage.
- Facing our fears is one of the ways we become stronger.
Kids, social media and privacy
Regardless of your child’s age, the world may already know a lot more about them than you suspect. According to recent research:

- 92% of children under the age of 2 have a digital shadow (it starts with proud parents posting newborn baby photos on Facebook or Instagram)
- a quarter of Australian children 8 - 12 years old use Facebook, but the minimum age for a user is 13 years.
- more than 20 per cent of tweens publish photos of themselves on Instagram
- young people 14 - 19 have an average of 453 fans, friends or followers on social media.

2014 Privacy Awareness Week, 4 - 10 May 2014, is a good time to review your family’s privacy settings and discuss online security. You’ll find lots of practical information and resources to share with your kids at www.ipc.nsw.gov.au

Printable planners for homework and study
School A to Z has printable monthly planners which include school holidays and the numbered weeks of each Term (for example Monday 19 May is the start of Week 4, in Term 2). Print one for each child to stick on the fridge or on their noticeboards. It’s a great way to teach them how scheduling their time means they’ll fit in the fun activities as well as their other commitments and responsibilities. Download May 2014 at http://bit.ly/UbmQz8

Is your child’s backpack damaging their spine?
A recent Australian study has shown that approximately 25% of school-aged children suffer from back and/or neck pain at any one time. It’s believed to be due to a combination of factors such as poor posture, everyday load carrying and the use of computers.

The Children’s Hospital at Westmead suggests young people should:

- not carry more than 10% of their body weight
- use a backpack with the straps over both shoulders and a waist strap
- load gear so that the heavier objects are nearer to the spine, with the lighter objects towards the front of the pack
- lift a backpack properly- bend at the knees and lift the pack with both hands

More tips at http://bit.ly/1iB4OBo

English refresher from School A to Z on Homonyms
Homonyms (also known as homographs) are words that are identical in pronunciation and spelling but have different meanings. They can be nouns, adjectives or verbs. The context gives them their meaning.

Ask your child for an example, like this one:
I prefer a fine tip on my pen.
He gave me a tip for the Melbourne Cup.
Don’t tip the water on the floor.
You gave the waiter a generous tip.

Term 2  Week 2  7th May 2014

Thinking of applying for opportunity class placement for Year 5 entry in 2015?

APPLY ONLINE
www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement
Check the website for more details about applying.

Key dates

Monday 28 April 2014
• Online application opens or
• Application information and forms are available in schools

Friday 16 May 2014
• Return paper applications to principal or
• Online application closes

Wednesday 9 July 2014
Test centre advice received by parents or carers

Wednesday 23 July 2014
Opportunity class placement test

October 2014
Outcome advice sent
It's Fete week!!!!

In case you might have missed it, The Birchgrove Public School Fete is this Saturday, May 10th 10am – 4pm.

MC
We are still looking for an MC for Fete day please contact Rebecca, Damon or Kim as soon as possible if you can help us out.

Rides
Don't forget to pre purchase your all day wrist bands $25 up until Thursday afternoon. Full price Tickets ($30) will also be sold on the day or single ride tickets $5 per ride.

Mufti day
Fete Mufti day on Thursday 8th May
Children can wear mufti and preschool kids can wear “your favourite colour”, in exchange for a gold coin donation, which will be collected at the gates.

Canteen CLOSED Friday 9th May.
The canteen will be closed the Friday (9th May) before the fete due to fete preparations. NO recess or lunch orders will be available on that day.

Guessing Competition
Guess how many lollies are in the jar for your chance to win

50c a guess or $1 for 3 guesses

You will find the lolly jar at the front of school this week & at the wishing tree on fete day.
Cake Stall

Cake boxes have been sent home with the children on Monday 5th May and we need you to return them back to the canteen full of your favourite baked goods so we can have a fabulous cake stall again this year.

ALL Birchgrove families support and bake for the cake stall not just one class and we absolutely need your support as the money raised from the cake stall keeps your school canteen open and viable.

Please deliver all baked goods-

Biscuits, Brownies, Coconut Ice, Fudge, Toffees, Anzacs or any other delicious treats you like to bake directly to the canteen on Friday 9th May as we spend all day re-packaging all the yummy treats so they are ready for sale on fete day.

We also accept cakes on the Friday 9th May or you can deliver the cakes directly to the cake stall on the Saturday morning, please not in the afternoon as they are harder to sell if they come in to late.

So start thinking about what yummy treats you are going to bake for this years cake stall and don't forget to list all the ingredients used in your baked goods so we know if they contain Nuts, Gluten, Dairy etc.

If you have a cake box you are not using please return it to the canteen, so someone else can fill it! If you need any more information about the cake stall please come and speak to Karen in the canteen.

Thank You for your support.
Pre-purchase wristbands for your children, friends or other family members at a discounted price ($25)! Presales close Thursday afternoon at 3.15pm

This will entitle the holder to unlimited rides all day (10am – 4pm). Simply fill in the form below.

Wristbands can also be purchased on the day of the fete for $30 or $5 per ride. There will be a free jumping castle for under 5s in the preschool grounds.

Pre-paid wristbands will be available for collection on the day of the fete.

Fill out form if you would like to pre-purchase wristbands. This note and payment need to be placed in the box located at the front office. (Cash / Cheque payable to Birchgrove P&C)

Child’s Name: ________________________________ Class: _______
Child’s Name: ________________________________ Class: _______

Rides $25 Qty: _______

Please include exact amount (cash/cheque) in envelope Amount: $_________
Huge thanks to all our generous sponsors

RGC Branding & Design Agency
Cafe Express
Sonoma
Bunnings Ashfield
Spotify
Woolworths Balmain
LuLu Lemon
Rebel Fit
Balmain Village Sport
Leichhardt Aquatic Park Centre
Good Reading magazine
Planet Beauty
Sewing Spot
Emille’s Fruit & Veg Balmain
Wild Orange Premium
Jeremy Byrnes Photography
Tilly’s Art & Office Supplies
Tails R wagging
Mum’s the Word Fitness
Nike Broadway
Rebel Sport Broadway
Wild Greens
Amusu Yoga Studio
Allways Printing Balmain
### Fabulous stalls at the 2014 Fete:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School stalls:</th>
<th>External Stalls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apple slinkies</td>
<td>Amazing Rides – Planet Entertainment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Badge &amp; Bracelet making</td>
<td>Annie B - gifts for mums and kids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BBQ</td>
<td>Balmain Secondary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cakes</td>
<td>Bristol &amp; Brooks – gifts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee</td>
<td>Eloise Clarke - photographer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cupcake decorating</td>
<td>Balmain Fire Brigade – 1 hour (10-12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunking ducks</td>
<td>Health Space - chiropractor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Face painting &amp; Crazy Hair</td>
<td>Jane Johanssen – photographer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garden/flowers</td>
<td>Kids at the Art house – craft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gelato &amp; Fairy Floss</td>
<td>Linkin Imp - clothing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lemonade</td>
<td>St John’s Ambulance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loads of Hampers</td>
<td>Moya Barnett - gifts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Produce &amp; Sonoma breads</td>
<td>Rellek Co  - vintage T-shirts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second hand books</td>
<td>Sewing Spot – teaching kids 7+ to sew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second hand toys</td>
<td>Tracy’s Toys &amp; Things – novelty toys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tombola</td>
<td>Warman Fuzzy – gifts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wishing tree</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
4K will be selling fantastic Fruit & Veg boxes, Supported by Wild Greens Produce [http://www.wildgreens.com.au](http://www.wildgreens.com.au)

Pre-Order your $55 box and pick up on Friday the 9th (day before the Fete)

Wild Greens guarantees the quality and the boxes value for money.

You can expect seasonal fruit, vegies and herbs along the lines of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pink Lady Apples</th>
<th>Bananas</th>
<th>Eggplant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Onions</td>
<td>Navel Oranges</td>
<td>Carrots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shallots</td>
<td>Capsicum</td>
<td>Lebanese Cucumbers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ginger</td>
<td>Avocado</td>
<td>Rockmelon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mushrooms</td>
<td>Truss Tomatoes</td>
<td>Cherry tomatoes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweet Potato/Potato</td>
<td>Mixed Lettuce leaves</td>
<td>Broccoli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Butternut Pumpkin</td>
<td>Celery</td>
<td>Snow peas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Order & Payment Options:
- Cheque (made out to the P&C) – drop at Admin Office (labeled envelope)
- Direct Transfer; Account Name Birchgrove P & C, BSB: 062110, Acct: 00900746 (Please include parents full name + “fruit” in the reference section)

When you order please email michelle_stellini@hotmail.com or call Michelle 0417316725, with quantity and contact details
BIRCHGROVE FETE
MARKETS • FOOD • RIDES • COMMUNITY

SATURDAY 10 MAY 2014 10AM-4PM
BIRCHGROVE PUBLIC SCHOOL

● Games & Rides
● Artisan Market
● Secondhand Toys & Books
● Coffee
● Flower & Plant Stall

● BBQ
● Fresh Sonoma Bread
● Entertainment
● Art with Artspark
● Cupcake Decorating
● Homemade Cakes