Overnight Excursions
During the last two weeks, students from years 3 to 6 went on overnight excursions. Years 3 and 4 spent one night at Gibberagong Environmental Education Centre and years 5 and 6 spent four nights at Broken Bay Sport and Recreation Centre.
All teachers report that the children were well behaved and enjoyed every moment of their overnight experiences.
I was lucky enough to go to Broken Bay for the week. It was the most valuable and fun experience I have had for many years (with 160 primary school children!).

I know we always ask the children what the best part of camp was – well, I am going to say my favourite part of camp was the ‘cookout’.

We took 50 children into the bush (up a steep bush track) with various cooking implements and food. The children were in groups of ten and they had to maintain a ‘campfire’, plan a menu around the food given, prepare and cook the food and ensure it was enough to feed ‘ten hungry mouths’. I was amazed at how well the groups worked and how good their food looked and tasted. I was also impressed with the fact that we didn’t have any child fall into the fire, complain that they didn’t like the food or get food poisoning!

As teachers, we enjoyed ‘watching’ our children – seeing them interact with each other and not just their friends, making (or attempting) to make their beds, cut up their food (not using cutlery as ‘weapons of mass destruction’), cope with being homesick, seeing them attempt new challenges and making sure they enjoy every moment of the camp.

I would again like to thank all the teachers (and their families) for giving up your time so graciously and ensuring that our students have the best possible education available.

There were a few homesick students over the last two weeks and I did a bit of ‘internet surfing’ and found this website; some of the ideas may be handy to help your child before next year’s overnight excursion.  http://kidshealth.org/kid/feeling/home_family/homesickness.html#

I read an interesting ‘post’ on Facebook this week. I usually just look at photos and skim over the posts but I feel this is worthwhile sharing – read if you feel so inclined, or you haven’t read it before.

Student Successes
Jensen G (2C) swam at the Zone 6 RSL Carnival last weekend and was quite successful. He won two gold and two silver medals and will now swim at the NSW RSL Championships at Dubbo in March.
Congratulations, Jensen.

Our Junior Girl’s League Tag team – Georgia A (4G), Bronte L (3/4B), Dayna B (4P), Brooke F (3P), Zara G (3P), Imogen L-W (3P), Isabella A (3/4B), Mirabel J (4P) and Sophia V (4P) – competed in the League Tag Finals at Foxglove Oval on Monday. The girls all played exceptionally well, especially considering the heatwave conditions. These girls played against teams with girls who towered over them. Luckily, for us our ‘pocket rockets’ gave them some really tough competition.
Zara and Imogen scored tries with the support of their amazing team. Unfortunately they did not make it through to the finals but they are to be very proud of all of their efforts. Thanks to our supportive parents for transporting and supporting these girls and also to Mr Pritchard for his coaching and support.

Di Bower
Principal
Hello,

I’d just like to express my pleasure at having the students on the station this week who were attending the Myuna Bay Camp (Broken Bay).

I was here on Monday morning when they all arrived very excited and talkative. They happily chatted to me as they waited in groups to walk up and over our huge set of stairs.

This afternoon they all returned very subdued and hot! They were very well behaved waiting 45 minutes for the train. They stood well back behind the yellow line and chatted happily. I did not hear one swear word, which I can assure you from working on the train system is very unusual!!

When the train arrived they all carefully boarded and were most concerned when I told them they could get in the Quiet Carriages, as they find it hard to be quiet! There was no other way for them all to fit in the train on only 4 carriages, so they stood in those cars as quietly as they could.

What a great bunch of children, I wish we had more like them travelling. The students and the teachers are to commended.

Regards
Wendy Gilchrist
Customer Service Attendant
Hawkesbury River
NSW Trains - North

On the 11th of November I travelled to Brazil to play in the Danone Nations Cup. This football tournament for 12 year olds involved 32 countries from around the world including Brazil, Italy, Portugal, Chile and Spain.

Our team finished 15th out of the competing nations, beating Italy in a penalty shootout. We also beat China and Portugal but lost to Germany and Russia. It was an amazing experience and a thrill to see so many talented and skilful players from around the world.

Sam P 5/6J

LIBRARY NEWS - Our annual stocktake begins next week. Could parents please help to ensure children have all their borrowed books returned to the library by next week. Sometimes books are returned to shelves without being marked off your child’s name. We do everything we can to check the shelves before overdue notices are issued so please let us know if you feel you have returned the book.

The library will then be closed for borrowing but lessons will continue for all classes.

Thank you parents for your support of the Scholastic Book Club throughout 2014. The Book Club not only gives the children a chance to choose the books they like to read, but the school receives points for the children's purchases. These points allow us to buy relevant books and resources for ‘free’. Thank you so much Mrs Natasha Steele and Mrs Sarah Williams for your amazing dedication and efficiency in running our school Book Club. We are very grateful for your time, effort and expertise.

Thank you also to Mrs Sherene Magnusson for your invaluable help in covering so many of our library books. Mrs Katrina Gilbert for your help over many years and Mrs Barbara Jones too has offered time to help with numerous library jobs.

Jennie Smith
Librarian

NOTES YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

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Most notes are on the BPS website under ‘Our School’ tab—’Missed a Note?’
**PERFORMING ARTS**

**2014 Twilight Concert** is Thursday 27th November. Concert Band, Recorder Groups and the String Ensemble will be playing. Pizza and Dessert on sale from 6pm. Performance commences at 7pm. Come and see BPS music ensembles in action and find out what is on offer for your child. All welcome.

**Amped Up** are playing at Hornsby Westfield from 12noon on Friday 19th December. Come along and support the kids if you can. We would love to see you there.

**Amped Up Auditions** - Amped Up are looking for new members so call Mike on 0413 034 080 for more information.

Mike Gordon

**Drama** - Although only a short time to go before the end of the year, the Junior Drama Group (Yrs 3 & 4) are working on their play “Christmas Decorations” and the Senior Drama Group (Yrs 5 & 6) are helping to write and perform “How The Grinch Stole Christmas”. We hope to present these plays during the last week of school.

Thank you parents for you wonderful support and encouragement of the Drama Groups during 2014. Your talented children and I have had fun and learned a lot of skills along the way.

Dramatically yours
Jennie Smith

**Dance Group Auditions** - It is that time of the year again! Auditions for the 2015 Boys Dance Group and Girls Dance Group will be held at lunchtime on Tuesday 2nd December, Thursday 4th December and Tuesday 9th December. All students currently in Years 3, 4 or 5 who would like to be considered must attend these audition days. A final audition will be held early next year in Term 1.

**End of term Dance Concert** - On Thursday 4th December 4P, 4G, 3/4B, KRed, KBlue and KPurple will perform some of the dances they have been learning in dance lessons this term. The concert begins at 2.30 in the school hall. All welcome.

Kelly Lukic

**School Spectacular**

Jackson Besley, brother of Ethan (5K), is a featured artist in this year’s school spectacular. Jackson went through Berowra Public in 2002-2008, and began his musical career in the school rock band "Powerplay".

Since then he has become a singer/songwriter, and has just graduated from the Department of Education run "Talent Development Project". He has been in the NSW School Spectacular for three years but this year he is being a featured artist playing his own original song.

The show is on Channel 9 this Saturday night. Should be great to see one of our students performing in this prestigious event.

Congratulations and best of luck from all of us, Jackson

**SCHOOL BANKING** - The last day for school banking for this year is Tuesday 9th December. Banking will recommence on Tuesday 10th February (week 3) from 8:50am at the canteen.

If you would like more information about school banking please see Samantha on a Tuesday morning.
**Canteen** - Don’t forget the Canteen Mufti Fun Day on Monday 1st December. All orders must be at the canteen by this Friday 28th November. Order forms available at the canteen.

**Canteen Roster**

| Wed 26/11 | S Vaughan, T White |
| Thurs 27/11 | M Triebel |
| Fri 28/11 | K Wallis, B Barton |
| Wed 3/12 | D Allen, P Smith |
| Thurs 4/12 | J Ludlow, C Harris |
| Fri 5/12 | H Tyler, V Eliasson |

**Community News**

Asquith Girls High School Art Show - Opening night is Wednesday 26th November 7pm in the school hall. Awards at 7.30pm with artworks from years 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and HSC Year 12.

Kuring-Gai Creative Arts High School Visual Arts Exhibition - Opening night is Wednesday 26th November 6pm - 8pm in Margaret Preston Hall. Open for viewing on Thurs 27/11 & Fri 28/11 until 7pm and Sat 29/11 10am - 1pm.

Hornsby Shire Library is organising a number of activities over the coming school holidays. These include the Gingerbread House Making and the Christmas Pantomime in December. During January there is the hands on activities Rangers on the Run, Backyard Bugs show and Wild Homes show. For further enquiries, the Children’s & Youth Services library staff can be contacted on 9847 6738 during business hours or visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library. Bookings are essential either online or in person at the library at which the activity will be held.

**Class Awards**

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To all the parents, grandparents, canteen and uniform shop volunteers, scripture teachers and all other helpers who have helped out both inside and outside the classroom, the staff and students of Berowra Public School would like to say........

**Thankyou! Thankyou! Thankyou!**

and invite you to

**The Helpers’ Morning Tea**

**Wednesday 3rd December 2014**

**11.00am**

Looking forward to seeing you outside the canteen!
Are you returning to school next year?

To help with our class planning for 2015, please indicate below if your child / children will not be returning to Berowra Public School next year, and return this slip to the office or class teacher as soon as possible.

Alternately, phone the school office on 9456 1319 or email to berowra-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Student Name/s …………………………………………………………………………………….

2014 class : ………………………………………………………………………………………….

Parents Name : ……………………………………………………………………………………..

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Berowra Public School
NAIDOC Garden Working Bee

We would like to extend a very, very big thank you to the families who helped with the 2nd phase of our NAIDOC garden:

The Jewkes family
Mr Saywell and Matt
Sue Compton
Connie, Alex and Lily McGilchrist
Mr Goodchild
Cathy, Rachel and Megan Daniel
Danni, Leela and Anika Sutton
Adam and Shell Cryer
Mr Pickering

On Saturday 11th September, an eager bunch of committed families met to weed, mulch and plant. The garden looks amazing and the plants are all looking very healthy, thanks to the watering efforts of the Year 2 children.

When this garden is a little more established, children will be able to sit and play quietly in the garden in the mornings.

A very special thank you to Danni Maestri and Hornsby Shire Council, who supplied all the plants, plant protection and gardening tools on the day.

If you know of anyone who might have 16 more logs / tree stumps that we could use for seating, please contact Mrs Pickering.

Mrs Pickering
Dear K-2 Parents / Caregivers,

Whilst we are very conscious of keeping the cost to families to a minimum, especially at this time of year, we would ask that each child brings in $5.00 in order to help support the production costs of the K-2 Christmas concert.

There will be no further costs attached to the concert, such as admission. Please complete the slip below and return with the money to your class teacher.

Thanking you, K-2 Staff

Childs name: ___________________________ Class _________

Amount enclosed: __________ being for support of producing K-2 Christmas Concert.
**Diary Dates**

### November
- **Thurs 13**: Kindy 2015 Orientation Day
- **Fri 14**: BPS Disco
- **17-19**: Year 4 Gibberagong camp
- **17-21**: Stage 3 Broken Bay camp
- **Thurs 20**: Stage 2 Water Catchment program
- **Tues 25**: Science Show
- **Wed 26**: Kindy Teddy Bears Picnic at Gibberagong P&C AGM 7pm in staffroom
- **Fri 28**: Year 6 Mini Fete

### December
- **Wed 3**: Christmas church service BPS Helpers morning Tea Y7 2015 High School Orientation Day
- **Thurs 4**: End of term Dance Concert 2:30pm
- **Tues 9**: K-2 Christmas Concert 10am & 12pm
- **Thurs 11**: BPS Presentation Day
- **Mon 15**: Celebration of Learning Assembly Year 6 Farewell
- **Wed 17**: Last day of term
- **18-19**: Staff Development Days
- **Jan 28**: Students return for 2015

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**GUITAR and BASS Lessons**

School Rock Band “Amped Up” Music Director **MIKE GORDON**

Is available for tuition at the school in 2015 & also at his home on Saturdays. Kids (ages 8 and up) and adults welcome. For more info call 0413034080 or email ampedupband@musician.org

Lessons are also available at Mike’s School **The Learning Lounge** at Turramurra 9488-9970

All instruments and styles taught!

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**LEARN TO SWIM**

**IN THE JANUARY HOLIDAYS!**

**INDOOR HEATED POOL**

LESSONS FOR PRIMARY AGED CHILDREN, PRESCHOOLERS AND BABIES

5 day courses start Mon 5, 12 + 19 Jan
Also Saturday classes in January
TERM 1 STARTS TUES 27 JANUARY 2015

DENIS PONTIN’S SWIM SCHOOL
PH 9489 4771 - pontinswimschool.com.au
48 TENNYSON AVE, TURRAMURRA
BOOK NOW FOR HOLIDAYS AND TERM 1

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**Music Lessons**

Music lessons are available at school in 2015 for all BPS students wanting to learn clarinet, saxophone or flute.

For enquiries please call or text Vicki Harris on 0402 000 757, or email vickileigh@live.com.au
Disclaimer: Advertisements placed in THE CREST do not reflect an endorsement or otherwise by Berowra Public School of that product or service. Information in the advertisement is entirely the responsibility of the advertiser.
Social Media

Are you aware it is not legal for a child to have a social media account on most systems until they are at least 13 years old or 18 years old; and on some others unless under the guidance of a parent? Are you really aware of what your children are doing with technology?

Last year there was a 12-year-old who jumped to her death after enduring a year of cyberbullying from two girls, both under 12 years old. What's been largely overlooked is that the victim and the two perpetrators were under the minimum age required to use the social media sites (Facebook, Ask.fm, Kik and Instagram) where some of the bullying took place.

The minimum age to open an account on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, Tumblr, Kik, and Snapchat is 13. For Vine, Tinder and Yik Yak it’s 17. YouTube requires account holders to be 18, but a 13-year-old can sign up with a parent’s permission. Despite these clearly stated and published age restrictions, large and growing numbers of children 12 and under are using social media networks, often with their parent’s knowledge and consent.

- Children under 13 don’t have the hardware upstairs to make smart decisions online. Just because kids seem tech-savvy at increasingly younger ages, doesn’t necessarily mean that their brains are developing at the same rate as their digital acumen. Research shows that it takes children about 12 years to fully develop the cognitive structures that enable them to engage in ethical thinking. Before 12 it’s difficult, if not impossible, for a child to fully grasp the impact of their actions upon others, online or otherwise. Yet our children are increasingly joining social networking sites, sometimes even putting themselves in harm’s way by becoming victims of online harassment, solicitation, and cyber-bullying before they are ready to respond appropriately.

- Lying is just plain wrong. Living in a civilised society means we have some implicit agreements: we take turns, play fair, stop at red lights, and hold the door open for old ladies. And we tell the truth. Sure, giving a fake birthdate to Facebook seems like a harmless white lie, but it’s a lie nonetheless. I’d like to believe we can all agree that honesty and truthfulness, online and off, is important.

What are some ways to assist children and young people in social networking? Please remember that to assist your child to be safe on social networking sites you must:

- Ensure that they comply with the age restrictions (DO NOT let them on Facebook under 13 years of age)
- Ensure that they understand how the privacy and security settings work
- Ensure that they can change their passwords and they know how to report a problem
- Ensure that they understand the house ‘rules’ about where they can go, who they talk to and what they post
- Ensure that they know where to go if they have an online issue
- Set up an account yourself and be your child’s friend (this is not going to ensure safety but is part of what is expected of you as a parent)
- Know your child’s password
- Have house rules about what your child can post and when they can add new ‘friends’ (must ask you first).

To keep your children safe, it’s best that you monitor their phone. Look through their apps, texts and pictures. They may feel that you’re invading their privacy, but let’s be honest... You’re paying the phone bill, so you can do whatever you want! So, as you monitor your kid’s phone, keep an eye out for apps you may not be aware of, that in police and expert opinion are very dangerous.

Please keep your child/ren safe
**Nutrition Snippet**

The simplest way...stay healthy over Summer.

Summertime = BBQ time in Australia.

Here are five ways to make your barbies as healthy and delicious as possible.

- Limit or avoid processed meat like sausages and bacon.
- Use lean cuts of meat.
- Make sure half your plate is filled with veggies.
- Cook vegies like eggplant, zucchini and capsicum straight on the bbq (or as part of the kebab in picture).
- Make a few salads to serve on the side.
- Freeze fruits like grapes and berries make a delicious treat for a dessert on a hot day.

For more information visit www.eatitobeatit.com.au or join us at facebook.com/eatitobeatit

**SunSmart Snippet**

The simplest way...to be SunSmart!

Showing children that you wear sunscreen is the best way to teach them about our harmful UV rays.

Children imitate adult behaviour – both good and bad. When it comes to sun protection, setting the best example is important for teachers and parents.

What should you do?

- Wear a sun safe hat.
- Wear a shirt with a collar and sleeves.
- Apply sunscreen before going outside, and then at regular 2 hour intervals throughout the day.

Be SunSmart and your children will follow your lead. Enjoy the holidays!

For more information visit www.sunsmartzone.com.au or call 9334 1761

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**SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN AT MT KURING GAI Moving Bodies Centre**

**Gymnastics Holiday Program**
A day packed full of fun using all of our gymnastics equipment including foam pit, trampoline, fun climbing wall, spring floor, bars, beams, rebounders, floor work, softplay playground and more!

**Advanced Gymnastics Holiday Program**
A gymnastics session catering for those children who have had previous gymnastics experience and who would like to work towards achieving more challenging gymnastics skills.

**Teenage Gymnastics**
A gymnastics session catering for older children aged 10 years +, using all of our gymnastics equipment in working towards achieving more challenging gymnastics skills and activities.

**Boot Camp**
Combining fun with fitness for kids! The session will include fun fitness activities concentrating on aerobic, anaerobic and isometric fitness.

**Soccer and Ball Games Clinic**
An energising session run by our motivating soccer coach that will include ball skills and soccer game play.

**Dance Clinic**
Enjoy developing dance skills while creating a choreographed dance routine to present to parents at the end of the session. Also included will be some fun in our softplay playground!

**Softplay Playground**
Please check our website for opening times.

**Book into just 1 session or as many as you want!!**

For information, dates and enrolment forms please visit. Moving Bodies Centre: www.movingbodiescentre.com.au
Ph: 9457 7232

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**ASQUITH LEAGUES**

**KIDS SCHOOL HOLIDAYS ACTIVITIES**

**WEDNESDAY 14 JANUARY**
10.30am
**MR PEABODY AND SHERMAN**
12 noon - 35 Kids Meals from the Brasserie
Book your Craft Workshop ticket through Reception
11-37 Alexandra Parade, Waitara Ph: 9467 1066

**WEDNESDAY 21 JANUARY**
10.30am
**MUPPETS MOST WANTED**
12 noon - 35 Kids Meals from the Brasserie
1pm - Kids Craft Workshop - $7 per child (5s and over)
11-37 Alexandra Parade, Waitara Ph: 9467 1066