



BIRALI STEINER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

31 March 2022

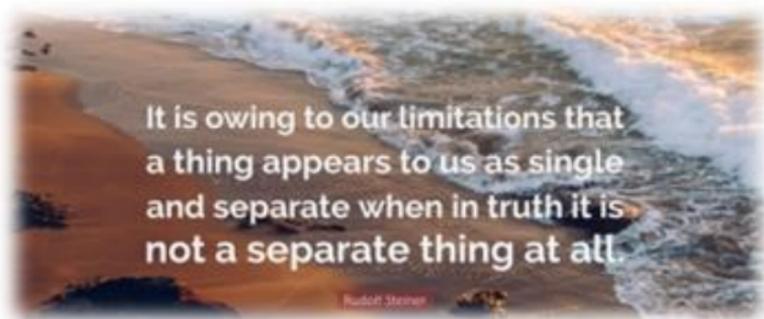
Term 1 – Issue 4

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL – COLETTE WILLIAMS

School Improvement

Our school is in a continuous state of school renewal and improvement. The process requires the nurturing of our school climate to enable positive change and growth to be experienced by our school community. School renewal allows flexibility for our school to respond to our Strategic Plan and in turn, to develop a succinct Annual School Improvement Plan (ASIP).

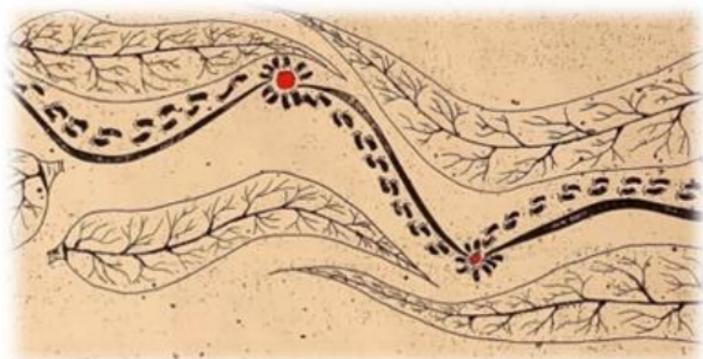
Our ASIP is aligned with the Principles of Steiner Education, along with the Mission and Values of our school. Who we are as a Steiner School forms the very essence of our plan.



In 2021, our School Board approved and endorsed our Biral Steiner School Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024. This year, our Leadership Team, Staff and School Board have collaborated to develop a succinct ASIP. Our ASIP does not focus on separate things alone. Rather, our plan reflects a clear pathway where all components interconnect to attain big picture goals, as outlined in our School Strategic Plan.

Our school is heavily invested and focussed on parental engagement and hearing the many voices of our entire school community. We would like to encourage families to review our ASIP and to add your input, feedback, and suggestions. A draft version will be displayed outside of our Administration building for your review and consideration. A draft version will

also be shared via School Stream, whereby you can review and provide our school with feedback. Please send all feedback to Colette Williams (Principal) – E: principal@biralisteiner.com.au



Our ASIP will then become a live and lived document, where we will take time to pause and celebrate our many achievements and successes as a school community. Like all journeys, you require a starting point, an end point and to know that a wonderful journey will unfold in-between. We welcome all families to walk this journey with our school. We look forward to hearing all feedback and to shape our plan with the many voices of our school community.

With warmth,
Colette Williams
Principal

Marianne – Pippis





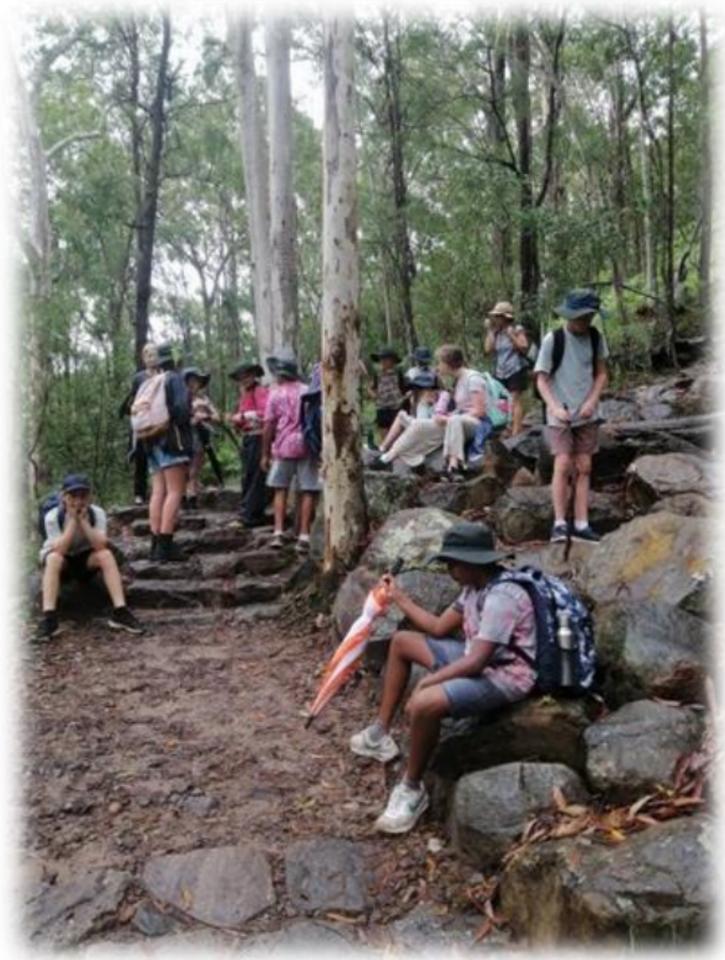
The child in our Pippi Class journeys through play, to get to know others and explore this new world. Activities flow through a daily rhythm of inside and outside play, where

children feel secure knowing what is next, and can get on with the work of this age which is playing life and learning about relating in an unhurried way. The natural world around the sand, water, and garden (flowers and passionfruit) have provided busyness, beauty, *and cheer, as well as a pathway for horses trotting, playing tag, or drawing with chalk (and a lot of washing).

Last week, the children worked together creating an engineering aqueduct to rival the early Romans. Inside the felt toys and dolls, a café corner and building blocks await play and there we sing at circle and games times, bake, and eat, paint, learn finger knitting and engage busy fingers with bee's wax.



Nick – Class 6/7



As an eventful Term 1 draws to a close, it is poignant to take some time to reflect on the learning journey so far.

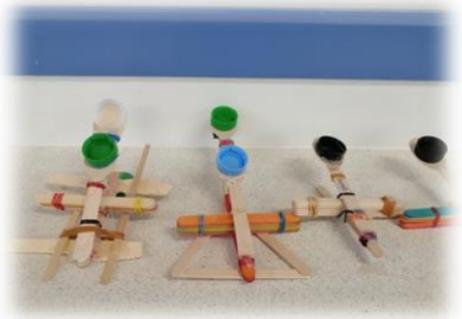
Yesterday, saw Class 6/7 reach our goal of climbing Mount Ngunngun after we had to reschedule due to poor weather conditions on the 28th of February. The students met the challenge very well and it was great to apply and revise what we learnt in our Geology main lesson in a practical sense. We shared our knowledge about the intrusive rock formations that surrounded us on the mountain, and we also learnt a special local indigenous story about Ngunngun that we saved for our climbing experiences. The students showed great teamwork and represented the Birali School community very well on the mountain.



last week we approached the Rubicon River and decided to cross back into Rome. This week we will explore the consequences of Caesar's actions in crossing the Rubicon and will explore

his last year in the capital. Last week we learnt about various forms of Roman technology- many that are still used today. Finally, the students learnt a great deal from making their own functioning catapults to

shoot at Testudo formations of playing cards. This week we will also practically explore Roman design and Architecture by way of making a Roman arched bridge, as well as, taking



on the various roles of the key players in the demise of Julius Caesar. This will be some early preparation for our class play which will be based around Shakespeare's play Julius Caesar in conjunction with some other scenes that reference texts from Ancient Rome and the students only work as playwrights.

AUTUMN FESTIVAL



Harvest Table

As we give thanks for the plentiful season that has just passed, we will collect donations of non-perishable food items, as a way of bringing the Harvest to those in need. Please bring any non-perishable food items to the office between now and the end of term to contribute to the Harvest Table.

You are invited to watch the Dragon Play performance on Friday 8th April, at 1:45 PM in the Hall –

Any helpers to support with setting up gazebos and chairs between 1:20-1:30 will be appreciated.

At Birali Steiner School, the Autumn Festival occurs on the last day of Term 1 (Friday 8th April). The structure and activities of the day varies throughout the different Classes of our school.

- *The Pippi Room will enjoy a morning of Autumn songs and activities, including making a Harvest Loaf in their classroom, before going out to watch the Dragon Play at 1:45 PM*
- *The Primary School (Class 1 – 7) students will be performing the Dragon Play at 1:45 PM*
- *The High School (Class 8/9) students will be joined by the Class 7s in the Games of Courage during the afternoon, before joining the community to watch the Dragon Play at 1:45 PM*

What is the Autumn Festival?

The 21st of March marks one of two points in the year where the Sun is exactly above the equator, resulting in day and night of equal length – The Autumn Equinox. It is at this time of year when the festival of Michaelmas is celebrated - The Archangel Michael is one of the principal angelic warriors, seen as a protector against the dark of night and a true picture of courage. As we move into Autumn, the weather is changing, and the season of Michaelmas asks us to be thankful for the plentiful harvest of the preceding year and to face the approaching darkness of winter with courage. As we courageously meet the coming darker days, we often



encounter the darker places in ourselves symbolised by the dragon. In the Pippi Room, the students experience the mood of the season through a morning of gratitude and joy before going out to watch the Primary School students show inner courage through their performance in the Dragon Play. The High School students will participate in various challenges that require courage and trust in one another during the Games of Courage. The transition into adolescence brings a great shift in the soul life of the students; looking more toward their peers as they seek life direction.

Birali Playgroup Autumn Festival

Playgroup will be celebrating the Autumn Festival on our last day of term (on Wednesday 6th April), with bread baking, pumpkin soup and Easter Hare songs and stories.

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Term 1 for 2022 is coming to an end while we still patiently wait for the Autumn weather to appear. Birali Board and Birali Leadership Team have enjoyed busy monthly meetings throughout the term. In addition, the Board Chair, Joan is

meeting monthly with Colette to keep informed and enlightened around the wonderful happenings at the school.

In addition to Board Meetings the Board sub-committee FRACS – Finance, Risk, Audit and Compliance, meet monthly to have a clear view of Finance and Governance matters at the school as Birali continues into its next stage of growth. The Annual General Meeting for the MBBSSA is fast approaching and invitations will be emailed in April we look forward to seeing many Birali community members there. MBBSSA Association information is on the school website under Policies, Documents and Reports where you can download a membership form and if you have any queries about the Association, please make contact with a Board Member or the school office team.

MBBSSA Birali Board

UPDATES YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

- [Healing Hamper Michelle](#)
- [Wet Weather and Outdoor Play](#)
- [School Photo Day](#)
- [Dragon Play \(8th April 1:45pm\)](#)
- [No public bus available 4 - 8th April](#)

REMINDER

Administering Medications

Parents or guardians must make a written request to the school if prescribed medication, over the counter medication or natural remedies are to be administered during school hours. The child's medication/remedy, with the pharmacist's/practitioner's written instruction on the container must be provided to administration for safe keeping. Asthma puffers, EpiPen's and other emergency medications will be stored securely according to the individual's medical minimisation plan that will be developed in consultation with the teacher.

BIRALI VIRTUES PROGRAM

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

[Week 7 - Forgiveness](#)

[Week 8 - Joyfulness](#)

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

IMPORTANT DATES

8 th Apr	Autumn Festival
11 th -24 th Apr	Autumn Term Break
15 th Apr	Good Friday – Public Holiday
17 th Apr	Easter Sunday
18 th Apr	Easter Monday – Public Holiday
25 th Apr	Anzac Day
26 th Apr	School Photo Day

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

BIRALI COLLECTIVE (SHOP)

Tues & Fri 2.00 PM – 3.00 PM

BIRALI PARENT CRAFT GROUP

Located under the pergola outside reception.

Weds 8.45 AM to 12.00 PM

BIRALI PLAYGROUP in the Pippi Garden

Wednesdays

8.30 am – 10.30 am and 12.15 pm – 2.15 pm

Download the Playgroup Registration Form by [clicking here](#).

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

COMMUNITY NOTICES

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

Birali Steiner School believes in the importance of community. We have created this page for our local community to share events, workshops or promote their business.

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

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](#)



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