

The Crest



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Term 3 Week 10
23 September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Can you believe we are at the end of Term 3 already!

At the beginning of Term 4, I will have been officially at Berowra Public School for a year....and what a year that has been! We have had bushfires, storms and Covid-19 which has made for a turbulent time. However, there are many positives to celebrate....we have a supportive and resilient community who has adapted well to change, our students have continued learning whether at home or at school and our amazing staff have remained positive and dedicated to providing quality teaching no matter what challenges have been thrown their way. I am excited about continuing my journey here and am looking towards a positive future where BPS continues to work closely with the community and our school continually strives towards achieving excellence.

Covid-19 Updates

Schools will receive Term 4 updates and changes to restrictions in early Term 4. Once we are made aware of these changes we will update the community. These changes are expected to impact the organisation of Kindy Orientation, Year 6 Farewell and Presentation Day amongst other events which are usually scheduled for Term 4.

Enhanced cleaning will continue in our school for the remainder of the year. This includes cleaning frequently touched areas and bathrooms after recess, as well as replenishing supplies such as soap. High touch surfaces such as picnic tables and handrails in the playground and door handles are also wiped with disinfectant.

Identifying and responding to unwell students

- During the COVID-19 pandemic, anyone with symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, loss of taste, and loss of smell), even mild symptoms, **should not be at school**.
- If, after testing negative, the person has ongoing symptoms which persist beyond 10 days, the person (staff or students) should arrange to see their doctor. The medical assessment should consider whether the symptoms are

typical for that person (for example seasonal, allergic rhinitis), and provide documentation for the school if this is the case. If there are new symptoms at any time, the person should be tested again.

- Isolated incidents of sneezing or coughing may not indicate that a student is suffering from an illness. Staff should talk with students about how they are feeling to determine if a cough/sneeze is an isolated incident or whether the student is unwell. Where a student is unwell arrangements should be made to send them home.
- Schools should encourage staff and parents to arrange for the person who is unwell to be tested so they can return to school as soon as possible once their symptoms have resolved to minimise the absence from school. For people who are unwell with respiratory symptoms, a negative COVID-19 test result must be received and sighted by the school.
- Schools have reported concerns with obtaining COVID test results from some families. In these situations where a parent/carer is unwilling to allow their child to undertake a COVID test or provide the school with a negative COVID-19 test result, the student is to be excluded from school for a 10 day period. Additionally, the student must have been symptom free for at least 3 days before returning to school.

Student Learning



Kindergarten children telling the story of their "curious creatures"

Teacher Learning

The school has a dedicated team of teacher and SASS volunteers who make up our School Improvement Plan Team (SIP Team). The team is working closely with the executive to gather, analyse and evaluate data & research which will be used to create a situational analysis for our next School Improvement Plan. This is an exciting time as we carefully consider where we are as a school and where we want to go in the future.

Community Feedback

During Term 4 there will be a variety of opportunities for our parents and cares to contribute to our next School Improvement Plan. A TELL survey, community focus groups and Facebook polls are some of the ways we will gain ideas, suggestions and feedback from our community so that we can improve our practices. Community input is truly valued and we encourage all parents/carers to take part in this process as it is an opportunity to contribute to the future directions of our school which will ultimately have an impact on your children.

Instructional Leader

BPS is committed to improving teaching practice and student outcomes. In 2021 we will have an Instructional Leader K-6 Assistant Principal 5 days a week to work shoulder to shoulder with our staff. This position was advertised and will be filled by an expression of interest.

The role of Instructional Leaders is to work directly with teachers to build student and teacher capacity in both literacy and numeracy, by providing high quality differentiated professional learning and direct literacy and numeracy support, within a school or group of schools.

Instructional Leaders work with teachers to identify students who may require additional literacy and numeracy support and tailor interventions to address these needs.

Professional learning opportunities are facilitated by instructional leaders for both school executive and classroom teachers through a wide range of approaches including peer observation, structured feedback on lesson observation, and one-on-one mentoring and coaching in specific aspects of pedagogy.

Kindergarten 2021

The school is collecting enrolments for Kindergarten 2021. If you have a student starting Kindy in 2021 please call our school office so that we can register your details and send you enrolment forms. Our fabulous Kindy teachers are currently organising a video for our new kindies which will replace our usual Transition Session in Term 3. We are preparing our Kindy Orientation Sessions for new kindies and parents in Term 4, however, are waiting for DoE updates regarding parent visitors on school site. Once we have more information we will update parents on our orientation program as we may need to make adjustments.

Kind regards

Vicky Wallace

Principal



**BPS wish the students,
families and staff a happy
and safe holiday.
Term 4 resumes for
students on
Monday 12 October**

Library News

This term the children have been able to participate in many of the library activities that they enjoy, though with some modifications due to COVID 19. Due to a fabulous team effort, we managed to hold our Book Character Parade which was live streamed to our parents and families, thanks to the expertise of Brooke Westwood. Thank you Brooke! The children looked amazing in their costumes and the teachers and office staff were stunning as "curious creatures!"



Library lessons have continued for each grade with children exploring many delightful stories and stimulating their curiosity with a great range of non-fiction books. The younger grades have focused on library terms and our wonderful Australian authors and illustrators and uploading their work on curious creatures to Seesaw. Mr Griffin has engaged the senior children with programming Spheros, exploring the emotions that stories provoke and beginning their special interest projects. It has been a busy, happy and productive term in the library.

We hope you all have a safe and happy holiday with many family adventures!

Jennie Smith and Scott Griffin



Reward Day – mufti for the winning classes

This year we have implemented a reward system which is used during our RFF classes with a focus on listening to others, following instructions, respect and trying your best.

The students have been working hard to achieve Dojo points in their lessons with Mrs Lukic, Miss Westwood, Miss Roberts, Mrs Smith and Mr Griffin. At the end of each term the class from each stage with the most Dojo points is rewarded with a mufti day. Congratulations to the winning classes for Term 3.

Kindergarten – K Blue

Stage 1 – 1B

Stage 2 – 4B

Stage 3 – 5/6M

Health and Safety is everyone's Responsibility

Our P&C has purchased accident insurance for students who are injured as a result of a serious incident at school. Information is available at the office.

Accident & Health International
Underwriting Pty Limited



Covid-19 Update Berowra Public School is continuing to follow DoE and NSW Health advice to help manage the spread of viruses and we will continue to keep the community informed as we are provided updates.



1. **Wash your hands** regularly and thoroughly.
2. **Sneeze into your elbow** or a tissue, disposing of the tissue straight away and then washing your hands.
3. **Stay home if you are unwell** and in schools, send home staff or students who show **signs** of being unwell through the day.

Please be aware that along with DoE and health guidelines students are continuing to regularly wash their hands at school.

The school is supplied with liquid soap for use by staff and students (available in the toilets and every classroom). We receive the liquid soap supplies in bulk. The soap in the toilets is checked and refilled twice a day and teachers refill pump bottles for the classroom as required.

Attendance

All students should be either:

- at school
- at home because they are currently unwell
- at home due to self-isolation requirements
- at home because they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition (or in limited cases where a family member has an ongoing medical condition).

If a student develops flu-like symptoms while at schools they should be sent home and not return to school until they have received a negative COVID-19 test result which is received and sighted by the school. Students should be marked as 'Sick' during this period.

If parents believe that their child has a condition which means it's not safe for them to return to school, they will need to provide a medical certificate.

Students in a higher risk group can return to school with the written support of their health care provider.

Please note, students who are residing with a family member who is identified as being at higher risk should attend school unless a medical practitioner advises otherwise. The parent or carer should provide written confirmation from the treating health professional that the student is unable to attend school and for what period of time.

If students are away from school because they are unwell, there is no expectation that they complete school work. It is important that unwell students rest.

If students cannot attend school due to a long term illness or underlying health condition, as is current practice, schools will continue to be responsible for providing work for students for the period they are prevented from being at school.

If a student falls ill while at school, the department's current first aid procedures and Infection Control Procedures apply including contacting the student's parent or carer or emergency contact, to collect the student.

Recording absences, medical certificates and case management

If a student is absent for more than three days without a medical certificate, this will be recorded as unauthorised absence and followed up by the school.

Our primary concern is the wellbeing and safety of the students in our care.

Upcoming Events		
Week 10	Friday 25 September	School Athletics/Fun Day (No parent attendance)
Term 4 Week 3	Tuesday 27 October	School Photos

Road Safety



Never call to your children from across a road – teach them to wait until you cross and come to them.



Parents please return borrowed clothing

From time to time students need to borrow clothing from the school office.

If your child has come home with some items of clothing, like shirts, shorts or pants that belong to the school, please **wash and return them** to the office **as soon as possible** as our supplies are running very low.

Thank you



Lost Property

Please make sure all item of clothing, drink bottles and lunch boxes are clearly labelled with your child's name so they can be returned if they are lost.

P&C News

P&C Meeting

At our September meeting we appointed Erin Sutton as Vice President and Deb Cook as our Treasurer. Thank you to these two mums for putting their hand up to help. We are still looking for a President of the P&C. If you think this sounds like a job for you, please get in touch. For more information about the role please visit:

<https://www.pandc.org.au/forms/faqs/Quick%20member%20info%20-%20Role%20of%20the%20President.pdf>

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 21st October.



Drinking fountains

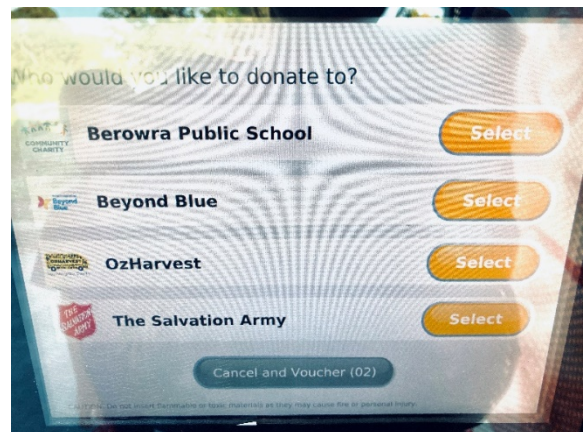
At our recent meeting the Committee approved the purchase of two drinking fountains and bottle refill stations for our school. These will be a wonderful addition to our school which will enable the kids to refill their water bottles especially during the upcoming summer months.

Playground and sandpit upgrade

The P&C approved a contribution of \$20k from the 2018 fair funds towards the playground and sandpit upgrade. This project will hopefully be completed before the end of Term 4.

Return and Earn

BPS has been successful in becoming a donation partner on our local return and earn machine. BPS will feature on the machine located in Berowra Heights. We encourage anyone from our local community to begin collecting eligible containers and donating their returns directly into our fundraising account by selecting 'Berowra Public School'. All funds raised will go directly towards the upkeep of the school vegetable garden.



Uniform Shop

To purchase your school uniforms, you need to do this is through Shopify:

<https://berowra-public-school-uniform-shop.myshopify.com/>

Orders can only be collected on a Wednesday afternoon outside the school office. If you require your order to be sent to BOOSH you will need to speak to a staff member there to collect your order.

Fiona Garrity, Uniform Shop Co-ordinator



Canteen

There are lots of opportunities in the Canteen for volunteers – if you can spare one day a week, fortnight or month, we would love to have your help! Kids love seeing their parents in the canteen!!!

Come spend the day or just during busy serving time. If you are interested in being part of your child's school in a fun and engaging way, please contact the canteen. You can also sign up directly by using this link <https://signup.com/go/wjCbjaT> Parents and carers who need to be on site for canteen purposes, must sign the visitor acknowledgement form for each visit. These are available at the school office.

The Canteen has also been encouraging the kids to recycle their chill J bottles into the yellow recycling tub located outside the Canteen. I've been pleased to see the kids getting onboard with this initiative. So far we have recycled over 70 bottles!

We hope to hold an ICE CREAM SPECIAL DAY in term 4 so please look out for communication about this next term.

Teresa, Canteen Manager

School Banking

School Banking has now resumed. As with everything, there are some changes in the way that we operate School Banking.

Parents are not permitted in the school grounds therefore your child/children will have to do their school banking on their own. Please ensure your banking slips have been filled out correctly with your Child's Name, their unique student number, the date and the correct \$ amount of what they wish to deposit.

We will have two authorised parent volunteers assisting in the canteen and you are more than welcome to wait outside the school gates if you would like to take your child's banking book home with you.

Once your child has completed their banking there will be hand sanitizer provided.

Unless otherwise advised, School Banking will remain every Tuesday from 8.50am-9.20am in the canteen.

Fiona Garrity, School Banking Coordinator

Contact Us

If you would like to get in touch please send an email through to BPSPandC2080@gmail.com or contact Clare on 0417 235 611

