



BERKELEY WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Nolan St, Berkeley 2506

P.O. Box 56 Berkeley

Principal: Mr A. Attard

September 24, 2025



From The Principal's Desk

Upcoming Events

- Fri 26 Sept-** Sketchie PBL Reward Disco Day!
- Last day of Term 3– students may be out of school uniform today– disco-inspired mufti may be worn to school– no cost!
- 2.30pm Whole school assembly– all welcome!
- Mon 29 Sept-** School holidays– have a great break!!
- Tues 14 Oct-**
- Mon 13 Oct-** 'Pupil Free Day'- Teachers only return to school today
- Tues 14 Oct-** All students K-6 return to school for the start of Term 4
- Wed 15 Oct-** Camp Quality Puppet Show at school– no cost– permission note on School Bytes required
- Fri 17 Oct-** 2.15pm Whole school assembly
- Fri 24 Oct-** 2.30pm Whole school assembly– all welcome!
- Wed 29 Oct-** Mini Olympics day at Illawarra Sports High School for all Year 6 students going to ISHS next year– permission note required– no cost
- Thurs 30 Oct-** Years 5 & 6 leaving for Bathurst
- Fri 31 Oct-** Years 5 & 6 return from Bathurst
- Wed 5 Nov-** Book Fair Student viewing day
- Wed 5, Thurs 6 & Fri 7 Nov-** Year 6 First Nations Students transition visits to Illawarra Sports High– permission note required– no cost
- Fri 7 Nov-** 2.30pm Whole school assembly– all welcome!

Remember-School starts at 8.55am everyday!!!!

School Holidays

This is the last school newsletter for this term.

All students return to school on Tuesday 14 October. Until then, have a safe and enjoyable Spring break with your family!

Kindergarten Orientation 2026 – Welcome to the Berkeley West Family!

We're excited to welcome our newest learners and their families to Berkeley West Public School for Kindergarten in 2026!

Our Kindergarten Orientation program is a wonderful way for children to explore their new learning environment, meet their teachers, make new friends, and experience some of the fun activities that school life has to offer.

Parents and carers will also have the opportunity to meet school staff, learn more about our school values, daily routines, and how we support every child's learning and wellbeing.

We're proud of our warm, inclusive community and can't wait to help your child feel confident and ready for their exciting start to school life at Berkeley West.

More information about our Orientation sessions will be shared with families this term.

To enrol online for Kindergarten next year click this link-



<https://ehub.enrol.education.nsw.gov.au/schoolenrolment/?schoolCode=4180>

We look forward to seeing you at our Kinder Orientation!

Student Spotlight: Pixie's Creativity and Curiosity

At Berkeley West Public School, we take pride in recognising and nurturing the diverse talents of our students. One of our high potential learners, Pixie, demonstrates outstanding creativity, critical thinking, and a remarkable gift for language.



Pixie's expressive and receptive vocabulary places her in the top percentile for her age, and she has an impressive knowledge of the world around her. Her curiosity and concentration allow her to grasp new ideas quickly and explore them in depth. When engaged in areas of interest, Pixie is intrinsically motivated and thrives on opportunities to take control of her learning.

Her love of creative projects shines through in the stories she writes and the craft projects she designs, where her imagination and skill combine beautifully. At Berkeley West, we support Pixie's talents by providing opportunities for choice, challenge, and creative exploration—ensuring she continues to be inspired and extended in her learning.

Pixie is a wonderful example of how our school identifies high potential students and provides the right opportunities for them to grow and shine.

School Uniform

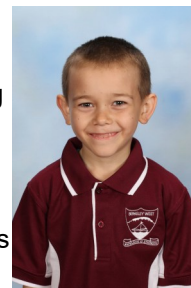
I am a strong advocate for the wearing of school uniforms. Our uniform looks fantastic and we have received many positive comments about it. It is great that most of our students are able to wear their full uniform every day. There are enormous benefits for ensuring all students wear our full school uniform. These include:

- Defining our school identity.
- Developing within our students a sense of belonging to our school community.
- Provides an opportunity to build and enhance 'school spirit'.
- Promotes a sense of inclusiveness, non-discrimination and equal opportunity.
- Enhances the health and safety of students when involved in school activities and excursions.
- Promotes positive community perceptions of our school.
- Makes school clothing more affordable by eliminating the risk of peer pressure to wear current fashions and expensive clothes.

While we appreciate that there are times when children will be out of uniform, it appears we have a small number of students 'electing' not to wear their full uniform. If for any reason a child is not able to wear a uniform, parents should provide a written explanation. We would appreciate it if children could wear appropriate clothing or preferably, clothes similar in colour to our uniform.

Principal's Award

Congratulations to Arlo H for receiving the Principal's Award this week for being a respectful, responsible and safe student at school. Arlo will enjoy a \$4.00 food voucher to spend at the canteen and gets to sit on stage at this Friday's whole school assembly!



Awesome Arlo!!!

Sleep and School-aged Children (5-12 years)

Children aged five to 12 need 10-11 hours of sleep. At the same time, there is an increasing demand on their time from school (e.g., homework), sports and other extracurricular and social activities. In addition, school-aged children become more interested in TV, computers, the media and Internet as well as caffeine products – all of which can lead to difficulty falling asleep, nightmares and disruptions to their sleep. In particular, watching TV close to bedtime has been associated with bedtime resistance, difficulty falling asleep, anxiety around sleep and sleeping fewer hours.

Sleep problems and disorders are prevalent at this age. Poor or inadequate sleep can lead to mood swings, behavioural problems such as hyperactivity and cognitive problems that impact on their ability to learn in school.

Sleep Tips for School-aged Children

- Teach school-aged children about healthy sleep habits.
- Continue to emphasize need for regular and consistent sleep schedule and bedtime routine.
- Make child's bedroom conducive to sleep – dark, cool and quiet.
- Keep TV and computers out of the bedroom.
- Avoid caffeine.

BWPS Staff Shout Out!

As principal, I would like to give a huge shout out of thanks to the fantastic staff at Berkeley West Public School. Whether they are teaching or non-teaching, the staff at our school do an amazing job everyday in providing the quality learning environments that sometimes doesn't get the thanks it should.

Our office and support staff work tirelessly to keep the school and programs ticking along, and us teachers in line. They are often the front line for visitors, phone calls, one on one student support, maintaining the facilities, budgeting, finance and correspondence in and out of the school. Quite simply, we could not do our job without them

Everyday our BWPS teachers not only do the best at what they get paid to do, teach, but they provide so many additional opportunities for our students that they don't get paid for, that take huge amounts of time to organise and plan. This is their personal time that they give away from their own families and friends that make your child's learning experience the best it can be.

Whether it be Southern Stars, PSSA gala days, Book Week parades, school excursions and camps, swimming carnivals, swim school, Easter Hat parades, Breakfast program, Book Club, Public Speaking program, Book fair, Mother's/ Father's Day afternoons, athletics & cross-country carnivals, Premier's Reading Challenge, and the list goes on..... they do it with goodwill, for the students not looking for thanks.

Remember also, many schools, much larger than ours, have many more staff to provide these extra-curricula opportunities. Our teachers provide the same opportunities, if not more than others, by taking more than one project. This, combined with the fact that the same small number of teachers put their hands up to do additional playground duties to support the students in the playground says it all. They get less break time during the day, to support the students with their interactions in the playground to make it more enjoyable for all.

Well, this is just a chance for me as a fellow teacher, who just happens to be the principal, to say....THANKYOU!

I appreciate everything you do.



Thankyou Amanda!

A huge thankyou to parent Amanda James (and her little assistant!) for giving up her own time last week to come into the school grounds during the school day to spruce up and revitalise our veggie patches. It was great to see her get lots of help from the students at lunch time too, prepping garden beds and planting. The veggie patches look great and we can't wait to see how things grow!

Thankyou so much Amanda!

PLAYSTRONG PLAYGROUP
BERKELEY WEST
for children birth - 5

FREE Fridays, 9.00am - 11.00am
(During school term)
Located at Berkeley West Public School community room
Please bring a hat and healthy morning tea
For more information contact - 0439 648 778

Our Playstrong program is supported by friendly experienced and trained staff. Playgroup provides a variety of activities to promote and enhance the early learning and wellbeing of our children. Parents and carers have the opportunity to meet other adults in a welcoming and relaxed setting.

Play Craft Stories
Outdoor activities
Puzzles Music

Play Strong P
NSW

Class	Student of the Fort-night	Reason
KR	Harvey Schutz	For participating with enthusiasm and sharing his thinking during number talks.
1/2B	Briella Cooper	Working well with fractions in mathematics.
1/2W M	Pixie Fraser	For improved effort and application in the classroom this term.
3/4J	Hayley Micalciff	For increased attendance and following her attendance plan
3/4M	Layali Al Hadlani	For demonstrating enthusiasm and confidence when exploring tessellations in mathematics.
5/6B	Alwyn Tinelt	For demonstrating confidence when contributing to class discussions on the topic of perspectives in our book <i>Worse Things</i> .
5/6M	Braxton Cook	For his increased participation and thoughtful insights during class discussions.



South Coast PSSA Regional Athletics

Congratulations to Curtis (1500m), Braxton (800m and 1500m) and William (discus) who competed against students from across the South Coast at the regional athletics carnival in Week 7.



Stage 2 and 3 Touch Football Gala Day

Well done to our stage 2 and 3 students who attended the Touch Football Gala Day in Week 9. Many of our students were attending a sports event with other schools for the first time and our teachers were very impressed with everyone's outstanding behaviour and effort.

Thank you Miss Midgley, Mrs Saliji and Mrs Tompkins for attending and refereeing many games.

Ms Whyte
Sports Coordinator

