

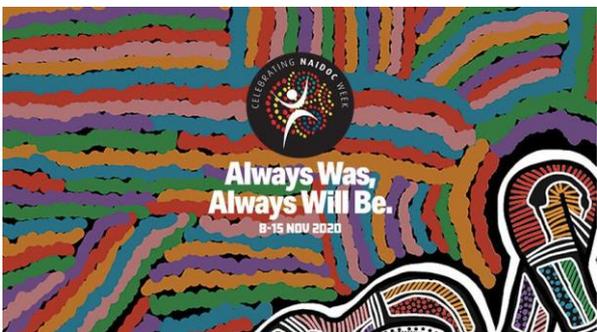
# BERKELEY PUBLIC SCHOOL

# BLUE AND WHITE

# NEWSLETTER

Respect	Responsibility	Safety	Cooperation
Respect means caring for and valuing yourself and sharing kindness and consideration for others.	Responsibility means being trustworthy and accountable for your behaviour.	Safety means protecting the well-being and security of everyone in our school.	Cooperation means getting along by working and playing together.

## NAIDOC Week Activities



# BLUE AND WHITE

## NAIDOC Week Activities

This year NAIDOC Week was celebrated during November 8-15 instead of the traditional first week of July. The theme for NAIDOC week this year was Always Was, Always Will Be.

The week-long celebration acknowledges and celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, cultures and communities and recognises the valuable contributions that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people make to our country.

At Berkeley Public School we have engaged in a range of activities inside and outside the classroom to celebrate NAIDOC Week, to increase our students' awareness. Here is what some of our students have to say about NAIDOC Week 2020.

My favourite part of NAIDOC Week was when we got to do the NAIDOC activities on Thursday because we got to play a game where we threw balls at another ball. That game was made for throwing spears at animals so they can learn how to hunt.

### Luke Midgley

My favourite part about NAIDOC week was when Aboriginal people get to learn about their heritage and traditions.

### Emersyn Vudmaska

For NAIDOC Week we painted wooden animals and made a boomerang. I drew the Aboriginal flag on my boomerang. My favourite was when I got to paint the koala. I also liked the NAIDOC activities during sport. The sport activity was when we got to throw the bean bag at the cardboard.

### Alice Thew

My favourite activity for NAIDOC Week was painting. We painted with sticks on native Australian animals. We did dot painting. Mrs T explained why some Aboriginal people did dot painting and why it is significant.

### Tiah Russell

## Kindergarten Orientation



In Week 8, we welcomed our Kindergarten's for 2021 to the school. They had a chance to get to know their classrooms, and came back at the end of Week 9 to meet their buddies and celebrate the start of Kindergarten. We can't wait to see them all!

# BLUE AND WHITE

## Principal's Message

### Reports

Teachers have finalised the 2020 Semester 2 reports. These reports will inform parents about your child's achievement levels, areas for development and commitment to learning across all Key Learning Areas. The reports were given to students on Monday 14 December.

### Kindergarten transition program

Our transition to school program has been held over the past four weeks. Our Kindergarten teachers have loved meeting our new children and their families. Orientation looked very different this year but each new family was offered a guided tour of the school after 3.15pm and this has been very well received. Last week we held the culminating event with new students, their buddies and the kinder classes of 2020 being able to visit Matilda's Farmyard animals that set up near the new hall. It was a great event and such a good way to end kindergarten orientation.

### School Leaders 2021

Congratulations to the following students who have been elected Captains for 2021.

Captains	Macey Aquilina and Temanu Taahi
Vice Captains	Olivia Naumoski and Alec Leimbach

### School Planning

With planning well underway for our 2021-24 School Improvement Plan, it has been fantastic to hear feedback from our community as well as hearing the voices of our students and teachers. During next year the plan will be presented to the P&C and through the newsletter for consultation. Please see a report from Steve Galbraith regarding the school.

### School Events

It was pleasing that we were able to go ahead with a number of events to end the year off. These included the Year 6 Farewell, Captains speeches, Presentation Day being held across the 3 groups and the Year 6 Graduation Ceremony. Most of these events will be videoed and then a link will be put up on our school Facebook site so that you can watch the event. Pictures of each event are being uploaded onto the school website for viewing.

### Next Year – 2021

A new trial of students being dropped off will be held in the first few weeks of Term 1. The gate on George Street will be closed and all students will enter the school via the Flagstaff entrance (main office gate). An SLSO will be on duty from 8.30 to greet the students. A new exit arrangement will also be in place.

- 2.45 Kindergarten pickup at Flagstaff Road exit
- 2.55 Years 1 & 2 exit via George Street
- 3.00 Years 3 & 4 via George Street
- 3.00 Years 5 & 6 via Flagstaff Road

At this stage we are advised that parents are still not able to enter the school unless they fill out the Department contact tracing form. New updated guidelines are coming out in early January. Information about these will be on Facebook and Skoolbag during the holidays.

This is our last newsletter for the year. On behalf of all the school I want to wish you all a very happy holiday and hope you have lots of special times with your family and loved ones.

I look forward to working with everyone in 2021 and sincerely hope it is a much smoother journey than 2020.

Kind regards

Wayne Osborne  
Principal



# BLUE AND WHITE

## BPS Situational Analysis

During September 2020 the school community of Berkeley Public School engaged in a situational analysis. The analysis, similar in methodology to the analyses undertaken in 2017 and 2018, provides a snapshot of the school's successes and areas that can benefit by further attention. The following is a summary of the final report by Steve Galbraith, based on student, parent and staff survey responses.

### Students

Students recognise their school as a great place to attend, that they have able and caring teachers, a lovely and friendly environment and that their families are supportive of the school. As in previous interviews over past years, the students present as well attired in uniform, articulate, respectful of each other's viewpoints and as healthy young people who have a good understanding of their school's hopes and expectations regarding their learning and behaviour. There continues to be a growing understanding and acceptance that coming to school is positive and is chiefly about successful learning and personal development.

#### Example student responses to questions about school and learning:

- "I don't like being late because I don't like missing learning."
- "We are very proud to be BPS students, we work hard and we are good learners. Everybody cares about the school."
- "Our school has good people, good teachers who treat you well".
- "When I walk into the school I know I belong – everyone will treat me nicely".
- "Everybody is treated fairly no matter what your background".

### Parents

Parents interviewed were overwhelmingly positive in their comments regarding the school – its care for their children; skilled and friendly staff; lovely environment that is well maintained; aspiration that all BPS students can succeed in learning and life; that each child has a place in the school, is recognised for who they are and valued. The parents identified that the families of the school represent a spectrum of society and that the school works to attend to the needs of all those families. It is recognised by parents that 2020 has been a particularly challenging and different year and that the school has done remarkably well in meeting those challenges and supporting the children and their families.

#### Example parent responses to questions about staff and students:

- "Everyone is friendly and welcoming – people greet you even if they don't know you."
- "Kids are happy to be at BPS. It's a happy place."
- "The school involves the community very well."
- "Teachers and office staff are helpful and always come up with solutions".
- "A family-type feel to the school."
- "My child loves to chat about school and what the teacher did – it is all positive".
- "Behaviour expectations are appropriate, they are high enough.
- "Teachers expect children to be respectful and attentive – absolutely suitable expectation."

### Staff

Staff from across the school all recognise that 2020 has been a demanding year in terms of not only their work lives but their personal and family situations. The demands that have faced education-based staff will continue well into 2021. In that context, the views expressed underscore the importance that teamwork; care for individuals; meaningful support; professional learning; and opportunities to use and develop skills and talents, have all played in the needed encouragement and sustaining of the staff as a team and as individuals.

#### Example staff responses to questions about their work at BPS:

- "Teachers have a voice and our views are welcomed in meetings."
- "The integrated units have worked well – students are excited about the learning – have been able to adapt them to backward mapping and growth mindset."
- "There has been a greater sense of ownership of what content to teach this year - feel more 'freed-up - there has been more concentration on core skills."
- "The school gives strong acceptance and support to students from a diverse range of backgrounds."
- "The challenges of COVID have strengthened relationships with parents – families have recognised we put students' and community health at the forefront."
- "Individual student needs are catered for."
- "We are very happy to have our jobs and to be together as a team."

# BLUE AND WHITE

## Athletics Carnival



NSW Department of Education

Explore the **Everyday Maths Hub** >

[education.nsw.gov.au/everyday-maths](https://education.nsw.gov.au/everyday-maths)

NSW GOVERNMENT

Dear Parents/Carers,

The Department of Education has recently launched the Everyday Maths Hub for parents and carers. This initiative is to help parents/carers to support your child to learn how to solve problems in all aspects of life, from sport to business to creativity, now and into the future.

Everywhere you look, maths is shaping people's lives. Help your child develop their maths skills to observe maths at work around the home and put their skills to use.

No matter what your child loves spending their time doing, there's a way to apply maths to it. Help them discover the maths in their hobbies.

If your child learns to be smart with money, they'll make good habits that serve them well in life. Help them understand the value of money.

Mathematics matters. It opens up a world of learning and possibility for students.

Everyday Maths Hub: [education.nsw.gov.au/everyday-maths](https://education.nsw.gov.au/everyday-maths)

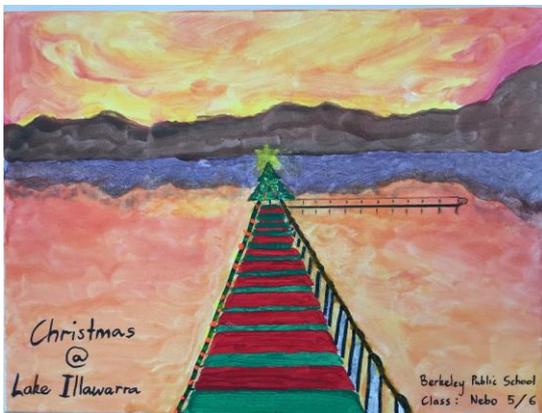
# BLUE AND WHITE

## Nan Tien Temple Excursion



On Tuesday 1 December Stage 2 classes went to the Nan Tien Temple. The day was very warm, and the walk was a little brutal up the hill, but not a single complaint from anyone! Lots of water and spraying of water helped the hike. At the temple the guides taught us about how special the Nan Tien Temple is to our area, and why it is part of our community. The students were commenting about how peaceful they felt, and how beautiful the grounds were. They also commented about how great the wedges were at lunch. After a walk home (another hill!) the students would have slept soundly!

## Bunnings 'Christmas Cheer in the Illawarra' Painting Competition



Thank you the Mr Dobinson and 5/6 Nebo for their entry into the Bunnings Christmas painting competition.

We will receive a garden pack for our school and are in the running to win a Bunnings gift card.

Thank you Bunnings for your continued support of our school.



# BLUE AND WHITE

## Presentation Assembly



CLASS	ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT	ACADEMIC PROGRESS	CITIZENSHIP
K - Banksia	Deo Pratt	Georjah-Lee Ranitu	Braxtny Ferraro
K - Lilly Pilly	Audrey Nicholson	Manzi Fred	Lilly Hickey
1 - Kookaaraa	Izayah Poole	Hudson De Barros	Martina Kewa
1 - Dhurrambang	Bailey Lawless	Zara Petrovski	Scarlett Scerri
1/2 - Wondangar	Taawera Kouka	Kaleah Bedford	Imogen Allen
2 - Gulung	Alexis Stepto	Mado Ange	Indiana Stevescki
2/3 - Jubborsay	Paige Allen	Jaxon Worthy	Siennah Kembrey
3/4 - Wollamai	Caius Christian	Nikita Forbes	Axel Vudmaska
3/4 - Budjong	Bojana Vujasin	Leticia Piper	Ella Goodman
4 - Tuggarah	Isabella Di Tutto	Jacob Taylor	Zacharia Taleb
4/5 - Warrigal	Nelson Zizovski	Sam Kennedy	Alexis Archer
5/6 - Djeera	Daniel Starcevic	Skye Andrews	Isabelle Cooper
5/6 - Burelli	Ruben Ferreira	Chelsea Le	Zalee Milosevski
5/6 - Nebo	Kokoda Mason	Diego Sansone	Matthew Andrit

AWARD	RECIPIENT	REASON
Dux	Deni Dimov	Academic Excellence
Jenkins Award	Aleksander Minovski	Encouragement Award for Yr 6 student. Consistency in all areas.
Rotary Award	Eden McGregor	Outstanding Citizenship.
Sport Award	Kayla Nutland	
Stephen Jones Award	Mia Kennedy	Citizenship and community participation
Paul Scully Award	Zalee Milosevski	

## Wagolls by Dhurrambang

Dhurrambang have been working on special places and people's connection to place. Students have written information and news reports on a special place in Australia.

# The Daintree Rainforest

## What?

The Daintree Rainforest is a tropical forest. The rainforest is the largest in the world in Australia.



## Where is it?

The Daintree Rainforest is in the North east coast of Queensland and is the North of Cairns.

## How to get there?

To travel to the Daintree Rainforest you have to fly from Sydney to Cairns and drive 2 hours north.

## Why would you go there?

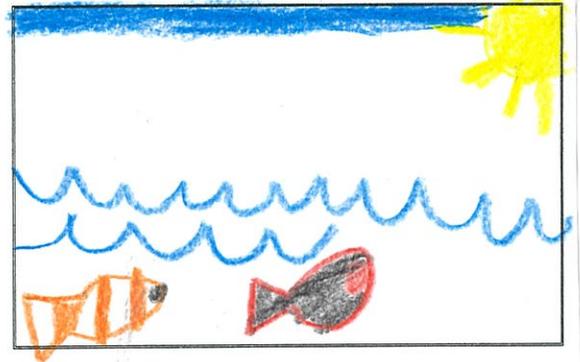
I would love to go to see the wonderful waterfalls and the rivers and the gorges and the beaches and the mountains and the world's most unique and bizarre animals.

Did you know that the Daintree Rainforest is 135 million years old? and belongs to eastern Kuku Yalanji Aboriginal tribe.

# My Special Place

## Introduction:

Good morning hi my name is Bailey and I work for Lake I'll have news and I'm going to tell you about the great Barrier reef.



## What is it and why would you go there?

The Great Barrier Reef is the world's largest Reef system. The Great Barrier Reef is so big that you can see it <sup>from</sup> outer space and it has over 2,900 individual reefs.

## Where is it?

The Great Barrier Reef has a coral sea and it is in Queensland coast. The Great Barrier Reef is in Bundaberg in the south to past Cape York.

## How to get there?

You have to fly from Sydney to Cairns and then it will take you 3 hours. You have to go on a boat ride and then it will take you 1 1/2 hours to the reef.

## Why is it a special place:

The Great Barrier Reef is special because it has seventeen species of sea snake. The Great Barrier Reef has 360 species of hard coral. The Great Barrier Reef has more than 1,500 fish species.