What a fun day!!! After a pleasant bus trip to Manly we arrived at our destination of the Quarantine Station. We were greeting by our friendly tour guides and after a quick recess we split into two groups and went our separate ways. The children visited old and historic sites such as the gravedigger’s house, quarantine showers and the hospital all while taking in the amazing view of the Sydney Harbour. The children witnessed how different the living styles were. After visiting each site the children were able to construct something they had seen or learnt about out of clay that we were then able to bring home to keep.

Coming Up:

* Yr 2 Performance
Tues 14 Matinee Wed 15 matinee and night

Welcome back to the last term for 2014, and what a great term it will be!

Last term NAPLAN results were given out to parents of students in Year 3 and 5. If you did not receive them please contact the front office as soon as possible. It was exciting to return from leave and look at our school results, congratulations to all students who worked hard to achieve such wonderful results and to all teachers who have worked with these students over their educational schooling.

It is now our responsibility to fully analyse this data, as well as data from other school sources to determine future directions for our school. For areas that may need some improvement we will be looking at programs that can be implemented across stages or the whole school that will specifically addresses these needs. There are many wonderful programs/activities already happening at Berkeley Vale, they will definitely continue, where others may just need to be tweaked and some may need to totally change

It is important for us to hear from you, our community and this process has already commenced. Many parents have been involved in our Community Forum or Focus Groups which were undertaken last term. This term we will be sending our surveys on Literacy and Numeracy; if you are lucky to receive one of these I would like to encourage you to spend a few minutes answering the questions and having your say.

This information will also drive our Strategic Plan for the next 3 years and give us, our school, clear purpose, processes and practices. This is an exciting journey where all staff, students, parents and the wider community work together, thereby meeting the needs of our students.

It is at this time of the year that we also look towards planning for classes 2015, and it is important for the school to have accurate numbers of students who will be at Berkeley Vale Public School next year. If you know that your child will be moving from this school next year or know of any families or Kindergarten student not yet enrolled it is important that we hear from you as soon as possible. This can be done by phone on 43881796, dropping a note into the office or visiting the school personally.

This year we have made some changes in our systems to ensure that we are providing the most effective efficient process possible and with a new Principal changes are inevitable. One such change is that we will not be accepting parent requests for teachers. It is important to remember that we are a school of over 800 students with 32 classes and all teachers at Berkeley Vale are exceptional professional practitioners, all meeting the Department of Education and Communities high standards. Every student at this school is important and will be carefully considered for their specific needs when classes are formed later this year.

We would appreciate parents encouraging their children to leave their necklace at home.

Necklaces
We have a jewellery policy at our school that is part of our uniform policy. In it, we ask students NOT to wear necklaces for safety reasons as these can easily get caught and injure the wearer or another student. Please help us stay safe by ensuring your child leaves their necklace at home.

Darrell Kelman
Deputy Principal

Community Forum
Thank you to those parents, community members and staff who attended the Community Forum earlier last term. With this week’s newsletter you will find the third of a series of four feedback inserts, sharing with our parent community the results of the forum. If you would like to add anything positive please follow the instructions on the insert. We look forward to hearing from you.

Staff Development Day Variation
We have an opportunity to exchange our last day of the year, which is a Staff Development Day (no students), for two evening sessions. This allows us to engage qualified instructors for important CPR and Emergency Care updates at more suitable times. Therefore, staff school will be attending two evening sessions from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. to undertake this training during term four instead of attending on Friday 19 December. This will not affect students as no students are scheduled to attend school on the last Thursday (18/12) and Friday (19/12).

Skateboards
Some of our students are bringing skateboards to school and, to be blunt, they are more trouble than they’re worth. We would appreciate parents encouraging their children to leave the skateboard at home. Thank you.

Food Allergies At School
At Berkeley Vale Public School we have a small number of children who suffer from a life threatening allergic reaction to some foods. Eating minute quantities or being in contact with foods containing peanuts, tree nuts and other nut/egg products through smelling and touching can trigger a severe reaction. Anaphylaxis is a severe rapidly progressive allergic reaction that can be life threatening unless treated immediately. It would be an enormous help if you could assist us with the safety of these children at school by avoiding using peanut and nut/egg products on your child’s recess and lunch. We appreciate and thank you for your cooperation and support in helping to keep the environment safe for all our children. If you have a child who suffers from a life threatening allergic reaction, please contact the school office on 43881305.

It’s All Happening at the Kinder Expo!
Our 2014 Kinder Expo is coming your way on Tuesday 21 October, starting at 9.30am. All Kinder 2015 families, (including grandparents, aunts, uncles and special friends) are invited to join us for this not to be missed sensational and informative outdoor experience right here at Berkeley Vale Public School. There will be loads of information, excellent presenters, a delicious morning tea and lots more. Look out for this week’s newsletter and on our school website (www.berkeleyva.p.schoo.edu.au).

Kinders wanted for 2015 – No experience necessary!
We are now taking enrolments for Kindergarten 2015. To be eligible to enrol in Kindergarten, children must have turned 5 years of age by 31 July 2015. When completing enrolment details for your little boy or girl, our friendly office staff will also need to sight proof of birth (birth certificate) and immunisation details (from Family Assistance Office or Medicare).
Photo Identification - 1990

Attention former students of BVPS

During Term 4 our focus for the photo identification project is 1990. Unfortunately 7 or 8 class photos are missing from our school archives and scanned copies of the missing photos will be needed to complete this task. It appears that all the Kindergarten and Year 1 photos are intact but several photos from other classes are unavailable. The photos from Years 2-6 that ARE available are: 2G, 2M2, 3M2, 3-4PC, 4-5DC, 5-6M and 6A. Missing classes may have been taught by Ms Scully, Mr Ross, Mr O’Connell, Mrs Pont, Mr Standen, Mr Lewis, Mr Burns, Mrs Reescheidt and Mr Gibbs. If you can supply a copy of a missing photo please notify the School Office with contact details so scanning can be organised and the identification of former students can proceed.

This is part of an ongoing project with photos from 1986 - 1993 to be identified prior to the 100 year celebrations planned for 2015. It would be greatly appreciated if former students who have been helping with 1986 in Term 3, returned their efforts as soon as possible.

Many thanks, Nita Pont
Life Member of BVPS P & C

Cake Stall
Thank you to all the helpers who assisted with the fundraising cake stall held last week of Term 3. The stall was a tremendous success and it was lovely to see the genuine sense of community spirit in our school. Over $500 was raised and all of this will be forwarded to the Cancer Council of NSW.

Many thanks again
Deb Hughes

Year 6 Koori Games/Gala Day - Berkeley Vale Campus

As part of our Year 6/7 Transition, all Year 6 students who will be attending Berkeley Vale Campus in 2015 have been invited to attend a Gala Day at the school. This is an excellent opportunity for the students to familiarise themselves with the school and meet teachers and staff.

PBL News

The majority of the students had a wonderful PBL reward day last day of Term 3. The students redeemed their “Swannies” for assorted activities around the school. The day was a huge success both for staff and students.

We are all looking forward to Term 4 reward day.

Year 2 Performance

Year 2 Performance is on next week, Tuesday 14 October at 11:35am and Wednesday 15 October at 11:35am and 7pm.

Tickets are available for purchase from the front office noting that there are only a few single seats available for the night performance. Tickets are $6 adult and $4 child/concession

Thank You Teachers Federation for our new garden!

The CARES Environment Group were thrilled to learn they were successful with their application for a financial grant from the NSW Teachers Federation. The environment group is organised by teachers, Miss Kate Farrugia and Miss Rebecca Varino.

The grant provided funding for the purchase of plants and mulch for a new garden area near our recently completed path located near the CoolZone.

BARBER SHOPPE

Chittaway Shopping Centre
ALL STYLES 0424 179099

The work of two of our talented artists, Abby Hibbert 6D and Makeenze Hali 6B, was displayed at Berkeley Vale Campus Art exhibition late last term.

P & C News

Winners of chocolate sales
The draw for the most sold Nestle fundraising chocolate boxes took place last day of last term. A huge thank you to all families who supported this fundraiser and congratulations to the winners; Finn Rodman 1H, Rubea Fuller 2K, Ben Johnstone 1AR, Anthony Sarantakos KBR and Erin Simons 5C.

Chocolate Drive
All money and/or unsold chocolates need to be returned to the canteen.

You can direct debit your $60 payment to:
BSB 072629 ACC 199674

In the description for payment we need child’s first initial & surname and class please!

uniform shop
Welcome back to Term 4 - All summer stock is available.
Any second hand donations would be greatly appreciated.
Monday 2.00 – 4.45pm
Friday 8.45 – 9.45

Lots of Watts Central Coast
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