



BERKELEY WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

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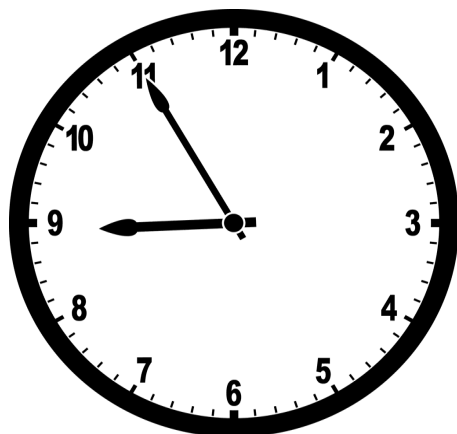
Wednesday 29 June, 2022



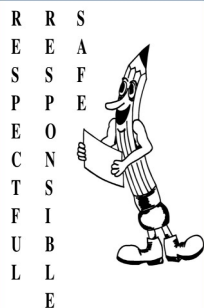
From The Principal's Desk

Upcoming Events

- Wed 29 June-** Semester 1 student reports sent home
- Fri 1 July-** Last day of Term 2– students may be out of uniform today– no cost
2.30pm School assembly in hall– all welcome!
- Mon 18 July-** 'Pupil Free Day' - teachers only return to school today for staff development
- Tues 19 July-** All students K-6 return for the start of Term 3
- Mon 25 July-** District athletics carnival– Day #1 (selected students only)
- Tues 26 July-** District athletics carnival– Day #2 (selected students only)
- Thurs 4 Aug-** 11am Education Week Open Day– join your child at school for lunch at 11am and then visit open classrooms at 12.00pm to see some of the great work being done in your child's classroom– note to come early Term 3



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



Teacher's Strike tomorrow– Thursday 30 June

Members of the NSW Teachers Federation at Berkeley West Public School have made the difficult decision to take industrial action in the form of a **24 hour strike tomorrow Thursday 30th June.**

The school is unable to provide any supervision of students and will be **non-operational tomorrow and you will need to make alternative plans for your child.**

We understand this is not ideal but very much appreciate the support you give as we work towards a better future for Public Schools, teachers and of course, the reason we do it all, our students.

The department's learning from home resource, is available for ongoing curriculum support **only if you would like** for your child to access it. You can access these resources from the website below:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/learning-from-home/learning-at-home/2022-digital-learning-packs/primary>

No students will be marked absent tomorrow. You do not need to submit work to your teacher.

School will **resume as normal on the last day of term, Friday 1 July.** We regret the inconvenience this causes many of you.

Last Newsletter for Term 2

This is the last newsletter of the term before the holidays. I hope everyone has a safe and happy winter break with their families. Thanks to all the students, teachers and parents for their hard work this term. All students return to school on **Tuesday 19 July.**

The next newsletter will be sent home on Wednesday 27 July

Principal's Award

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



Brilliant Bowie!

"Berkeley West PS" Playgroup

Now that COVID restrictions finally look like history, we are thinking about starting up our free playgroup again for children 0-5 years and their parents/carers. If there is enough interest, we were hoping to open it up every

Friday morning during school term from 9.00-10.45am at Berkeley West Public School, using the preschool room.

If a playgroup here at school would be something you would join in with, please add your details using the link below to add your details. It won't happen unless we know there are people who will participate.

Register your interest here-
<https://forms.gle/mx6VaYXuLxJjyH6y7>

Win one of three \$100 school uniform vouchers!

Berkeley West Public School is committed to continuous improvement. Starting today families will be able to provide their feedback through a short school survey. You can submit your opinions with the click of the mouse or screen from home! Parents on the school email list will have the link for the survey automatically sent to them today. (Another good reason to get on the email list!).

Go to <https://forms.gle/Q4bx6iFJoavjFpLQ6>

if you would like to be added to the email list. The survey link will also be sent out to those parents who have downloaded our school app on to the smartphones or apple/android devices.

The very brief survey only takes a matter of minutes to complete. The surveys seek feedback on a number of school management areas as well as curriculum. The school will use this feedback by parents, students and staff to make continuous improvements at Berkeley West Public School.

Everyone who completes the survey goes into the draw to possibly win one of three \$100 uniform vouchers we are giving away to spend at our uniform shop!

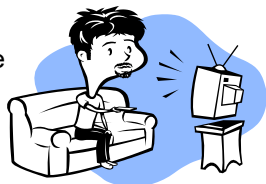
Winners will be announced at the whole school assembly next term on Friday 26 August.

School Security

It would be appreciated if any suspicious persons or activities noticed inside the school grounds during the school holiday break be reported to the school security unit on 1300 880 021. You do not need to leave your name or details. Your help will help keep our school safe from vandalism.

TV Viewing and Children

Television provides children with a window to the world. They take in messages and images about lifestyles, roles and behaviour. These images about the harsh realities of the world can be overwhelming and potentially damaging to their development. The more children are exposed to frightening programs, the more they may believe the world is a frightening place.



Television can also provide very positive images of how to relate responsibly and effectively in the world.

Our role as parents is to be discriminating about the sorts of images to which our children are being exposed. It is important to allow their understanding of their world to evolve as they mature. Every child has a different reaction to TV; however, your child's age and stage of development will make a big difference.

- Children under 6 years will have difficulty working out what is real and what is fantasy. They can see cartoon characters as real and are open to the appeal of advertising.
- Children from 6 – 9 years will still have some difficulty with reality and fantasy especially if it looks like real life.
- Older primary school children are likely to be disturbed by material which is based on fact as it means that it could happen to them. They will be curious about the teenage world, sex and fashion and can be misled by the way boy-girl relationships are shown on TV.
- Children are not born with prejudices; they learn these from the world around them. The kinds of messages they get from TV and the people around them will affect how they think about others eg, race, colour and gender. Between the age of 2 and 3.5 years children begin to absorb messages about attitudes from all around them.

Children of all ages will be disturbed when they see violence on TV. There is a real risk that we will begin to become insensitive to the level of violence happening in the world with the number of violent images we are being exposed to via the media.

Evidence suggests that repeated exposure to violence on TV means:

- Children are more likely to use aggressive means to solve problems. Young children may learn from cartoons that violence wins even though they laugh or can tell it is fantasy. Older children will absorb the same message from violent heroes in action movies.
- Children can become very anxious about the 'mean and scary world' in which they live.
- Children become less sensitive to violence in real life.

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.

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Telling the Time

Encourage your child to use clocks around the house. Point out where the long and short hands are at specific times of the day, e.g. bedtime, going to school, when a favourite TV program is on. Etc. Say, for example, "When the long hand is on the 12 and the short hand is on the 8 it's bedtime." When you are asked, "How much longer is it going to be?" Show your child where the hands on the clock will move to.

Tuning In

As parents it is important to develop the ability to 'tune in' to children so that you can understand how life may be for them right now. This gives you vital information about your child's experiences, what things are most



important for them and what challenges are confronting them. You can use this understanding to 'tune in' to your child's needs so that you can respond in ways which are going to be most relevant and meaningful for your child. Research on adolescents indicates that about three quarters report that they don't get on well with their parents! Part of the solution might be in how parents 'tune in' and allow their young adolescent to express their opinions as well as role modelling acceptable ways to handle conflict and criticism through your own behavioural responses. This sensitivity supports good parenting practices as it helps families develop loving, compassionate and respectful relationships with each other. It supports the development of a strong sense of belonging and allows the child to develop relationship skills which will enrich the rest of their life.

The ability to tune in to children means parents need to find time to communicate with their children, ensure they listen when they have something to say, be willing to understand their point of view and be able to share each others' thoughts and values within a respectful and open environment. For parents this provides the opportunity to better understand the pressures and real concerns your child is facing and the opportunity to discuss and negotiate relevant solutions.

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 talk to us. We will always help!

Attention Seeking Behaviour

Attention seeking is the most common form of misbehaviour in children and it can take many forms: eating problems, 24 hour a day questioning, showing off, constant interruptions, whining and tantrums. This kind of behaviour is very effective; it is annoying, hard to ignore and is often unknowingly reinforced by parents' responses.

How do you know if your child's misbehaviour is purely seeking your attention? If you are annoyed or irritated by a particular behaviour, there's a good chance it is designed to get your attention. Ask yourself if the behaviour would stop if you ignored it. If the answer is yes, the behaviour is usually attention seeking because this type of behaviour requires feedback to continue.

Children who engage in attention seeking behaviours want to keep their parents (or teachers) busy and fully occupied. Try the following to reduce this kind of behaviour in your children:

- Ignore the behaviour as much as possible. As soon as you respond, either positively or negatively, the child has won. Children will often settle for second best.....negative attention is better than no attention from their perspective.
- Help the attention seeker to feel useful. Give them little jobs to do and thank them for their help. They will seek this avenue more often if they feel needed.
- Provide lots of positive attention.....play with them, talk to them, encourage, praise and value their efforts and contributions.
- Catch children being good.....they need to get the

message that cooperative, positive behaviour gets them more attention than negative, attention seeking behaviour.

- Plan to spend some time with each of your children. Sometimes children exhibit attention seeking behaviour because they feel a brother or sister is receiving all the attention (this is often the case when a new baby arrives in the house).

Attendance Cup!

Congratulations to all the students who seem very determined at the moment to take out the Berkeley West Public School Attendance Cup. The trophy has been claimed by 3/4T over the last two weeks!



Our school is aiming to match the State average for attendance this year. Well done to all the students who have had an individual attendance rate equal or above 94% so far this year. This week, teachers have been provided with a printout of all the students' individual attendance rates for the term. Students have been able to check with their teacher as to what their attendance rate has been this term. Students with an attendance rate above 90% for the term receive a special merit award. Students who have not missed a day of school all year so far will receive a Super GAS (Great Attendance at School) Award!

Parents will see the number of whole and partial days absent for Semester 1 (Terms 1 and 2) on their child's report card when it is sent home today.

Starting Kindergarten 2022

Our school is taking kindergarten enrolments for 2022! So far we already have a steady number of students showing an interest for "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.

Head Lice

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

School Anti-Racism Contact Officer

Each school has a trained Anti-Racism Contact Officer (ARCO) to facilitate the complaints handling process and promote anti-racism education in the school. At Berkeley West Public School, Mrs Moore is our ARCO.

The ARCO is the central point of contact for complaints of racism. They record complaints and resolution methods, and maintain all data in line with the policy guidelines.

If you have any complaints regarding racism, you are encouraged to raise them with our ARCO

Principal's Lunch

Well done Term 2 Principal's Lunch Recipients!

Mr Attard had the privilege of sitting down with two very special Principal Lunch nominees from each class in the last week of Term 2. These students were selected by their class teachers for a range of awesome

reasons listed below. Each received a Principal's Award Certificate as well as a free \$10 lunch order. Congratulations to all the boys and girls selected!



Marley Chapman KJ- Always being respectful, hard-working and responsible.

Brock Lau KJ- Always putting in 100% effort and being a fantastic role model for his peers.

Armani Powell-Shaw 1R- For her consistent effort across all learning areas.

Mason Drysdale 1R- For his consistent effort across all learning areas.

Kyle Oliver 1/2O- Always working diligently to improve learning outcomes.

Ella Cavanaugh 1/2O- Always working diligently to improve learning outcomes.

Scarlette Vermast 2/3F- Improved attitude and application in all learning areas.

Spencer Ayres 2/3F- Consistent effort and application

across all learning areas.

Marcus Nestoroski 3/4M- For his positive attitude and consistent effort across all key learning areas.

Eleni Girdo 3/4M- For her consistent positive attitude and application across all key learning areas.

Jackson Anderson 3/4T- For his positive class attitude and his consistent application across all key learning areas.

Brennah Davis 3/4T- For her positive class attitude and her consistent application across all key learning areas.

Cody Craft 5/6H- Consistent application to all areas of his learning and for always being willing to share his excellent general knowledge.

Logan Cavanaugh 5/6H- For his positive attitude to learning and always being willing to give everything a go.

Dominic King 5/6LW- Consistent effort and application in all learning areas.

Lachlan McGuiness 5/6LW- Consistent effort and application in all learning areas.

**HAPPY RETIREMENT MS DUNCAN!!!
WE'LL MISS YOU!!**



Class	Student of the Fortnight	Reason
KJ	Bowie Widdup	For being a positive and well behaved class member.
1R	Joseph Ghannumi	For trying hard and applying himself to reading.
1/2O	Levi Moore	Increased application in spelling leading to improvement in writing tasks.
2/3F	William Nicastri	Improved application in writing tasks
3/4M	Mimi Papandrea	For her consistent application across all learning areas.
3/4T	James Buxton-Hurd	For his ongoing hard work in mathematics and always willing to give everything a go.
5/6H	Laylah-Rose Hill	Always having a smile on her face and trying her best in all areas of her learning.
5/6LW	Banjo Tinelt	For insightful contributions to class discussions.



NAIDOC Performance

At Berkeley West PS we have been celebrating NAIDOC week during the last 2 weeks of Term 2. This year the theme for NAIDOC Week is: "STAND UP, SHOW UP!"

The students at Berkeley West enjoyed the Didjeribone performance on the 22/6/2022. Didjeribone was a unique Australian music experience accompanied by both personal and ancestral stories. The students got to experience the use of the didjeribone, face bass and cutting-edge music production equipment. The music was played, recorded then instantly played back on a loop to form a backing track. The process is repeated with loop track after loop track being added creating a rich, deep, multi-layered soundscape. It's then that the true magic happens as from the didjeribone the haunting wind, howling dingoes and humorous kookaburras populate this genuinely Australian piece of music. As a special treat though, Emily got a special birthday song played on the Didjeribone.

'What's Happening in 3/4T'

This semester, 3/4T have been learning about 'Artists throughout Time' in our Visual Arts unit. This week, 3/4T learnt about the Renaissance period through Leonardo Da Vinci's artworks. We explored how Leonardo Da Vinci used a variety of lines, tone and shapes to create dimension in his artworks and how he captured still life images in his paintings. Inspired by his famous artwork the 'Mona Lisa', 3/4T adapted their own modern twist from the original artwork using black markers for creating lines and oil pastels. The students enjoyed the creative freedom to cast the Mona Lisa in her own unique setting and displayed enthusiasm when adding their own ideas to their individual artworks. Great work 3/4T!



Every Day Counts – School Attendance

At Berkeley West Public School we are working towards all students achieving 95%+ expected attendance at school. Our attendance data is thoroughly checked every fortnight so that we can check in with students and parents who are falling below our attendance target.

- It is very important for parents to know and understand that every day a student attends school enhances their learning and wellbeing outcomes.
- It is also very important for parents to know that students with attendance rates below 90% may be educationally at risk.
- If a student drops below 80-89% attendance it has a significant impact on their learning, as they miss out on vital concepts being taught on a daily basis. They also miss being with their class-mates and forming friendships that are so important to a child's wellbeing and sense of belonging.

Every fortnight our Attendance Team will choose two students who have significantly improved their attendance rate.

Congratulations to Layla from 5/6LW and Brodie from 3/4T who each received a canteen voucher for their improved attendance. Well done both of you.

Mrs Duncan



Land Links

"We work with lessons from land and nature."

A big thank-you to Bunnings at Kembla Grange for donating some more native plants, soil and mulch.



NSW Department of Education

Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to...



Learn



Make friends



Build skills through fun

education.nsw.gov.au



Days missed = years lost

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

When your child misses just...

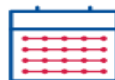
they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

1 day per fortnight

=

4 weeks



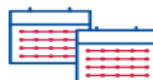
=

Over **1** year missed

1 day per week

=

8 weeks



=

Over **2.5** years missed

education.nsw.gov.au

What is *Learning for Life*?



everyone's family

Learning for Life provides families with opportunities to increase their children's success at school.

The *Learning for Life* program helps each child to reach their potential by supporting their education from primary through to post-school studies.

Learning for Life provides:

Support from a *Learning for Life* team member who can help your child improve their attendance, change smoothly from primary to high school and give you information on services available

Access to educational programs that can further support your children

Financial support to help with costs related to education such as books, uniforms and excursions



Am I eligible for *Learning for Life*?

To be eligible, you must:

- ✓ Have a child/ children in Kindergarten/ Prep/ Reception to Year 6, who attend a school that we work with
- ✓ Have a current Health Care or Pension Concession Card
- ✓ Demonstrate a strong commitment to education through regular school attendance



What else do I need to know?

Learning for Life is a partnership between your family and The Smith Family.

As a parent/guardian or caregiver, you will be committing to:

- Your children attending school regularly
- Providing a school report yearly for each child
- Returning a yearly progress report for each child
- Maintaining contact with The Smith Family



How do I apply for *Learning for Life*?

If you meet all of the above criteria and would like to apply for the *Learning for Life* program, please complete the referral form provided and return to your school.

For further information, please contact the Family Partnership Coordinator:

Shannon Couley
Family Partnership Coordinator
Learning For Life

0466745454
Shannon.couley@thesmithfamily.com.au