

The Crest



Phone: 9456 1319

email: berowra-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BerowraPublicSchool>

Term 3 Week 8 9 September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a busy couple of weeks with a focus on sharing student learning progress and the where to next for student learning in our Parent Teacher Interviews.

This was the first time BPS has completed Parent Teacher Interviews via Zoom and we have received lots of positive verbal feedback around the online process. If you have any feedback please email it to the school email address as Zoom Parent Teacher Interviews may be an ongoing option in the future. We thank the parents and the staff for their patience and problem solving skills in overcoming the technical issues as they arose.

During Week 6 we celebrated SASS Week. Our teachers and students demonstrated their appreciation to our amazing SASS staff by creating special treats for them each day.



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.

Student Learning

Students demonstrated their persuasive writing skills while learning about the importance environmental sustainability. The Dr Seuss book "The Lorax" was the stimulus used for students to speak for the trees.



4 Key Questions

Staff have started asking a sample group of students in their classes the 4 Key Questions, which are based on research by Judy Halbert and Linda Kaser.

The 4 Key Questions offer a powerful way to gather evidence about what's really going on for learners and they have a profound effect on shifting learning practices in a more self-regulated direction. The questions help move teacher's thinking from a preoccupation with content coverage to a focus on what learners are actually experiencing with the learning they are designing for, or with, them.

The 4 Key Questions are:

1. What are you learning?
2. Where are you going with your learning?
3. How are you going with your learning?
4. Where are you going next in your learning?

Check-in with your children by asking them the 4 Key Questions.

Teacher Learning

Mr Cottrell, Miss Lloyd, Miss Cabral and Ms Wallace participated in 2 days of professional learning with the Instructional Rounds Network. This is the first time BPS has hosted Instructional Rounds. We will be sharing the data and findings with the whole staff later in the term and we have been provided some valuable recommendations which we will prioritise and include in our future school improvement plan.

See some of the positive observations which the network shared about the classroom videos they observed.

Engaged with students during task and asked questions	Students in Stage 3 could answer how they had been successful and where to go next in their research learning	Great attempts at getting children to self-regulate their learning - eg How could you bump it up?	Hands on learning	Students seemed to be enjoying the learning	Students used mini whiteboards to show learning	students asking other students questions. Student control.	Students clearly able to collaborate - considering one another's ideas and building on them	The learning was intellectually rigorous and accessible / achievable or the students
Teacher was deepening student thinking through the use of facilitative questions.	Positive parallel praise used to effectively draw all students' attention to teacher	Great Uses of randomisers	WALT and WILF clearly displayed	Love the Library environment- so colourful and welcoming!	Very positive learning environments.	Students able to work together confidently in the library.	Great challenges between students.	Admire BPS for giving this a go! Amazing to film and implement the IR process. Well done
LISC was visible and referred to by teacher	Many visual displays provided to assist the students with their learning	Students opened conversations with the teacher with personal stories eg my grandpa... The teacher responded positively & empathetically	Teacher had a lovely nature; warm, gentle, positive interactions with students	see think wonder task initiated student questioning	Students were very articulate and were capable of reflective thinking.	Students can clearly state success criteria	Asking questions to take the scientific thinking deeper - can you tell me a bit more...	students had to recall and use prior knowledge
Used technology for multiple purposes	Use of bump it up to help students think about how to take learning further.	Use of wait time to help students develop their thoughts	Teacher used gestures and visual cues to engage the learners	Great scaffolds for developing quality questions were being used	Engaging novel appropriate to stage 2 interests	Teacher talked about student thinking and shared it with the class	Good use of questioning to take learning deeper.	Students helped each other with their learning



Congratulations to all our teachers who engaged in the process. It is wonderful to work with colleagues who are so invested in improving their practice and the outcomes for all our students.

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

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



Berowra Waters Road and Hillcrest Road can be busy streets to cross.

A pedestrian crossing is a safe place to cross these streets.

Always **STOP, LOOK, LISTEN & THINK** before crossing the road.



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.

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



There's more to say after R U OK?

Ask then listen, encourage action and check in



1. Ask R U OK?

Or say something like:

- "I've noticed a few changes in what you've been saying/doing. How are things for you at the moment?"
- "I know there's been some big life changes for you recently. How are you going with that?"
- "You don't seem yourself lately – want to talk about it?"
- "Just checking in to see how you're going?"
- "With everything that's going on, you've been on my mind lately, how are you?"
- "You've got a lot going on right now. How are you doing?"

"Just checking in to see how you're going?"

"You've got a lot going on right now. How are you doing?"



2. Listen

You could say:

- "What's been happening?"
- "Have you been feeling this way for a while?"
- "I'm here to listen if you want to talk more."
- "I'm not going to pretend I know what it's like for you, but I'm here to listen to why you feel the way you do."
- "It sounds like that would be really tough. How are you going with managing it?"
- "Do you feel like chatting a bit longer? I'm ready to listen."
- "So, what was that like?"
- "That's tough. Keep talking, I'm listening."
- "What you're going through isn't easy, it's good we can talk about it."
- "Thank you for sharing this with me. That can't have been easy for you."
- "Take your time, I'm here for you."
- "If there's something you're unsure about sharing with me right now, I just want you to know I'm here when you're ready?"

"Take your time, I'm here for you."

"What you're going through isn't easy, it's good we can talk about it."



3. Encourage action

You could say:

- "What do you think is a first step that would help you through this?"
- "What can I do right now to support you?"
- "Have you spoken to your doctor or another health professional about this? It might be a matter of finding the right fit with someone."
- "Have you had much support around you?"
- "What's something you enjoy doing? Making time for that can really help."
- "Do you think it would help for you to talk to someone else about some of these things, maybe a health professional?"
- "Is there anything you've tried in the past when you've felt like this, that's made you feel better?"
- "I know when I went through something similar, talking to a professional really helped me out. Would you like me to help you book an appointment?"

"What can I do right now to support you?"

"Have you had much support around you?"

"Is there anything you've tried in the past when you've felt like this, that's made you feel better?"



4. Check in

You could say:

- "I would like to keep checking in with you, is that OK?"
- "Hey, how have you been since we last chatted?"
- "Just wanted to check in and see how you're doing?"
- "Have things improved or changed since we last spoke?"
- "What's been working for you since we last chatted?"
- "Is the support we discussed working for you?"
- "Do you need more support?"

"Hey, how have you been since we last chatted?"

"Is the support we discussed working for you?"

Learn what to say after R U OK? at ruok.org.au

P&C news

P&C meeting

The next P&C meeting will be held on Wednesday 16th September at 7pm at the District Hall in Berowra. An option to zoom will also be available for those who prefer not to attend in person. If you do wish to attend you will need to indicate your attendance prior to the meeting to ensure we comply with current covid restrictions.

We still require a number of positions to be filled on the Committee.

President: Vacant

Vice President: Vacant

Treasurer: Vacant

If you can assist with any of these roles please get in touch.

Clare Salke, Secretary P&C

Goosechase

Thank you to all the families that participated in the Goosechase Father's and Friends Day Challenge. It looks like everyone had a ball partaking in the challenges. It was a tight race at the finish and the final placings were:

FIRST PLACE – The Pickfords enjoyed the Coho breakfast hamper on Father's Day

SECOND PLACE - Jonesrule were the lucky winners of the \$50 Bunnings gift card

THIRD PLACE – The Robertsons rounded out the top 3 with a \$20 Bunnings gift card

A big shout out to Miss Westwood for giving up her personal time to run this fun event for our BPS families. We can't wait until next time!



The Pickfords enjoying breakfast



Get a selfie with a teacher – 1,000 points!

Clare Salke, Secretary P&C

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.



Emmett 4B recycling for BPS

Clare Salke, Secretary P&C

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 50 bottles!

We will be holding a **SPECIAL DAY on Wednesday 16th September.**

Butter chicken will be on the menu. Orders can be placed via Flexi or over the counter. Please note the only other menu items available on this day will be sushi.

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 61