

BERKELEY PUBLIC SCHOOL

BLUE AND WHITE

NEWSLETTER

Respect

Respect means caring for and valuing yourself and sharing kindness and consideration for others.

Responsibility

Responsibility means being trustworthy and accountable for your behaviour.

Safety

Safety means protecting the well-being and security of everyone in our school.

Cooperation

Cooperation means getting along by working and playing together.

Principal's Message

Welcome back to the new 2021 school year, and a special welcome to all the new families who have joined our Berkeley School Community. I hope you had a restful break, stayed safe and enjoyed the fantastic summer weather.

Kindergarten

Our new kindergarten students officially started on Monday. They have made a very settled start with lots of smiling faces and were put into their classes on Thursday this week. Next week we are putting students through the Best Start assessment and the results of this will be fed back to parents in the coming weeks. Our Year 6 students have done an excellent job settling these new students in as their buddy. They will have ongoing scheduled contact with them during Term 1.

Meet the Teacher Information Sessions

Due to COVID restrictions we are going to change our session format this year. Each stage is going to make an introductory video about the year including information on learning programs, excursions, homework and stage organisation. These will be posted on the internet for viewing. We hope this will introduce you to your child's teacher. If you have any questions after viewing this, then please contact the office and they will have the class teacher contact you by phone.

Reminder – contact details and health care plans

Please keep your contact details up to date at the office including any changes of address or phone numbers. We will be sending out a form for you to update your details soon.

Also, if your child has any updated health care plans or asthma plans can you give the office staff a copy of these. It helps us keep all student safe while they are in our care.

Crossing supervision

At times during the year Transport for NSW will advise us that they have no replacement crossing supervisor for one of our crossings. It is important to note that staff from the school are not allowed to cover this position. Below outlines what we can do.

A staff member is only allowed to monitor the crossing and remind the students of the road safety message which are:

- Wherever possible, cross the road at a designated pedestrian crossing facility
- Stop! Look! Listen! Think! when crossing the road
- Take care whenever you cross
- Don't run across the road

School staff are not authorised to carry out the duties of the School Crossing Supervisor and must not use the STOP Children Crossing bat nor the RMS safety vest.

Swimming Carnival

The annual carnival was held today, and it was great seeing our students trying their best and 'having a go'. Full details/results will be posted at a later date. I would also like to thank the parents who attended and helped with time keeping and supporting their child. Many thanks to Mr Dobinson for his organisation which was made much more complex with all the COVID regulations.

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COVID update

Parents and carers are not allowed on school sites or at off-site school events held during school hours except for essential parent and carer meetings with teachers and/or school executives, with a scheduled appointment. When attending these meeting you will have to sign in at the front office using a QR code, fill in a declaration and sign in using the iPad. Parents/carers were allowed to attend the annual swimming carnival which was managed by Berkeley Swimming Pool.

Staff, parents and students are not required to wear a face mask while on school grounds. Anyone who wishes to wear their own mask in our school will not be prevented from doing so.

Early in this term we are hoping to start Breakfast Club and the Sensory Gym again. Cooking in the kitchen and sharing food is still not allowed.

Whole School Assemblies

Our first assembly for this year will be our Induction Assembly where we will be inducting the new captains, SRC and sport captains. Due to COVID only 2 people per students are allowed to attend.

We thank you for your support with helping us to comply with DoE expectations.

We will notify you once these restrictions ease.

Kind regards

Wayne Osborne

Principal

Staffing Arrangements

Year	Class	Teacher
Kindergarten	Banksia	Rina Clark
Kindergarten	Lilly Pilly	Fran Packer
1	Dhurrambang	Lauren Hodgson
1	Kookaaraa	Clayton Whitford
2	Gulung	Nicki Kydes (Tues to Fri) and Courtney Murphy (Monday)
2	Wondangar	Josh Swinton (M, Th, F) and Courtney Murphy (Tues, W)
3/4	Budjong	Megan Murray
3/4	Jubborsay	Holly Buckley
3/4	Wollamai	Jack Dobinson
5/6	Burelli	Shirley Thompson
5/6	Djeera	Tegan Davies (M, T, W) and Carolina Vujasin (Th, F)
5/6	Nebo	Sue Hollick
5/6	Warrigal	Ashleigh Newton
Instructional Leader	Lauren Paterson	Monday and Friday
	Barbara Clegg	Tuesday to Friday
Stage Leaders	Stage 3	Tegan Davies
	Stage 2	Lauren Paterson and Ashleigh Newton
	Stage 1	Lauren Paterson and Lauren Hodgson
	Early Stage 1	Lauren Paterson and Lauren Hodgson
Library	Carolina Vujasin/Ray Burgess	
RFF	Ray Burgess – science and kitchen, Josh Swinton - garden	
Interventionists	Emma Dixon, Megan Gregory, Jo Davies	
Stage 1 Support	Georgia Garling	
Support Teachers	Radha Green, Cheryl Truskett, Liz Zerner (Hearing)	
Admin Staff	Wendy Oldfield, Sharon Stephenson, Fiona Morgan	
School Learning Support Officers	Karen Ryan, Angie Edwards, Michelle Clifford, Jarrad McKay, Paula Wood, Jo Buckley, Emily Yarrow	
General Assistant	Brad Lawton	

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Pick Up Arrangement for you Child/Children

Please make arrangement for a regular pick up location prior to coming to school. The office staff take a large number of calls each day for arrangements, and do their best to communicate these with children, but cannot guarantee messages will get to the child. If the child waits in the same spot every day, then whoever is collecting them can meet the child at that location.

Compulsory School Attendance

Attendance every day at school is important for your child's progress. It helps build friendships, life-long work habits and makes sure learning takes place. Please be mindful of the following information:

Wherever possible, dental and medical appointments should be made out of school hours.

If your child is absent from school please let the school know by the following options - contact the school, use the SkoolBag app or write a brief note to explain your child's absence. You must state the reason why your child has been absent, e.g. type of illness or reason for leave. Saying my child 'was away' is not good enough.

An explanation **must be** provided to the school within 7 days of an absence.

We will continue to celebrate high attendance at the end of every term for students who achieve attendance of 95% or above with a reward lunch. We are looking forward to seeing even more students attending this lunch each term.



EVERY DAY COUNTS....

A day here or there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...	that equals...	which is...	and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is...	This means that the best your child can achieve is...
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ a years of school	Equal to finishing Year 11
1 day a week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 10
2 days a week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 7
3 days a week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 4

Give your child every chance to succeed...

Every day counts!



Picking Up Early, Dropping Off Late

A reminder to all parents and carers if you need to take your child from class early, you must contact the office first and sign them out.

Signing children out from school for an 'early mark' is not a legitimate reason under attendance guidelines. Please only sign children out early if there is a need, e.g. doctor's appointment.

Parents need to report to the office and sign their child in if they are running late. Children should NOT be reporting to the front office by themselves. This is a legal requirement and is recorded in the school rolls.

It is very important that parents explain the absence. Parents can use SkoolBag app, reply to an automated SMS from the school or send in a note with the student.

Also, all emergency contact details need to be updated. Information sheets will be sent home soon with your child. Please return them as soon as possible.

Students Arriving Early

Parents are reminded that students should not be at school before 8.30am. Teachers are on duty from this time to supervise students in the playground. There is no adult staff available to ensure the safety of children in the playground prior to that time. If children do arrive before 8.30am they must sit quietly in the area in front of the canteen until the morning bell is rung. This bell means that a teacher is now on duty.

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Payment for School Activities and Excursions

All activities and excursions must be paid for in full prior to the event taking place. Payment can be made for multiple children together **but please use a separate note** for each child. Please try to use correct money when paying for activities.

If you are having difficulty making payments, contact the school office to discuss payment options before the due date.

The school can now accept card payments via the school website –

www.berkeley-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

Select 'Make a Payment' and fill in the details. (SRN is not required)

ALLERGIES

We kindly ask that parents do not send any food containing **nuts** (eg. peanut butter, whole nuts, cashews, nut bars) or **eggs** (eg. egg sandwiches, boiled eggs) as we have some students at the school who are highly allergic to these ingredients.



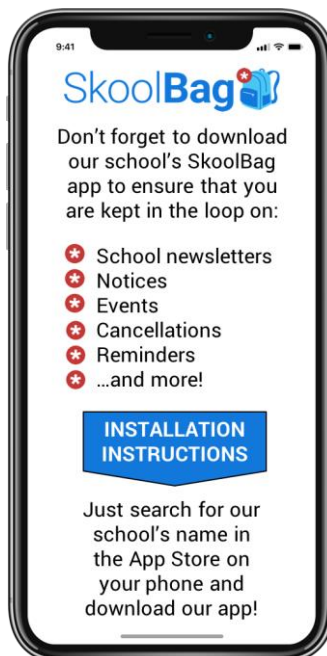
SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

The school newsletter is only available on the Skoolbag App and the school web page. (www.berkeley-p.schools.nsw.gov.au).

Please ensure you have the app on your **phone** or **tablet**, as other information and notes are also available on the app.

If you are unable to access either of these, a limited number of paper copies will be available at the school office.

If you need further information regarding the App, instructions are available at the school office.



BULLYING 3 Step Bully Program

1. Say "STOP! I don't like it." Walk away
2. Repeat, "Stop it, or I will tell the teacher."
3. Tell the teacher in a calm way.

We will not tolerate any bullying at Berkeley Public School. These steps are displayed in every classroom and all teachers have spoken to their classes and are aware of the processes we use.



It's a boy
Congratulations to Amber Quintal and James on the birth of their son Cruz.

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Birthday Treats

Unfortunately, in the times we are living in at the moment, cakes and birthday treats are not permitted to be sent to school to celebrate a child's birthday. Guidelines from the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) have advised that sharing of food or drink is prohibited to prevent transmission of disease in schools.

Canteen News

No parents are permitted to enter the school to go to the canteen. All orders must be taken to the canteen by the children. If you wish to pay with Eftpos please give your card to your child to take to the canteen.

NO ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER 9.15AM

Student Headphones

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, all students at Berkeley Public School will be provided with their own set of ear buds. These will be kept at school with the class teacher. If the students loses or damages their ear buds, they will need to purchase a new set for \$1. Students will not be able to borrow head phones or ear buds.

Swimming Carnival

The school swimming carnival was held on Friday 5 February at Berkeley Pool. Well done to all the students who participated in the carnival and I would like to congratulate you on your good behaviour while at the pool. Thank you also to the parent/carer helpers. Without your contribution the carnival would not run as smoothly.

Thank you to the Year 6 students of 2020 for their gift of a shade tent. It was certainly needed today.

Jack Dobinson

Swimming Coordinator

