

# The Crest



Phone: 9456 1319

email: [berowra-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:berowra-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

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

## Term 2 Week 6 26 May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Our Year 3 and Year 5 students have been working hard over the past 2 weeks to complete NAPLAN. This year all of our NAPLAN was online except for Year 3 writing. The students displayed perseverance and commitment to learning and we are very proud of them!

Teachers have been busy writing Semester 1 reports which will be sent home in Week 9. Our parent/teacher interviews are also scheduled for this term and information about booking your time will be sent home in the coming weeks.

### Upgrades

Mrs Smith and Mrs Lukic are very excited as our Library roof is being replaced! Work on the Library roof is expected to commence this week and should be completed by the end of Week 7. A security fence will be placed around the worksite and Library classes will be relocated to the classrooms until the work is completed.

An external security fence running the length of Hillcrest Road has been approved and will be funded by AMU. This is welcomed news considering the large amount of ongoing vandalism and damage to school property experienced over the weekends. Work is expected to begin in Week 9 Tuesday 15 June and be completed by 30 June. The work will be carried out in sections which means that at times some of the entry/exit gates along Hillcrest Road will not be accessible. The gates located near BOOSH will be the school's main access point. We will keep the community informed of any changes to pick up/drop off locations and access when work begins.

### Student Learning

It is fantastic to have **Story Dog** back at school working with some of our very lucky Year 2 students. Jasmine our new Story Dog and Helen her owner, visit the school each Tuesday to our absolute delight! The P&C are working on a fund raiser to help raise money for Story Dog so they can continue their amazing work in schools.

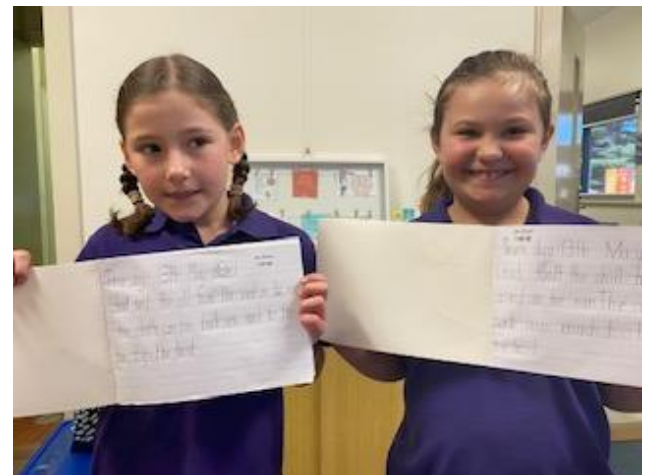




Mr Nathan Tilbury the local member for Hornsby Council was a special guest at our K-6 Assembly. He presented the school with a book about the history of our local area.



Our Kindy students....totally engaged while listening to Simultaneous Story Time.



Proud students sharing their writing.



Students have been writing compound sentences by using connectives to join two simple sentences. They have also added adjectives to make their sentences more interesting.

## Teacher Learning

Congratulations to Mrs Brittani Mitchell and Mrs Alison Withford who were the successful applicants in the EOI for Stage 1 Relieving Assistant Principal position. Mrs Mitchell has commenced in the position and when she goes on maternity leave Mrs Withford will take on the role.

The whole staff have been working hard to produce annotated evidence for our External Validation. Every 5 years, schools undertake the External Validation process. We have looked carefully at the School's Excellence Framework (SEF), gathered evidence to support the elements of the SEF, annotated and analysed the evidence and have collaboratively decided where to next for the school.

Our annotated evidence will be finalised and submitted for review this term and early next term our SIP (School Improvement Plan) Team will meet with the External Validation Panel to discuss our self-assessment and ratings. Our teachers have done an amazing job and should be extremely proud of their dedication, commitment and hard work!

We have some wonderful pre-service teachers working closely with students and staff in 1M and 5/6B.

*My name is Olivia Morris, and I am a student from Western Sydney University undertaking my professional experience. Last year I completed my Bachelor of Arts degree and have continued my studies this year, with my Master of Teaching Primary degree. Due to COVID last year, I was unable to complete my first professional experience, so I was very excited and nervous to finally get into the classroom to teach this year! It has been really interesting converting the theoretical knowledge I have learnt over the past 3 years into practice in the classroom. I am really enjoying learning from Mrs Beckedahl, who has been a great mentor, providing me with valuable feedback and insights that I will take with me throughout the rest of my degree and into my teaching career. I am loving working with and getting to know the lovely students of 5/6B.*

*My name is Peter Snellen, and I am currently completing a Masters of Teaching at Western Sydney University. I am in the process of completing my first professional experience with class 1M at Berowra Public School. The experience has been extremely positive and I have gained a vast amount of knowledge and understanding in such a short period of time. I am grateful to all the staff for how friendly and welcoming everyone has been. My mentor teacher Mrs Mitchell has shown strong guidance and encouragement and I am very appreciative. I hope to have a long and successful career as a teacher, but I will always remember the first step in my journey was at Berowra Public School.*

## Eid

Some of our families and staff celebrated Eid al-Fitr on May 12.

Eid is the festival of the breaking of fast where family and friends come together to celebrate with a banquet of sweet and savoury foods.

Specially made sweets and cookies are shared, and gifts or money packets are given to children and the elderly.



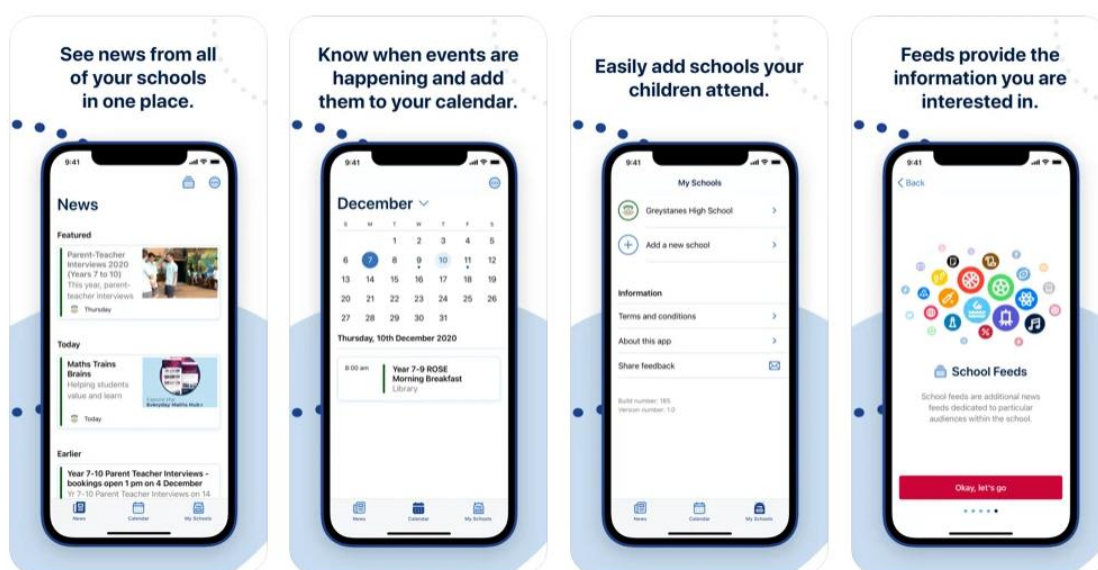


## Community

The department of Education has created a new app for parents which is linked to our website. The app will provide a school calendar and parents will have the ability to receive emergency alerts from the school. We strongly encourage all parent and carers to download the app so that we keep in touch. Please be mindful that we are still working on adding the calendar events.



iPhone Screenshots



## Introducing the NSW Education Parent App

We have the pleasure in introducing you to the NSW Education Parent app.

The app is a companion to your SWS school website. It shows the news, events and school information you publish to your school website. For parents it provides:

- the ability to add more than one school
- the latest news from all of their children's schools in one place.
- personalised school feeds to display information for selected year levels.
- details of school events and the ability to add them to a calendar, and
- links to contact schools directly from their mobile.

## Parent Communication

We have updated our BPS Parent Communication Procedures and our BPS Visitor Procedures to include feedback from the P&C and community. These procedures are available on our school website.

The WHS requirements for volunteers has been updated. Please note the following:

**Parent volunteers** are required to show photo identification and complete a Declaration for Volunteers and Non Child related Contractors.

**Specified volunteers** (Volunteers over the age of 18 who are not parents of close relatives of a child attending the school) must have a current working with children check (WWCC) paid or unpaid, must show photo identification and complete a Declaration for Child Related Work: Specified Volunteers and Contractors. These volunteers must be screened as a Volunteer/Contractor by the office **BEFORE** coming onsite. This process can often take longer than 24 hours.

Please ensure you see the office for any assistance with this process.

School Bytes, our school email system is set up to send emails to the parent listed as the 1<sup>st</sup> contact on student enrolment forms. If you would like to add a second parent/carers contact to receive emails please email your request to the school email address.

Additionally if you change your email address or are not receiving emails please ensure you notify the school so we can check and update your details.

## Risk Management Plans

If your child has sustained a serious injury and requires accommodations or adjustments to be put in place please phone the school office to make an appointment with me. We create Risk Management Plans to prevent any further injury and so that all staff are aware of any necessary changes that are put in place.

## 2022 Enrolments – Please enrol your child now for 2022 using online enrolments

A child is entitled to enrol at the local school that the student is eligible to attend if his or her home is within that school's intake area.

Currently our school has an enrolment of 374 students. We sit 50 above our enrolment cap of 324 students. An out of area application for BPS can still be made, however, it is submitted to a panel who following the criteria to decide whether the application is accepted.

BPS Enrolment Procedures and Protocols are located on our school website at <https://berowra-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

Please contact the office if you require any additional information.

If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me via the school email [berowra-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:berowra-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au) or phone the front office.

Vicky Wallace  
Principal

## **Smiling Minds**

This year Berowra Public School is implementing the Smiling Mind program. This is a mindfulness program that will support student wellbeing.

We encourage parents and students to register on the Smiling Mind website or download the app to explore the Smiling Mind program. The mindfulness program, practices for the classroom and home, as well as more information about Smiling Mind can be found at [www.smilingmind.com.au](http://www.smilingmind.com.au). You can also find more information specific to parents and carers through this link: <https://www.smilingmind.com.au/parent-resource>.

Ms Elky Roberts  
Smiling Minds Champion

## **Library News**

### ***National Simultaneous Storytime***

There was a buzz of excitement at 11:00am last Wednesday when all the K-2 classes and some of the 3-6 classes tuned in to listen to the story, "Give Me Some Space" by Philip Bunting. This year the book was read by Dr Shannon Walker direct from the International Space Station! The children were intrigued to see and hear an actual astronaut reading the story from inside the space station! Much discussion followed afterwards and a follow up Youtube site "How It Works-the International Space Station" fascinated the children and prompted many lively comments and questions. Many children then spent time writing creatively about what they had seen and heard, as well as creating some very imaginative stories. It was a special event shared by our children and over a million other children from schools all over Australia.

### ***Premier's Reading Challenge***

Only three months to go! The challenge finishes in August and quite a few children have finished their challenge already! All children are encouraged to login onto the PRC website through their student portal. They can then enter the books that they have read in the "Student Reading Record" tab and "Add a Choice Book" tab. The PRC identity number (ID) can be found on the Book Lists for their appropriate class challenge level. These lists can also be found on Orbit, our school library homepage. Children can enter five books of their own choice. Kindergarten and Year 1 have so far had eleven books read to them in the library and these will be emailed to parents to be added to the children's tally of 30 books. More stories will be added before August, but any books read to the children from home can be added too. Year 2 has had nine books read to them and although there will be more, the children are encouraged to read as many books from the K-2 lists by themselves. Years 3-6 have a quota of 20 books. Congratulations to all the children who are well on their way to finishing their PRC!

Thank you parents for encouraging your children to read and to help them to fill in their Student Reading Records.

Jennie and Kelly



## Sports Update

Some of our students attended Zone Cross Country accompanied by Mr Parkinson and Mr Griffin. Congratulations to all our competitors who represented our school. We are very proud of your performance and effort!





## Road Safety



Hillcrest Road is very busy and there are a number of pedestrians crossing at Balaclava Road before and after school.

Please be mindful that U-turns are not safe around school zones



# 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 has 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 will 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.

When your child is absent from school, don't forget to send in a note on their return to school to explain their absence.

This note should explain the reason for the child's absence, the date(s) of the absence and should be signed and dated by a parent or guardian.

Alternatively you can call the school office or send an email to the school's email address with the teacher's name in the subject bar and it will be forwarded to the appropriate staff member.



# 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.

# BPS SCHOOL CALENDAR

\*Please note dates are subject to change

\*Not all events are on the calendar as dates are still being finalised

TERM 2		
Week	Date	Event
<b>Week 6</b>	Thursday 27 May	Kindy Excursion Special Local Places
<b>Week 7</b>	Thursday 3 June	Athletics Carnival
<b>Week 7</b>	Friday 4 June	Coffee and Catch Up 8:50am -9:20am
<b>Week 8</b>	Wednesday 9 June	Kindy 2022 Parent Information Session and Tours 2:30pm-3pm
<b>Week 8</b>	Thursday 10 June	Florimo Cup Gala Day Stage 2 & 3
<b>Week 8</b>	Thursday 10 June	Kindy 2022 Parent Information Session and Tours 2:30pm-3pm
<b>Week 8</b>	Friday 11 June	Kindy 2022 Parent Information Session and Tours 2:30pm-3pm
<b>Week 9</b>	Wednesday 16 June	P&C Meeting
<b>Week 9</b>	Thursday 17 June	Term 2 Dance Concert
<b>Week 9</b>	Friday 18 June	Semester 1 Student Reports
<b>Week 9</b>	Friday 18 June	School Support Group Disco
<b>Week 10</b>	Monday 21 June – Friday 25 June	Parent Teacher Interviews
<b>Week 10</b>	Friday 25 June	Last day of Term 2



TERM 3		
<b>Week 1</b>	Monday 12 July	Term 2 resumes for staff only
<b>Week 1</b>	Tuesday 13 July	Term 2 resumes for students
<b>Week 2</b>	Wednesday 21 July	P&C Meeting
<b>Week 3</b>	Wednesday 28 July	P&C Mufti Day
<b>Week 3</b>	Thursday 29 July	Open Day/NAIDOC Day
<b>Week 4</b>	Tuesday 3 August	Athletics Carnival (Back Up Date)
<b>Week 5</b>	Thursday 12 August	Canteen Special Day: Tacos
<b>Week 6</b>	Wednesday 18 August	P&C AGM
<b>Week 6</b>	Thursday 18 August	Teddy Bear's Picnic Kindy Excursion
<b>Week 6</b>	Sunday 22 August	Working Bee
<b>Week 7</b>	Monday 23 August	Year 2 Sydney Zoo Excursion
<b>Week 7</b>	Thursday 26 August	Book Parade
<b>Week 8</b>	Tuesday 31 August	Father's Day Stall
<b>Week 8</b>	Friday 3 September	Father's Day Breakfast
<b>Week 8</b>	Saturday 4 September	Election BBQ run by the P&C
<b>Week 9</b>	Thursday 9 September	Term 3 Dance Concert
<b>Week 9</b>	Friday 10 September	School Support Group Disco
<b>Week 9</b>	Monday 13 September – Wednesday 15 September	Stage 3 Camp
<b>Week 10</b>	Wednesday 15 September	P&C Meeting
<b>Week 10</b>	Friday 17 September	Last day of Term 3

TERM 4		
Week	Date	Event
Week 1	Tuesday 5 October	Term 4 resumes for staff and students
Week 3	Wednesday 20 October	P&C Meeting
Week 4	Thursday 28 October	Grandparent's and Special Friend's Day
Week 5	Thursday 4 November	Canteen Special Day: TBA
Week 7	Wednesday 17 November	P&C Meeting
Week 7	Sunday 21 November	Working Bee
Week 8	Friday 26 November	School Support Group Disco
Week 9	Thursday 2 December	Term 4 Dance Concert
Week 9	Thursday 2 December	Year 5 High School Experience Day
Week 10	Wednesday 8 December	Presentation Day
Week 10	Friday 10 December	Semester 2 Student Reports
Week 10	Date TBA	Year 6 Farewell
Week 11	Tuesday 14 December	Talent Show
Week 11	Wednesday 15 December	P&C Meeting (if required)
Week 11	Thursday 16 December	Last day of school for students
Week 11	Friday 17 December	Last day of school for staff

# Coffee and Catch Ups

**Why?** We value building connections within our community

**How?** Meet other parents/carers and staff for an informal chat  
A coffee van will be onsite for coffee purchases

**Who?** Parents/carers and toddlers are welcome

**When?** Week 7 Friday 4 June @ 8:50am-9:20am

**Where?** BPS playground (sandpit only will be available for under school aged children)

## Covid-19 Safety

Please sign in at the Hall Cola with the QR Code and on the DoE register

