

Diary Dates

Friday 9th August

Grade 3 Excursion

Wednesday 14th August

Grade 4 Excursion

19th – 23rd August

Book Week

Friday 23rd August

Dress Up Day

Monday 26th August

Grade 2 Excursion

Wednesday 28th August

Prep Excursion

Monday 9th September

District Athletics

Wednesday 18th & Thursday 19th September

School Production

Friday 20th September

End of Term 3 2:30pm dismissal

Monday 7th October

Start of Term 4

Monday 25th – Friday 29th Nov

Grade 5/6 Camp

Thursday 5th – Friday 6th December

Grade 3 Camp

Wednesday 11th December

Carols evening

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – August 1st 2019

Wonderful News

Foundation teacher Jacinta Hollings has given birth to a healthy little boy, Jovi James Hollings. Mother and baby are both doing very well. Jacinta and her husband Tom are overjoyed at the arrival of their first child. I am sure everyone will join with me in congratulating Jacinta and Tom on this happy occasion.

Doncaster Schools Rotary Club Public Speaking Competition

Late last year we were approached by the Rotary Club of Templestowe and invited to enter students in a local primary schools public speaking competition. Students in year 6 developed speeches and went through a series of selections and then took part in a school final in the hall at Birralee. At that final, using the criteria that would be used in the judging at the Rotary Club competition, two Birralee students were selected. They were Year 6 students Nicholas P and Ellen H. Nicholas's topic was "What do cows think about?" and Ellen's speech was titled "The best invention ever" – in Ellen's view, this was the internet.

Ten students from St Gregory the Great PS, Doncaster PS, Doncaster Gardens PS, St Clements of Rome PS and Birralee PS took part in the final last night at St Gregory the Great PS.

Judges from Toastmasters assessed the speeches using the criteria known to the students – and what performances they were! We were astounded at how confident and articulate these young students were in delivering these speeches to a packed hall of many parents, teachers and students. Nicholas and Ellen both delivered amazing speeches and should be very proud of themselves.

We are thrilled to be able to announce that Ellen was declared the winner! Well done Ellen – what an achievement!

Quote of the Week

"Friends and good manners will carry you where money won't go." - Margaret Walker

Word of the Week

Nostalgic (adjective)- longing for something one has known in the past; homesick

Approaching Children in the Playground

From time to time issues arise between students. As a parent you may be concerned about the behaviours and their impact upon your child. If this occurs, your child's teacher needs to be informed. Under no circumstances should a parent approach another student to discuss any type of incident that may have occurred. We at school should be the only ones to deal with student behaviour. Nearly always, there are two sides to the story and what may appear black and white initially often turns out to be a shade of grey.

Reminder: Working With Children Check (WWCC)

As part of our Child safe policies and practices, all parents or friends who volunteer or work at Birralee in any capacity are required to have Working With Children Check. This means that parents who work in the canteen, help out in classrooms, attend excursions, help out at sport or have any contact with children when assisting the school in any way, will now be required to have a WWCC. The WWCC is free for volunteers. Be sure to nominate Birralee PS on your application. We also require a WWCC for any visitor who comes into the school who work directly with students e.g. sports coaches, dance coaches, chess organisers etc.

Community Spirit

No, we don't have a sweat shop operating in the staff room – it's a band of volunteer parents who have busily been sewing costumes over the past week or so!

It's fantastic to see such enjoyment and team spirit happening in preparation.



Ashley Ryan
Principal

Assembly

Senior School assembly will be taking place this week. Assembly starts at 2:40pm in the hall. All welcome to attend.

Play is the Way Award Winners

Prep V:	Isaac
Prep H:	Grace
Prep G:	Dora
Prep P:	Alonzo
1BL:	Zana
1N:	Anja & Caleb
1M:	Milana
1T:	Roham
2N:	Cayden & Noah
2B:	Filippa
2C:	Athena & Jamie
2L:	Archer & Simon

Art: Louis (Prep P)
Mandarin: Evelyn (Prep V)
P.E.: Isabel (2N) & Catherine (1M)
STEM: Nate (prep H)
Library: 1BL (whole class)

Golden Platypus: 1BL
House Award: [Discovery](#)

Hoop Time

Last Monday, the Grade 5's had Hoop Time at MSAC. They had lots of fun playing other teams such as OLGC and Wattle Park. Every team won a game. The teams were the Birralee Bears, Bandits, Braves, Boomers and Breakers.

These are the Bears



and these are the Bandits



Raph and Shannon (Grade 5)

New Policy

Attached to this newsletter is the Curriculum Framework policy. This can also be found on our website at <http://www.birralee.vic.edu.au/ourschool.php?id=22>

Book Club

Book club orders are due back tomorrow, Friday 2nd August.

Parent Opinion Survey

If your family received an email inviting you to participate in the Parent Opinion Survey, please take the time to complete this. This is an annual survey offered by the Department of Education and Training that is conducted amongst a sample of randomly selected parents. It is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of parents' perceptions of school climate, student behaviour and student engagement. Our school will use the survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies.

This year the Parent Opinion Survey will be conducted from Monday 22nd July to **Sunday 11th August**. Parents selected for the survey have been notified via email.

The survey will be conducted online, only takes 10-15 minutes to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time within the fieldwork period on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones. The online survey will be available in a range of languages other than English. These include: Arabic, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Chin (hakha), Hindi, Japanese, Somali, Turkish, Punjabi and Greek.

The survey results will be reported back to the school at the end of September.

Thanks to those that have already completed the survey.

Music Uniforms

All students in senior choir and band will need a music uniform for the production performance. Order forms are attached and can be obtained from the office. Please get orders in asap as we only keep limited quantities on hand and may need to order more.

Final Parent Payment now due

All outstanding fees are due in August. Payment can be made via

- Cash or Cheque
 - Direct Deposit to BSB: 063 210 Account: 10022649 (Please quote student name as reference)
 - BPAY. These details can be found on your invoice or by contacting the office on 9848 4996
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Entertainment Books

Entertainment Books for 2019/2020 are now available. We have a sample book in the office if you'd like to see what's available. Books can be ordered via www.entbook.com.au/1890w64

See the flyer in our Community News for more information.

Recycling Oral Care Waste 2019

In an effort to look after our planet and environment, our school is again participating in the recycling program run by Colgate, Chemist Warehouse and TerraCycle called the 'Colgate Community Garden Challenge'.

We are currently in second place out of all schools participating in Australia!

There are five community garden sets up for grabs, each worth over \$7,000! Each community garden set includes:

- Three garden beds
- Two custom-made benches
- One rubbish bin
- One paddle sign
- One \$500 Bunnings Warehouse gift voucher to buy gardening supplies

Collect oral care waste such as toothpaste tubes, toothbrushes, floss packets and containers, toothbrushes packaging etc. The recycling box is located at the school office.

Every piece of oral care waste collected will count towards our total Garden Points. The more waste we collect as a school community, the more chances we have to win!

You can also increase our points by voting online for our school at:

<https://www.terracycle.com.au/en-AU/brigades/colgategarden>