



# BERKELEY WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Nolan St, Berkeley 2506

P.O. Box 56 Berkeley

Dharawal Country

Thursday 30 November, 2023

Principal: Mr A. Attard



## From The Principal's Desk

### Upcoming Events

- Mon 4 Dec-** 9am 2023 Presentation Day Awards assembly & Christmas raffle– all welcome!
- Wed 6 Dec-** 6pm Year 6 Farewell at Dapto Leagues Club
- Thurs 7 Dec-** End of year school concert– info to come home separately
- Mon 11 Dec-** Learn to swim program begins for the week for students 8-12 years old who have returned notes and payment
- Wed 13 Dec–** Semester 2 student reports sent home today
- Thurs 14 Dec-** 2pm Year 6 Graduation assembly in hall
- Fri 15 Dec-** Last day for all students for 2023– free mufti day– old uniform donations welcomed!
- Thurs 1 Feb-** Students in Years 1-6 return to school for 2024
- Fri 2 Feb-** New 2024 Kindergarten students begin

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

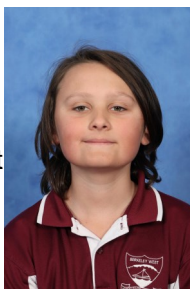
### Our School Vision

*"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."*

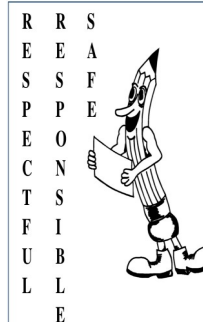
### Principal's Award

Congratulations to Jack F for receiving the Principal's Award this week for being a respectful, responsible and safe student at Berkeley West Public School. Of special mention was Jack's exemplary participation and behaviour at the Stage 3 excursion to Canberra this week. As well as his certificate, Jack will enjoy a \$4.00 food voucher to spend at the canteen before he heads off to high school!

Fantastic work Jack!



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



### 2024 Captain and Prefect Nomination Speeches

Good luck to all the boys and girls that gave their School Captain and Prefect nomination speeches at the last school assembly. Once again, the standard of speeches was high from all nominees. Students and staff have voted wisely and our new student leaders will be announced at this year's Presentation Day assembly next week on Monday 4 December. All welcome to attend.

### Stage 3 Excursion– Our Memorable Excursion to Bathurst Goldfields

Early on Monday morning, we, the eager Stage 3 students of Berkeley West Public School, gathered with our teachers Mrs. Lloyd, Mrs. Mears, Miss Midgley, and Mr. Attard, ready for an exciting excursion to Bathurst Goldfields. The journey began at 7:40 am, and we were all buzzing with anticipation.

Our first stop was at Glenbrook, a welcome break for a quick stretch, drink, and a toilet break. We then proceeded to Echo Point Lookout where we enjoyed our morning tea, taking in the breathtaking view of the Three Sisters and the vast Blue Mountains valley. It was a serene moment, soaking in the beauty of our surroundings.



We then headed to Scenic World, where our adventure took an exhilarating turn. We boarded the Scenic Railway, descending steeply into the Jamison Valley. The ride was thrilling, taking us down at a 52% gradient. We landed in Dinosaur Valley, under a canopy of ancient rainforest, where life-sized dinosaurs awaited us. It felt like stepping into another world, and we were all in awe.

The return to the surface was via the Scenic Cableway, offering us a unique perspective of the Three Sisters, Orphan Rock, and Mt Solitary. We then embarked on the Scenic Skyway. Suspended 270 metres above ancient ravines, we had a bird's eye view of the valley, with the electro-glass cabin floor revealing the rainforest canopy below.

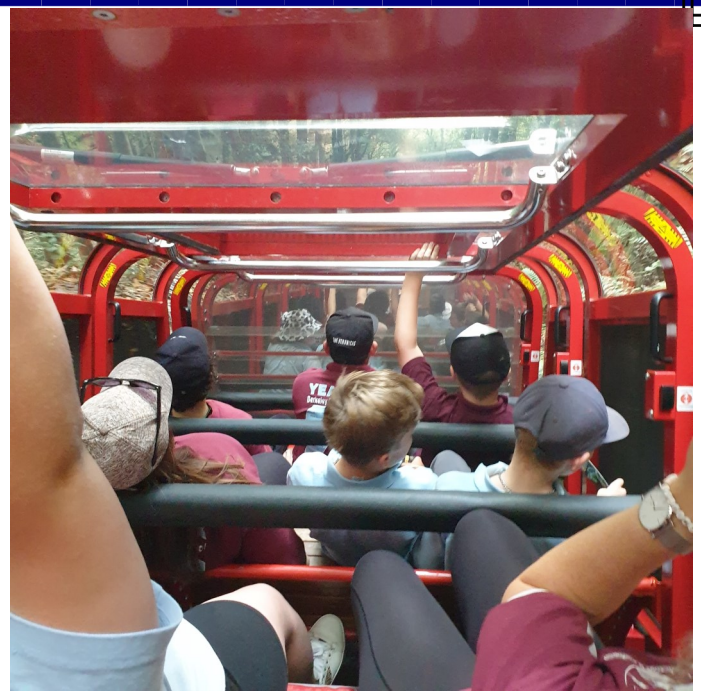
After these adventures, we continued our journey to the Bathurst Goldfields. On arrival, we settled into our cabins and then gathered for dinner. The evening ended with a movie in the auditorium, where we relaxed and later chatted back in our bunks about the day's events.

The following morning after a hot breakfast and during our morning walk around the goldfields, we were lucky enough to get a roadside view of V8's racing past at over 200km/h down Conrod Straight at Mount Panorama. The day was filled with immersive Colonial Goldfields experiences, including panning for gold, making mud bricks, and cooking damper. We learned about the harsh realities of life in the 1850s during our visit to the gold rush museum. Later in the afternoon, we unleashed some more energy at the Bathurst Adventure Playground, enjoying its many attractions.

In the evening, we were entertained by Jason, a Colonial Bush singer, who taught us traditional bush songs and dances. After a fun-filled evening, we enjoyed some marshmallows before heading back to our cabins for bedtime stories.

On our final day, we had an early start, enjoying another cooked breakfast before packing up. We visited the Goldfields souvenir shop, then made our way to Hartley Historic Village. We explored the 1836 courthouse, jail, and church, reenacting court cases and reading convict inscriptions on jail walls.

Despite encountering heavy rain and hail on our journey back on the bus, we arrived safely at school, where our parents awaited us. This trip was a wonderful learning experience, and we thank our teachers for their dedication and hard work. Their effort made this excursion a success, and the memories we made will surely last a lifetime.



## Swearing

Swearing may cause stress and conflict in the home, particularly if your child has not sworn before. Before dealing with it, both parents need to discuss their own values about swearing and what they think is acceptable. In some families one parent swears and the other does not, or one parent disapproves of swearing while the other does not – this gives mixed messages to the children. Some families think it is fine for adults to swear but not for children – this also gives mixed messages to the children.

Children will hear swearing around them at sporting events, parties and gatherings, on television and in movies. They need to learn that there are many unacceptable forms of language and that there are times and places when its use may cause distress to others.

Listed below are some suggestions for dealing with swearing at home:



- Try to be matter of fact and say something like, "We don't use that word in our family and I don't want to hear it again."
- If children are experimenting with a word you could offer an alternative suggestion. For example if they are calling out a word you don't like, you could make up a fun word and suggest they try that instead. e.g. "I know a better word than that, what about saying 'ping'."
- If your children say a swear word when they are angry or distressed it is probably most helpful to show them how to say what they really mean, e.g. "I can see you feel really cross/upset/ disappointed ... " rather than make a big fuss about the use of the word.
- Set up a penalty box. If anyone swears or uses unacceptable language they are fined an agreed amount. Money collected in the box is donated to a worthy cause.
- Try not to overreact if your children swear at home; sometimes that is their sole purpose! Make sure that they know you are not impressed with their choice or use of language.
- Discuss the use of inappropriate language as a family. Set family rules.
- Both children and adults may sometimes swear out of habit. If this is the case, help them to find new ways of expressing themselves.
- Consider your own use of language. If there are words you do not want your children to use, remove them from your own language; remember that children learn best by example!

Swearing is not tolerated at Berkeley West Public School and will be dealt with accordingly.

## PLAYSTRONG PLAYGROUP

### BERKELEY WEST

for children birth – 5

**FREE**

**Fridays, 9.00am - 11.00am**  
(During school term)

Located at Berkeley West Public School community room

Please bring a hat and healthy morning tea

For more information contact – 0439 648 778



Our Playstrong program is 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**





Class	Student of the Fortnight	Reason
KJ	Channcce Palamara	A settled and positive start at BWPS
1/2J	Kayden Flood-Fellowes	For his focus and effort in reading groups and independent activities.
1/2R	Joseph Ghannumi	For trying hard to add expression when reading to engage his audience.
3/4H	Summer Caldwell	For her writing effort in sentence of the day activities and willingness to share with her peers.
3/4L	Isaak Diaz	For his Increasing confidence and participation during Mathematics.
4/5G	Mason Condon-Bourke	For being a respectful class member who speaks to others politely and always uses his manners.
5/6Me	Tori Williamson	For her sensible behaviour and positive attitude during Year 6 camp
5/6Mi	Savannah Smith	For her outstanding behaviour on stage 3 camp

### School Water Safety Program

For those that have paid, the School Swimming and Water Safety Program will begin on Monday, 11 December 2023 (week 10). Students are to come to school each day for the entire week and will be transported by bus to Berkeley Swimming Pool.

Your child should bring their swimming costume, towel, rash shirt, hat, goggles (optional) and sunscreen. On the final day (Friday, 15 December 2023) students will need to wear loose shorts and t-shirts over their swimming costumes.

## P&F Appreciation Post

A big THANKYOU to all the families who donated to our Christmas Raffle!

- Madeline O'Neil - Southern Diecast
- Dapto Dandaloo
- Rosandic Family
- Tyson Forster - Illawarra Mowers
- Jessica Sadler
- Bradley Forster - HWH Crystals
- Berkeley Cakes & Pies
- Melinda Ayers
- Big W Dapto

We appreciate your generosity.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

## Out and About in the Garden

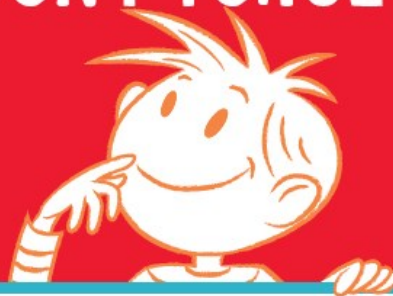
With Mrs Haynes



A big thank you to the staff at Bunnings and our super Berkeley West Public School helpers for updating some of our gardens. Bunnings donated soil, mulch, plants and their time.



# DON'T FORGET!



**SCHOLASTIC**  
**Book Club**  
orders are due:  
**1/12/2023**

### Worth Noting

**GIFT FUNCTION-** This function is automatically switched on for Issue 7 and will allow parents to make purchases that children are not aware of.

### BooksPlus update

Scanning the QR code will access additional content for the book including greater insight into the story, characters and creators.

We would love to hear what you think works and what else we could provide as part of BooksPlus.

### BWPS Uniform Shop

Did you know the school uniform shop accepts and sells second hand uniforms?



If you have a child heading to high school next year or your child is likely to change sizes before next year, the uniform shop would greatly appreciate any donations of second hand uniforms.

Shirts, shorts, dresses, jackets, skirts, or anything that is part of the BWPS uniform is welcome. They will all be washed and resold at a cheaper price, and proceeds will go back into the uniform shop funds to purchase more new uniforms.

These donations can be brought in on Thursday mornings and handed to Melina in the uniform shop, or left at the office.

