



# BERKELEY WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Principal: Mr A. Attard

Wednesday 21 July, 2021

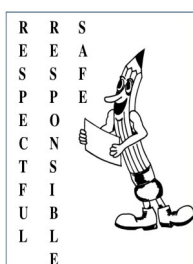


## From The Principal's Desk

### Upcoming Events

**Mon 26- Fri 30 July-** Learning from home continues  
Education Week 2021- 'Lifelong Learners'

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



### Welcome back!

Welcome back for Term 3. Term 3 is a 10 week term concluding on Friday 17 September. We welcome back from leave Mrs Saliji each Friday. She will co-teach K/1S with Ms Farmer who teaches Mon-Thursday.

Unfortunately, we are operating under the learning from home model due to current public health orders. However, reports from all teachers indicate that that students and their families have settled quickly into a calm and steady work routine at home. We have loaned over 90 computers to families to use at home and have more for anyone requiring one. All students are completing weekly units of work and attendance is being monitored through your child's engagement at home. Your child is marked present on the roll if they have communicated with their teacher during the day or have submitted **one piece of work during the day** through Class Dojo or Google Classroom.

Students who do not submit a piece of work for the day, or those whose families don't respond to contact made by teachers, are marked as absent and their attendance followed up through phone calls, the Home School Liaison Officer, the Department of Communities and Justice, or if necessary, wellbeing checks conducted by local police. All attempted phone calls, text messages, letters sent home are recorded and filed by teachers and executive.

Learning from home has been set until 30 July at this stage and will be reviewed in line with health advice. **Only students of essential workers need attend school until further notice.** No one is to attend school if they are sick, feeling unwell or displaying symptoms. The school is being staffed by minimal staff, the majority of which are also working from home. All students in each class are participating in the same

online work, that includes students of essential workers at school. They are not receiving any additional face to face teaching and are not seen by their own teacher.

COVID safe restrictions remain in place for schools which includes staff and authorised adult visitors wearing face masks indoors. Parents have been permitted to come to school only to safely collect computers and work packs at times set by teachers.

Hopefully some good news coming to our communities soon! Class Dojo, Facebook and the free school app 'Skool Loop' are your best ways of keeping up to date with what is happening with your child's learning.

### The Berkeley West Public School App!

Keep in touch with the latest school news, urgent messages and last minute reminders by downloading the free 'Skool loop' app from the Android or Apple IOS store for your smartphone or tablet.

### Win a \$100 BWPS Uniform Voucher!

From today, parents are invited to complete a short online survey which will give us some valuable feedback regarding our school. Your answers to the survey will help us in our planning ahead. The survey can be completed at home on your computer or smartphone and only takes a few minutes. Simply click the answers on screen you think are best. This is a chance to have your say!

As we appreciate your feedback so much, we will be drawing **three lucky winners** from those parents who complete the survey for us!

To enter the draw for a chance to win one of three \$100 uniform vouchers, complete the online survey now at the link below and you leave your name at the end . The survey can be found at the following link-

<https://forms.gle/KGAC6aXZxiLYegJm8>

Any mums or dads on the school's email list, or who have the Berkeley West PS app on their smartphones, have already been sent an email containing a link to the survey. Please note there is one entry into the prize draw per family.

What a great prize to win for just a few minutes of your time!

The prize draw will take place at the whole school assembly on **Friday 20 August**. Good luck!

## Internet Safety

Encourage and support your children with their use of the internet. Teach them to make the right decisions and increase the levels of responsibility as children get older. You can access information about internet safety through the Federal Government's website at [www.esafety.gov.au/parents](http://www.esafety.gov.au/parents).



If you feel that your children have more knowledge and confidence than you when using the internet, you may be right. There are some simple ways of addressing this.

What you can do as a parent:

- Talk to your family about the importance of staying in safe sites online.
- Ensure that you have safety software installed on your computer; your internet service provider will be able to help you with this.
- Set up house rules for the use of the internet and, where possible, have the computer in view so that you can monitor its use.
- Check out safe sites for your children and bookmark them.
- Use filters to limit accidental access to unsuitable material.
- Limit email correspondence to a list of family and friends.
- Emphasise and discuss safe online behaviour.
- Investigate any chat rooms or online clubs that your child may want to use to ensure that they are legitimate.

Use family-friendly search engines designed for children.

The internet can be a great tool for research and fact-finding if used correctly. The best approach is to sit with your child and help them through the wealth of information which is available at their fingertips.

## 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.

## Playing Shops

Play shops with your child using real coins. Help them put price tags on the objects in their shop. Limit prices to whole-coin values. Point out the markings on the coins. Older children may be able to work out change.

## Physical Fitness

At Berkeley West Public School we value the promotion of an active lifestyle. All students are encouraged to participate in activities that get the heart racing as well as getting the body moving. Recent research has outlined that children are becoming less likely to be active, and together with an inappropriate diet, this can lead to weight issues, as well as a

decrease in self-esteem and confidence. As teachers, we are aware of the importance of promoting both a healthy diet as well as an active lifestyle within our curriculum.



Our Physical Education program encourages students to participate in active sessions, working at their own level. Students are taught skills such as throwing, catching, kicking and are then provided with opportunities to practice and consolidate these. Skill sessions are balanced with games that promote the fun of being involved, as well as giving students a chance to put their new skills into practice. As students get older, the skills are linked to major games such as netball and cricket. Students then have the opportunity to participate in sport sessions where aspects such as team play and good sporting behaviour are promoted and enhanced.

At Berkeley West Public School we value the fact that all students are different. Not all of us will become elite sportspeople and be able to demonstrate flawless skills. Our curriculum focuses upon the 'having a go' nature of active living, as well as setting your own personal goals to achieve.

As parents, it is important that you encourage your child to always participate in school events. By supporting their efforts and celebrating their own personal improvements or goals, you are assisting them to seek out an active lifestyle where they can succeed at their own level.

## Student Assistance

If you require assistance meeting expenses related to your child's education e.g. excursions or uniforms, you are welcome to call the school and ask to speak with the Principal Mr Attard. You will be assisted! :)

## Berkeley West PS Supported Playgroup

Unfortunately, the supported playgroup has not been able to recommence on Friday mornings due to COVID restrictions. We will let you know via our social media platforms when we can start up again.

## Starting Kindergarten 2022

Our school is taking kindergarten enrolments for 2022! We already have the names of some very keen students ready to start "big school" 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 new students so that their parents can be kept informed about upcoming orientation events.

## Smoke Alarms

The following information is taken from the home smoke alarms fact sheet at the NSW Fire Brigades website at [www.fire.nsw.gov.au](http://www.fire.nsw.gov.au)

### Fact

NSW legislation stipulates that residents must have at

least one working smoke alarm (sometimes mistakenly referred to as “smoke detectors”) installed on each level of their home. This includes owner-occupied, rental properties, relocatable homes or any other residential building where people sleep.

Smoke alarms are life-saving devices that provide benefits for occupants. They detect smoke well before any sleeping occupant would and provide critical seconds to implement actions to save life and property.

Smoke alarms are designed to detect fire smoke and emit a loud and distinctive sound to alert occupants of potential danger.

The legislation refers to residential accommodation across NSW and requires the installation of one or more smoke alarms in buildings in which people sleep, smoke alarms installed in such buildings must be operational, and people must not remove or interfere with the operation of smoke alarms installed in such buildings.

### **Avoid danger when using heaters this winter**

The Children’s Hospital at Westmead recommends these top tips to help your children avoid burns, falls and electrocution:

- Make sure your heater meets Australian standards
- Use a guard
- Keep your heater on a level floor surface
- Ensure your heater isn’t blocking any exits or high traffic areas
- Do not dry clothing items by placing them over an electric heater.
- Ensure you install and maintain at least one smoke detector on each floor of your home.

### **Flu season is here!**

Influenza is spread from person-to-person through the coughing or sneezing of infected people. Remind your child about these good hygiene practices to minimise the spread of infection:

- Anyone who is sick with influenza symptoms should stay home until their symptoms are gone.
- Cover the nose and mouth with a tissue, or do so into the inside of your elbow, when coughing or sneezing. Throw the tissue in the garbage bin after use.
- Wash hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing. Alcohol-based hand sanitiser is also effective.

Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.

If you or your child develops influenza-like illness, get tested and seek the advice of your family doctor as you would with any other illness.

The seasonal influenza vaccine, which protects against the pandemic influenza strain as well as two other

influenza strains, is now available free to eligible people. More information about the vaccine is available from the NSW Health Immunisation Unit’s vaccination page at <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation>.

### **Crunch & Sip- Winter fruits**

Students have crunched their way through the delicious nectarines, peaches and grapes of summer, and are now looking forward to the fresh, crisp apples and juicy oranges available in winter.

However, large pieces of fruit can be difficult for small children to manage, especially with wiggly teeth! On top of this, it takes small children a long time to eat a large apple, orange or pear and they can be quite messy, especially if they’re fresh and juicy.

Now that the delicious winter fruit is available, try and choose small to medium pieces of fruit to send for Crunch & Sip. Or you could chop up a large piece into smaller, more manageable pieces for your child to enjoy.

### **Helping Your Child with Spelling and Reading (The Magic 200 Words)**

In Term 2 we published the first 32 of the “Magic 200” words for students to practice reading and spelling, particularly grades K-2. Now it’s time for the next 32! Did you know that around only 200 words make up, on average, over one half of all reading? Many of these words can’t be sounded out and rely simply on practice, practice, practice! If your child can read and spell these words quickly and accurately, their enjoyment, confidence and success in reading and spelling tasks is greatly enhanced. Playing games like memory or match will make learning these words more enjoyable.

The next 32 to practice are-

about	their	want	which
get	just	been	come
my	or	she	look
came	will	who	an
like	much	could	go
our	some	up	no
from	well	back	can
must	only	has	little

<b>Class</b>	<b>Student of the Fortnight</b>	<b>Reason</b>
KJ	Amarni Powell-Shaw	For her incredible effort during her first week of home learning, especially while Nanny has still had to work!
K/1F	Evalina Palamara	Excellent engagement and fantastic writing whilst learning from home.
1/2O	Leticia Rodriguez	For her commitment during home learning and teaching herself how to play a musical instrument.
2/3F	Kailey Luck	For her excellent engagement during home learning.
3MS	Mimi Papandrea	For her dedication to improve her fitness skills during home learning.
4/4T	Jakob Turner	For his dedication and application to tasks during home learning.
5/6H	Darrian Springhetti -Sharpe	For his ongoing effort towards completing home learning tasks.
5/6LW	Amarli Dun	For her effort and commitment towards home learning.

