

The Crest



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Term 3 Week 6
26 August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

This week BPS celebrated our fabulous SASS staff, who do an amazing job in our office, supporting our students in the classroom, keeping our school clean and maintaining the gardens, grounds and buildings. Our school would not function without their hard work and contributions.



Thank you to our SASS staff. You are amazing!!!

As you are aware the school is receiving ongoing updates from the DoE. The latest update received on Monday 24 August has clear guidelines for school regarding students and staff members who are unwell. BPS will be implementing these guideline as the health and safety of our students, staff and community remains a priority.

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 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.

Events Cancelled in Term 3/Term 4

The school has carefully considered the DoE guidelines, cost, impact and importance of many extra-curricular events which were planned for the remainder of the year. Many of our Term 3 and Term 4 events have been cancelled or modified. As events resume we will inform parents/carers of the organisation.

All District and Zone sporting events have been cancelled for the year. PSSA for football and netball for Stage 3 has returned for a limited 5 round draw.

Student Learning











Teacher Learning

Mr Cottrell, Miss Lloyd, Miss Cabral and Ms Wallace have been busy preparing for Instructional Rounds which will be conducted online on Wednesday 26 August and Thursday 27 August. This has been a steep learning curve with our courageous teachers and students being videoed for the observations. Mr Cottrell has been an amazing tech wizard sourcing us a microphone to block out back ground noise while capturing the voices of the teachers and students. We are looking forward to some valuable professional learning and some inspiring recommendations for whole school improvement.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Our Parent Teacher Interviews on **Zoom** have started this week. The teachers and parents have been very patient as we sorted out the initial technical issues. Feedback so far has been positive so fingers crossed there won't be too many hick-ups and before they are completed.

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

Upcoming Events		
Week 10	Friday 25 September	School Athletics/Fun Day (Parent attendance under review based on DoE updates)
Term 4 Week 3	Tuesday 27 October	School Photos

Book Week

Book Week Parade and Trivia, what a fabulous time we all had at our annual book character parade! This year was a different experience with all the restrictions. However, everyone got on board and the day turned out successfully if the happy, smiling children were anything to go by! A huge thank you to Miss Westwood for her expertise and enthusiasm in live streaming the event and to Mrs Lukic for directing and organising the whole day. Mr Griffin was there every step of the way including organising the Kahoots trivia for the primary children in the afternoon. The children were so excited especially our Kindergartens who were experiencing their first ever book parade! It was so good to see the primary children getting into the spirit of the day with amazing group costumes celebrating some of the special books that they have enjoyed over the years.

Congratulations and thank you parents for preparing your children so well with creative and inventive costumes! You did an amazing job and the children were so proud and happy to be part of it all. It was lovely to see so many of the children holding the books in which their character appeared. Well done parents!

All the teachers and office staff were into the Book Week theme "Curious Creatures, Wild Minds" letting loose their wild creativity with many "Curious Creature" costumes. What fun everyone had!

Literary Trivia

The whole school literary trivia had to be held differently as well this year. A big thank you to Mr Griffin for writing all the literary questions for Stage 2 and Stage 3 and running the trivia on Kahoots so effectively. The feedback from the children was so positive! Mrs Lukic and Ms Smith conducted two sessions of trivia questions for Kindergarten and Stage 1. The Kindergarten children were arranged in small groups and given a number to hold up if they knew the answer to the question. Their enthusiasm was infectious and their knowledge quite remarkable for such a young age. Stage 1 were similarly enthusiastic and keen to display their literary knowledge, as well as hoping to win the group prize!

The library looks amazing with all the art and craft work by each class displayed! Each class had a short listed book to read and discuss and then create a group "installation" based on the story. The results are truly wonderful, a credit to all the teachers and the children!

Thank you everyone for your combined efforts to make this year's Book Week one of our best ever!

Jennie Smith, Kelly Lukic, Scott Griffin and Brooke Westwood

2020 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge

It's the final countdown! The Challenge is quickly drawing to an end, with student entries closing this Friday 28th August.

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.

Road Safety



Buckle up every time you travel in a car.



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 items 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

AGM

The P&C held their Annual General Meeting last week. The meeting was well attended and we covered a lot of ground even over zoom and poor internet!

At the meeting we were unable to fill all positions and the below are still needing to be filled.

President: Vacant

Vice President: Vacant

Treasurer: Vacant

The P&C cannot run without parent help so this is your chance to become involved, improve our school grounds, meet new people and build a great community. If you can assist in any way please get in touch with me. I would also like to acknowledge our outgoing President Justin Ware for his 4yrs of service and Jodi Ludlow Vice President for her amazing 12yrs.

Clare Salke

Secretary P&C

Band

The newly elected Band Committee is as follows:

Chairman: Alex Heathers

Secretary: Claire Leitch

Treasurer: Sarah Fincham

Band Coordinator: Lisa Heathers

Events Coordinator: Riley Carter

There are lots of new faces which is awesome to see!

Should you wish to get in touch with the Committee please email bpsband@hotmail.com



Return and Earn

BPS has been successful in becoming a donation partner on our local return and earn machine. BPS will feature from the 24th August 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 'BPS'. All funds raised will go directly towards the upkeep of the school vegetable garden.



BPS has been successful in becoming a donation partners on our local Return & Earn machine in Berowra Heights. All funds raised will go towards the upkeep of our veggie garden. When using the machine please select 'BPS' to donate your funds to our school.



Uniform Shop

To purchase your school uniforms, you need to do this 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



Student Injury Insurance

Berowra Public School P&C Association has a Student Injury Insurance Policy for all our students as the NSW Department of Education does not provide accident or medical insurance for students enrolled in government schools. The cost of this policy is covered by the P&C.

Under the policy, students are covered whilst they are at school and when they are outside the school grounds on organised school excursions, sporting events etc. The policy covers a wide range of injuries and the permanent total loss of the use or functioning of certain body parts, as well as certain dental and non-Medicare medical expenses. Whilst we hope that you never have to use this, accidents can happen, having this insurance may help to ease the unexpected financial burden from those extra medical expenses that may occur whilst your child is at school. Although the policy is taken out by the P&C, any claims under the policy are required to be made by the students' parent or guardian directly with the insurer and the P&C is not responsible for the insurer's decisions on your claims. The P & C Association does not need to be notified in the event of an accident, even though the school takes out the insurance on behalf of their students, it is ultimately up to the parents/ caregivers to fill out and file the claim themselves. Further information can be found below:

Policy:

<https://www.pandc.org.au/forms/Insurance1920/AHI%20Vol%20Workers%20&%20Student%20Personal%20Acc%20Federation%20of%20P&C%2019032019.pdf>

Information sheet for parents:

<https://www.pandc.org.au/forms/guides/Medicare%20%20Notice%20to%20Claimants%20Federation%20of%20P%20%20C%20Association%20of%20NSW.pdf>

Student injury insurance claim form:

[https://pandc.org.au/forms/2014-2015%20Student%20Injury%20Claim%20Form%20\(1\).pdf](https://pandc.org.au/forms/2014-2015%20Student%20Injury%20Claim%20Form%20(1).pdf)

Volunteering with the P&C

Should you wish to volunteer your time our volunteers are required to have a current "Working with Children" check completed. Once your application has been processed please provide the Secretary with your WWCC number and your DOB so you can be verified.

<https://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/child-safe-organisations/working-with-children-check>

A Declaration for Volunteers and Non-child Related Contractors form is also required by the Department of Education for any volunteer. This form needs to be completed and 100 points of ID presented at the school office prior to engaging in any volunteer activity with the school.

<https://policies.education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/associated-documents/non-child-related-declaration-wwcc.pdf>

Canteen

The Canteen is now taking over the counter cash sales and as well as orders via FlexiSchools.

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/wjCbjqT>

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 is also encouraging the kids to recycle their chill J bottles into the yellow recycling tub located outside the Canteen. These bottles will be returned to the machine and the funds donated directly back to the school.

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

BPSPandC2080@gmail.com or grab one of our Committee Members at school for a chat!