



BERKELEY WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Nolan St, Berkeley 2506

P.O. Box 56 Berkeley

Principal: Mr A. Attard

Wednesday 23 June, 2021



From The Principal's Desk

Upcoming Events

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

- Wed 23 June-** Student Semester 1 reports sent home today
4pm AECG meeting Koonawarra Public School
- Fri 25 June-** **Last day of Term 2**– teachers only return on Monday 12 July– all students K-6 return Tuesday 13 July
2.10pm School assembly– 1/20 class item– all welcome!
- Mon 12 July-** 'Pupil Free Day'- **teachers only** return to school today
- Tues 13 July-** All students return for the start of Term 3
- Tues 20 July-** 9.15am P&C meeting in school community/breakfast room– all welcome!

Our School Vision

"Our school provides quality educational experiences and opportunities for students and teachers in an environment of respect, responsibility and safety that will engage and motivate all students to learn, equipping them with the confidence, skills and knowledge for future success and wellbeing."

Last Newsletter for Term

This is the last newsletter of the term before the holidays. I hope everyone has a safe and happy break. Thanks to all the students, teachers and parents for their hard work this term. Teachers only return on Monday 12 July (Staff Development/Pupil Free Day) whilst all students return on Tuesday 13 July. The next newsletter will be sent home on Wednesday 21 July.

Thankyou

A huge thankyou to all of our fantastic teachers and support staff at Berkeley West for their hard work this term. We are now half way through the year and teachers have been extremely busy planning, teaching, assessing and writing reports over the past month or so and their outstanding commitment to their students needs to be acknowledged. Our community is very lucky to have such high quality teachers and support

staff. We hope our teachers and support staff have a nice winter break too!

Principal's Award

Congratulations to Samuel W for receiving the Principal's Award this week for being a respectful, responsible and safe student. Sam's behaviour and engagement at both school has been outstanding. As well as his certificate, Sam will enjoy a \$4.00 food voucher to spend at the canteen. He also gets to sit on the stage at Friday's school assembly.



Sensational Sam!

Starting Kindergarten 2022

Our school is now taking kindergarten enrolments for 2022! So far we already have around 10 students expressing an interest for next year.

If you have a child starting kindergarten next year, or know someone with a child starting kinder next year, please come to school and pick up an enrolment form. Forms can either be completed at school or taken home and dropped off later. The important thing is that we know about our new students so that their parents can be kept informed about upcoming orientation events.

Head Lice

Information on detecting and treating head lice is available from school upon request.

First Aid

We have a Sick Bay which is staffed during school hours by qualified staff. Details of every child who is treated is recorded indicating the time admitted and the nature of the treatment the child has received. Parents are more than welcome to contact the school to seek further clarification of any treatment their child has received.

We always give children the 'benefit of doubt' and will treat all children who present at Sick Bay. However, we have a number of children who present regularly for treatment complaining of illness or soreness. These students present with 'I don't feel well' or 'I have a sore finger, arm, leg etc'. In most instances we know that some children are just 'seeking attention' while others struggle with the difference between the natural pains/soreness we all experience as we are growing, and the very real soreness or pain as a result of, in most cases, a genuine playground injury.

We would appreciate parents talking to children and helping them clarify the difference between when you really need first aid treatment and when you are just

looking for attention or distraction. This can be tricky for us, because we don't want to 'put children off' from genuinely attending First Aid.

Brain Food

Developing healthy eating habits is an important lesson that we aim to promote at Berkeley West Public School. It is vital that children understand the importance of nutrition in developing physical and mental fitness as well as providing the energy they need to participate actively in life. Food and drink are vital for children to grow and develop, but the types of food that children consume, is important.



At Berkeley West PS we encourage students to think about the types of food and drinks they eat in a typical day. Children are often keen to eat healthy foods when they understand that their body needs these foods to grow and develop. When it comes to snacking, snacks should be healthy – fresh fruit, vegetables, nuts or dried fruit are all examples of brain food. Some classes are encouraged to keep up their intake of water with individual water bottles permitted in classrooms. Children need to drink plenty of water, even in cooler weather, to keep their bodies functioning well.

Our curriculum encourages students to think about their own food choices and to realise the importance of healthy eating. We acknowledge that families provide the pivotal role model for children as they learn about food choices, but at school we also need to compliment and encourage the work of families. The end result is healthy children; what more could we all want!

Understanding Your Child's Semester 1 Report

Ever since your child started school you will have received a variety of information from the school about your child's progress. This is formalised twice a year to include two written reports. Our student reports use a word descriptor grade for every subject that your child does at school and includes pertinent comments relating to the Key Learning Areas as well as a general comment.



Every school uses the same syllabus documents that show what children need to know and be able to do at various stages of their learning development. Teachers use these documents to plan their teaching and assess children's learning.

Your child's report will include an "Outstanding" to "Limited" grading that clearly explains student achievement in all of the subject areas over a two term period (semester). The report paints a picture of your child at one point in time.

Read the comment first! Understand more of the picture. Comments are provided for key learning areas and are critical. These are just as important, if not more important, than the grade because the comment is the explanation behind the grade.

All children need encouragement and praise to be confident, happy learners.

Some children try very hard but find learning difficult. They deserve your praise and encouragement. Some

children find learning easy and often don't try as hard as they could. Your encouragement here is critical as well. For those students who have no difficulty learning and put a lot of effort into their work, they need continued acknowledgement and praise to keep this level of enthusiasm and commitment. For those students whose effort is minimal, closer home/school partnerships are the key to improvement.

What does an "Outstanding" to "Limited" grade mean?

"Sound"- shows that the student has achieved all of the skills, values and knowledge intended by the teacher when they planned the learning program for the semester. This student may have required extra revision or individual teaching but he/she has understood the concepts and has demonstrated achievement of the learning goals. Parents should not be worried about a child's progress if he or she has received this grade, your child is on track in this area. His/Her performance is sound.

"High"- shows that the student has performed very well with the work presented consistently achieving the skills, values and knowledge intended by the teacher when he/she planned the learning program for the semester. This student has demonstrated in all of the assessments and daily tasks that there is no difficulty being experienced in meeting the learning goals. Your child is performing at a high level in this area.

"Outstanding"– shows that the student is easily demonstrating the skills, values and knowledge intended by the teacher when they planned the learning program for the semester. In fact the student is showing far more than has been required. Your child is performing at an outstanding level in this area.

"Basic"- shows that the student is currently experiencing some difficulty in achieving the skills, values and knowledge intended by the teacher when he/she planned the learning program for the semester. There are some gaps in the understanding of the concepts that have been taught during the semester and there is evidence that this has been occurring in daily tasks and in assessments. Your child is having some difficulty coping with the work in this area at this time.

"Limited"- Shows that the student is currently demonstrating in his/her assessments and daily class tasks that a lot of difficulty is being experienced. This student will most likely have had additional assistance from the school and will need ongoing support from home and school. Your child is finding learning very difficult at this time in this area.

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.

2021 School Self-Evaluation Surveys

Berkeley West Public School is committed to continuous improvement. Early next term, each family will get an opportunity to complete a short online survey asking for your perceptions of how the school is going. The survey will seek feedback on a number of school management and curriculum areas. The school will use this feedback by parents, students and staff to

make our school an even better place to learn and teach!

Keep an eye out for when the online survey is open (Week 1 next term) because all families that complete it will go into the draw to win a one of two \$100 school uniform vouchers to use at our uniform shop! How handy would that be!!!!

Pick Up and Drop Off Point for Parents

Thanks to all those parents who are now dropping their children at the school gates before the 8.55am morning bell every morning. If you're child still wants you to "walk them in", then it is suggested that the covered area outside our school canteen be the place to "say goodbye".

This place is also a great spot to wait for your child in the afternoon when picking them up from school. This area is sheltered and dry and we've even put some chairs out for you to sit on!

Principal's Lunch- Term 2

All class teachers recently nominated two students from their class who have worked outstandingly well in the classrooms this term. The students below had lunch with Mr Attard yesterday and received a certificate for their efforts! Well done boys and girls!

Phoenix S (KJ), Hayley M (KJ), Ella C (K/1F), William N (K/1F), Phoebe S (1/2O), Isaak D (1/2O), Sophiea O (2/3F), Savannah S (2/3F), Kate C (3MS), Marcus N (3MS), Nayah C-M (4/5T), Phoenix F (4/5T), Letisha H (5/6H), Ethan W (5/6H), Jacob A (5/6LW), Elyzah E (5/6LW).



Attendance at school

Our school is aiming to match or better the State average for attendance this year of 94%. Well done to all the students who have had an individual attendance rate equal or above 90% for 2021 so far. Recently, teachers were provided with a printout of all the students' who's individual attendance rates for the year were 90% or better. Each was presented with a Great Attendance at School (GAS) award.

Parents should note the number of days (and partial

days) absent for the year so far in the child's semester 1 report. To be attending at at least 90%, your child should not have missed more than 9 school days so far this year.

Well done to these healthy and diligent students below. They have not missed 1 single day of school so far this year!!!

Kaedence J, Hayley M, Sabella R, Georgia S, Callie B, Ella C, Phoebe, S, Jamaya K, Kailey L, Leticia R, Callum B, Ruby C, Kate C, Kaedan M, Jayden M, Mimi P, Madison B, Nayah, C, Bronty B, Saxon N, Magenta R, Ethan W.

New Chromebooks!

Our students' access to technology has been further enhanced recently after we purchased another 30 Chromebook devices. This brings the total number of Chromebooks available to our students to 150! The ability for our students and teachers to integrate technology into lessons opens up the possibility to redefine teaching and learning that just wouldn't be possible without it!

Stay home only if you are sick!

Just another reminder that if you are not feeling well, or are showing any flu-like symptoms to stay at home until you are feeling better. Get along to a doctor for a certificate or get tested if you are experiencing flu-like symptoms before returning to school.

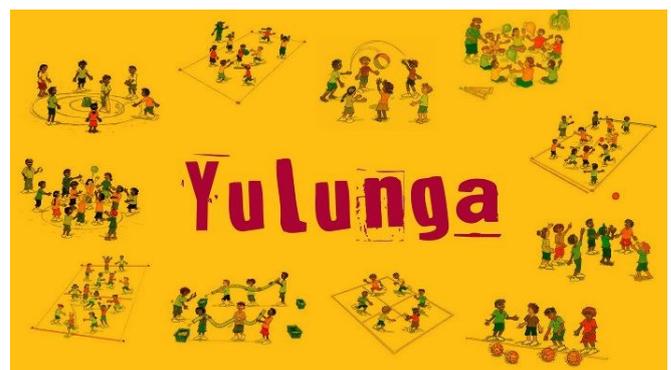
What's Happening in K/1F

Term 2 has been very busy in K/1F. We have been reading lots of fun stories written by one of our favourite authors Julia Donaldson. These stories have given us lots of inspiration for our writing as well as our art work. Our classroom is looking very colourful! In maths we have had lots of activities that have helped us understand how numbers work and the patterns that they make. We have also explored 2D and 3D shapes and how we can cut them in halves and quarters. We also got to make fairy bread and cut it into either a half or a quarter!

NAIDOC WEEK 2021

Traditional Games Afternoon

Our school will be taking part in NAIDOC celebrations the first week back in term 3. Families and friends are invited to come and watch our **Yalunga Games** afternoon on **Thursday 15th July from 2-3pm**. Students are allowed to wear Indigenous themed clothing or hats on this day.



Class	Student of the Fortnight	Reason
KJ	Joseph Ghannumi	For trying really hard.
K/1F	Mason Drysdale	Always working to the best of his ability and being a fun and caring friend.
1/2O	Jason Knight	Improved attitude towards class work.
2/3F	Eli Palamara	For showing a consistent effort towards all aspects of his learning.
3MS	Dakodah Fuller	Showing great sportsmanship at our PSSA Gala day!
4/4T	Olivia McMaster	For his positive attitude in class and working hard when learning about representing fractions.
5/6H	Hydee Turner	For always contributing to class discussions and valuing others opinions when they differ from hers.
5/6LW	Kingston Quintal	For participation during number talks and maths discussions.

Nutrition Snippet

HEALTHY SWAPS.

Check out our [healthy swap section at healthylunchbox.com.au](http://healthylunchbox.com.au) today!

Click on an unhealthy snack to see some healthy alternatives

Select a snack to see a healthy alternative

Swap Dessert Tube

...for these healthy snacks instead

Yoghurt tub, Berrylicious smoothie, Apple pie overnight oats

For this and more visit: healthylunchbox.com.au



BERKELEY WEST PLAYGROUP

for children birth – 5

FREE

Fridays, 9.00am - 11.00am

(During school term- starting again in Term 3)

Located at Berkeley West Public School preschool room

Please bring a hat and healthy morning tea

For more information contact Emma – 0439 648 778



Our playgroup is a safe space supported by friendly experienced and trained staff. Playgroup provides a variety of activities to promote and enhance the early learning and wellbeing of our children.

Parents and carers have the opportunity to meet other adults in a welcoming and relaxed setting.

Play Craft Stories
Outdoor activities
Puzzles Music



FRSACC



CHILD FOCUSED
FAMILY CENTRED
STRONGER COMMUNITIES



Days missed = years lost

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

When your child misses just...

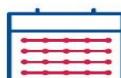
they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

1 day per fortnight
M T W T F
M T W T F

=

4 weeks



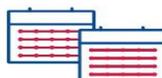
=

Over **1** year missed

1 day per week
M T W T F
M T W T F

=

8 weeks



=

Over **2.5** years missed

education.nsw.gov.au

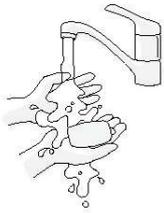
Cough etiquette

Cover your cough



- When coughing or sneezing, use a tissue to cover your nose and mouth
- Dispose of the tissue afterwards
- Wear a surgical mask, if possible

Wash your hands



- After coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose, wash your hands with soap and water
- Use alcohol-based hand cleansers if you do not have access to soap and water

Remember hand washing is the single most effective way to reduce the spread of germs that cause respiratory disease.

Anyone with signs and symptoms of a respiratory infection, regardless of the cause, should be instructed to cover their nose/mouth when coughing or sneezing; use tissues to contain respiratory secretions; dispose of tissues in the nearest waste receptacle after use; and wash their hands afterwards.

NSW HEALTH