Dates to Remember

**2014**

### Parent
- 15/5 Naplan Years 3 & 5- Numeracy
- 18/5 Combined Band Workshop, 10am – 4pm
- 21/5 Birchgrove’s Biggest Morning Tea 11:00-11:30
- 21/5 P&C Meeting 7pm Staffroom
- 22/5 Zone Cross Country
- 26/5- Book Fair
- 30/5
- 27/5 Zoo Snooze 3D & 3/4C
- 28/5 Zoo Snooze 4C & 4K
- 2/6 Italian Day
- 9/6 Queens Birthday
- 11/6 Regional Cross Country
- 12/6 Pyjama Day Breakfast- Stewart House
- 18/6 P&C Meeting 7pm Staffroom
- 19/6 School Athletics K-6
- 20/6 P&C Disco
- 27/6 Last Day of Term 2

### Term 3
- 15/7 School Resumes
- 26/8- Stage 3 Camp – Great Aussie Bush Camp
- 29/8
- 3/9 Music Night
- 19/9 Last Day of Term 3

### Term 4
- 7/10 School Resumes
- 16/10- Music Camp
- 17/10
- 17/12 Year 6 Arch
- 17/12 Last Day of Term 4

Reminder P&C Meeting Tonight 7pm in staffroom all welcome!
**Principals Report**

Mr Fitzgerald took the **recorder children** to their rehearsal for at the 2014 Festival of Instrumental Music (Opera House) at Salvation Army Congress Hall in the city today and was thrilled with the children’s beautiful playing and impeccable behaviour.

The children all enjoyed having a treat with their friends and looked fabulous in pink! The mums, dads and teachers who went to adult morning tea had a fabulous time on the terrace.

It was especially good to have Tracie Vassi (teacher’s aide for many years at BPS) well enough to join us and looking so fabulous. It’s great to see you out and about and still with your infectious smile!

Thank you to all the families who sent along a donation and to the families who joined us for morning tea. It was great to chat with you!

On our staff we have 3 breast cancer survivors, one staff member currently going through treatment for cancer and two ex-staff members who are currently undergoing treatment. That’s before we start adding in all our families at school who are affected by cancer and all the teacher’s families. It is a disease that affects the entire community so it was great to raise awareness and contribute as a school community.

We have currently raised nearly $500 and will keep collecting donations until Friday. Thank you for your support.
Consultation on strengthening public secondary education in the inner Sydney area
The NSW Department of Education and Communities is looking at how to address changing needs for public secondary education in inner Sydney. They want feedback from the community and have organised a number of ways this can occur. Full details are available at www.dec.nsw.gov.au/sydneyhsconsultation

Consultation is open to parents, teachers, students and the wider community. Comments can be made online, by attending a workshop or by hosting a Kitchen Table Discussion - please go to the website for more information. The consultation period is from 16 May – 27 June 2014.

Reminder: We are taking enrolments for both kindergarten and preschool 2015 now! If you want a spot or have any friends or neighbours who want to come to Birchgrove next year please make sure they fill in the application forms. As a result of our parent survey in 2014 we are offering a 2 day/ 3 day Semester program for preschool.

Preschool 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option 1</th>
<th>Option 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terms 1 &amp; 2 Monday- Wednesday</td>
<td>Terms 1 &amp; 2 Thursday - Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terms 3 &amp; 4 Monday - Tuesday</td>
<td>Terms 3 &amp; 4 Wednesday- Friday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Eleni (4/5H) and her hip hop group of ex-Birchgrove students (now in Year 7) from Q2 dance came FIRST at the Northern Beaches Dance Eisteddfod. Congratulations!

Preschool Yellow showed us how to line up for a fire drill this week. They all listened to their teacher and were very safe. Well done preschool Yellow!
Inter-School Chess Competition Report
This year Birchgrove has entered three teams of four students in the Friday afternoon inter-school chess competition. 2014 is the first time we have been able to enter a Year 3 team. The other two teams are a combination of students from Year 3 to Year 6. The competition started the week of the fete and the students have played one home game and one away game.

May 9
This was the first game that the students played and it was a home game. All the students were very excited, as for most this was the first time they had played chess against another school.
1W3 played Father John Terry and drew two games each.
1W4 played Belmore South PS and won three games and lost one.
1W5 (Year 3) played Trinity Grammar Summer Hill and they won two of their games, drew one and lost one.

It was very pleasing to see the sportsmanship displayed by all the Birchgrove players.

May 16
This was an away game and the students travelled to other schools to play. Thank you to the three parents who transported the teams, a big ask on a Friday afternoon in traffic.
1W3 played Newington B and narrowly lost all their games.
1W4 played Newington C and won one game, lost two games and drew one game.
1W5 played Summerhill F and won two of their games and lost two of their games.

Di Ford

Birchgrove Public School Rules

I am in the right place at the right time when I:
- stay within the playground boundaries
- play quietly in the green area
- walk in all walking areas
- eat recess in the playground
- stay in the playground before school and during breaks
- ask for teacher permission and a green card to go into the building during breaks
- keep my school bag in the bag shelves

Library News
The Scholastic Book Fair will be arriving in Week 5. Look out for an class parent email. Books are priced between $5-$20 dollars, CASH ONLY, NO CARDS. Children will have viewing and buying times.
Hi Everyone,

Following on from last week, we here at Birchgrove Before & After Care are getting active! We are talking about everyone's favourite sport and discussing ways to get more active. We here at OSHC are so proud of our Kindies who now have the routine down! They have joined the big kids in the playground in the morning, and they know exactly how to navigate it! Winter is fast approaching and because it is getting dark early, we remind everyone that we are going to close the main gate. We ask that all parents picking up their children after 5.30pm to please come past the canteen. Also, if your children are not attending OSHC please you can call Birchgrove OSHC direct on 0405 413 528 or call Camp Australia Head Office on 1300 105 343 if you need to use Before & After School Care or visit us on www.campaustralia.com.au

Thanks, Birchgrove Team

Too sick for school?

As the cold weather hits, so do the winter bugs. It’s often hard to know whether to send your child to school or let them stay home to recover, especially when that means an adult cancelling work. For safety's sake, if your child seems unwell you should always keep them home from school and seek medical advice. School A to Z and the NSW Health have created an at-a-glance chart to help answer your questions about common childhood illness and how long sick kids need to miss school. Find it by typing this link into your web browser www.bit.ly/1hytn2E

Mental maths strategies

We teach children a range of different strategies to add and subtract numbers. By showing them several methods for solving maths questions, we’re helping them to look for patterns. All this builds a good sense of “number” which means they understand the relationships between different numbers and why different ways to add and subtract work well. The goal is that your child will understand many ways to approach a maths problem and will be able to choose a way that makes the most sense to them. School A to Z has a lot of resources, including help sheets on mental maths strategies, here : www.bit.ly/JkiUsY

Does speaking another language at home confuse children?

Are your children fortunate enough to be growing up in a home where two or more languages are spoken? Many parents worry that bilingualism can cause confusion and even delays in learning for their children, but according the Raising Children Network, that’s not the case at all. A good knowledge of your native language can actually help your child with learning English. Bilingual children who are read books and spoken to in their in their native language find it easier to learn to read and write in English when they get to school. More information is at www.bit.ly/1m0agnk
BAND WORKSHOP

Thank you to those who helped out at the Combined Band Workshop last Sunday. It went like clockwork and the students obviously got a lot out of it, as demonstrated in the closing concert. Particular thanks go to the organisers - Simone Love, Graham Jepson, Rose Russell, Nicky Bennet, Bronwyn Smith and Michelle Stellini, for all the hard work they put in to make it happen.

RYDE EAST MUSIC FESTIVAL

Good luck to the Concert Band which is performing this Sunday, 25th May in the Ryde East Music Festival. Band members need to meet at Ryde East Public School at 12.30pm to perform at 1.20pm. Don’t forget to bring your instrument and to wear full music uniform, i.e., Birchgrove Music t-shirt, long black pants or black skirt with black tights, black socks and shoes.

SOLO SOIREE

Each year Birchgrove Music proudly hosts the Solo Soiree, a relaxed afternoon concert where students have the chance to perform individually or in a duet in front of their family and friends. This year the Solo Soiree will be held on Sunday, 15th June from 3.30 – 5.00pm in the School Hall. It is a great opportunity for students to perform a piece that they have been practising with their tutor. The only requirements are that the piece be short (about 2 – 3 minutes or less) and that it must be something other than what they are playing with their band or ensemble. It is fine to use a backing track if needed.

The aim of the concert is to provide a supportive environment for students to build their confidence and performance skills. There is no fee - parents are just asked to bring a plate of food for the afternoon tea after the concert. Please encourage your child to be a part of this popular event. If you would like to register your child to participate or would like further information, please contact Lisa (lhealy@y7mail.com)

MUSIC FEES

Birchgrove Music invoices for Terms 1 & 2 were emailed last term. Thank you to those who paid promptly. If you are experiencing any problems with payment, alternative arrangements can be made. Please contact our Principal, Tracy Gray to discuss. The Music Committee advises that if a student’s music fees have not paid by the end of Term 2 or alternative arrangements have not been made with the Principal the student will not be permitted to continue with Birchgrove Music ensemble/s in Term 3.

MUSICAL DATES FOR THE DIARY

😊 Tuesday, 10th June – Music Committee Meeting, Staffroom
😊 Sunday, 15th June – Solo Soiree, School Hall
😊 Wednesday, 25th June – Jacaranda Concert, Sydney Opera House
Stewart House Pyjama Day and Breakfast

Thursday 12th June

As part of this day, for a gold coin donation, (which will go to Stewart House) students will be able to come to school in their pyjamas (they still must wear appropriate, enclosed footwear).

The Charities Ministry will also be organising breakfast for students who wish to eat at school. Students will be able to order croissants, various rolls, a juice or a chocolate milk. The breakfast will take place before school, from 8:45-9:15. All breakfasts MUST be pre-ordered using the attached form.

To order a breakfast, please fill out the order form below and return to your class teacher, in an envelope with the required money, by Thursday 29th May

Students will then be able to collect their breakfast, from the Charities Ministry, on the basketball court, from 8:45am on Thursday 12th June.

Bakery Meal Deal

Order Form

Name:........................................

Class:...............

Please place a tick next to one of the breakfast offerings listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breakfast Offering</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plain croissant</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chocolate croissant</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese and Bacon Roll</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese and Tomato Roll</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange Juice</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chocolate Milk</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please return your completed meal deal form along with the required amount of money to your teacher by Thursday 29th May.
### Balmain P.S.S.A.

**Zone Cross Country**

**Venue:** Bicentennial Park, Glebe  
**Date:** Thursday 22nd May 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Starting</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Distance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30-10:00</td>
<td>Walk the course (responsibility of each school)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 am</td>
<td>8/9 Years Girls</td>
<td>2000m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45 am</td>
<td>8/9 Years Boys</td>
<td>2000m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 am</td>
<td>10 Years Girls</td>
<td>2000m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45 am</td>
<td>10 Years Boys</td>
<td>2000m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15pm</td>
<td>11 Years Girls</td>
<td>3000m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45pm</td>
<td>11 Years Boys</td>
<td>3000m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15pm</td>
<td>12/13 Years Girls</td>
<td>3000m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:45pm</td>
<td>12/13 Years Girls</td>
<td>3000m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15 pm</td>
<td>Completion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>