



# BIRALI STEINER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Mar19, 2021

Term 1 – Issue 4

By now most people will have heard that I am finishing up at Birali at the end of this term. It has been an incredible journey to see the school transform from 14 students in 2014 at the Beachmere Community Hall to over 100 students at our permanent site.

If there is one thing that one can be certain of, it is that change is inevitable. I am forever grateful for the wonderful opportunity that Birali has provided for my passion for Steiner Education and wish the school continuing growth and prosperity. I would like to thank the Board and Staff for the support I have received over the last 6 ½ years.



This term we have also welcomed two new staff members: Yuka Judd has taken on the role of Japanese Teacher and Jonathan O'Brien fulfills the role of Strings Tutor. Both Yuka and John bring a wealth of experience and I look forward to seeing the Japanese and Strings Programme progress under their leadership.

Class 5/6 are on camp next week and then we will be in the last week of term 1. It seems to have gone so quickly.

*Chris Jack*

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## FEATURE ARTICLES

### Becci - Prep

At the commencement of each year the Pippi room welcomes new families to the Birali School community.

Our immediate focus is to establish a strong rhythm within the classroom creating a sense of security for the children as they commence their school journey.



Daily and weekly rhythms are based on breathing-in and out activities which help the child's physical body come into a healthy rhythm. Painting, drawing, craft or bread-making on specific days, morning tea together each day, all contribute to the rhythm of the classroom. Similarly, two days in the classroom and then a breathing-out day at the beach, then back to the classroom contributes to the rhythm of the week.

Yearly rhythms of seasonal festivals and birthdays help children to connect to the natural rhythms in the world around them.

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## Yuka – Japanese

This term class 1/2 have been learning how to say colours, shapes, animals, self-introduction & simple expressions & Japanese cultural festivals.

In February, the students studied "Setsubun" (Bean-throwing) to drive 'evil spirits' away. They enjoyed throwing 'beans' (by using colourful balls) at Oni (evil spirits) by saying "Oni wa soto" (bad luck out). After they got rid of the unhappiness, they brought happiness in their classroom by saying "Fuku wa uchi" (good luck in). In March, they learnt about "Hinamaturi" (dolls/girls festival) to wish for girls' happiness and well-being. They all tried on a Kimono (traditional dress) using colour words.



Class 3/4 have been learning Kanji (Japanese characters from Chinese) of numbers with body actions. The body actions increase the childrens interest & help remember how to write them. They have all now successfully memorized those Kanji. They also studied cultural festivals & they practised simple greetings, zodiac animals, self-introduction zodiac animals & songs.

Class 5/6 have been learning Hiragana (basic written symbols). According to "Hiramatsuri", the students are designing their Kimono for their presentation in Japanese.



Class 7/8/9 has been learning Kanji, Hiragana for self-introduction and family trees. They studied Zodiac animals corresponding to which year they were born. Next week, students will write their family tree in Japanese.



We have more exciting activities & many opportunities to learn about different cultures. I am thoroughly enjoying teaching Japanese to children who are so engaged in learning.

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## UPDATES YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

Please Click to follow the links:

- [Announcement from Board Chair Steve Laughton](#)
- [The Importance of Sleep](#)
- [Principal's Update 17.3.21](#)
- [Autumn Festival](#)

If you are not signed up to School Stream & receive your updates via email please check your emails.

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## REMINDERS

### **Student Record Update & Annual Consent form - Images & Audio**

As you would appreciate, it is vitally important that we hold accurate records including contact numbers, current addresses, details of any health issues about our students and an annual consent for images and audio.

Therefore, we ask you to complete the [Enrolment Record Update](#) and the [Annual Consent Form - Images & Audio](#), so the information we hold is correct. If you have any queries, please feel free to contact the Administration Office.

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## LIDS FOR KIDS – UPDATE

To date we have collected 2652 lids for 2021 as this fortnights donations have yet to be counted. These will go to create up to 5 prosthetics for children. Thankyou 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 – [Flexibility](#)**

**Week 8 – [Forgiveness](#)**

To read more about the virtues program please:

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

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## IMPORTANT DATES

**20<sup>th</sup> Mar** – Heart Songs & Meditation

**1<sup>st</sup> Apr** – Autumn Festival 1pm – 2.30pm appx.

**1<sup>st</sup> Apr** – End Term 1

**14<sup>th</sup> Apr** – Start Term 2

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## SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

### PLAYGROUP

**Tuesdays & Thursdays 9am – 11am**

Registration required via Admin.

- Download the Playgroup Registration Form by [clicking here](#).
- Download the Playgroup Code of Conduct by [clicking here](#).



### MONDAY MORNING MEET-UP

Every Monday Morning 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.

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## BIRALI PARENT CRAFT GROUP

Wednesdays 8:45am- 12pm

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

## BIRALI COLLECTIVE (CRAFT SHOP)

Open during term

Tues & Fri 2.00 PM- 3.00 PM

Weds 8.45 AM to 12.00 PM





## 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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