



BERKELEY WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

Telephone: (02) 4271 1478

Fax: (02) 4271 5334

Email: berkeleyw-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Website: berkeleyw-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

Nolan St, Berkeley 2506

P.O. Box 56 Berkeley

Principal: Mr A. Attard

Wednesday 15 March, 2023



From The Principal's Desk Upcoming Events

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

- Thurs 16 Mar-** 4pm AECG meeting– Hayes Park Public School
- Fri 17 Mar-** 2.30pm School assembly in hall– all welcome!
- Mon 20 Mar-** Harmony Week 2023 begins
- Mon 20 Mar-** BWPS Harmony Day BBQ/Picnic 1pm– followed by Harmony Day Assembly in the hall, wear as much or as little orange as you like to school today!
- Tues 21 Mar-** 9.15am P&F meeting (AGM) in school Community Room– all welcome!
- Mon 3 Apr-** Life Education van program starts today and runs for next 3 days– permission note and \$2 payment required
- Thurs 6 Apr-** Easter Hat Parade– all welcome!
- Thurs 6 Apr-** Last day of Term 1– free mufti- students return Wednesday 26 April
- Mon 24 Apr-** Staff Development ('Pupil Free') Day– teachers only return to school today
- Tues 25 Apr-** Public holiday– ANZAC Day
- Wed 26 Apr-** All students K-6 return to school

Principal's Award

Congratulations to Amelia C for receiving the Principal's Award this week for always being a respectful, responsible and safe student. As well as her certificate, Amelia will enjoy a \$4.00 food voucher to spend at the canteen and gets to sit on stage at the next school assembly.

Amazing Amelia!!

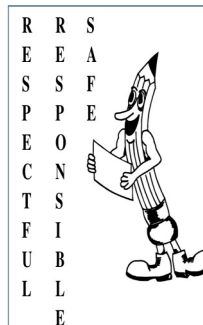


Reading at Home

Reading is an important skill which is developed through experiences with a wide variety of texts. This includes reading books and magazines, posters and charts, pamphlets and packets, letters and postcards. It also includes viewing multimedia texts such as movies and documentaries.

Children make progress at their own pace; some pick up new skills quickly and some need more time for learning and practising the new skill. All children need to be ready to learn and to have the best conditions for

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learning new skills. At school, teachers create safe, happy and stimulating environments where children are encouraged and praised for 'having a go'.

You can create a similar learning environment at home with the following ideas:

- Make a regular time to read together and don't stop reading to your child when they can read themselves; they love listening to a competent reader.
- When you introduce a new book to your child, discuss what it could be about, talk about the pictures or text and then read it to each other. With older children you can encourage them to make predictions and pause occasionally to confirm or reject their original thoughts.
- Read and follow directions together such as when making a recipe or instructions for playing a game or assembling a new piece of furniture or toy.
- Read magazines and newspapers together and talk about the pictures as well as the text. Listen to audio books or story CD's and watch movies together. Once you've seen the movie, discuss it and then read the original book together. Most importantly.....make sure your children see you



enjoying reading.

Bullying

This week's newsletter continues to provide more information to parents so that they can support the underlying principles of the anti-bullying plan being implemented at school. It explains some of the characteristics of bullying and the key features of what our anti-bullying plan is trying to achieve.

Strategies We Will Use to Deal With Bullying

At Berkeley West Public School we will:

- Openly talk about bullying- what it is, how it affects us and what we can do about it.
- Teach our students the skills which build their self-esteem and empower them to take the responsibility for themselves- and give them the opportunity to practise these skills.
- Respond to substantiated instances of bullying behaviour in accordance with the school's discipline and welfare policy and all relevant NSW Department of Education policies and procedures.

Responsibilities of Staff

All staff have a responsibility to-

- model appropriate behaviours at all times;
- teach students skills and strategies to deal with bullying as per the lessons distributed to staff ("Bullying" available from library);
- deal with all reported and observed incidences of bullying as set out in this plan and the school's discipline policy;
- ensure that students are supervised at all times;
- report incidences of bullying to the Assistant Principals or Principal consistent with school welfare reporting procedures; and
- create a culture where it is acceptable and encouraged to report incidents-("Awareness breaks the cycle of violence").

Responsibilities of Students

All students have a responsibility to-

- be assertive- Tell the "bully" that they don't like the behaviour, how it makes them feel and that how they must tell a teacher about it if the person continues;
- see a teacher or ask to see the Principal if the perpetrator/s do continue;
- "Tell" if they are being bullied or if they see someone else being bullied- both at school or on the way to and from school- ("Awareness breaks the cycle of violence");
- report any cyber-bullying to their teacher or Principal (do not delete any emails or make note of any websites);
- ask to see the Principal directly to report incidences of bullying if the teacher is busy with

other playground issues, or if they would prefer to do so;

- help someone who is being bullied; and
- not bully others.



Responsibilities of Parents

All parents/caregivers have a responsibility to-

- watch for signs their child may be being bullied;
- speak with someone on the staff at Berkeley West Public School if they suspect their child is being bullied; and
- instruct their children to "tell" if they are bullied ("Awareness breaks the cycle of violence")

Reporting Bullying

Incidences of bullying can be reported by students immediately to any teacher, Assistant Principals or the Principal by students. Any claims of bullying will be investigated and recorded by the Assistant Principals. Consequences for the perpetrators of clearly substantiated incidences of bullying behaviour will also be imposed as outlined in the school's discipline procedures and, if necessary, suspension procedures.

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.

Mapping- When traveling, provide children with a street directory or map and discuss directions. Point out speed limits, distances to towns, populations in towns, etc. When you are driving along in the car, ask children to guess how far it is to the next light post, the next town etc. Involve the whole family. Measure the distances with your speedometer.

Student Assistance

If you require assistance meeting expenses related to your child's education you are welcome to call the school and ask to speak with the Principal Mr Attard. No requests for assistance will be refused!

Attendance Cup!

Congratulations to 3/4H (Buru) and 4/5G (Magadaang) for winning the Berkeley West Public School Attendance Cup over the last two school weeks for outstanding school attendance.



The cup will be awarded each week to the class whose students have had the best attendance rate for the week. The cup will stay in the classroom and is even big enough to be filled with some little rewards for the students!

Don't let your class down, be at school every day as every absence counts!

Currently our students are attending school at above the state average and are attending on average at 91.5%! 133 students have only had 1-3 days away this year with an amazing 60 of them having not missed a single day!

Socialisation

Schools provide an important opportunity for your

children to practice and refine their skills in 'getting along with others' while achieving their education. We are all part of the Berkeley West Public School community and we all have a vested interest in ensuring our school community is happy and healthy. We are a community of people all working towards the same goal; the education and socialisation of our children.

Research clearly indicates the importance of the development of a partnership approach between parents and schools to learning and school attendance, to ensure children achieve to their ability.

The playground environment and the classroom are areas which both provide their own socialisation challenges and it is important for parents to feel confident in approaching the school to discuss issues of concern.

Some tips for problem solving in partnership with schools:

- Listen clearly to your child's concerns.
- Encourage them to think of things they can do to remedy the situation.
- Avoid absenteeism as a solution – this teaches that running away from problems is a valid solution.
- Make a time to see your child's teacher to discuss the issue. If necessary, also make an appointment with the Principal.
- Avoid blaming – state your concerns clearly.

Work in partnership with the teacher to decide how best to support the situation, looking at the problem from all sides, considering all options and making a time for review.

Remember, the school is a dynamic people community with thousands of social interactions occurring daily. It is only natural that there will be occasions when there are socialisation issues. Schools are about ensuring the safety and happiness of every child and are only too happy to work with parents to quickly resolve an issue or concern.

Afternoon Pick Up

Thanks to all those parents who have arranged to meet their children at 3pm either in the school canteen area or adjacent to school pedestrian gates. These are the designated pick-up areas for pick-up and need to be utilized.

Parents **are not to** wait outside classrooms or in playground areas as you are a stranger to students other than your own child. Also, students may have bags and other personal belongings outside whilst they are in library lessons, the computer lab or whilst outside doing PE.

Under no circumstances are parents to enter student toilet facilities at school whilst waiting for their children at 3pm.

Spelling rules you should know!

Remember that there are often exceptions to many rules! When used as a guide, rules can really assist children. Here are a few spelling rules to assist with

spelling-

Soft 'c' : 'c' before e, i, or y says, 's'.

For example: certificate, cycle, city, census, centre, circle, citizen, cycle, cymbal**

Sun protection and skin cancer myths

Answer true or false:

1. You don't get sunburnt on cloudy days.
2. I don't need to use sunscreen because my foundation/ moisturiser has some sunscreen in it.
3. People with olive skin are not at risk of skin cancer.
4. Sunbeds (solariums) are not a safe way to tan.
5. You need to spend lots of time in the sun to get your daily dose of vitamin D.
6. Fake tan protects your skin from the sun.
7. It takes less than half an hour to get sunburnt.
8. You don't have to be concerned about skin cancer because, if it happens, it's easy to see and easy to treat.
9. Only people who sunbake get skin cancer.
10. You can get burnt through a car window.

Answers

1. False 2. False 3. False 4. True 5. False
6. False 7. True 8. False 9. False 10. True

For further myth-busting information, go to:

www.cancercouncil.com.au/sunsmart

Snack Time at School

Children need a range of nutrients to meet their growth and energy needs. Snacks need to be sometime

Everyday Snacks-	Sometimes Snacks-
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fresh fruit or canned fruit • Corn or rice cakes with or without spreads • Plain or fruit yoghurt • Vegetable sticks and dip • Fruit loaf • Wholemeal biscuits or crackers • Dried fruit and cheese cubes • Celery, cherry tomatoes and carrot sticks • Crackers with vegemite and cheese • Plain popcorn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muesli bars and dried fruit bars • Potato crisps/chips & corn chips • Chocolate • Lollies & confectionary • Cordial • Soft drink

foods rather than everyday foods.

Life Education

Get ready for an exciting and educational experience

as the Life Education NSW van is coming to our school! This amazing program will teach us about important health topics in a fun and interactive way. From learning how to make healthy choices to understanding how our body works, the Life Education van has it all. With its state-of-the-art equipment and engaging lessons, we will have the opportunity to discover new things, ask questions, and gain knowledge that will benefit us for a lifetime.

Don't miss out on this unique chance to learn and have fun with your friends - a permission note has already been sent home and we encourage you to return it along with a \$2 payment to the Berkeley West Public School drop-box located in the front office. Our school and Life Action Group have brought the cost down from \$12 per student!

If you wish to purchase any Healthy Harold merchandise, you will need to place your order in a separate envelope clearly marked with your child's name and class with the correct payment enclosed.

Don't wait, secure your spot and join us on an exciting adventure with the Life Education NSW van!

"Berkeley West Playstrong" Free Playgroup

A **free** playgroup for children 0-5 years and their parents/carers is open **every Friday morning** during school term from 9.00-11.00am at Berkeley West Public School in the preschool room. Our Playstrong Playgroup is supported by friendly experienced trained staff. Absolutely free! All welcome! See you and your kids there!

Call 0439 648 778 during school hours if you have any questions.

Year 7 Wollongong High School of the Performing Arts 2024- Audition Information

Wollongong High School of the Performing Arts (WHSPA) is a comprehensive, co-educational high school with a specialist performing arts focus. The school has twin goals of "academic excellence" and "excellence in the performing arts".

WHSPA provides opportunities for gifted and talented Dance, Drama, Music and Visual Arts students to pursue a high quality performing and creative arts programs, whilst studying curriculum developed by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA). All courses lead to the award of the ROSA and Higher School Certificate.

The school also offers extensive co-curricular company, ensemble, and studio art programs.

Year 7 Audition Applications OPEN now

Term 1 2023 - Week 7 (Wednesday 8 March):

Expo Evening at WHSPA - all invited bookings required*

Term 1 2023 - Week 9 (Friday 24 March):

Year 7 Audition Applications CLOSE

Term 2 2023 - Weeks 1-3:

Year 7 Auditions held

Families are welcome to download our School E News app "Wollongong High School of the Performing Arts" and choose "Pre Year 7 (Year 6)", for the latest information. The Expo will also be advertised on our Facebook page, soon!

Link to audition information- scan the QR Code in the ad on the next page.

Berkeley West Public School Student Wellbeing Procedures and Student Behaviour Support and Management Plan

We have placed drafts of our Berkeley West Public School Student Wellbeing Procedures and Student Behaviour Support and Management Plan on our school website for parents to review and provide any feedback you have.

Go to our school website at- <https://berkeleyw-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/> and find both of these draft documents inside the 'For Parents' tab.

After reviewing these documents, if you have any feedback you would like to put forward, please submit it through the link below-

<https://forms.gle/pTjGh1DwbRjpes7v6>

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	Arlo Hill	For always trying hard and displaying a positive and kind attitude.
1/2J	Ryan Courtin	For consistently working hard to achieve goals in literacy activities.
1/2R	Phoenix Smith	For always trying hard across all learning areas.
3/4H	Levi Moore	For always asking for assistance when needed and having a positive mindset towards learning.
3/4L	Callie Barnsley	For insightful contributions to class discussion across all key learning areas.
4/5G	Charlie Mahoney	For demonstrating an outstanding work ethic.
5/6Me	Aseel Ambarek	For her consistent application across literacy and numeracy and for always having a positive class attitude.
5/6Mi	Eleni Girdo	For her fantastic contributions during class discussions and her excellent persuasive writing.

Cross Country

Our School cross country was held on Wednesday 8 March. Congratulations to all students who participated this year. It was great to see great sportsmanship and witness our students cheering each other on.



Congratulations to the following students for placing first, second and third in their age race.

8-9 Girls	Evie P, Aleen A, Phoenix S.
8-9 Boys	Zavier C, William N, Ryan C.
10 Girls	Laila C, Sofia M, Ruby C.
10 Boys	Curtis B, Braxton C, Nixon D.
11 Girls	Kate C, Aseel A, Alice B.
11 Boys	Brody GS, Blaze W, Marcus N.
12-13 Girls	Sienna F, Olivia M, Ivy S.
12-13 Boys	Cody C, Liam W, Brodie O

Certificates were handed out on the day and recognition of these places will take place at this weeks assembly.

Mrs Lloyd and Miss Haworth

SCHOLASTIC Book Club LOOP for Parents

LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club
Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for parents.
To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit:
www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP



Week 9—Friday 24/3/2023

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

What's happening in 5/6Mi - Warrigal

It has been a very busy and productive start to the year for 5/6 Warrigal! Over the last couple of weeks in English, the students have been learning about persuasive texts. We have learnt all about the audience and purpose of a persuasive text. We have been writing a persuasive letter to the education minister about adapting school hours and how this would benefit students! In Mathematics, we have been exploring a variety of different strategies when solving multiplication problems. In Creative Arts, we have been studying some famous artists throughout time and we have experimented with a range of techniques including tone, contrast colours and short brushstrokes to enhance our artworks. We can't wait to finish off the term strong!





2024



YR 7 WHSPA AUDITIONS OPEN

Information



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RIDE FOR DEITZ Community Day

FREE
BIKE
EVENT

Come along and try out the new Illawarra Criterium Track

Saturday, March 18th, 2pm

Lindsay Maynes Park, Unanderra



- For children aged 5 to 16
- Bike skills and games under instruction from AusCycling coaches
- BBQ, drinks, & cakes available for gold coin donation
- All money raised will go directly to David Deitz
- Display & information stalls from the Illawarra bike community
- For more information or for free registration:

<https://www.ridenation.com.au/a/come-and-try/other/nsw/dapto/come-and-try-illawarra-cycle-club/100001461>



OR SCAN TO
REGISTER



PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY:



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

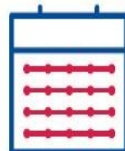
and years over their school life

1 day per fortnight



=

4 weeks



=

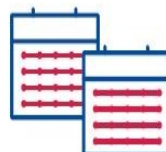
Over 1 year missed

1 day per week



=

8 weeks



=

Over 2.5 years missed

education.nsw.gov.au

