Dear Parents and Carers

District Cross Country
Congratulations to all the runners who competed in the District Cross Country on Friday 15th May. From all reports all competitors tried their hardest, and good sportsmanship was evident, especially so when one of our students, Riley Cuttill, saw a fellow student trip and fall down on the track. Riley turned around, helped his friend up and ran with him until he was steady on his feet. Riley then continued at his own pace, completing the race and managing to come third. What a great example of friendship and sportsmanship!
Thank you to Mrs Hollick on all her hard work in organising the day, and Ms Thompson for her support and also thank you to the parents who helped and cheered for Berkeley students.
The following students will be representing our school at the Regional Cross Country at Cambewarra on Friday 29th May. Good luck to the following students: 10 years boys – Jarrod Lindley 1st, 11 years boys – Riley Cuttill 3rd, Nikola Uzelac 4th, Josh Minos 5th, Austin Trevisanu Reserve, 12 years boys – Jay Thomas 2nd, Nicholas Pozzer 5th, 12 years girls – Emily Vaughan 2nd.

NAPLAN
Congratulations to Year 3 and Year 5 students for completing the 2015 NAPLAN last week. All students tried their best and were very respectful of all other students in the room. Special thanks to Ms Kydes and Ms Bourne for organising this event and to all staff for being flexible and accommodating with the changes to normal routines and timetables.

School Athletics Carnival
Our School Athletics Carnival for K-6 students will be held on Thursday 11th June at Myimbarr Athletics Park.
Parent helpers are needed to assist different sporting groups and activities throughout the day. Parent help is essential to make the carnival run as smooth as possible. Notes will be sent home asking for parent helpers.

Kitchen Garden
Thank you to the three mums who I saw yesterday morning, busily shoveling dirt from a big pile into the new garden beds.
We are hoping the garden beds will be ready soon, so students can plant their vegetable seeds. Berkeley students and staff would appreciate any help offered by mums and dads who may have some spare time after dropping off their children, or throughout the day, to help with the vegetable garden.
**Attendance**

A reminder that parents and caregivers must inform the school within seven days if their child is absent. After seven days, this absence remains unjustified and will appear on your child's report as unexplained. You can use the absence slips in the booklets sent home in Term 1 or a hand written note to explain absences. If your child is away for more than 3 days due to illness, a medical certificate should be attached.

If your child is absent from school for even 5 days a term, this equals 4 weeks in a year and by the time they finish high school, they will have taken an equivalent of one year off school.

**Late to School**

It is important that all students are at school by 8.55am, ready to start school when the bell rings. Children who are late in the morning should be escorted to the front office by their parent or carer, and be signed in by an adult.

**Kindergarten Enrolments for 2016**

We are now beginning to process enrolments for the kindergarten classes of 2016. Children may enrol in kindergarten if they turn five years of age on or before 31st July 2016.

**School Assemblies**

Assemblies are held every Monday at 11.45am and parents are always welcome to attend.

**P & C Meetings**

Our next P & C meeting will be held on Monday 1st June at 7.00pm in the staff room.

Have a great fortnight

Vicky McGee
Principal

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**Banking is coming to Berkeley Public School!**

The Commonwealth Bank School Banking program is coming soon! The School Banking program includes an exciting Rewards Program designed to encourage children to get into the habit of making regular savings. Every time your child makes a deposit at school they receive a silver coloured Dollarmites token. The first token will be received upon the first deposit at school. Once your child has individually saved 10 tokens they can redeem them for an exclusive Dollarmites reward item. Students will have lots of fun saving their tokens for these cool rewards items.

School Banking is also a great fundraiser for our school. The school receives $5 when children make their first deposit at school and a commission on every deposit made through the School Banking program.

**Getting involved is easy:**

- Come see the School Banking representative on **Thursday 21st May, 2015** from 8.30am, located on the school premises, to get your child started. You will need your child’s birth certificate and Photo ID for yourself.
- If your child already has a Youthsaver account you can use that to participate. You can bring it along to register your child on **Thursday 21st May, 2015**.

A child who is absent one school day per week from Kindergarten to Year 6 will have **missed** the equivalent of **1 year and 1 ½ terms** of schooling by the time their primary education is complete.
STAGE 3 UPDATE

This term, Year 5 & 6 students have been learning about Antarctica’s environment, wildlife and global policies that regulate tourism and research in the region.

On Wednesday 3rd June, the students will participate in a 45min video conference and speak directly with expeditioners at Casey Station in Antarctica for a look into life on the highest, driest, windiest and coldest continent on earth. The conference will also take the students around the Antarctic station, and talk to the station leader and staff who work there over the long, dark winter. This video conference is being provided free of charge.

Notes have also been sent home for students to participate in a hands-on workshop with Antarctic adventurer Chris Olsen in Week 10. This will be a fun and engaging workshop and will further consolidate the students understanding of the topic. Please see the office if your child requires a note for this workshop.

Stage 3 Teachers
M.Bourne, S.Hollick & S.Thompson

Year 6 Fundraising – Second Hand Book Donations Needed

Do you have books that your children have outgrown or no longer read? Looking to make some extra space around the house? Berkeley Public Year 6 students are here to help!

We are looking for charitable donations of books to sell at the school ‘Fun Day’ in Week 10, Term 3. Books must be in a reasonable condition and suitable for resale. (i.e: without pages that have been coloured in, scribbled over or damaged please.)

Please give any donations to Year 6 students selling cake raffle tickets on Tuesday-Friday mornings in the playground throughout Terms 2 and 3.

You will receive one free ticket in the cake raffle for each book donated!

Kinder Chickens

Kindergarten have special visitors in their rooms. They have chickens and eggs, and they were lucky enough to see one egg hatch this morning. The children are monitoring the number of chickens on a special graph.
## TERM 2 PLANNER

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## PBS STAR OF THE MONTH

April’s PBS Star of the Month is **Chloe Wheeldon** from 3/4K.

Chloe consistently upholds our school values of Respect, Responsibility, Cooperation and Safety. She is respectful and an excellent role model who shows kindness and consideration towards others in the classroom and in the playground.

In class, Chloe displays initiative by offering guidance and assistance to students who need support. She shows tolerance towards others and always interacts safely with them.

Chloe has a well-developed sense of responsibility and is always courteous to her teachers, peers and school visitors.
**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.

**PBS FOCUS**

**Week 6** Wearing school uniform

**Week 7** Playing by the rules

Teachers will be watching for students following these rules.
FOYER DISPLAY

Our display this week is by 3/4WP. They have created paintings in honour of the 100th anniversary of the ANZAC landings at Gallipoli during the First World War. Well done 3/4WP.

KITCHEN GARDEN PROGRAM & BUNNINGS WARRAWONG

We have made a start on filling our garden beds with the soil delivered last week and would like to thank the parents who have given up their time this week to help. There are still more beds to be filled so if you can spare an hour or two at anytime during the school day you will be welcomed with open arms. There are buckets to fill and spades and rakes provided for you to use. Just let the office girls know you are going to work in the garden and they will direct you to the spot. Closed in shoes and gloves are also required to be worn. We hope to see you there as I know the children are getting excited to plant their seedlings. Remember, many hands make light work.

I would also like to make a big thank you to Bunnings Warrawong for coming on board to support us. Next Tuesday the children will be planting a herb garden supplied by Bunnings with one of their representatives helping the children in the garden. Their support will be invaluable to us.

Karen Ruzzene – Garden Program Coordinator
Berkeley Playgroup

Wednesdays 9.30 – 11.00am
During school terms
Berkeley Public School
George Street
BERKELEY
(in the old Hall)

A free playgroup for parents and carers with children 0-5.
Please bring morning tea.
Enjoy free play, puzzles, craft, pretend play, construction plan after a 30 minute session of music and interactive stories.
For more information contact Caitlin Marshall on 42721422