



THE BIRKDALIAN

STUDENT ABSENCES: absence@birkdaless.eq.edu.au

DENTIST: 1300 300 850

TUCKSHOP: 3207 4187

P&C Association: pandc@birkdaless.eq.edu.au

FACEBOOK: parents/caregivers of Birkdale State School

WEB ADDRESS: www.birkdaless.eq.edu.au

28 January 2015

Welcome back to all our students, their families and especially to the new members of the Birkdale State School community. We are all looking forward to an outstanding 2015.

Deputy's Desk

Belonging at Birkdale State School

All children need to feel that school is a safe place where people will care about them, where their needs for support, respect and friendship will be met, and where they will be able to get help to work out problems. When these needs are met children develop a sense of belonging at school. Children who feel that they belong at school are happier, more relaxed, more motivated to learn and be more successful with their school work.

At BSS our social skills program and school staff encourage and support children in developing positive relationships and a strong sense of being a Birkdalian. Having older 'buddies' to turn to helps younger children feel that school is a place where they can get help if they need it. Our trained student Peacekeepers always fulfil this role admirably. These are some of the ways that children's sense of belonging are supported at Birkdale SS.

Please ensure children have a sunsafe hat with them every day.

Early entry to Prep policy changed

In addition to current provisions for early entry to Prep, principals can now approve early entry to Prep if the child will be **at least 5 years old by 31 July in the proposed year of attendance and the principal is satisfied the child is ready for education in Prep having regard to the child's attributes.**

If you have a child who turns 5 years old before 31 July and you wish to discuss early entry to Prep this year with Administration please contact the office to make an appointment.

Smoking banned 5 metres around school grounds

Smoking any tobacco products or using an electronic cigarette [within five metres of any state or private school grounds](#) has been banned. This applies before, during and after school hours as well as over weekends and school holidays.

On the spot fines can be issued by environmental health officers, police or other officers authorised by the local government to anyone found in breach of this legislation. The ban does not extend to businesses or residences that share a property boundary with a school.

Smokers are asked to put out your cigarette and dispose of the litter thoughtfully well before you reach the school boundary.

www.health.qld.gov.au/public-health/topics/atod/tobacco-laws/schools/default.asp



Great state. Great opportunity.



Music Notes...

Welcome back to another terrific year of Music with the **Music Performance Centre**. We warmly welcome Allyson Smith to the music teaching staff. She will be teaching Music to the Preps, Year 1 and Year 2 (with Mrs Deagon).



Senior Choir and Choral Development Program (CDP)

Students in Years 5 and 6 will be auditioned this week for a coveted spot in the Senior Choir and Performance Group. If your child is offered both ensembles but would prefer to commit to only one, then it must be the Senior Choir as this is where students most benefit from the development of singing techniques. Successful applicants will receive the relevant paperwork next week. Please return **ALL FORMS** with payment, not just money by itself.

The BRAND NEW Senior Choir will be performing a song on Monday 2 February for the Badge Ceremony. Please wear school uniform and black shoes if you have them. Please be at the Hall at 8.15 AM for sound check.

Selected students from Years 4 - 6 will have an opportunity to be included in the Choral Development Program (CDP), which runs on Tuesdays at lunch time. The key focus of the CDP is to develop the singing voice by working on improving techniques in breathing, tone, pitch, diction and harmony. Students will be invited into the program, based on a selection criteria, which identifies students' suitability. Contracts will be signed by students and parents indicating their commitment for the year.

Strings and Instrumental Information

String Program: Mondays

Instrumental Program: Wednesdays

All students will be issued with timetables and instructions as to commencement of lessons and band rehearsals.



Junior Choir Auditions

Junior Choir auditions will be in Week 2, in the lunch hour, as follows:

- Year 2 – MONDAY
- Year 3 – THURSDAY
- **FRIDAY - CATCH UP AUDITIONS FOR ANYONE WHO MISSED IT OR WAS AWAY**



Bumblebee Choir Auditions

A choir for Preps – Year 1 will be formed later in the term. Auditions will be held in Week 5. This will allow our littlies a great, settled start for the year.



PAYMENTS

Please remember that the Cash Window in the Admin block operates on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00am.

If you are making payments online, please remember that you still need to return all MUSIC paperwork to the office.

INFINITY ROCK BAND

Can you Rock?

Our Birkdale Rock Band has performed for packed audiences with great success. Some of our members have moved onto high school so we need new band members. If you play electric guitar, bass guitar, or drums and would like to audition, please prepare one solo piece that you can perform competently. Auditions will be held in **Week 3**. If you are auditioning to play an instrument please come on **MONDAY AT BIG LUNCH**. If you wish to audition to be a singer in the rock band, let Mrs Deagon know at your choir audition. A shortlist will be made of singers who will then audition on **WEDNESDAY AT BIG LUNCH**. (Singers must also prepare a solo. You may sing to an original track or a backing track [preferred]. You should know the lyrics from memory.)



Recorders



Students in Year 4 – 6 must have a recorder for music lessons. I have a small number of Yamaha recorders available for sale from the music room. Please send \$10

CASH ONLY, in a NAMED envelope.

Guitar and Ukulele Lessons

If you are interested in your child joining one of these groups for 2015, please read the following information and contact the relevant teacher:

Guitar Beginner Lessons (Years 3 – 6 only)

- commencing Week 4
- held in the Music room after school
- group lessons \$11/half hour
- contact John Prefontaine on 3245 2270
- email: john@jpguitarstudio.com
- private tuition at the studios also available for more advanced students

Ukulele Lessons (Years 1 – 6)

- held in the Music room after school
- group lessons \$11/half hour
- contact Julie Minto on 0401 617 915
- email: info@mamajuju.com.au

Library News

Children from Years P – 3 MUST have a library bag to be able to borrow books. Birkdale State School logo bags are available from Birkdale News for \$8.95. These bags are waterproof and provide great protection from drink bottle and lunch box spillages in students' school bags.

Class borrowing will begin in Week 3 so please ensure children have their bags. Borrowing details for year levels are:

- P – 1: 1 book for 1 week
- 2 – 4: 2 books for 2 weeks
- 5 – 6: 3 books for 3 weeks

Don't forget to help us celebrate your birthday by donating a book to our library.

Sports News

Class swimming lessons

Swimming lessons for all students in grades 1 - 6 will commence next week. All students have been handed permission notes and it is essential that these notes are returned before your child's first lesson. It is important that students are aware of their PE day and come prepared with all of the items required to swim. Sun safe shirts and swim caps are essential items and it is important that all items have the child's name marked clearly for easy identification. Parent help is required for lessons and it would be greatly appreciated if you could notify the child's class teacher if you are able to help with this important program. If you have some spare time and are able to help with other classes please see Mr Menzies.

District Swimming

A squad of swimmers has been selected to train for the upcoming Bayside District swimming carnival. The training is held at the pool before school at 7.50am with the team selected early next week.

The district carnival is being held at the Cleveland pool on Monday 9th February.

Refer: Alan Menzies

Behaviour Processes at Birkdale

Birkdale School Community has identified the following school rules to teach and promote our high standards of behaviour, in line with the principles of **School Wide Positive Behaviour Support**.

- **Be Safe**
- **Be responsible**
- **Be respectful**

Throughout the week, each class will have an opportunity to unpack these rules and what they look like in the classroom. Each classroom celebrates positive behaviour in its own way. Parents will receive a letter detailing classroom rules and rewards systems.

For students who require opportunities to reflect on disruptive behaviours, the Responsible Thinking Room (RTR) will be operational from Week 1 this term. Students who attend the Responsible Thinking Room (RTR) work on a plan which allows them the opportunity to reflect on their disruptive behaviour and discuss better options to implement when they return to their classrooms. When a student attends the RTR, parents are notified by letter and, advised of the reason why the referral was made.

This year, some of our Year 6 students will be our helpful PeaceKeepers in the prep playground. They have a special tool called the 'Conflict Wheel'.

The "**Conflict Wheel**" is a tool we encourage students to use when dealing with difficult situations, and teachers will focus on these strategies as part of the behaviour plan to make sure that children understand how to use them.

Birkdale State School fosters communication between the student, the parents and the teacher. We feel that communication between these three identities is important to ensure your child is supported in our school setting.

We look forward to celebrating positive behaviour and achievements on our Monday morning assembly.

School Assembly 2 February

There will be a whole school assembly at 9.00 am in the hall to welcome our 2015 School & Sports Captains and our Music Prefects. Our 2015 Prep students will also officially receive their school hats.



QSchools app

To stay up-to-date with school news and to be able to receive important messages from the school instantly to your mobile device (push notifications):

1. Download the QSchools app from your app store. (<http://deta.qld.gov.au/about/app/qschools-app.html>)
2. If you already have the app, please ensure it is up-to-date, as out-dated versions will not receive notifications.
3. Make sure you "favourite" our school.

You are now ready to receive important school messages direct to your mobile device.

STUDENT PAYMENTS

Cash Window:

Tuesday and Thursday 8 am to 9 am

Internet Banking:

Account Name: Birkdale State School

BSB Number: 064138

Account Number: 00090369

Reference Code: Name and Class

Activity Ref Code: As per top of excursion note

Voluntary Contribution:

Code: VOL

Cost: \$80

Credit Card/EFTPOS:

To make payment: Phone 3286 0710

Please remember to put your child's name and class as reference as well as the Activity Reference Code.

School Absences

We would appreciate when you phone to advise of your child's absence, that you please press Option 2 to leave your child's name, reason for absence and the date. This can be phoned through at any time of the day, although before 9am would be preferable.

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