2015

**Dates to Remember**

**Parent**
- 23/2-6/3: Year 2 Swimming School
- 27/2: P&C Welcome Back BBQ

**Music**
- 2/3: Assembly- Swimming Carnival Ribbons
- 3/3: Regional Swimming Carnival

**Sport**
- 5/3: Year 5 Dulwich Hill High School –Art Excursion
- 10/3: Years 5 & 6 Life Skill Classes
- 12/3: Selective High School Placement Test
- 16/3: Assembly-5/6A
- 17/3: Years 5 & 6 Life Skill Classes
- 18/3: Sydney East Swimming
- 18/3: P&C Meeting 7pm Staffroom

**Student Parliament**
- 19/3: School Cross Country Carnival

**Coming Events**
- 23/3: Assembly-5/6K
- 24/3: Years 5 & 6 Life Skill Classes
- 25-26/3: NSW Swimming Carnival
- 2/4: Easter Hat Parade
- 2/4: Last Day of Term 1

**Term 2**
- 21/4: Students return to school for Term 2
- 27/4: Assembly-Cross Country Ribbons
- 28/4: Online Applications for Opportunity Class (OC) open
- 3/5: Strings workshop – SS & IS
- 9/5: FETE
- 11/5: 3/4H Assembly
- 12/5-14/5: Naplan Years 3&5
- 16/5: Online Applications for Opportunity Class (OC) close
- 17/5: Combined Bands Workshop – CB & TB
- 18/5: Assembly- 1D
- 20/5: P&C Meeting 7pm Staffroom
- 24/5: Ryde East competition – CB (TBC)
- 25/5: Assembly-3/4C
- 1/6: Italian Day
- 1/6: Assembly- 1U
- 2/6-5/6: Years 5&6 Camp
- 12/6: DISCO
- 14/6: Solo Soiree
- 16/6: Assembly- 3/4D
- 17/6: P&C Meeting 7pm Staffroom
- 18/6: School Athletics Carnival
- 22/6: Assembly- 5/6S
- 23/7: Opportunity Class (OC) Placement Test
Principals Report

Interviews and Reports- Our first formal parent teacher interviews will be held towards the end of this term. There will be a note home soon to book in a time online. In an attempt to make our school reports more parent friendly we are looking at revamping them to look more like the kindergarten reports, with skills/outcomes listed rather than written paragraphs. Parents of our special needs students are being contacted to arrange a meeting to work on their child’s individual learning programs with class teachers and members of the Learning and Support Team.

Congratulations to Eleni & Mia who have been achieving amazing things with their dance. There is a copy of an article in the Telegraph featuring them towards the end of the newsletter.

They attended the National Dance Championships in January and Mia won a Gold Medal in her solo performance against competitors across Australia and New Zealand.

Last week we had our first P&C Meeting for 2015 and it was great to see some new faces there. Our new P&C executive are doing well and ran a productive meeting talking about plans for 2015 (and beyond) as well as what’s been happening at school, last year’s financial report and reports from various P&C committees. Four P&C members have trained to be the parent representative on interview panels for school staff. So far this year the P&C has committed funds towards:

- a new air conditioner for the canteen,
- interactive white board repairs/replacement,
- guided reading books for K to 2 students,
- electric hand sanitisers for the classrooms, sick bay, computer room and library
- 10 ipads and a syncing station for our students with special needs. These can have apps geared towards their specific needs
- Mathletics
- Year 6 Graduation Function
- 2 days a week of extra support teacher time
- a playground design for the whole school playground from a landscape architect.

So please make sure you help out with the P&C events. They are keen to do as much as possible for the children this year!

See you at the Welcome Back BBQ Friday Evening!

Tracy Gray
Principal
Second Hand Uniforms-Thanks to everyone for supporting the recent second hand clothing sale. We recycled about 250 items of school uniform and raised $655 for the P&C. Thanks in particular to Sara Bidgood, Susan Bannister, Shannon Kelly, and Carol Gardiner for sorting, setting up, selling, tidying, and then putting our very depleted stock back in storage. Donations of clean, good quality school uniform items are greatly appreciated – please put them in the white plastic baskets near the stairs opposite the ‘new’ clothing stall. We plan to have a sale every term, so keep on donating and please keep an eye out for when we advertise the next sale.

Ruth Lavery

Barbara Petchenik Children's Map Competition 2015 Competition’s theme is “My place in today's world”. Entries can be nominated in four age groups: under 6 years, 6-8 years, 9-12 years and 13-15 years. The deadline for participation in the contest is Thursday, 2 April 2015. For more detailed information about the competition, please visit the MSIA website http://mappingsciences.org.au.

All about apostrophes Not knowing where to place apostrophes can haunt people for their entire lives. Here’s an easy guide to help your child understand what they mean, how to use them and get them right, now. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/english-a-to-z/-/english_glossary/8Qum/551/apostrophe+denoting+ownership

When older kids struggle with reading Should you let your reluctant teen reader choose magazines over books? If your child is still struggling to read and write, and they're heading into high school, there are ways to get them on the right page. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/english-tips/when-older-kids-struggle-with-reading

Library News Most children have received the REDGUM BOOK CLUB, ordering is completed online by the 9th March and orders will arrive at school by the 16th - 20th March. I then distribute the books to the children.

The Premiers' Reading Challenge beings in March. You can log on or complete a Reading Log. You can find the book lists on line. Kindergarten -Year Two will complete the challenge at school.

Ms Robinson and Mrs Ilieff

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Ruth Lavery

Hi all, Just a quick update of what Birchgrove OSHC has been doing for the last couple of weeks. OSHC has been busy with awesome artwork inspired by our OSHC children & participating in sport activities. Our kindergarten children are settling in well & quickly becoming a part of the family at Birchgrove OSHC. In couple of weeks Before Care will release kindergarten children to the playground at 9am staff will hand them to the teacher on duty. We will discuss all the procedures with your children with what to do in the playground & you will be amazed with how quickly the can manage. With children who attended music lessons you need to give OSHC a permission note allowing OSHC staff to let your children walk from/to their lesson of if they are going to be picked up/dropped off by their tutor. You can either drop in a note or emails us on nswbirchgrove@oshccampaustralia.com.au friendly reminder to book/cancel your children online on www.campaustralia.com.au or call Head Office on 1300 105 343. If you have any further questions regarding Birchgrove OSHC you can call us here direct on 0405 413 528.

Thanks, The Birchgrove Team

Sorting fact from fiction Help your child develop their “dodgy website” antennae when doing homework. Here are ways your child can tell a good website – or any document – from a bad one. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/sorting-fact-from-fiction

WORLDS GREATEST SHAVE

WHEN: Friday 27th February
WHERE: Courtyard (pick up area)
8:30-9:10 (and 2:45-3:15 for Year 2 Swimmers)

COST: Gold coin donation to go towards the Leukemia foundation

WHOS RUNNING IT: Charities Ministry
Dear Parents/Carers

2nd February 2-15

The annual fees for each child for 2014 are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</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>
</table>

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
An event for ALL Birchgrove Public School families

5-7PM FRIDAY
27TH FEB

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
Term 1  Week 5  25th February 2015

DANCE STARS IN SEVENTH HEAVEN

Richard Moore

IT'S the big dance school pouring above its weight. After just four years in operation, Oxland Dance has branched out to regional and state finals to perform at theuvettown Showcase Dance Championships in Queensland and Western Australia. Eleven dancers from the inner west studio made the trip north in January, returning with a string of awards. Their efforts have all been rewarded, with Oxland Dance also providing the hip hop and contemporary categories and third place in the overall group division. Director Kamala Oxland said it's the first time the school had taken a group to the national title and performing arts school had never before allowed out of its area.

The students scored highly in many of the categories, the most impressive being Oxland Dance's 11th place in the national title and performing arts school had never before allowed out of its area.

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Birchgrove Public School
P & C Association
Birchgrove Public School ABN:94 153 655 071
Birchgrove Road, Birchgrove NSW 2041
Ph: 9810 2469 • Fax: 9555 8653

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.
Birchgrove Buzz  Term 1  Week 5  25th February 2015

Newsletter of the Birchgrove Public School  Ph: 02 9810 2469
A NSW Government School  Fx: 02 9555 8653
Birchgrove Road,  E: birchgrove-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Balmain NSW 2041  W: www.birchgrove-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

OPEN DAY 2015
Saturday 7 March 2015
11am–2pm
Formal Presentation 12noon

DULWICH HIGH SCHOOL OF VISUAL ARTS AND DESIGN
Offering a specialist stream in visual art and design and a quality comprehensive education

OPEN NIGHT
Information Evening for prospective students
WEDNESDAY MARCH 4, 2015

INFORMATION SESSION
5:30 – 7.00PM
Multi-Purpose Hall
Seaview Street

P&C INFORMATION STAND
Refreshments available at the Canteen Quad