2015 Birchgrove Swimming Carnival @ Cabarita Pool. Thank you to the staff parents, children and our friends from Fort Street a wonderful day!
Principals Report

Congratulations to our 2015 Student Parliament and SRC Representatives! I am looking forward to working with you this year. The new Prime Ministers were fabulous MC’s and you can read the keynote address on the next page.
The canteen is back on deck with a new air conditioner and are now able to sell hot food again. Please remember that the canteen is a not for profit, school run canteen…it’s important we use it to make it sustainable!

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.

Thank you to the amazing Heidi Williams, Paul Angus, Kate Myles and Richard Hinchliffe who all attended interview panel training so they can be parent representatives on staff interview panels and a huge thank you to Karen Jamieson (Orange Grove’s Principal) who kindly made time to run the training session for us. I will be training two of Rozelle PS parents tomorrow.

Second Hand Clothing Reminder – Today 3pm to 7pm Thursday Morning (tomorrow) 8am to 9am. Clothes cost between $2 & $10 so come along and supplement your child’s uniforms.

Tracy Gray
Principal

Key Note Speech from Student Parliament Induction Ceremony

Leadership. It's a funny word isn't it? And it has heaps of different definitions depending on who you ask. If you were to ask each of your friends they would probably all give you different answers. And if you ask Wikipedia, which we know is the source of all knowledge known to humankind: it will say "a process of social influence in which a person can enlist the aid and support of others in the accomplishment of a common task." Personally I think that this definition is pretty dry and I think that there is so much more to it.

I see leadership as an opportunity, a way to open up options in your future and a way to get involved in your school or local community. I see leadership as a way to get in touch and bring out the best in people around you. Being a leader isn't about being bossy, it's about taking initiative, being a role model and someone that people can follow and depend upon.

That may sound like a lot of work and I would very much like to congratulate this year’s school leaders in Birchgrove for putting their hand up to do this job but I would also like to say that everyone one of you can be leaders with a bit of effort. It doesn't matter whether you are a school leader, whether you tried out and didn't get voted in or if you didn't try out at all. I know that with some effort I was able to be a leader long before I was voted in to be a school captain.

Something I also want you all to remember is that you can be a leader in many different ways, being a school leader or part of the SRC is just one of those. You could also be a leader in sport, fashion, academics or just about anything you want. But above all, being a leader is not about the badge or the title, it’s about being able to lead the people around you, standing up for what you believe in and doing what you know is right.

Alice Steele- School Captain
Sydney Secondary College
Balmain Campus
MUSIC COMMITTEE MEETING

The first Music Committee meeting for the year is coming up on Tuesday, 25th February. It is a great opportunity to come along and learn more about the school's Music Programme – one of the most comprehensive in the area. The meetings are short, friendly and fairly informal. They start at 7pm in the school staffroom. All welcome to attend and no prior music knowledge needed.

ENSEMBLES

Now that our 2015 ensembles have started, we have some general reminders.

Firstly, children need to arrive promptly at the start times. If they don’t, it delays everything which is unfair on those who have arrived on time. This is especially important for strings, who need to tune up and band members who have to assemble their instruments and set up the rehearsal area.

Also, please remind your child to look after their instrument. Instruments are fragile and need to be treated with care - not dropped or knocked. Band instruments need to be cleaned regularly. Make sure your child’s tutor teaches them how to do this. If cleaned properly, the instrument will not only sound better but be easier to play.

Lastly, if anyone in Year 3 or above is interested in joining the Training Band, we have vacancies for trumpet players and would love to have them on board.

There are also limited places still available for Beginner Recorders - a terrific instrument to pick up at any age.

Please contact michelle_stellini@hotmail.com for more information.

MUSICAL DATES FOR THE DIARY

😊 Tuesday, 25th February – Music Committee meeting at 7pm in the staffroom
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

2nd February 2-15

The annual fees for each child for 2014 are:

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Voluntary School Contribution</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian Fees</td>
<td>$45.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Levy</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports Program</td>
<td>$130.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total cost of Annual Fees:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$250.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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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
WELCOME BACK BBQ

FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE!!
SOFT DRINK AND CUPCAKE/SWEET STALLS
QUALITY WINE AND BEER FOR PURCHASE
CHALK DRAWING! PAPER PLANES! HAND BALL!

RSVP ANY DIETARY REQUIREMENTS TO HEIDIWILLIAMS@GMAIL.COM
Dear Parents and Carers of 2015,

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. This year, the P&C is allocating $50,000 for much needed playground refurbishments and, amongst many other things, is continuing the following annual expenses:

- Extra resource for maths and reading $25,000
- Mathletics subscriptions for all students $3,500
- Wifi $4,700 ($21,700 spent in 2013)
- Music $2500

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 2015. 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 2015. Payment can be made via direct deposit, by the correct cash amount or cheque (box in the office) and there will be an EFTPOS machine available at school pick up on Tuesday and Wednesday this week. The annual fees are:
• $120 for 1 child
• $220 for 2 children
• $300 for 3-4 children
• $60 per preschool 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 2015 so your help is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,
The P&C Executive Team
Matthew Garvey, Lynn Feldon, Kim Hall, Richard Hinchliffe, Anastasia Warden and Amy Large.

Direct Debit Payment Details
Bank: CBA
Account Name: Birchgrove P&C
Account: 00900746
BSB: 062 110
Please include family name in reference section

Cash or Cheque Payments
(please place payment and this completed form in a sealed envelope in black box at the office)

FAMILY NAME: ________________________________

K-6
• First child: $120 $_______
• Second child: $100 $_______
• Third or more children $80 each child $_______
Preschool $60 each child $_______

Total P&C Levy Contribution: $_______ Many thanks.