



BERKELEY WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

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

Wednesday 5 June, 2024



From The Principal's Desk

Upcoming Events

- Fri 7 June-** 2.15pm Whole school assembly in hall—
Class 1/2NW item- all welcome!
- Mon 10 June-** Public holiday
- Tues 18 June-** 9.15am P&F meeting in school
breakfast room— all welcome!
- Thurs 20 June-** 4pm Aboriginal Education Consultative
Group (AECG) meeting at Windang PS
- Fri 21 June-** 2.15pm Whole school assembly in hall—
athletics ribbons awarded- all welcome!
- Thurs 27 June-** Southern Stars rehearsal— venue to be
confirmed soon
- Fri 28 June-** PSSA Sports gala day— Years 5 & 6
selected to attend

P&F Pie Drive pick up day— pies can be
picked up from school hall
- Sun 30 June-** 10am 'Berkeley West Blitz' school
garden bed working bee— all welcome
to come in and help!
- Wed 3 July-** Semester 1 student reports sent home—
exc. K/1J & 3/4H
- Thurs 4 July-** Whole school 'Sketchie' reward day
(‘Movie and PJ’s’)
- Fri 5 July— Last day of Term 2— free mufti**

***2.15-3.00pm School assembly—
Classes 5/6Me & 5/6Mi class item— all
welcome!
- Tues 23 July-** All students return to school for the
start of Term 3!!

*Principal's Award

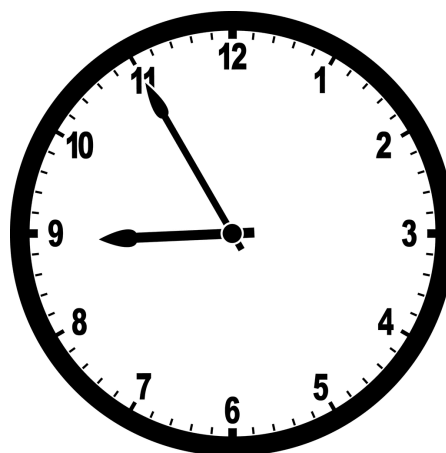
Congratulations to Elise H for
receiving the Principal's Award this
week being a respectful, responsible
and safe student at school! As well
as her certificate, Elise will enjoy a
\$4.00 food voucher to spend at the
canteen.

Excellent Elise!

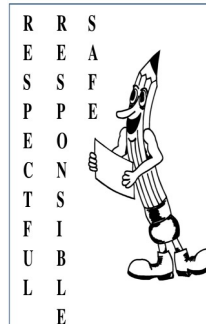


Be at school on time— 8.30-8.55am

As we near the half-way mark for the school year, we



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



are expecting morning routines would be well
established so that students are getting to school on
time. This way key learning opportunities aren't missed
for your child. Currently, we have a small number of
students who regularly arrive late to school. Late arrival
at school is often unsettling, embarrassing or
uncomfortable for the student, an interruption to the
teacher, and a disruption to the learning time of the
students themselves and other students. Generally, the
first learning session is one of the most important
where teachers focus on literacy and numeracy
development. These two areas are the foundations of
academic success.

We expect all children to be at school by the first **bell at 8.55am**. Students are **in class by 9.00am** and we
expect everyone to be ready for the first teaching
session. The important message here for parents is
that every time your child is late for school it is costing
your child a learning experience, as well as interrupting
the learning time for others. We ask for parent support
in ensuring that we have 'on time' starts to the school
day.

Auditory Processing

Auditory Processing is the ability to understand what
people say, and giving the correct meaning to
language that is heard. It develops slowly, can
sometimes take years, varies greatly between

individuals and can affect learning, self-esteem and behaviour. Intelligent and high-achieving children may experience Auditory Processing difficulties.



Common signs of AP difficulty:

- Difficulty sounding out words and spelling.
- Reading and comprehension difficulties.
- Motivation.
- Inattentive or selective hearing.
- Daydreams, distractible, vague.
- Talkative OR quiet OR withdrawn.
- In trouble often, but doesn't know why.

How to help with AP difficulty:

- Look at the listeners and read their facial expressions and body language.
- Listen to the child and consider that they may have heard a 'different' message.
- Reduce language overload....short, concise instructions are best.
- Insisting that a child looks at you can increase anxiety and reduce understanding.
- Allow 'think time'....teach and expect children to think before responding to questions.
- Expect to say things only once.
- Give positive instructions.....'Please walk', rather than, 'Don't run'.
- Reduce background noise.
- Move closer to the child when giving explanations or instructions.
- Ensure you have their attention before speaking.
- Lip reading can help some children.

Check the child's understanding by watching his/her reactions; don't ask him/her to paraphrase or question his/her understanding.

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.

Number Wise

When traveling by car walking around local streets, play games that help children to recognize the number, e.g. Say, "Who can spot the number 7? Or an odd number, a number bigger than 20, a number between 2 and 6?" Choose appropriate numbers for your child's understanding.

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

Did you know that around only 200 words make up, on average, over one half of all reading? Below are the first 32 words that make up, on average, one third of all

reading. Many of these words can't be sounded out and rely on kids to just 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. The first 32 words are-

a, and, he I, in, is, it, of, that, the, to, was, all, as, at, be, but, are, for, had, have, him, his, not, on, one, said, so, they, we, with, you

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 speak with the Principal Mr Attard.

Starting Kindergarten 2025

Can you believe it, our school is now taking kindergarten enrolments for 2025! 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 and clicking 'enrolment' at the top of the screen.. 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!

Snack ideas

- Muffins - make with added mashed or diced fruits or grated vegetables.
- English muffin + cheese.
- Fruit loaf
- Scone - plain or fruit or pumpkin
- Pikelets
- Pita chips - cut pita bread into triangles, sprinkle with grated cheese and bake in moderate oven until crispy (store in airtight container).
- Homemade pizza - Lebanese bread + tomato paste + veggies + cheese.
- Wholemeal crackers + slice cheese.
- Small tub yoghurt - keep this cold with an ice-brick and an insulated bag.
- Cheese sticks.

Jumpers with hoods

As everyone is aware, jumpers with hoods are not part of our school uniform. Jumpers with hoods are also not safe for students to play in as we have had situations in the past where students whilst playing tip have had their fingers caught accidentally in hoods, or worse still, been choked when others have accidentally grabbed the hood from behind during tip or have got them caught on play equipment.

To ensure their own safety and the safety of others, students wearing jumpers with hoods will not be permitted to play at recess or lunch time. They will

need to remain in areas where running games are not permitted.

Students should wear a school jumper or jacket. If this is not available, i.e. if it is in the wash, a jumper **without a hood** should be worn. If there is a concern about keeping your child's head warm, a firm fitting beanie is the next best option.

School asthma policy

As part of our school's asthma policy, 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 to 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 policy is available upon request.

Too sick for school?

As the cold weather hits, so do the winter bugs. It's often hard to know whether to send your child to school or let them stay home to recover, especially when that means an adult cancelling work. For safety's sake, if your child seems unwell you should always keep them home from school and seek medical advice.

NSW Health have some excellent information to help answer your questions about common childhood illness and how long sick kids need to miss school. Find it by typing this link into your web browser <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/childhood.aspx>

If your child is away for more than a day or two, a medical certificate from the doctor should be provided when they return to school.

Berkeley West 'Playstrong' Playgroup

Unfortunately, until further notice, our Friday morning playgroup has had to relocate offsite whilst we await repairs to the ceiling in the room they meet in.

In the meantime, all of our parents are welcome to attend the playgroup from 9.30-11.30am at Farmborough Rd Public School on Friday's during

school term. Call Dani if you have any questions on- 0439 648 778.

Thankyou Berkeley West Blitz Gardening Crew!

Huge thanks to those parent and carer volunteers who gave up their time last Friday afternoon to come in and take on beautifying a couple of our gardens at school! Despite some rain at one stage, everyone was in there weeding, cutting back and mulching garden beds and had transformed them in what seemed like a flash! See our Facebook post for some of the photos taken of this wonderful group in action. A special shout out to Chris from the Berkeley Hotel, who not only donated some Bunnings vouchers to the school that we could use for gardening supplies, he came along in person to get on the other end of a shovel for a few hours and help! We are very proud of our community support when we call for help!

We have more work to do though!. If you are able to lend a hand from 10am on Sunday 30 June, we'd love to see you for the next blitz! Come along, if you can bring a shovel, wheelbarrow, rake or whatever you can lay your hands on and join us. Even if it's only for an hour or two, many hands make light work!



Class	Student of the Fortnight	Reason
KR	Axel Sak	For trying really hard to improve his handwriting.
K/1J	Aleena Reynolds	Trying her best and working hard during writing
1/2B	Elijah Veljanoski	For writing detailed day, date and weather sentences
1/2NW	Adam Al Harere	For improved attendance this term and a fantastic attitude to writing activities
3/4H	Amber Stephens	Being kind and caring to all students in the class
4/5B	Evie Papandrea	For her positive attitude and dedication to challenging her learning in all areas
5/6Me	Jackson Anderson	For applying teacher and peer feedback to improve his writing about Macquarie Island.
5/6Mi	Arizona Whitmarsh	For her positive attitude and application to her persuasive text about Macquarie island.

Uncle Daren's School Visits

We have been lucky to have Uncle Daren Dun continue to visit our school this term. During lunch and recess time, all students are welcome to come and join in dancing and singing lead by some of our students who demonstrate leadership skills and are role models for our younger students. During this time, Uncle Daren often chooses students who are enthusiastic and engaged to take part in his workshops for the remainder of the day.



Nutrition Snippet



Use cooking to practice maths, science and reading - and you have something delicious when you finish.

Try these delicious Thai chicken meatballs. There is even a video to show you how.

healthylunchbox.com.au



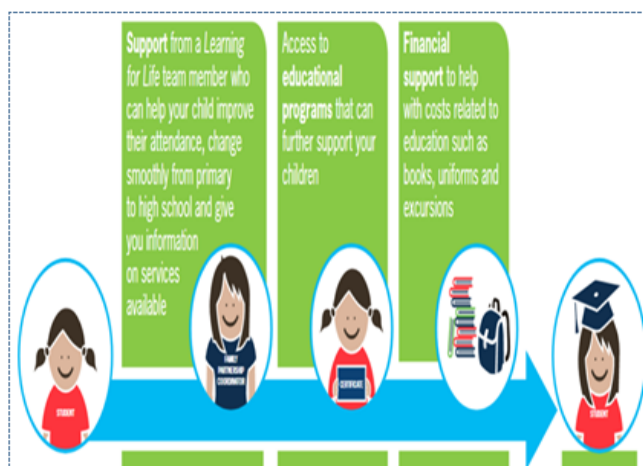
Cancer Council
Healthy Lunch Box

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

Reconciliation Walk

Last week students in years 3-6 had the opportunity to participate in our 2024 Reconciliation Walk with 5 other local schools with the aim of strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous communities. What an amazing day for everyone involved!



SCHOLASTIC
Book Club
orders are due:

Friday 21/06/2024

Remember, if you need help, simply call the Customer Service Team on **1800 021 233** or 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...

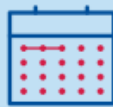
they miss days per year

5 mins
per day



=

3 days

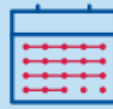


30 mins
per day



=

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

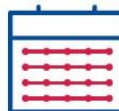
and years over their school life

1 day per fortnight



=

4 weeks



=

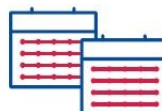
Over **1** year missed

1 day per week



=

8 weeks



=

Over **2.5** years missed

education.nsw.gov.au

LIBRARY MONITORS AT WORK

