



# BERKELEY WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Nolan St, Berkeley 2506

P.O. Box 56 Berkeley

Principal: Mr A. Attard

Wednesday 17 March, 2021



## From The Principal's Desk Upcoming Events

### Remember-School starts at 8.55am everyday!!!!

- Fri 19 March-** Harmony Day/P&C Easter raffle mufti day- Wear a splash of orange to school (e.g. t-shirt, headband, socks, shorts, dress etc) in exchange for a **gold coin donation** to support the 2021 P&C Easter raffle
- Wed 24 March-** School cross country (8 yrs and up)- see separate information note sent home
- Thurs 1 April-** Last day of Term 1  
Easter Hat parade for students only  
Students do not need to be in school uniform (free mufti)
- Mon 19 Apr-** 'Pupil free day' - teachers only return to school today
- Tues 20 Apr-** All students K-6 return to school for the start of Term 2
- Thurs 6 May-** P&C Mother's Day stall at school- student will be able to purchase a gift for mum for Mother's Day- more info closer to date
- Tues 11 May-** NAPLAN online tests for Years 3 & 5 begin today and run over the next two weeks
- Tues 18 May-** 2021 School photo day

### Principal's Award

Congratulations to Brodie O for receiving the Principal's Award this week for always being a respectful, responsible and safe student. As well as his certificate, Brodie will enjoy a \$4.00 food voucher to spend at the canteen and gets to sit on stage at the next school assembly.

Brilliant Brodie!!



### Reading at Home

Reading is an important skill which is developed through experiences with a wide variety of texts. This includes reading books and magazines, posters and charts, pamphlets and packets, letters and postcards. It also includes viewing multimedia texts such as movies and documentaries.

**PLEASE RESPECT THE  
HEALTH CARE NEEDS OF  
OUR STUDENTS BY NOT  
PACKING EGGS, PEANUTS  
or PRODUCTS  
CONTAINING PEANUTS IN  
YOUR CHILD'S LUNCHBOX!**



Children make progress at their own pace; some pick up new skills quickly and some need more time for learning and practising the new skill. All children need to be ready to learn and to have the best conditions for learning new skills. At school, teachers create safe, happy and stimulating environments where children are encouraged and praised for 'having a go'.

You can create a similar learning environment at home with the following ideas:

- Make a regular time to read together and don't stop reading to your child when they can read themselves; they love listening to a competent reader.
- When you introduce a new book to your child, discuss what it could be about, talk about the pictures or text and then read it to each other. With older children you can encourage them to make predictions and pause occasionally to confirm or reject their original thoughts.
- Read and follow directions together such as when making a recipe or instructions for playing a game or assembling a new piece of furniture or toy.
- Read magazines and newspapers together and talk about the pictures as well as the text. Listen to audio books or story CD's and watch movies together. Once



you've seen the movie, discuss it and then read the original book together.  
Most importantly.....make sure your children see you enjoying reading.

## **Bullying**

This week's newsletter continues to provide more information to parents so that they can support the underlying principles of the anti-bullying plan being implemented at school. It explains some of the characteristics of bullying and the key features of what our anti-bullying plan is trying to achieve.

## **Strategies We Will Use to Deal With Bullying**

At Berkeley West Public School we will:

- Openly talk about bullying- what it is, how it affects us and what we can do about it.
- Teach our students the skills which build their self-esteem and empower them to take the responsibility for themselves- and give them the opportunity to practise these skills.
- Respond to substantiated instances of bullying behaviour in accordance with the school's discipline and welfare policy and all relevant NSW Department of Education policies and procedures.

## **Responsibilities of Staff**

All staff have a responsibility to-

- model appropriate behaviours at all times;
- teach students skills and strategies to deal with bullying as per the lessons distributed to staff ("Bullying" available from library);
- deal with all reported and observed incidences of bullying as set out in this plan and the school's discipline policy;
- ensure that students are supervised at all times;
- report incidences of bullying to the Assistant Principals or Principal consistent with school welfare reporting procedures; and
- create a culture where it is acceptable and encouraged to report incidents-("Awareness breaks the cycle of violence").

## **Responsibilities of Students**

All students have a responsibility to-

- be assertive- Tell the "bully" that they don't like the behaviour, how it makes them feel and that how they must tell a teacher about it if the person continues;
- see a teacher or ask to see the Principal if the perpetrator/s do continue;
- "Tell" if they are being bullied or if they see someone else being bullied- both at school or on the way to and from school- ("Awareness breaks the cycle of violence");
- report any cyber-bullying to their teacher or Principal (do not delete any emails or make note of any websites);

- ask to see the Principal directly to report incidences of bullying if the teacher is busy with other playground issues, or if they would prefer to do so;
- help someone who is being bullied; and
- not bully others.

## **Responsibilities of Parents**

All parents/caregivers have a responsibility to-

- watch for signs their child may be being bullied;
- speak with someone on the staff at Berkeley West Public School if they suspect their child is being bullied; and
- instruct their children to "tell" if they are bullied ("Awareness breaks the cycle of violence")



## **Reporting Bullying**

Incidences of bullying can be reported by students immediately to any teacher, Assistant Principals or the Principal by students. Any claims of bullying will be investigated and recorded by the Assistant Principals. Consequences for the perpetrators of clearly substantiated incidences of bullying behaviour will also be imposed as outlined in the school's discipline procedures and, if necessary, suspension procedures.

## **Maths Tip!**

You can help your child at home by involving them in mathematical activities and talking to them about maths and its everyday use.

**Mapping-** When traveling, provide children with a street directory or map and discuss directions. Point out speed limits, distances to towns, populations in towns, etc. When you are driving along in the car, ask children to guess how far it is to the next light post, the next town etc. Involve the whole family. Measure the distances with your speedometer.

## **Student Assistance**

If you require assistance meeting expenses related to your child's education you are welcome to call the school and ask to speak with the Principal Mr Attard. No requests for assistance will be refused!

## **Attendance Cup!**

Congratulations to 4/5T and 3MS for winning the Berkeley West Public School Attendance Cup over the last two school weeks for outstanding school attendance.

The cup will be awarded each week to the class whose students have had the best attendance rate for the week. The cup will stay in the classroom and is even big enough to be filled with some little rewards for the students!

Don't let your class down, be at school every day as every absence counts!

Also the first GAS (Great Attendance at School) Awards for 2021 will be distributed soon to those students with attendance equal to, or better than, 94%. Well done our GAS winners!



## Easter Hat Parade

Unfortunately, current COVID restrictions for schools mean that parents are unable to attend our annual Easter Hat Parade this year on Thursday 1 April. However, we would love all the students to come along with their hat for the parade. We will take lots of photos and hope to put together a slide show that we can post online for you to see. As this day is the last day of term, (traditional a free mufti day at BWPS), students do not have to be in school uniform on the day of the parade.

## Socialisation

Schools provide an important opportunity for your children to practice and refine their skills in 'getting along with others' while achieving their education. We are all part of the Berkeley West Public School community and we all have a vested interest in ensuring our school community is happy and healthy. We are a community of people all working towards the same goal; the education and socialisation of our children.

Research clearly indicates the importance of the development of a partnership approach between parents and schools to learning and school attendance, to ensure children achieve to their ability.

The playground environment and the classroom are areas which both provide their own socialisation challenges and it is important for parents to feel confident in approaching the school to discuss issues of concern.

Some tips for problem solving in partnership with schools:

- Listen clearly to your child's concerns.
- Encourage them to think of things they can do to remedy the situation.
- Avoid absenteeism as a solution – this teaches that running away from problems is a valid solution.
- Make a time to see your child's teacher to discuss the issue. If necessary, also make an appointment with the Principal.
- Avoid blaming – state your concerns clearly.

Work in partnership with the teacher to decide how best to support the situation, looking at the problem from all sides, considering all options and making a time for review.

Remember, the school is a dynamic people community with thousands of social interactions occurring daily. It is only natural that there will be occasions when there are socialisation issues. Schools are about ensuring the safety and happiness of every child and are only too happy to work with parents to quickly resolve an issue or concern.

## Afternoon Pick Up

Thanks to all those parents who have arranged to meet their children at 3pm either in the school canteen area or adjacent to school pedestrian gates. These are the designated pick-up areas for pick-up and need to be utilized.

Parents **are not to** wait outside classrooms or in playground areas as you are a stranger to students

other than your own child. Also, students may have bags and other personal belongings outside whilst they are in library lessons, the computer lab or whilst outside doing PE.

**Under no circumstances** are parents to enter student toilet facilities at school whilst waiting for their children at 3pm.

## School Discipline

Obviously our school employs a variety of strategies to both reward good behaviour at school and modify or correct poor behaviour exhibited by students. One strategy teachers may employ for students not following class rules and therefore disrupting the learning of students is time out in a "buddy" class. After several warnings about their inappropriate behaviour, a student may be sent to a "buddy class" for 10-15 minutes with some work to complete. A behaviour referral is generated by the teacher which is then reviewed by one of the Assistant Principals for possible follow-up.

Time in a buddy class removes the student from their peer audience as to "gain attention" is often a prime function of a child's behaviour. It is also a time for the student to reflect on their behaviour and how they might change it before returning back to their classroom.

## Spelling rules you should know!

Remember that there are often exceptions to many rules! When used as a guide, rules can really assist children. Here are a few spelling rules to assist with spelling-

**Soft 'c'** : 'c' before e, i, or y says, 's'.

For example: certificate, cycle, city, census, centre, circle, citizen, cymbal\*\*

## Sun protection and skin cancer myths

Answer true or false:

1. You don't get sunburnt on cloudy days.
2. I don't need to use sunscreen because my foundation/ moisturiser has some sunscreen in it.
3. People with olive skin are not at risk of skin cancer.
4. Sunbeds (solariums) are not a safe way to tan.
5. You need to spend lots of time in the sun to get your daily dose of vitamin D.
6. Fake tan protects your skin from the sun.
7. It takes less than half an hour to get sunburnt.
8. You don't have to be concerned about skin cancer because, if it happens, it's easy to see and easy to treat.
9. Only people who sunbake get skin cancer.
10. You can get burnt through a car window.

## Answers

1. False 2. False 3. False 4. True 5. False  
6. False 7. True 8. False 9. False 10. True

For further myth-busting information, go to:  
[www.cancercouncil.com.au/sunsmart](http://www.cancercouncil.com.au/sunsmart)

## Snack Time at School

Children need a range of nutrients to meet their growth and energy needs. Snacks need to be sometime foods rather than everyday foods.

Everyday Snacks-	Sometimes Snacks-
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fresh fruit or canned fruit</li> <li>• Corn or rice cakes with or without spreads</li> <li>• Plain or fruit yoghurt</li> <li>• Vegetable sticks and dip</li> <li>• Fruit loaf</li> <li>• Wholemeal biscuits or crackers</li> <li>• Dried fruit and cheese cubes</li> <li>• Celery, cherry tomatoes and carrot sticks</li> <li>• Crackers with vegemite and cheese</li> <li>• Plain popcorn</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Muesli bars and dried fruit bars</li> <li>• Potato crisps/chips &amp; corn chips</li> <li>• Chocolate</li> <li>• Lollies &amp; confectionary</li> <li>• Cordial</li> <li>• Soft drink</li> </ul>

Class	Student of the Fortnight	Reason
KJ	Ryan Courtin	For being a 5 star learner!
K/1F	Levi Moore	Great effort and improvement in reading.
1/2O	Leticia Rodriguez	Consistently being a respectful student who shows compassion for others.
2/3F	Blaire Hannan	For continued effort and improvement in reading.
3MS	Kate Courtin	For applying persuasive language features in her writing to engage the audience.
4/5T	Madison Bunting	For applying feedback to improve her writing and for her positive class attitude.
5/6H	Hydee Turner	For insightful contributions to class discussions.
5/6LW	Harley Williamson	For consistent effort and application in all Key Learning Areas.

## READ WITH ME CLUB 2021

Welcome to the Read With Me Club for 2021. It has been a great start to the year with 40 students from across the school taking part in the club so far. Congratulations to the following students who have already reached the 25 Club and are now reading their way to the 50 club!

Read With Me 25 Club	Class
Odin Pratt Phoenix Smith Iarna Leonard Cleo Lee Ryan Courtin	KS
Kyson O'Connor Trajanoski Kaedence Jackson Rhys Mahoney Evalina Palamara Corben Davis Phoebe Lee	K/1F
Callie Barnsley Spencer Ayers Zavier Cook Leticia Rodriguez Evie Papandrea Grayson Kime Jordy Jasinski	1/2O

Read With Me 25 Club	Class
Jackson Anderson Curtis Billingsby Tori Williamson Braxton Cook Charlie Mahoney Eli Palamara Zoe Varga-Carrall Savannah Smith Charlotte Bunting	2/3F
Benjamin Moon Mimi Papandrea Brennah Davis Kate Courtin	3MS
Phoenix Forster Madison Bunting Alexis Lee	4/5T
Bella Marskell Jaryck Smith Martin Stupka	5/6H
Wyatt Ayers Harley Williamson Lachlan Magnee	5/6LW

We would love to see all students taking part in the Read With Me Club this year. It's not too late for your child to start reading and join the Club. If you would like your child to take part all you need to do is read to, or listen to your child read for at least 10 minutes each night. After reading, sign and date one space on the Read With Me Club Sheet. If you have any questions about the Read With Me Club please speak to Mrs Robertson.

## What's Happening 5/6LW

5/6LW have had a great start to the school year. All students have been working hard, learning and we have managed to have some fun too! We have been studying the book "Wonder" by R.J Palacio. The discussions we are having around the themes in this text are truly inspiring. For example, the notion of kindness and what that means. One of our favourite quotes from the book is, "When given the choice between being right or being kind choose kind." We are all trying to have moments in our day where we are not only kind, but kinder than is necessary. We encourage you to do the same, because it is our job to make the world a kinder place. Students have also been inspired by the text to come up with their own precepts. These are quotes or words to live by. Here are a few-

- Layla's Precept - Be yourself, everyone already taken.
  - Alex's Precept - Being kind now is one step closer to a world of kindness
  - Kate's Precept - The best feeling is knowing that you have made someone's day
  - Saxon's Precept - Don't let people bring you down, rise up and jump to the next level
- Do you have a precept or words you live by?

We have been working so hard in Maths we have almost filled our maths books and sometimes our brains feel full too! This is when we go out for fitness. One of our favourite games to play for fitness is netball-soccer. This game allows students to work on their throwing and catching skills and also encourages teamwork.

## SPORT REPORT

Congratulations to the senior students who participated in South Wollongong District Trials over the past few weeks in cricket, netball and league. All the best for the next round of trials Caitlin (soccer) and Lachlan (league).

Well done to Josh who also competed at Regional Swimming, representing the South Wollongong District in backstroke.

At a school level we have Cross Country to look forward to. Get those running shoes ready! Miss Haworth

## UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

The uniform shop will be back to opening on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8.30am to 9.15am as of next week.

We have a sale on Grey Skorts (old stock) Sizes 4,6,8,10,12 \$10.00 a pair while stocks last.



# What's On

at your local high school  
**Illawarra Sports High**



International Women's Day was celebrated at our school by students delivering flowers and a motivational message to all female staff. The Welfare team as ISHS organised the flowers and students distributed them



The great facilities on our playing fields are improving. These spectator stands on the large field now have weather covers.

**Stop! Look!  
Listen! Think!**  
Every time you  
cross the road.



safetytown.com.au

## Pedestrian Safety Tips for Parents and Carers

Young children need adult help in the road environment. Talk with your children about roads, signs, traffic and how and where to cross the road safely. The following tips are provided to help parents and carers:-

- Talk to your child about why they should **STOP! LOOK! LISTEN! THINK!** before crossing a driveway, road or carpark and to keep checking until safely across

**STOP!** one step back from the kerb  
**LOOK!** continuously both ways  
**LISTEN!** for the sounds of approaching traffic  
**THINK!** whether it is safe to cross and keep checking until safely across

- Ask children to always walk and not run when in the road environment
- Children need your help to spot dangers such as vehicles coming out of driveways. They can be easily distracted and wander into traffic.
- Plan and practice your trip to school so you use pedestrian crossings where possible.
- Explain why the place you have chosen is the safest place to cross.
- Meet your child near the school gate and never call them from across the road.
- When driving it's safest for children to get out of the car through the Safety Door, away from passing traffic. This is the rear footpath side door of the car

### Messages to share with your children in Kindergarten to Year 2

- Hold a grown up's hand when:
  - you cross the road
  - you're on the footpath
  - you're in a car park

### Messages to share with children in Years 3 to 6

- Use a safe place to cross the road
- **Stop! Look! Listen! Think!** every time you cross the road and keep checking until safely across

For further information visit <https://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/stayingsafe/schools/index.html>

# Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

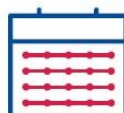
they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

**1** day per fortnight  
 (M) (X) (W) (T) (F)  
 (M) (T) (W) (T) (F)

=

**4** weeks



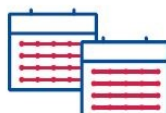
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Over **1** year missed

**1** day per week  
 (M) (X) (W) (T) (F)  
 (M) (T) (W) (X) (F)

=

**8** weeks



=

Over **2.5** years missed

