



BIRRONG BULLETIN

The Newsletter of Birrongo Girls High School

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents,

Athletics Carnival

The school's Athletics Carnival was held at The Crest at Georges Hall on Wednesday 31 May. Great participation from staff and students contributed to the great success of the day. Congratulations to Inga house on their convincing win.

Congratulations also to our Age Champions athletes:

12 years	Daliya El Helou
13 years	Sata Doucoure
14 years	Aminata Doucoure
15 years	Shelby Andres and Skye Casacchia
16 years	Monique Steel
17 years	Leyla Elcheikh

Special thanks to Ms Wessels, Ms Boyle and all staff involved in the organisation and execution of the carnival. Their dedication and enthusiasm contributed greatly to the success of the day.

Attendance at our carnivals is a mandatory and important aspect of school life. It is part of the ethos of our school: to support one another; to attend every day; and reach for the stars (*Ad Astra*). Unfortunately, some students view attendance at these events as optional and choose not to attend because they do not view themselves as good swimmers or athletes. By failing to attend these events, students not only show a lack of school spirit, but they deny themselves extremely valuable opportunities to become involved, to have a go and to cheer on their friends and peers who are prepared to participate to the best of their ability.



Students as Global Citizens

I wish to acknowledge the hard work of a significant number of dedicated students across the school who have been using their creativity and problem solving skills to support those less fortunate. The prefect body and the SRC have worked collaboratively and successfully on joint fundraising initiatives to support worthy causes such as the Red Shield Appeal. Year 10 Commerce students held a very successful Mothers' Day Stall, the proceeds of which will go to a range of charities including the Red Shield Appeal. The Amnesty International Team continues to raise money for birthing kits for women in developing countries. Birthing kits will be assembled in the school library on Saturday, 17 June; student volunteers are encouraged to make a difference to our world by supporting this wonderful program.

Term 2 Reports

All students will have received their reports in time for parents to have read them before the Parent-Teacher afternoon on Tuesday 27 June. Parents are encouraged to carefully review their daughter's report and focus on the teachers' comments and the application to learning table, rather than the marks or grades. Teacher comments and the application to learning table provide a good indication of the extent to which students are working to their potential and engaging in the learning experiences of the course. Teacher comments are particularly useful as they offer advice, strategies and guidance to help students.

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It is important too that parents take careful note of their daughter's attendance as every day of school missed interrupts her learning. Participation in extra-curricular activities such as debating and sporting teams as well as school clubs should be encouraged also. Well documented evidence demonstrates that those students who have excellent attendance records and participate in extra-curricular activities are highly engaged with their learning and achieve outstanding results.

I remind all parents to make an appointment to see your daughter's teachers on our Parent-Teacher afternoon so that we can work together to support her learning.

Uniform Matters

Our school community has very high expectations with regard to uniform because it presents a positive image of the school to the public and creates a sense of belonging. Now that winter is approaching, students should be wearing the winter uniform which includes the woollen school jumper and blazer, available from our uniform supplier, Berelle School Wear at Regents Park. A navy or white scarf is also acceptable.

Cardigans, jackets, hoodies, short sleeved school shirts with long sleeved undergarments or T-shirts of any colour are not part of our uniform and are unacceptable.

Please ensure that your daughter conforms fully to the school's uniform policy, a copy of which can be found in her school diary or on our website, and wears her uniform with pride.

Congratulations to:

- Our Year 10 students who embraced work experience with great enthusiasm and maturity this term.
- Fay Zanetti (Year 11) who is one of 40 students selected to attend the prestigious UBS Finance Academy at Macquarie University from 10-13 July. Fay will explore the world of finance, develop an understanding of career opportunities associated with the finance industry and meet students with similar interests from across the state.
- Rawan Haydar (Year 11) who impressed the audience at the ZONTA dinner on 23 May with her speech about citizenship and the importance of contributing at both a school and community level. I encourage you to read Rawan's speech which is included in this bulletin.
- Year 11 Drama students who mentored Year 4 students at Birrong Public School in the expressive arts on Friday 19 May.
- The students from Years 7-12 who competed in the Zone Cross Country Carnival on 18 May. Amira Chahrouk and Skye Casacchia deserve special mention; Amira was named

the 15 Years Age Champion with Skye achieving a close second place.

- The SRC students who organised Harmony Day activities and our student performers who impressed the audience with their stunning cultural performances.
- The 20 Year 7 students whose portraits were selected for submission in the Young Archie Competition at the Art Gallery of NSW.

Coming Events

- Parents make sure you book a time with your daughter's teachers and learn about her achievements at school by attending our **Parent-Teacher afternoon on Tuesday 27 June from 2-6pm**. Semester One reports will have been issued to all students by this time so bring your daughter's report along to discuss her progress with her highly committed and dedicated teachers.
- The **PDHPE Display** on Thursday 29 June in the school hall will be a great opportunity for girls from our local primary schools to experience a glimpse of life in high school by watching the spectacular dance routines of our very talented students. This is the culmination of a term's work and reflects not only student talent and creativity, but the self-discipline, commitment and team work that is involved in the creative process.

I invite you to contact the school to make an appointment with me (Tel: 9644 5057) if you have any issues that you wish to discuss about your daughter's education.

Margaret Fletcher
Principal

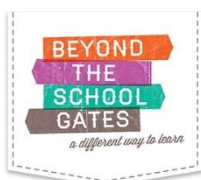
REPORT FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

Student engagement and connectedness to school is closely linked to the range of activities and experiences students can and do access as well as the students' feeling of success within the classroom and the school environment.

It has been a very busy term with the athletics carnival, representation at the Zone Cross Country carnival, excursions to the Sydney Writers' Festival, Careers university talks and in-school theatre performances which all add to the rich learning experiences available for students. Half-yearly reports are issued at the end of this term along with the invitation to visit the school and discuss your daughter's progress with her teachers. The parent-teacher afternoon is on Tuesday 27 June from 2pm-6pm; we hope to see you there.

Having completed their half-yearly exams at the end of Term 1, reports were distributed to Year 12 in May. Most reports acknowledge what students have achieved and importantly include advice from teachers about what students can do to continue to improve in the course. Students should take note of the advice and build it into their study routine. Some Year 12 students selected a mentor with the support of their Year Adviser, Ms Hobbs, during Term 1. Students are taking advantage of the opportunity to meet with their mentors to talk about their progress and the way they are feeling about their study. Good preparation is important but so too is good health. As parents, you play a vital role in your daughter's success. Ask about their progress. Ask how they are feeling. Ask if there is anything you can do to help. Encourage them to go for a walk, even if they walk with their earphones in, listening to study notes, at least they are getting some fresh air and exercise. Encourage them to sleep. Provide healthy meals. Sometimes it's enough for you to just be there for them.

Year 11 students are now half way through their preliminary HSC courses. Half-yearly exams were held during the first two weeks of this term. All papers have been marked and returned to students along with structured feedback that acknowledges achievement and provides advice to students about how they can realise their potential in each course. A Google classroom has been established for Year 11 students. Course notes, study tips and advice about staying healthy will be added to the classroom each week. Students are encouraged to use it to supplement their own study plans and strategies.



Year 10 students participated in a week of work experience where they were involved in workplace practices which were invaluable opportunities for them to develop their interpersonal and communication skills and deal with the responsibilities of their job. Some students walked away from their time at work experience with offers of part-time employment from their host workplaces. A second week of work experience will occur in Term 4 for all Year 10 students. Congratulations to our students who represented the school so well and thanks to Mr Mouzakis for his organisation.

Year 9 participated for the last time in NAPLAN during May. NAPLAN results provide useful information about student ability that teachers use to plan positive learning opportunities for their students. NAPLAN is also useful for parents because the reports provide a snapshot of their child's ability in literacy and numeracy. For Year 9 this was the first opportunity students had to demonstrate the minimum standard expected in their HSC. Students who achieve a Band 8 or

above in Year 9 NAPLAN reading, writing and numeracy tests will pre-qualify for the HSC credential in 2020. Students who do not pre-qualify for the standard in Year 9 will have opportunities to do so during Years 10, 11 and 12.

Years 7 and 8 have been working hard in PDHPE on their class dances that will be showcased at the end of Week 9. Class dances work to build negotiation and leadership skills in students and the ability to work as a team to complete a performance task. Selected dances will be invited to be a part of the PDHPE Dance Display which aims to showcase the talents of Birrong Girls to the local primary schools who will be the audience for the event.



Year 7 students have been particularly busy this term. Visual Art students have created portraits of people who are special to them for submission to the Young Archie Competition which is run by the Art Gallery of NSW. Twenty of our students had their portraits selected for inclusion in the competition. Science classes learned to make wet mount slides to develop their understanding of plant cells. Making their own slides and examining them under the microscope has helped students to develop an appreciation of the nature of living things and the distinctive shapes of cells. Students also enjoyed participating in hands-on activities that challenged them to work in teams to solve a range of mathematical problems. The World of Maths afternoon challenged students to solve a variety of problems, discover number patterns, identify geometric properties and apply Mathematics to the physical world. More information and videos of students engaged in their learning is available on the school's website.

During Term 3 we will be seeking the support of all parents to complete the 'Tell Them from Me – Parent Survey'. The completed student surveys from Term 1 provided valuable information for us at the school. Parents will be provided with an opportunity to also inform the school about their concerns related to their daughter's education and high school experiences. More information will be sent home as the survey period approaches.

Ms Cross and Ms George
Deputy Principals

CAREERS NEWS

In the first part of this term, the Careers department has been primarily focused with Year 10 and Year 12.

Year 10 undertook their initial work experience in Week 5. Work experience is a well-established educational program whereby students attend a workplace to gain first-hand experience and insights into the "world" of work. The program aims to assist students to:

- Recognise the relevance of their school learnings to their future endeavours in work and society
- Gain confidence in communicating with adults in a work environment
- Explore a variety of career and job opportunities and decide how these relate to their personal interests, natural abilities, aptitude, and future study plans
- Better understand the nature and purpose of work and the skills needed to find, keep and cope with work.

Students tested their career options and results varied – some loved what they had chosen, others realised that it was not what they expected and have changed ideas and direction. The second round of work experience will occur in late November.

In the next month, Year 10 will start looking at subject options for Stage 6 starting with a compulsory excursion to the Careers Expo at Sydney Olympic Park on 22 June.

Year 12 have heard presentations and had the opportunity to ask questions regarding two universities who visited the school - UNSW and UOW. Wollongong University informed us about the courses that will begin next year at their new Liverpool campus. UNSW spoke about their course offerings for this cohort as well as some scholarship opportunities. We have also held an initial UAC information session. This is particularly important as there have been changes to the application process for this year. Firstly, the UAC PIN number will be sent to the students' school email address. It is particularly important not to lose or forget this number as it is required for the initial application and all future changes to students' university preferences.

To assist Year 12 with choosing their 5 preferences, we will be visiting the HSC Expo at Sydney Olympic Park on 23 June.

Finally, some Year 9 and 10 students were able to have their first taste of university when the UNSW Aspire program visited the school to discuss university life, course options, and to answer questions they had about the university.

Mr Mouzakis
Careers Adviser

WELFARE MATTERS

Student of the Month



Nadine Fahda of Year 12 has been awarded the Student of the Month Award for February 2017. She has demonstrated strong citizenship and commitment to the school and local community. She has a positive attitude to all aspects of her schooling demonstrating perseverance, diligence and dedication.

Nadine has carried out valuable school service through her commitment and active involvement in various programs. She has been an integral member of the Amnesty Team and was heavily involved in raising money for ZONTA to develop birthing kits to send to developing countries. She was selected to be a House Captain and has showed initiative and strong leadership skills while leading Inga at the Swimming and Athletics carnivals.

Nadine enjoys the creative and performing arts outside of school, in particular opera singing and writing poetry.

Her future goal is to attend university to attain a degree in Nursing and Midwifery. She hopes to pursue a career as a midwife so as to bring joy and miracles to families. She also hopes to travel to developing countries in Africa and help women give birth in a safe and healthy environment.

Vaccinations

NSW will be implementing a meningococcal ACWY school-based vaccination program targeting Year 11 and 12 students in secondary schools from Term 2 2017 that will provide protection against meningococcal serogroups A, C and Y as well as W. This is in response to the emergence of meningococcal W as a significant cause of invasive meningococcal disease in Australia in 2016. Evidence suggests that this strain of the disease is more severe than other types.

This vaccination is a single dose and will be administered to all Year 11 and Year 12 students on Thursday 27 July 2017 (Term 3) by NSW Health at Birrong Girls High School.

Uniform

With the arrival of the cold weather, it is important to ensure all students have the correct uniform. School jumpers are able to be purchased at Berelle School Wear, 3 Bellona Avenue, Regents Park, phone 9738 1264. The trading hours are Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm and Saturday 9.30am to 1.00pm. Hoodies are not to be worn under uniforms and will be confiscated if worn.

Year 10 Study Skills

Year 10 Study Skills will be run on Wednesday 14 June. All students must return their notes to Ms Waltho and make their payment of \$10 to the finance office. This program has been running at Birrong Girls for several years with Years 11 and 12, and we feel it is a valuable addition to the Year 10 Welfare Program.

Ms Boyle
Relieving Head Teacher Female Students

SCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL



The annual Athletics Carnival was held on Wednesday 31 May at The Crest. Sunshine and enthusiastic competitors contributed to the success of the day.

Congratulations to all the competitors who competed in the carnival. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of track and field events including 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, shot put, long jump, discus, javelin and high jump. Birrong's famous Teachers' Race was again held; congratulations go to Mr Dimassi who was the 2017 winner of the Teachers' Race.

The Age Champions were:

- 12 Years – Daliya El Helou
- 13 Years – Sata Doucoure
- 14 Years – Aminata Doucoure
- 15 Years – Shelby Andres and Skye Casacchia
- 16 Years – Monique Steel
- 17 Years – Leyla Elcheikh

Some talented athletes broke records, some held since 1985:

- 400 metres – Skye Casacchia, 15 years
- 400 metres- Jasmine Maxwell, 16 years
- Javelin – Veronica Kaihau Nimo

Thank you to everyone who encouraged students to compete in events and ensured all houses cheered as loudly as they could. After many events, cheers and a lot of excitement, the house points were announced:

- Inga 423 points
- Bundarra 422 points
- Yurong 334 points
- Miga 332 points

It was clear that Inga were the winners for the second year in a row, winning the house points of the 2017 Athletics Carnival!

Well done to all students who participated on the day and thank you to all who helped organise the Athletics Carnival.

Congratulations to all the competitors who participated in the Zone Athletics Carnival which was held at The Crest on Thursday 8 June.

Ms Wessels
Carnival Organiser

SOFTBALL TEAM NEWS

Well done to the school Softball Team who played a challenging game against a very experienced team from East Hills Girls High School in the CHS knockout competition. They produced some excellent fielding but struggled to bat against an extremely fast pitcher. The final score of the game was 14 – 5. An excellent effort girls!

By: PDHPE Faculty



LAWN BOWLS REPORT

On 12 May the Birrong Girls Lawn Bowls Team consisting of Stacey Webb as skip, Lara Webb as first player and Sarah Flaifel as second player represented our school at the annual Lawn Bowls competition. Games were played against various high schools across NSW at the St Johns Bowling Club. The team had a slow start followed by 3 long, tense games. The first game's score was 5-12, second game Birrong winning 9-8 and a close finish for the last game (losing by one point) being the game decider making the final score 7-8. It was a great day producing record breaking results showing the great potential and amazing sportsmanship of the Birrong Girls High School Lawn Bowls Team. Ms Blok was very proud of us.

By: Stacey Webb, Year 12

NETBALL NSW SCHOOL CUP 2017



Year 7 and Year 8 students had the privilege of participating in the Netball NSW School Cup competition during 24 May at Woodward Park in Liverpool. Representing Birrong were 22 young students divided into 2 netball teams.

A combined effort enabled Birrong to win 5 out of 10 matches against dominating schools such as Westfields Sports High School. The junior netballers were outstanding during the competition and it was noted by the officials that our students were very respectful and mature.

Congratulations to the students for their fantastic efforts on the day. We look forward to developing the Birrong Girls junior netball team over the next few years so we can continue to “Reach for the stars”.

Outstanding participation and effort awards go to the following students for their tireless contribution on the day:

Hunter Barton
Talia Jbara
Aiesha Auieda
Fatima Thomas
Isabella Heng

Meleane Havea of Year 9 attended the day and successfully mentored the Year 7 students. She also was instrumental in the proceedings of the day by umpiring 5 matches during the competition. She is to be acknowledged for her outstanding efforts throughout the day.

By: PDHPE Faculty

ZONE CROSS COUNTRY REPORT



34 very fit students competed at the Zone Cross Country Carnival on Thursday 18 May at Lake Gillawarna, Flinders Slopes, Georges Hall.

All students participated with enthusiasm and there was some excellent results achieved by our school. Amira Chahrouk was named 15 years age champion, closely contested by Skye Casacchia who came a close second. Other great results on the day and students achieving a place in the top ten were:

In the 12 years, Rebecca Lo, 10th Place; 13 years, Fatima Thomas, 7th Place, Eden Jamal, 10th Place; 16 years, Monique Steel, 10th Place and 17 years, Sarah Fraser, 4th Place.

Congratulations must go to all competitors.

By: PDHPE Faculty

READ THEM BEFORE THEY ARE BEST SELLERS

On Tuesday 6 June, Mr Paul Macdonald, the owner of the Children’s Bookshop, Becroft, addressed the assembly and gave 7B previews of the exciting new titles that are being read this year. He asserted that “it has never been a better time to be a teen YA (young adult) reader” and he previewed some books that are resonating with young adult readers. From the genre of speculative fiction or fantasy he recommended *Illuminae*, from humour he selected *91-Storey Treehouse*, from social realism he talked about *My Life as a Hashtag* and *Words in Deep Blue*, and in the area of biography his favourites were *Lion: A Long Way Home* and *Songs of a War Boy*. Lastly, he talked about Tristan Bancks’ new thriller, *The Fall*. Mr Macdonald noted that our library stocked multiple titles of most of his recommendations.



Mr Davidson
Teacher Librarian

Mr Paul Macdonald

YEAR 12 HOSPITALITY EXCURSION

Year 12 Hospitality attended an excursion on 11 May at The Star and the Harvest Buffet in Pymont.

Upon our arrival, we were given a tour of the back-of-house organised by Bernice Colcomb, where we viewed different sections such as the commissary kitchen, pastry kitchen and the production kitchen, observing all the preparation that was required for efficient service. We were also given a small tour of popular restaurants and areas such as the Sky Terrace, Black Bar and Grill and Balla, giving us a chance to enjoy the scenery and observe professional chefs preparing mouth-watering foods.

We concluded our visit at the Harvest Buffet, which we all were highly anticipating! We wandered around the buffet with plates stacked full of fresh seafood, Italian and Asian foods and of course, dessert, spending two hours savouring a variety of meals.

It was a day we all thoroughly enjoyed and would happily do it again! Thanks to Mr Da Cunha and Ms Petrovska for organising a fantastic day.

By: Cindy Dang, Year 12 Hospitality



YEAR 11 HOSPITALITY EXCURSION

On Thursday 25 May, Mr Da Cunha, Ms Morozov and Ms Nixon accompanied Year 11 Hospitality students to The Star in Pymont. The majority of the girls had never been to The Star before, which added to the excitement. As we entered The Star, we were greeted by head chef, Bernice Colcomb, and her sous chefs. We were then split into groups. We were fortunate enough to have a guided tour of the back-of-house kitchens. We also had the privilege of visiting the Sky Terrace, which had an amazing view of Darling Harbour.

We were lucky enough to have lunch at the Harvest Buffet, which included a range of different cuisines such as Italian, Asian, seafood and an overwhelming amount of desserts!

We had a fantastic day exploring one of the largest establishments in Sydney and went home with wide smiles and full stomachs.

By: Hala Gourani, Year 11 Hospitality



**KARITANE INCURSION
YEAR 11 EEC and YEAR 12 CAFS**



On 1 June, Karitane visited Birrong Girls High School to inform the Year 11 Exploring Early Childhood (EEC) class and the Year 12 Community and Family Studies (CAFS) class on the differences in lifestyle between teens and young mothers.

Karitane's eye-opening presentation gave insight on the sacrifices young mothers had to take and real life examples of young mothers coping with pregnancy and looking after their kids. The Year 11 and 12 students had an amazing experience and asked many questions on challenges they faced through or after their pregnancy. We discovered the reality young mums face in today's society as they are stereotyped and stigmatised by people they often aren't acquainted to. The incursion allowed students to see real life and unglamourised examples of young mothers' hardships they faced as they brought life into this world.

By: Angelina Abdullah, Year 11 EEC

**BIRRONG GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL CALENDAR
For your diary / noticeboard**

June:	
Thursday, 15 th	▪ Regional Cross Country
Saturday, 17 th	▪ Birthing Kits Assembly Workshop, school library, 9am – 12pm
Tuesday, 27 th	▪ Parent/Teacher session, 2-6pm
Thursday, 29 th	▪ PDHPE Dance Display
Friday, 30 th	▪ Last day of Term 2

Enjoy the School Holidays!

July:	
Monday, 17 th	▪ School Development Day – staff return to school
Tuesday, 18 th	▪ All students return to school
Wednesday, 19 th	▪ Year 10 Subject Market Day, p1&2
Thursday, 20 th	▪ Year 10 Subject Selection Information Session, p4
Thursday, 27 th	▪ Maths Competition ▪ Year 11 & 12 Vaccinations

**ZONTA DINNER
ZONTA SPEECH – 23 MAY 2017**

Good evening ladies and gentlemen, my name is Rawan Haydar from Birrong Girls High School. When I was first nominated for this award I contemplated on what I could have possibly done to receive such an honour. In my perspective, good citizenship involves being an active member of the school and wider community. It is about giving back to the community as well as assisting others to receive the same opportunities we are very fortunate to receive. My school is a supporter of the birthing kit foundation sponsored by ZONTA International which provides the necessary and essential equipment required for women in developing countries to have both a sanitary and successful birth. For 5 consecutive years, I have been a part of a team within my school community which organises fundraisers and events to provide the money for these birthing kits. Statistics show that 300,000 women die annually in childbirth from preventable infections and the fact these birthing kits can save thousands of lives is remarkable and truly rewarding. The birthing kits have enabled the students of Birrong Girls such as myself, to be more aware and active in the global community thus making us a source for change. Every year students and I organise fundraisers throughout the term which enables me to put my leadership skills and humanitarian focus to good use. Although our fundraisers are as simple as running cake stalls, raffles and barbeques, it is an amazing experience that I take immense pride in as the final result is ultimately priceless. Throughout my years at high school, I have been actively involved in other school activities such as the media team, STEM, Drama ensemble and a Year 11 peer support leader. Becoming a peer support leader has granted me the opportunity to give back to my school community by educating young, nervous Year 7s on the anatomy of high school life. Ultimately, my leadership skills were enhanced as well as gaining a deep empathy for the junior cohort at my school. Essentially, we demystified high school for them. Not only have I volunteered in my school community, I have also given up my time during class to go to the Sydney Parliament House to discuss local, national and international issues with other students from various schools. Whilst I was there, I both represented my school and brought forward my perspective on important issues such as the refugee crisis and world humanity. I am grateful for all the opportunities I have encountered throughout my life; however, I am sure that there are many more opportunities for me to experience in the future. Being involved in my community has broadened my world view and led me on a path of success. I would like to thank ZONTA for this prestigious award, my family, teachers and my school for the great opportunities they constantly offer. Thank you.

By: Rawan Haydar (Year 11)

CAPA REPORT

Music

Music started off the month of June with a bang through another successful and entertaining 'New Karaoke Friday!' that was held in the Music room. There was some great talent on display and a fun time was had by all. The next 'New Karaoke Friday!' will be held in Week 9. All students (and staff) are welcome and encouraged to come and have a sing!



Visual Art

2017 Young Archie Entries

The following article appeared in the Bankstown-Canterbury Torch newspaper on May 31, 2017:

6 | Bankstown-Canterbury Torch Wednesday, May 31, 2017

A photograph showing a large group of students, mostly girls, sitting on the floor and holding up their hand-drawn portraits. The portraits are diverse in style and subject matter, representing various people. The students are dressed in school uniforms.

Birrong students with their portraits submitted for consideration in the Young Archie competition.

BIRRONG Girls High School has selected 20 out of 134 portraits to be submitted for consideration in the Young Archie competition.

The Young Archie invites budding artists between the ages of five and 18, to submit a portrait of a person who is special to them – some-

School enters 'Young Archie'

one who is known to them and plays a significant role in their life. There are four age categories: 5-8 year olds, 9-12 year olds, 13-15 year olds and 16-18 year olds.

Art teacher at Birrong Girls High School Trish Winchcombe says the Young Archies is held in conjunction with the Archibald, Wynne and Sulman Prizes exhibition.

"Five finalists are chosen from each category and their works are exhibited at the Art Gallery of NSW and on the Gallery website," she said.

"Our Year 7 students created two-dimensional A4 and A3 portraits of someone who inspires them. It is a very exciting opportunity."

By: CAPA Faculty



Birthing Kits Assembly Workshop

Birrong's Amnesty Team and The Zonta Club of Sydney West are holding a Birthing Kits Assembly Workshop at our school on Saturday, 17 June from 9 am till 12 pm. These invaluable kits will then be sent to some of the least developed nations in Africa and South America. Parents and caregivers of our Amnesty Team members are welcome to join us on the day to volunteer their time.

Date: Saturday, 17 June 2017

Place: Birrong Girls High School Library

Time: 9.00 am to 12.00 pm

Enquiries: Mr Sarna (Social Sciences Staffroom) and Ms Zomaya (History Staffroom)



Fact sheet for parents and carers

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Planning has begun to move NAPLAN from a pen and paper assessment to an online assessment.

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What are the benefits of NAPLAN Online?

Results will be faster and more precise

- Your child's individual results will be returned to you within just a few weeks of the NAPLAN testing.
- Online assessment will reduce the time it takes to mark and provide feedback to schools, teachers and parents.
- Improved precision and timing of results will help teachers to tailor their teaching more specifically to address students' learning needs.

Tailored tests will provide better assessment

- The online format allows for 'tailored testing', where the test adapts to a student's performance and asks questions that match their achievement level.
- Students in each year level start with the same set of questions which can then branch into a different set of questions based on their responses to the first set of questions.
- This means that students will be directed to questions that may be easier or more challenging depending on their responses.
- This test design will allow students to better demonstrate their literacy and numeracy skills.
- Students find online assessment is more engaging*, which means they are encouraged to persist longer and try harder.

* Research by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) into online assessment has shown that students have engaged well with electronic tests.

NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test

NSW schools will participate in a school readiness test between 14 August and 22 September 2017.

The school readiness test is a 'practice run' for schools to assess their technology ahead of NAPLAN Online. The readiness test is not an assessment of student ability. The readiness test allows schools to:

- become familiar with the NAPLAN Online test format and processes
- check whether they have the technical capacity, rooms and devices to administer NAPLAN Online
- provide students in NAPLAN years 3, 5, 7 and 9 with the opportunity to experience the online test question types and format by completing a practice NAPLAN online test.

For more information

Parents, students and schools interested in familiarising themselves with the NAPLAN Online format can access the NAPLAN Online demonstration site that includes sample tests for each NAPLAN year. Use the following link:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online/naplan-online-public-demonstration-site>

Further information about NAPLAN Online is available on the national ACARA website:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online>

Contact your school principal or visit the ACARA NAP website for more detailed information:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/online-assessment.html>



Frequently asked questions

Which students will participate in the NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test?

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will participate.

How should I prepare my child for the NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test?

Your child will not need any academic preparation for the school readiness test. This is not a test of their literacy and numeracy skills, but an opportunity for them to experience the online test format and for their school to assess its online testing capability.

How long is the school readiness test?

The school readiness test is expected to include two assessments: a writing assessment* and a combined numeracy/literacy assessment. The duration of each assessment will be approximately 40 minutes.

** Year 3 students will only be expected to complete the combined numeracy/literacy assessment.*

When will my school participate in the readiness test?

One week within the test period in August and September will be identified for each school to conduct readiness testing.

How will students be prevented from using the internet or spellcheckers when completing the test?

The NAPLAN Online assessment platform will have state-of-the-art security protections. The assessment is delivered inside a locked-down browser. This ensures students cannot access the internet or spellcheckers while completing the test.

Will schools and parents be provided with information on the results of the readiness test?

There will be feedback to schools about the technical information gained from the readiness testing. There will be no reporting of student test results from the readiness test.

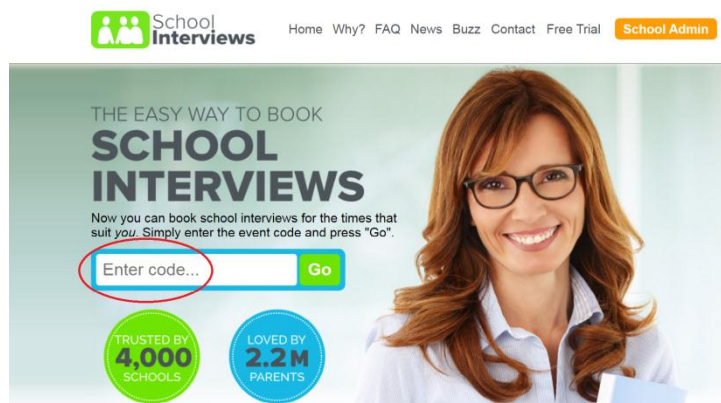
PARENT / TEACHER SESSION – TUESDAY 27th JUNE 2017

The next Parent / Teacher session will be on Tuesday 27th June (the last Tuesday of Term 2) from 2PM to 6PM. We are changing the way in which appointments with teachers will be made for this event. In the past, students were given a booking sheet and were asked to make appointments on behalf of their parents. For the coming Parent / Teacher session, parents will be asked to make their bookings for appointments online over the internet using a website called 'School Interviews' <https://www.schoolinterviews.com.au>

Appointments can be made on any device that has internet access. To access this website parents need an email address and an event code which will be sent out to all parents and caregivers on the 13th of June via SMS (so please make sure your contact details are up to date). This will give you two full weeks to make your bookings. Feel free to work with your daughter to book interviews. You may use your daughter's school email address if you don't have one.

Below are screenshots of the website to help you book your interviews.

1. The event code can be entered in the field indicated by the ring in the diagram below.



- 2.

3.

School Interviews 1 2 3

Birrongo Girls High School Parent-Teacher Interviews 27 June 2017

Please select your daughter's teachers and their subject.

Step 2: Choose teachers.

- Select a subject from the first box, then select a teacher from the second box.
- More options (up to 10) will appear as you use existing ones.
- Press the green "Go" button to go on to the next page.

Subject	Teacher
For Mary	

Go

4.

School Interviews 1 2 3

Birrongo Girls High School Parent-Teacher Interviews 27 June 2017

Select the times for your interviews

Step 3: Choose the time(s) you want.

- Leave time to get from one booking to the next - *back-to-back bookings are not a good idea.*
- Missing checkboxes mean that time has already been booked by someone else.
- Press the green "Go" button to confirm your bookings.

Tue 27 Jun 2:00pm - 4:00pm

	2pm	3pm
For Mary	00 05 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55	00 05 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55
Mr Clark (Science)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Tue 27 Jun 4:00pm - 6:00pm

	4pm	5pm
For Mary	00 05 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55	00 05 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55
Mr Clark (Science)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Go

If you are unable to use this website to book your Parent / Teacher interviews from home, we have made arrangements for a computer to be placed in the front office of the school for you to make your bookings during normal school hours. If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your continued support.

Scott Clark
Head Teacher Administration