



# BIRRONG BULLETIN

The Newsletter of Birrongo Girls High School

Cooper Road, Birrongo 2143 Telephone: 9644 5057

Issue No. 7

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## RELIEVING PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear BGHS Community,

### HSC

Our Year 12 girls marked the end of their years at Birrongo Girls at the joyous, and for some, emotional Graduation Ceremony held on Thursday 26 September. Wearing their formal graduation robes, the girls were presented with their final reports in front of an enthusiastic crowd of very supportive parents and guardians. The Year 12 girls commenced their HSC examinations on Tuesday 15 October with their first English paper and our final examination is on Thursday 7 November. I look forward to celebrating the end of high school with them at the Class of 2024 Formal on the evening of Thursday 21 November.

On the previous day, Wednesday 20 November, they will return textbooks, sign-out and collect their school reference. We will all be relieved and delighted when the HSC results are published on Wednesday 18 December.

I wish the 2024 Year 12 girls the best of luck in their examinations and success in their future studies and career paths.



### Congratulations go to:

- Gabriella Wright (Year 8) for making it to the South West Speaking Competition finals. We wish you all the best, good luck, we are so proud of you.
- Mrs Deborah Lai who received an award at the Auburn – Chullora Network afternoon. Your ongoing dedication to the Year 12 girls in the Senior Learning Centre ensuring they are on task, setting their learning goals and ensuring they meet the

challenges of the HSC has been amazing and we are very lucky to have you at Birrongo Girls High School.

- The newly elected Captains, Vice Captains and Prefects for 2024 – 2025:

**School Captains:** Alexis Acheampong and Raneem Al Khaled

**Vice Captains:** Sarah Ali and Ravenne Mateo

**Prefects:** Zainab Al Saleh, Madison Balden, Genevieve Balden, Zaina Hihi, Julia Jeong, Sammi Kim, Sonya Salem and Eunice Simpson

These girls display excellent leadership qualities and are great role models for the rest of the student body. We look forward to working with them across 2024 – 2025.



### Year 10 Final Exams

Year 10 final examinations are scheduled for Week 4 – Wednesday 6 to Friday 8 November. Please make sure you are all working on your student routines to ensure you are fully prepared for your exams. You will be receiving your Year 10 RoSA Certificate if you have completed the necessary requirements at Presentation Day in December.

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### School Upgrades

During the holiday break we had some upgrades to an area of the school that needed some work. The Carpe Diem area had pavers and trees removed and the whole area was resurfaced with concrete. It is a much nicer area and has so much more potential.



### New Building and Hall Update

The new school building is progressing very well. There are parts of the building where the external scaffolding and safety mesh is being removed and it is looking so good. The hall is coming along and the walls are up and the final touches on the roof are being set in place. We can't wait to see the final product in 2025.



We have one more of the KANE Construction Workshops where the interested girls from Years 10, 11 and 12 will engage in a workshop related to external finishes and landscaping.

### P&C

I extend a warm invitation to all our parents to attend the next meeting which will be held on Wednesday 13 November at 5pm in the Senior Learning Centre. At this meeting we will be discussing 2024 school achievements and our continued path supporting the school's direction into 2025 so come along and offer your feedback.

I invite you to contact the school (Tel: 9644 5057) to make an appointment with me if you have any issues that you wish to discuss about your daughter's education. I hope you enjoy reading about the achievements and activities of the school in the following pages.

Warmest regards,

Renee George  
**Relieving Principal**



**BIRROG GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL  
PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION**

**Parents are invited to attend the  
P & C MEETING  
at Birrong Girls High School  
in the Senior Learning Centre  
on Wednesday 13 November 2024  
at 5pm**

**Please register your attendance  
by phoning the school office**

## REPORT FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

Welcome back to Term 4, a time to work hard towards future goals.

The annual 'Tell Them From Me – Partners in Learning Parent Survey' is now available for all parents and carers until **8 November 2024**. You can complete the survey at: <http://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/d6xyv>. The survey is available in 23 languages. Many thanks to the parents and community members who have already taken the time to respond to the survey. The information provided by you helps us to understand more about your child's experience at school and confirm our school's areas of strength as well as areas for us to focus on in the future.

We wish all the 2024 Year 12 students the very best as they embark on their HSC examinations. These examinations end their secondary schooling and prepare them for continued success in future endeavours. So many of the girls have received early entry to university, congratulations girls. Good luck in your HSC examinations! Year 12 should review the Year 12 Welfare Google classroom for updates regarding the formal and sign out processes.



Our Year 11 students have completed their yearly examinations at the end of last term, and they have already begun their preparation for the HSC in 2025. Students have received their reports and should spend some time reflecting on their performance. Students are encouraged to seek assistance from their teachers to identify how they could achieve improvement as they embark on their Year 12 course of study. The Year 12 Handbook (assessment outline and HSC processes) has been distributed and students are encouraged to plan their term carefully, taking note of when assessment tasks are due and ensuring that they are well organised to complete all required work.

Students are reminded to adhere to school procedures for assessment tasks and examinations which are explained in the handbook. Nightly study habits and a clear focus on completing work to develop deep understanding are essential in achieving the best possible future

outcomes. It is also important that students achieve a balance between family, study and extracurricular activities. Students should get the right amount of sleep and rest, as this often impacts on the effectiveness of your study routines. If students have trouble maintaining a balance, or need assistance with setting goals, we encourage them to be proactive and seek help from Ms Rothwell, Ms Haken, Ms Salvagio, Ms Tselepi, Ms Ferris or Ms Blue.

Throughout Term 4 Year 10 students are expected to continue working diligently, making sure they complete all class and assessment tasks to a high standard to ensure they achieve all course outcomes. Students should also be preparing for their Year 10 formal exams which will be held during Week 4. All Year 10 students have now chosen their preliminary HSC subjects for Year 11 2025. Students were required to reflect on their selections and consider if their choices were best suited to their capabilities and future career aspirations. It is important that students listen to the ongoing advice from staff and continue to make effective decisions allowing them to achieve to the best of their ability. For some students, the prospect of gaining a traineeship or apprenticeship (working and undergoing training whilst being paid) may be a more appealing and appropriate pathway. Parents/Carers of Year 10 students considering an alternate pathway are encouraged to make an appointment to discuss the best options and opportunities for success post Year 10 with Ms Shinas, the school's Transition / Careers Adviser.

Year 9 students are encouraged to continue to engage with their learning for the remainder of the school year in preparation for Year 10 in 2025. Students received their NAPLAN results in late July. These results allow parents/carers to reflect on some areas of their child's progress in literacy and numeracy and allow teachers to plan to further develop literacy and numeracy skills through targeted teaching practices.

Year 8 students are also encouraged to ensure they complete all the required tasks and prepare for their yearly examinations. It is important for all students to attend school every day as we progress through Term 4. All Year 8 students have selected their Year 9 elective subjects for 2025. These electives will continue to be studied in Year 10 2026.

Year 7 students also received their NAPLAN results in late July. To improve, it is vital that parents provide an environment that encourages regular reading which will assist students to improve their comprehension as well as vocabulary. Preparation for yearly examinations is also important for all the students to prioritise.



Parents are reminded that the Homework Centre is available to complete work and seek assistance when they experience

difficulty. It operates on site Tuesday through Thursday and is supervised by qualified teachers from the school. This term will be a busy time studying for and completing assessment tasks, and preparing for yearly examinations. Now is the time to work especially hard to ensure that reports reflect students' efforts and capabilities.

Every day your child should be spending a minimum of 2 hours on her homework, assignments and revision as well as extra time for study and reading. To help students, parents should discuss their work and outwardly show interest in their learning. This could involve regularly asking them about their learning and helping them to establish a study plan to achieve their goals. Successful students always identify family support as a key element to achieving their success and acknowledge the support accordingly.

Please regularly check the school's communication channels such as the website, Facebook and Instagram for school updates.

Ad Astra! Aim for your very best this term!

Ms Andrews, Ms Blue, and Ms Winchcombe (Rel.)  
**Deputy Principals**

### **THE TELL THEM FROM ME PARENT SURVEY (TERM 4, 2024)**

This term, our school will be participating in the *Partners in Learning* parent survey, another part of the *Tell Them From Me* suite of surveys (student, teacher and parent surveys) on student engagement. The survey asks parents and carers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement.

Running this survey will help our school understand parents' and carers' perspectives on their child's experience at school. These include: communication between parents/carers and staff, activities and practices at home and parent/carer views on the school's support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will help our school make practical improvements.

The parent survey will be conducted between Wednesday 16 October to Friday 8 November. It can be completed entirely online on smartphones, iPads, tablets, laptops or computers at home, on a public computer or you can come into the school between 2pm and 3:30pm for assistance. The survey will typically take 15 minutes or less to complete and is completely confidential. Although

participating in the survey is entirely voluntary, your responses are very much appreciated.

**To access the survey for our school go to:**

<http://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/d6xyv>

The survey is available in 23 languages.

## **STUDENT WELLBEING REPORT**

### **The Resilience Project**

Our school continues to deliver the **The Resilience Project (TRP)** to all our students as the program is committed to **teaching positive mental health strategies** to prevent mental ill-health and **build young people's capacity to deal with adversity**.

Our teachers and students engage in weekly lessons and activities around the key principles of Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness (GEM), and Emotional Literacy to build resilience. There are many ways that GEM can be used with families at home to reinforce the strategies being taught at school to increase student well-being and resilience. Go to the websites below to access information about the program and for ideas for use at home.

Check out their website for more information:

[The Resilience Project](https://theresilienceproject.com.au/)

<https://theresilienceproject.com.au/>

Also check out TRP@HOME; a place filled with inspiration and activities for the whole family, to help improve your wellbeing and build resilience.

[TRP@HOME](https://theresilienceproject.com.au/at-home/home-2023/)

<https://theresilienceproject.com.au/at-home/home-2023/>



Maintaining attendance over 90% is extremely important. Many students from Years 7 to 11 are

congratulated and are being recognised for their high levels of attendance for Term 3. Students with 100% attendance during Term 3 are awarded the certificate of merit and those with above 95% attendance are given with a recognition award. Good attendance enhances student learning and achievement.

All students should be at school every day unless they are sick or require medical attention. Every student can improve their attendance percentage by coming to school every day from this point on. Look at this example to see how every student can make great improvement - if in Semester 1 you had 10 days absent, then you have an attendance rate at 89% attendance. If you have no more absences in Term 3 then your 10 days absent will put you at 93% attendance. If you have no more absences in Term 4 then your 10 days absent will put you at 95% attendance. That is, you attended 184 days

out of 194 school days over the year in 2024. Improve your attendance, start from today.

### School Vaccinations

The last school vaccination day for this year will be on Thursday 28 November for Year 7 and Year 10 catch-ups for students who were absent on the previous day of vaccinations.

Parents can register their consent online or through a hard copy consent form that was issued to Year 7 earlier this year.

### How to provide consent:

1. To complete online consent for your child's school vaccinations, visit:  
<https://nswhealth.service-now.com/school>
2. Follow the steps to log in to your existing ServiceNSW account. This is the same account you may already use to renew your driver's licence. If you don't have a ServiceNSW account, refer to ServiceNSW to create one.
3. Update or confirm your personal details in ServiceNSW as required.
4. Complete the School Vaccination Consent Form for your daughter(s). You will need to:
  - a) Enter your daughter's personal details
  - b) Provide the Medicare card details for you and your daughter
  - c) Read the linked Parent Information Sheet and privacy statement
  - d) Provide consent

If you and your daughter do not have a Medicare card, consent can still be provided by requesting a paper-based consent form from Ms Salvagio at the Learning Support Staffroom.

**Is your child in year 7 or year 10?**

Provide your consent for routine school vaccinations online.

At the beginning of the school year, your child's school will share the link to complete the online consent form.

**Benefits of providing online consent:**

- easily update your child's details
- get SMS notifications when vaccinations are given
- faster upload of vaccination records to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR)

**To provide online consent, you will need:**

- the link provided by the school
- your Service NSW log-in details
- medicare details for you and your child

Scan the QR code to give your consent now.

**Year 7**

- Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (dTpa)
- Human papillomavirus (HPV)

**Year 10**

- Meningococcal ACWY

For more information on vaccination visit: [health.nsw.gov.au/schoolvaccination](http://health.nsw.gov.au/schoolvaccination)

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### YEAR 7 SWIM SCHOOL

On 15-16 October, our Year 7 students went to Birrong Leisure and Aquatic Centre to attend our annual swim school program. Many students expressed their enjoyment of the program and they experienced an increase in confidence and improved skill after completing the program. The students represented our school in a commendable manner and participated in all aquatic and land activities with enthusiasm, forging new friendships and supporting each other to their newfound successes. Well done Year 7!

Ms Hammad  
**PDHPE Faculty**



Ms Salvagio  
**Head Teacher Female Students**

## BIRRONG GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL CALENDAR

<b>November:</b>	
Wednesday, 6 <sup>th</sup>	▪ Year 10 Exams – English am, PDHPE pm
Thursday, 7 <sup>th</sup>	▪ Year 10 Exams – Mathematics am, Science pm
Friday, 8 <sup>th</sup>	▪ Year 10 Exams – Geography/History am
Wednesday, 13 <sup>th</sup>	▪ P&C meeting in the Senior Learning Centre, 5pm
Monday, 18 <sup>th</sup>	▪ Edmondson Cup at Bankstown Girls
Wednesday, 20 <sup>th</sup>	▪ Year 12 Sign out, 8:30-10:30am
Thursday, 21 <sup>st</sup>	▪ Year 12 Formal
Monday, 25 <sup>th</sup>	▪ Year 10 Peer Support
Tuesday, 26 <sup>th</sup>	▪ Year 10 Peer Support
Wednesday, 27 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 29 <sup>th</sup>	▪ Year 10 Leadership Week
Thursday, 28 <sup>th</sup>	▪ Year 10 & Year 7 vaccinations and catch-ups

## Special Religious Education (SRE) at Birrong Girls High School

NSW public schools offer special religious education (scripture) and special education in ethics, delivered by approved providers wherever available. During enrolment, you can choose a special religious education option for your child from the school's available approved providers. You can withdraw your child from special religious education by selecting alternative meaningful activities, or special education in ethics if it is available. You can update your preference by writing to the school or through the [online form](#) available at participating schools. Visit the [department's website](#) for more information about religion and ethics.

At Birrong Girls High School, SRE is delivered in 60-minute lessons in a 5-week block each term on Fridays during period 3 to timetabled year groups.

At Birrong Girls High School, SRE is provided at our school through the following providers:

- **Buddhist Faith**

The Hwa Tsang Monastery has been accredited to provide SRE in the Buddhist faith to primary and high schools for the NSW Department of Education since 1997.

For more information, including the authorised curriculum scope and sequence please visit the following site and selecting 'Education', 'Special Religious Education' and then 'Syllabus and Approach':

- <http://www.hwatsangmonastery.org.au/>

- **Combined Protestant Christian**

Combined Protestant Christian Churches Special Religious Education (SRE) is being provided through BLAST (Bankstown Local Area Scripture Team). A number of Approved Providers of SRE that meet NSW Department of Education requirements have arranged to partner together to deliver a Combined Christian SRE curriculum.

The list of providers represent various Protestant denominations:

- Christian Community Churches of Australia  
<https://ccaust.org/>
- Uniting Church in Australia (NSW Synod)  
<https://nswact.uca.org.au/>
- Presbyterian Church of Australia (NSW)  
<https://pynsw.org.au/>
- Australian Christian Churches  
<https://www.acc.org.au/>
- Churches of Christ in NSW & ACT  
<https://ccnswact.org.au/>
- Anglican Diocese of Sydney  
<https://sydneyanglicans.net/>
- Baptist Union of NSW  
<https://nswactbaptists.org.au/>

The name of the curriculum is called Think Faith. Information regarding the curriculum can be found at <http://thinkfaith.com.au>.

- **Islamic Charities Projects Association**

The Islamic Charity Projects Association (ICPA) is accredited by the NSW Department of Education to teach Islamic Special Religious Education in NSW public schools. The ICPA works under the guidelines of Darulfatwa - the Islamic High Council of Australia.

For more information about this provider, including the authorised curriculum scope and sequence please visit the following sites:

- <http://www.icpa.org.au/>
- [www.darulfatwa.org.au](http://www.darulfatwa.org.au)

- **Islamic Council of NSW**

The Islamic Council of NSW is authorised through the Department of Education to provide Islamic Special Religious Education lessons in NSW Public Schools. ISRE teachers are provided with approved teaching materials and pedagogy.

For more information about this provider, including the authorised curriculum scope and sequence please visit the following site:

- <http://www.isre.org.au/scope-year-7-year-12/>

# School Student Travel



## School student travel information for parents and students

### School Travel Passes

Applications are now open for 2025 School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) travel.

Students in the Opal network applying for an Opal card (including a Term Bus Pass) for the first time will receive their School Opal card at their nominated postal address from mid-January 2025.

Students who require a School Opal card or travel pass but have not yet applied need to [apply](#) or [update](#) their details as soon as possible.

In the Opal network, students should travel with a Child/Youth Opal card until they receive their valid School Opal card. If outside Greater Sydney, parents should contact their [local bus operator](#) to discuss their travel needs.

Students living in rural and regional areas will receive their travel pass from their nominated transport operator. It may be issued via their school or be sent directly to them at home. Note: some rural and regional operators do not issue travel passes. Students/parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

### Terms of Use

**Students using School Opal cards must tap on and tap off** in line with the [Opal terms of use](#).

This includes travel within the approved times between 6.30am and 7.00pm from Monday to Friday on school days only. Students must use their Child/Youth Opal card for any travel outside these times.

All students are required to comply with the [Student code of conduct](#). The code of conduct aims to ensure the safety and well-being of school children and other passengers. It is important that parents ensure their child is aware of this, as failure to comply with the code of conduct can result in a suspension from travel.

Further information can be found at [transportnsw.info/school-travel](https://transportnsw.info/school-travel)



● AMEP Language Course



# English Classes

All levels and abilities are welcome

English classes will begin at  
Bankstown North PS in Term 1, 2025.

Child care will be arranged, free of  
charge for preschool aged children

**Please contact Marie to register:**  
**E: [amepbankstown@tafensw.edu.au](mailto:amepbankstown@tafensw.edu.au)**  
**PH: 7920 9227**