



Berowra

Public School

The Crest

Wednesday 3rd June, 2009
Term 2 Week 6

BEROWRA PUBLIC SCHOOL 9456 1319 website - <http://www.berowra-p.schools.nsw.edu.au>

Education Week

Our Education Week Open Day proved just how flexible Berowra Public School can be. It takes more than a bit of rain to stop us! The open classrooms and the concert enabled us to showcase public education in general, and to showcase the great job our students and staff are doing in the classroom in particular. Thank you to all parents and 'significant others' who took the time to come along. I hope you had a good day.

Official 'opening' of the play equipment

On Monday morning we hosted representatives of our wonderful parent bodies and the store manager of the IGA Supermarket, Ray Pettit, for a special Flag Assembly. It was our way of thanking the P&C, School Support Group, School Council and Ritchies IGA for their support in making our new playground equipment possible. Half the cost of the equipment came from the money generously donated to the school through IGA's Community Benefit Card scheme. The remainder came from funds raised by our hard-working parent bodies.

Swine flu epidemic

Last week I sent home an information sheet about the current human swine flu epidemic. Naturally, we are doing all we can to minimise its impact on our community. A procedure that I have been asked to implement affects families contemplating overseas travel. To ensure we can put the correct procedures in place on your return, overseas travellers are asked to notify the school of the travel itinerary, including stopovers.

Please also advise the office if someone in your family contracts an infectious disease. Schools are very efficient incubators of infectious diseases, so there are set procedures and exclusions which schools must follow to ensure that diseases are not spread.

Farewell Mrs Lenton

Mrs Lenton, who has done such a great job on 1L, has been transferred to a teaching position at Wyoming Public School on the Central Coast. This is sad news for the school and for the students of 1L in particular, as in the short time she has been here Mrs Lenton has become a most valuable member of staff. She will be greatly missed.

We are lucky to have obtained the services of another excellent classroom practitioner to teach 1L until the end of the term. Miss Skye Keatinge has agreed to take up this position. Miss Keatinge has taught most classes in the school this year on a relief basis, and will be a most valuable addition to the full-time staff.

Getting to and from school safely

There have been some recent incidents in the Berowra community that have highlighted the need for parents to take basic precautions to ensure their children are safe from harm. A particular area of concern is the walk / scooter / ride to and from school. We strongly advise parents to have their children travel to and from school in groups rather than alone. This is a simple but effective way of making sure they are safe. The school is also looking at the possibility of implementing a 'Walking Bus' system. More on this will be written in future Crests.

Photographs of students

Children at Berowra Public School participate in many activities. Taking and viewing photographs of these activities can enhance the learning experience for the children. Photographs may also be used to raise awareness of the school's achievements in the wider community. Sharing of photographs can be done within class and across the school via the school's intranet. These images cannot be viewed from outside the school. Wider sharing of the photographs can be done in the Newsletter, which is distributed to families and friends of the school, in occasional media stories about events at the school, and on the school website.

We recognise that some parents may not wish their child's image to be publicly available. Please contact the school if you do not wish your child's photograph to be published either within the school (newsletter, intranet) or externally (website, media story).

John Barwick
Principal

A reminder to parents to notify the school about your child's health

We welcome information from parents about your child's health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. Our school asks for medical information when you enrol your child. It is also important that you let us know if your child's health care needs change or if a new health condition develops. Information about allergies, medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes and other health care related issues (including prior conditions such as medical procedures in the last 12 months) should be provided to the school by parents. Please provide this information in writing to the principal. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child's health and wellbeing. Please also remember to notify staff in the school office of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts.

We appreciate your assistance in this regard and assure you that any information you provide the school will be stored securely and will only be used or disclosed in order to support your son or daughter's health needs or as otherwise required by law.

Library News - MSReadathon has begun! Come onboard and sponsor your child to READ as many books as they can from 1st June to 30th June. Register online at www.msreadathon.org.au or collect registration forms from the library. A win/win opportunity for children to help others and themselves too. Thanks to all the children who participated last year and helped raise over \$1500! We can do it again! As a bonus there are great prizes to be won. Happy reading all.

Book Fair thankyou. To everyone who supported our Book Fair a HUGE THANKYOU. Once again the generosity of Berowra parents/relatives/friends exceeded expectations. We sold over \$3,000 worth of books and this will give about \$600 to the library. You are all amazing in such a difficult financial time.

Thank you so much. Thank you too to our wonderful Book Fair helpers: Mrs Foss, Mrs Lee, Mrs McCabe, Mrs Fearnside and Mrs Rode. What would we do without your dedication time and effort.

There were 70 books donated which will be available for your child to borrow soon. Once again.....amazing.

Mrs J Smith—Librarian

Sport News - A belated congratulation to the following students, who, following the Zone Swimming Carnival in March, represented BPS at the Area Swimming Carnival :-

Sarah M - 50m Breastroke coming 2nd
50m Freestyle
200m Medley
Hannah J 50m Freestyle
50m Backstroke

Sarah went on to swim at the State Swimming Carnival at Homebush Aquatic Centre on Wednesday 8th April, swimming in the 50m Breastroke event coming 20th out of 40 swimmers.

Liana Baker has been chosen for the Sydney North Girls Soccer squad.

Zone Cross Country A big thank you to the BPS students who participated at the Zone Cross Country Carnival on Monday 25th May. You represented your school with enthusiasm and a sense of responsibility. Not only did you run hard, but your behaviour was outstanding.

Congratulations to the overall winners, Wahroonga Public School and to Turrumurra North Public School who won the carnival on handicap.

Our 11 years girls really worked hard with Tara Kissick coming first in a very close race. We all wish Tara the best of luck as she heads off to compete at the area Cross Country Carnival, representing Sydney North on 11th June.

Mrs Naylor—coordinator

Most Valued Players for 29/5/09

Juniors
Samara C
Melissa D

Seniors
Hannah J
Josh M
April B
Lewis M

Cameron Y (most valued referee)

Music News - What a week of performances!

Congratulations to both bands on their superlative performances at both Open Day and on the Preschool tour. Mrs Vincent accompanied us on our Preschool tour day out - and even organised good weather for us too! Open day was another splendid opportunity for both bands where they gave a fantastic demonstration of their musicianship. Parents should be proud of their children who, in playing an instrument, are learning a skill adults find hard and making it such a success. I am certainly delighted and proud of your musicians. Please continue to encourage and support your child. Music is a skill for a lifetime of pleasure.

We are having a **WORKING BEE** on Wednesday June 24th immediately after Training band to reorganise and clean the band store rooms. We need as much help as we can get even if it is only for an hour. Please let your band coordinator know if you can help. Training band coordinator is Cathy McRae, Concert band is Sharon McCabe.

There is a Music Support Team meeting on Wednesday July 1st at 7pm in the Staffroom. It would be great to meet some new Training Band parents so come along and meet the committee and have a cup of tea.

Many thanks to all parents for their help on the Preschool tour, Open Day and at band rehearsals especially those who took a day off work. Great work everyone – keep up the enthusiasm on these cold wet mornings – the sun will shine again and the bands will be there to greet it!

Any questions-Amanda Gillard 9456 2908, bpsband@inet.net.au

POWERPLAY made their debut performance this year wrapping up the great day's entertainment on Open Day. Perched outside Miss Glare's balcony, a fantastic performance was put in by everyone. To our new members congratulations on your first performance with the band. Very well done. - Garth Stevens.

Class Act in action



BPS pop/rock band **CLASS ACT** performed for the first time before an enthusiastic audience last week at the Wideview School fete. The threat of rain re-located all entertainment into the hall, but spirits were not dampened and the band blew us all away with their awesome display of talent and professionalism. Well done CLASS ACT – we're so proud of you!

Big thanks go to all the parents and family members for your on-going help and support. - Sue Blackman

As the performance for the **RECORDER GROUP** at the Opera House has changed from Friday 26th to Wednesday 24th June, I now have five extra tickets. These tickets are for Wednesday 24th June and are \$30 for adults and \$25 for children. The performance is a wonderful experience and inspires many children to want to participate next year. If anyone would like any of these tickets, please contact Wendy Thorvaldson 9456 0684.

P & C News - To assist our hardworking General Assistant, Fred, the P&C has organised a Working Bee for Sunday 21st June from 11am till 3pm. The work will mainly involve clearing long grass around the fences and levelling some old mulch to make it easier to mow. We will need whipper snippers, shovels, rakes, wheelbarrows etc.

If there is a dad out there who is a plumber and would be willing to relocate a tap, it would be greatly appreciated.

We will be putting on a barbie to fuel the hungry workers. Please come and lend a hand, have a bite to eat and a bit of fun.

Any enquiries, call Ray on 0424 196 709

Ray Saunders
P&C Maintenance Co-ordinator

School Council News - As a result of our meetings on 7th April and 12 May, we are happy to announce the continuation of a vibrant and active School Council. Many thanks to the parents who nominated for positions: Monique Brunello (President), Michelle Cunningham (Vice President), Amanda Murphy (Secretary), and Lyn Shakeshaft (parent member, Communications). Emma Bedwin and Tim Braham, outgoing President and Vice President, have now retired as voting members but will coordinate our applications for grants so thank you to all.

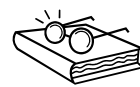
Water tanks and waterless urinals are recent grant submissions and we are also applying for classroom awnings and solar panels in the next round.

In upcoming meetings, the School Council will be discussing the draft Anti-Bullying and Bike and Scooter Policies as well as the School Plan 2009-2011. We are also assisting to coordinate the various school groups' fundraising efforts so that a calendar of events can be made available to parents. With a coordinated effort this year our priority goal is to 'fit out' our new hall. The next School Council meeting is on Tuesday 16th June at 6:30pm in the staff room.

LOST

One pair of prescription eye glasses has been lost from 3/4N classroom. They have purple frames and urgently need to be found.

If anyone knows of their whereabouts please call Michelle on 9456 0665 or come to the school office.



Canteen News - Just to let everyone know that on Friday 19th June the Canteen will NOT be open for normal lunch orders. We will be having a special Hot Dog meal deal for everyone to coincide with the K - 2 Athletics Carnival. A flyer has been sent out shortly to enable you to place your Hot Dog order.

Canteen Roster

Thursday	4/6	K Riolino, M McNally
Friday	5/6	R Persson, A Cornish, V Eliasson
Monday	8/6	Public Holiday
Thursday	11/6	J Anderson, S Miller
Friday	12/6	J Buckle/J Chapman, A Nowell
Monday	15/6	C Watson, L Meli, I Font

Anne, Teresa & the Canteen Committee

Uniform Shop - It seems that everyone has been having a good clean-out lately as we've received a lot of second-hand stuff. However we'd be really grateful if it could be of reasonable quality (no holes, paint etc) so we can sell it and make some money.

That's also why our exchange/refund term is stamped on our receipts. This time of the year, we are unable to refund purchases from 2008 as this should be done within two weeks. Of course, the exception will be made for the school holidays. Because of health regulations, hats are unable to be exchanged.

A special thank you to Merran Griffith who answered our call and donated a vacuum cleaner to the uniform shop.

Opening times: MONDAYS 9-10am and THURS 3-3.45pm.

No cash refunds on returned goods. A cheque will be forwarded to you. If you have any suggestions or comments, please email Alison at allycorn@bigpond.com.

Uniform Shop Roster – copies are at the Uniform Shop.

Thursday	4/6	K Besley, S Bourke, H Anstice
Monday	8/6	Closed—Public Holiday
Thursday	11/6	S Williams, L Trewhella, R Stoner
Monday	15/6	D Allan, S Parker

The Uniform Shop Committee

Community News

The Stanton's Benefit Trivia Night - The Stanton Family ran Berowra newsagents are having a Benefit Trivia Night to raise money for their seriously ill son. Come along for a fun night & help benefit a family in need.

When: Saturday 13th June 7pm for 7:30pm start
 Where: Berowra RSL (courtesy bus available on 9456 1844)
 Cost: \$20 which includes finger food
 Ticket sales: Jeanette 0407 918 653 or Clive 0412 222 484

Asquith Boys High School Variety Night

When: Thursday 11th June 7pm in ABHS hall
 Where: Asquith BHS entrance off Pacific Hwy, Asquith
 Cost: Tickets \$7 or family (4) \$20. Purchase at the door.
 Enquiries: Ph 9477 3508

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 . **Please remember—** .
 . **Money collection days are** .
 . **TUESDAY & THURSDAY ONLY** .
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When sending payments to school, please ensure money is in a signed permission envelope with your child's name and class as well as details clearly legible to enable accurate processing.

All money envelopes are to be handed to the class teacher first thing in the morning for marking off against class lists, except where otherwise advised. Your co-operation is very much appreciated.

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 * **Class Awards** *
 * **Term 2 Week 4 and 5** *

K Red	Lachlan W, Luke S
3B	Sarah P, Jasper W
3S	Ben B, Ryan F, Laura B, Beau J
4/5N	Taylor W, Hannah J
5/6T	Annabelle M, Laura D

Committee Needed

Dear Parents of Berowra Public School

My name is Anne Daniels and I am the treasurer of the P&C as well as one of the canteen supervisors. I have run the last two October Fun Fairs and now along with my canteen colleague, Teresa, would like to hold a Christmas Carols in the school grounds on the 5th of December 2009.

We are hoping to raise money for all our school committees by not only inviting our parents but also the wider community. Ultimately this will be a P&C run event to help decorate our new hall but we are inviting other school committees to benefit also.

If you would like to be involved in the organisation of this event, here are a few options for you: please ring me on 0422 661 360, or leave a message at the office with your name and phone number or come to the canteen on Thursday the 19th of June at 9:30am.

It would be a lovely experience for our school to hold such an event and involve the community – so please bring all your ideas and let's plan this together.

Diary Dates

Week 7		
Queen's Birthday Public Holiday	Monday	8/6/09
Science competition	Wednesday	10/6/09
Drama audition	Wednesday	10/6/09
Area Cross Country	Thursday	11/6/09
Week 8		
SSG meeting in hall	Tues 9:30am	16/6/09
School council meeting	Tuesday 7pm	16/6/09
P&C meeting in BOOSH	Wed 7pm	17/6/09
K-2 Athletics Carnival	Friday	19/6/09
Canteen Hot Dog Day	Friday	19/6/09
Working Bee	Sunday	21/6/09
Week 9		
Spelling & Writing Competitions	Tuesday 7:50am	23/6/09
Recorder group Opera House performance	Wed	24/6/09
Week 10		
Life Education	Tues—Tues	30/6-7/7/09
Interrelate	Tuesday 6-8pm	30/6/09
Pyjama/crazy hair day	Friday	3/7/09
Week 11		
Last day of Term 2	Friday	10/7/09
Term 3 Week 1		
Staff Development Day	Monday	27/7/09
Students resume school	Tuesday	28/7/09
Band excursion	Friday	31/7/09
Week 2		
ICAS English Competition	Tuesday 7:50am	4/8/09
3-6 Athletics Track Carnival	Thursday	6/8/09

Pertussis (Whooping Cough)

What are the symptoms?

- Pertussis usually begins just like a cold, with a runny nose, tiredness and sometimes a mild fever.
- Coughing then develops, usually in bouts, followed by a deep gasp (or "whoop"). Sometimes people vomit after coughing.
- Pertussis can be very serious in small children. They might go blue or stop breathing during coughing attacks and may need to go to the hospital.

Older children and adults may have a less serious illness, with bouts of coughing that continue for many weeks regardless of treatment.

How is it spread?

Pertussis is spread to other people by droplets from coughing or sneezing. Untreated, a person with pertussis can spread it to other people for up to three weeks after onset of cough.

The time between exposure and getting sick is usually seven to ten days, but can be up to three weeks.

Who is at risk?

- Anyone can get pertussis.
- People living in the same household as someone with pertussis are more likely to catch it.

Immunisation greatly reduces your risk of infection, but reinfection can occur.

How is it prevented?

Immunise your child on time

- The vaccine does not give lifelong protection against pertussis, and protection is sometimes incomplete.
- Children need to be immunised at two, four and six months.
- Boosters are needed at four years of age and again at 15 years of age.

Immunisation is available through general practitioners and some local councils.

Keep your baby away from people who cough

Babies need two or three vaccinations before they are protected. For this reason, it is very important to keep people with coughing illnesses away from your baby so they don't pass on pertussis or other germs.

Get immunised if you are an adult in close contact with small children

A vaccine for adults is available. It is recommended:

For both parents when planning a pregnancy, or as soon as the baby is born

For adults working with young children, especially health care and child care workers

If you have pertussis:

Get treated early while infectious, avoid other people and stay away from young children, eg, at child care centres, pre-school and school.

For further information

Contact your doctor, local public health unit or community health centre. Northern Sydney/Central Coast

Hornsby 9477 9400

Gosford 4349 4845

NOTE YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

Sent Out	Subject	Students Involved	Response Due By
27/5/09	Canberra exc	Year 5 & 6	11/6/09
27/5/09	Shopping Tour	K—6	ASAP
27/5/09	AEDI checklist	Kindergarten	ASAP
3/6/09	Water usage	K—6	-
3/6/09	Pertussis – Whooping Cough	K—6	-

BRAG BOX

Rachel S from 6G is the 11 years girls Age Champion and has been awarded the 2008/2009 Sportsmanship Award at Berowra RSL Swimming Club.



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The Mystery of the Missing Water

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We would like you to help us solve a mystery.

We are confused and concerned about the school's water usage over the past five years. Up until the middle of 2007, water usage was steady at an average of between 1500 and 1900 litres a day. In these times of water shortages and growing concern about the sustainability of our environment, this figure in itself is a concern. But it gets worse.

There was a sudden and dramatic spike in water consumption starting in the second half of 2007. Water usage became much more erratic, and much greater. Average usage figures since that time have ranged between 3000 litres a day and 6500 litres a day.

A more recent survey of daily usage undertaken by the wonderful environmental sleuths of 3/4N has discovered some even more disturbing data. Water usage actually rose dramatically over the last school holidays. More than 10 000 litres of water was used on nearly every day, even though there was nobody on site. How could this be?

Where is our water going?

Several possible solutions have been put forward. One obvious answer is that we have a major leak. The problem with this explanation is that water loss from a leak should be constant. It would not account for sudden and dramatic spikes. The other explanation that springs to mind- and one I fervently hope is wrong- is that we have been the victims of water theft. I hope that the answer to the conundrum is something other than theft, and something that can be easily fixed.

Two costs

Quite apart from the environmental costs, the monetary cost to the school are considerable. At the current rate of consumption, the school's water rate bill this year will be between \$4000 and \$5000 when it should be considerably less than \$1000. We need to solve this problem.

How can you help?

We are asking our school community to help us solve the mystery. We are asking you to do the following things.

1. Watch out for leaks (both leaking taps and patches of boggy ground in dry weather which may point to a broken pipe).
2. Keep an eye on the school during weekends and holidays and report any suspicious activity (especially hoses and trucks with water tanks!).

Think about the problem and let us know if you can think of any other possible solution to the problem that we can then investigate.