

Diary Dates

Friday 20th Dec

End of Term 4 **1:30pm dismissal**

2020

Wednesday 29th Jan

First day of term for Grade 1-6

Thursday 30th Jan

First day of term for Preps

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – December 19th 2019

Dismissal Time Tomorrow

Students will be dismissed from school tomorrow at 1:30pm. Please ensure your child is picked up on time.

After School care is available from 1:30pm until 6:15pm.

Start Time Next Year

School resumes for Year 1 to Year 6 students next year at 8:50am on Wednesday 29th January. Prep students begin the following day, Thursday 30th January.

Once more it's been a very busy and successful year at Birralelee. The school has again grown substantially and we have another big year ahead of us in 2019. At this stage it appears we will begin with 563 students. There will be one new class bringing our total to 25 classes. For the first time in 6 years we will not have any new teachers beginning with us, however Jacinta Hollings and Katherine Oswin will both return from family leave; they will share one of our Prep classes.

Thank you, parents and friends, for all the support you have given to the school during the year in so many different ways. Have a safe and relaxing holiday - enjoy the break!

Reading the Newsletter

Please ensure you are able to log on to Compass – that is where you will find the newsletter. (If you are reading this you are already on Compass – so please assist any parent who says they can't log on – direct them to the school office so we can help with the account, reset passwords etc.)

We will continue introducing more functions on to Compass as needs arise. It will be our primary source of communication – hence it is vital.

Generous Donation

Last week, two of our parents, Celina and Kelly, requested a time to meet with me. I was extremely pleasantly surprised to find that they were speaking on behalf of a group of Chinese parents who had all decided to make a donation to school to show appreciation and support. I was bowled over to find that \$1850 had been donated!

Quote of the Week

"Too much love never spoils children. Children become spoiled when we substitute 'presents' for 'presence.'" Anonymous

Word of the Week

Rambunctious (adjective) - uncontrollably exuberant; boisterous.

We will use this money to purchase additional quality literature for our extremely successful Accelerated Reader program that has been in use this year from Year 2 to Year 6. The program has already had a positive effect over the course of the year and has raised the reading standards at Birralelee. Thank you so much to those parents for their generous donation – it will make a difference.

Goodbyes

We are saying a final farewell to our 2019 grade six students. Last Friday we celebrated their move from primary school to secondary school with a very special presentation ceremony. Thank you to teachers, Zac Wilson, Eloise Heppner and aides Michael Bader and Dom Chong for working with these lovely students during the past year.

As I said in my speech to the students, they are the result of many years of support and assistance by the many teachers they have had throughout their primary school years, and of course the love, support and encouragement from their parents and wider family. After watching the Year 6 students deliver their speeches, I think collectively we've done great job - they are wonderful young people! Thank you also to the parents of Year 6 students who helped in organising and making the celebration so successful.

Farewell also to those other students and families who will be leaving Birralelee this year. Your time here has been greatly appreciated and we would love to keep in contact throughout the years to come. A number of families have been with us for a dozen years or so. You will always be welcome back at Birralelee. We wish you well for the future.

School Crossing Supervisors – Peter & Chris

Thank you Peter and Chris for the wonderful job you have done looking after our students and parents this year. Chris and Peter's happy smile and lovely way with our students is very much appreciated. To Peter, Efcharistó Pétró, Kalá Christougenna kai eftychisméno to néo étos and to Chris, have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Ashley Ryan
Principal

2020 Calendar

Term1

- January
 - Tues 28th Teachers start
 - Wed 29th Grade 1 – 6 start
 - Thur 30th Preps start
- February
 - Thur 6th Swimming Carnival Grade 4 – 6
 - Thur 20th Curriculum Day
- March
 - Mon 9th Labour Day Holiday
 - Wed 25th House Athletics Grade 3 – 6
 - Fri 27th End of Term 1 (2:30pm dismissal)

Term2

- April
 - Tues 14th Start of Term 2
 - Thur 23rd School photos
 - Mon 27th Anzac Day holiday
- May
 - Mon 4th Curriculum Day
- June
 - Fri 5th Curriculum Day
 - Mon 8th Queens Birthday holiday
 - Mon 16th – Fri 19th
 - Grade 5 Camp

- Wed 24th Parent Teacher interview – Senior School
- Thur 25th Parent Teacher interview – Junior School
- Fri 26th End of Term 2 (2:30pm dismissal)

Term3

- July
 - Mon 13th Start of Term 3
- September
 - Wed 16th & Thur 17th
 - School Production
 - Fri 18th End of Term 3 (2:30pm dismissal)

Term4

- October
 - Mon 5th Start of Term 4
- December
 - Fri 18th End of Term 4 (1:30pm dismissal)

Policy Updates

Please read the attached Visitor and Volunteer policies which have been ratified by School Council. They can also be found on our website <http://www.birralee.vic.edu.au/ourschool.php?id=22>

School Banking

There will be no school banking tomorrow.