



November 27, 2020

Term 4 – Issue 4

## The final week of school is upon us!

There is so much activity to bring closure to an exceptional, remarkable, demanding year. There will be a 'year-in-review' newsletter circulated next week.

Class 4/5 have been competitors at the interschool Olympics at the Samford Valley Steiner School. Demonstrating beauty, strength and skill as they participate in discus, javelin, running, jumping and wrestling. Channel 10's 'Totally Wild' also visited last week covering a story on this programme which will go to air in 2-3 months.



Class 2/3 have been preparing for their craft stall selling many handmade items and adding up copious amounts of money.



Main Lessons are finishing, rooms are being tidied and preparations underway for the class presentations, Early Childhood Festival, and End of Year Celebration/Nativity Play. From my office I have heard violins, cellos, marimbas, recorders, ukuleles and singing indicating that music is alive and well.

Last Saturday 'A Current Affair' ran a story on coding and knitting interviewing myself and showing some of our students knitting:

To view the video on Facebook please [Click Here](#).

Education of the Head, Heart and Hands is definitely alive and well at the Birali Steiner School.

We welcomed Member for Longman Terry Young MP to Inspect the planned planting of the bioretention.

Mr Young said that he was extremely pleased to secure funding for the school from the Federal Government for this sustainable measure under the Communities Environment Program.



*Chris Jack*



## FROM THE BOARD

Dear School Community,

The School year 2020 is almost over and what an interesting year it has been.

Birali Steiner School has handled the challenges of a rapidly changing environment exceptionally well and we commend all staff, students and parents for your efforts and acceptance of the changes in the daily routine and rhythm of your lives.

We all hope that next year will not bring the same challenges however we now know that flexibility is an essential component of our daily lives and the Birali School Community will continue to thrive whatever the year brings.

The Birali Board has a diligent focus on planning, policy and financial accountability moving into 2021 so Birali Steiner School can continue to grow in the exciting years ahead for all students, their families, and the community.

We wish the Birali School Community a healthy, relaxing, or adventurous, exciting summer break and look forward to a new school year in 2021.

Warm regards and best wishes,

Birali Board Directors

Moreton Bay Birali Steiner Association Inc.

## FEATURE ARTICLES

### Kellie – Japanese

This term in Japanese the younger grades (1-3) have been learning about Daruma. Daruma is a symbol of perseverance and good luck in Japanese culture. The students have been busy listening to stories, drawing pictures, reading simple kanji, and singing songs about themselves. Daruma has in fact been a great inspiration.



Class 4/5 have explored the life of Hokusai, one of Japan's greatest artists. Many people may not know Hokusai by name but 'The Great Wave of Kanagawa' is one of the most iconic pictures worldwide.



The students have learnt to describe some of Hokusai's pictures, the process of woodblock printing as well as some Japanese onomatopoeia. The students will be designing and printing their own Hokusai inspired print.

Class 6/7/8 have been learning about Japan as a country. Starting from the whole – students learnt what Japanese people call Japan, the main islands that make up Japan, the prefectures (47), and finally some cities in Japan and what they are famous for. Students have been consolidating the hiragana alphabet through reading and writing words and simple sentences.

A big thank you to the students and class teachers who have welcomed me into their classrooms during the term! どうぞよろしくお願ひします。



## Hannah – Music & Strings

The nativity play for the last day of term is shaping up to be wonderful.

Class one have been rehearsing the songs with class two/three children who know the play.

The children will all be accompanied this year by older string players performing a repertoire composed by Kim Kirkman from when he worked here a few years ago. The strings players involved volunteered their time during second break last Wednesday to practice the repertoire before a rehearsal with class one was undertaken that afternoon. I am extremely proud of all students involved - the choir and string ensemble are sounding great together.

In classroom music, children in class two/three and four/five recently listened to Peter and the Wolf, composed by Prokofiev. The story tells the tale of how clever Peter, warned by his grandfather not to go out into the meadows, catches a wolf pursued by hunters and takes him to the zoo. The tale also has a bird, cat and duck, the latter which is swallowed whole by the wolf. The story is told by a narrator with characters represented by different instruments in the orchestra.



Class six/seven/eight students last week listened to instruments in Hedwig's Theme from Harry Potter, which makes special use of the celesta at the beginning, with students also learning how to play the piece.



String orchestra has been split into two to accommodate beginner students and those who are more advanced on their instrument. The orchestra made up of mostly 6/7/8 students has been rehearsing Bach's Brandenburg Concerto V, with other students learning to play Flying Fox Fun and Criss Cross Drag Bikes by Stephen Chin.



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## UPDATES YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

Please Click to follow the links:

- [Volunteers/Parent Help: Weeding](#)
- [Term 1, 2021](#)
- [Qld Health Update](#)

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## LIDS FOR KIDS – UPDATE

To date we have collected 13,006 lids.

These will go to create up to 22 prosthetics for children.

Thank you everyone & keep the lids coming!

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## BIRALI VIRTUES PROGRAM

Each week the school explores a new virtue, with the introduction made at assembly on Mondays. Please click the links below to view each Virtue.

**Week 7 - [Modesty](#)**

**Week 8 - [Perseverance](#)**

**Week 9 - [Generosity](#)**

To read more about the virtues program please:

**[Click here.](#)**



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## IMPORTANT DATES

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec – Primary/Middle School Presentations
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec – Child of Light Celebration
- 4<sup>th</sup> Dec – Pippi Room Christmas/Advent Festival
- 4<sup>th</sup> Dec – End of School year celebration
- 21<sup>st</sup> Dec – Summer Solstice
- 21<sup>st</sup> Dec – School office Closed
- 11<sup>th</sup> Jan – School office Re-Opens
- 27<sup>th</sup> Jan – Term 1 commences



## SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

### PLAYGROUP

#### Child of Light Celebration

Thursday 9am – 11am

RSVP required via Admin.

## THE MONDAY MORNING MEET-UP NOW AT THE HUB!

Every Monday Morning during term after drop off, Birali Parents & Carers are invited to get to know the other members of the Birali community.

BYO cuppa & meet at the Birali Hub for a casual catch up.

## BIRALI PARENT CRAFT GROUP

Wednesdays 8:45am- 12pm

to view the full schedule please [click here](#):

### Birali Collective (Craft Shop)

Last week of Term 4

Mon, Tue & Thurs 2.00pm – 3.00pm

## STEINER & ANTHROPOSPHICAL LINKS

These Steiner/Anthroposophical related activities and services, whilst not directly related the school, can be seen to be in sympathy with and supportive of the impulse of Steiner education.

- **Waldorf 100** Learn to change the world [Click here](#)
- **Waldorf Resources** for schools, parents and teachers. [Click here](#)
- **Waldorf Today** [Click here](#)
- **Sydney Rudolf Steiner College**
- **What's on Teacher Training and Adult Education.** [Click here](#)
- **Steiner Education Australia SEA** is the peak body for Australian Steiner Schools. SEA support, advocate and represent the free and healthy development of Steiner education in contemporary, diverse contexts. [Click here](#)
- **Keeping the Light Alive!** Monthly articles demonstrating Rudolf Steiner's relevance to today's world. [Click here](#)

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### Parent Run Social Media Groups:

- **Birali Parents** [\(Click here to join\)](#)
- **Birali Bazaar (Buy & Sell)** [\(Click here to join\)](#)
- Please ask Birali Parents for links to class pages

## CONTACT DETAILS

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