



# BERKELEY WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

Telephone: (02) 4271 1478  
Fax: (02) 4271 5334  
Email: berkeleyw-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au  
Website: <https://berkeleyw-p.schools.nsw.gov.au>  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/bwps1](https://www.facebook.com/bwps1)

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

7 September 2022



## From The Principal's Desk

### Upcoming Events

- Fri 9 Sept-** 9.00-10.45am Free Playgroup for 0-5 year olds in preschool room  
2.15pm Assembly in school hall– 5/6H & 5/6LW class item– all welcome
- Fri 16 Sept-** 9.00-10.45am Free Playgroup for 0-5 year olds in preschool room  
PSSA sports gala day– for Years 3-6 students who have nominated to participate– note and payment required
- Fri 23 Sept-** Last day of Term 3– free mufti  
'Finishing Strong'- attendance reward time for students with 0 or all absences explained in last two weeks of Term 3  
2.15pm School assembly– Class 3/4M & 3/4T item– all welcome!
- Mon 10 Oct-** All students return to school for the start of Term 4

### SASS Appreciation Week 2022!

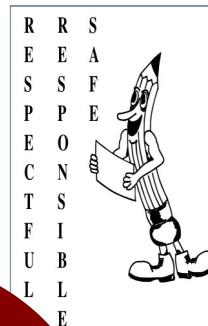
This week, Berkeley West Public School recognises SASS Appreciation Week for all School Administrative and Support Staff (SASS). We appreciate the dedicated staff members who play an important part in ensuring the smooth running of our schools. Our Berkeley West PS SASS Team consists of Mrs Mackey, Mrs Cassar, Mrs Morgan, Mr Longden, Mrs King, Mrs Tait and Mrs Sakun.

Every day of the school year SAS Staff face new challenges in the operation of our public schools and the provision of the quality education which our children will need for life in the 21st century. They are constantly adapting to change so that our children can have the best education possible.

Our Berkeley West SAS Staff are a dedicated group of professional workers who are sometimes overlooked in the school setting. Recognition Week gives our whole school the opportunity to demonstrate to SAS Staff that they are valued members of the school community.

SAS Staff at Berkeley West play a vital role in students' learning by assisting teachers with implementing educational programs, maintaining records and assisting in producing newsletters, and maintaining the grounds to keep our school safe. They are integral in keeping our school functioning as efficiently as it does!

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



SASS Appreciation Week is a great time to thank all our SAS staff for their hard work and dedication this year. Thankyou BWPS SASS!

### "Berkeley West PS" Playgroup has started!

Our free playgroup for children 0-5 years and their parents/carers is now open each Friday morning of school term in the pre-school room! It is open each Friday from 9.00-10.45am and all are welcome!

If you have any questions about our playgroup call Dani on 0439 648 778 during school hours.

Register your interest here-

<https://forms.gle/mx6VaYXuLxJyH6y7>

### We are taking enrolments for Kindergarten 2023 now!!

Either come in and see us at school, or enrol online now at-

<https://enrol.education.nsw.gov.au/#/?schoolCode=4180>

Our 2023 Kinder Orientation program begins mid October.

### Communicating with you!

Take 60 seconds to rate the effectiveness of our BWPS school communication methods at-

<https://forms.gle/3S9kAUfV4TZosbMeA>

## Win one of five \$20 BWPS canteen vouchers for your child!

All parents are now able to provide further feedback in another short survey and be in the running to win one of five BWPS school canteen vouchers.

Simply complete the 'Tell Them From Me' survey before the end of this term using the link below-

<http://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/bwps20222>

Click this link when you have completed the survey to be entered into the draw-

<https://forms.gle/MKy5GKtW4EbmbUua8>

Prize winners will be drawn at a whole school assembly mid-term 4.

## Ball Handling Skills

Research has shown that children who are well coordinated also have better academic skills in literacy and numeracy. Helping your children with their homework, home reading and other projects is something that becomes a natural part of the day for many families, but have you thought about developing their physical skills as well? Getting out in the yard or the local park with your children and throwing a ball for 10-15 minutes a day can help to develop their hand-eye coordination, gross and fine motor skills as well as balance, fitness, agility and speed.

Your children will love the time spent with you and you can vary the activity each day to make sure that all family members have a turn at the activity they most enjoy. Try skipping races, throwing a frisbee, kicking a football or soccer ball, playing cricket, rounds of golf, throwing a beach ball, a vortex, a soft ball or a basketball and watch their skills and confidence grow daily. If you have limited space in your yard, try a game of squareball, handball or the old fashioned donkey. You will notice their developing skills and so will their teacher and their sports coach. Remember to have fun when you get out there and play with your children!



## Confidence

Confidence is the full trust and belief in oneself, a self-reliance and assurance in one's abilities. The 'litmus test' for the degree of confidence a student has can be tested by how they approach new challenges. Lack of confidence is one of the greatest barriers to successful learning. Children who lack confidence have yet to learn that:

- Making mistakes is an essential part of learning.
- Important people love us for who we are, not for what we can do.
- We all have many skills that we have not yet discovered.

Being successful means doing your best, not being better than other people.

Listed below are some ways in which you can help your child to become more confident, and therefore more successful as a learner:

- Be excited and interested in their achievements, no

matter how small.

- Build on any special strengths with praise and new opportunities.
- Ensure that your children feel safe and supported in taking risks. Every child needs to learn that it is fine to make mistakes and that trying and not succeeding straight away is part of learning.
- Take a child's interests and activities seriously. Let them see that their experiences are valuable.
- Ensure all challenges are realistic. Nothing succeeds like success and the more success children have the more confidence they bring to any new challenges.



Carefully consider the place of competition in the life of the child. Despite what some people think, an individual's success in life, in the things that matter, does not depend on being faster, stronger or smarter than other people. Success is about doing your best and being proud of yourself.

*"If you think you can or if you think you can't, you're right either way." Henry Ford*

## Principal's Award

Congratulations to Nevaeh H for receiving the Principal's Award this week for being respectful, responsible and safe at school. As well as her certificate, Nevaeh will enjoy a \$4.00 food voucher to spend at the canteen. She also gets to sit on stage at Friday's whole school assembly!



Nice work Nevaeh!!

## 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!

Well done to 3/4M & 3/4T for taking out the Attendance Cup over the last two school weeks! Well done also to many of our students who are currently in the "90 Club" with attendance of at least 90% this year. Many students will soon receive another GAS (Great Attendance at School) award from their teachers for their attendance.



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

## Things you can do the night before

No matter how organised you may be, sometimes things just don't go to plan.

Some mornings children (and parents!) move a little slower or may not cooperate as much as usual. To ease the morning rush, why not prepare a few things the night before.

- Iron clothes.
- Have your child's clothes, shoes and socks laid out.

- Prepare your child's lunch and pop it in the fridge.
- Help your child to pack their school bag.
- Keep brushes, combs and hair bands in a regular place.

## In and out of the car

To comply with national child restraint laws, your child should be restrained in the car as follows:

### 0 – 6 months

Approved rearward-facing child car seat

### 6 months – 4 years

Approved rearward-facing or forward-facing child car seat

### 4 – 7+ years

Approved forward-facing child car seat or booster seat.

- Make a rule that every child passenger must be securely buckled into a seatbelt or child car seat before you start the car.
- A sleeping child must remain firmly buckled up while the car is in motion.
- Reward your child with lots of praise for good road safety behaviour.
- Assist your young child to buckle up – always check the buckle and make sure the belt is not twisted.
- Ensure your children always get in and out of the car through the 'safety door'. This is the rear kerb side door of the car.
- Never allow children to get out of the car on the traffic side.
- When possible, children should remain in the car until an adult opens the 'safety door'. This helps ensure that children get out of the car safely.
- Children aged between four and seven years cannot travel in the front seat of a vehicle with two or more rows, unless all other back seats are occupied by children younger than seven years in a child car seat.
- A child that is properly secured in an approved child car seat is less likely to be killed or injured in a car crash than one who is not.
- NEVER leave a child of any age in a vehicle without supervision. A small child may rapidly suffer from dehydration, heat exhaustion and consequent organ failure. Older children could play games that may lead to danger.

## Walking together to and from school

- Plan your trip to school so you use pedestrian crossings where possible.
- Always hold your child's hand. Children need your help to spot dangers such as vehicles coming out of driveways. They can also be easily distracted and wander into traffic.

- Drop off and pick up your child near the school gate and avoid calling them from across the road.
- Talk with your children about Stop, Look, Listen and Think every time they cross the road.
- STOP! one step back from the kerb.
- LOOK! for traffic to your right left and right again.
- LISTEN! for the sounds of approaching traffic.
- THINK! whether it is safe to cross.

Young children can learn these safe pedestrian habits from you and continue them later on when they are old enough to travel alone.

## Head Lice

### The facts

- head lice are one of the most commonly reported health complaints from parents and teachers
- anyone can catch head lice regardless of their age, sex, or how clean their hair is
- head lice move from one person's head to another via direct contact with the hair
- head lice do not survive long when they are off a human head
- head lice do not live on furniture, hats, bedding or carpet
- head lice have built up some resistance to head lice treatments

### Tips for parents in reducing the spread of head lice

As infestations are particularly common in primary schools, it is best to choose a treatment that can be used over time. There is no single solution to eradication, only persistence.

- regularly check your children's hair
- teach older children to check their own hair
- tie back and braid long hair
- keep a fine tooth head lice comb in the bathroom and encourage all family members to use it when they wash their hair.

### What you can expect from your school

Advice from NSW Health indicates that there is no need for students to be sent home or excluded from school because of head lice.

Observing students scratching their heads is not a reliable or efficient means of assessing head lice prevalence in the school.

Where one student has head lice this serves as a warning light that there is likely to be an infestation in either specific classes or across the whole school population, including staff.

The school will send a letter home to parents when infestations of head lice occur and request that parents examine their child's hair and undertake treatment where eggs or lice are identified

Schools also provide information about head lice

infestations and treatment for parents (for example, through school newsletters).

Schools will also encourage students to avoid head to head contact in group activities as far as possible.

In rare cases, where students are experiencing a chronic head lice infestation, the school, parents and the local community may need to work together to treat the infestation.

### Gaming and your child

Watch a free Webinar for parents from the eSafety Commissioner regarding how games, apps and social media can influence young people's mental wellbeing. It is designed for parents and carers of young people aged 10-18 and will cover:

- current research on young people, time online and mental health
- what do to about accidental exposure to content about suicide, self-harm or eating disorders
- using games, apps and social media to support mental wellbeing
- strategies for young people to support friends online

Dates parents to register and watch a free webinar are-

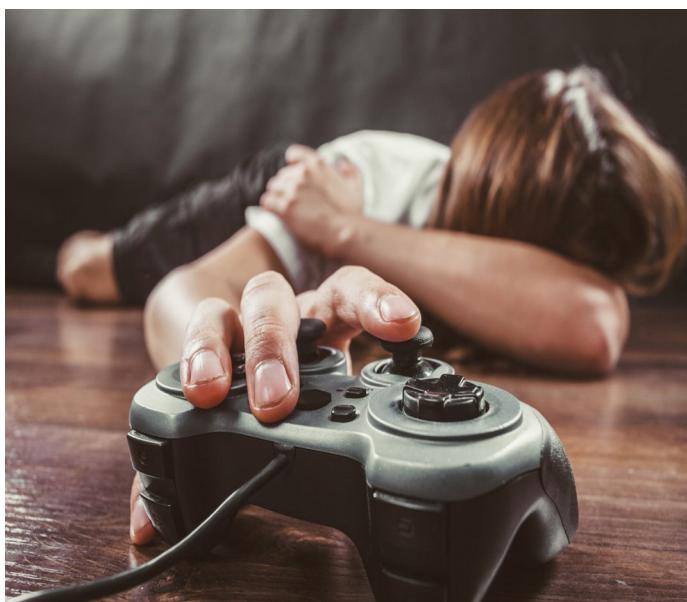
Wed 12 Oct (7.30-8.30pm)

Mon 18 Oct (12.30-1.30pm)

Thurs 27 Oct (12.30-1.30pm)

Register for to watch a free webinar at the time that suits you here-

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/r/9223357062192996109>



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Class	Student of the Fortnight	Reason
KJ	Oskar Pratt	Improved positive behaviour and attitude towards learning.
1R	Alex Girdo	For always trying hard across all learning areas.
1/2O	Summer Caldow	Improved outcomes in reading and writing.
2/3F	Sophiea Oliver	Improved effort in maths
3/4M	Amelia McGuinness	For her consistent application in learning and for her positive attitude during her research task.
3/4T	Jayla O'Rourke	For her positive application in writing and applying herself across all subject areas.
5/6H	Razan Al Harere	For attempting to apply great detail in her writing through adjectives.
5/6LW	Olivia McMaster	For always being a kind and thoughtful member of the class.

## The Smith Family

### Learning for Life Scholarship

**DO YOU NEED SUPPORT  
WITH THE COST OF YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION?**



The Learning for Life Scholarship can provide parents with two payments a year for each child (max 4 children) which can be spent on expenses related to education such as uniforms, school shoes, stationary, BYOD, excursions.

(Payments are to be used for school expenses only!)

You may be eligible for the scholarship if your family:

- ✓ Holds a Pension Concession or Health Care Card and
- ✓ Attends one of our partner schools\*
- ✓ **Student is enrolled in Kindy to Year 7**
- ✓ Demonstrates a commitment to education (children attend school regularly)

Payments are made in January and July.

KINDY TO YEAR 10 students receive \$450 a year.

Year 11 and YEAR 12 students receive \$727 a year.

(Receipts must be provided)



For more information, please contact **Shannon Couley**. Text or call 0466745454 or email [shannon.couley@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:shannon.couley@thesmithfamily.com.au)

\* [Dapto High, Kanaboola High, Illawarra Sports High school](#).

\* [Mount Brown Primary School, Koonawarra Primary School, Lakelands Primary School, Hayes Park Primary School, Berkeley Primary School, Farmborough Road Primary School, Berkeley West Primary School](#).

# BERKELEY WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

📍 Nolan Street Berkeley, NSW 2506 ☎ 02 4271 1478

✉ berkeleyw-p.School@det.nsw.edu.au

🌐 berkeleyw-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

## Welcome to our school – where great minds grow!



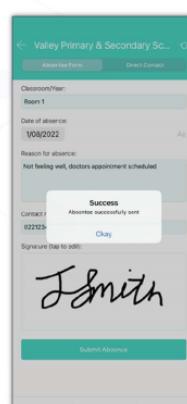
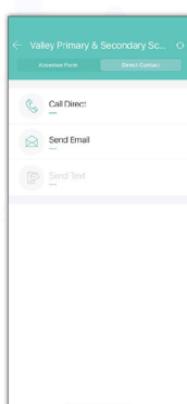
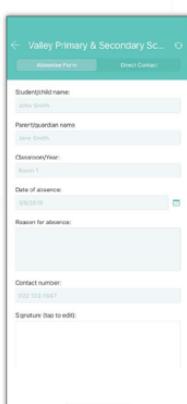
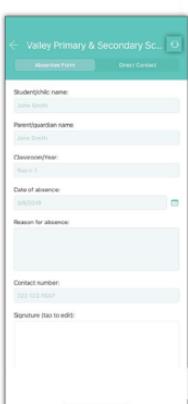
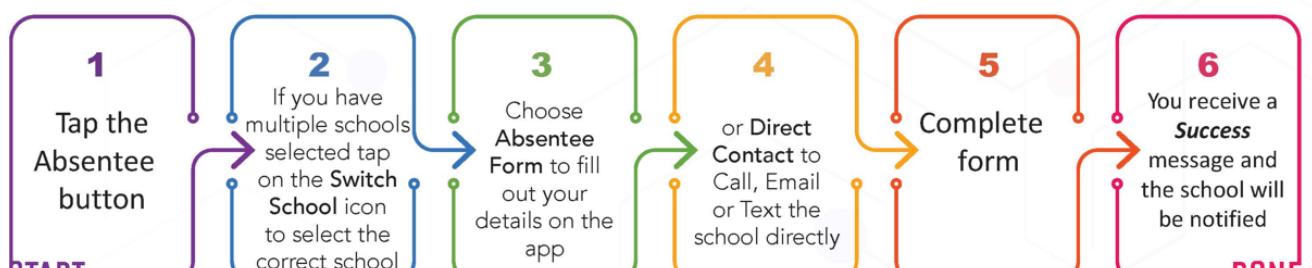
## Kindergarten 2023

We welcome all new  
Kindergarten students  
and families to  
Berkeley West Public  
School.

## Submitting Absentees

with  
 THE SKOOL LOOP APP

Download The Skool Loop App. A simple 100% free download: In Google Play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose our school once installed.



# BWPS Finishing Strong Reward Day!

All students who can finish the term by attending school every day for the last 10 school days of Term 3 i.e.

(12/9– 23/9)

are invited to join in on a special reward chosen by their classmates and teacher on the last day of term, Friday 23 September!

Don't worry! If you are away sick, please stay home until you are well. All you need is for your parent/carer to make sure they have contacted the school to explain your absence and you are all set to join in!



| 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](http://education.nsw.gov.au)



## Minutes lost = days lost per year

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

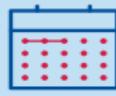
When your child misses just...

they miss days per year

5 mins per day



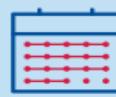
= 3 days



30 mins per day



= 18 days



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

[education.nsw.gov.au](http://education.nsw.gov.au)

## BWPS Book Week Parade Award Winners



## Berkeley West Public School

Thanks to the below businesses for sponsoring our school app:

Albion Park Nissan,  
Suzuki & MG



THE BERKELEY HOTEL

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To download our app: In Google Play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose Berkeley West Public School once installed.

