



# Berowra

## Public School

# The Crest

Wednesday 4th March, 2009  
Term 1 Week 6

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

### No more bullying at BPS

Bullying is a problem that has existed in schools for as long as schools have existed. It is also, worryingly, a problem that pervades our society- among children and among adults. It is a form of human behaviour in which a (thankfully) very small minority of people seem to need to indulge, perhaps in an attempt to boost their own self-esteem. Tragically, it seems many bullies do not recognise their own behaviour as bullying.

None of this, though, can excuse bullying behaviour at Berowra Public School. Every member of our school community deserves the chance to be happy and to feel secure at school.

The term bullying is often misused. Bullying is not simply an act of isolated violence, or isolated rudeness or aggression. Much behaviour that is reported as bullying is actually simply violence or harassment, and on investigation is sometimes even proved to be retaliation after being bullied. It goes without saying that retaliation to violence or aggression with violence or aggression is certainly not acceptable. Not only is it a very unproductive strategy, it puts the victim on the same level as the original perpetrator. Two wrongs don't make a right.

So what is bullying? True bullying involves repeated attacks (physical, verbal and/or psychological) in which the perpetrator uses a position of power to cause distress in others for their own gain or gratification. Fortunately, bullying is relatively rare, but it can be very destructive for both bully and victim. Research has shown that child bullies often grow into adult bullies, displaying higher rates of domestic violence and criminal behaviour. Some victims of bullying can also suffer long-term health consequences.

How can we stop bullies? Education, clear consequences and a partnership between home and school are the essential ingredients of a successful anti-bullying strategy. Our Student Welfare Policy includes a well thought out anti-bullying policy. This year we will be strongly enforcing that policy, and we will also run a comprehensive anti-bullying program at the school. I will be asking for input from our parent bodies regarding these measures, and a survey is included with this Crest through which your views may be heard.

If we work together we can minimise the blight of bullying at BPS, and make our school a safe haven for learning for all members of our school community.

### Bilston Lane

I know that there is a strong desire on the part of the community for vehicle access through the school to be opened up again. I have looked closely at the situation, and have taken advice from Assets Management Unit. Unfortunately, the Department of Education and Training does not own all of the land that the 'lane' occupies, as it passes through private property at the Balaclava Road end. Given this, it is not feasible (or legal) for us to allow vehicles to go all the way through, and of course nor is it safe to have vehicles turn around and go back out. The area is not wide enough for two lanes, and this would cause a major safety issue. Therefore, regrettably, Bilston Lane will not be reopened. I apolo-

gise on behalf of the Department for any inconvenience that this may cause.

Given this, we must now turn our attention to the significant safety concerns that remain about traffic control in the streets around the school. I have begun discussions with Departmental officers about the possibility of installing a turning bay in High Street. The School Council will be working with Hornsby Council over this and other safety measures.

### Swimming Carnival

What an excellent event! I was very impressed with the way the carnival was run, and with the effort and behaviour of the children. Congratulations not only to the winners, but to everyone who took part and tried their hardest. Thank you also to Miss Glare, whose organisation ensured that everything ran like clockwork, and to all our staff and parent helpers.

### Surveys

Today's Crest includes two surveys. One is a Parent Satisfaction Survey, which will help us to plan future directions for the school. The other is the Parent Survey on Bullying. It is important that we get a full return on both surveys so the results truly represent your views, and we will be moving in the right direction. Please take a few minutes to complete both surveys, and return them to the school as soon as possible. I will publicise the results before the end of term.

John Barwick  
Principal

**LIBRARY NEWS** - It's good to see so many children enthusiastic about borrowing books. Thank you parents for your support of the Book Club. It enabled us to accrue points during the year and then to spend them to keep our resources up to date and to acquire new and exciting books.

A thousand thanks to Ms Natasha Steele and Mrs Sarah Williams for running our Book Club again this year. You are amazing! All the time and effort you put in to make it run so efficiently. Please remind children to bring their library bags on their Library Day. It does really help to keep the books in good condition.

Jennie Smith

## **POSITIONS VACANT**

The P&C currently has two positions vacant for 2009:

### **Maintenance Officer**

This involves coordinating several working bees throughout the year and liaising with the staff as to which jobs take priority.

### **Public Relations Officer**

This involves promoting the school within the local community and liaising with local papers to inform them of special events or outstanding achievements

If you are interested or require more information please contact  
Karen Bird 9456 4916

**DRAMA NEWS** - We will be again having Drama classes on Wednesdays, between recess and lunch, for the Junior and Senior groups. Children are expected to make up any class work that they miss while at Drama. We have to really get busy if we are to enter the Sydney North Drama Festival again this year. Auditions for both Senior and Junior Drama groups were held this Wednesday at lunchtime.

Jennie Smith

**HOUSE SPORT - Most Valued Players**

Congratulations to the following M.V.P.'s for 20/2/09

<u>Juniors</u>	<u>Seniors</u>
Rhian D	Kristy B
Courtney T	Courtney M
Brendon W	Natasha M
Trey S	Jennifer S
	Harry F
	Bradley M

Well done to these students. A great start to school sport for this year!

**SPECTRA CHALLENGE** - Once again all students at BPS from Years 1-6 have the opportunity to be involved in the SPECTRA Awards Program. SPECTRA (Science Program Exciting Children Through Research Activities) is a national program organised by the Australian Science Teachers Association. It is a series of science activities that may include practical and observational activities, visits, research and experimental work. It aims to stimulate and maintain interest in science.

There are two levels, Junior SPECTRA for students in Years 1-4 and Senior SPECTRA for Years 4-6 (Year 4 students can decide which level topics they would like to study). Students complete activities related to their chosen topic at home and return their projects to school to be marked.

Students work to complete enough activities to be awarded an attractively designed and nationally recognised badge and certificate.

The following topics are being offered this year:

**Junior SPECTRA**

Science in the Home	Flying in the Sky
Designed Things	Rocks and Minerals
World Around Us	Science in the Bush
Rain, Hail or Shine	Science on the Move
Inventing Things	By the Sea
Plants and Animals	The Sound of Science
Pets and Gardens	Science in freshwater
Time on your Hands?	Finding out about Ourselves

**Senior SPECTRA**

The Oceans and Us	The Natural Environment - (Environmental Science)
Sounds Around Us	Aeroplanes and Aerodynamics
Exploring Time	Earth Science (Geology)
Water! Water! Everywhere	Growing Plants (Horticulture)
Energy	Weather (Meteorology)
The World Around Us (Biodiversity)	Energy (Physics)
Plant Earth (Ecology)	Animals (Zoology)
Electronics	Stars and Plants (Astronomy)
Technology (Engineering)	Plants (Botany)
Bugs and Beetles (Entomology)	Chemical Processes
Home Chemistry	

Junior SPECTRA students need to complete three activities on their topic card, whereas Senior SPECTRA students need to complete activities on their topic card worth 20 stars. Students have until the end of Term 3 to complete their projects. Teachers have copies of all the topic cards. They can also be viewed on the ASTA website—<http://www.asta.edu.au/freestylers/files/SPECTRA%20KIT.pdf>. To be involved in this exciting challenge, students need to hand in the signed permission slip, together with payment of \$9.00 no later than Thursday 2nd April, 2009. Payment covers the cost of administering the program.

Mrs Jenny Naylor - SPECTRA Coordinator

**Diary Dates**

<b>Week 6</b>		
Zone Swimming Carnival	Wednesday	4/3/09
<b>Week 7</b>		
Stewart House Bag return by	Friday	13/3/09
<b>Week 8</b>		
School Support meeting 9:30 Hall	Tuesday	17/3/09
School Council meeting 7pm BOOSH	Tuesday	17/3/09
P&C meeting 7pm BOOSH	Wednesday	18/3/09
Selective High School test	Thursday	19/3/09
Harmony Day	Friday	20/3/09
<b>Week 11</b>		
Last day of term	Thursday	9/4/09
<b>Term 2 Week 1</b>		
Staff Development Day	Tuesday	28/4/09
Students return for Term 2	Wednesday	29/4/09
<b>Week 2</b>		
Stage 3 CARES excursion	Monday	4/5/09
Stage 3 CARES excursion	Tuesday	5/5/09

**SPECTRA CHALLENGE**

I give permission for my child \_\_\_\_\_ of class \_\_\_\_\_ to be involved in the 2009 SPECTRA Challenge.

Level\*: Junior / Senior (please circle)

Topic Chosen\*: \_\_\_\_\_

I have enclosed **\$9.00** for the cost of the program.

\* Please note that projects cannot be ordered without these sections of the permission slip completed.

Parent/Guardians Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**BAND NEWS** - Congratulations to all Training band members who have had their first band rehearsal, great to see such enthusiasm and fantastic playing from everyone! Parents are always welcome to band rehearsals and performances. Our normal Concert band rehearsal on Tuesday was postponed until Thursday due to the swimming carnival. I hope everyone enjoyed the event and there were many records broken. Most Concert band musicians remembered the Thursday rehearsal, so well done. New Concert band members are really working hard and I can tell that many have been practising. Please ask your tutor if you are struggling with the music. Any questions or queries Amanda Gillard 9456 2908 or bpsband@iinet.net.au

Below are the band parents who are on duty at rehearsal over the next 2 weeks.

Concert Band	Week 6	March 10 <sup>th</sup>	TBA
	Week 7	March 17 <sup>th</sup>	Julie Green
Training Band	Week 6	March 11 <sup>th</sup>	Michelle Walters
	Week 7	March 18 <sup>th</sup>	Leanne Meli

**Powerplay II** have some new members this year, they are: Alice on guitar, Liana on drums and Lachlan on guitar. Welcome and well done.

**Amplifire** (parent rock band) and **Distant Thunder** will be playing at Wideview Public School for the Apex Victorian Bushfire Appeal concert on Saturday March 28, 7.30 pm. Snags and soft drinks will be on sale from 6.30pm, children welcome as there will be a free jumping castle. Ticket enquiries contact Garth Stevens 9456 0089.

**BUS SHOPPING TOUR** - The factory outlet bus shopping tour will be on Saturday 26th September 2009. Enjoy a day out shopping and have lunch without the kids and raise funds for our school. There will be more information as the date gets closer but still note this date on your calendar. All enquiries to Bronwyn Mills on 9456 3962.

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**Class Awards**  
**Term 1 Week 4 & 5**

3B	Ben C, Tia M, Isabella S, Troy A
3S	Trinity H, Aaron M, Daniel H, Sandra M
3/4N	Peter S, Jordan P, Francesca K
4S	Benjamin K, Nikala W, Nicholas S, Jade S
4/5N	Jeremy F, Megan F, Ryan C, Rhys C
5/6T	Bethany H, Harry C, Mitchell G, Charlie P, Tara K

**UNIFORM SHOP** - OK, hands up who still has a REP shirt at home? Could everyone who ever borrowed one please check as we are still missing some from last year and we need them back for the rep teams again. Much appreciated.

The Committee also had a meeting and decided to keep the socks at the current price, which is at cost. These are one of the few things that we don't make a profit on just to help ease the financial burden of having kids. There are also some more socks on order that should arrive soon.

Opening times: MONDAYS 9-10am and THURS 3-3.45pm  
Order & payment forms are available from the office, BOOSH and the shop. No cash refunds on returned goods as a cheque will be forwarded to you.

If you have any suggestions or comments, please email Alison at allycorn@bigpond.com.

Roster (copies at the Uniform Shop)

Thursday	5/3	K Besley, S Bourke, H Anstice
Monday	9/3	S McCabe, V Eliasson, J McKendrick
Thursday	12/3	S Williams, L Trehwella, R Stoner
Monday	16/3	D Allan, S Parker, V Gordon
Thursday	19/3	B Bromfield, J Chalmers, L Tutton

The Uniform Shop Committee

**Berowra Public School**  
**Umbrellas & Recipe Books**  
**YES, YES, YES**

We do still have a limited number of umbrellas and plenty of the very popular recipe books available for sale. The Berowra Public School umbrellas are perfect for this lovely weather we've been having!

The umbrellas come in black with our Berowra Public School crest in gold on two panels. The umbrellas are Australian made with a 12 month frame guarantee.

To order either product, please fill in the form below and return to the school office along with cash or a cheque only (made payable to the BPS Support Group). (DO NOT include any other payments)

Any queries, please contact Sarah Williams on 0412999101.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

	Price	Quantity	Total
<b>Small Manual Folding Umbrella</b>	\$15.00	_____	\$_____
<b>Large Golf Umbrella</b>	\$20.00	_____	\$_____
<b>Recipe Book</b>	\$18.00	_____	\$_____
<b>Total</b>			\$_____

Many thanks for your support from The School Support Group

**CANTEEN NEWS** - We would like to thank Ned Bird so much for painting our canteen in his free time. It looks beautiful and so much cleaner. We really appreciate your hard work.

**Roster**

Thursday	5/3	J Anderson, S Miller, K Riolino
Friday	6/3	A Nowell
Monday	9/3	T Manti, T Liquete
Thursday	12/3	F Minto, L Tutton, M McNally
Friday	13/3	J Buckle/J Chapman, V Eliasson
Monday	16/3	C Watson, L Meli

**STEWART HOUSE** - The Stewart House Clothing Appeal bags are being sent home today. This will be a good opportunity to clean out the wardrobes. Please return your filled bags to the Lost Property room by Friday 13th March. Only clean wearable clothing please. Extra bags are available at the office.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Norman Lindsay Festival of Children's Literature** - Come & enjoy talks for children & adults featuring Andy Griffiths, Emily Rodda, Libby Gleeson, Anna Fienberg, Deborah Abela & more. Storytelling, bushwalks, face painting, music & plenty of food. Norman Lindsay Gallery, Faulconbridge, Sat 28/3 & Sun 29/3. Bookings 4784 3832. Program [www.nsw.nationaltrust.org.au](http://www.nsw.nationaltrust.org.au)

**An Evening with Andy Griffiths** at Pennant Hills Library, cnr Ramsay & Yarrara Rds, 6-7pm. Book signing after the session. Come & celebrate the launch of the third book in the 'Schooling Around' series, 'Mascot Madness!'. Books available at \$15. Event is free but bookings are essential. Call 9847 6738.

**MONEY COLLECTION DAYS**

Please note that money collection days at Berowra Public School are **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays only**. All payment envelopes are to be handed to the class teacher in the morning. Correct money is appreciated. Please do not hand payments in after school. Handing money into the office may result in confusion and your child's name not being marked off as paid. Thank you for your cooperation.

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