Principals Report

Tomorrow is our swimming carnival. Please ensure your child (Years 3-6 and 8 yr old Y2s) has lots of water, a hat, sunscreen etc and remembers to re-apply the sunscreen leave the rashie on etc.

Thank you to all the parents who have volunteered to be helpers it's always greatly appreciated. Our new House Leaders are keen to make sure everyone brings their cheering voice and lots of house colours. Our House Leaders for 2015 are:

**Evatt**
Alexandra Bell, Luke Duglielmo, Vivienne Dehn, Fynn Cortiula

**Fraser**
Gemma Gardiner, Charlie Kelso, Ana Denis, Yianni Giannopoulos

**Jackson**
Kayla Sawyer, Sam Myles, Annabelle McLusky, Orlando Love

**Robinson**
Rosie Taranto, Mitchell Wagstaffe, Eleanor Laverty-Jones, Alex Parker

The canteen is only selling cold food until 17/2 when the new air conditioner will have been installed. The exceptions are toasted sandwiches as they don’t need the oven or pie warmer.

**Reminder Before School Procedures**: Please drop your children in the playground before school (no earlier than 8:45) Kindergarten meet in the green area, all other children walk themselves to their classes when the bell goes. We ask that parents do not come into the building and congregate outside classrooms as there is no space and it creates an OH&S issue.

Each year a number of parents ask about leaving early or coming late to cater for sport practice, coaching, speech therapy etc. Unfortunately this is outside the DEC attendance guidelines (and against legal attendance requirements) and the children are marked on the role as an unauthorised partial absence.

This year the Sydney Secondary College Balmain Campus will be having our Open Day for prospective Year 7’s 2016 on Saturday 7th March, between 11am and 2pm.
Reminder from the Office  
SCHOOL PAYMENTS (including preschool)  
When requested to make a payment, fill in excursion notes and place the note and any money owed in a clearly marked envelope with your child’s name, class, what the payment is for and the correct amount of money enclosed. This envelope should then be given to your child’s class teacher who will then give it to Melanie our finance manager in the office.

Library News  
Welcome to the Library at Birchgrove Public School. Bring your Library bag along to school and enjoy the Library. Overdue notices from 2014 have been sent out, please look for the lost books and return or replace the books. Thank you Ms Robinson (Tuesday) and Mrs Ilieff (Wednesday, Thursday & Friday)  

School Banking will resume next Monday 16th Feb.  
Our co-ordinator is Melanie Alexander. Her contact details are: mobile 0409045062 or email melaniealexander3@gmail.com with any enquiries.  

Road safety  
It’s important to remind children, especially younger ones, of the need to be vigilant when out and about. Talk to your child about road safety and model good behaviour yourself. For lots of good safety reminders, Kidsafe NSW has an informative website with a number of free brochures and fact sheets on maintaining a safe environment for your child and teaching them about staying safe. They are also available in several community languages. www.kidsafensw.org  

Fines for Schools Zones  
- Double parking $265 & 2 demerit points  
- Stopping on or near a children’s crossing $353 & 2 demerit points  
- Approach children’s crossing to quickly to stop safely $441 & 4 demerit points  
- Use a hand –held mobile phone while driving $353 & 4 demerit points  

Jargon buster  
Wondering why your kids talk about playing under the school COLA? Baffled at parent-teacher discussions about KLA’s? This list of common abbreviations or terms will help you to become familiar with the world inside school. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/school-jargon-busters  

Avoiding injuries  
Have you ever wondered if your child may be suffering physically from using a computer for schoolwork? Or if carrying their school bag may be causing them pain? Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/ways-to-keep-your-childs-back-and-posture-healthy
**Maths questions**

Are you in search of an educational game to sharpen your child's maths skills and recall? Maths Monkey's Quest features maths questions on topics ranging from addition and subtraction to ratios and percentages. It's aimed at children from Years 3 to 8.


**Your child with homework**


**MUSICAL ACTIVITIES START NEXT WEEK**

All ensembles and lessons will be in full swing starting Week 4 (16th of Feb).

Room allocations are complete and will be communicated by your tutor this week.

With our largest concert band ever in 2015 (growing from 40 to 50) children we will be running sectionals each Wednesday afternoon for the rest of the year.

The remainder of TERM 1’s schedule is;

- 😊 **Wed 18 Feb** - 3.20pm - Last year’s training band
- 😊 **Wed 24 Feb** - Flutes
- 😊 **Wed 4 March** - Clarinets
- 😊 **Wed 11 March** - Alto Sax
- 😊 **Wed 18 March** - French Horns
- 😊 **Wed 25 March** – Trumpets
- 😊 **Wed 1 April** - Trombone & Bass Guitars

Remember that signed codes of conduct are required for children in the Strings & Band programmes. If you haven't handed one in yet, please do so (you can leave them at the office).

If you have any enquiries about instrument lessons, please contact: amanda.headford@iinet.net.au

For enquiries about instrument hire please contact: kate.myles@bigpond.com

Direct enquiries about recorders or Kodaly (Early Childhood Music) should be made to michelle_stellini@hotmail.com

**Music invoices** will be emailed to parents in March.

The first **Music committee meeting** for the year will be held on 24th February in the staffroom starting at 7pm.
INVITATION

The Principal and teachers invite parents to our

MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT

on

Wednesday February 18th 2015

in your child’s classroom.

Times: Kindergarten 5.00 – 5.30 pm
       1U, 1D, 1S, 2P and 2G 5.30 – 6.00 pm
       3/4D, 3/4C, 3/4H, 3/4K 6.00 – 6:30 pm
       5/6A, 5/6K, 5/6S 6:30 – 7:00 pm

Tea and coffee will be available in the staffroom between sessions.

The evening is not intended to provide opportunities for private interviews or for discussion about individual students.

If you need to discuss your child please make an appointment with your child’s teacher. A bell will be rung at the end of each session to allow parents to go to other classrooms.

If at all possible please arrange babysitting. If children attend we ask that they sit quietly outside the classroom whilst the session is underway.

Our first P&C Meeting for 2015 is at 7pm in the staffroom. Please come and join us!
Dear Parents/Carers

The annual fees for each child for 2014 are:

Voluntary School Contribution $35.00
Italian Fees $45.00
Technology Levy $40.00
Sports Program $130.00
Total cost of Annual Fees: $250.00

Grade Requirements for 2014 are:

KINDERGARTEN
Home Reader Levy $15.00
Home Reading Diary $4.00
Scrapbooks x 2 $4.00
Paper Levy $20.00
Total cost: $43.00
Kindergarten Total including Annual Fees: $293.00

STAGE 1 - YEARS 1 AND 2
Home Reader Levy $15.00
Home Reading Diary $4.00
Scrapbooks x 2 $4.00
Paper Levy $20.00
Total cost: $43.00
Stage 1 Total including Annual Fees: $293.00

STAGE 2 - YEARS 3 AND 4
Paper Levy $20.00
School Magazine $15.00
Scrapbooks x 2 $4.00
Total cost: $39.00
Stage 2 Total including annual fees: $289.00

STAGE 3 – YEARS 5 AND 6
School Magazine $15.00
Scrapbooks x 2 $4.00
Paper Levy $20.00
Total cost of Books: $39.00
Stage 3 Total including annual fees: $289.00

Please pay by cash, cheque or direct deposit. For direct deposit please enter the child’s surname and initial as the reference. Westpac, Birchgrove Public School
BSB: 032 001 A/C no: 117 071
On Monday, **Year 1 started the HSIE unit 'Celebrations'**. Ms Deans, Miss Scott and Miss Ussher secretly planned a pretend birthday party on the terrace at lunch time. After lunch, Year 1 came up to the terrace and had a pretend birthday party. They spoke about how they knew it was a birthday party and other parties/celebrations they have been involved in. They then went down to the basketball court to play a party game called Fruit Salad.
Preschool have got off to a smooth start to their first year at Birchgrove

We had a lovely first week. We made great friends.

We were busy indoor and outdoor, engaging in so many activities.

We read The Kissing Hand and did an activity so mum and dad would not miss us.
KIDS AT THE ARTHOUSE
CHINESE NEW YEAR OF THE SHEEP
EXHIBITION 2015

CHINESE GARDEN OF FRIENDSHIP

Following the imaginative and playful artwork displayed during Chinese New Year 2014, Kids At The ARThouse students from Birchgrove Public School return to the Chinese Garden with a new exhibition inspired by traditional Chinese culture and animals of the Chinese Lunar calendar.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!
13 February to 29 March
Daily
9.30am-5.30pm
(02) 9240 8888
Pier Street, Darling Harbour, NSW, 2000
Free with garden entry