

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – July 29th

### Cyber Safety

On Monday evening Susan McLean spoke with around 100 parents about the perils of navigating the cyber world in which our children, and indeed all of us, find ourselves. This was a parent only event due to the serious nature i.e., threats to children, that the online world brings with it.

Susan McLean is Australia's foremost expert in the area of cyber safety and young people. She was a member of Victoria Police for 27 years and in 1994 took her first report of cyber-bullying involving a group of Year 8 schoolgirls. From this case, she identified the emerging problem of internet harassment, and since then has written many books, and presents to school students (Susan presents to Birralee students) and to parents.

We have received incredibly positive feedback from parents who attended Monday's presentation. I am sure we will have Susan back again at some stage and I urge every parent who did not attend Monday's presentation to sign up next time the parent session is offered.

The internet is a wonderful medium for all sorts of reasons and I love using it, but we must be vigilant as parents and educators to the dangers the online world poses to our children.

For those who were unable to attend, I encourage you to click on to her website for further information: <https://www.cybersafetysolutions.com.au/>

We have a very strong internet usage policy at school. We take this responsibility seriously and will act swiftly if our policy is breached by students, staff members, or parents.

### Mobile Phones and Communication Devices

In accordance with the Department's 'Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy' issued by the Minister for Education, students must not use personal mobile phones at Birralee Primary School during school hours, including lunchtime and recess.

Please note that this policy includes not only mobile phones *but also smart watches or similar devices that can be used for communication to take calls, messages, or photos.*

If a smart watch has the capacity to send and receive messages, to make phone calls or the ability to take photographs, it will not be permitted to be worn during the day and must be handed in to the teacher before at the start of the day. It will be locked away securely and given back to the child, when requested, at 3:30pm. This includes any watch or device that has been deemed to have a school safe function. School safe watches mean that parents can restrict the watch's functions to stop messaging and phone calls. Unfortunately, we know that this is not happening; messages are being received and sent by students at school, hence we cannot rely on 'school safe' mode to be followed. Our school policy can be found [here](#).

## Reading With Your Child

Children at Birralee receive very good results for reading – well above the state average, and also above those of schools similar to Birralee. I have just had the chance to view the 2022 preliminary release of NAPLAN data, and once more our students are doing very well. I am extremely fortunate to have around me dedicated teachers who are particularly invested in providing high quality, targeted teaching for our students. There is a high level of discussion in team meetings and leadership meetings about how to further improve our teaching and therefore the learning that our students take on. We are confident that the teaching and learning program we provide is instrumental in achieving those good results. However, we cannot achieve such good results without the help of parents and central to that is the direction and climate set at home for learning. Research shows that a child's learning outcomes are dependent on several factors.

Most educators will know of John Hattie. Hattie's research looks at what makes a difference (effect sizes) in student learning outcomes. His work is fascinating and looks in detail at the varying degrees of efficacy when investigating various programs, methods and techniques used in education. His work draws upon thousands of studies from around the world and is highly acclaimed.

As well as actual programs, he looks at what has the most influence on a child's outcomes.

Hattie research has found the following:

- School (including the principal) 5%-10% influence

- Peers 5%-10% influence

- Home 5%-10%

- Teachers 30% influence (which is why we put so much effort into teacher professional development at Birralee.)

The child accounts for about 50% of the variance of achievement! It is what students bring to the table that predicts achievement more than any other variable. The correlation between ability and achievement is extremely high, so it is no surprise that some students have steeper learning trajectories than others. Our role in schools is to improve the trajectory of all students. Please note that much of this individual child factor has a great deal to do with what has happened in the home in the first 5 years.

What you do at home and what the child carries within, has an enormous impact.

This brings me back to reading. It is vital that at home you as parents encourage the love of reading. Children need to see that mum and dad value reading too. Try setting aside some time when the computers, TVs and tablets are all switched off and each member of the family picks up a book to read. This sends a powerful message to a child that reading is valued.

When your child brings home a book there are options. Students in the junior school might bring home a book that is below, at or above their reading level. Please do not be concerned about this. We want the students to choose a book that they like – it is all about loving books and reading.

If the book is below or at the child's level, then please listen to them read – not whilst you are cooking or driving in the car though!

Be patient – learning takes time; impatience and negative criticism impedes learning. Be optimistic, praise your child. Your child needs your undivided attention. Ask your child questions about the story, ask your child to recount, ask 'What if?' or 'What might happen next?' questions. If the book is at a lower level, concentrate on fluency and expression.

## Fitness in Children – here’s an idea

Teachers are often asked by parents how to help their child. Many of us, I know, are concerned at the excessive amount of time children spend in front of TVs, or playing computer games or spending time on smart screens etc. TV and computer games are fine but if they become the dominant pastime then it may be time to offer some alternatives.

An article that I read quite some time ago in “The Age” newspaper, warned about the inactivity and poor dietary habits of many Australian children. The article states in part:

*“A parent’s example cannot be underestimated in regard to eating and exercise...Parents are the most powerful role models in formulating the long-term eating and activity habits for their children...It’s clearly evident that good health is not just about weight...eating and exercise habits when young can lay the foundations for a healthy adulthood.”*

The article went on to say that children who watched more than 20 hours of television per week were more likely to become obese. Food for thought indeed!

So, what should we do instead?

Try having afternoons and nights where the television or the computer are switched off - screen free time! Go for a walk or a bike ride. Let your child join a sports team. Try perhaps reading nights where adults and children alike settle down with a good book. Role modelling is extremely powerful – if a child sees mum or dad reading then he or she is more likely to do so too. Read to your child and have them read to you. Play some board or card games, do some crosswords, make a model, engage in some kind of a craft activity – there are plenty of activities that actively engage the mind and the imagination and/or exercise the body.

**Ashley Ryan,**

**Principal**

### Word of the Week

**Redolent** (adjective)- strongly reminiscent or suggestive of, fragrant or sweet-smelling.

### Quote of the Week

“Children seldom misquote you; in fact, they usually repeat word for word what you shouldn’t have said.”

Unknown

## Updated Policies

There are five new policies that have been posted on the Birralee Primary School website under the heading '[Our School/Policies](#)'.

The policies are:

- [Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy](#) (with the accompanying [Child Safety Code of Conduct](#))
- [Bullying Prevention Policy](#)
- [Digital Learning Policy](#)
- [Yard Duty and Supervision Policy](#)
- [Enrolment and Placement Policy](#)

Please take time to read these new policies and as other new ones come out over the next few months, the school will continue to alert parents via this Newsletter.

The [Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy](#) and the [Child Safety Code of Conduct](#) must be read by all those working and volunteering in the school, in any capacity. A hard copy of this policy can be found at the admin desk.



## Bakers Delight Monday Lunch Orders

Bakers Delight Monday lunch orders can be placed between 9 am Tuesday to 5 pm Saturday for the following Monday's delivery.

To place an order, head to our PFA website [Bakers Delight Monday Lunch Orders](#).

*Bakers Delight*

## Bunnings Sausage Sizzle - tell your family and friends!

Birralee will be having a Bunnings Sausage Sizzle this Sunday 31 July at the **Bunnings Doncaster** store, from **9 am to 4 pm**.

Spread the word, tell your family, friends, neighbours ... we want to sell lots of sausages to raise funds for the school.

See you there!  
Spreading Love,  
Grace Roy  
PFA President



# Calendar

## August

Tues 9th—Fri 12th	Grade 5 Camp
Friday 12th	Assembly 2:50 pm
Monday 15th	School Council Meeting
Saturday 20th	Trivia Night
Mon 22nd—Fri 26th	Book Week
Friday 26th	Dress-up Day Assembly 2:45 pm
Wednesday 31st	Grade 5 Excursion

## September

Thursday 1st	SRC Fight MND Free Dress Day
Friday 9th	Grade 1 Excursion Assembly 2:50 pm
Tues 13th	Production Rehearsal (Grade 2/4/6)
Wed 14th & Thurs 15th	Production (Grade 2/4/6)
Friday 16th	End of Term 3 (2:30pm dismissal)

## October

Monday 3rd	Start of Term 3
Mon 3rd—Fri 7th	Grade 6 Camp
Monday 17th	School Council Meeting

## November

Tuesday 1st	Melbourne Cup Day
Mon 7th—Fri 11th	Grade 5/6 Swimming
Mon 14th—Wed 16th	Grade 4 Camp
Monday 21st	School Council Meeting

## December

Thurs 1st—Fri 2nd	Grade 3 Camp
Monday 12th	School Council Meeting
Mon 12th—Fri 16th	Junior School Swimming
Tuesday 20th	End of Term 4 (1:30pm dismissal)

BIRRALEE TEAMKIDS

# NEWSLETTER



## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

Hey hey from TeamKids!

We have been having a ball so far this term learning new games, planning clubs, and getting messy making slime and craft.

We have welcomed a new team member to our Birralee family! Maya has come to us with previous experience working at Deepdene Primary School OSHC. So, she already has already come with new and exciting ideas to share.

We will soon be starting our Term 3 challenge. To make a Winter Wonderland themed play zone. Every TeamKids venue will be taking on the challenge and the winning school will receive an EPIC party funded by our TeamKids head office.

If you would like to book in, we would love for you to be a part of the fun. Access our bookings system at [teamkids.com.au](http://teamkids.com.au) and please call 1300 035 00 if you face any challenges 😊

## IMPORTANT DATES



### Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July

Free Coffee Van

### Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

National Pyjama Day: Pyjama Party

## TEAMKIDS CLUBS

ASC WEEK: 4



### MONDAY

Art Attack Club

### TUESDAY

Super Sports Club

### WEDNESDAY

Epic Games Club

### THURSDAY

STEM Club

### FRIDAY

Epic Games Club



**Service Mobile:** 0484 300 079

**Office Phone:** 1300 035 000

**Service Email:** [birraleeps@teamkids.com.au](mailto:birraleeps@teamkids.com.au)

**Office Email:** [info@teamkids.com.au](mailto:info@teamkids.com.au)

## Extracurricular Activities

We have various tutors and organisations who provide private tuition and programs before, during or after school. New programs are advertised via flyers or in the community news section of the newsletter. Enrolment forms may be available at the office or directly from the program organiser.

Name	Program	Contact
Lala Music	Music lessons and band for grade 3 - 6	Olivia 0419 131 868 <a href="mailto:lalamusic2@yahoo.com.au">lalamusic2@yahoo.com.au</a>
Jill Scholfield	Piano	Jill 0401 972 664
Violin Program	Violin	Trent 0413 207 689 <a href="mailto:trentbunston@gmail.com">trentbunston@gmail.com</a>
Kelly Sports	Multi-Sports & Basketball	Gary Hoskin <a href="mailto:gary@kellysports.com.au">gary@kellysports.com.au</a> <a href="http://kellysports.com.au/events">kellysports.com.au/events</a>
Slamin Tennis	Tennis (flyer below)	Vicky 0403 129 648 <a href="https://slamin.com.au/">https://slamin.com.au/</a>
Sporty Stars	Dance, Soccer, Basketball (flyer below)	Russ 0422 043 853 <a href="mailto:info@sportystars.com.au">info@sportystars.com.au</a>
Team Kids	Out of school hours care	1300 035 000 <a href="https://teamkids.com.au/">https://teamkids.com.au/</a>
Digimaker	Coding (starting term 2) (flyer below)	<a href="https://www.digimaker.com.au/enrol">https://www.digimaker.com.au/enrol</a>
Chess Education	Chess Club	Nick <a href="mailto:info@chesseducation.com.au">info@chesseducation.com.au</a>
Bricks 4 Kidz	Lego building	Derek 0402 945 599 <a href="mailto:hychong@bricks4kidz.com">hychong@bricks4kidz.com</a> <a href="http://Bricks4kidz.com.au/mm">Bricks4kidz.com.au/mm</a>
Soccer-X	Soccer (starting term 3) (flyer below)	<a href="http://Www.soccer-x.com">Www.soccer-x.com</a>

## 2nd Hand Uniforms

Contact Ida on 0478 083 589 to arrange an appointment.

## Canteen

Lunch orders are available Tuesday to Friday. Orders can be placed in advance and need to be in by 9:00am for same day processing. To place an order download the Qkr! App. [Click here for instructions on how to download and use Qkr!](#)

# Community News

## **EAL** English as an Additional Language



**Are you from a non-English speaking background and would like to improve your reading, writing, conversation and listening skills? Maybe you wish to return to study or work?**

Improve your English in a supported, nurturing and COVID safe environment.

Please note an interview is required before placement.

At Pines Learning we offer a wide range of day and evening English language classes during the week.

We have Introductory, Basic, Intermediate and Advanced level classes to suit a variety of needs and classes are taught by experienced and fully qualified trainers and some classes have a volunteer trainer as well to assist with learners.

Our English classes can provide a pathway into accredited courses such as Aged Care, Early Childhood Education and more.

Improve your English in a supported, nurturing Covid safe environment.

New courses for term 3 include a Taster course available at a heavily subsidised price and an evening course focusing on improving English language skills for working in Australia, Improve Your Grammar.

Give our coordinator a call on **9842 6726** to arrange an interview or visit our website at [pineslearning.com.au](https://pineslearning.com.au) for more information.

# Community News

Confidence

Communication Skills

Creativity

# superspeak



Weekly public speaking, drama & presentation skills for ages 6-14

**IN-PERSON**  
or **ONLINE**

- ★ Leading Curriculum
- ★ Experienced Teachers
- ★ Loads of FUN!

## communication

- ★ quick thinking
- ★ **expression**
- ★ teamwork
- ★ **confidence**
- ★ leadership
- ★ **persuasion**
- ★ vocal variety

Award  
Winning  
Program  
Trusted Since  
2006

## ENROL NOW

Glen Waverley,  
Chadstone, Burwood,  
Essendon, Doncaster,  
Canterbury, Rowville,  
Ashburton, Hampton,  
Ivanhoe, Thornbury,  
Altona Meadows,  
Balwyn North  
& Zoom Groups

9572 5249

info@SuperSpeak.com.au  
www.SuperSpeak.com.au

# Community News

*Evolution*  
Martial Arts  
Live. Learn. Evolve

# BE FIT BE STRONG

# BOOK TRIAL NOW

All levels

Healthways Recreation Centre (Mont Albert)

Saltwater Community Centre (Point Cook)

Saltwater P-9 College (Point Cook)

*More Info*

Ph: 0425817758

[www.pointcookkarate.com](http://www.pointcookkarate.com)

[www.MontAlbertkarate.com](http://www.MontAlbertkarate.com)

## OPENING NEW CLASSES

WELCOMING  
NEW MEMBERS



Scan Me



# Community News



## LEARN TO PLAY tennis

SLAMIN TENNIS & FITNESS

我们提供粤语或普通话翻译：  
Learn to play tennis at your school with your friends. A perfect option for busy families!

**FREE TRIAL**

**START-UP PACKAGE**

- Free racquet and start up pack
- Max (4) kids per coach
- No expiry on replacement classes
- Pathways to squads, private lessons & competition
- Unique customer portal.

**LOCATION & TIME**

- Birralee Primary (before school)
- After school or weekends at Doncaster Tennis Club

We also cater for players with special needs including Autism, all abilities. Ndis funding is accepted for plan managed & self managed students.  
Translation available in Cantonese or Mandarin. Email: [translator@slamin.com.au](mailto:translator@slamin.com.au) SMS: 0403 129 648  
我们的翻译员会与您联系。 电子邮件: [translator@slamin.com.au](mailto:translator@slamin.com.au) 短信: 0403 129 648

**BOOK NOW**  
**0403 129 648**

OUR STAFF ARE FULLY VACCINATED FOR YOUR SAFETY. COVID-19 VACCINATION

[www.slamin.com.au](http://www.slamin.com.au) | [hello@slamin.com.au](mailto:hello@slamin.com.au)



## BIRRALEE PRIMARY SCHOOL

SOCCER X SCHOOL PROGRAM / FUN - EDUCATIONAL - ACTIVE

Starting in Term 3, Soccer X will be running an 8 week Soccer program at Birralee Primary School every **Monday** from **3.40 - 4.40pm** beginning **July 18th 2022**.

The program is available to students from **Prep-Year 6**.  
On arrival children will be split into groups according to age.  
All sessions will be run by **qualified coaches** who hold WWCC.  
The sessions will be **fully inclusive & fun-based**, catering for all abilities.

Cost: \$130 / 8-weeks.

For more information and online registrations please visit

[www.soccer-x.com](http://www.soccer-x.com)



# Community News

## MULTI-SPORTS PROGRAMME

TERM 3 2022



Have heaps of fun in the sun with your friends while playing a range of dynamic and active sports over the term.

## BASKETBALL PROGRAMME

TERM 3 2022



Have fun learning how to play Basketball with your friends in the Kelly Sports Basketball Clinic. Learn all the basic skills required to play the game in a safe and challenging environment.



BOOK ONLINE NOW AT

**KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU**



## Play Basketball for Balwyn Blazers

Summer 2022-23  
Team Selection Weeks  
8<sup>th</sup>-11th August

- AGE GROUPS range from U8 to U21
- Check [www.balwynblazers.com.au](http://www.balwynblazers.com.au) for details on which night to attend for your age-group(1 night per age group)
- A great fun and safe sport for girls and boys
- Make new friends and keep fit
- Easy to learn
- For beginners and experienced players
- Play Saturdays in the EDJBA competition, the biggest junior competition in Australia
- Home games near Balwyn and Balwyn North
- Please contact Katherine to register your interest or for further information



Katherine Kronish

Phone: 0418289981

Email:

[registrar@balwynblazers.com.au](mailto:registrar@balwynblazers.com.au)



## Vista Valley Kindergarten 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Saturday 27th August  
10am - 2pm

Join us for a wonderful day to celebrate 50 years  
of our kindergarten in the Bulleen Community!

- Official Welcome & Cake Cutting •
- Food & Drinks •
- Kids Activities, Face Painting, Scavenger Hunt & much more!
- Meet our Educators - enrolments for 2023 & 2024 now open •
- All Past, Present & Future families welcome •

# APPLY NOW



## VACANCIES AVAILABLE



## LEARNING THROUGH POSITIVE PLAY

EXPLORE OUR NATURAL  
LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

LONG DAY SESSIONS IN  
BOTH 3YO & 4YO PROGRAMS



SCAN ME

CNR MIDVALE AVE & TURNLEY ST,  
BALWYN NORTH

[WWW.BOROONDARAPRESCHOOL.VIC.EDU.AU](http://WWW.BOROONDARAPRESCHOOL.VIC.EDU.AU)

9857 6159

# Community News

**BIRRALEE**  
COMMUNITY  
HUB

**GET  
LISTED  
on the  
HUB!**

[www.birraleepfa.wordpress.com](http://www.birraleepfa.wordpress.com)

Free business listings available to...

- current parents, carers and staff
- businesses who contribute to PFA fundraising efforts

Supporting the community that supports us!

# BIRRALEE

Parents & Friends Association

[pfabirralee@gmail.com](mailto:pfabirralee@gmail.com)

**VOLUNTEER**