Choral Festival

Once again our students did Burrawang proud as they performed last night in the Festival of Choral Music at the Sydney Opera House. Our students formed part of a 700 student combined choir and performed songs they have been rehearsing all year. What an amazing night!
Fantastic results Burrawang!

Every year, The Australian newspaper publishes a list of the top schools in NAPLAN results. I am very excited to share that Burrawang has achieved the top results in writing in NAPLAN in the country. Overall we are also the top public school in NSW. This result is calculated based on average growth from Year 3 NAPLAN to Year 5 NAPLAN.

Here's the link. You just need to browse schools to find us. A great result for our school! Please share this wonderful news with your family and friends.


Congratulations to our students, teachers, learning support officer and parents who have all worked to support our students to achieve these fantastic results!

Genius Hour presentations

What an amazing display of confidence and competence our students demonstrated whilst presenting their Genius Hour Projects on Monday night (12/10/15). Our students have expressed how motivating and inspirational having time to work on their 'passion projects' during Genius Hour has been. This exciting school initiative has been an important part of our school's journey towards being able to offer our students a 21st century education that prepares them for their high school years and future beyond school. Genius Hour has been a great success, and we are now looking towards planning our next projects. Thank you to all the parents and families who helped us celebrate this fantastic display of student achievement.

Students who are still yet to present their Genius Hour talks will do so at our next Friday morning assembly (Week 5) unless other arrangements have already been made. Parents and families are encouraged to attend.

2016 Leadership

Our current Year 5 students will shortly have the opportunity to nominate themselves for the role of 2016 School Leader. Nominated students will then present a leadership speech on Wednesday 4th November. Year 5 students have been aware of this timeframe since before the school holidays and have already begun preparing these. K-6 students and Burrawang staff will then undertake voting procedures to elect 2016 Student Leaders. Please be aware that we will not be voting to specifically elect a male and a female leader. Our 2016 student leaders will be the two students who have gained the most votes.

Art workshops

In weeks 8, 9 and 10, (Friday afternoon) we will once again be holding end of year art workshops for our students. Some of the activities we participated in last year included basket weaving, mosaic, screen printing, mural and Christmas craft.

We are still looking for any parents/community/family who may have skills in an area of art who may be willing to come and work with our students. Could you please let the school know if you would be able to help.
National Gonski Week (26 October – 1 November) and World Teachers’ Day provide recognition of what is integral to the provision of quality education:
- A fair needs based funding system
- A focus on the students to whom education is provided
- A recognition of the great work done by and commitment of teachers across the world.

Through funding already received, Burrawang has been able to provide School Learning Support Officer assistance to support students with achieving their individual learning goals. It is vital that we work together to ensure the fifth and sixth year of the Gonski funding is delivered, as promised, to schools so that additional resources can better meet the needs of all students in providing a quality education. More information can be found at www.igiveagonski.com.au

Selective High School 2017 applications

Applications for entry into Year 7 (2017) are now open. Parents of students in Year 5 this year who wish their child to be considered for placement will need to apply online by November 16 2015. The Selective High Schools : Year 7 placement website http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/shsplacement/index.php details the application process and lists the key dates.

What’s happening – Junior Class

This week in our class we have been using a variety of strategies to work out our Maths addition problems. All of our students are getting quite confident in how to select the most efficient strategy for the problem given. Well done! In craft we had our first attempt at sewing and did an awesome job! We are now looking forward to creating some Christmas sewing masterpieces. On the day that the 3-6 students were at the Choral festival, we participated in an online scavenger hunt, working together in teams to locate QR codes, take photos and research information based on the clues given. These clues included remembering information from what we have been doing in class, as well as learning new items. We had fun and did a great job collaborating, problem solving and using new technology. Great work Burrawang!

What’s happening – Senior Class

The Senior Class have been preparing for our next Genius Hour passion projects. This included preparing a ’Project Pitch’ which involved detailing a six week project plan, motivations for choosing the project and a list of resources students might be able to use. We are all very much looking forward to taking on this next Genius Hour challenge. Auditions and final character roles for this year’s Senior Class play, Peter Pan, wound up in Week 3. All students did a great job with their auditions, and we’ve had fun finalising our Peter Pan with a twist’ style script. Families are encouraged to start thinking about costuming. A costume list will come out soon, but keeping your eyes out for costume items is probably a good idea. We’d also love some family support with sets. We’d love a small-scale pirate
ship of some description if someone was willing and had the skills. Please chat to me about this if you might be able to help.

In class we have been working on three pieces of writing: an analytical essay about the book Alexander and the Terrible, No Good, Very Bad Day, a 'natural disaster' live News Report script and a Back To The Future narrative about our journey in time to 2045, on Back To The Future Day on October 21st. In Maths we have been working on quadrilaterals, including learning about congruence, similarity, tessellations, measuring angles and identifying parallel lines and lines of symmetry. As always, the Senior Class has been a joy to work with. I am regularly overwhelmed by just how wonderful the Burrawang students are. Yet another fantastic fortnight.

To mark 'Back to the Future Day' the Senior Class spent a few fun minutes at 10:04 last week, attempting to 'time travel' forward into the future to the 21st of October '2045'. We counted up to 88 like in the movie, closed our eyes and hoped! We enjoyed being playful, then had a fantastic time writing narratives about our journey into the future.

Students of the Week

Congratulations to our students of the week.

Week 2 – Bronte and Griffin
Week 3 - Jessica and Harper

Don't forget!

- SRC will be selling ice blocks each Wednesday for $1.
- Lost or missing notes can be downloaded from the school’s website.
- Thank you to the parents who have been making online payments. This is a much easier transaction for our office.
- Please regularly check your child’s head for headlice.
- Book club due next Wednesday

Whooping cough information for schools

There is an outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis) in NSW, mainly affecting school-aged children.

Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies.

Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night.

- Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.
- If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.
Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age.

A booster dose of vaccine is also recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and parents. Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health. Those who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation.

Your local public health unit can provide advice about whooping cough on 1300 066 055 or visit the NSW Health website for information for childcare and schools about whooping cough.

Canteen

Canteen will be available this Friday at the Aboriginal Cultural Day. A menu has been sent home.

Upcoming events

Don’t forget to check the website for the most up-to-date information.

**Term 4**

**Week 4**

Tuesday 27th October  AG class test

Wednesday 28th October  Choral festival at the Sydney Opera House

Thursday 29th October  School photographs

Friday 30th October  Aboriginal Cultural Day

**Week 5**

Monday 2nd November  Financial literacy session at school (no cost)

Wednesday 4th November  Student leader voting

Friday 6th November  Kinder orientation – session 3

**Week 6 and 7**

Swim school each day

Mrs Laval on leave. Mrs Hindmarsh will be Relieving Principal.
“A Burrawang Christmas”

Congratulations to the Winner - Georgia Cronin Aged 11

Georgia captured the feeling of an Australian Christmas while featuring some Burrawang identities. The judges particularly liked Santa’s blue bib-and-brace overalls and the tree decorated with thongs.

This wonderful image is available as a unique Christmas Card.

Order Your Christmas Cards Now! $20 per pack of 10 cards

All proceeds will go to the Burrawang Public School

and The Burrawang & Wildes Meadow Progress Association

Place your order NOW!

★ Please call Elizabeth on 0412 340 071
★ Or email burrawangherald@gmail.com
★ Or, Send a cheque an order request to PO Box 3209 Robertson 2577
★ Closing date for orders – Monday November 23rd 2015