



BIRALI STEINER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Mar 5, 2021

Term 1 - Issue 3

Head, Heart and Hands

On Wednesday I had the pleasure of attending the Parent Craft Group engaging in interesting conversation while watching busy hands stitching felt balls for the Birali Creative Spirit Fair coming up Sunday 30th May. Craft forms an important part of the curriculum in a Steiner School as it builds the capacity to complete projects and persevere.

While handwork builds the will (hands) the arts and music programme develop the feeling life (heart) and the main lesson engages the mind (head). The conscious engagement of head, heart and hands in Steiner's pedagogy produces well rounded graduates.



Neuroscientist and Waldorf (Steiner) graduate, Thomas Sudhof, won a Nobel Prize for science in 2013. He attributed his success to his bassoon teacher, as hours of practise taught him how to persevere.

Albert Einstein, "The theory of relativity occurred to me by intuition, and music is the driving force behind this intuition. My parents had me study the violin from the time I was six. My new discovery is the result of musical perception."

Chris Jack

FROM THE BOARD

Dear Parents, Staff and Birali Community,

It's hard to believe that we are halfway through term 1. The seasons are changing and Autumn is now upon us, a time when we get to witness the changing colour of the leaves, the intensity of the summer sun slowly leave us (albeit only slightly!) and the children start to slow down, preparing for the cooler winter months.

To all the new and continuing families we hope your child(ren) are well settled and back into the rhythm and routine that our school can bring and that you get to enjoy the magic the change of seasons brings.

Many of you may not be aware of the role or the work the school Board does as most of it is done in the background, unseen to the majority. But out of sight doesn't mean it's not a crucial element in the school's growth, success and longevity as well as being a requirement to receive government funding. The operational aspects of the school, which are delegated to the Principal and the leadership team, are more prominent and outwardly facing to the school community. One area the Board has been focussing on is succession planning, that is, looking for potential future directors as well as possible members for relevant school sub-committees. Currently we have an active Finance, Risk, Audit, Compliance

sub-committee (FRACS) and there could be a need for other active sub-committees in the future.

The school is reliant on having a well-functioning and effective Board. In projecting forward the Board would like to invite anyone in the school community who has a specific skill set they feel could be of value to the governance of the school and who has an interest in serving on the School Board (or possible sub-committee) if a vacancy should become available. It's important the Board has a cross section of suitable skills and expertise and there are certain areas such as finance that would be most welcomed.

If this is of interest to you can you please email a brief resume to chair@biralisteiner.qld.edu.au

Thank you for your ongoing support of Birali Steiner School.

Warm Regards

Steve Laughton
Birali Board Chair

FEATURE ARTICLES

Emma- 7/8/9

This term class 7/8/9 have been hearing the stories of early explorers navigating into the unknown and mapping the world as we know it. Voyages of Discovery has been captivating and heart wrenching as we hear the tales of such explorers as Marco Polo, Christopher Columbus and Ferdinand Magellan. Gaining a better geographical understanding of our world can help us discover ourselves within it.



Next week we begin a Physics main lesson, and we welcome Jenny Agius, from Samford who will be delivering the content and experiments with the class. I am extremely excited to be joining the class and supporting the students throughout this exciting time.

Class 8/9 have also been given a brief for the Year 8/9 Project that continues all year long. It is an individual project of their choosing. The students will be researching, learning, creating and collaborating with a mentor culminating with a finished product to showcase at the end of the year.

Maetreyii – Instrumental

Class 4 children have started marimba lessons this term learning the song "Anti-gravity". They are very happy and enthusiastic each week. Their skill of hitting the right notes and playing songs with accurate rhythm is improving. They are also successfully learning to play several three-part songs. It can be confusing when you have to play different rhythm and melody to others, but they are doing very well.



Class 5/6 children are continuing to play more difficult songs than previous terms. The rhythms are becoming more complex. One of the groups performed one song in the hall during Hannah's goodbye gathering. They are also learning "Up & down the stairs" on recorder.

Class 7/8/9 children are also continuing to play more complex songs. Everyone's skills of playing marimba is improving and the more complex songs they play, the happier and more enthusiastic they get as well as feeling very proud of themselves.

Class 5 to 9 children have been practicing recorder ensemble with me and they are all improving their skills. The 7/8/9 students are currently learning "Minuet" on a combination of Soprano, Alto and Ukulele.

UPDATES YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

Please Click to follow the links:

- [Updated Policies](#)

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

REMINDERS

Lost Property

Please remember to label all clothing & water bottles. The lost property basket is located to the right of the reception door.

Any valuables can be collected from Reception.

LIDS FOR KIDS – UPDATE

To date we have collected 2652 lids for 2021.

These will go to create up to 5 prosthetics for children.

Thank you everyone & keep the lids coming!

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 5 - [Cleanliness](#)

Week 6 - [Excellence](#)

To read more about the virtues program please:

[Click here.](#)

IMPORTANT DATES

- 11th Mar – Mindful Parenting with Chris Jack
- 13th Mar – Working Bee
- 20th Mar – Heart Songs & Meditation
- 2nd Apr – End Term 1
- 14th Apr – Start Term 2

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.

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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