

The Crest



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Term 1 Week 5 23 February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

It certainly has been a wet week which has unfortunately meant that our students have been spending most of their time at school indoor this week.

We thank parents for making the effort to send your children with raincoats and jackets to keep them dry. I know the teachers have been doing their best to keep the children dry throughout the day although this has been a little challenging with new carpet being installed in E block this week.

This afternoon the DoE will be holding a meeting with principals to announce the details of the COVID-smart settling for the remainder of the term. Hopefully I will be able to share these updates with parents by the end of the week.

RAT Kits

Our next supply of RATs has been delivered to the school. Schools will provide a total of 8 tests per staff and student use as needed for the remainder of term. These will be supplied progressively as final RATs are delivered over the coming week.

Staff and students can use their final bundle of RATs should they be symptomatic or if there are cases in their class.

If you would like your child/ren to bring the RAT kits home please ensure you have returned the permission note to the class teacher by **Thursday 24 February** so that the office staff can distribute the RAT kits to classes.

Alternatively, if you would like to collect your child/children's RAT kits you are able to collect them from the **School Hall on Thursday 24 February between 8:00am-9:20am and 3:30pm-4:00pm.**

Please enter through the Hall Gate and exit via the back of the Hall.

Parent Information Sessions

We thank the parents who sent in questions and those who attended our 2022 Parent Information Session/s on Monday 21 February.

During our Zoom sessions we had 27 attendees for ES1, 40 for Stage 1, 42 for Stage 2 and 49 for Stage 3. For those who missed out we will send the PowerPoint presentations home via School Bytes.

A huge thank you to our teachers and executive for their preparation and for staying back late.

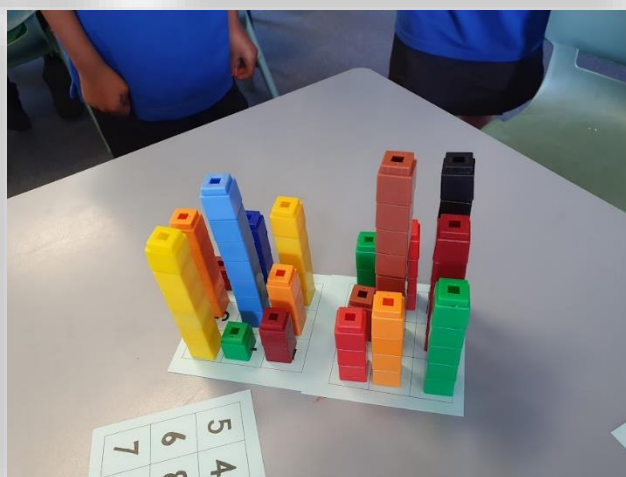
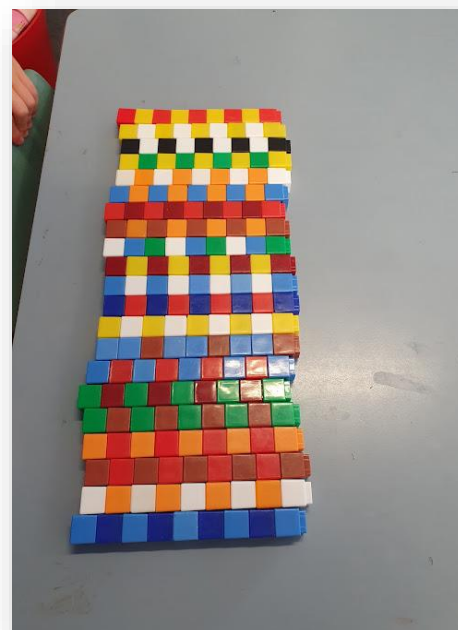
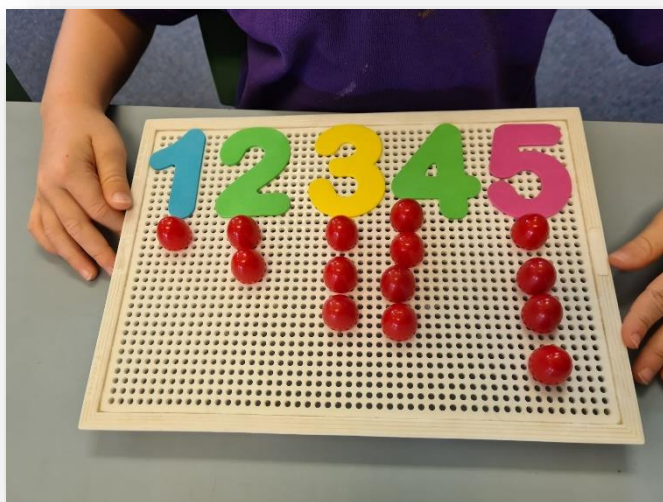
Please remember if you have any questions, please contact your class teacher by phoning the office or emailing berowra-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Permission notes

We are in the process of finalising our permission notes for students to access a range of online services. This year the notes will be signed and returned digitally which should be more efficient for the parents and the teachers. If you have any issues with completing the permissions online once they are sent, please contact the office who will be able to help you.

Student Work

Our new Kindy students have been learning about numbers by using a range of hands-on-material to represent numerals and they have also been making patterns.



Teacher Learning

During Week 4 Mrs Bolger, Mrs Kempe and Mr Pritchard started their professional learning with Sound Write. These three teachers will participate in an additional 6 hours of professional learning each week for 6 weeks. By the end of Term 2 all our classroom teachers K-4 will be trained in the Sound Write program.

Renewal Program

We're upgrading our school! We have been successful in the 3rd 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.

BOOSH Update

Yesterday I was advised that TheirCare are the successful applicants in the tender process for OOSH. SINSW will work closely with BOOSH and TheirCare to provide a smooth transition for their starting date of Day 1 Term 2.

I would like to thank the BOOSH PMC for their dedication and voluntary contribution to the BPS community. I'd also like to thank the BOOSH staff for their ongoing commitment to and care of our students.

Change can be difficult to navigate at times, however our community has shown its resilience over the last couple of years and I'm certain that this will be the case with our upcoming changes with OOSH.

We are looking forward to developing a positive partnership with TheirCare in the near future.



Playground Changes

Staff have made some adjustments to playground areas allocated for students. These will be explained to students and will come into effect from Thursday 10 February.

ES1

- Play on the grass area in front of BOOSH before school
- B Block veranda for wet weather and eating time

Stage 1

- Play at the Garden Cola and area in front of demountable for before school
- Garden Cola for wet weather and eating time

Stage 2

- Play under the Library Cola before school
- Library seats/veranda for eating time
- Library Cola for wet weather

Stage 3

- Play between A and B block before school
- Silver seats on grass for eating time
- Hall Cola for wet weather

Cohorts

Following current DoE guidelines our students are separated into class cohorts and classes were kept separate where possible 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.

Please be reminded that parents should not enter school grounds to drop off or pick up students before or after school.

All parents need to attend the school office during school hours to collect early leavers or deliver late arrivals.

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

Kinder - Hall Cola/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 can 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 on school sites and vaccinations

No parents, carers or visitors will be allowed on school site until further notice with the following exceptions:

- volunteers or staff operating uniform shops and canteens must be fully vaccinated
- visitors supporting school operations and curriculum delivery must be fully vaccinated
- allied health partners for the wellbeing of students must be fully vaccinated.

All staff on school sites are required to be fully vaccinated, including having their booster when eligible.

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.

Testing

RATs will be supplied by the school for the remainder of Term 1.

If your child has even mild COVID-19 symptoms, get them tested with a RAT or PCR (nose and throat swab) test.

They must isolate until they receive a negative test result, in line with health protocols.

If symptoms continue, they should stay at home and take another RAT in 24 hours or have a PCR test. If the second RAT or initial PCR test result is negative or another diagnosis is confirmed such as hay fever, they can return to school.

Parents and carers must register positive RAT results from students on the [Service NSW website](#) or [Service NSW app](#) and notify the school as soon as possible. Report positive PCR test results from students to the school as soon as possible.

Unwell at school

Any student or staff member who is unwell and/or displays symptoms of COVID-19 will be asked to go home and stay until they can complete a RAT or PCR test.

If symptoms continue, they should stay at home and take another RAT in 24 hours or have a PCR test.

If the second RAT or initial PCR test result is negative, the student or staff member can return to school.

What happens when a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19

In NSW, positive COVID-19 cases are provided a Medical Clearance Notice after 7 days and allowed to leave self-isolation as long as they do not have COVID-19 symptoms.

Under the new close contact rules, schools are no longer included in contact tracing. I will inform the school community when there is a positive case in our school and advise families on public health advice, including monitoring for symptoms.

Use of surgical masks

All school staff will be required to wear masks indoors.

No vented or cloth masks should be worn. If required surgical masks will be available at schools.

Primary school students are strongly recommended to wear well-fitted masks indoors. Masks are also strongly encouraged in outdoor settings where you cannot physically distance. Your child can remove their mask when eating, exercising or playing a musical instrument.

For more information, refer to [Face masks in NSW](#) [External link](#).

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 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.

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 350 students. We sit 26 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

Attendance

Teachers are still recording attendance. If your child is sick please let the school know by either email or phone so that we can update our rolls accordingly and if they are isolating we are able to provide learning from home.

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

Currently, there are three COVID-19 categories of attendance that will affect the codes used for roll marking.

	Face to face learning at school	Learning from home - teacher assisted (cohorts or schools)	Learning from home - self-paced learning (individuals)
Description	Schools are open for face-to-face learning and all students are expected to attend school on-site.	Roll marked as 'F': Where a class, year group or whole school is instructed to learn from home and the student is participating in the learning.	Roll marked as 'F': Where an individual student is required to learn from home due to a medical reason or a Public Health Order and the student is participating in learning.

For students who are unwell there is no expectation that learning from home be completed.

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

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.

Library News

Our library is looking wonderful with new paint and carpet. We are waiting for delivery of new shelving, book stands, circulation desk and a lovely lounge for our library. We will begin borrowing next week for all classes and can't wait to encourage their love of reading. Borrowing days for this term will be;

Monday - 5/6B, 5/6H, 3/4P, 3/4S

Tuesday - 5/6C, 5/6G, 3/4G, 3/4B

Wednesday - K Yellow, K Red

Thursday - 1T, 1K, 2L, 1/2A

Please place a library bag in your child's bag ready for their library borrowing day.

Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC)

We are once again inviting students to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC). The PRC opens on Monday 28th February and closes on 19th August. The challenge involves students reading a set number of books from an extensive booklist and recording these in their online PRC record. K-2 students are required to read (or have read to them) 30 books. Students in Years 3-6 need to read 20 books. The students will be supported in the library and shown how to access their PRC record online through their student portal. The librarians will read some of the PRC books to the K-2 students. These book titles will be shared with parents at the end of each term. Parents will need to add these books to their child's reading list. All students who successfully complete the challenge by the closing date will receive a PRC certificate at the end of the year. Students will receive a gold certificate after four years of completing the challenge and a medal if they complete it every year from Years 3-9 (inclusive). A note with more information will be sent home soon. We look forward to encouraging a love of reading and quality literature.

Kelly Lukic and Elky Roberts (Librarians)

Dance Group News

Well done to all students who auditioned. We had three teachers watch the auditions at the end of last year and early this year, looking at their technique, musicality, effort and presentation. Unfortunately, we can only accept up to 20 students in each group. The Stage 2 (Junior) dance group began yesterday. The Stage 3 (Senior) group will begin tomorrow. These students will be notified at lunchtime today. Dance Group rehearsal times are as follows;

Stage 2 Dance Group - Tuesday mornings from 8:15am - 9:15am in the hall

Stage 3 Dance Group - Thursday mornings from 8:15am - 9:15am in the hall starting on 24th February

Canteen

Dear Parents and Carers

The canteen will be operational Wednesday – Friday for online orders only.

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 cut-off time of 9.20am each day to avoid any disappointment.

Thank you



BPS SCHOOL CALENDAR

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

Term 1		
Week	Date	Event
Week 1	Friday 28 January	SDD
Week 1	Monday 31 January	SDD
Week 1	Tuesday 1 February	Years 1-6 resume school for 2022
Week 1	Tuesday 1 February – Thursday 3 February	Kindergarten Best Start Testing
Week 1	Friday 4 February	Kindergarten 2022 1 st Day
Week 4	Wednesday 16 February	P&C Meeting 7:00pm
Week 4	Thursday 17 February	Year 6 High School Experience Day
Week 6	Monday 28 February	Swimming Carnival Years 3-6 and 8-year-olds in Year 2 (Competitors and parent volunteers only)
Week 6	Thursday 3 March	Canteen Special Day: Sausage Sizzle
Week 7	Tuesday 8 March	Zone Swimming Carnival
Week 8	Wednesday 16 March	School Photos
Week 8	Thursday 17 March - Friday 18 March	Instructional Rounds Oakhill Drive PS
Week 9	Monday 21 March	Harmony Day
Week 10	Thursday 31 March	Term 1 Dance Concert Stage 1 and Stage 3
Week 11	Thursday 31 March	Hat Parade
Week 11	Friday 8 April	Last day of Term 1



Term 1 - 2022

Welcome to the first edition of the School Zone newsletter for 2022.



This is a reminder for everyone to take extra care as school returns. There is more traffic at drop-off and pick-up times while Covid-19 related restrictions remain in place at schools.

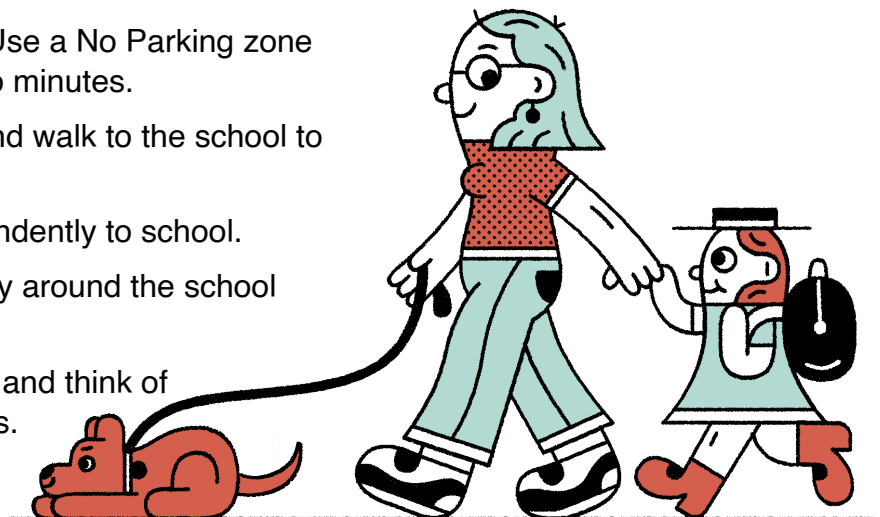
**Be patient, be considerate and be responsible.
Let's keep all our kids safe!**

Keep your cool in School Zones!

With COVID restrictions still in place in NSW, many parents and carers will prefer to drive students to and from school. With this comes increased congestion impacting the school zone and surrounding community.

We ask you to consider the following if you need to drive students:

- Drop-off or pick-up students legally. Use a No Parking zone which allows you to stop for up to two minutes.
- Park legally out of the school zone and walk to the school to drop-off or pick-up students.
- Teach children to walk or ride independently to school.
- Consider the neighbouring community around the school zone when parking.
- Always be patient, calm, considerate and think of everyone's safety, not just your child's.



Always Look for the Safest Place to Cross the Road

- a pedestrian crossing
- a signalised intersection
- a Children's Crossing
- a pedestrian refuge

Only cross when the traffic has stopped. Make sure drivers have seen you. Make eye contact with the driver. Stay alert! Be aware of the traffic around you and don't be distracted. Hold your child's hand if they are under ten years old.

STOP!

**one step back
from the kerb**

LOOK!

**both ways
continuously**

LISTEN!

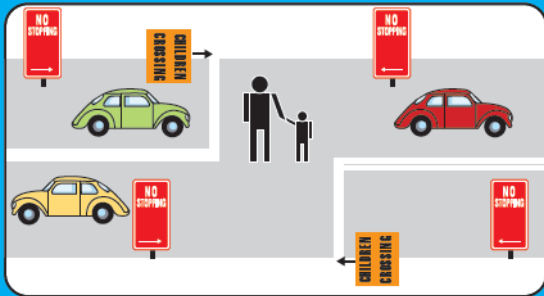
**for the sounds
of approaching
traffic**

THINK!

**whether it is
safe to cross**

Do you know the rules at these crossings?

CHILDREN'S CROSSINGS



A Children's Crossing only operates when the orange CHILDREN CROSSING flags are displayed.



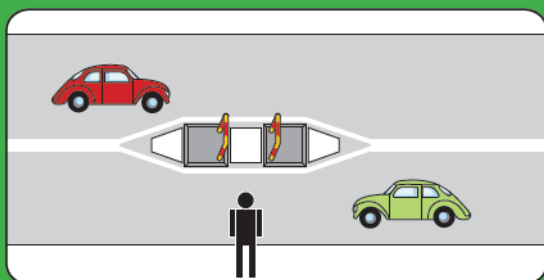
Drivers

- Stop at the solid white line and give way to pedestrians on or about to use the crossing.
- Wait until all pedestrians have cleared the crossing before proceeding.
- Slow down as you approach the crossing, so you can stop safely.
- Never stop in the No Stopping zones on either side of the crossing.

Pedestrians

- Make sure cars have stopped before stepping into the crossing.
- Walk between the red and white posts.
- If the orange CHILDREN CROSSING flags are not displayed, you do not have right of way - unless it is combined with a pedestrian crossing.
- Don't loiter and chat on or near a crossing. This is dangerous, can confuse drivers and hold up traffic.

PEDESTRIAN REFUGES



A pedestrian refuge island helps you cross a busy or wide street in two stages.



Drivers

- This is not a pedestrian crossing, but is often mistaken for one.
- Reduce speed when approaching a pedestrian refuge island.
- Although pedestrians do not have right of way, look for anyone not using the facility correctly.

Pedestrians

- This is not a pedestrian crossing and pedestrians do not have right of way. You must give way to cars.
- Wait for a break in traffic and cross half way.
- Wait in the refuge island until there is a break in traffic from the other direction and finish crossing.