

# The Crest

**Term 4 Week 4**  
**27 October 2021**

Dear Parents and Carers

It is wonderful to see all our students returning to face-to-face learning. The atmosphere at BPS has been fantastic with the students and staff buzzing with excitement and the chatter of catching up with friends. Some of our students have shared the best thing about being back at school and their gratitude to our parents and teachers who were amazing during Learning from home. If you haven't already seen the video it is available on the BPS Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/BerowraPublicSchool>





## Renewal Program

We're upgrading our school! We have been successful in the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of applications for the Renewal Program. We're getting help from the NSW Government as part of the Schools Renewal Program to update our staffroom.

The Schools Renewal Program is part of the NSW Government's commitment to provide students with modern and engaging learning facilities. Our school will contribute 20% of the cost and the NSW Government contributes the rest, allowing us to deliver this project faster.

Our staffroom upgrade means staff will be able to enjoy their breaks in a clean and tidy environment which will have a positive impact on their health and wellbeing.

## **Not returning to BPS 2022**

It is the time of the year where the staff are looking at class formation and student numbers for 2022. Please email the office as soon as possible if your child will be in Years 1-6 in 2022 and **will not be** returning to BPS in 2022. This will allow us to plan classes and staffing more accurately.

### **Canteen**

The canteen will be operational from Wednesday 27 October for online orders only.

### **Cohorts**

On 25 October when all students returned to site, students were separated into class cohorts and classes were kept separate during learning time. During eating time and on the playground stage groups have been allocated sections of the playground to play in. We are very lucky to have such a large outdoor open space which means we do not have to have staggered lunch times like many other schools. Teachers explicitly teach and remind students of their allocated areas.

### **Drop-offs and pick-ups**

The drop off and pick up of students will continue from Hillcrest Road. To limit contact please ensure you don't linger at drop off or pick up. Teacher supervision in the playground starts at 8:50am, so please ensure students walking to school by themselves are arriving after 8:50am.

To ease congestion at pick up time children will exit from their allocated stage gates as follows:

Kinder - Office Gate

Stage 3 - Hall Gate

Stage 1 - BOOSH gate

Stage 2 - Bottom gate near the car park

Students catching a bus or riding a bike will exit from the Hall gate.

Please note siblings who travel home together are able to meet on school grounds and exit together. Please ensure you talk to your children so they are aware of the drop off and pick up arrangements.

Parents and carers must follow the school's advice regarding changes to student drop-off and pick-up. This includes staying in the car when dropping off and picking up children if it is safe to do so. This does not apply to drop off and pick up from outside of school hours care (OOSHC) as sign-in and -out procedures are required.

Parents and carers should:

- follow the physical distancing guidelines and avoid gathering outside school gates

- remain outside school grounds (some exceptions may exist for SSPs, vulnerable students or students with disability)
- adhere to mask-wearing requirements in accordance with the Public Health Order
- sign in using the Service NSW QR code if entering the school.

### **Visitors**

Restrictions to visitors on site will remain and essential workers such as allied health professionals are able to attend site from the 25<sup>th</sup> October.

Check-in protocols when attending a school site

All staff and visitors attending a school site must comply with school protocols and check in using the applicable Service NSW QR code. Proof of double vaccination will be requested at the office.

### **Health and Safety**

Staff and students must not attend work or school if unwell, even with mild symptoms of COVID-19. Any person with any COVID-19 symptoms must be sent home and not return to school unless:

- they have a negative COVID-19 test result and are symptom free or
- they have isolated for 10 days, when no medical certificate is available.

### **Student absences**

If you believe that your child has a condition that means it's not safe for them to return to school, you will need to provide a medical certificate. In this instance, we encourage you to speak with their doctor or health care provider to develop a [COVID-19 Action Plan](#) to support decision-making about their activities, including attendance at school. Please contact your class teacher if you have concerns regarding your child returning to school so that we can work with you to support their safe return as we know school is the best place for our children.

### **Masks**

Masks are not mandatory for students however they are strongly encouraged. Masks are mandatory for staff while inside. The DoE has provided teachers with information about how to teach the children to wear masks safely all teachers will cover this with their classes.

### **Changes in Levels**

We still remain at the Level 3 Plus category. As we receive further updates it is possible that we move to Level 3 which would see more restrictions on school site ease.

There is a possibility of schools reverting back to Level 4 and into home learning if there is a positive case in the school or an escalation of positive cases in the community. We need to keep that in mind as it may be a possibility in the future. We are moving into the unknown. We will keep the community updated as soon as possible with any changes.

## **Reporting**

Reporting for Semester 2, 2021 will occur but with some amendments. During Term 4 Week 10 parents/carers will receive a simplified written report about their child's learning during Semester 2. Parents will also be given the opportunity to report on their child's progress and learning while learning from home. This information will be valuable for the teachers in helping to understand the learning and application from a parent's point of view.

## **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. Proof of double vaccination will be requested at the office.

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.

## **Loan Devices**

Thank you to those families who have already returned their loan devices. If your family borrowed a school device during Learning from home we are now requesting that these be returned at your earliest convenience as these devices will now be required for student use within the classroom. Please return the devices to the front office.

## **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.

### **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 365 students. We sit 41 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](mailto:berowra-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au) or phone the front office.

Vicky Wallace  
Principal

### **Library News**

We are so excited to see everyone back at school. This week and next week we are collecting all the overdue library books to restock our shelves. These can be brought to school any day. A library monitor will collect the books from the classrooms. We will return to library borrowing in Week 6. Please ask your children to put their library bags in their school bag, ready for their library day. The borrowing days for each class are still to be confirmed.

### **Grandparents and Special Friends Day**

This Sunday is Grandparents Day. We know many of you are still not able to see your loved ones but we look forward to the day everyone can be together again. The students are working on cards and special messages for their grandparents or special people in their lives. They will be sent home next week. You may then be able to deliver in person or send by post. We hope that next year we will be able to have the grandparents and special friends back to school to make this day special.

Mrs Kelly Lukic

### **School Banking**

CommBank School Banking program will not be returning to schools beyond 2021.

Due to an ASIC review and NSW government decisions, School Banking CommBank are unable to continue providing programs in schools and have made the decision to close the School Banking program nationally.

## 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.

## 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.

### **A message from the Canteen**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please ensure that all canteen orders are placed via the flexischools app. We cannot accept cash orders at all.

Please do not send money with students to purchase food/drink.

Again please order via flexischools app by the cutoff time of 9.20am each day to avoid any disappointment.

Thank you



# 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 4		
Week	Date	Event
Week 1	Tuesday 5 October	Term 4 resumes for staff and students
Week 3	Monday 18 October	Kindy and Year 1 return to school
Week 3	Tuesday 19 October	Year 2 Excursion to Sydney Zoo
Week 3	Wednesday 20 October	P&C Meeting
Week 4	Monday 25 October	All students 2-6 return to school
Week 4	Thursday 28 October	Grandparent's and Special Friend's Day – Modified activities
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 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



# Berowra Public School

## Schools Renewal Program

Project update | October 2021

### Investing in our schools

The NSW Department of Education is committed to delivering new and upgraded schools for communities across NSW. The delivery of these important projects is essential to the future learning needs of our students and supports growth in the local economy.

In 2020, the NSW Government announced the Schools Renewal Program as part of the NSW Government's COVID-19 recovery plans to deliver high-quality school infrastructure across the state and to support jobs in local economies.

### Project overview

The Schools Renewal Program allows our school to fast-track a project that has been a priority for us. We look forward to improving the amenity and functionality of our school.

Projects delivered under this Program share costs – each successful school contributes between 20 and 50 per cent, while the NSW Government contributes the rest of the funds.

Our school has successfully applied for a staffroom upgrade. This upgrade means staff will be able to enjoy their breaks in a clean and tidy environment which will have a positive impact on their health and wellbeing.

### Next steps

We are now in a planning phase to determine when the project will most likely be delivered. Planning typically involves design work, a Development Application and tendering for a contractor to deliver the project.

It may take up to 18 months to be completed, but we will keep you updated along the way.

### For more information contact:

**Berowra Public School**

**Phone: 9456 1319**

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

## **| NSW Department of Education – School Infrastructure**

School Infrastructure NSW will work closely with our school to minimise interruption to students and staff during construction.

This may mean conducting portions of work during weekends or school holiday periods or exploring options to lessen the impacts of construction on school operations and student learning.

### **More information**

If you have any questions about the application process or the project that will be delivered at our school, please contact us via the usual channels. Or contact School Infrastructure NSW by phoning 1300 482 651 or emailing [schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au).

Our local School Infrastructure team will work to support our school by providing timely, up-to-date information about the status and next steps of the project, plus any impacts on the school community and its surrounds.

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