



# BERKELEY WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

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

Wednesday, 26 July 2023



## From The Principal's Desk

### Upcoming Events

- Monday, 31 July-** Education Week Open day including Public Speaking finals, games we played then and now and P&F Sausage Sizzle at lunch – all welcome! Separate note sent home last week.
- Tuesday 22 Aug-** 12pm 2023 Book Week parade and P&F sausage sizzle – all welcome!
- Thursday 24 Aug-** P&F Father's Day Mufti day – gold coin to support P&F Father's Day stall the following week.

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



### Welcome Back!

Welcome back for Term 3. Term 3 is a 10 week term concluding on Friday, 22 September 2023.

As always, keep in touch with what's going on at school through all communication channels including this newsletter, your child's teachers' class Dojo app, our Facebook page, and the Skool Loop app.

**TIME IS RUNNING OUT TO POSSIBLY WIN ONE OF THREE \$100 SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP VOUCHERS!**

Berkeley West Public School is committed to continuous improvement. Each family has an opportunity to complete a short online survey asking for your perceptions of how the school is going. The survey will seek feedback on a number of school management and curriculum areas. The school will use this feedback by parents, students and staff to make our school an even better place to learn and teach!

So the survey is OPEN NOW and all families that complete it will go into the draw to **win a one of three \$100 school uniform vouchers** to use at our uniform shop. How handy would that be!!!! If you're a family of Year 6 student and happen to win, we'll set it up so that you can use your voucher at your new high school.

Only one survey/entry per family needed. Thanks to those who have already done so!

To go into the draw, take 5 minutes and complete the survey here- <https://forms.gle/vHrRAVgvtahg46mo8>

The prize draw will take place at the whole school assembly this **Friday 28 July**. Good luck!

### Students' Use of Mobile Phones at School

If you have a child in high school, you would have (or soon will be receiving) a lot of information about the upcoming ban on students' use of mobile phones at school. Students in NSW primary schools **have been banned** from using mobile phones at school for sometime now. Our school's mobile phone management plan is incorporated into our school's 'Student Use of Digital Devices and Online Services Procedure' which you can access from our school's website at- [https://berkeleyw-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/b/berkeleyw-p/download-box/BWPS\\_Student\\_use\\_of\\_digital\\_devices\\_and\\_online\\_services\\_procedures1.pdf](https://berkeleyw-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/b/berkeleyw-p/download-box/BWPS_Student_use_of_digital_devices_and_online_services_procedures1.pdf)

Basically, our management plan is an 'Off and Away' plan. All mobile phones will be 'off and away' into the school bag for the full school day, including recess and lunch. This will mean that students have a responsibility to turn off their phone and store it safely in their school bag for the course of the school day. This is an approved NSW Department of Education option and limits unnecessary distractions and complement our ongoing approach to ensure every student maximises their learning and social growth in a safe and supportive environment.

For students who wish to do so, phones can also be turned off and dropped into the front office for safe storage for the day. They can then be picked up at the conclusion of the school day.

Any breaches of this procedure will be managed in accordance with our school's wellbeing and discipline procedures.

### Internet Safety

Encourage and support your children with their use of the internet. Teach them to make the right decisions and increase the levels of responsibility as children get older. You can access information about internet safety through the Federal Government's website at [www.esafety.gov.au/parents](http://www.esafety.gov.au/parents).

If you feel that your children have more knowledge and confidence than you when using the internet, you may

be right. There are some simple ways of addressing this.

What you can do as a parent:

- Talk to your family about the importance of staying in safe sites online.
- Ensure that you have safety software installed on your computer; your internet service provider will be able to help you with this.
- Set up house rules for the use of the internet and, where possible, have the computer in view so that you can monitor its use.
- Check out safe sites for your children and bookmark them.
- Use filters to limit accidental access to unsuitable material.
- Limit email correspondence to a list of family and friends.
- Emphasise and discuss safe online behaviour.
- Investigate any chat rooms or online clubs that your child may want to use to ensure that they are legitimate.



Use family-friendly search engines designed for children.

The internet can be a great tool for research and fact-finding if used correctly. The best approach is to sit with your child and help them through the wealth of information which is available at their fingertips.

### **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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### **Playing Shops**

Play shops with your child using real coins. Help them put price tags on the objects in their shop. Limit prices to whole-coin values. Point out the markings on the coins. Older children may be able to work out change.



### **Physical Fitness**

At Berkeley West Public School we value the promotion of an active lifestyle. All students are encouraged to participate in activities that get the heart racing as well as getting the body moving. Recent research has outlined that children are becoming less likely to be active, and together with an inappropriate diet, this can lead to weight issues, as well as a decrease in self-esteem and confidence. As teachers, we are aware of the importance of promoting both a healthy diet as well as an active lifestyle within our curriculum.

Our Physical Education program encourages students to participate in active sessions, working at their own level. Students are taught skills such as throwing, catching, kicking and are then provided with opportunities to practice and consolidate these. Skill sessions are balanced with games that promote the fun of being involved, as well as giving students a chance to put their new skills into practice. As students get older, the skills are linked to major games such as netball and cricket. Students then have the opportunity to participate in sport sessions where aspects such as team play and good sporting behaviour are promoted and enhanced.

At Berkeley West Public School we value the fact that all students are different. Not all of us will become elite sportspeople and be able to demonstrate flawless skills. Our curriculum focuses upon the 'having a go' nature of active living, as well as setting your own personal goals to achieve.

As parents, it is important that you encourage your child to always participate in school events. By supporting their efforts and celebrating their own personal improvements or goals, you are assisting them to seek out an active lifestyle where they can succeed at their own level.

### **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. You will always be assisted! :)

### **Starting Kindergarten 2024**

Our school is now taking kindergarten enrolments for 2024. 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 now. Forms can either be completed at school or taken home and dropped off later. They can also be completed online at:

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

The important thing is that we know about new students so that their parents can be kept informed about upcoming orientation events and we can begin planning new classes before the end of the year.

### **Smoke Alarms**

The following information is taken from the home smoke alarms fact sheet at the NSW Fire Brigades website at [www.fire.nsw.gov.au](http://www.fire.nsw.gov.au)

**Fact:** NSW legislation stipulates that residents must have at least one working smoke alarm (sometimes mistakenly referred to as "smoke detectors") installed on each level of their home. This includes owner-occupied, rental properties, relocatable homes or any other residential building where people sleep.

Smoke alarms are life-saving devices that provide benefits for occupants. They detect smoke well before any sleeping occupant would and provide critical

seconds to implement actions to save life and property.

Smoke alarms are designed to detect fire smoke and emit a loud and distinctive sound to alert occupants of potential danger.

The legislation refers to residential accommodation across NSW and requires the installation of one or more smoke alarms in buildings in which people sleep, smoke alarms installed in such buildings must be operational, and people must not remove or interfere with the operation of smoke alarms installed in such buildings.

### **Avoid danger when using heaters this winter**

The Children's Hospital at Westmead recommends these top tips to help your children avoid burns, falls and electrocution:

- Make sure your heater meets Australian standards
- Use a guard
- Keep your heater on a level floor surface
- Ensure your heater isn't blocking any exits or high traffic areas
- Do not dry clothing items by placing them over an electric heater.
- Ensure you install and maintain at least one smoke detector on each floor of your home.

### **Flu season is here!**

Influenza is spread from person-to-person through the coughing or sneezing of infected people. Remind your child about these good hygiene practices to minimise the spread of infection:

- Anyone who is sick with influenza symptoms should stay home until their symptoms are gone.
- Cover the nose and mouth with a tissue, or do so into the inside of your elbow, when coughing or sneezing. Throw the tissue in the garbage bin after use.
- Wash hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing. Alcohol-based hand sanitiser is also effective.

Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way. If you or your child develops influenza-like illness, get tested and seek the advice of your family doctor as you would with any other illness.

The seasonal influenza vaccine, which protects against the pandemic influenza strain as well as two other influenza strains, is now available free to eligible people. More information about the vaccine is available from the NSW Health Immunisation Unit's vaccination page at <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation>.

### **Crunch & Sip- Winter Fruits**

Students have crunched their way through the delicious nectarines, peaches and grapes of summer, and are now looking forward to the fresh, crisp apples and juicy oranges available in winter.

However, large pieces of fruit can be difficult for small children to manage, especially with wiggly teeth! On top of this, it takes small children a long time to eat a large apple, orange or pear and they can be quite messy, especially if they're fresh and juicy.

Now that the delicious winter fruit is available, try and choose small to medium pieces of fruit to send for Crunch & Sip. Or you could chop up a large piece into smaller, more manageable pieces for your child to enjoy.

### **Helping Your Child with Spelling and Reading (The Magic 200 Words)**

In Term 2 we published the first 32 of the "Magic 200" words for students to practice reading and spelling, particularly grades K-2. Now it's time for the next 32! Did you know that around only 200 words make up, on average, over one half of all reading? Many of these words can't be sounded out and rely simply on practice, practice, practice! If your child can read and spell these words quickly and accurately, their enjoyment, confidence and success in reading and spelling tasks is greatly enhanced. Playing games like memory or match will make learning these words more enjoyable.

The next 32 to practice are:

about	their	want	which
get	just	been	come
my	or	she	look
came	will	who	an
like	much	could	go
our	some	up	no
from	well	back	can
must	only	has	little

#### **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

# Student of the Fortnight

Class	Student of the Fortnight	Reason
KJ	Lara McGuinness	Being a polite, well mannered and positive member of KJ
1/2J	Ryan Courtin	For trying his absolute best in all learning areas.
1/2R	Charlotte Diaz	For her excellence attendance this year and always being a good friend.
3/4H	Oliver Miles	For always sharing his great general knowledge and participating in class discussions.
3/4L	Jamaya Kerr	For making every school day count with outstanding attendance and a positive attitude towards learning.
4/5G	Carlos Nobrega	For making progress towards writing goals.
5/6Me	Cruz lane	For his persistence and dedication in mathematics.
5/6Mi	Zakky Vermast	For his improvement and positive application to his learning. Keep up the good work!

## OUT AND ABOUT IN THE GARDEN

We are excited to share that our students have been actively engaged in outdoor learning, exploring the wonders of nature in our school garden. Thanks to the generous gift of a \$100 Bunnings voucher, our gifted students were able to purchase a variety of bush tucker plants. Under the guidance of Mrs. Norrie, they had a delightful time planting these unique plants, fostering a connection with Indigenous culture and the environment. It was an educational experience that not only enriched their knowledge but also brought them closer to the beauty of our natural world. We look forward to witnessing these plants thrive.

Kind Regards  
Mrs Haynes



## Guessing Competition

From Monday 31st July 2023, the P&F will be holding a guessing competition!

Guess the quantity of objects in the jar:

1 guess = 0.50cents

3 guess's = \$1.00

- ⇒ Guesses can be purchased from the canteen from Monday 31st July.
- ⇒ The class that raises the most money will win the jar of objects.
- ⇒ The student that guesses the correct amount of objects in the jar will win their own pencil case full of stationery goodies.
- ⇒ Guessing comp will be drawn on Friday 5th August.



## Learning for Life



The Smith Family's *Learning for Life* program helps children by supporting their education from primary through to post-school studies, like TAFE or University.  
**Learning for Life provides:**



To be eligible for *Learning for Life*, you need to:

- Have a child or children in Primary School, at one of the schools The Smith Family work with
- Have a Health Care or Pension Concession Card?
- Have a strong commitment to your child/ren's education and make sure they attend school regularly

To register your interest in *Learning for Life*, you need to:

1. Click this link <https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/campaigns/learning-for-life-expression-of-interest>
2. Fill out the relevant details (your name, phone number, child/ren's details and School Information)
3. You will then receive an email from The Smith Family with information about next steps

If you have any questions about *Learning for Life*, or need help to apply, you can call The Smith Family on 1800 280 223.



**Remember, if you need help with Book Club, simply call the Customer Service Team on 1800 021 233 or email [Customer\\_Service@scholastic.com.au](mailto:Customer_Service@scholastic.com.au)**

## 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



Play Craft Stories  
Outdoor activities  
Puzzles Music


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.



## EDUCATION WEEK OPEN DAY 2023- Monday 31 July 175 Years of Public Education!



Attached is the program of events planned for our Education Week Open Day to be celebrated on **Monday 31 July**. Hopefully you can find time to come and visit our school on our Open Day.

Time	Activity	Description	Where
9.15-10.00am	<b>Years K-2 Public Speaking Challenge</b>	Finalists from <b>classes K-2</b> will present their <b>speeches</b> from Term 2 to parents, peers, <b>visitors</b> Presentation of special Education Week awards from teachers	School hall
10.05-11.00am	<b>Games we played then and games we play now!</b>	Come in and have some fun with your children. Play some games that maybe you used to play at school, as well some games that kids like to play now! (Bring in any games you have at home with you e.g. elastics, marbles, jacks etc that you can play- if not your child will ask you to join in some of their games!)	Your child's classroom or nearby outdoor area
11.00am-12.00pm	<b>Lunch</b>	The P&C will be holding a <b>sausage sizzle</b> please <b>pre-order</b> your sausage sandwiches on the order form sent home by the P&C and return to the school "drop-box" in the front office by the due <b>date</b>  The school canteen will be open for all your other food and drink requirements- still best to order in the morning (8.30-8.55am) any food or drink for lunch if that's what you'd prefer	School playground
12.10-1.10pm	<b>Years 3-6 Public Speaking Challenge</b>	Finalists from <b>classes 3-6</b> will present their <b>speeches</b> from Term 2 to parents, peers, <b>visitors</b> Presentation of special Education Week awards from teachers	School hall
1.10-1.35pm	<b>Recess</b>	Enjoy afternoon tea/recess with your child in the playground	Playground
1.35-3.00pm	<b>Afternoon session</b>	Students return to <b>class</b> <b>**If you wish to take your child home early, please sign them out at the front office before <u>leaving</u>!**</b>	