

BERKELEY WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

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P.O. Box 56 Berkeley
Principal: Mr A. Attard

Wednesday 2 April, 2025



From The Principal's Desk Upcoming Events

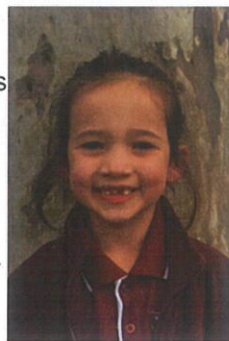
Remember-School starts at 8.55am everyday!!!!

- Fri 4 Apr-** P&F Easter mufti day– students may come to school in exchange for a gold coin to contribute towards the 2025 P&F Easter raffle
2.30pm Whole school assembly in hall– all welcome!
- Tues 8 Apr-** Classes begin visiting the Life Ed van– permission note and payment required
- Wed 9 Apr-** Talented Sports and Development Program Year 6 Trials
Year 6
Wednesday April 9th
9.30am to 12.00pm
Register online...
<https://illawasporth.schools.nsw.gov.au/.../tsdp-trials.html>
- Fri 11 Apr-** 12.00pm Easter Hat Parade, P&F BBQ and draw of Easter raffle
Last day of Term 1
- Mon 28 & Tues 29 Apr-** 'Pupil Free Days'- Teachers only return to school
- Wed 30 Apr-** All students K-6 return to school today
- Fri 2 May-** Selective HS & Opportunity Class test day– only for students who applied earlier in the year
- Mon 5 May-** Year 3 & 4 Excursion to the Maritime Museum– permission note and payment required

Principal's Award

Congratulations to Amelia N for receiving the Principal's Award this week for settling in excellently at Berkeley West PS. 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!!



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



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 practicing the new skill. All children need to be ready to learn and to have the best conditions for 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

Attendance Cup!

Congratulations to 3/4M (Mariyang) and 5/6M (Warrigal) 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 90.3! 109 students have only had 1-3 days away this year with an amazing 40 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, 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

YOUNG ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

6-WEEK PROGRAM STARTS MAY 2025

The **Young Athlete Development Program** is designed for **school-aged athletes (12–15 years old)** of all skill levels and sporting backgrounds. This program focuses on key areas of **personal and athletic development**, providing valuable insights to

Class	Student of the Fortnight	Reason
KR	Katja Glennan	For her improved letter and number formation.
1/2B	Dequan Lawrence	For working conscientiously and quietly in class
1/2WM	Hunter Palamara-Bestwick	For outstanding progress in reading.
3/4J	Phoenix Smith	For following the school rules and being a role model for peers
3/4M	Xiayi Huang	For her positive application to learning and for seeking feedback to improve her work.
5/6B	Isaak Diaz	For trying his best in all learning areas.
5/6M	Aiden Lucas	For his effort and application in maths

ILLAWARRA SPORTS HIGH SCHOOL

TALENTED SPORTS & DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

YEAR 6 TRIALS

Wednesday April 9th
9.00am to 12.00pm

Register online through school website or Facebook.
Call the front office if you have any queries.
All details of trials will be emailed to you once registered.

Basketball, Cricket, Football, Hockey, Rugby League, Surfing, Touch & Tag.

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.

