

The Crest



Phone: 9456 1319

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

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

Term 1 Week 2 3 February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back for Term 1 2021 and a special welcome to our new students and families starting at BPS this year.

The children have had a great start to the year and most students have already settled into their new classes.

Today we welcomed our 2021 Kindy students who had an amazing first day with their fantastic Kindy teachers.

Our Student leadership team were outstanding in their very first role of welcoming and helping our newest students. It was delightful to see our student leaders walking the kindies to class and engage with them during the morning activity. Our helpers stating that they had even more fun than the kindies!



Playground Update

Today the security fence was finally removed from our new playground equipment. Teachers are explicitly teaching all students the rules and expectations for safety on the playground equipment so that we can avoid any injuries.

Please be aware that students are only allowed on the playground equipment while there is a teacher supervising.

The playground equipment is not suitable for students who are not school age.

Class Formation

BPS has received a number of inquiries regarding the formation of classes. This year classes 3-6 are stage based classes and we have one composite 4/5 class. Our class structure is based on the number of students in each grade.

The composition of classes was a whole staff decision and teachers spent a considerable amount of time forming each class in line with the BPS Class Formation and Teacher Allocation Policy.

'Stage-based classes' is a style of classroom organisation with its basis in the educational belief that the individual child is important, learns at his/her own pace and should not have their learning restricted to a confined grade or period of twelve months.

Why Stage Based Classes Work:

- ❖ The syllabus documents (by which we teach) are in stages.
- ❖ No 'one' group is seen to be disadvantaged – all classes in each stage will be given the same opportunities, expectations and strategies.
- ❖ A 1997 report *Multi-Age Classes in NSW* found that these classes based on educational principles do not disadvantage students academically and actually benefit them socially and emotionally.
- ❖ Even within the same class, children will be at different levels. Teachers recognise this and differentiate the learning in all classes so that students are accessing the curriculum and learning at their level.
- ❖ Research has shown that children become more confident, can operate better as part of a group, are more assertive, become more independent learners and better problem-solvers. They also make friends outside of their standard age-groups, and develop tolerance & diversity.

If you would like any more information on our classes, class structures or have questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me via the school email berowrap.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.

"Mindfulness is proven to lead to better attention, memory, regulation of emotions and self awareness. In turn, improvements in these areas can lead to reduced stress, anxiety and depression, better academic skills, social skills and self esteem."

Mindfulness will become part of our everyday school culture and both the students and teachers will be practising mindfulness meditation three times a week. Each fortnight there will be a new focus, starting with 'Awareness'.

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. 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

Dance at BPS

For the last nine years ALL of the students at BPS have been learning dance with their classes taught by Mrs Lukic. This will continue for 2021 with 3/4B, 3/4K, 3/4P and 4/5G taking lessons on Thursdays in Term 1. Students learn a variety of dances each term. They will also work in groups to explore movement and create their own compositions. These classes will present a short performance on Thursday 25th March at 2:45pm.

We have many talented dancers at BPS. Each year we have over 100 students audition for the boys and girls dance groups. It is a fabulous opportunity for students to refine their skills and increase their confidence. I would love to accept all students but unfortunately due to restrictions from the dance festival, we can only take limited numbers for each group. The dance auditions are currently taking place for students in Years 3-6. The major performances for the year are at Glen St Theatre for the Sydney North Dance Festival in June.

Kelly Lukic
Dance Teacher

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 berowra-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au with the teacher's name in the subject bar and it will be forwarded to the appropriate staff member.



Road Safety



Berowra Waters Road and Hillcrest Road can be busy streets to cross. A pedestrian crossing is a safe place to cross these street.

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

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.

Upcoming Events

Term 1

Week	Date	Event
Week 4	Wednesday 17 February	P&C Meeting
Week 4	Thursday 18 February	High School Experience Day Year 6
Week 4	Sunday 21 February 9-11am & 1-3pm	Working Bee
Week 5	Thursday 25 February	Canteen Special Day: ice cream
Week 6	Monday 1 March	Swimming Carnival 8-12 year olds
Week 7	Wednesday 10 March	P&C Mufti Day
Week 8	Wednesday 17 March	School Photos
Week 8	Wednesday 17 March	P&C Meeting
Week 9	Tuesday 23 March	Harmony Day
Week 9	Thursday 25 March	Term 1 Dance Concert
Week 9 & 10	Ticket sales 22 March – 1 April	Band Easter Raffle
Week 10	Thursday 1 April	Hat Parade

Term 2

Week 1	Wednesday 21 April	P&C Meeting
Week 1	Friday 23 April	ANZAC Day Ceremony
Week 3	Tuesday 4 May	Mother's Day Stall
Week 3	Friday 7 May	Mother's Day Breakfast
Week 4	Sunday 16 May	Working Bee
Week 5	Wednesday 19 May	P&C Meeting
Week 5	Thursday 20 May	Canteen Special Day: sausage sizzle
Week 6	Thursday 27 May	Kindy Excursion Special Local Places
Week 7	Thursday 3 June	Athletics Carnival
Week 9	Wednesday 16 June	P&C Meeting
Week 9	Friday 18 June	Semester 1 Student Reports

Week 10	Thursday 24 June	Term 2 Dance Concert
Week 10	Monday 21 June –Friday 25 June	Parent Teacher Interviews
Term 3		
Week 2	Wednesday 21 July	P&C Meeting
Week 3	Tuesday 27 July	Open Day/NAIDOC Day
Week 3	Wednesday 28 July	P&C Mufti Day
Week 4	Tuesday 3 August	Athletics Carnival (Back Up Date)
Week 5	Thursday 12 August	Canteen Special Day: tacos
Week 6	Wednesday 18 August	P&C AGM
Week 6	Sunday 22 August	Working Bee
Week 7	Thursday 26 August	Book Parade
Week 8	Tuesday 31 August	Father's Day Stall
Week 8	Friday 3 September	Father's Day Breakfast
Week 9	Thursday 9 September	Term 3 Dance Concert
Week 10	Wednesday 15 September	P&C Meeting
Term 4		
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 9	Thursday 2 December	Term 4 Dance Concert
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)

CHESS!!

Learn to be a chess champion! Coaching for students at Berowra Public School is held on Tuesdays from 1:30pm to 2:20pm, starting on 2 February 2021.

Learning and playing chess helps children develop their logical thinking and problem solving skills, improves their concentration and focus, while also being a great source of enjoyment. Activities include group lessons on a demonstration chess board or interactive whiteboard, puzzle solving and fun practice games.

Students earn merit awards by making checkmates, or by displaying skills and positive qualities, which all good chess players strive to develop.

If your child is interested in taking part, you can collect an enrolment form from the school office, or email enrol@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au for a copy. For all enquiries, please contact Sydney Academy of Chess on (02) 9745 1170.



Update:

Welcome back to all our wonderful families and big welcome to our new families who have joined the BPS Community. We trust you had a restful break and are ready for 2021.

Over the school holidays some exciting projects were completed around the school:

- Our wonderful new mural (how can you miss it as you drive up BWR). The wall has been transformed into a fun and vibrant space which brings to life our four sporting mascots. We couldn't be happier with how it has turned out!



- Installation of two refillable drink stations featuring artwork from competition winners – Micah Chapman and Ruby Barton. We now have a drink station located under the library cola and another one outside K Yellow. Hopefully, this will encourage the kids to stay hydrated!



Student Injury Insurance:

Berowra Public School P&C Association has renewed our Student Injury Insurance Policy for another year. 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.

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. Should this occur please contact us to find out how you can submit your claim.



Working Bee:

We have our first working bee coming up on **Sunday - 21st February**. Two sessions will be held to comply with current Covid restrictions.

Sunday	Session 1	Session 2
21 Feb	9am to 11am	1pm to 3pm



Stay tuned for more information on how you can sign up!

Canteen:

The Canteen could always use your help!
If you are interested in volunteering your time in the canteen – please contact the Canteen or sign up directly via [2021 BPS Canteen Volunteers — Signup Sheet | SignUp.com](#)

Volunteers must have a working with children's check, sign the visitor acknowledgement form and QR code located in the Office upon arrival.



Thursday – 25th February

Ice cream Day: Orders can be placed via Flexischools or via the note sent home with your child.



Don't forget to order your Birthday Buckets!
For your child's birthday, order a bucket of ice blocks.



These will be delivered to their classroom for the whole class to enjoy!

Order prior to the day via Flexischools.

Should you wish to contact us please do so by calling the school office on 9456 1319 or via email canteen@bps.org.au

Uniform Shop:



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

Orders are processed weekly; you will receive an email when your order is ready for collection.

Collection will be on a Wednesday afternoon between 3.10pm to 3.30pm outside the Office.

Have questions or require further information – contact us via email uniform.shop@bps.org.au

Banking



Tuesday – 8.50am to 9.20am @ The Canteen

Ensure banking slips are filled out correctly with the Childs Name, Unique Student No, the date and \$ amount being deposited.

Two authorised parent volunteers will complete the banking. Parents can wait at the school gate to collect their child's banking deposit book at the completion of banking.

*This procedure will remain in place until further notice

Support BPS by:



BPS is a donation partner on the machine located in Berowra Heights
Collect eligible containers and donate your returns by selecting 'Berowra Public School'
All funds raised go towards the upkeep of the school vegie garden



Every time you buy a pair of shoes from Hornsby Athlete's Foot store - **\$5** will be donated back to **BPS**

This applies to the whole family across a fantastic range of school, sports, work and casual shoes



The Athlete's Foot Hornsby

Shop 1082,236 Pacific Highway
Hornsby, NSW, 2077



A school parents dream!
Selling personalized labels, clothing and lunch boxes; giving a percentage of sales back to the school to help purchase additional resources
www.stuckonyou.com.au/affiliate/fundraiser/BPSS

Make sure when checking out that **BPSS** is in the Crew/Fundraising code box
Your Purchase Supports

Berowra Public School Support

About BPS P&C:

BPS P&C is made up of busy and committed parents who work with the school to provide opportunities to advance student's wellbeing and education. We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7pm. All welcome!

Why join the P&C?

Research has shown that the vital ingredient for students' engagement and learning is parental participation. Joining the P&C is one of the best ways to show your children how much you value their education and how interested you are in what they do. The P&C is open to everyone: parents, caregivers, grandparents, teachers and members of the whole community.

What does a P&C do?

P&Cs work closely with the school, building a stronger school community where all children benefit.

Functions of a P&C are:

- To foster general community interest in educational matters;
- To encourage closer cooperation between parents of students attending the school, members of the community, the staff and students of the school;
- To provide advice and recommendations to the Principal on issues and concerns in respect to the student body and the general operations and management of the school;
- To provide or assist the provision of financial or other resources or services for the benefit of students of the school.

