PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back. I hope everyone had a happy Easter break and enjoyed valuable time with family and friends.

Once again we are heading into a very busy term, where there will be lots of things happening at school. Some of the events include the Sports in School Program, Mother’s Day Stall, Naplan, District Cross Country, Athletics Carnival, Stage Three Science Project, Responsible Pet Program for Years Kinder to 2, Naidoc Week and stage excursions.

School Security

Unfortunately Berkeley Public School has been the target of a number of recent break and enters over the holidays. One incident caused damage to our beautiful school hall.

As a result the Department of Education has reassessed safety and security measures at the School and has implemented a range of extra security procedures. The school encourages anyone who observes any suspicious behavior around the school to contact the 24 hour School Safety and Security hotline on 1300 880 021, Lake Illawarra Police Station on 4232 5599, and in an emergency to call 000.

Sports in School Program

Parents are reminded that this program started on Tuesday and payment needs to be completed by the end of this week.

Every child had the opportunity to participate on Tuesday and by the look on their faces they thoroughly enjoyed it.

If parents are in need of financial assistance please contact the front office.

NAPLAN

Between Tuesday 12th May and Thursday 14th May the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3 and 5.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

The Naplan tests will be conducted on;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 12th</td>
<td>Language Conventions and Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 13th</td>
<td>Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 14th</td>
<td>Numeracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 15th</td>
<td>A “catch up” day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School Events

This Fortnight…

Monday 27th April
10.15am ANZAC Day Ceremony

Tuesday 28th April
Sports Program

Monday 4th May
11.45am Assembly
P&C Meeting
Mother’s Day Stall

Tuesday 5th May
Mother’s Day Stall
Sports Program

Wednesday 6th May
Mother’s Day Stall
Staffing
Mrs Shephard is taking leave for all of Term 2. Mrs Truskett, who has worked with the class during Term 1 will replace her.

ANZAC Day Ceremony
Berkeley Public School will be holding our ANZAC Day ceremony on 27th April at 10.15am. Parents are welcome to come along and help our students pay their respects on this special 100th anniversary at the landing at Gallipoli. Students may bring flowers for this ANZAC Day ceremony. I would like to thank Ms Nicki Kydes for organising this special event. Due to the ANZAC Day ceremony held on this day, there won’t be a whole school assembly.

Yellow for Stephanie Scott
Berkeley Public School along with other Wollongong schools, wore something yellow today to show our support for our colleague Stephanie Scott from Leeton High, who was tragically murdered over the holidays.
Our thoughts and prayers are with the whole Leeton community.

Have a great fortnight
Vicky McGee
Principal

Australian Early Development Census

School newsletter (external)

Playing our part to build a national picture of child health

What is the AEDC?

In early 2015, our school, along with thousands of others across the country will begin preparations for the third Australian Early Development Census (AEDC).

The AEDC measures five key areas of development in children during their first year of full-time school to build a national picture of health and wellbeing. Since 2009, the census results have helped communities, schools and governments plan services and target support for children and families.

Teachers are trained to assess each child and answer questions. Children don’t need to be present so no class time is missed, and parents/carers don’t need to supply schools with any new information for the census. Teachers’ individual assessments are then analysed by the AEDC and reported as anonymous groups of children in the final report.

Easter Hat Parade
### TERM 2 PLANNER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>April</th>
<th>Monday 27th</th>
<th>Tuesday 28th</th>
<th>Wednesday 29th</th>
<th>Thursday 30th</th>
<th>Friday 1st</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 2</strong></td>
<td>10.15am ANZAC Day Ceremony</td>
<td>Sports Program</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Monday 4th</td>
<td>Tuesday 5th</td>
<td>Wednesday 6th</td>
<td>Thursday 7th</td>
<td>Friday 8th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 3</strong></td>
<td>Assembly 11.45am P&amp;C Meeting</td>
<td>Mothers Day Stall</td>
<td>Sports Program</td>
<td>Mothers Day Stall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 11th</td>
<td>Tuesday 12th</td>
<td>Wednesday 13th</td>
<td>Thursday 14th</td>
<td>Friday 15th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 4</strong></td>
<td>Assembly 11.45am</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
<td>District Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 18th</td>
<td>Tuesday 19th</td>
<td>Wednesday 20th</td>
<td>Thursday 21st</td>
<td>Friday 22nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 5</strong></td>
<td>Assembly 11.45am</td>
<td>Sports Program</td>
<td>Life Education</td>
<td>Life Education, Disco Backup X</td>
<td>PSSA Girls Soccer Boys Dragon Tag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 25th</td>
<td>Tuesday 26th</td>
<td>Wednesday 27th</td>
<td>Thursday 28th</td>
<td>Friday 29th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 6</strong></td>
<td>Assembly 11.45am</td>
<td>Life Education</td>
<td>Stg 3 Science Project</td>
<td>Regional Cross Country</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 1st</td>
<td>Tuesday 2nd</td>
<td>Wednesday 3rd</td>
<td>Thursday 4th</td>
<td>Friday 5th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 7</strong></td>
<td>Assembly 11.45am</td>
<td>Sports Program</td>
<td>ES1 Excursion Nowra Animal Park</td>
<td>Stg 3 Science Project</td>
<td>PSSA Girls Soccer Boys Dragon Tag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 8th</td>
<td>Tuesday 9th</td>
<td>Wednesday 10th</td>
<td>Thursday 11th</td>
<td>Friday 12th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 8</strong></td>
<td>PUBLIC HOLIDAY Queens Birthday</td>
<td>Sports Program</td>
<td>Stage 2 Excursion Nan Tien Temple</td>
<td>Athletics Carnival</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 15th</td>
<td>Tuesday 16th</td>
<td>Stg 3 Science Project</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 9</strong></td>
<td>Assembly 11.45am</td>
<td>Sports Program</td>
<td>Reports Home Backup Athletics</td>
<td>PSSA Girls Soccer Boys Dragon Tag</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday 22nd</td>
<td>Tuesday 23rd</td>
<td>Wednesday 24th</td>
<td>Thursday 25th</td>
<td>Friday 26th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 10</strong></td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
<td>Sports Program</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews, Stg 3</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews, K-2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews, Stg 3</td>
<td>Incursion Antarctica</td>
<td>Killalea</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews, Stg 3</td>
<td>Incursion Antarctica</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews, K-2</td>
<td>Killalea</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
<td></td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews, 3-6</td>
<td>Killalea</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GEORGE STREET, BERKELEY, 2506 | P 42711171 | E BERKELEY-P.SCHOOL@DET.NSW.EDU.AU**
ATTENDANCE MATTERS
Be “ON TIME” to get a great start!

- Students have a chance to unpack their belongings and to play with their friends.
- Students are ready to start school with the class without being rushed or feeling frustrated.
- They are present to hear important morning announcements and the day’s routine.
- Teachers and students who have already begun work are not interrupted.
- Students get into the habit of punctuality, which is important in all aspects of life.
- Arriving 20 minutes late to school each day, is the equivalent of missing 11 school days in a year.

ATTENDANCE

Celebrate Attendance: Hints and Tips No. 1
Responsibilities

Parent/s or caregivers are required – by law – too 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

Stewart House

All Stewart House clothing bags need to be returned by Wednesday 5th May.
Stewart House envelopes will be sent home today with the newsletter and need to be returned by Friday 8th May. Thank you for your generosity with both of these charitable causes.
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.

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.

LIFE EDUCATION

Life Education has been empowering children and young people to make safer and healthier choices through education for more than 35 years. They are the largest non-government provider of drug and health education to children and young people, and their families and communities, Australia wide. They operate nationally across all States and Territories.

The Life Education Van will be visiting Berkeley Public School from the 19th to 26th May 2015. Due to the generosity of Wollongong University there will be no cost for our students to participate in the Life Education program this year.

Attached to this newsletter is an order form if you would like to purchase ‘Harold’ merchandise. The money raised from this is invaluable in ensuring the Life Education program can continue to reach students across our country.
AST SURF SCHOOL
PRESENTS

NORTH GONG
THE FARM
BULLI

AUTUMN SESSIONS
STARTING
27TH APRIL

NEW PROGRAM: MUMS GO SURFING!
- THE BRAND NEW FUN, FIT AND HEALTHY MUMS SURF PROGRAM
- COME AND ENJOY THE OCEAN AND EACH OTHERS COMPANY IN THE OUTDOORS
- INCLUDES ONE AND HALF HOUR SURF SESSION FOLLOWED BY COFFEE/TEA AT THE LOCAL CAFE

BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW!
WWW.SURFGROMS.COM.AU

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