



BERKELEY WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Nolan St, Berkeley 2506
P.O. Box 56 Berkeley
Principal: Mr A. Attard

Wednesday 15 June, 2022



From The Principal's Desk

Upcoming Events

- Thurs 16 June-** 2.30pm School assembly in hall– all welcome! (Please note change of date from last newsletter)
- Fri 17 June-** 'Wear red to school mufti day' to support Cystic Fibrosis Australia and one of our great students!– gold coin donation
- Mon 20 June-** School athletics carnival– Myimbarr Oval– permission note required- all welcome!
- Tues 21 June-** 9.15am P&F meeting in school community/breakfast room– all welcome!
- Wed 22 June-** School performer visiting- 'Didjeribone'- permission note and \$1 payment required– don't miss it!
- Wed 29 June-** Semester 1 student reports sent home
- Thurs 30 June-** Southern Stars rehearsal at WIN Entertainment Centre for those students involved
- 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!

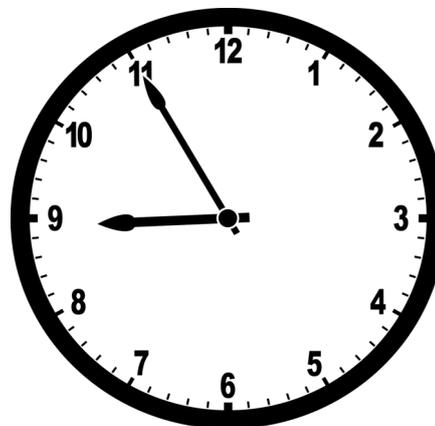
Goodbye and Thankyou Ms Duncan!

It's hard to believe, but we say goodbye to Ms Duncan at the end of this term, as she takes leave for the rest of this year. After taking her leave, Ms Duncan will transition into a well-deserved retirement in which some quiet walks on the beaches of the South Coast and time with the grandchildren is sure to feature!



Ms Duncan has been with us as one of our Assistant Principals at Berkeley West for the last 6 years and has worked for over 20 years in total with the NSW Department of Education. During that time she has strived to know, value and care for every student, particularly those in Years 3-6! She has promised to maybe pop in and do some casual work during the year, but we will still miss you!

Congratulations Ms Duncan on a fantastic career. We know the staff, students and wider community at



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



Berkeley West all wish you health and happiness in your retirement! Thankyou so much!

Principal's Award

Congratulations to Scarlett H for receiving the Principal's Award this week for always being respectful, responsible and safe at school. As well as her certificate, Scarlett will enjoy a \$4.00 food voucher to spend at the canteen and will have a special seat on stage at tomorrow's school assembly.



Spectacular job Scarlett!!

Gallop Street Crossing

Just a reminder to all students and parents that our school crossings on Nolan and Gallop Streets are the safest places to cross the road when coming to, or leaving from school. However, please be aware that often only the Nolan St crossing is supervised by a trained and authorized crossing supervisor. The Gallop Street crossing does not always have a crossing supervisor present. It is a designated crossing during school 40km/h periods in the morning and afternoon and cars **should** stop if pedestrians wish to cross the road at that point.

School staff do not have the authority to act as crossing supervisors. Staff will encourage students to leave the grounds in an sensible and orderly manner. And cross the road safely if parents are concerned

about their children crossing Gallop St without an adult, they need to arrange for a responsible adult to do so. If you have any concerns about the Gallop St crossing, please take them to Transport for NSW.

Healthy School Lunches

Children should be eating the same range of foods as adults. They need to eat plenty of breads, cereals, fruit and vegetables, lean meats and dairy products. Small amounts of foods with high fat, sugar or salt content are fine to include in the diet occasionally, but not on a daily basis. Healthy snacks throughout the day are an important contribution to your child's diet. It is what they eat, rather than how much they eat, which is important.



Winter can be a difficult time of the year to create interesting and nutritious lunches, but there are many ways you can add variety and interest to your child's lunch box. You can vary the sandwiches by using three slices and two fillings, or by using one slice each of brown and white bread. Try using bread rolls or wrap the filling in one of the many flat breads available. For special occasions try cutting them into different shapes or use a biscuit cutter.

When you are making meatloaf, make a few smaller ones in patty pans or muffin tins and pop them into the lunch box. Individual quiches or savoury muffins are a great alternative to sandwiches. Try putting some home made soup or baked beans in a small flask.

Often you can create interest in the lunch by asking your children to help prepare it; they take ownership of it and are far more likely to eat something which they have made themselves.

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

Learning to tell the time is one of those life skills that, well, takes 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.

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.

Attendance Cup!

Congratulations to all the students who seem very determined at the moment to take out the Berkeley West Public School Attendance Cup.



Our school is aiming to match the State average for attendance this year. Well done 2/3F & 3/4M who have won the trophy over the last two weeks!

Can your class win the cup next week? Do your bit, be at school every day!

Attendance at School– Info for Parents What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children from the year they turn 6. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the NSW Educational Standards Authority for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Starting Kindergarten 2023

Our school is now taking kindergarten enrolments for 2023! 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 or complete an online enrolment by visiting our school website. 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. We already have quite a few students telling us they're ready for big school next year!

Boys and Reading

In Australia and indeed world wide, there is a disparity in achievement levels between girls and boys. In fact, boys' achievement levels in reading show a consistent deficit when compared to girls'. This affects their ongoing learning in all subject areas, especially now when assessment is very literacy focussed. This is independent of socioeconomic ranking and is specific to literacy, not to other areas of learning.



What can we do about this?

Research in the UK showed boys' reading scores improved sharply once fathers, uncles or older brothers began reading to them. This intervention involved reading together for five minutes per day. Research shows that "three-quarters of children aged five to seven are read to regularly by their mothers, but only half by their fathers. Boys need role models in this as in everything else. Part of the problem is that too many boys see reading as a female activity and shy away from it." Boys need men reading to them from an early age and helping them learn to read, so they grow up seeing reading as a legitimate male activity.

Hints for Fathers/Uncles/Older Brothers:

Read regularly to your younger boy and listen to him read as he gets older. Anyone can teach him to play football but you are in the best position to teach him that reading is important.

When you do listen to your boy read don't be critical or correct mistakes but help out when he asks for assistance. It's not a test. Don't worry if your own literacy skills are not high. Listening is all that's required to help him develop a positive attitude to reading.

Research shows that if a father (or other male role model) reads to his boy for five minutes a day, his literacy skills will improve.

Parking in the Staff Car Park

For safety reasons, under no circumstances are parents or carers permitted to use the staff car park as a place to drop off or pick up students. Please allow sufficient time to park your car in the street adjacent to the school and meet your child at the gate.

2022 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.

"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>

Useful facts for parents regarding your child's physical wellbeing

Click the links below to find out more, or visit our school webpage and at the homepage and look in the 'For parents' tab and then the 'Useful links and info' tab

[The facts about sleep!](#)

[The facts about diet!](#)

[The facts about exercise!](#)

School Asthma Procedures

As part of our school's asthma management procedures, there are a number of important responsibilities of all stakeholders clearly outlined. Below are the key responsibilities of parents in helping manage their child's asthma. Parents need to-

- Notify the school that their child is asthmatic;
- Ensure an individual Asthma Management Plan is completed by their child's doctor in consultation with them and that the school is provided with a copy of this plan;
- Ensure that their child's Asthma Management Plan is regularly updated and the school kept informed;

- Ensure their children either carry their Ventolin or leave it at the office with written instructions regarding dosages;
- Ensure that their child's reliever medication is not out of date;
- Ensure children are educated to:
- Administer their own medication as soon as practicable; or
- Ask an adult if they can attend the office to receive reliever medication; and
- Report to the sick bay or*/*/879 report to staff if they have self administered medication so that they can be monitored for at least 4 minutes whilst parents are notified as a courtesy.

A full copy of our school's procedures is available upon request.

Our sandpit needs repair!

Our K-2 sandpit box is coming apart and we have had to keep students out of it from today. If you, or anyone you know is able to take a look at it and do some running repairs please call the school on 4271 1478 to offer your help. Any materials needed to get the sandpit back in shape will be provided by the school. We just need some time and expertise!

Class	Student of the Fortnight	Reason
KJ	Cheyenne Brooks -West	For a huge improvement and effort in Phonics and Reading.
1R	Nevaeh Hearnden	For her increasing confidence to participate in classroom discussions.
1/2O	Aiden Lucas	For being a kind and thoughtful member of 1/2O.
2/3F	Spencer Ayres	Presenting fantastic ideas in both creative and persuasive writing.
3/4M	Ruby Cavanaugh	For her consistent application across all subject areas.
3/4T	Jason Knight	For his engaging discussion during novel study and for working hard across all subject areas.
5/6H	Nayah Connolly-Mesepitu	For always being encouraging towards others to help them achieve their goals.
5/6LW	Alina Jones	For being an engaged and enthusiastic learner.

District Cross Country

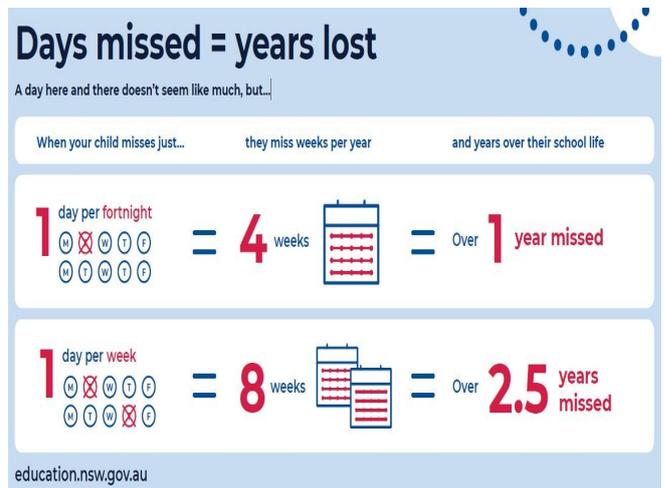
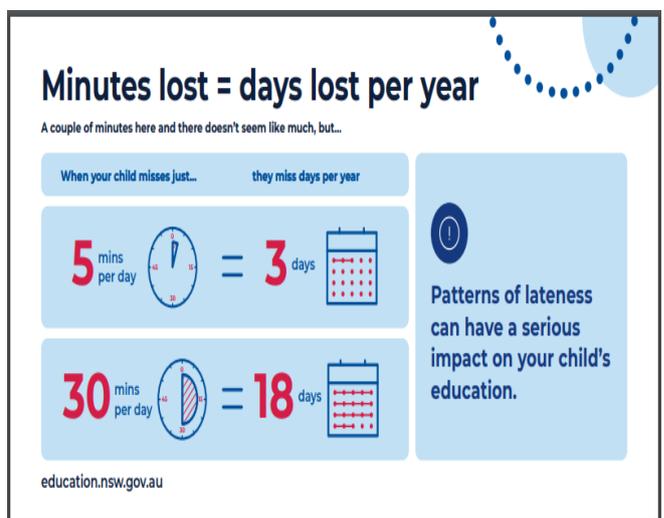
Congratulations to all the students who participated in the District Cross Country at Blackbutt Forest Shellharbour. We had some fantastic results across all age groups. All of our runners demonstrated wonderful sportsmanship and Berkeley West had the best, most amazing cheer squad all day! Well done to all that attended, Ms Whyte and Miss Haworth are very proud of you all.

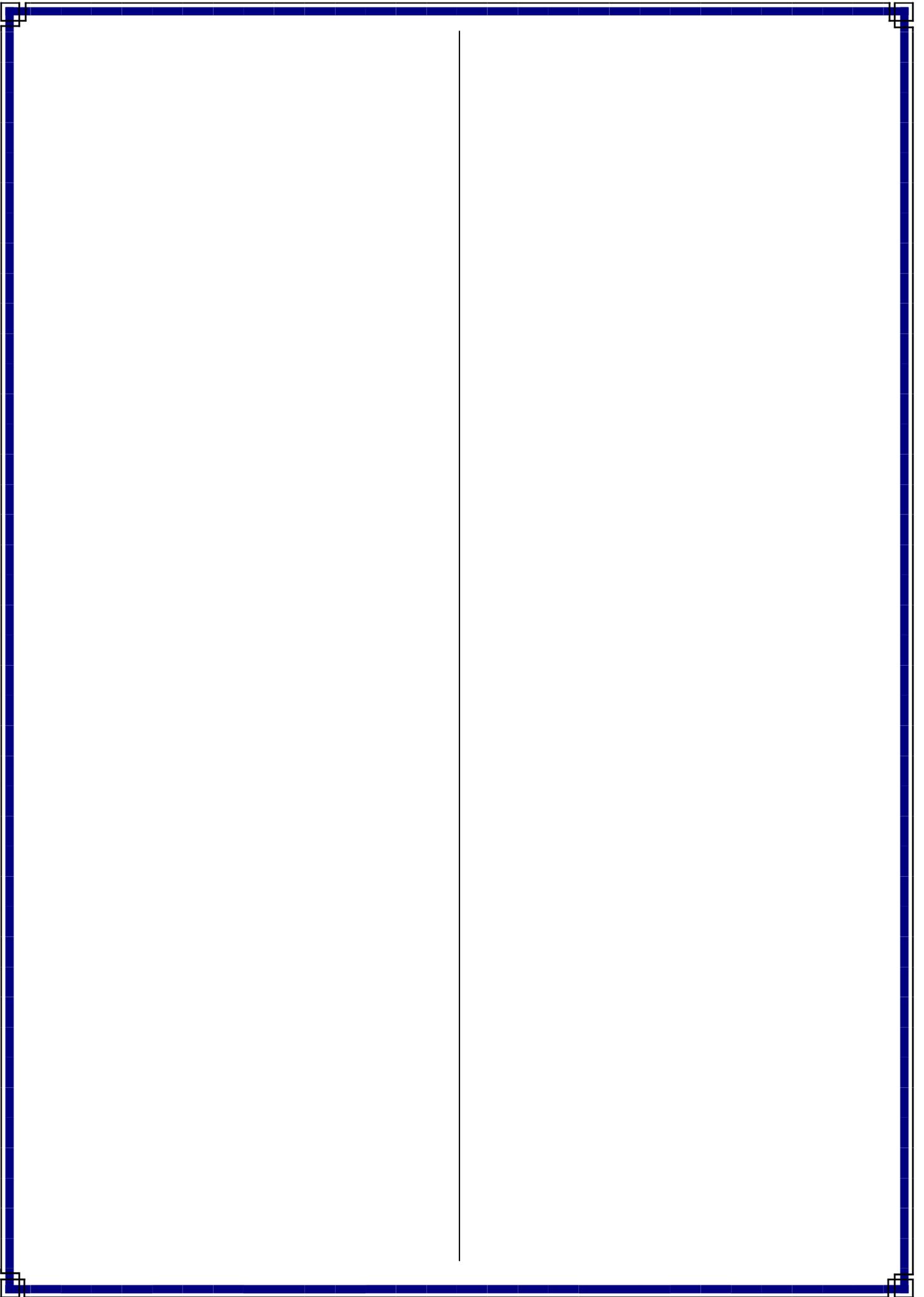


Week 9—Monday 20th June 2022

For online catalogues/issues use the address below
<https://www.scholastic.com.au/book-club/book-club-parents/>

If you have any troubles placing an order please contact Book Club on
 Phone: 1800 021 233
 Email: customer_service@scholastic.com.au





Minutes lost = days lost per year

A couple of minutes here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just... they miss days per year

5 mins per day  = **3** days 

30 mins per day  = **18** days 

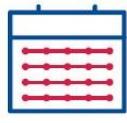
 **Patterns of lateness can have a serious impact on your child's education.**

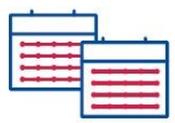
education.nsw.gov.au

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

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