



BERKELEY WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Nolan St, Berkeley 2506
P.O. Box 56 Berkeley
Dharawal Land
Principal: Mr A. Attard

Wednesday 30 July, 2025



From The Principal's Desk

Upcoming Events

- Fri 1 Aug-** 2.15pm Whole school assembly in hall—
Class 1/2B item— All welcome!
- Mon 4 Aug-** Southern Stars rehearsal at Berkeley
Sports Stadium
- Tues 5 Aug-** Education Week Open Day— see program
in this newsletter
- Wed 6 Aug-** Illawarra Sports High School 'STRIVE
Class applications due in to Berkeley
West PS today (for students who were
given applications)
- Thurs 7 Aug-** 4pm Aboriginal Education Consultative
Group (AECG) meeting at Warrawong
Public School— all welcome
- Mon 11 Aug-** 2025 'Bullying No Way' Week
commences
- Wed 13 Aug-** K-2 Excursion to Wollongong Art gallery

Yangaa Garaba rehearsal for Southern
Stars
- Fri 15 Aug-** 2.15pm Whole school assembly in hall—
Class 3/4M item— All welcome!
- Wed 20 Aug-** 2025 Book Week Parade— see separate
note sent home

Welcome back!

Welcome back for Term 3. Term 3 is a 10 week term
concluding on Friday 26 September.

As always keep in touch with what's going on at school
through all communication channels including this
newsletter, your child's teachers' class Dojo app,
School Bytes and our Facebook page.

Bright Beginnings in Kindergarten!

At Berkeley West Public School, we take pride in
recognising and nurturing the potential of our students
from their earliest years. One of our standout
Kindergarten students, Wes Bailey, is
already showing remarkable promise,
especially in literacy and numeracy.

Wes is a highly engaged and
independent learner who delights in
making connections between classroom
learning and the world around him. His
ability to quickly grasp new concepts
and think critically has seen him working



above grade level in English and Mathematics.
Whether it's noticing patterns, reading fluently, or
solving complex number problems, Wes approaches
learning with enthusiasm and curiosity.

To ensure his talents continue to flourish, our school
has implemented a tailored learning plan for Wes. This
includes guided writing sessions, hands-on numeracy
challenges, and small-group learning opportunities
designed to match his capabilities and keep him
engaged.

Wes's journey is a wonderful example of how our
school supports high potential and gifted education
(HPGE) from the start—offering personalised pathways
so that every student can thrive.

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/schoolenrolme
nt/?schoolCode=4180](https://ehub.enrol.education.nsw.gov.au/schoolenrolme nt/?schoolCode=4180)

We look forward to seeing you at our Kinder
Orientation!



Win one of three \$100 school uniform store credits!

Berkeley West Public School is committed to continuous improvement. Starting today families will be able to provide their feedback through a simple school survey. You can submit your opinions with the click of the mouse or screen from home! We will also email the link home to all parents via their email addresses they have provided to our school or complete the survey here-

Go to <https://forms.gle/X5dRcLMYYTtk5Dy78>

The survey only takes a short while to complete. The surveys seek feedback on a number of school management areas as well as curriculum. The school will use this feedback by parents, students and staff to make continuous improvements at Berkeley West Public School.

Everyone who completes the survey goes into the draw to possibly win one of three \$100 uniform store credits to spend at our uniform shop! Only one survey response required per family.

Winners will be announced at the whole school assembly later this term on Friday 12 September.

Internet Safety

Encourage and support your children with their use of the internet. Teach them to make the right decisions and increase the levels of responsibility as children get older. You can access information about internet safety through the Federal Government's website at www.esafety.gov.au/parents.

If you feel that your children have more knowledge and confidence than you when using the internet, you may be right. There are some simple ways of addressing this.



What you can do as a parent:

- Talk to your family about the importance of staying in safe sites online.
- Ensure that you have safety software installed on your computer; your internet service provider will be able to help you with this.
- Set up house rules for the use of the internet and, where possible, have the computer in view so that you can monitor its use.
- Check out safe sites for your children and bookmark them.
- Use filters to limit accidental access to unsuitable material.
- Limit email correspondence to a list of family and friends.
- Emphasise and discuss safe online behaviour.
- Investigate any chat rooms or online clubs that your child may want to use to ensure that they are legitimate.

Use family-friendly search engines designed for children.

The internet can be a great tool for research and fact-

finding if used correctly. The best approach is to sit with your child and help them through the wealth of information which is available at their fingertips.

EDUCATION WEEK OPEN DAY 2025- Tuesday 5 August- 'Ignite the potential!'

Attached is the program of events planned for our Education Week Open Day to be celebrated next week on Tuesday 5 August. Hopefully you can find time to come and visit our school on our Open Day.

Time	Activity	Description
9.15-11.00 am	K-6 Public Speaking Finals 	Come along to the school hall to watch and listen to our school public speaking finalists and celebrate our student Education Week Award winners. Also be entertained by our choir and a few talented students we have at our school!
11:00 am-12:00 pm	Lunch 	The P&F will be holding a sausage sizzle please pre-order your sausage sandwiches on the order form sent home by the P&F and return to the school "drop-box" in the front office by the due date
12.00 - 1.00 pm	'Open Classroom's'- Maths Games 	Visit your child's classroom and join in some fun maths games with your child and the rest of the class

Maths Tip!

You can help your child at home by involving them in mathematical activities and talking to them about maths and its everyday use.

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Physical Fitness

At Berkeley West Public School we value the promotion of an active lifestyle. All students are encouraged to participate in activities that get the heart racing as well as getting the body moving. Recent research has outlined that children are becoming less likely to be active, and together with an inappropriate diet, this can lead to weight issues, as well as a decrease in self-esteem and confidence. As teachers, we are aware of the importance of promoting both a healthy diet as well as an active lifestyle within our curriculum.

Our Physical Education program encourages students to participate in active sessions, working at their own level. Students are taught skills such as throwing, catching, kicking and are then



provided with opportunities to practice and consolidate these. Skill sessions are balanced with games that promote the fun of being involved, as well as giving students a chance to put their new skills into practice. As students get older, the skills are linked to major games such as netball and cricket. Students then have the opportunity to participate in sport sessions where aspects such as team play and good sporting behaviour are promoted and enhanced.

At Berkeley West Public School we value the fact that all students are different. Not all of us will become elite sportspeople and be able to demonstrate flawless skills. Our curriculum focuses upon the 'having a go' nature of active living, as well as setting your own personal goals to achieve.

As parents, it is important that you encourage your child to always participate in school events. By supporting their efforts and celebrating their own personal improvements or goals, you are assisting them to seek out an active lifestyle where they can succeed at their own level.

Student Assistance

If you require assistance meeting expenses related to your child's education e.g. excursions or uniforms, you are welcome to call the school and ask to speak with the Principal Mr Attard. You will always be assisted! :)

Smoke Alarms

The following information is taken from the home smoke alarms fact sheet at the NSW Fire Brigades website at www.fire.nsw.gov.au

Fact

NSW legislation stipulates that residents must have at least one working smoke alarm (sometimes mistakenly referred to as "smoke detectors") installed on each level of their home. This includes owner-occupied, rental properties, relocatable homes or any other residential building where people sleep.

Smoke alarms are life-saving devices that provide benefits for occupants. They detect smoke well before any sleeping occupant would and provide critical seconds to implement actions to save life and property.

Smoke alarms are designed to detect fire smoke and emit a loud and distinctive sound to alert occupants of potential danger.

The legislation refers to residential accommodation across NSW and requires the installation of one or more smoke alarms in buildings in which people sleep, smoke alarms installed in such buildings must be operational, and people must not remove or interfere with the operation of smoke alarms installed in such buildings.

Helping Your Child with Spelling and Reading (The Magic 200 Words)

In Term 2 we published the first 32 of the "Magic 200" words for students to practice reading and spelling, particularly grades K-2. Now it's time for the next 32! Did you know that around only 200 words make up, on average, over one half of all reading? Many of these words can't be sounded out and rely simply on practice, practice, practice! If your child can read and spell these words quickly and accurately, their enjoyment, confidence and success in reading and

spelling tasks is greatly enhanced. Playing games like memory or match will make learning these words more enjoyable.

The next 32 to practice are-

about	their	want	which
get	just	been	come
my	or	she	look
came	will	who	an
like	much	could	go
our	some	up	no
from	well	back	can
must	only	has	little

Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2026-2030

Wollongong City Council wants your ideas for disability inclusion

Wollongong City Council is making a new Disability Inclusion Action Plan and wants to hear from people with lived experience of disability. This includes children, young people, families, carers, support workers, and school staff. Council wants to know what helps – and what makes it harder – for people with disability to join in, access services, and feel welcome.

You have until Monday 15 September 2025 to get involved: • Visit our wollongong.nsw.gov.au

- Call 4227 7111
- Email engagement@wollongong.nsw.gov.au

Council would love to hear your ideas! You can also let



them know if you need help to take part.

Taking Kindergarten enrolments for 2026 now!

Apply now online at- <https://ehub.enrol.education.nsw.gov.au/schoolenrolment/?schoolCode=4180>



Student of the fortnight

Class	Student of the Fort-night	Reason
KR	Nabil Taktak	For always being a polite and helpful member of KR.
1/2B	Nasiyah Sa	For a well planned and well presented speech.
1/2WM	Indi-Rose Jackson	For a well prepared & delivered speech
3/4J	Oskar Pratt	For being brave when presenting his speech
3/4M	Charlotte Diaz	For her positive application in class across all key learning areas.
5/6B	Laila Al Hadlani	For settling in well this term and approaching all learning tasks with a positive attitude.
5/6M	Jamaya Kerr	For her consistent application and positive attitude to all areas of her learning.

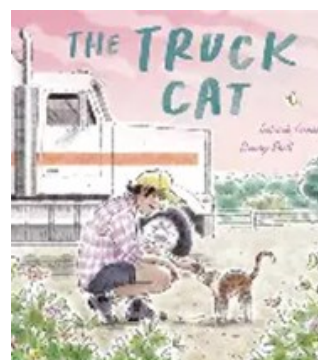
Library News

Thank you to all the students who took part in **The Truck Cat Drawing Competition**, held alongside **National Simultaneous Storytime**.

We loved seeing your creative and fun drawings! Your ideas and artwork made the contest a big success.

Great job to everyone who entered. Keep up the great work with your reading and drawing!

1 st Prize	2 nd Prize	3 rd Prize
Claire 3/4M	Phoenix 3/4 J	Amber 3/4 J
Neveah 1/2 WM	Amelia 1/2 B	Ivy F KR





Let's
Talk

Speak up for disability inclusion

Do you have a disability?

Do you care for or support someone with disability?

We want to hear from you!

We are making a plan to help people with disability feel safe, welcome and included in our community. We want to hear from you about how we can improve public spaces and Council's services and programs.



You can share your ideas:

- Online
- By phone
- In person
- In a way that works for you

Need Easy Read, Auslan or another type of support to take part? We can help.



Talk with us

Scan the QR code or visit our.wollongong.nsw.gov.au

Call us: 4227 7111

Email: engagement@wollongong.nsw.gov.au



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



Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

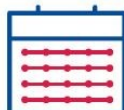
they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

1 day per fortnight
M ~~W~~ T F
M T W T F

=

4 weeks



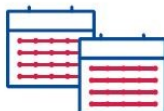
=

Over **1** year missed

1 day per week
M ~~W~~ T F
M T W ~~F~~

=

8 weeks



=

Over **2.5** years missed

education.nsw.gov.au