



BIRALI STEINER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

23 July, 2021

Term 3 – Issue 1

In my recent letter to Biral parents and carers to welcome students and community back to Biral, I was able to express my thanks for their warm welcome.

It has been a pleasure to continue working with our positive professional staff and to meet and speak with our Biral students - from our Pippi Room Preps to our secondary Class 7/8.

Prior to Term 3 commencing, all Biral Staff met to focus on Term 3 priorities. During our weekly staff meetings, Biral teaching staff have been sharing their professional perspectives on building their capacity, and proactive strategies and positive approaches to engaging our students in learning, and on their well-being. Our Biral administration team have been continuing their earlier focus on workforce effectiveness to support our school.

In our recent reflections of Biral in Semester 1, our discussions captured valuable reflections on our Festivals, with Biral College members forming an informative model of Festivals at Biral. Our recent Winter Festival was a significant and important starting point. Our thanks to our Biral Steiner School Inaugural College Chair, Ted Muller, who with Class Teachers developed and presented a beautiful celebration for the Biral Community. Thank you to parents who offered their perspective directly, or through the Feedback@Biral process for expressing Compliments, Concerns, Suggestions and Complaints.

One of our Biral parents, also a teacher, shared their thoughts on the Winter Festival for their family:

“My family and I had a beautiful first experience of the Birali Steiner School Winter Festival. It was visually stirring, and I felt a great sense of peace. My children are still singing the Winter songs.”



Some other news of interest is in regard to our CEP funded Birali Bioretention Basin Project. The Bio Basin planting, commenced in Semester 1, is now in final stages of completion. Led by our enthusiastic Birali Business Manager, Beck Walker, the Birali Bio Basin project saw over 900 area-appropriate plants included in a reconfiguration of the school’s Storm Water management area. Our Birali students, their teachers, and community members all undertook extraordinary participation in and support for this work. We hope that continuing environmental awareness learning activities will be of great value to the discovery learning of our Birali students.





Birali Steiner School would like to thank, on your behalf, Caboolture Bus Lines and Translink for the seamless start to our Semester 2 public bus access for our Birali students. Parents' and carers' continuing efforts to ensure smooth access for the buses, as they enter the school site to drop off or collect students, are much appreciated.

Finally, to all our Birali community, thank you for your continuing support of the school! Keep well, stay safe.

Warmest regards,
Helen Starr
Interim Principal

FEATURE ARTICLES

Jo – Class 1/2

Class 1/2 have made a great start back to Term 3! The children have starting learning about Celtic Fairy Tales and Myths, as our first Main Lesson this term. Immersing themselves in games, songs and dance from this time and culture, they are enjoying hearing their first Celtic story about Guleesh and his adventures.

Following on from the delightful Winter Festival last term, Class 1/2 have been working with beautiful shades of blue and white, to create winter scenes with paints and crayons.



As part of Naidoc Week celebrations, the children have worked together to make a wonderful class Rainbow Serpent who has found a home slithering around the blackboard! This year the Naidoc Week theme celebrated across Birali, is 'Heal Country'. The Class 1/2 children have read the book 'Father Sky and Mother Earth' with Steph, and have learnt more about how we can look after our earth.



Ted – Class 7/8

We have heard many stories from students in the lower classes about how much they enjoyed the fire twirling performance at the winter festival and we also received some lovely feedback from parents and particularly a few grandparents. The students all rehearsed with commitment and it was a pleasure and delight to see the students perform with such courage and care.



It has been great to be back at school and working deeply into a new and exciting Main Lesson with the Middle Schoolers. The students are currently studying their first Physiology Main Lesson block and our focus has been upon the fundamental aspects of sustaining good health and Well-Being. We have been working with staves: balancing them on our heads as we refine our posture and come to know that a good posture is one of the most basic and fundamental of all health sustaining forces.

The age of 12-13 is an ideal time to look closely at these important aspects of being human. The students do not quite have the attachment to ideals that will come with the onset of adolescence, and at this age they can form independent and clear pictures of what a healthy lifestyle looks like without becoming overly egotistical about their bodies or wellbeing. The students have been very open to discussions and have shown great interest in the content we are studying. The group has displayed some wonderful leadership qualities recently which I hope will continue to shine through with the next project they undertake in helping to develop and grow the school environment and community.

UPDATE YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

- [Welcome to Term 3 letter from Helen Starr, Interim Principal](#)

REMINDER

Safety and Wellbeing of students is a high priority at Birali. Parents are reminded about safe drop-off and pick-up practices and to use the crossing.

BIRALI VIRTUES PROGRAM

Each week the school explores a new virtue, with the introduction made at assembly on Mondays.

Week 1 – Assertiveness

Week 2 – Compassion

To read more about the virtues program please:

[Click here.](#)

IMPORTANT DATES

24 th Jul	Heart Songs & Meditation
27 th Jul	School Tour 10am
30 th Jul	Mindful Parenting – Steiner Q&A 8.45am
4 th Aug	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day
9 th Aug	International Day of Indigenous Peoples
7 th Aug	Working Bee 8am-12pm School Tour 10am
9 th Aug	Ekka Public Holiday (Moreton Bay Region)

28 th Aug	Heart Songs & Meditation
1 st Sep	Indigenous Literacy Day
10 th Sep	Jump Day – Jump Rope for Heart Cl 1-6
11 th Sep	Heart Songs & Meditation
13 th Sep	Anniversary of United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
17 th Sep	Last Day of Term 3
4 th Oct	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
5 th Oct	First Day of Term 4 (Tuesday)

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](#).

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 to 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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