PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the 2015 school year and a very special welcome to the many new families that have joined our school community. Berkeley Public School is a great school, with fantastic kids, dedicated staff and very supportive parents and carers. I am sure that you will enjoy being part of our school community. I look forward to getting to know you.

All students have returned to school looking very neat and tidy in their school uniform (thank you parents and carers) and very excited about their new school year.

Students were placed in their new classes with their new teacher from day one. This has been very settling for the students, as already they are very engaged in their learning.

Welcome Kindergarten

Today we welcomed 44 new boys and girls to our school. The first day is always very exciting for the boys and girls, but a little sad for the parents. The kindies, who all looked gorgeous in their new school uniforms, settled very quickly into their morning activities.

Thank you to the P&C for their generous donation of a hat to every kindy student. Thanks also to our fantastic kindergarten teachers, Mrs Clark, Mrs Clegg and Ms Newton for their great organisation and preparation throughout the kindergarten transition program.

School Events

This Fortnight…

Monday 9th February
Swimming Carnival

Thursday 12th February
Hawks Visit Stage 2 2-3pm

Monday 16th February
Dragons Assembly K-6
9am
Stage 3 Skills Session 9.30

Friday 20th February
District Swimming

Staffing News

Welcome to new staff members, Ms Thompson 5/6T and Ms Khoury as our Learning and Support Teacher assisting students. These teachers bring a range of experiences to our school community and we look forward to working with them.
**Staffing**
Other Teaching and Support Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading Recovery</th>
<th>Learning Support Teachers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms Gjaltema</td>
<td>Mrs Ruzzene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ms Khoury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>RFF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Vujasin</td>
<td>Mrs Ruzzene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admin Manager</td>
<td>Admin Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Oldfield</td>
<td>Mrs Wakeford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Support Officers</td>
<td>General Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Edwards</td>
<td>Mr Coomb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Ryan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Stephenson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Clifford</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Councillors</td>
<td>Cleaners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robyn Zelvis</td>
<td>Lisa Valenzi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>David Hagerty</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Induction of School Leaders**
A special assembly will take place on Monday 16\textsuperscript{th} February at 12pm in the hall. Our school leaders, sports captains and SRC members will be receiving their badges. Parents are invited to attend this assembly.

**Parent/Teacher Information Sessions**
Teachers will be holding information sessions for their class during Week 4. Times and dates for these meetings will be sent home with your child soon. Please be reminded that the ‘Meet the Teacher’ sessions are for general information about the class program, routines and events. Should you wish to discuss specific issues about your child an alternative meeting time should be arranged with the teacher.

**Change of Date - School Development Date**
Our school, along with Berkeley West, Farmborough Road, Warrawong and Woonona East will be joining together on Thursday 2\textsuperscript{nd} April for our staff development day (Pupil Free). This means that students do not come to school on Thursday 2\textsuperscript{nd} April. They start their Easter break one day earlier but then return to school in Term 2 one day earlier than most other schools, on Monday 20\textsuperscript{th} April.

This is a change of routine for this year only and has been organized for some whole school Professional Learning for teachers on Visible Learning. During the day the staff will be looking at research done on how, we, as teachers can maximize students’ learning. Please contact the school, as soon as possible, if these arrangements cause concerns.

**Garden Beds and Library**
During the holidays, Mr Coomb, our General Assistant built some garden beds in our newly established vegie patch. These were built in preparation for our kitchen garden program that will be implemented in Term 2. Also our library had some renovations done to it and it looks fantastic, with its new shelving, carpet and painting. Big thank you to Mrs Vujasin and her helpers for all their hard work over the last couple of weeks. There were hundreds of books and resources that were packed away that needed to go back on the shelves.

**Illawarra Sports High School**
The ISHS will be holding its annual Open Night for years 5 and 6 students and parents on Monday 16\textsuperscript{th} February in the school hall.

**Wollongong Performing Arts High School**
Year 6 students interested in applying for entry may request an application form from the front office. Applications close on Friday 6\textsuperscript{th} March 2015.

**Student Information**
In the near future forms will be coming home with your children for the updating and collection of data regarding photos being used at school and any changes to student details. Please ensure you fill these in and return as soon as possible.

Have a great fortnight
Vicky McGee
Principal
## TERM 1 PLANNER

### February

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday 9th</th>
<th>Tuesday 10th</th>
<th>Wednesday 11th</th>
<th>Thursday 12th</th>
<th>Friday 13th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>Hawks Visit S2 2-3pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 16th</td>
<td>Tuesday 17th</td>
<td>Wednesday 18th</td>
<td>Thursday 19th</td>
<td>Friday 20th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>9am Dragons Visit Induction Assembly 12pm</td>
<td>District Swimming Carnival</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 23rd</td>
<td>Tuesday 24th</td>
<td>Wednesday 25th</td>
<td>Thursday 26th</td>
<td>Friday 27th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Assembly 11.45am S3 Univ Debating</td>
<td>PSSA Clean Up Aust.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Monday 2nd</td>
<td>Tuesday 3rd</td>
<td>Wednesday 4th</td>
<td>Thursday 5th</td>
<td>Friday 6th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Week 6 | Assembly 11.45am P & C Meeting 7pm | | |
|   | Monday 9th | Tuesday 10th | Wednesday 11th | Thursday 12th | Friday 13th |

| Week 7 | Assembly 11.45am Kindy Eye Testing School Photos | PSSA Netball, Cricket | |
|   | Monday 16th | Tuesday 17th | Wednesday 18th | Thursday 19th | Friday 20th |

| Week 8 | Assembly 11.45am | Primary Cross Country PSSA Back-up | |
|   | Monday 23rd | Tuesday 24th | Wednesday 25th | Thursday 26th | Friday 27th |

| Week 9 | Assembly 11.45am Silly Science Show Back-Up Cross Country PSSA Back-up | |
|   | Monday 30th | Tuesday 31st | Wednesday 1st | Thursday 2nd | Friday 3rd |

| Week 10 | Assembly 11.45am Soccer Man Easter Hat Parade Last Day of Term Staff Development Day Easter - Good Friday |
|   | Monday 30th | Tuesday 31st | Wednesday 1st | Thursday 2nd | Friday 3rd |

### Year 6 - High School Enrolment Applications

Late next week, all Year 6 students will receive a High School enrolment application titled ‘Moving into Year 7 in a NSW government school 2016.’ The application form will state the designated local school for your child based on your address. Further information and details on how to complete the form, along with due dates, will be sent home with the enrolment form.

This is an exciting time for Year 6 and we encourage students and their parents to attend open nights held at your preferred High Schools. Information regarding the open night for our local feeder high school, Illawarra Sports High, can be found in this newsletter.

If you have any questions or queries regarding your child’s application to High School please contact the school and speak to your child’s teacher or Mrs McGee.

Kind Regards
Miss M Bourne
Assistant Principal – Stage 3
**Parent Tips**

**Building your child’s reading skills**

Here are some simple tips to encourage your child to become a strong reader and a book lover for the rest of their lives.

**Share a book at home**
Children love to hear a story read aloud. Try reading with different voices, lots of emotion, invented sound effects and funny faces. Change the tone in your voice and vary its loudness or softness. Have fun and enjoy it. It’s a good idea to practise reading before sharing a book. Listen to your child talk about the story and the pictures. Try asking your child which parts of the books they found exciting, funny or different.

**Research the internet**
When kids use the internet they need skills and knowledge that are different from those found in books and other printed materials. These skills include such things as links, images, icons and searching. The internet is a wonderful resource for finding things to support your child’s literacy development. If you are searching for a good book to read to your child, try entering a publisher or an author’s name into a reliable search engine such as Google.

**Join the NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge**
Encourage your child to enter in the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge to develop their love of reading. Read more on the School A to Z website.

---

**Swimming Carnival**

Due to bad weather the swimming carnival will now be held on Monday 9th February at Berkeley Pool. The only change is that only Year 2 students participating in events will be attending the carnival. All other Year 2 students will remain at school. A new permission note is not required as the back-up date was on the original note.

---

**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.
ATTENDANCE

Celebrate Attendance: Hints and Tips No. 1

Responsibilities

Parent/s or caregivers are required – by law – to provide a written or verbal explanation to the Principal within seven days of any absence as to why their child was not at school.

It is important that the school receives a written or verbal explanation because:
1. It is a parent’s legal obligation to explain their child’s absence within seven days.
2. It is a requirement that the school investigate all unexplained absences.
3. It avoids the school and the School Attendance Officer from making unnecessary investigations.
4. It is the way the school knows that your child was legitimately absent and not truanting from school.

If you have difficulties in providing a written explanation for your child’s absence, please contact the school Principal.

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

Bragg Corner

ILLAWARRA LITTLE LEAGUERS

Ruben Longley and myself have made the Illawarra Little Leaguers baseball team. If this team wins the NSW competition, we get to represent NSW in a state competition. Then if we win that we get to represent Australia against little league teams in America. We will be on live TV. Our coaches are Trent D, Josh D and Alex H and all three of them play in the Sydney Bluesox.

By Dylan Teixeira

Congratulations Boys and Good Luck

DANCING

Congratulations also to Remi Morgan for your contribution to the 27th South Coast Public Schools Dance Festival and helping to promote Public Education and the Performing Arts as a member of Southern Stars.

Also, Emily Vaughan for promoting Public Education and the Performing Arts as a member of the Southern Stars.

Well done girls and we wish you another successful year.

OUR NEW KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS

Some of the new students get familiar with “big school”
Feel the thrills of having a go at the newest Olympic Sport. Well here is your chance.

Southlake/Ilawarra BMX Club is the only BMX Club in the Illawarra area and is located in the CROOME ROAD SPORTING COMPLEX located on CROOME ROAD, ALBION PARK

We are having a FREE Come and Try Day.

Saturday 14th February 2015

From 10am to 1pm

We have riders ranging in age from 4yrs to 65yrs so anyone can come and have a go.

For safety reasons all participants must wear a FULL FACE HELMET, gloves, long pants, long sleeved top, shoes and socks.

Please bring a road worthy bike with working brakes.

We will have limited helmets and gloves available to use or you can bring your own.

Full canteen facilities will be available.

For all enquiries contact

Andrea Dallinger: 0418 245 268
Russell Robeille: 0411 645 644
Tim Robson: 0450 095 150
**2015 JUNIOR REGISTRATION**

Come and join the Billy Goats for our 2015 season. Be part of a team, a Club and have lots of fun.

Saturday 31st January 10am to 2pm
Saturday 7th February 10am to 2pm

Berkeley Sports Club Ground 5 Wilkinson St, Berkeley

Email: berkeleyfc@hotmail.com
Facebook: Berkeley Sports Football Club

---

**Albion Park Physie**

Not for profit Physie Dance School!

Preschool to Ladies Physie Dance Classes. Only 55.
Troupe/Team Classes, Private Lessons, Stretch and Marching Classes
for girls aged 2 years to ladies.

www.albionparkphysie.com
Sharon: 0428 839 683 or Jacki: 0413 025 718
albionparkphysie@gmail.com

Classes held on Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays.
Location: Centenary Hall, Tongarra Rd, Albion Park

Term 1 Resumes: 10th February 2015

**JOIN NOW & RECEIVE THIS BONUS PACK**

*Register & pay for term 1 and receive a bonus pack worth over $30!*

- Tights
- End of Year Trophy
- Small Envelope
- Book
- Club T-shirts

**“Empowering Girls for Life”**

**REGISTRATION AND ORIENTATION DAYS:**

THURSDAY 29th JANUARY & THURSDAY 5th FEBRUARY
4pm to 6pm
Centenary Hall

---

**Berkeley Netball Club - Registration**

At the Val Curran Centre, Berkeley Netball courts, Hooka Creek Road, Berkeley.
First training day and any extra registrations start Tuesday 10th Feb.
12yr and under 4.15pm - 5.15 pm; 13yr - 15yr - 5.30pm - 6.30pm and 17yr and over 6.30pm - 7.30pm
New players must bring proof of date of birth.
For more information ph Gerry on 42712041
or email: geraldineevry@outlook.com
AST SURF SCHOOL
PRESENTS
SURF GROMS
5-12 YRS
SURFING AUSTRALIA ACCREDITED WATER
SAFETY AND SURFING PROGRAM
SURF GROMS SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAM
STARTING FROM FEBRUARY

AVAILABLE NOW ONLINE
AT NORTH WOLLONGONG, BULLI BEACH & THE FARM
COME DOWN AND JOIN THE FUN
LEARN TO SURF WITH US!

WWW.SURFGROMS.COM.AU
TO FIND OUT MORE:
1800 711 189
INFO@AUSTRALIANSURFTOURS.COM.AU