



Birralee News



Newsletter No. 5 January 2012

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you back to Kalvskinnet on January 16th at 8.30. We are now very busy preparing the move and we have started packing some of the common rooms and setting up at Kalvskinnet.

The big move is planned for week 2 and we have therefore planned a variety of activities for the children during the moving days. The Middle School students will all have their annual work experience week in week 2, where they will have the opportunity to experience many different career possibilities. The Infants and Primary students will have activities out of school on Wednesday 11th, and then activities both in and out of school on Thursday 12th January. Our students will visit different museums, the town library, go swimming or skiing as well as enjoying other activities. Parents can help support the school during the moving days by allowing students to be dismissed from activities directly at the end of the day instead of coming back to Brøset. It would also be supportive if parents could pick their children early, if possible, from Playclub and ASP on Wednesday and Thursday.

All parents will receive more information from their class teacher with details of the activities planned for your child/children.

Please note that the school is closed on Friday 13th to enable us to be well prepared for school start at Kalvskinnet on Monday 16th. Please also note that the prior announced planning day/school closure on January 27th will consequently be an ordinary school day.

Due to the move we anticipate changing demands for Morning Club and ASP. **Please let us know as soon as possible should there be any changes to your child's schedule.**

The Parents' Evenings are planned for February, which is slightly later than usual due to the move and the time needed to settle in. We are pleased to be able to welcome you to our new classrooms and give you information about the programme for the spring. We urge you to take part in these meetings as they provide vital information for parents so that all parents are well informed and better able to support their children at home. We are also hosting a special meeting for the Year 10 and 11 parents on January 31st about choosing a high school for their child and about the application process. The application deadline for high school is March 1st. There are very many interesting programmes to choose from and we welcome parents to come and hear more about the opportunities available.

Welcome to our Parent Evenings

The Infant and Primary School Parent Evening will take place on February 9th at 19.30. This meeting is for all parents from the Reception Class to Year 8.

The Middle School Parent Evening will take place on February 8th at 19.00. This meeting is for all Middle School parents

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News and information:

First day at Kalvskinnet

The school will open at 8.30 with a small ceremony in the school yard. **Please note that there will be no morning Club/ASP on the first day.**

Parents are welcome to an open school on the first day after school hours

We know that parents are keen to come and visit the school and see the new classrooms and the other special rooms in the school. All rooms will be open after school with staff in place to show you around and answer any questions you may have. **Please note that parents are not be able to visit in the morning** as we have reserved the first morning exclusively for the students to allow them to "claim" their space and get to know their new school. I am sure they will be happy to show you their room after school when you come to pick them up! Please note that on this occasion there will be no student activities available during our open day for Year 6-8. We are not able to accommodate any special after school program for the children, however you are most welcome to see the school together with your child at pick up time. ASP and Playclub will run as normal in the afternoon.

Green, Clean School

Birralee aims to be awarded the Green Flag as an environmentally conscious school from next school year. We will be working towards this goal from the first day back at Kalvskinnet. We will make sure that we have a tidy and clean school and we will also have a new system for recycling both paper and plastic. We ask parents to help their children to keep their wardrobe space clean and tidy by taking home dirty clothes for washing and also by making sure that extra clothes/equipment do not accumulate in school.

Parents and visitors to the school must wear blue protective socks to help keep the school clean and to support our cleaning staff. We thank you for your cooperation.

After School programs at Kalvskinnet

- Spanish Club will continue as usual on Thursdays from 14.45 to 15.20
- The School Choir will have their rehearsals on Thursday 14.30 to 15.15. The Choir is keen to welcome new members from the older classes
- The Homework Clubs will run as usual in ASP time. For students not in Asp the homework club takes place on Tuesday from 14.30 to 15.15 for Years 3-5.

Bus Cards – reminder

Some of our students, who had a bus card during our stay at Brøset, will no longer be able use these after our move back. These bus cards will no longer be valid from January

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16th. Other students will have new cards issued due to their changed circumstances. Any new cards will be issued in week 2.

Physical education

We are very pleased that the school gym is being renovated; however we regret that it is not ready until Easter time. In the meantime we are renting space in a nearby gym (Turnhallen) for all classes from Year 3. The Infant children will be using the music room for physical activities and games during this period. We will also provide opportunities for outside play using nearby parks as well as organising skating and the annual ski days.

Timetable changes

Due to the above mentioned changes in gym times, we have had to make some smaller changes to the timetable. The class teachers will provide parents with an updated timetable where applicable.

School Choir concert and annual Parent evening

The school Choir invites parents to a small concert in school on February 16th at 18.00 in the music room. The concert will be followed by a party and we kindly ask parents to bring cakes to share. The school will provide drinks for parents and children. The annual Parent meeting will take place after the concert. The report from last year's activities will be presented as well as the programme for this spring.

School Milk Reminder

We would like to remind parents they can order milk for the Spring term online: www.skolemelk.no

Thank you to Mrs. Cheong

Mrs. Cheong has worked as an assistant in all areas of the school for almost two years. We thank her for her contribution to Birralee during this time and wish her the best of luck in her new home in Bergen.

Calendar January

Date	Event / Activity
10 & 11	Moving Days
11 & 12	Student Activities out of school
13	School closed
16	First Day at Kalvskinnet. Opening at 8.30
27	Student Council Meeting

Calendar February

Date	Event / Activity
8	Curriculum Evening Middle School
9	Curriculum Evening Infant and Primary School
10	Valentine's parties
16	School choir concert and annual meeting
17	Student Council Meeting
20 - 25	Winter holiday – school closed