

Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to extend another "thank you" to each and every one of you for the wonderfully calm response to the confusing and even conflicting media coverage around us.

We appreciate the trust and sensible communications we have had with our families. We are operating in a very new and ever-changing time, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Schools remain operational for families who need to access them.**

The Premier, Gladys Berejikilian, has suggested that NSW parents keep children at home if this is possible. She reported that the advice from health authorities had shifted to say that children should be kept home. Therefore, it is your decision whether you need to send your child to school each day.

Our latest information is that; classes will take place across NSW for the next three weeks. The Premier explained that the reason for keeping schools open is because some parents are required for other essential services in our community. Children who present at school will not be turned away.

At Bomaderry Public School we are preparing for this ongoing change in attendance patterns. We will provide classes for all attending students. Our staffing arrangements may change slightly. Some teachers/staff will be required to take leave to care for other family members. Some teachers will work outside their usual classroom duties, preparing online or remote learning activities. So, please be aware that your child may not have their regular teacher/s.

The Premier also mentioned that classes will now shift to an online platform for those who choose to school from home. Please note; this will be a gradual process. Some DoE resources are already available and each of our class teachers will be communicating with their class cohort to support you with further available resources and advice. We have been preparing packs of information, physical resources and links to amazing online curriculum.

The State Minister for Education, Sarah Mitchell says teachers are well-equipped to transition to online teaching. This is true – however, whilst we are still teaching classes, we will be making gradual steps towards providing this resource. We thank you for your patience.

Please stay up to date with all school communications in the event that these arrangements change.

It is important that you continue to adhere to the additional measures needed to help 'Flatten the Curve' of COVID-19 transmission in the wider community.

**The most important information to help manage the spread of illness:**

1. Wash your hands regularly and thoroughly.
2. Sneeze into your elbow or a tissue, disposing of the tissue straight away and then washing your hands.
3. Stay home if you are unwell. The health and safety of our students and staff is paramount. If your child is unwell with respiratory illness, they should remain at home and seek advice from a medical practitioner (and call ahead first).
4. Parents, carers and community members are asked, with the utmost respect, to cease all visits to

the school site. We are attempting to limit the number of people (students and staff only) on site at all times. We have a small number of educationalists and health professionals who support our school and these people sign in and out at the office. Class teachers can be contacted using the class communication app, email or phone.

The department is working closely with NSW Health to ensure we have access to the latest advice on how to keep our staff, our students and community safe. We are following their guidance. Thank you once again for your patience and understanding.

**Harmony Day**

Last Friday March 20th, we enjoyed our school celebration of 'Harmony Day'. We provided in-school activities for students to learn about many different countries and cultures. Students wore mufti dress and worked in peer groups with students from Preschool to Year 6. Our senior students did a fabulous job leading the groups and supporting their younger peers. The cultural costumes of some of our students was OUTSTANDING. Their fellow students absolutely loved seeing them in the dress of other countries. Thank you for this effort.

Sincere thanks to all of the staff who organised engaging activities and really got into the spirit of inclusivity and harmony. It was just the positive, fun day we all needed. Thank you also to all of the generous families who provided additional resources for sharing and teaching on the day.

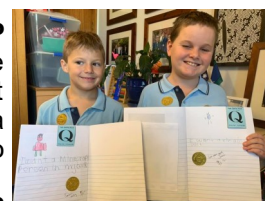


**Quality Work**

At Bomaderry Public School, teachers ensure that their class has a clear understanding of what they need to achieve during each lesson. This explicit teaching allows students to strive to achieve high quality learning and work samples. Students know the criteria and can work hard to achieve them.

**Elliot and Jacob** from **K-6P** wrote a response to the text, 'The Wrong Book'. They used correct punctuation whilst writing about a suggested character and they also illustrated their written work.

**Rebecca and Mahalia** from **3B** prepared a short speech about empathy, respect and inclusion. They could explain why these qualities are important for individuals and our society. Such wonderful topics to be learning about around Harmony Day.



**Achieving our Goals**

Every BPS student has individual learning goals and they strive to achieve these every day.

**Kyeton, Jack, Amelia, Dakota** and **Skye** from **4G** all achieved a learning goal last week. Ms Goodman was busy checking on the 4G students and determining if they had reached their goals – well done to this group. Kyeton, Jack, Amelia and Skye all reached their desired reading levels and Dakota can round numbers to the nearest 100.



**Some Final Requests:**

Please keep up to date via the school facebook page. Regular messages and updates will be posted on this platform when available. This is a useful tool for communicating quickly with our school community. Please like our page 'Bomaderry Public School' and follow these updates.

Please also keep up to date with all State Government requests regarding social lockdowns and services. Advice is very clear about avoiding social gatherings and only venturing out for essential reasons. Please adhere to these and stay safe. The upcoming school break will certainly not be like any 'holiday' we have experienced before. It is crucial that we all comply with the directives from our health ministry and avoid unnecessary travel or socialising.

Please support us by ceasing adult visits to school at this time. We appreciate your understanding. As always, the wellbeing of our students, staff and community is of utmost importance.

**Aim High – Achieve High ... and keep safe.**

Ms Dionne Hanbidge  
Principal

**'Like' our Facebook Page**

Bomaderry Public School has a Facebook page where we post lots of reminders, news and photos. Don't miss out on the updates on your devices.



**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

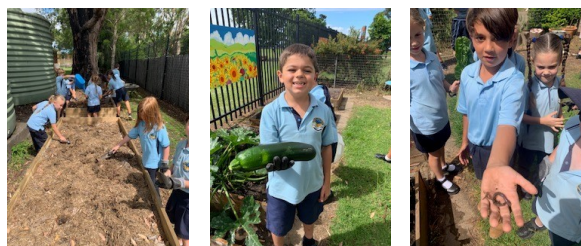
Please be mindful of neighbourhood driveways when you are dropping and picking up students from school. Driveways **MUST NOT** be blocked by cars.



**Garden Club Update**

We had a huge turn out of infant students at our garden club interest group on Tuesday. We learnt lots of new gardening skills including how to be safe, respectful and a learner in our garden area. We turned mulch, watered the garden beds, cleaned our garden area including removing unsafe branches and yucky rubbish. Our favourite part was harvesting our silver beet and zucchini. We shared our zucchini produce with Jyi in our school canteen and we are excited to see what yummy meals he can create using our fresh produce. Next Tuesday during our interest group we will be creating special gifts for our upcoming Mother's Day stall.

- Mrs Paton



**Easter Raffle Donations**

Every year the P&C do a monster Easter raffle.

Raffle tickets have now been sent home. Due to the current unprecedented COVID-19 situation, the raffle has been brought forward and will now be drawn on Friday 27th March. **All raffle tickets MUST be returned to the school office by Friday morning 9am, sold or unsold.**

If you have raffle tickets at home but are currently not sending your children to school, parents can bring their raffle tickets to the front school gate any morning this week, between 8:40am-9:10am and hand them to a teacher.

Thank you, The P&C



**IMPORTANT HEALTH NOTICE**

Bomaderry Public School has been made aware of confirmed cases of hand foot and mouth disease. This is generally a mild illness. It mainly occurs in younger children. Signs to watch for are:

- Blisters / red dots inside cheeks, gums and/or tongue as well as palms of hands and feet.
- Blisters usually last 7-10 days.

**Hand, foot and mouth disease is highly contagious.** Please ensure hands are washed thoroughly with soap, and towels, clothes, face washers, tooth brushes and toys are cleaned appropriately to remove any contamination.

**Attention BPS Defence Families**

Unfortunately our upcoming meet and greet for all Defence families that was scheduled for Thursday 2nd April **has been cancelled**.

If you have any questions, or would like to register your interest for future Defence meet and greet meetings, please feel free to contact Mrs Bradshaw, BPS Defence Liaison staff member, chloe.bradshaw5@det.nsw.edu.au, or the school office.

**DONATIONS NEEDED**

Garden Club are asking for donations of small/medium glass jars, tins and empty pot plants for this interest group. Donations can be left at the front office.

Thank you, Mrs Paton

**School Banking - Notice**

School banking has been cancelled for the remainder of the term, and will start back again in Week 1 of Term 2.

If you are interested in getting your child started in school banking next term, visit this link: <https://www.commbank.com.au/banking/school-banking.html>



**Uniform Shop**

The uniform shop will now be **closed** for the remainder of the term. It will re-open on **Monday 27th April 2020** (staff development day), 10:00am-12noon.

Normal trading hours will resume on Tuesday 28th April 2020 (students return). The normal uniform trading hours are:

Tuesday	8:30am-9:15am 2:30pm-3:15pm
Thursday	8:30am-9:15am 2:30pm-3:15pm

School hats can be purchased from the school canteen Monday to Friday.

**BIG BLUE AWARDS**



- 1/2Y Lorna
- 4G Dakota
- 5/6T Lakea
- K-6P Jacob, Xavier, Braydon, Tyson

**Home Reading Levels**

Bomaderry Public School rewards efforts with Home Reading. Our level system promotes reading at home, motivates readers with special reading gifts and helps students aim for improvement. Congratulations to the following students who have

**LEVEL 1 - 20 BOOKS**

**Stage 1:** Lucas, Sienna, Taj, Zac, Liam

**Stage 2:** Charlie, Jett, Jacob, Jack, Cooper, Scarlett, Britney

**Stage 3:** Harley

**LEVEL 2 - 50 BOOKS**

**Stage 2:** Kaira

**Weekly Special!**  
**BBQ Meat Lovers  
Pizza Sub**  
**\$3.50** Weeks 8 & 9

**- COMING SCHOOL EVENTS -**

Fri 27th Mar	- P&C Easter raffle drawn
Fri 3rd Apr	- POSTPONED - AFL Gala Day Years 5 & 6
Mon 6th Apr	- POSTPONED - Cross Country Carnival - Years K-6
Thurs 9th Apr	- Last day of Term 1
Fri 10th Apr	- GOOD FRIDAY - SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
Mon 27th Apr	- Staff Development Day - Uniform shop open 10am-12noon
Tues 28th Apr	- Students return to school