### 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates to Remember</th>
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<td>Parent</td>
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<td>Student Parliament</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>18/3</td>
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**Term 2**

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<td>16/5</td>
<td>Online Applications for Opportunity Class (OC) close</td>
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<td>17/5</td>
<td>Combined Bands Workshop – CB &amp; TB</td>
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<td>2/6-5/6</td>
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<td>23/7</td>
<td>Opportunity Class (OC) Placement Test</td>
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**Tonight:**

**P &C Meeting 7pm Staffroom**
Local author Steve Worland, visited our Years 3 to 6 students last week to talk about his book, **Paper Planes** (movie based on) and answer questions about the book as well as sign autographs and make paper planes. Years 5 & 6 are currently using the book for their novel study.

Michael a landscape architect from Urban Landscapes had a planning session with Student Parliament last week to work on the ideas for the **playground design**. It was an interactive session with lots of fun and good suggestions. Last year all staff, students and parents were given the opportunity to contribute their ideas through surveys. The plans will be ready soon and there is a viewing session for parents and teachers. Wednesday 1st April @ 6pm in the hall.

KS took home their leprechaun’s pot of gold from under the rainbow ..... and to be sure I can’t imagine why Miss Shanahan was decked out in green! Does anyone know what was special about Tuesday?
Interviews  Our first formal parent teacher interviews will be held in Week 9 & 10 this term. There was a note sent home with the children and emailed home. To book an interview parents need to go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and enter the code 444PZ. Online bookings close on Monday 23rd March.

The Tell Them From Me student feedback survey I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. More information about the survey is available at: http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 25th March and 2nd April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey has been emailed to parents. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by Wednesday 25th March. Copies of the form and FAQs are also available from the website above.

School Cross Country Carnival The school Cross Country Carnival is tomorrow Thursday the 19th March. All children K-6 are encouraged to join in. No one is forced to run, they can run, walk, run until they reached the finish line. Our 11 & 12 year old children run 3km, our 8 – 10 year old children run 2km, year 1 & 2 run approximately 1.5km and our Kindergarten children run approximately 1km. It is a great day, if you are free on the day parent helpers are welcome and encouraged. Please ensure your children come appropriately dressed with a water bottle, a hat and sunscreen.

Program for Cross Country Carnival – 2015 Thursday 19th March

Order of events: 10 minute intervals - Times are approximate and rely on everything going to schedule.

1. (10.00) Walk the course
2. (10.45) Boys 12 years – 3km
3. (10.55) Girls 11 years – 3km
4. (11.05) Boys 11 Years – 3km
5. (11.15) Girls 12 years – 3km
6. (11.25) Boys Kindergarten – 1km
7. (11.35) Girls 8-9 years – 2km
8. (11.45) Boys 8-9 years – 2km
9. (11.55) Girls Kindergarten – 1km
10. (12.05) Boys & Girls Year 1 – 1.5km approx.
11. (12.15) Boys & Girls Year 2 – 1.5km approx.
12. (12.25) Boys 10 years – 2km
13. (12.35) Girls 10 years – 2km
Harmony Day (21 March) celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity. It’s about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. In 2015 we celebrate 15 amazing years of Harmony Day… It is also National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. Please send your child to school wearing something orange on Friday!

School Security  Just a reminder to parents that the school security phone number is: 1300 880 021. If you see anyone on the school grounds (who you feel shouldn’t be on the grounds) and you are unable to find Miss Gray or Mr Cormack then please ring this number and a security guard will turn up and ask them to move on.

Tracy Gray
Principal

Year 6 students moving into Year 7 in 2016 Completed Expression of Interest form should be returned to your primary school no later than Friday 20 March 2015.


Facts about fractions If you’ve forgotten 3/5 of primary school maths and 7/8 of high school maths, what’s left? Ah ha! Kids need help learning how to add fractions too. The only thing left is to print these fact sheets. Find our more: https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/eppcontent/glossary/app/resource/factsheet/4013.pdf

Amazing art Autumn’s the perfect season to take a trip to a gallery. The popular ArtExpress exhibition connects us to the inner lives and self-expression of high school students. Amazing works are on show throughout NSW. Check out the calendar. Find out more: http://artexpress.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/
NSW Election Day is on Saturday 28 March 2015.

Please support the BBQ and cake stall, which Year 1 is organising.
- Year 1 parents, if you have an hour or two, please sign up to help on the day (it's easy, just follow the links below)

- It would be fantastic if other families could help by baking a cake, cookies or lolly bags to help raise money. Cake boxes will be distributed next Thursday. Cakes etc can be left with Karen at the canteen on Friday 27 March, or at the stall early on Election Day.

All money raised will be used by the P&C for improving the playground and school amenities.

We look forward to seeing you all there

Here’s how you can volunteer to help in 3 easy steps:
1. Click this link to go to our invitation page on VolunteerSpot: [http://vols.pt/3Gfjmm](http://vols.pt/3Gfjmm)
2. Enter your email address: (You will NOT need to register an account on VolunteerSpot)
3. Sign up! Choose your shift on the roster - VolunteerSpot will send you an automated confirmation and reminders. Easy!

Note: VolunteerSpot does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact me and I can sign you up manually.

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Canteen News

Birchgrove School Canteen - Easter Raffle

Tickets $1.00 Each

1st Prize – HEAD Tennis Racquet - RRP - $190
HEAD Tennis Balls - RRP $15 &
HEAD Tennis Bag - RRP $60

Thank you to Tennis Ranch for donating this wonderful 1st prize valued at over $250
Thank You to Jennifer Peters for organising the 1st prize donation.
We will also have at least 10 other minor prizes for the kids to win.
The raffle will be drawn at the Easter Hat Parade on Thursday morning.
Can you sing?

Please come along and join the Birchgrove Public School grown ups’ Glee Club

Wednesday nights
8pm

We’re looking for more singers... and a pianist!

Please text Lizzie on 0421 667 826 or Becky on 0405 302 360 if you’re interested in coming along.
THE EASY WAY TO BOOK
SCHOOL INTERVIEWS

Dear Parents

Parent/Teacher interviews will be held during Week 9 and 10. Bookings must be finalised before Monday 23rd of March at 5pm, when bookings for this event will close.

Parents that do not have internet access may send a note to school with the approximate times they require, or phone the school on 9810 2469. Interviews are strictly 10 mins and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

BOOKINGS CLOSE MONDAY 23rd of March at 5pm.

Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

Enter code... 444PZ

Simply enter the code and press “Go”

1. Enter your details
2. Select the teachers you wish to see
3. Select the appointment times that suit your family best

When you click FINISH, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically. If you do not receive your email immediately –

Check your junk mail folder AND make sure you have spelled your email address correctly

You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until the bookings close on 23rd March at 5pm

You may change your bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visitng the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 9810 2469
BIRCHGROVE PUBLIC SCHOOL
ELECTION DAY CAKE STALL
SATURDAY MARCH 28TH
8AM - 4PM

WE WOULD BE EXTREMELY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR DONATION OF CAKES, CUPCAKES, COOKIES & SLICES TO THE ELECTION DAY CAKE STALL.

Decorated & Iced cakes are generally the most sought after. Some other suggestions are cookies, jellies (kids waiting for their parents to vote will love these), fudge, caramel slice, coconut ice & of course cupcakes.

If you could bring your donation already packaged (eg. cookies into packs of 4 or 5) it would be super helpful, or if not packaged, on a disposable plate or container as we would hate to throw anything away that belonged to someone.

We also ask that you label your treats with a name & ingredients.

EG:

CHOCOLATE FUDGE BROWNIES
COOKING CHOC
PLAIN FLOUR
EGGS
COCOA
BUTTER
CASTER SUGAR.

PLEASE DELIVER YOUR GOODS TO THE CAKE STALL ON SATURDAY MORNING FROM 7:30AM ONWARDS. IF YOU NEED TO DROP ITEMS OFF ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON YOU CAN DO SO, BY LEAVING THEM IN THE STAFFROOM BEFORE PICK UP.

THANK YOU
IS CLASS PARENTS
JENNIFER - J-PETERS85@HOTMAIL.COM SARA - SARABIDGOOD@GMAIL.COM