

The Crest



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Term 4 Week 6
18 November 2020

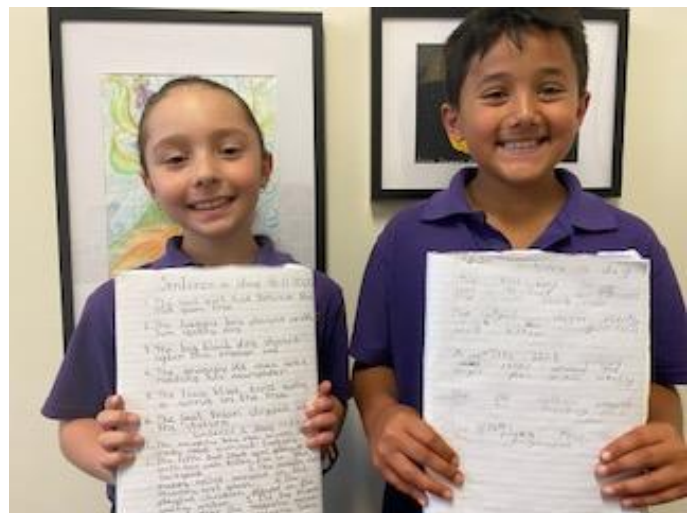
Dear Parents/Carers

The final count down to the end of the year has started. Our students are starting to get tired as are our teachers who have been busy writing reports. It has been a challenging year all round and everyone is looking forward to a well-deserved break.

Student Learning

3P have been working on improving their writing during "A Sentence a Day." Every day the teacher puts simple sentences on the board and the students make them more interesting by adding adjectives, adverbs or by changing the sentence structure into compound or complex sentences. Students can identify the adjectives and adverbs in their own work and the work of others.

Learning Intention: We are learning to make our sentences more interesting.



Success Criteria:

Add an adjective before each bolded noun in the sentence

Add more than one adjective before each bolded noun in the sentence

Add an adjective to each bolded noun and an adverb to the verb in each sentence

Here are some amazing examples that Sienna and Tahj shared with me:

Simple: The plane flew over the mountain.

S: The big plane soared over the majestic mountains and shimmering lakes.

Simple: The puppy rolled across the grass.

T: The fluffy, little, black puppy rolled around the bright green, grass violently.

Students sharing their amazing artworks during the art show held earlier in the term.



Students in Stage 2 have been learning about convicts and European settlement in Australia. Mrs Steel was able to borrow some impressive artefacts to thoughtfully share with our students. Thank you Mrs Steel!



Teacher Learning

The Instructional Rounds team (Miss O'Malley, Miss Lloyd, Ms Cabral and Ms Wallace) participated in another 2 days of professional learning online. This time the host school was Thornleigh West PS and their problem of practice was around reading. We were able to observe a range of lessons across the school and the readings/research we engaged in will be great to share with our staff.

School Security

As you are aware vandalism has been an ongoing issue at our school site this year especially over the weekends. This is causing damage to our school property and is also a health and safety concern for our student, staff and visitor. If you notice or see any persons trespassing and acting suspiciously on the school grounds please contact the Hornsby Police on 9476 9799 or the Police Assistance Line on 131444.

BOOSH Vacation Care

BPS is extremely lucky to have our amazing BOOSH offering Vacation Care during the school holidays. Community access will be restricted to the school site during Vacation Care dates to ensure the safety of the children and staff attending BOOSH.

Playground Equipment and Shade Sail Update

As you are aware the playground equipment and shade sail installation is nearly complete. There are a few more things like a sandpit cover and safety inspection which need to be finalised before both projects are officially signed off by AMU. Once we have received the all clear there will be an official opening ceremony before our students can enjoy the long awaited equipment. The excitement is definitely building!!!

Oval

Trev our fabulous General Assistant has been working extremely hard in the heat to fill some holes in our oval. He is carefully spreading top soil and preparing the bare areas for turf to be laid. Sections of the playground will be sectioned off and time over the holiday period with no traffic will allow the turf to take hold. Hopefully when the children return from their summer break the oval will look amazing!



School Planning

The school is currently completing a detailed situational analysis and we are collecting and analysing a range of data to help us find out where we currently are and where we need to go in the future. It is tremendously important to us to gain feedback from the students, teachers and parents as the feedback, ideas and opinions from our community will help our school improve.

The school recently took part in the Tell Them From Me Surveys for students, staff and parents as part of the data collection process and students K-6 have completed a short survey about the school. They were asked to rate how they felt about school, 3 words to describe the school and a change the school could make to make learning better.

To involve students in our school planning process and for them to have ownership over what happens at our school in the future they have been given a homework task to survey their parents. 4 questions are the same across the school and students are also able to write a question of their own. Stage 3 students will be using the homework tasks as part of their mathematics learning around data – what a great way to make their learning authentic and purposeful. This student homework task is not compulsory but we would really love to hear from as many parents/carers as possible.

We will also be conducting Facebook polls, parent focus and student focus groups in the coming weeks as we want to gain an overall perspective for our school.

We thank you for your assistance in helping improve our school by providing us with valuable data to guide decision making for school planning.

Kindergarten Orientation

Our Kindergarten Orientation program will be completed this coming Friday with the students attending their last school visit for the year. Our program has been very positive with our new Kindies loving the sessions and the home activity bags prepared for them by our wonderful office staff. We have also had some amazing senior helpers who have been outstanding with our new Kindies.

Our Final Kinder Orientation Session

Week 6 - 20 November at 9:30am -11am

Presentation Day

This year BPS Presentation Day will look a little bit different. Due to current COVID-safe guidelines we will be having separate Stage 3, Stage 2 and K-2 presentation day assemblies which will be attended by students and staff.

Our Presentation Day assemblies will be live streamed so that our parents and carers can be part of the day too. We will send you the link for this live stream closer to the date. The live streams will not be recorded and will only be available during the time of the presentation assemblies. If your child is receiving a special award this year a letter will be sent home to you later in the term so that you are aware and can make arrangement to view the live stream. We know this is not the best way to celebrate

our students' achievements but we are doing the best we can to ensure our students and community don't miss out. We welcome you to join the celebration via live stream and we hope that next year we can return to our traditional Presentation Day format so that you are able to join with us in celebrating our students' achievements in person.

Year 6 Farewell

The Year 6 Farewell will still go ahead in our school hall rather than at an external venue. Information has been sent out to families. It is fabulous that our senior students still get to celebrate their graduation even though it's not in the traditional way.

School Cleaning

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.

Enrolments for 2021

This is the time of the year when staff are planning ahead for next year. If your children are currently enrolled in K-5 and are not returning to BPS in 2021, please advise the school via email as changes to numbers will impact our class structures and planning for next year.

2021 Changes to School Development Days in 2021.

Commencing at the start of 2021, the changes include:

- an increase from one to two SDDs at the commencement of Term 1
- a decrease from two to one SDDs at the end of Term 4.

The School Development Days are scheduled for the following dates:

- **27 and 28 January, students return 29 January 2021.**

The two SDDs at the start of Term 1 are mandated and cannot be rescheduled. Principals may continue to vary SDDs that fall at the beginning of Terms 2 and 3, and at the end of Term 4.

There will be no changes to:

- the total number of SDDs – remaining at five days
- the length of the school year for staff or students (students will start and finish the school year one day later)
- SDDs occurring at the commencement of Terms 2 and 3.

Kind regards

Vicky Wallace

Principal

Library Update

Book Fair Update

Thank you to all those parents who supported our online Book Fair this year. We are very grateful for your generosity in what we know has been a very difficult year. We hope that you and your children enjoyed choosing the books from our new supplier, Redgum Books. We will now spend our commission on purchasing some new and exciting books for all the children to discover in the library.

The children are enjoying using the artificial grass areas outside the library for quiet games and conversation at recess and lunch. It is now a lovely shady area, much used and enjoyed by the children.



Remembrance Day

On Thursday November the 11th, the school came together for a beautiful ceremony to mark Remembrance Day. The children understood the significance of the event and were very respectful. We were very proud of them. Many classes made remembrance poppies and these and the school wreaths were laid around the two flagpoles.



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.

Road Safety



Bicycle lane



Bicycle lane

A bicycle or scooter rider must always give way to other pedestrians when riding along a footpath.

Attendance

Students should be at school unless:

- they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition and the expected timeframe
- they are currently unwell.

In accordance with advice from NSW Health, parents and carers are reminded **not** to send children to school if they are unwell, even if they have the mildest flu-like symptoms.

NSW Health have requested that schools encourage anyone who is unwell or has even mild flu-like symptoms, to arrange to be tested through their local medical practitioner or one of the COVID-19 clinics.

Students and staff with flu-like symptoms need to be tested and provide a copy of a negative COVID-19 test result and be symptom free before being permitted to return to school.

Students who do not undertake a COVID-19 test result will not be permitted to return to school for a 10 day period. Additionally they must be symptom-free for at least 3 days before returning to school.

Students who have seasonal allergic rhinitis or another condition that presents similarly to flu-like symptoms are still required to get tested for COVID-19 and return a negative test result. Where their symptoms continue beyond 10 days, students should provide documentation from their GP confirming their symptoms are typical for their condition.

Schools are not required to conduct widespread temperature screening or mandate the wearing of a mask.

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.

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.

Upcoming Events		
Week 6	Friday 20 November 9:30am – 11am	Kindy Orientation 2021
Week 7	Wednesday 25 November	Band Performance
Week 7	Wednesday 25 November	String and Recorder Group performance for Stage 1 and 2
Week 8	Monday 30 November	Rock Band performance
Week 8	Wednesday 2 December	Band performance at the preschool
Week 9	Wednesday 9 December	Presentation Day
Week 9	Thursday 10 December	Fun Day with DJ and ice-blocks supplied by School Support Group
Week 9	Friday 11 December	Stage 3 Mini Fete
Week 9	Friday 11 December	Semester 2 Student reports sent home
Week 10	Monday 14 December	Year 6 Farewell
Week 10	Wednesday 16 December	Last day of school for students
Week 10	Thursday 17 December	Last day of school for teaching staff
Week 10	Friday 18 December	Last day of school for SASS staff