## Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25-26/3</td>
<td><strong>NSW Swimming Carnival</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1/4</td>
<td><strong>Playground Design Viewing 6pm</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>2/4</td>
<td><strong>Easter Hat Parade</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>2/4</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Term 2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>21/4</td>
<td>Students return to school for Term 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>27/4</td>
<td>Assembly-Cross Country Ribbons</td>
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<tr>
<td>28/4</td>
<td>Online Applications for Opportunity Class (OC) open</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/5</td>
<td><strong>Combined Bands Workshop – CB &amp; TB</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9/5</td>
<td><strong>FETE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>11/5</td>
<td>3/4H Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/5-</td>
<td>Naplan Years 3&amp;5</td>
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<tr>
<td>14/5</td>
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<tr>
<td>16/5</td>
<td>Online Applications for Opportunity Class (OC) close</td>
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<tr>
<td>17/5</td>
<td><strong>Strings workshop – SS &amp; IS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>18/5</td>
<td>Assembly- 1D</td>
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<tr>
<td>20/5</td>
<td><strong>P&amp;C Meeting 7pm Staffroom</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>22/5</td>
<td><strong>Balmain PSSA Cross Country</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>24/5</td>
<td><strong>Ryde East competition – CB</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>25/5</td>
<td>Assembly-3/4C</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/6</td>
<td>Italian Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/6</td>
<td>Assembly- 1U</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/6-5/6</td>
<td>Years 5&amp;6 Camp</td>
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<td>12/6</td>
<td><strong>DISCO</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>14/6</td>
<td><strong>Solo Soiree</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>16/6</td>
<td>Assembly- 3/4D</td>
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<tr>
<td>17/6</td>
<td><strong>P&amp;C Meeting 7pm Staffroom</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>18/6</td>
<td><strong>School Athletics Carnival</strong></td>
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<td>22/6</td>
<td>Assembly- 5/6S</td>
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<tr>
<td>23/7</td>
<td>Opportunity Class (OC) Placement Test</td>
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Reminder: Michael Gerrard, landscape architect from Urban Landscapes has developed a playground design for BPS. There is a viewing session for parents and teachers, Wednesday 1st April @ 6pm in the hall it would be great to see you there!

On Harmony Day we celebrated Australia’s cultural diversity. It’s about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. We also focused on the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. There is some information from the parent pages of the Bullying. No Way! Website that I thought you might find helpful following!

This Year our Assembly Items are linked to the Bounce Back Program and yesterday we all enjoyed being the audience for the recording of a fabulous talk show hosted by 5/6A. The children had a strong message of “bouncing back” and not catastrophising to help us be more resilient when facing life’s obstacles!

Thank you to Mr Fitzgerald, Mr Cormack and the Stage 1 Team for organising a great Cross Country Carnival. Also thank you to our fabulous parents and staff who worked so hard on the day and our exceptionally well behaved students!

It’s always great to have our parent volunteers helping out at school. They do so much including reading groups, help with art lessons, transporting students to events, cleaning out the P&C container and even make rockets!

Early next term we will again be running training sessions for helpers who wish to become part of the “Parent Reading Program”. These parents work with students from Years 2 to 6 who need some extra reading support. We are also starting up a “Parent Maths Program”. If you are interested in helping with either of these programs please let Mr Cormack know.

Tracy Gray
Principal
Talking to your kids about bullying

Conversations are critical to ensuring your child feels safe at school. You can have a positive influence on your child's social, emotional and academic development by talking with them and being engaged in their education.

While conflict is a natural part of growing up and learning how to socialise, bullying can have long-term effects on the wellbeing of your child.

What are the common signs that my child is being bullied?

Knowing whether your child is being bullied is sometimes hard to work out. Some common indicators to look out for could include:

- unexplained crying, moodiness or anger
- not wanting to go to school
- less social contact with friends
- frequent disagreements with you or their siblings
- unexplained missing personal property
- a decline in the quality of their school work.

How should I talk to my child about bullying?

If you think your child is being bullied, the most important thing to do is to talk to them about it. Try to:

- stay calm and let them know you’re happy they’ve told you
- listen to them and tell them you believe them
- explain that it's not their fault and it's never ok to be bullied
- ask them what they want you to do
- let them know you are there to help them practise responsible ways to respond to bullying.

You may also like to contact your school to ensure teachers know about the situation and find out if anything is being done to address it.

There is help available

There is also a range of resources out there to help you and your child deal with bullying, including:

Safe Schools Hub - [www.safeschoolshub.edu.au](http://www.safeschoolshub.edu.au)

Through the Safe Schools Hub, the Australian Government is empowering parents with information and advice on how families can support a safe school culture and manage problems when they arise.
The Safe Schools Hub for Parents provides you with information and resources that you may find useful in helping to make your child's school experience a positive and happy one. On the Hub you will find links to many of the websites listed below.

**Bullying No Way** - bullyingnoway.gov.au/parents/index.html
Bullying. No Way! has a dedicated parents portal providing useful information for parents and carers specifically about bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence in schools.

**Cybersmart** – www.cybersmart.gov.au
Cybersmart is a national cybersafety and cybersecurity education programme managed by the Australian Communications and Media Authority, as part of the Australian Government's commitment to online safety.

**Department of Communications** - www.communications.gov.au/online_safety_and_security
The Australian Government Department of Communications provides links to Australian Government measures to improve online security and fraud awareness and includes information about online safety for children

**Think U Know** - www.thinkuknow.org.au
ThinkUKnow is an Internet safety programme delivering interactive training to parents, carers and teachers.

**eheadspace** - www.eheadspace.org.au
eheadspace is a confidential, free and secure space where young people 12 - 25 or their family can chat, email or speak on the phone with a qualified youth mental health professional

**Mychild** - mychild.gov.au
Mychild.gov.au is Australia's online child care portal. The site also has information and links to other useful websites about children's health and wellbeing, parenting and family support services.

**Raising Children** - raisingchildren.net.au
The Raising Children network provides information that can help parents with the day-to-day decisions of raising children, and to also help parents and carers look after their own needs.

Parentline is a confidential telephone counselling service providing professional counselling and support for parents and those who care for children.
Practise to be a journalist This website could definitely make practising writing and spelling more interesting for all of us. Make a newspaper clipping with your own headline and story. Your child may even start imagining themselves as a publisher or journalist.  
http://www.fodey.com/generators/newspaper/snippet.asp

Safetytown website – A road safety education program This innovative website reinforces the road safety messages that children are learning at school. It provides practical strategies to help families learn how to be safer pedestrians and road users. The seven key road safety messages cover pedestrian safety, car passenger safety, bus passenger safety and safety on wheels (bicycles, foot scooters, skateboards and rollerblades). For further details, visit https://www.safetytown.com.au

Back by popular demand Mention head lice and most of us instantly develop an itch. While head lice and nits, (the eggs of head lice) are certainly annoying and persistent, they're not dangerous. Here's everything you need to know to rid your kids of head lice and nits.http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/environment/headlice/Pages/nitbusters.aspx

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.

Ethics News

Welcome to another year of ethics classes. We currently have seven ethics classes and two more are wait listed. Our current Stage 1 teachers are Lindy Sivyer, Phil Spiers and Annabel Marsh. Our current Stage 2 teachers are Ange Weinrabe and Kaylene Kitharides. Our current Stage 3 teachers are Jim Short and Sandy Jenkins. We have two more teachers training, hopefully to start teaching Kindergarten and another Stage 2 class which are both currently wait listed, depending on availability of space and teacher supervision.

There is a Primary Ethics newsletter if you want to know more about the classes: http://www.primaryethics.com.au

If you have any questions or want to volunteer to teach please feel free to contact me: jjuzzy@gmail.com

Justine Ellis
Ethics Coordinator
Hello everyone, it’s Fete time again with the 2015 Birchgrove PS Mother’s Day school fete just over 6 weeks away.

Saturday 9th May 10am – 4pm

This is our major annual fundraiser and we really appreciate the support of the whole school community. Without the tireless efforts of school parents and families the fete would not come to life and be the success that it is each year for the school and as a community event.

STALLS
All the class stalls have been allocated and your class parents will appreciate as much support as possible. If everyone pitches in….many hands make light work.

If anyone wants to help out in other areas of the Fete, there is always plenty to be done. We will need help for set up and pack down and the weekend prior to the Fete.

SECOND HAND Books, Goods & Toys
If you have unwanted goods, books and toys, please keep them for the Second Hand Books and Toys stalls at the fete.

The Second Hand drop off day will be the weekend before the fete. If people can hold onto their items until then, that would be ideal.

Please note, we will not accept soft toys, TVs, video cassettes, children’s car seats or strollers and anything that is in broken or very dirty condition. If you wouldn’t buy it, we probably can’t sell it!

External Stalls
If you would like to be an external stallholder at the fete of know someone who does, please ask them to contact Kim as soon as possible, so they can secure a spot. We are looking to have new stall holders, however places are limited.
MUFTI DAYS
We will be raising money this year prior to the Fete through 2 mufti days in term 2 this assists us with some of the Fete costs and Fete Floats on Fete day.

Thanks everyone,

Kim

Please support our Fete sponsors:

Birchgrove Tennis
Birchgrove Tennis will conduct Two Tennis Camps during the forthcoming Easter School Holidays.

Camp 1 from 7th April – 10th April, 2015 (Tues to Fri)
Camp 2 from 13th April – 16th April, 2015 (Mon to Thurs)
Hours will be from 9.30AM-12PM, COST: $120 inc. GST

The camps will include tennis coaching, callisthenics, some competitive play and various games. PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED. All players must have their own equipment.


Terry Rocavert (Head Coach)
Birchgrove Tennis
Rose Street Cnr Louisa Road
Birchgrove NSW 2041
Phone: (02) 9810 0110
Mobile: 0417 949 602
Email: info@birchgrovetennis.com.au

San Antonio Sourdough Bakery, 349 Darling Street, Balmain
COMBINED BAND WORKSHOP

Just a reminder that the school Band Workshop is coming up soon. Participating in these workshops is an important responsibility of belonging to an ensemble. It can make a big difference to how well the children play.

A workshop for the Combined Training Band and Concert Band will be on Sunday, May 3rd from 10am - 4pm with lunch and morning tea provided.

A workshop for Intermediate and Senior Strings members will be held on Sunday, 17th May 2014 from 2pm – 5pm.

Please hold the dates, permission forms will be emailed to you by your co-ordinators. Please confirm attendance ASAP. Payment and forms, can be handed in next term.

SUPPORTING OUR WONDERFUL CONDUCTORS & TUTORS

Many of our Conductors and Tutors play professionally and seeing them live is a great way to inspire your children and see just what these very accomplished musicians are up to! Our recorder conductor, Alicia Crossley, is touring all through May to support her CD release.


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
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.
KIDS AT THE ARTHOUSE

TERM 2 ENROLMENTS ARE NOW OPEN!

EXCITING AFTER SCHOOL ART PROGRAM
INCLUDES SUBMISSIONS TO ART COMPETITIONS!
CREATIVE AND FUN CLASSES
OPEN TO K - 6 STUDENTS.
CLASSES HELD AT BIRCHGROVE PUBLIC SCHOOL
CREATIVE ARTS WEDNESDAY 3:15PM - 5PM.
DRAWING ONLY THURSDAYS 3:15PM - 5PM.
VISUAL ARTS TEACHER WITH 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE!
$30 PER CLASS. ART MATERIALS AND AFTERNOON TEA PROVIDED.

KIDS AT THE ARTHOUSE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS:
STUDENTS CHINESE NEW YEAR EXHIBITION AT THE CHINESE GARDEN OF FRIENDSHIP
(DARLING HARBOUR) “DREAM” EXHIBITION - 2014 & 2015
FINALIST: AUSSIE ART COMPETITION 2014
WINNER: AVANT CARDS “CALLING ALL ARTIST’S” COMPETITION 2013
FINALIST: AUSSIE ART COMPETITION 2013
WINNER: SYDNEY PORT AUTHORITY POSTER COMPETITION 2012
WINNER: SYDNEY PORT AUTHORITY PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 2011
WINNER: AVANT CARDS “CALLING ALL ARTIST’S” COMPETITION 2010
COLLABORATIVE PROJECT WITH:
THE AUSTRALIAN NUMERACY AND LITERACY FOUNDATION 2013
THE TAFE ÚLTIMO SCREEN PRINTING DEPARTMENT 2011

“Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere.”
Albert Einstein
Dear Parents

Parent/Teacher interviews will be held during Week 9 and 10. Bookings must be finalised before Monday 23\textsuperscript{rd} 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 23\textsuperscript{rd} 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 \textit{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 23\textsuperscript{rd} March at 5pm

You may change your bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting 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