Dear Parents and Carers

**National Reconciliation Week**... is celebrated across Australia each year between 27th May and 3rd June. The dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey – the anniversaries of the successful 1967 referendum and the High Court Mabo decision.

The week is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements and to explore how each of us can join the national reconciliation effort. Berkeley Public School started Reconciliation Week with a very moving assembly on Monday. Thankyou to all the students who spoke at the assembly and to the staff who organised it.

**Grip Leadership Conference**

As part of our commitment to developing student leadership skills, 14 of our school leaders attended the Grip Leadership conference at the University of Wollongong on Friday 23rd May. The students found it a very motivating day, where discussions were held on how to develop leadership skills and ways they can be effectively used within our school.

**District Cross Country**

Congratulations to our Cross Country team who competed in the District Cross Country last Friday. Our athletes achieved some fantastic results and Berkeley Public School was named the champion school.

Good luck to our competitors competing at the Regional Cross Country at Cambewarra tomorrow.

**Parent Teacher Interviews**

Over the past few weeks the teachers have been busy assessing students’ progress to date and are now finalising student reports. During the last week of term, teachers will be meeting with parents to discuss their child’s academic progress and social development.

This is a great opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher, to ask any questions you may have and to be informed about your child’s progress in their learning.

Teacher will shortly be forwarding information to parents about interview dates and times.

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**School Events**

**This Fortnight...**

**Monday 2nd June**

Assembly 11.45am

**Tuesday 3rd June**

Gymnastics

**Wednesday 4th June**

AASC

**Thursday 5th June**

Athletics Carnival

AASC

**Friday 6th June**

PSSA

**Monday 9th June**

Assembly 11.45am

**Tuesday 10th June**

Gymnastics

**Wednesday 11th June**

Stage 3 Minnamurra Rainforest

AASC

**Thursday 12th June**

AASC

In2Uni Excursion

**Friday 13th June**

PSSA
Reforms to P & C Federation
The NSW Parliament has introduced legislation to reform the NSW Federation of Parents and Citizens Association, which has suspended operation pending Supreme Court Action. While these reforms will not affect the day-to-day operation of individual school P & C’s, they will introduce a new executive structure which will ensure the Federation operates as a modern and representative body on behalf of school P & C Associations.
Each school’s P & C Association will be asked to vote for councillors and delegates who will represent their electorate at the Federations’ Annual General Meeting and councillors who will serve on the Federations’ Board of Management. More information will be available on the Departments website at: http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/gotoschool/a-z/involvement.php
Our next P & C meeting will be held on Monday 2nd June at 7.00pm in the staff room.

Dogs in School
I remind families that dogs are not permitted in the school grounds without the permission of the Principal or teacher. It is a requirement under the law that principals conduct a risk assessment for all activities and events and in fact anything that could in any way cause harm to students, staff and visitors to our school. No matter what size your dog is, please keep them out of the school and away from gates. We just have to make sure that our children are kept safe and even the best behaved dog can and has been known to be in a bad mood from time to time.
Thank you for your support.

Student Issues
I remind parents that they are not to approach other students regarding issues their child may be having with the other child. The correct procedure is to inform the child’s classroom teacher or Principal of the problem and then work together to reach a resolution. I will also take this opportunity to reiterate that aggressive or threatening behaviour towards staff or members of the school community will not be accepted or tolerated in any manner. Meetings will be stopped until all parties are calm.

Staff Update
Mrs Waine will start her Long Service Leave from Monday 2nd June, until the end of the term. Mrs Cox will be working with 3/4WP on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Phillips will continue working with the class on Thursday and Friday. (Mrs Cox will continue working with 1PC on Thursdays and Fridays) Mr Swinton will be taking leave during the last two weeks of the term. Mr Rossiter, who is known to the students will be replacing Mr Swinton. I will also take leave this term commencing Tuesday 10th June, and returning Week 1 Term 3. Mrs Newton will take on the Relieving Principal role whilst I am away. Ms Sciberras, who has previously worked with 2N will be working with the class during this time.

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.
Congratulations to the following students for recent excellence.

**WEEK 4**
- **KC** Ruben Ferreira and Kohen Ison
- **KB** Daniel Starcevic and Ciara Wheeldon
- **K/1N** Haylee Coupe and William Simpson
- **1N** Taysha Young and Kyla Coe-Merritt
- **1PC** Leonita Miftari and Tyler Flood
- **2D** Jye Woodrow and Timika Elliott
- **2N** Lily Andrews and Sofie Polozani
- **3/4K** Austin Trevisanuto and Falepoini Fisilu
- **3/4WP** Marley Kemp and Olivia Hajek
- **4/5B** Luke Di Totto and Quinten Massey
- **5/6H** Tara Seery and Samuel Nichols
- **5/6A** Piper Missingham and Elle Timmins
- **5/6SR** Ahn Do and Caleb McIntosh

**WEEK 5**
- **KC** Mariam Awad and Jeremiah Ayoub
- **KB** Claudia Shareef-Atkinson and Monique Sosa
- **K/1N** Madalyn Ranger and Piper Nicholls
- **1N** Jayla Siljanovska and Nayt Mitchell
- **1PC** Anthony Stevcheski and Luan Sulimani
- **2D** Dean Nicollini and Marcus Duarte
- **2N** Mia Aquilina and Belle Vella
- **3/4K** Tristden Elliott and Kayden Le
- **4/5B** Shayli Collins and Aleks Naumoski
- **5/6H** William Jordan and Gui Eves
- **5/6A** Jazhia Cain and Brodie Jones
- **5/6SR** Rayan Beri and Riley Cuttill

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Please use correct money when paying for excursions and activities as the office ladies are unable to give change.

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Celebrate Attendance: Hints and Tips

No.2 Teaching Good Habits

Allowing children days off for birthdays, to look after younger children, to go shopping, to keep you company or because they were tired from a late night, not only sends the wrong message to your child, it is also against the law.

Children who get used to having days off school for these kinds of reasons develop an attitude that their attendance at school is not very important. This can become a big issue as a child gets older.

Teach your children that being on time is important. Children that are often late to school miss the part of the school day when the teacher explains new activities. The beginning of the day is also when many students are freshest and can concentrate better.

Students that are late on a regular basis may become the target for comment by other students and often as a result isolate themselves from their peers.

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MERIT CERTIFICATES

Congratulations to the following students for recent excellence.

**MERIT CERTIFICATES**

WEEK 4
- **KC** Ruben Ferreira and Kohen Ison
- **KB** Daniel Starcevic and Ciara Wheeldon
- **K/1N** Haylee Coupe and William Simpson
- **1N** Taysha Young and Kyla Coe-Merritt
- **1PC** Leonita Miftari and Tyler Flood
- **2D** Jye Woodrow and Timika Elliott
- **2N** Lily Andrews and Sofie Polozani
- **3/4K** Austin Trevisanuto and Falepoini Fisilu
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DISTRICT ATHLETICS

On Friday 16th May, 44 students competed in the District Cross Country at the Kembla Joggers course at Brownsville.

It was a fantastic day with great results, effort and behaviour from all of the students.

We have 12 runners going through to the Regional Carnival on the 30th May at Cambewarra and a number of children on the reserves list.

As a result of everyone’s effort we managed to win the carnival and are now the District Cross Country Champions (as well as the District Swimming Champions).

I would like to thank everyone involved for their help, support and effort and wish our competitors all the best for the Regional Carnival.

STUDENT EXCURSION REPORTS

STAGE 2 ROCKS EXCURSION

On Tuesday 20th May Stage 2 went on an excursion to ‘The Rocks’. We travelled by coach. Along the way we saw Botany Bay. It was called Stingray Bay at first because of all the stingrays that lived in the water.

We were all given a character. Mine was a convict and her name was Eliza Norman. She was very rude so the soldiers shaved all her hair off. I was really shocked about this.

My character was a convict and her name was Ann Fords. She was a very nice lady. I learnt lots of interesting information about the early colony in Sydney.

By Bree-Ann Andersen and Amelia Thomas Sheppard 3/4WP

On Tuesday Stage 2 went on an excursion to the Rocks in Sydney.

Firstly, we marked our names off and then we went on the bus and waited two hours to get there.

Secondly, as we hopped off the bus, we sat on the grass and had crunch and sip.

Thirdly, after we ate we dressed up as convicts and other stuff and then we went on a two hour walk, Bob was guiding us. Bob took us to old houses and very old lights.

Our favourite parts were getting our name tags and the walk.

Lastly we went on the bus and came back to school at 4 o’clock.

By Eranda and Lochlan
At 8.00am Years 3 and 4 went on an Excursion to The Rocks at Sydney Harbour near Circular Quay. It was a 1 or 2 hour drive and it was great. The reason we went there is to study The Rocks. Year 3 and 4 learnt a lot about the first settlement in 1778. The first road was called George Street. Everyone enjoyed it. Ms Bournes group and my group went on a 2 hour walk. My character was Mrs Byren and I was rich. But I had to throw poo out of the window. I had to walk 1 mile to get to the shops and when I got back my dress would be all dirty. My character was Elizabeth Marshall and I would steal the mens money and give some of it to the larrikins and I was very mean. Some other characters were Mary Sprinham, Mary Raybee and Captain Arthur Phillip, there were also doctors and nurses. We got to dress up like our character. It was fun. 
Emma Whitton and Abii DeJesus 4/5B

Grip Leadership conference
On Friday 23rd May 2014, Year 6 SRC representatives went to the University of Wollongong for the GRIP Leadership Conference. Some kids went with Mrs Vujasin and Ms Aisbett and others went with their parents or carers. While we were there we did tons of activities to do with leadership. Here are some of the activities we did: - Loud Noises, How to be a strawberry leader not a watermelon leader and Lead like a superhero. We had an awesome day and we met a lot of kids from different schools.
By Tara Seery, Tiana Rjstevski and Taylor Hawke

KINDERGARTEN CHICKENS
Kindergarten have some new additions to their classroom. They now have 11 chickens and 4 eggs ready to hatch. The children have been keeping a daily tally on how many have hatched and how many eggs are left. Below are some stories from the students.

Day 1
Two eggs hatched in the incubator. We now have five eggs.

Skye Andrews  |  KB

Day 2
Today five eggs hatched in the incubator. Now there are five and they are very small.

27/5/14  |  Daniel Stacevic  |  KB

Day 3
Two chicks hatched overnight. The chicks are in the brooder box.

Natalie Cochla  |  KC

Day 3
I am writing to talk about the chicks that are going to hatch. We are going to put the chicks in the brooder box.

Matthew Andrit  |  KC