



# BIRALI STEINER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

19th May 2022

Term 2 – Issue 2

From our Principal



## Colette Williams

### Busy Little Bees

As I have highlighted in previous communications, schools are busy and industrious places and can often be described as beehives. Over the course of the past few months, our Leadership Team and staff have been working on some 'big ticket' items. We thought that you all might value an update on the many ways in which our school is growing, improving, and flourishing.



### Reporting:

This term, our Class Teachers will be completing their student Reports via PC Schools (student data base). The teacher's capacity in this area will be built, with training provided. This will streamline the reporting process and allow ease of access to all student reports. The student report templates have also been reviewed in alignment with governing requirements and we look forward to gaining input from our parent body in relation to the Semester 1 Reports. We also have reviewed reports from our fellow Steiner Schools and have collaborated with staff throughout this process. I am sure that you will all enjoy celebrating the many successes when you read your child's report at the end of this term.

### BGA On-Stie Meeting:

During Term 1, Beck Walker (Business Manager) worked tirelessly to complete our BGA Application. This process involved extensive collaboration with the School Board Directors, Leadership Team, and Architect. The process also involved aligning our application with the Master Plan of our school, which parents have had a loud voice in the creation of this plan.

Our school was visited by the Building Grants Authority (BGA) Panel during Week 2 of this term. During this onsite meeting, our Leadership Team and School Board delegate guided the panel members on a tour of our school, followed by a formal meeting. During the meeting, we discussed our K – 12 implementation plans, the next phase of our building works, financial considerations, and the vision of our school. The panel members commented on the outstanding growth of our facilities and enrolments. They also commented on our shared vision across our school. We have so much to celebrate at our school.



### **Playgroup:**

Lily Love is our Playgroup Coordinator and for many families, Lily acts as a family's first 'encounter' of Steiner Education. Lily embraces her role and takes immense pride in guiding families through a playgroup session, underpinned by Steiner philosophy and pedagogy. The smell of bread flows from the room each Wednesday, with herbal tea also adding to the mix. The children play, learn, and imitate, as they journey through the session. As we know, the growth of a school occurs from the 'ground up'. As such, Playgroup forms an instrumental link between pre-school age and school-age children.

We thank Lily and our Playgroup families for sharing their thoughts and ideas of how we can improve this space. Today we welcomed two new families to our Playgroup family, and I thank our existing families for the warm and loving welcome you always provide.



## Class Carer Role:

As many of you will already know, this year our school has embraced the parent shared idea of introducing Class Carers. We thank



Viktoriya for accepting the challenge to coordinate the Class Carers. As we journey through the year, we will be working closely with the Class Carers to provide support and guidance in their new roles. Increasing parental engagement is a common thread, tightly woven throughout all realms of school life. We thank all the parents who willingly accepted the challenge of adopting the role of Class Carers this year.



## Cyber Safety:

Our team have also been working heavily in the Cyber Safety space and will be providing parent information sessions in relation to online safety over the coming weeks and months. Supporting families with the realities of life is of a very high importance in our school. We thank the many families who have requested support in this space, and we are thankful for the ongoing feedback that we receive. Further communication will be shared in due course.

These are only a few of the areas that we have been working on this year. National Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) and Inclusive Education, Student Engagement and ABC Data sets, Animal Welfare, WHS Audits and Risk Management, are a few of the other 'big ticket' items that we have been working on this year to date.

We thank all families for walking this journey with us. We have so much to be proud of and much to celebrate!!!

With warmth,  
Colette Williams  
Principal



# Maddie Elarkin Class 1



It has been a delight to see our Class 1's literacy skills shine in the last few weeks. They have come from learning their letters and now have grown to have increased control over their letter formation and what I love the most, is that they are so motivated and enthusiastic about writing! In our main lesson, we have been continuing to listen to and retell stories from the fairy tale genre. We are now copying sentences from the board and learning some high frequency words. There have been brilliant discussions about the length of words, what words start with which sounds and even when letters don't make their usual sound. Writing is finding its way into all parts of our day, even gardening and play!



Our snow peas have started producing and it has definitely been an exercise in patience to let them grow large enough to pick! You know they are good, when it is raining and you are still keen to pick one!

## Emma Brown Class 8/9



Last week Class 8 /9, Jenny and I journeyed to Noosa for a camping experience like no other. Linked to Jenny's Biology Main Lesson 'Harmony of the Human Form', the students partook in bush navigation and mountain biking before the weather decided we should pack up and head home.



During the two and a half days, we made the most of our time by enjoying outside lessons with drawing, reflections, conversations about our skeleton, watching the wildlife, cooking our own food, and playing spotlight in the puddles. The students chose three virtues for the week which were courage, teamwork, and gratitude. They all found courage in themselves, whether it was wearing wet socks or riding a bike down a steep hill. The camp facilitated fantastic teamwork games that had the students working together and we were all so grateful for the amenities and shelter we were given.



## School Portrait Reminder – Please order now!

Dear families,

Just a friendly reminder your school portrait order deadline for complementary postage is this coming Tuesday 31st May 22.

Are you struggling to navigate the system?  
Do not hesitate to call Catherine  
to order over the phone 0402 023 241.

Or watch this instructional video on navigating the website:

<https://youtu.be/QavwQlsf-is>

Warmly,  
Catherine Lowe

"Inspire a sense of pride and belonging in your family home,  
turn school portraits into artwork."

[www.schoolportraitart.com.au](http://www.schoolportraitart.com.au)

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## A message from the Board

The Moreton Bay Steiner School Association recently held a General Meeting followed by the Annual General Meeting at Birali Steiner School. At the General Meeting the Board endorsed refinements to the constitution were voted on and approved. The constitution will be updated to reflect these refinements and shared with members following OFT approval later this year. The Annual General Meeting attendees endorsed all Governance, Finance and Auditor reports and endorsed the current Auditors to continue in 2022. Voting for vacancies on the Birali Board also took place with both nominees for Director positions on the Board endorsed. The Board then endorsed executive positions for 2022. The Moreton Bay Steiner School Association Birali Board Directors for 2022 are: Joan Weir – Board Chair, Jane Francis – Board Secretary, Kimberley Fawkes – Board Treasurer, Hugh Thompson – Board Vice Chair, Rob Birse – Board Director, Simon Price – Board Director. We all look forward to supporting the Birali Steiner School after its positive start to the year and as it continues to flourish.

MBBSSA Birali Board

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## Updates you may have missed

- [Wet Weather and Outdoor Play](#)
- [New playground - can you help?](#)
- [School Portraits available online now](#)
- [Strings & Instrumental Update](#)
- [Birali Book Group Week 2 Summary](#)

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## Reminder

### Playgroup

Birali Steiner School offers Playgroup for families with children from birth to pre-school age. Playgroup is held on Wednesdays in the Pippi Room Garden. Our playgroup program is highly recommended for children entering our Prep Class. Our playgroup is a member of Playgroup Queensland. To find out more, please contact the Administration Office or view our Playgroup page on our [website](#).

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## BIRALI VIRTUES PROGRAM

Each week the staff and students explore a new virtue.

[Week 3 - Diligence](#)

[Week 4 - Love](#)

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

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## IMPORTANT DATES

May 19<sup>th</sup>      [Mindful Parenting – Home Health Care Pt 1 - Introduction to Anthroposophic remedies](#)

May 26<sup>th</sup>      [Mindful Parenting with Pep Wright - Foundations of Steiner Education](#)

May 26<sup>th</sup>      [National Sorry Day](#)



May 28 <sup>th</sup>	<u>National Reconciliation Week</u>
June 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<u>Pippi (prep) Winter festival</u>
June 24 <sup>th</sup>	<u>Class 1 - 9 Winter Festival</u>
June 27 <sup>th</sup>	<u>School Term Break begins</u>
July 11 <sup>th</sup>	<u>Semester 2 (Term 3 Wk1) begins</u>

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## 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](#).

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## 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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