Welcome back to another great term. This term we started with our School Development Day at school where staff worked with members of the Inquiry Committee and Christine Freeman from Rumbalara to understand the Geography syllabus in more detail. Staff K-6 then started to write their next Geography unit with an Inquiry focus. This day was followed up by an after school visit to Bulgaundry Aboriginal site at Woy Woy where the Aboriginal Education team from Gosford worked with staff to embed local Aboriginal perspective into their Geography units. Both sessions were wonderful and gave teachers such valuable insight to new ideas and perspectives.

This term started smoothly with many new staff at Berkeley Vale PS. We would like to welcome the following staff who come with a strong student focus on learning and will add great value to your child’s education.

Maree Van der Wielen, Tegan Hyslop, Vanessa O’Hara, Todd Van Epen, Hannah Smith and Ashley Pack.

This term we have started many of our clubs again and added to our selection. Notes for Art, Coding and Futzal will come home with students shortly. We have included an overview of the extra-curricular activities offered weekly at school for your interest which can be found over the page. If you have any questions please do not hesitate in contacting the front office.

This week I would like to acknowledge two of our staff members who have now officially retired. Mr Darrell Keirnan (Deputy Principal) and Mrs Diana Kemp (Class teacher). Both staff members have given so much time, enthusiasm, passion and energy over years to the students and community of Berkeley Vale Public School. There was never an activity or event that either of them did not attend, organise or support. Having been at Berkeley Vale for many years they have taught or worked with so many students, teachers and parents who would join me to thank them for what they have added to this school and the lives of so many people and wish them the very best of luck in their retirement.

Narelle Armour - Principal

**MERIT AWARDS**

Congratulations to the following students:

K-2 Term 1 Week 11:
KA Ava Wakeling, Jimmy Izzard
KH Tullia Dafter, Avery Campbell
KM Alexis Wells, Ava Churchill
KS Ineke Eyles, Indie Nies
1D Brayden Tandy, Haylee Collins
1M Anita Naidu, Mason Pye
1P Ebony Fenton, Finn Walshaw
1S Hayden Buckley, Jarrod McKay
1W Abbey Drenenberg, Brodie Schloeffel
1/2A Lillian Legge, Axel Lennon
2B Payton Tangitu, Owen Oliver
2M Sarah Borg, Cooper Hawkins
2R Kruz Dickinson, Gracie Reilly

**PARTIAL ATTENDANCE CONCERNS**

This year our school continues to have a strong focus on reducing full day and partial day absences. SMS messages have been sent home to students who are absent from school. It would be greatly appreciated if the school receives a response to these. Additionally, if students are arriving late to school parents are required by law to provide the school with an acceptable explanation within seven days of the partial absence. Students who arrive late miss valuable learning time each morning and miss the opportunity to socialise with their friends prior to class. It is not okay to be away.

**ANZAC DAY**

On the last day of Term 1, the Anzac Special Assembly was held to pay respect to those who represented our country during war. It was a fantastic display of patriotism and Australian spirit. The Assembly was run by our school leaders. Our captains Malachi Foster and Isabella Pex, and vice captains Thomas Fitzgerald and Sarah Johnson, spoke incredibly well. The prefects Rubee Fulmer, Bethany Dunlop, Josiah Richter, Kayla McConaghy, Ethan Weatherly and Hunter King, were fabulous organising the stage and flags on the day. Congratulations to Gemma Fletcher and Bella Brown on their very moving poems, written for the service. We were fortunate to have Roy Young, a return serviceman from The Entrance Long Jetty RSL, to give our commemorative address. All children present are to be congratulated on their behaviour during this important occasion. Thank you to the P&C and OOSH for laying wreaths, which were handmade and designed by our school gardener, Ken Freeman.

**ANZAC CEREMONY AT THE ENTRANCE**

We had a good attendance from our school at the Anzac Ceremony at The Entrance on Anzac Day during the holidays. Our students looked terrific as they paid their respects to the servicemen who had gone to war on behalf of our country. Thank you to those parents and students who attended the ceremony on behalf of our school.
**Anzac Day at the Entrance**

We strive to help shape our little humans into the best version of themselves they can be.

Classes Mondays for (Kids) and Thursday (Teens)

To register your interest and for any further details contact us:
Email: info@crossfitplus.com or phone Corey on 0439 339 422

- Incorporates all aspects of fitness
- Fun challenging format
- Children develop habits for a healthy balance lifestyle
- Classes follow school terms

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**CrossFit Kids**

- We strive to help shape our little humans into the best version of themselves they can be.

**Child Protection 2018**

This term during PDHPE lessons, students from K-6 will be participating in mandatory child protection lessons. The units will begin in week 2 and run weekly for the remainder of the term.

If you would like your child to be exempt from these lessons please write a note to your child’s teacher with this request.

**‘Tell Them From Me’ Survey**

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many other public schools in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide us with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. More than 6,300 schools in Australia and around the world have used *Tell Them From Me* to survey 5.4 million students. Capturing the voices of our students will help improve how we do things at our school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours this week and next. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you *do not* want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by Tuesday 8 May 2018. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from: [http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents](http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents)

**Wanted! Cans for Recycling**

The SRC is collecting cans to fundraise for our school. If you would like to donate cans please secure them in a labelled bag (name and class of student and number of cans). Please place outside 6P classroom on Wednesdays for collection. Prizes will be awarded to students based on the number of cans they donate. The SRC will greatly appreciate any donations.

**Code Club for Stage 3**

We will be offering a Code club for students in Stage 3 during Term 2. The club will be held on Wednesday afternoons from 3.10—4pm beginning in Week 3. A note will be sent home to Stage 3 students this week.

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**Extra Curricula Activities - Term 2**

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<th>Monday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ms Ravelli / Miss Gray</td>
<td>Chess Mr Van Epen</td>
<td>Elite Dance (Hall)</td>
<td>Public Speaking workshops</td>
<td>Senior Choir</td>
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<td>Debating</td>
<td>Debating Ms McKay</td>
<td>Ms Bowder</td>
<td>Stage 3</td>
<td>Stages 2 &amp; 3</td>
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<td>Intermediate Dance - Hall</td>
<td>NAIDOC Dance Group</td>
<td>Ms Schumacher</td>
<td>Ms Gray</td>
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<td>Ms McConaghy / Ms Allen</td>
<td>Ms Ravelli</td>
<td>Drama - Cottage</td>
<td>WakaKiri Dance</td>
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<td>Koori Choir K</td>
<td>SRC</td>
<td>Term 2 - Stage 2</td>
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<td>Ms Wright</td>
<td>Leadership Writing Club - Ms Simpson</td>
<td>Yoga - Hall K-6</td>
<td>Senior Dance - Hall</td>
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<td>Coding Club Library</td>
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<td>Art Club Yrs 3-6 KA</td>
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