Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to Term 3. I hope you all had a safe and happy holiday break and enjoyed the opportunity to spend more time with your family. This week we welcome Mrs McGee back. Mrs McGee has been overseas on leave and it will be great to see her back in the Principal’s chair on Friday. Term 3 is already looking very busy with excursions being organised, District Athletics and preparations for the Choral Festival and Southern Stars well underway. Year 5 and 6 students will also have the opportunity during this term to visit Illawarra Sports High School. These visits are organised to allow students to experience what high school will be like and to be involved in a variety of different activities.

**Staffing**
Ms Aisbett will be on leave for the first six weeks of Term 3 and Mrs Nada Dimitrovski will be teaching 5/6A.

**Choral Festival**
The students in our school choir have been practising very hard in preparation for the Northern Illawarra Choral Festival. They will be performing on Tuesday 22nd July at the Wollongong Town Hall. The Choral Festival commences at 7pm. I listened to the choir rehearsing this week and was very impressed with the way they looked and the way they sounded. I’m sure they will be fantastic representatives of Berkeley Public School. If you have a child participating in the Choral Festival, you can purchase tickets from the school office.

**NAIDOC Celebrations**
On Friday 27th June we celebrated NAIDOC week here at school. Students participated in a variety of activities to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. They were involved in activities such as painting boomerangs and animals, making murals, cooking damper, listening to Aboriginal stories and playing Aboriginal games. Students were provided with relevant information about each activity which helped to raise their awareness of this important part of Australia’s heritage. It was a fantastic way to end Term 2.

**Kindergarten 2015**
It is now time to enrol your child in Kindergarten for 2015. If you have a child who will be starting Kindergarten next year, or know of anyone who is considering enrolling their child in Kindergarten at Berkeley Public School in 2015, please contact the office to collect an enrolment form.
**Education Week**

Education Week will be held during Week 3 this term – 28th July to 1st August. Education Week is an opportunity for public schools to showcase some of the fantastic things that happen on a regular basis in our schools and to invite our school community to come into our school. We will be holding an Assembly on Monday 28th July and then there will be an opportunity for you to visit your child’s classroom.

**Excursions**

On Friday 25th July all students in K/1N, 1N, 1PC, 2D and 2N will be going on an excursion to Kiama to support work done in their classrooms on ‘Workers in the Community’. Later in the term, Stage 3 students will be going on an overnight excursion to Bathurst. This excursion will support the unit of work about ‘Gold’.

These excursions require a lot of preparation and organisation by teachers, but is something they happily do because of the benefits students receive from these ‘real life’ experiences. No student should be disadvantaged due to the cost of an excursion. If you are having difficulty paying by the due date, please speak to Mrs Oldfield or Mrs Wakeford in the school office and arrangements can be made for you to pay the cost involved when you are able to.

**Positive Behaviour for Success**

At Berkeley Public School we value RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY, SAFETY and COOPERATION.

RESPECT means caring for, and valuing yourself, and showing kindness and consideration for others.

RESPONSIBILITY means being trustworthy and accountable for your behaviour.

SAFETY means protecting the well-being and security of everyone in our school.

COOPERATION means getting along by working and playing together.

It is expected that all members of our school community will uphold these values to ensure that Berkeley Public School is a safe, happy and positive place for everyone.

**Student Attendance**

Just a reminder that if your child is absent from school for any reason, you will need to complete an Absence Form indicating when your child was absent, and explaining why they were absent. These forms are available from the school office for your convenience.

It is a legal requirement that all school age children attend school every day unless they are sick or have another acceptable reason for being absent. Mr Lew Edgar the Home School Liaison Officer monitors our attendance figures each week. Families will be contacted if a student has been absent for several consecutive days without an explanation being given to the school.

Have a great fortnight
Sharon Newton
Assistant Principal

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**PARENT TIPS**

- Get your child to help pack their lunch box so they are more likely to eat what’s in it.
- Exercise is vital in helping manage weight, keeping muscles strong, helping their hearts and lungs develop, and improving their hand-eye coordination.
- Wash your hands regularly to avoid germs.
- Cough into your elbow, not your hands.
- The healthiest drink options for kids are water and milk.
- Look after your child’s emotional health too – try not to overschedule them, having some ‘down time’ is important too.

**ATTENTION**

Police from Wollongong LAC are seeking information from the public concerning a motor vehicle accident that occurred about 3.00pm on Friday 27th June, 2014 on Northcliffe Drive, Warrawong. This was the last day of Term 2. Anyone who saw the collision or the lead up and has not been spoken to by investigators is asked to contact Wollongong Detectives on (02)4226 7759 or Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000.
**BLUE AND WHITE**

**WEEKLY ATTENDANCE**

### Attendance

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**AROUND THE CLASSROOMS**

### 1/2P

**Giraffes Can't Dance**

Gerald is a giraffe. Every year in Africa all the animals hold a jungle dance but when it is Gerald's turn all the animals make fun of him. Gerald went home and then he found a cricket. The cricket said you just need a different song. Then the cricket started to make a tune. Then Gerald started to dance.

**Andrew**

Gerald was a tall giraffe. His legs were bendy. He saw the jungle dance. He was sad because he can't dance. He saw the chimps do a cha cha and the rhinos rock and rolled. The animals all laughed and he started to walk home. He looked at the moon and said, “The moon is so beautiful.” “Excuse me,” coughed a cricket, “Maybe all you need is a new song.”

**Kyah G**

Gerald was a tall giraffe. His legs were bendy. He saw the jungle dance. He was sad because he can't dance. He saw the chimps do a cha cha and the rhinos rock and rolled. The animals all laughed and he started to walk home. He looked at the moon and said, “The moon is so beautiful.” “Excuse me,” coughed a cricket, “Maybe all you need is a new song.”

**Kyah G**

There was jungle dance but Gerald felt sad. Gerald couldn't dance. Then he met a cricket who told him what to do. They listened to the grass sway. He moved his body to the music and did a backflip. He was happy that he could now dance.

**Tiyson**

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**Term 3 soccer skill development program**

Starting 25th July 2014

Develop your skills and game play.
8 week program - $144

Location Tafe Wollongong
4.30pm to 5.30pm

Ph: 0459 532 223
nswsc@scoerver.com.au

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