**Principal’s Message**

**What makes a good book for young kids?**

Any book they want to read.

"Choosing to read over choosing not to read is the most important aspect of introducing your kids to the world of books," says primary school teacher Rosie Charles. However, just as there are guidelines about how often fast food should be served to kids in comparison with wholesome nutritional food, so it is with books.

**What is a good children’s book?**

“Good children's books share qualities with good adult novels’, Rosie says.

"Firstly, quality writing is never boring. Good children's books, no matter how simple or complex, have a sense of joy. They can make us laugh and cry. Regardless of how young, readers need strong characters who they can relate to and care about.”

Good books also teach kids things subtly while still telling a great story. For example, in The Very Hungry Caterpillar, kids learn about numbers, fruit and days of the week, but it's hardly noticed because they have fallen in love with the illustrations and their newly discovered ability to predict what is going to happen next.

Good stories allow kids to explore other worlds and other lives but they are still familiar enough that they see themselves in the characters.

"The best way to know if it is a good book for your child is through your child," Rosie says.

"Allow them to reject the books they dislike and encourage them to tell you what it is they do like in others,” she says.

**Choosing good books for your kids**

Children’s author and creative writing lecturer Libby Gleeson says when choosing a good book for your kids, parents should ‘resist the desire to only feed their children the books they loved when they were young’.

"Expose them to books you thought were fabulous as a kid, but don’t be too precious. Quite often kids will reject it precisely because you’ve offered it – they want to find something for themselves."

Instead, get to know your child’s teacher librarian or join a public library to expand the repertoire of books you know about, or seek out award-winning children’s book lists and those from the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge.

Good books have several characteristics. These include being:

- authentic
- credible
- captivating
- Exciting

"Good literature tends to have layers and depth to it, which is constantly rewarding," Libby adds.

"It might be in the images, it might be in the text ... it’s always on the side of the child, so it's not a moralising tone from the author.”

Great stories also use language that is rich and challenging, she adds.

"By that I mean often in a children's book there will be words that a kid doesn't know. That doesn't matter because that's how you actually learn more complex language – by reading books that contain it so you are exposed to it in context."

**What about your child's school readers?**

Read the school readers with your child when they bring them home to practise their reading, but don't rely on them as being the only books your child needs to read, Libby says.

"There is a need for exposure to a wide range of other literature, and the library and the bookshops are the places to go for those."

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**Upcoming Events**

**April**

- Mon 7th: School Photos
- Wed 9th: K-2 Easter Hat Parade
- Wed 9th: 3-6 Picture my Egg competition
- Wed 9th: Fancy Dress School Disco
- Wed 9th: Scripture Easter Concert
- Tues 29th: Students Return to school

**Assemblies**

- Friday 04/04 2.00pm: Years 3-6 4/5L
- Friday 11/04 2.00pm: Years K-2 2F
What books did you love as a kid? What books do your kids love?

From www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au

End of Term
We are quite busy at school with only two weeks to go. We had parent / teacher interviews last night and it was great to see so many of our families make the time to discuss their child’s progress with the classroom teachers. Attending these interviews ensures that there are no surprises in the school reports next term.

The new P & C committee will have their first meeting tonight. All are welcome to attend. The meeting will take place at 7.30 in the school staffroom.

Next week, the last for term one, will be even busier. We begin the week with School Photo Day on Monday and follow it up with our Easter celebrations and school disco on Wednesday and our ANZAC ceremony on Friday. Parents are welcome to attend the Easter concert at 11.30 on Wednesday, view the Year 3-6 photo competition before lunch and join in the K-2 Easter Hat Parade from 2.00pm.

The school disco on Wednesday evening is the first Year 6 fundraiser for the year.

We will hold a K-6 ANZAC ceremony from 2.00pm on Friday. I know this seems early but the protocol is to hold the ceremony on or before 25th April, not after it.

Correction
I try to include tips and information from the Department of Education and other organisations in each newsletter. After our anaphylaxis training earlier this month, I included information on allergies in the last newsletter. I also included an older department pamphlet on healthy lunchboxes as a number of teachers had commented on students coming to school with just chips and biscuits for lunch. I should have read the pamphlet more closely as one of the suggestions for a healthy lunch was a peanut butter sandwich. While peanut butter is not banned in government schools, with the number of students we have with severe allergies to it, I would strongly advise against using it. Sorry for any confusion this may have caused.

Holidays
Have a safe and happy Easter break, enjoy your time with your family and we look forward to all our students returning on Tuesday 29th April.

Sports News
Sydney west Swimming
Congratulations must go to Jake Farrugia for his outstanding swimming at the Sydney West Swimming Carnival two weeks ago. He has managed to qualify in the backstroke for the NSW Swimming Championships to be held later this term at Homebush. We wish him all the best for his upcoming swims.

PSSA
PSSA playing venues for Weeks 10 are as follows:
Friday 4th April, 2014:
- Teeball – Boys & Girls v Metella Road at Darling St Park
- Softball – Boys & Girls v Metella Road at Darling St Park
- Newcombeball – Junior & Seniors vs Wenty White @ Beresford Road PS
- AFL Reds – Juniors & Seniors v Girraween at Binalong Oval
- AFL Blues – BYE this week. Training at school.

(AFL Reds will be catching Bus no.3 to Metella Road then onto Girraween Oval then onto Binalong Oval)

Jerome Wicks

No More milk bottles
Thank you to all those families that have brought in milk bottles to assist 5/6W with our igloo building. We now have more than enough to complete our project. So we would appreciate if NO more milk bottles be brought into the office.

Thank you
Jerome Wicks

Office News
Everyone received a note the other week for update to email addresses and also an option for a paper copy. If you have not returned this note requesting a paper copy you will now receive the newsletter via email. If you would prefer a paper copy just ring the office and advise them of this.
Library News

Congratulations to class KK for winning the issue 2 book club prize.

As we have had some extremely wet days, please ensure that your library books are protected from the rain. Once a book is wet it is very difficult to stop it from moulding, at which point it needs to be removed from the shelves. Keep this in mind when transporting drink bottles to school as well.

PBL

Rule of the week:

Week 10 – Participate – I encourage others to participate

Premier’s Reading Challenge

Congratulations to the following students who have recently completed the Premier’s Reading Challenge:


New Parking Signs

Please note that in Macleay St there are new ‘No Stopping’ signs. There is a $304 fine. Please be aware.

P & C News

April P&C Meeting is TONIGHT at 7.30pm in the staff room. All are welcome. Children are welcome to attend, please provide quiet activities for them.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Harmony Day Mufti Day. It was fantastic to see so much Orange around the school. We hope everyone enjoyed themselves.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

MOTHERS DAY STALL will be held Wednesday 7th May. Some lovely gifts ranging from $1-$15. All remaining stock will be offered for sale on Thursday, 8th May, before school starts.

CROSS COUNTRY/WALK-A-THON - Thursday 8th May

Everyone should have received their sponsorship forms last week for the walk-a-thon. There are some fun prizes for the children to help with raising funds. If you need a spare sponsorship form you can collect them from the office.

COIN CHALLENGE - JUNE - We will be collecting 5c coins for the coin challenge! Start putting them away now!! The class that raises the most money will win a PIZZA/MOVIE afternoon!

Does your child have a school hat?

Beresford Road Public School have a ‘no hat, no play’ policy. This means that children who are not wearing a hat are asked to play or sit in a shaded area during lunch and recess for their own safety. We would ask that parents support this policy by ensuring that their child bring a school hat to school every day.

Did you know over 445 500 people are treated for skin cancer in Australia every year? The Cancer Council of Australia recommend a combination of sun protection measures for you and your children:

- Slip on some sun-protective clothing – that covers as much skin as possible
- Slop on broad spectrum, water resistant SPF30+ sunscreen. Put it on 20 minutes before you go outdoors and every two hours afterwards. Sunscreen should never be used to extend the time you spend in the sun.
- **Slap on a hat – that protects your face, head, neck and ears**
- Slide on some sunglasses – make sure they meet Australian Standards
- Be extra cautious in the middle of the day when UV levels are most intense.
- For further information please read our position statements on eye protection.

A dark blue hat is part of the school uniform. At Beresford Road we are committed to your child’s safety. Please ensure your child has a school hat every day.
Presented by Fetet Elkheir.

This term 1L have been learning about Theme Parks!

We made some rollercoasters out of cardboard.

We made some artworks based on how we would feel on a rollercoaster ride. We experimented with different ways to use oil pastels to colour.
Even our class pet, Patch, got to go to a theme park!

We celebrated Harmony Day.

Most of all we have enjoyed getting to know each other and making new friends.
### Beresford Road Public School Merit Cards Presented on Week 5 & 6

#### Blue Certificate

- **Donya Afshari**
- **Hesandi Kariyawasam**
- **Luke Lloyd**
- **Rachel Farrugia**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Students</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KK</td>
<td>Matthew Ng, Ashlee Sassine, Izabella Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>KM</td>
<td>Leen Swadi, Taylan Ozturk, Yunus Babat</td>
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<td>1L</td>
<td>Kingston Lake, Ye Eun Choi, Evey Grant</td>
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<td>2S</td>
<td>Leon Alizart, Charlee Lake, Olivia Cassisi</td>
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<td>5/6D</td>
<td>Romina Scarpignato</td>
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<td>MCZ</td>
<td>Riley Farrugia</td>
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<td>Kash Matthews, Jodie Corbin, Noah Troutman</td>
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<tr>
<td>2M</td>
<td>Mujtaba Attayee, Daniel Craig, Faith Schoemaker</td>
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<td>2/3E</td>
<td>Kayden Haddad, Jr Afasene, Gabby Topic</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/5L</td>
<td>Bowen Simonsen, Jamil Chalghin, Pamela Puruto</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6L</td>
<td>Tyra Gristwood, Marley Fausto, Leo Puruto</td>
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<tr>
<td>1G</td>
<td>Adem Canli, Ava Bosnjak, Lavenia Ratucoka</td>
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<tr>
<td>2F</td>
<td>Mehek Khandelwal, Emir Muhammedoglu, Samson Afasene</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/4L</td>
<td>Jordan Burns, Diego Reyes, Junior Ratucoka</td>
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<td>5/6W</td>
<td>Olivia topic, Raman Singh, Melanie Kidd</td>
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#### Sport Awards

- **Chandelle Falls**
- **Kokul Sivaraj**
- **Khaled Elmasri**
Spoil Mum on Mothers Day
and support the BRPS P&C

Prices from $1 to $12

Wednesday 7th May, stock permitting
Thursday 8th May
What is Anaphylaxis?

COMMON SYMPTOMS

Mild to moderate allergic reaction
- Tingling of the mouth
- Hives, welts or body redness
- Swelling of the face, lips, eyes
- Vomiting, abdominal pain

Severe allergic reaction - ANAPHYLAXIS
- Difficult/nosey breathing
- Swelling of the tongue
- Swelling or tightness in the throat
- Difficulty talking or hoarse voice
- Wheeze or persistent cough
- Persistent dizziness or collapse
- Pale and floppy (young children)

DIAGNOSIS

A person who is suspected of having a food allergy should obtain a referral to see an allergy specialist for correct diagnosis, advice on preventative management and emergency treatment. Those diagnosed with severe food or insect allergy must carry emergency medication as prescribed as well as an Action Plan for Anaphylaxis signed by their doctor. Food allergic children who have a history of eczema and/or asthma are at higher risk of severe allergic reactions. Administration of adrenaline is first line treatment of anaphylaxis.

MANAGEMENT & TREATMENT

Anaphylaxis is a preventable and treatable event. Knowing the triggers is the first step in prevention. Children and caregivers need to be educated on how to avoid food allergens and/or other triggers.

However, because accidental exposure is a reality, children and caregivers need to be able to recognise symptoms of an anaphylaxis and be prepared to administer adrenaline according to the individual’s Action Plan for Anaphylaxis.

Research shows that fatalities more often occur away from home and are associated with either not using or a delay in the use of adrenaline.

In Australia, adrenaline can be purchased on the PBS in the form of autoinjectors known as the EpiPen® and Anapen®. More information on prescription is available through ASCIA www.allergy.org.au

The adrenaline autoinjectors are intramuscular injections that contain a single, pre-measured dose of adrenaline that is given for the emergency treatment of anaphylactic reactions. The devices are for use by lay people and is available in two doses, EpiPen® Jr and Anapen® or Anapen® Jr.

Please consult your doctor for more information on allergic reactions, accurate diagnosis and management strategies.

ACN 139 809 051
www.allergyfacts.org.au
A&AA® 2013
AMENDED DATES

The ABC is holding a fun, FREE day for the whole family
Saturday 12th April 10am – 4pm, Parramatta Park

The main stage will hold a big kids concert with Jimmy Giggle, Jay Laga’aia, Ali McGregor, Bananas in Pyjamas and many more.

There will also be chill out zones for kids and parents, Play School craft zones and ‘Click’ zones for the latest in ABC apps.

While you are there visit the ABC Exhibition Trailer, listen to Simon Marnie from 702 ABC Sydney broadcasting live and meet ABC News Presenters and the ABC Grandstand team.

Parramatta Park will be vehicle free for this event, so leave the car at home!

www.abc.net.au/familyfestival #abcfamilyfest
Beresford Road Public School does not endorse any item or service advertised in this newsletter.