

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.

Stage 3 Canberra Excursion

The Stage 3 students had a great time on their recent three day excursion to Canberra. Their behaviour during the trip was wonderful and it was lovely to see the kids experience what Canberra has to offer.



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Principal's Message

Welcome to Week 7 Term 4, I cannot believe that I am saying that! Someone told me this week that there is only around 5 weeks until Christmas. I am blown away at how fast this year and term have flown.

Our staff are busy writing final year reports, organising Presentation Day assembly and Year 6 Farewell and all the other end of year activities. Keep an eye on the events on our calendar as this time of year is called the silly season for a reason! Our hardworking staff are in the process of finalising 2023 with all the big events still planned and starting the planning for 2024. Next year teachers of Years 3-6 will be using a new curriculum and they have spent the last two terms getting familiar with the new documents and the changes to their teaching and learning programs they will need to make. Teachers in K-2 have been engaging with these new syllabus' this year and have been busy evaluating the new changes they made over 2023 to ensure their practice is effective and the best they can be.

As we approach the end of the year, our executive and teaching staff have been looking at the number of children in each grade and will now begin to form the classes for 2024. Our 2024 anticipated budget has been delivered to our schools and we will use this to look at the staff we employ and the programs we run in creating the blueprint for our school in 2024. Our school budget is determined by the number of students we have enrolled for our school for 2024. If you or someone you know is not returning to Berkeley PS in 2024, could you please call our office on 42711171 to let us know.

Our current canteen license will expire in January 2024, and we have begun the process of tendering for a new license. This process is conducted in partnership with School's Infrastructure NSW. This process will take a few weeks to complete, and we hope that we will have the canteen up and running in early 2024. If you and anyone you know is interested in applying for the tender, please look out for the advertisement in the local paper in the next few weeks.

Recently we have had issues with social media use and unkind words online within our school. Please be aware that some apps have an age requirement of 13 to sign up and we are asking parents to follow the recommendations about the apps their children engage with. We are asking parents to monitor their children's social media accounts and let us know if they are witnessing unkind behaviour against their child or against other children at our school. Accounts using Berkeley PS or BPS in their names are not allowed and we are asking parents to also monitor, block and report. A big thank you to the families that have provided us with screen shots and videos that are circulating in the investigation of allegations of bullying. We need to create a culture of Upstanders, who call out this bad behaviour, report it to adults and stand up for their friends and classmates. If you are struggling with social media use or abuse at home the eSafety website <https://www.esafety.gov.au/> has lots of great ideas for parents and children.

Stay safe in this busy time!

Nandawanjing, *see you later*
Melanie Bowden
Relieving Principal



School Events

Wednesday 22 November

Yr 6 High School Experience Day

Friday 24 November

In School Sport Gala Day

Tuesday 28 November

Kindergarten excursion

Thursday 30 November

Burelli & Djeera Yr 5 Port of Port Kembla Tour

Friday 1 December

Nebo & Djeera Yr 6 Port of Port Kembla Tour

Wednesday 6 December

Kinder Orientation 11.40am

Thursday 7 December

Presentation Day Assembly

Friday 8 December

Reports to go home

Mon 11 – 15 December

Swim Scheme

Wednesday 13 December

Year 6 Farewell

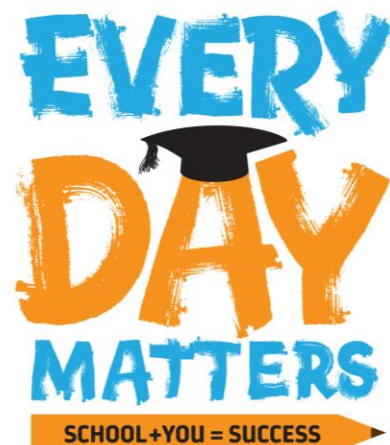
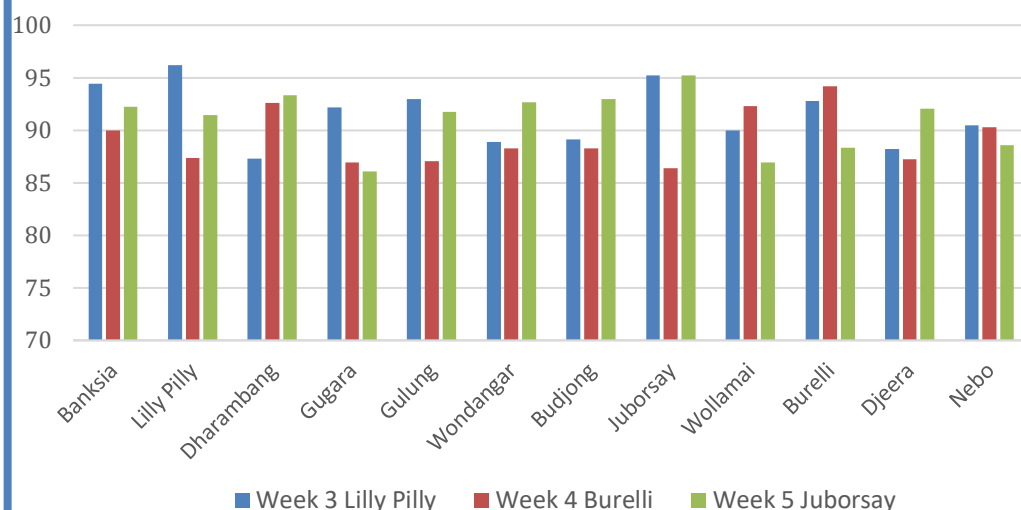
Friday 15 December

- Year 6 Graduation
- Last day of school for students

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Attendance Matters

Attendance Term 4



It's not OK to be away

- 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.
- Wherever possible, dental and medical appointments should be made out of school hours.
- If your child is absent from school, please contact the school or write a brief note to explain your child's absence. You must state the reason why your child has been absent, eg 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.

First Nations News

Library Murals

We are currently in the process of renovating our school library. We will be hanging up two of our murals that were developed by the 'Aunties' from Coomaditchie and our students. They will take pride of place alongside some indigenous inspired furniture which has been purchased by the school. We can't wait to share this space with our school community and celebrate this new learning space at BPS.

Aboriginal Education Community of Schools Meeting (CoS)

Berkeley Public School held the Community of Schools meeting on Tuesday 31 October with schools from within our area. This was 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 planning committee has been established to plan Reconciliation Walk for 2024. We look forward to sharing the dates and venue with you.

Yarning Circle


We are looking forward to seeing you all at our Yarning Circle on Tuesday 28 November 3.30-4.30pm. The Yarning Circle will take place in our Kitchen Garden area. Some light refreshments will be available, and the little ones are always welcome to come along. See you all in Week 8.

Thank you
Aboriginal Education Team

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School App

The Skoolbag/Audiri App will be discontinued at the end of 2023 and we will start using the School Bytes App. This will give you access to the Parent Portal where you can make payments, view past payments, sign permission notes digitally, access payment receipts, submit absence notifications and much more. If you need assistance please contact the school office.



The graphic is a promotional poster for the 'School Bytes Parent App'. It features a dark blue background with a central smartphone displaying the app's 'Dashboard'. The dashboard shows a welcome message for 'John', buttons for 'Finance', 'Payment History', 'Activities', 'Forms', 'Documents', and 'Attendance', and a 'Students' section with two entries: 'Dereck Auer' (Berkeley Public School, Berkeley Valley High School) and 'Oscar Behringer' (Berkeley Public School). Surrounding the phone are various icons: a calendar, a credit card, a document with a checkmark, a bell for notifications, a group of people, and a speech bubble. The text 'School Bytes' is at the top left, followed by 'Parent App' in large white letters and 'Available now!' in blue. Below this, it says 'Download on the App Store or Google Play by clicking the image below.' At the bottom left, a 'Key Features' box lists: 'Get real time push notifications from your school', 'Stay signed in and save your card for secure payments for fees and excursions', 'Give consent, sign forms and respond to attendance alerts', and 'View the school calendar and news'. At the bottom right are the 'Download on the App Store' and 'GET IT ON Google Play' logos.

School Bytes

Parent App

Available now!

Download on the App Store or Google Play by clicking the image below.

Key Features

- Get real time push notifications from your school
- Stay signed in and save your card for secure payments for fees and excursions
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Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

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Kitchen Garden

Stage 2 and 3 students have been enjoying their time in the Kitchen Garden this term. Stage 3 have been making burgers and Stage 2 have enjoyed making and cooking biscuits. We have harvested some lovely vegetables from the garden; some of which was used to make rainbow coleslaw. The children have also been washing and wiping up – a skill that could be put to good use at home. Others students have enjoyed the breakfast club.

Thank you Ms Burnett and Mr Swinton for making this time so enjoyable!

