

The Crest

Term 3 Week 8 2 September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

We know it has been challenging and everyone is really starting to feel tired and frustrated but we thank you for your ongoing efforts and support. We are truly grateful to have a community who is working so hard to support our children in learning from home.

Last Friday the Premier announced the plan for students returning to school.

Roadmap to return to face-to-face learning

- In the event stay-at-home rules are lifted in regional NSW before the end of Term 3, schools in those areas can expect to return to face-to-face teaching and learning at Level 3.
- From Monday 25 October, select cohorts under stay-at-home rules – starting with students in Kindergarten and Year 1 – will return to face-to-face learning under **Level 3 plus** COVID-safe settings, as long as community transmission and vaccination rate requirements have been met.
- From Monday 1 November, students in Years 2, 6 and 11 will return to school sites under Level 3 plus settings.
- From Monday 8 November, students in Years 3, 4 and 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10 return to school sites under Level 3 plus settings.
- Double doses of COVID vaccinations will be mandatory for any staff on school sites from 25 October and for all school staff from 8 November.

BPS would like to thank our families who are continuing to follow NSW Health advice and our DoE guidelines to help keep our community safe.

Last week our school has seen an increase in students attending school and we have attendance levels that are significantly above other schools in Sydney. Our attendance rate was 23% on some days last week.

I want to remind all our families that there is minimal supervision on site at our school for those students who cannot be educated at home, for example if their parent or carer is

an essential worker. All students and families will be supported with learning from home materials and resources.

If you are working from home, and your child is able to be educated from home, please keep them at home.

I want to thank all the families who have continued to support our community by keeping their children at home to minimise movement in the community. Get in touch with your teacher via email or phone the school to discuss any additional needs for your child or family so that we can continue to support you and your children in learning from home.

Shout-out for School Administrative and Support Staff Recognition Week 6-10 September 2021

SASS Recognition Week is a wonderful opportunity for our school community to pay tribute to all support staff for their dedication, hard work and continual support for our students.

Without our dedicated SAS staff our school would not be able to operate effectively and provide the comprehensive support for parents, staff and families. There are many roles that SAS staff undertake that may go unnoticed but all these roles and the jobs undertaken but SAS staff are truly appreciated by all staff and students.

Our SAS staff have been front and centre of the school and have kept us running efficiently and were essential in gaining the ongoing support from our school community. This year has highlighted the fact that our SAS staff are resilient people who have demonstrated flexibility in regards to performing alternate roles during the period of remote learning. You have all adapted to the changing circumstances and continued to operate as a TEAM to ensure we can deliver the best possible outcomes for our families and students.

To all our SAS staff a huge thank you for all your commitment and dedication to Berowra Public School and the ongoing support you provide for everybody involved in the school community.

Here is a list of some of the tasks our SAS staff perform to keep the school functioning so well:

- Archivist
- Business Manager
- Communications
- Community Engagement & Events
- Community Relations
- Database and Enrolment Assistant
- Finance Officer
- Grounds person
- Inclusive Learning Assistant
- Learning and Support Assistant
- Medical Support Officer

- Payrolls
- Personal Assistant to the Principal
- Property Manager
- Publications Assistant
- Receptionist
- Resource Technician
- Student Welfare
- Teacher's Aide
- Technology Assistant
- Work, Health & Safety Officer

This year has shown the absolute best of what School Support Staff do in difficult times. You have kept our school running and continued to support students, teaching staff and our community.

Thank you.



Wellbeing Wednesday

We have received positive feedback from parents and staff from our Wellbeing Wednesday and these will continue while we remain learning from home. Students will have core literacy and numeracy tasks to complete online and the remainder of the day will be student choice. Teachers will provide a grid of activities and students can choose which activities they complete. These activities will allow students, parents and teachers a well-deserved break from being online and a little time to rejuvenate. Teachers will still be available to contact parents and respond to student questions.

Online Safety

Staying connected online is very important to us now that many of us are physically isolated from family members, friends, colleagues and support networks. The internet is a great way to stay connected but there are also risks.

The department's website has information on cyberbullying and cybersafe families, as well as what to do if your child is experiencing cyberbullying. There are also general resources on bullying.

To support schools as they continue with learning from home, the Office of the eSafety Commissioner have developed a range of tips and resources to help school leaders create safe online environments. For more information, refer to: COVID-19: keeping schools and learning safe online.

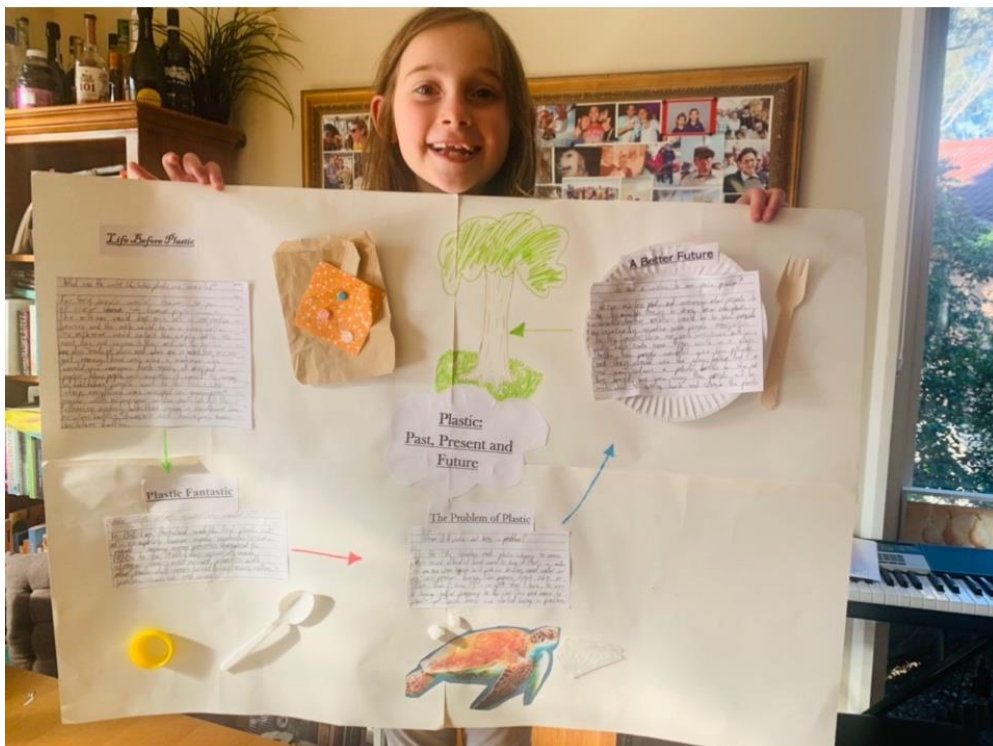
eSafety Commission have also released an online safety kit for parents and carers, which includes evidence-based suggestions and trustworthy links to support them to stay informed and keep their children safe online. For more information, refer to: COVID-19: an online safety kit for parents and carers.

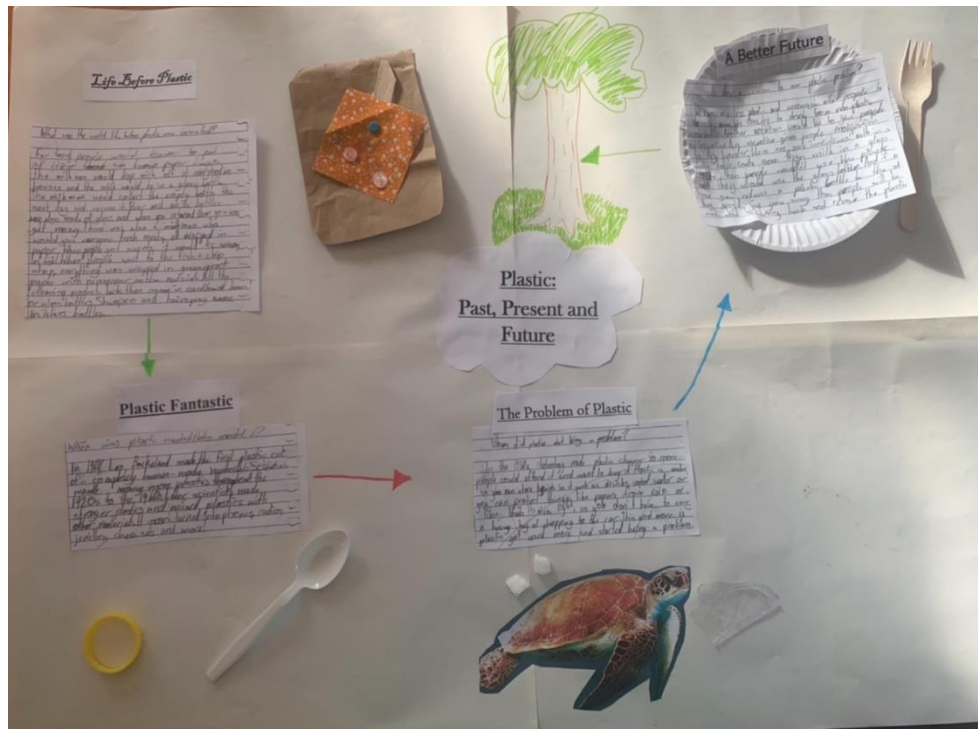
The Beacon App is also another useful resource for parents and teachers. It has up to date, evidence based information needed to navigate the ever changing online world. It includes articles and videos which can be tailored to the unique needs of the children and families, family agreements and contacts to help and services

Student Work

A shout out to our students working hard with learning from home.

Noa's Genius Hour Project 'Plastic: Past, Present and Future'.





Book Week

A huge thanks to Mrs Smith and Mrs Lukic for organising the Book Week activities last week. A huge thanks to those who participated in the fun! We really loved seeing your cakes, dioramas and costumes!





Parent and Carer Zoom Sessions

It was again encouraging to see our parents attend our Parent/Carer Zoom session on Friday at 10am. We appreciate you taking the time out of your busy day and we thank you for your questions, well considered suggestions and positive comments of support.

We will continue to hold Parent Zoom sessions each Friday at 10am. We encourage any parents who are able to attend to jump on to find out the updates and so that we can answer any questions you may have. If you can't make it a summary of the updates and the Q & A will be emailed by School Bytes.

Please use the link/details below to access the Zoom meeting:

Topic: Parent Meeting

Time: Friday 3 September 10:00am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://nsweducation.zoom.us/j/69772194665?pwd=RnhUbEFFeFRoeE5DYytPbk1JelJHUT09>

Meeting ID: 697 7219 4665

Passcode: 643116

Parent Communication

BPS Parent Communication Procedures and our BPS Visitor Procedures are available on our school website.

We encourage parents to engage in their child's learning by leaving a like or a comment on their Seesaw work. If you have questions, enquires or comments for teachers please email or phone the school and the teacher will get back to you as soon as possible.

Please note access to the school site is restricted to essential visitors only. All staff and any visitors are required to use the QR codes to check in and out of school premises and are required to wear masks.

School Bytes, our school email system is set up to send emails to the parent listed as the 1st 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.

Loan Devices

If you require a device for your child to access online learning please contact the office so arrangement can be made. At this stage there is a limit of one device per family.

Canteen

Please note that the school canteen will not be operating until further notice.

Uniform Shop

Please note that our school uniform shop will not be operating until further notice.

WHS

Intensive cleaning will continue to take place daily and schools are being provided with additional hygiene supplies.

Questions or concerns

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the school via the school email or phone the office. Please be aware that response times may be slower than usual as we are experiencing a higher volume of calls and emails due to the changes.

BOOSH Updates

BOOSH have requested a review into the categorisation of the service. While the review is being conducted by SINSW (School Infrastructure NSW) the tender process will be placed on hold. I will keep you updated as I receive more information about our path moving forward.

Update on SRE/SEE/VSA during Term 3

As per the [COVID-19 advice for school-based staff](#), Special Religious Education (SRE)/Special Education in Ethics (SEE) is not permitted in Greater Sydney, including the Blue Mountains, Central Coast, Wollongong and Shellharbour while schools are operating at level 4 or level 3.

Approved providers will deliver their authorised curriculum with modifications to enable students to learn from home.

There are 3 portal entry points to lesson content:

- [Approved providers for All Faiths SRE](#) (Islamic, Jewish, Buddhist, Bahai, Hindu)
- [Approved providers for Christian based faith SRE](#)
- [Primary Ethics for SEE](#)

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 follow 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 or phone the front office.

Vicky Wallace
Principal

Book Week Success!

A big thank you to all the children who participated in our Book Week activities. It was the best virtual Book Week ever! Thank you to all our wonderful parents who encouraged their children to take part! There were so many activities to choose from and so many great responses to cook a book, tree house dioramas, reading in an interesting place, dress up as a book character, watching author talks, family dress ups on Book Week theme. Well done everyone! So good to see so many children taking part and having fun!

Premier's Reading Challenge

Two days to go! The PRC ends this Friday the 3rd September. There are so many children almost there! If you all make a big effort you can get the last of the books read before Friday. Don't forget our school library e books. Many of them are on the PRC and the older children can read them online and the younger ones can choose the books marked with audio and listen to them. Well done to all the children who have already completed their challenge! A fantastic effort! To all those others that are nearly there... you can do it!

Jennie Smith and Kelly Lukic

Road Safety

Driver Safety Message



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

Teachers are still recording attendance. Students who are learning from home are recorded as Flexible on the roll. This will not negatively affect their attendance. Teachers will be checking if students have submitted work.

If your child is sick please let the school know by either email or phone so that we can update our rolls accordingly.

Students should not attend school if unwell, even with mild symptoms of COVID-19. Any person with any COVID-19 symptoms should be sent home and should not return to school until they have received a negative test result and are symptom-free.

In circumstances where children have other medical reasons for recurrent symptoms, a letter from their GP is sufficient to negate the requirement for a negative test.

Anyone who is unwell with COVID-19 symptoms is strongly encouraged to get tested and self-isolate until a negative result is received.

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 that all events scheduled onsite until 25 October have been cancelled**

*** Please note calendar events for the remainder of the term are pending Covid-19 restrictions and DoE guidelines at the time of the event**

TERM 3		
Week 6	Wednesday 18 August	P&C AGM via Zoom
Week 6	Thursday 19 August	Teddy Bear's Picnic-Excursion
Week 6	Sunday 22 August	Working Bee
Week 7	Monday 23 August	Year 2 Sydney Zoo Excursion
Week 7	Thursday 26 August	Book Parade – alternative arrangements
Week 8	Tuesday 31 August	Father's Day Stall
Week 8	Wednesday 1 September	Pirate Day Fund Raiser
Week 8	Friday 3 September	Father's Day Breakfast
Week 8	Saturday 4 September	Election BBQ run by the P&C
Week 9	Thursday 9 September	Term 3 Dance Concert
Week 9	Friday 10 September	School Support Group Disco
Week 9	Monday 13 September – Wednesday 15 September	Stage 3 Camp
Week 10	Wednesday 15 September	P&C Meeting
Week 10	Friday 17 September	Muffi Day – Stewart House Fund Raiser – organized by Student Parliament
Week 10	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	Tuesday 19 October	Year 2 Excursion to Sydney Zoo
Week 3	Wednesday 20 October	P&C Meeting
Week 4	Monday 25 October	Kindy and Year 1 return to school
Week 4	Thursday 28 October	Grandparent's and Special Friend's Day – Modified activities
Week 5	Monday 1 November	Year 2 and Year 6 return to school
Week 5	Thursday 4 November	Canteen Special Day: TBA
Week 6	Monday 8 November	Years 3, 4 and 5 return to school
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 9	Saturday 4 December	Election BBQ run by the P&C
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