

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.
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Kindergarten 2024 Transition

Berkeley Public School was thrilled to welcome our new Kindergarten students for 2024 into our wonderful school. The students have had 2 exciting transition sessions so far and got to meet Billy Backpack and their Year 5 buddies for next year.



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Principal's Message

Naganbi ngayagang Mrs Bowden. *Hello my name is Mrs Bowden.* Yalunga, or welcome to Week 3 Term 4 in which we celebrate Aboriginal languages week. I am so grateful to be working and living on Dharawal Country and learning about the local Dharawal language.

As usual our staff and students have been busy, busy bees learning and growing this term. Term 4 is our final stretch for the 2023 year and has teachers assessing and writing reports for all students. Staff are also getting prepared for helping our students transition to a new year. Miss Parker and the Kindergarten Transition team have provided opportunities for our newest BPS family to meet teachers, each other and get to know our school in our preschool to kindergarten transition. Miss Davies and the Stage 3 team are also working to prepare our senior students get ready for their transition to the next stage of their schooling to their local high schools. It can be a big time in their lives and transitions can see our children become anxious or act differently than their usual behaviour. The Department of Education have many resources that can assist with any questions that families may have. They share five things' parents can do to make school transitions easier, which are:

1. Speak positively about the change.
2. Acknowledge and discuss your child's concerns.
3. Involve your child as much as possible.
4. Pay a visit to your new school beforehand.
5. Help your child stay in touch with old friends.

Here at school, we are also here to help. Please reach out if you have questions or concerns. Applications for Year 5 students who would like to apply for selective high school placement are open now. This is an online process completed by families, not by the school. If you are interested and need more information, please contact our office.

Our school is always striving to improve our practice. Next year we will go through a process called External Validation, where a panel of peer principals will look over our school plan and evidence sets, we collect to give our school a rating and feedback on how we were performing. In preparation for this we will begin this term to look over our systems and processes to evaluate how effective they have been. Starting next week, a team from School Support will come and interview our staff and students and community on how we are supporting our students in their learning and needs. You may get a call from one of our team asking for your feedback. We ask you to be honest in your responses as it helps us improve how we support your children.

I wish our Stage 3 children who are heading off to camp next week all the best. Our dedicated teachers are taking the group for three days down to Canberra and looking at the itinerary they will have a great time! I thank our staff who attend these events as they take time out of their personal lives to provide the camp experience for their students. Can't wait to hear about the trip.

Turning on the news in these past few weeks have seen me witness many upsetting and disturbing scenes. It can feel like the world is a very heavy place for some right now. I am grateful to work with a team or people that are always checking in with each other and me about our wellbeing. If you are finding life difficult right now or your child upset by what is going on in the world right now, please reach out to us or to someone for help. Below are some numbers to call if you are struggling.

Nandawanjing, *see you later*

Melanie Bowden
Relieving Principal



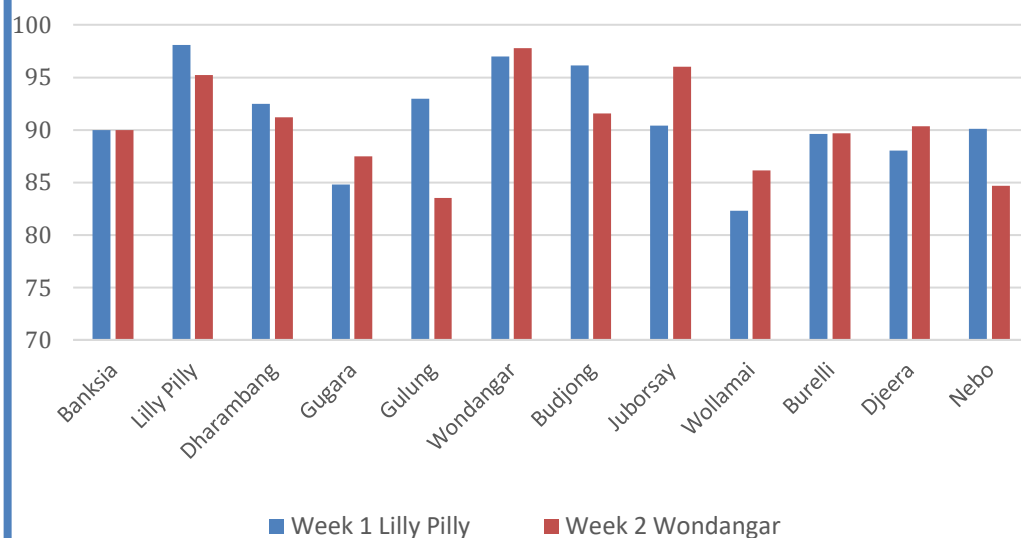
Mental health and wellbeing support and resources

- [Employee Assistance Program](#): 1800 060 650
- 13YARN: free, confidential one-to-one yarning opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees and their families
- Brother-to-Brother: 1800 435 799, Aboriginal-specific service for men
- Lifeline: 13 11 14
- Kids helpline: 1800 55 1800
- Relationships Australia: 1300 364 277
- SANE Australia: 1800 187 263
- Beyond Blue: 1300 22 46 36
- [WellMob](#): digital mental health resources for Aboriginal communities
- [Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council](#): peak body for the Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services in NSW
- [Black Dog Institute](#): resources for First Nations people
- [Headspace Yarn Safe](#)

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Attendance Matters

Attendance Term 4



**It's not OK to be away
It's not great to be late**



School Events

Wednesday 1 November
Kindergarten Orientation Session 3

Wed 1 – Fri 3 November
Canberra Stage 3 excursion

Tuesday 28 November
Kindergarten excursion

Thursday 7 December
Presentation Day Assembly

Mon 11 – 15 December
Swim Scheme

Wednesday 13 December
Year 6 Farewell

Friday 15 December
Year 6 Graduation

First Nations News

School Sports Shirts

We are almost there!!! Keep an eye out for the link to our Survey Monkey where you can view the chosen designs and vote on which one you would like to represent our school. The voting period will close on Friday 3 November. The students are very excited and have shared their enthusiasm in being involved in the design process. We are looking forward to getting the shirts into production by the end of the year as they will look great.

Aboriginal Education Community of Schools Meeting (CoS)

Berkeley Public School will be hosting the Community of Schools meeting on Tuesday 31 October with schools from within our area. This is an opportunity for schools to collaborate and share ideas and successes with each other to strengthen our commitment and focus on implementing First Nation perspectives across our schools. A key focus of this meeting will be planning our Reconciliation Walk for 2024.

Yarning Circle

We are always looking at ways to engage our community to collaborate and share ideas and information. If parents have any ideas or thoughts on where and when the Yarning Circle happens, we would be more than happy to hear from you. You can contact your child's classroom teacher, Ms Qunital, Mr Peckham or Ms Bowden. We look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you
Aboriginal Education Team

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PACER

Stage 3 Canberra Excursion

Students from our school will soon be undertaking, an education tour of the national capital, Canberra. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$45 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion as this discount has already been applied to the cost.

On Wednesday students are reminded to wear full school uniform which is their light blue shirt and NOT the Year 6 shirt.

Students will be visiting:

The Australian War Memorial

Parliament House

AIS

National Arboretum

Museum of Democracy

National Electoral Education Centre

National Dinosaur Museum

National Sound and Film Archive of Australia

Questacon

National Gallery of Australia



2024 School Travel Applications are now open

Students who need a School Opal card or travel pass for 2024 can apply [here](#). A new application will need to be submitted if they are applying for the first time, or if they are requesting additional travel entitlement because of new shared parental arrangement (e.g. joint custody).

Students who change address, school, campus location, have repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should [renew or update](#) their details before **the end of Term 4**. This will ensure that schools can endorse applications, and entitlements remain valid for the start of the 2024 school year. School Opal card holders will have the changes applied to their existing card.

If a student's distance eligibility has changed based on their grade (i.e. grade two to grade three), the system will automatically update their entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), we will send them an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition that is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

[Term Bus Pass](#) holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

Students in the Opal network applying for an Opal card (including a Term Bus Pass) for the first time will receive their Student Opal card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2024.

Students living in rural and regional (R&R) areas should receive their travel pass at the start of the new school year from their nominated transport operator. It may come via the school or be sent directly to them at home. **Note:** some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students/parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

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Literary Lunch

Students visited the Fraternity Club on Tuesday for a Literary Lunch. This involved 15 local children's book authors talking about all things writing. Students got the opportunity to construct the beginnings of a story with their author, Debra Tidball. Students were given the words hat, basket and plant to use in the story. The story went as follows:

"Non, no, no Milo! Don't do that you naughty cat!" Lee shouted.

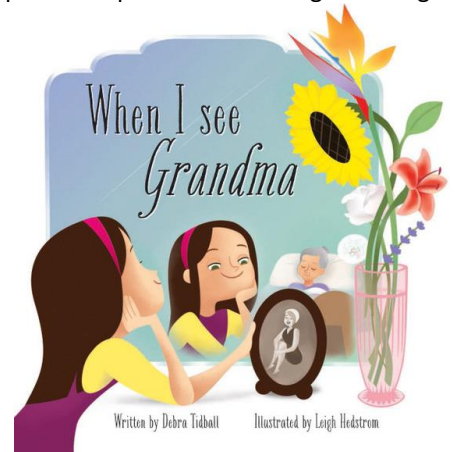
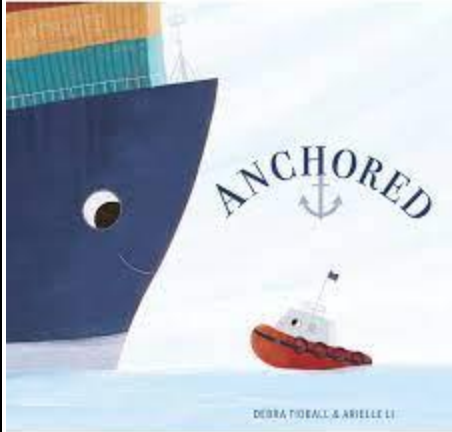
SMAHSH!

Lee ran to grab Milo, but it was too late. The plant hat Milo knocked had landed on Grandma's head. There were shattered shards of terracotta and soil smushed in Grandma's hair. Blood was dripping from her forehead. Her lips were moving as if she was trying to say something.

"Grandma, are you alright?!" Lee leaned in closer to make out what she was saying.

"Get the hat! Get the hat...basket....apples" she stammered.

Lee was confused, "What hat? What basket, apples?" She looked around and there sat a top hat. Lee put it on and it began talking....



ALL SKILL LEVELS
WELCOME

JUNIOR AUSTRALIAN SPORTS PROGRAM



8-week multi-sport program for kids aged between 4 to 12

Sports include: Soccer, Cricket, Basketball, Hockey, Touch Football, AFL, Netball & Volleyball

Learn sport skills, meet new friends, qualified coaches, all sport equipment supplied

WHERE: Sports Hub, University of Wollongong, Northfields Ave, Keiraville, 2522

DATES: Monday 23rd October 2023 - Monday 18th December 2023
(8x Monday afternoon weekly sessions)

TIME: 5:00pm - 6:00pm

COST: \$100, use your Active Kids Voucher to receive \$50 off

HOW TO REGISTER: www.juniorsport.com.au

CONTACT: 1300 903 227 or info@juniorsport.com.au



Australian International
Sports Organisation





Free workshop

1 Day Autism Workshop for Parents and Carers

Kiama, NSW

Scan to register



This workshop is for parents, full time carers and grandparents.



Interpreters available upon request



Tuesday 21st November 2023
9.15am - 3.00pm



The Pavilion
2 Bong Bong Street
Kiama
NSW 2533

Morning tea and a light lunch will be provided

During the workshop you will learn about:

- The diversity of autism
- Sensory processing
- Working together with your child's school.

Learn more about autism and ways to strengthen the partnership between home and school.

For more information or to register visit:

 www.positivepartnerships.com.au/pc
 amacrae@positivepartnerships.com.au



For help, call:
1300 881 971

This initiative is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education through the Helping Children with Autism package. The views expressed within this program do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government or the Australian Government Department of Education.



HALLOWEEN TRIVIA!

BEST DRESSED COMPETITION!

\$15

INCLUDES SAUSAGE
SIZZLE, DRINK, CHIPS
& ICEBLOCK

Halloween Disco

NOVEMBER
5TH
5PM-7PM

ADRENALINE ACADEMY OF THE
ARTS 4/32 INVESTIGATOR DR,
UNANDERRA

GLOW STICKS AND LOLLY
BAGS
\$0.50-\$2

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