



# BIRALI STEINER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

3 September, 2021

Term 3 – Issue 4

## Welcome to our first week of Spring at Biral

Each Biral Steiner School educator and administration team, along with Biral Leadership Team, is continuing our Semester 2 planning and preparing for our 2022 focus across several key areas.

Significantly, Biral College discussions have been centred around current Biral Festivals, considering our Festivals' significance for our school and community. These important discussions are in preparation for our Semester 2 Festival celebrations:

- Our colourful Biral Spring Festival, where you are most welcome to join with us on to conclude Term 3 - and welcome our Spring Vacation, and
- Our joyful Biral Advent Festival to conclude our Biral year together - and welcome our Summer vacation.



As we map our full year of Birali Annual Festivals in preparation for 2022 planning, our Birali College are also continuing 2022 planning in relation to Birali Outdoor Education Program: Camps, along with Birali Excursions focus.

Using our Birali historical information, and information gathered from fellow Steiner schools' current programs, Birali College members and Admin team are now mapping recommendations for possible 2022 Camps and Excursions for each class.

This has included most productive and informative discussions about relevance and sequence of both previous and future camps and excursions. The continuing discussions focus on proposed purpose, preferred outcomes, possible locations, projected and expected costs. Thank you, Birali College members, for your commitment to these important undertakings and planning for our students' learning!

Our appreciation, also, to our Birali Grounds and Maintenance Officer, Dave, busy relocating the storage shipping containers to back of the school, improving the main entrance visual.

Preparations can now be underway for our Birali Secondary Setting, incorporating a multi-purpose/ Science space, adjoining the existing Secondary Manual/ Visual Arts room.

These plans include relocating the Birali Collective shop and Birali Library spaces.

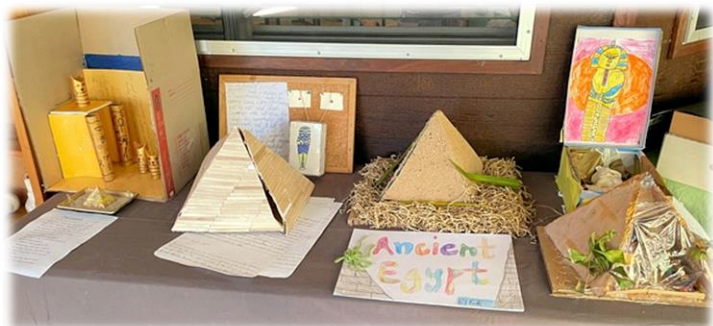
With requirements of our slowly growing P to 10 Birali Learning Program, these learning space movements also ensure our Primary Classes are able to be repositioned - in preparation for our 2022 Class One.

Warmest regards,  
Helen Starr  
Interim Principal

## FEATURE ARTICLES

### Luke – Class 5/6

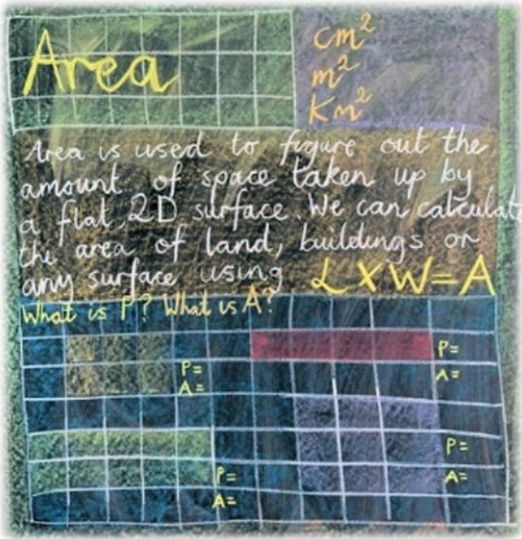
The children have just finished our presentations of our Ancient Egypt projects. Thanks to all parents that supported their child in getting their project together. We are now focusing on our class play, titled Plautus, an Ancient Roman comedy.



We have enjoyed a great deal of poetry and creative writing exercises with our first Main Lesson, The Wisdom and Wonder of Words. I have been deeply moved by the natural ability of the children to enthusiastically explore our daily written themes such as: metaphor, simile, paradox, and other different starting prompts.



We have moved now into our Math Main Lesson where our focus is on Number and Algebra. We are exploring the use of symbols in Math and how they apply to different aspects of our learning such as mapping, graphing, Cartesian grids, decimals, measurement, and percentages.



Next week we begin Ancient Greek History to complete our learning for the term.

## Yuka – Japanese

This term, the main theme of our learning in Japanese is Nature.

In July, all our Biral Japanese students enjoyed the star festival called "Tanabata 七夕". They learned about the custom of this festival including a story, decorations, making wishes for their future and so on.

This was a very good opportunity for our students to think about their own future.



After the Festival, each class studied about Nature as below:

In Class 1/2, students learnt Yama山=mountain, Ki 木= tree, Kawa 川 = river, Umi = Ocean.

They learned about adjectives of the opposites with those nouns. Takai Yama = Tall Mountain, Hikui Yama = Low Mountain, Hiroi umi = Wide Ocean, Semai = Narrow. They made creative cards to show the opposite meanings.

In Class 3/4 students have been learning the days of the week. 月火水木金土日 - these characters are elements of nature. Planets use these characters as well. The class has been studying planets and are very interested in speaking "Kasei/Mokusei ni ikimasu" (I go to Mars/Jupiter..). Our students remember the Japanese characters by singing, actions and word games.



In Class 5/6 our Japanese language is focussed on Hiragana, the weather, 富士山 = Mt. Fuji. They have learned the weather through action, and are learning about Mt. Fuji currently, with song and short conversation.

Class 7/8 have engaged with the Story about The Wind and The Sun through Calligraphy, and a combination of Hiragana. They learned about the weather according to the story. They are learning the way of calligraphy and the meaning of Japanese characters (kanji), 雨 = rain.

In September, as we celebrate our Birali Spring Festival, all students are learning about Moon viewing customs.

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## Recycling

Please note that it is only the bread tags being collected at present (not bottle lids). A red box with relevant signage has been placed outside of Class 1/2 in which to put the tags.

The bread tags are recycled in Robe, South Australia, by Transmutation. Transmutation run a craft plastic recycling operation and retail shop, selling their own products, as well as other products supplied by Australian artisans that share their vision to recycle, reuse and reduce landfill. Products made so far include doorknobs, coasters, bowls, cheese boards, clocks and pens and there is continuing experimentation with new products. The money made by the recyclers will be donated to an organisation called Aussie bread tags for wheelchairs.



We thank Steph for this wonderful program offering for Birali families and staff.

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# UPDATE YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

- [People's Long Weekend - Moreton Bay Region \(Holiday\)](#)
- [Birali Craft Group postponed remainder Term 3](#)
- [Spring Festival - last day Term 3](#)
- [Recycling Bread Tags](#)

## REMINDER

Along with consistency in attendance, timely arrival between 8.15am and 8.30am, is so important for our children's education - as is the opportunity for them to connect with their friends, and be ready to learn when the bell rings to start class.

'Steiner schools incorporate teaching through periods of main lesson blocks and practice lessons, with each day building upon the next. As such, consistency in attendance and timely arrival between 8.15am and 8.30am, is essential for your child's education. Through periods of main lesson blocks and practice lessons, with each day building upon the next.

And further, ensuring that each child is able to be encouraged and supported to attend every day, wherever possible:

- 'Parents have a legal requirement to ensure their children attend school, unless in times of illness and other family circumstances.
- Please notify administration by 9:00am, providing reason for any absence.
- Lack of notification and reason for absence will be recorded as unauthorised.
- The school is required to record all absences, late arrivals/early departures.
- Any absence of ten days or more, requires prior approval by the school's principal.
- The Non-State Schools Accreditation Board, and other governing bodies, require and expect data from the school regarding attendance, as well as unexplained and extended absences.'

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## BIRALI VIRTUES PROGRAM

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

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

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

To read more about the virtues program please:  
[Click here.](#)

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## IMPORTANT DATES

1 <sup>st</sup> Sep	Indigenous Literacy Day
10 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Jump Day - Jump Rope for Heart
11 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Heart Songs & Meditation
13 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Anniversary of United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
17 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Spring Festival
17 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Last Day of Term 3
4 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	First Day of Term 4 (Tuesday)
5 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Prep Vision Testing
29 <sup>th</sup> Oct	People's Long Weekend

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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.](#)



**BIRALI PARENT CRAFT GROUP**  
Postponed for the remainder of Term 3

**BIRALI COLLECTIVE (CRAFT SHOP)**

Open during term  
Tues & Fri 2.00 PM – 3.00 PM  
Weds 8.45 AM to 12.00 PM



From the Birali Collective

## 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

Click here to visit: [Birali Classifieds](#)

### 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

P 07 5429 0511

M 0412 014 165

E [info@biralisteiner.qld.edu.au](mailto:info@biralisteiner.qld.edu.au)



670 Beachmere Rd, Beachmere Q 4510