Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to another very busy and fun Term 4. During this term we will be welcoming our 45 new students who will be starting Kindergarten in 2015. They will be visiting our school over the next four weeks and will also meet their Stage 3 buddies, who are also very excited. There are also many other fun events planned, such as excursions, book fairs, discos, talent shows, reports, presentation days, Christmas concerts and Year 6 Farewells. (I’m feeling tired just thinking about it!)

Painting
During the holiday our administration area was painted and it looks fantastic!!! What makes the area look so special is the children’s art work and the great photos of kids on display in the foyer. If you get a chance pop your head in and have a look!!

Enrolments
If you know your child/children will not be returning to Berkeley Public School in 2015 can you please inform the office as soon as possible. This information will guide our planning and class formations for next year.

School Assemblies
Our school assemblies will continue to be held every Monday at 12.00. This coming Monday 13th October, 2D will be presenting their class item and also Stage 3 will be showing a short presentation on their Bathurst excursion. 2N will be presenting their class item the following week – Monday 20th October. You are all invited to come along and watch these great performances.

Grandparents Day
Grandparents Day is now an official day celebrated on the 26th October (Sunday). Berkeley School will be celebrating this special day on Thursday 30th October, where grandparents will be invited to come to school and visit their grandchild’s’ classroom. Another letter will be sent home regarding dates and times.

Have a great fortnight
Vicky McGee
Principal
NEWS BRIEFS FROM THE DEPARTMENT

How much water does your child really need?

Staying hydrated is even more important during the warmer months. Every part of your body needs water to work properly and dehydration can lead to painful kidney stones. Many people don’t feel thirsty until they are already dehydrated so packing a drink bottle with your child’s lunch is a good reminder for them to drink during the day. Sports drinks and juices are popular with kids, but often contain a lot of sugar. To find out the recommended daily intake of water for your child’s age look at: http://bit.ly/ZjwUjo

ATTENDANCE

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IT’S NOT OK TO BE AWAY.
BE ON TIME, BE AT SCHOOL,
THAT’S THE RULE.

BULLYING

3 Step Bully Program

1. Say “STOP! I don’t like it”. Walk away.
2. Repeat, “Stop it, or I will tell the teacher.”
3. Tell the teacher in a calm way.

We will not tolerate any bullying at Berkeley Public School. These steps are displayed in every classroom and all teachers have spoken to their classes and are aware of the processes we use.

Littering in Bubb Place

Please, please, please do not discard rubbish onto neighbouring lawns and footpaths whilst waiting to pick up your children in the afternoon. This includes cigarette butts, lollies, chip wrappings, nappies and tissues. We have had a visit from an understandably disgruntled resident who left a pile of other peoples rubbish on the reception counter. Your help in this matter is most appreciated.
**CLASS AWARDS**

Well done to the following students on recent excellence

### WEEK 10

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**Attendance and Absences**

**Absentee information**

When children miss out on school they miss out on vital information, their learning routine is broken, they can lose confidence and they miss out on building up friendships.

If your child has to be absent from school for any reason, including arriving late or leaving early, please either tell your child's teacher or the administrative assistant at the school, or explain the reason by phone, email or written note as soon as possible, or within seven days.

Once children are enrolled parents are legally required to send them to school every day that the school is open for instruction or participation in school activities, such as sports days.

**Justified Reasons for Missing School:**

- An unavoidable medical or dental appointment (preferably these should be made after school or during holidays)
- Special religious ceremony
- Required to attend a serious and/or urgent family situation (e.g. a funeral)
- Too sick to go to school, or has an infectious illness.

**Unjustified Reasons for Missing School:**

- Sleeping in or alarm not going off
- Missed the bus
- Traffic/road works
- Walked to school
- Waiting for parent
- Minding sibling
- Shopping
- Other similar reasons

Failure to explain an absence within seven days will be recorded as an unjustified absence on a students record. Schools will inform parents if a student is absent from school without an explanation.
Parent Tips

Teach your Kids to be Waterproof

At a glance

- Home swimming pools are the most common areas for drowning.
- Keep your pool fenced and your kids supervised.
- Many organisations run water safety and swimming classes.
- Learning first-aid could mean the difference between life and death.
- Boating, surfing and rock fishing require life jackets and extra safety equipment.
- Only swim at patrolled beaches.
- Learn how to spot rips.
- Teach your kids if they get caught in a rip to stay calm and float to conserve energy.

Learn To Swim

Australia is an island and Australian's love swimming and watersports. So learning to swim is absolutely essential for both kids and adults.

NSW Sport and Recreation’s Swim and Survive program operates in pools throughout regional NSW. Intensive learn to swim programs for children from 18 months through to 12 years are run between November and February each year. Adult learn to swim classes run throughout the year, depending on your location. Find your nearest participating pool or call 13 13 02 for more information.

The Royal Life Saving Society also runs programs in schools and Surf Life Saving clubs run ‘nippers’ programs for kids.

Last term the school was involved in Jump Rope for Heart which is a way for all students to learn some skipping skills, stay healthy and raise funds for the Heart Foundation. The whole school has been skipping and the playground has been full of children enjoying skipping with their friends. On 5th September the school had a visit from a skipping team from the St Thomas Aquinas School, Bowral. They showed the children some really terrific tricks they could do with skipping which children began practicing in the playground.

Wednesday 17th September was the Jump Off Day. This means that it was the end of fundraising for the Heart Foundation. It was very successful day with everyone getting involved in skipping and having a fun day. The school raised $961.50 for the Heart Foundation which was a great effort.

The school skipping team known as the “Berkeley Skippers” put on a skipping demonstration for students, teachers and families showing everyone some fantastic tricks they can do with skipping ropes. Huge congratulations to all the students involved in the skipping team. They gave up their lunchtimes to come and practice and everyone was very impressed with their wonderful performance. The children really enjoyed being part of the skipping team and performing on the day.

The sausage sizzle was a great success and a huge thank you to the wonderful volunteers – Mrs Minovski, Ms Grlic, Mrs Dimov and Mr Coomb for cooking the barbeque as without their help it would not have run so smoothly.

Thank you for all the people who made a donation.

Jump Rope for Heart Coordinators
Ms Clegg, Mrs Neild, Miss Doughty
OUTSTANDING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Berry Public School Interschool Equestrian Championship 3rd – 6th October

Max, Wil and Tim Robinson all competed at Berry Interschool Championships last weekend which consisted of a variety of horse riding events including Jumping, Hacking and Sporting and is open to all public and private schools in the state (over 300 Riders). Max and Wil placed in Hacking, Jumping and the Interschool challenge and Tim received Champion Kindy rider and Reserve Champion Primary Sports rider. All the boys had a great time representing their school.

AUSTRALIAN BALLET AUDITIONS

Emily Vaughan

Earlier this year Emily flew to Melbourne to take part in the national and international audition tour for the Australian Ballet School. Around 1000 kids audition in any one year. Emily loved her experience auditioning and meeting some other great dancers from around Australia. Last Thursday was a very exciting day for Emily as she found out she had been one of 300 kids accepted into the Australian Ballet School for 2015 to extend her training in Ballet. She will practice in Sydney and Melbourne in school holidays and is looking forward to this great opportunity.
Inaugural Jayne Wilson Memorial Exhibition:
The First Floor Program invites your participation, as well as friends & family, in the Inaugural Jayne Wilson Memorial Exhibition, a celebration of creativity in honour of Jayne Wilson.

**THEME:**
The theme for the inaugural Jayne Wilson Memorial Exhibition will be "Sunflowers". Works must feature, include reference or evoke Sunflowers to be eligible.

**ARTISTIC MEDIUM:**
All forms of creative and artistic expression are welcomed, however, as a criterion of entry, all submitted works must be capable of being displayed during the exhibition.

**CATEGORIES:**
- Youth (under 18 years)
- Open (18 years and over)

**PRIZES:**
- People's Choice Award:
  - The People's Choice Award will be decided by the artwork with the most community votes at the close of the exhibition.
- Wilson Family's Choice:
  - decided by members of Jayne's family, and presented at the official exhibition opening; this will be awarded to the entry which best represents Jayne - her personality, work and legacy.

**Important Dates:**
- Artwork Submission: All entries must be received no later than 5pm on Friday 12th December 2014. Artworks must be delivered to:
  - The Salvation Army First Floor Program, level 3, 11-13 Berrell St, Wollongong.
- Exhibition Opening: The Exhibition will be officially launched on Thursday evening, January 22 and open 10am-3pm daily until Sunday, February 1, 2015.

Full information, including Terms and Conditions: First Floor Program on (02) 42291079.