

Term 2 Week 8 2025

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For your calendar

Term 2 2025:

24 Jun	un Taronga Zoo incursion: Kindy-Year 2	
	Debating team – Leichhardt P.S.	
25 Jun	Stage 3 Elkington Park – photography	
26 Jun	Festival of Instrumental Music rehearsal	
26 Jun	Stage 1 and 3 – excursion to SSC Balmain	
27 Jun	Bottlebrush class hosts school assembly	
2 Jul	Career mufti day	
3 Jul	Stage 2 – excursion SSC Balmain	
4 Jul	Snow Gum class hosts school assembly	
4 Jul	Last day of term for students	

Term 3 2025:

22 Jul First day of term for students

We acknowledge the Wangal people of the Eora Nations, the traditional custodians of the land on which we play, learn and grow. We pay respect to Elders past and present.

The playground works are really starting to take shape, with the new green (and blue!) area to open next Monday. These improvements, along with the extra space made with the removal of the 2 demountable classrooms, are going to create a fabulous space for the students. Thank you to all our BPS community, and especially the children, for your patience.

Message from our principal

Dear Birchgrove families

It was wonderful to see so many families cheering our students on at our annual athletics carnival. A big congratulations to the students of Birchgrove Public School for their enthusiasm, participation and excellent behaviour on the day.



Events such as sporting carnivals can't run smoothly without community involvement. Thank you to all the parents and carers who helped with transporting equipment to and from the oval as well those who assisted with the marshalling and timing of races.

Thank you also goes to Ms Karnaros, Ms Preece and Mr Fitzgerald for their organisation of the day.

We have been advised that the Department of Education are reviewing the catchment areas of schools in the Inner West. Both the P&C and the school will complete a survey for the Department. The P&C will send details on how families can share their thoughts in the coming weeks.

To assist us with our future planning, you will be receiving a form asking your intentions for schooling in 2026. We ask that all families complete the form and return to school by Friday 25 July 2025. This information assists us in planning staffing and programs to be offered in 2026. Thank you for your assistance.

School reports will be sent home at the end of week 9. If you have any questions about your child's report, please make a time to meet with their teacher.

The playground works were paused for a short period of time whilst the demountables were removed from our playground. While the pause may lead to a short delay in the playground works being completed, it means that the area under the demountables has been added to the scope of works and the entire bottom playground can be updated. We are anticipating that the green area and senior bathrooms will be open to students early next week.

A reminder that students should be at school before the bell at 9 am. If your child arrives after the bell, even by just a few minutes, they will need to sign in at the office. This ensures we have all students correctly accounted for on the roll for the day, which is both a safety and legal requirement.

- Kylie Mitchell, Principal (relieving)

Principal's trophy for excellence

Week 7 - to the students of Birchgrove Public School for their enthusiasm and participation at the Athletics Carnival

Week 8 Waratah - for their outstanding photography. They have been creating Max Dupain style photographs and have explored the photography techniques of the rule of thirds, patterns and framing.

Australian Daisy hosted assembly

The Daisy class has been learning all about animals this term, such as their behaviour, habitats and what they like to eat. They learnt a poem called "Don't Feed the Animals", which was all about what we shouldn't feed animals, including teachers!

Sasha Hayward - Teacher Australian Daisy





Wattle hosted assembly



The Stage 1 Wattle class showcased their learning about animals and wellbeing at their Assembly item. Tying in with their English and Science units, they performed the classic song "The Bare Necessities" from *The Jungle Book* - a fun reminder of what animals (and people!) need to thrive. It was a joyful and meaningful celebration of their learning!

Emma Taksa - Teacher Wattle



BPS Athletics Carnival







Last Thursday all Birchgrove students, participated in our athletics carnival, even Mrs Mitchell had a go! It was a very successful event, with beautiful weather.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make our Athletics Carnival a successful day. Thank you to all the parent volunteers for helping with the set-up, running of events and pack down. We are so grateful and could not have done it without you. Thank you to the teachers at BPS for your organisation and making it a wonderful day for the children.







Stage 3 Canberra Camp







The much-anticipated Stage 3 Canberra camp was held in week 6. A picture tells a thousand words, and these say chilly but fun! Have you ever wondered exactly what fun our Stage 3 students get up to? Well, Sophie, Ava, Ariadne and Elodie have shared it all in their Camp journal in the pages following.

Big thank you and shout out to the camp teachers Mr Dodds, Ms Corliss, Mr Sturges and Miss Taksa for giving up their time to create beautiful memories and learning experiences.



Stage 3 Canberra Camp











Stage 3 students have recently undertaken an education tour of the national capital. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy. The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of this excursion, the Australian Government contributed funding of \$30 per student under the Parliament and Civics

Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

Stage 3 Canberra Camp Journal

Recap Of Canberra Camp

🗄 By Sophie, Ava, Ariadne and Elodie 🚂

<u>Day 1:</u>

Our camp all started when we arrived at school at 6:45am. We waited for the bus in anticipation for half an hour and then it was time to go. We all said bye to our parents and the journey started. We watched Lilo & Stich and Highschool Musical 3 on the long 3 hour journey. We had a half hour stop in Golbourn, where it was freezing cold and we had a our morning tea and had a play in the playground. We arrived at our first destination in Canberra, the Arboretum, and had lunch and played in the acorn playground as well as the hill there. After we had finished, Wayne and Nigel our bus drivers took us up to Mount Ainslie Lookout where we saw the beautiful view of Canberra. Finally we drove down the big hill and drove to Zone bowling, where we had dinner and drinks. It was one of the highlights of the trip. We drove from Zone Bowling to Ibis Styles Eaglehawk which was our accommodation for the next two nights.

<u>Day 2:</u>

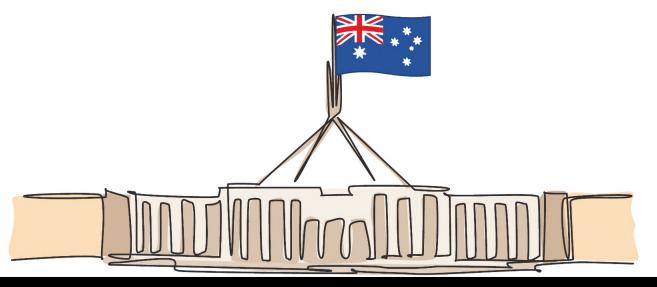
The next morning we woke up bright and early after a night of fun and sleep. We got ready for the day and put on our winter coats. And we certainly needed those! We stepped outside into the cold and walked over to a delicious breakfast buffet with bacon, hashbrowns and lots of other yummy things. The first thing on today's agenda was New Parliament House which was very interesting and fun. We got to do a role play in the 'Education Room,' which was really interesting. The next place we went to was the National Museum of Australia and then the National Gallery (another highlight) where we split into groups and a tour guide showed us around the gallery. After that we went to the Royal Australian Mint. We got to see coins being made and all sorts of rare and valuable collectors coins. Our next destination was AIS sporting experience. There we got to go to the gift shop and had a tour of the institute. After that we had dinner and went to bed.



Stage 3 Canberra Camp Journal Recap Of Canberra Camp By Sophie, Ava, Ariadne and Elodie

Day 3:

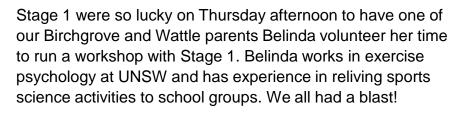
We woke up on the last day of our cold Canberra trip, and packed our bags ready to get onto our coach. We then went to the breakfast room where we had pancakes. After we had eaten and cleaned up, we headed to Commonwealth Place. We then went to Questacon and had lots of fun exploring all the galleries and activities like the earthquake room and the giant drop slide which was one of the highlights at Questacon. After we had a blast, we left and our lunch was waiting for us outside: pizza, juice and popcorn. After we had finished our lunch we drove to the War Memorial. It was very interesting seeing all the aircraft and the Wall of Remembrance. Then it was time to go back to the bus and head back to school. We watched Toy Story and Robots on the bus trip. Around 6:00pm we stopped off at a playground and had a 10 minute break to stretch our legs and go to the bathroom. We arrived back at school around 7:00pm with our parents waiting for us. We collected our bags and Questacon things and went home to our families.



Stage 3 Canberra Camp



Stage 1 Incursion



Emma Taksa - Teacher Wattle





In the classroom: Wattle



The Wattles have been focussing on symmetry and created these beautiful symmetrical butterflies.

Emma Taksa - Teacher Wattle

In the classroom: Bottlebrush

Over the past four weeks, Year 3 - 4 Bottlebrush have had the unique opportunity to learn from not one, but three teachers.

We were delighted to welcome Miss Nguyen and Mr Hopper from The University of Sydney as they began their very first teaching placement. Despite a few first-day nerves, both quickly settled in and delivered a variety of engaging and thoughtful lessons. The students thoroughly enjoyed learning with them and will certainly miss their presence in the classroom. We wish them all the best in their future teaching journeys!

Damien Fitzgerald - Teacher Bottlebrush



In other news...



Gymnastics Gems

This past weekend, Ottile O (Banksia) and Emma W (Banksia), along with the rest of their Gymnastics Squad from PCYC Glebe, travelled up to Maitland to compete in their first gymnastics competition of the year. Both girls received some of the highest scores of the day, with Emma receiving a perfect score of 20/20 for her level 1 routines and Ottile 19/20 for her Level 2 routines. Both girls walked away with a gold medal for their fantastic results.

We wish them the best of luck for their next competition!

Brenda awarded Community Recognition Statement

Turns out, BPS is not the only body to recognise our Brenda's contribution to community. Our Principal (relieving) Kylie Mitchell recently received a letter regarding Brenda's Community Recognition Statement in NSW Parliament!

Brenda Kent served as our school crossing supervisor for 7.5 years before retiring last term.





In other news...



BPS Ambassadors

While Stage 3 were away at camp, Leo B, Jack C, Hugo M, Nikolina A and Eloise B proudly stepped up as tour guides, showcasing our school to visitors for our monthly school tour offering for prospective students and parent/carers. They represented BPS with confidence, enthusiasm, and pride, leaving a positive impression on all who attended.

Thank you for being such outstanding ambassadors for our school!

Sydney East Cross Country

The regional cross country was run on 11 June, with six BPS students proudly representing our school.

Special mention to the following students' results:

Oliver L - 2nd (pictured)

James E – 2nd

Olivia C - 7th

Leo B – 17th (pictured)



BPS after hours 2025



VIP Music - Bringing music culture to primary schools since 1984

SYDNEY ACADEMY OF CHESS Level 1 30A George St, Burwood 2134 Office: (02) 9745 1170

CHESS!!

Learn to be a chess champion! Coaching for students at Birchgrove Public School is held on Fridays from 8:00am to 9:00am, starting on 2 May 2025.

Learning and playing chess helps children develop their logical thinking and problem solving skills, improves their concentration and focus, while also being a great source of enjoyment. Activities include group lessons on a demonstration chess board or interactive whiteboard, puzzle solving and fun practice games.

Students earn merit awards by making checkmates, or by displaying skills and positive qualities, which all good chess players strive to develop.

Each student in the Chess program will also receive access to Chess Squad https://www.chesssquad.com/ which is an online teaching/playing platform.

If your child is interested in taking part in the class, please email:

office.sydneyacademy@gmail.com

for an enrolment form.

For all enquiries, please contact Sydney Academy of Chess on: (02) 9745 1170.



The programs above are offered by third party companies utilising BPS facilities. Birchgrove Public School is not directly affiliated with and does not endorse any events, services or products represented.

BPS after hours 2025

Italian classes are run 3.30 - 5.30 pm Tuesdays, (supervision from 3.00pm). If your child is interested, please contact Casa d'Italia directly.



Where and when are the courses held?

Classes are held outside normal school hours (Monday to Saturday) in 18 centres across NSW. Classes commence on Monday 10th February 2025. What is included in

the cost?

The annual program provides each student with 37 weeks of quality Italian lessons, a textbook and interactive activities starting from \$595. As a registered provider of the Creative Kids Program you can redeem your voucher when you

enrol in our program. For less than \$9 per hour, students engage in fun, educational experiences that allow them to explore the wonders of all things Italian.

Our Basic K-12 program will engage your child in fun Italian language and cultural activities

Our Premium K-5 program will give your child the edge and deepen their knowledge of the Italian language through the use of our digital resources and full immersion days.

Our **Premium 6-12 program** is your child's passport to Italy. Our full immersion days will give them a leading advantage when sitting the internationally recognised CILS exams.

*See table for all program inclusions

For further information regarding enrolments, terms & conditions, times, classes, early bird and sibling discounts, please call (02) 9564 0744 or visit our website (scan QR code on back page).

Program Inclusions	Basic K-12 \$595	Premium K-5 \$700	Premium 6-12 \$1250
2-hour weekly lessons (Total 37 weeks)	0	0	0
Textbook	0	0	0
Access to Minister's Awards competition	0	0	0
Access to Co.As.It's Settimana della Lingua Italiana competition	0	0	0
Unlimited access to on-line activities		0	0
Exam preparatory materials			0
Dedicated educational channel with digital resources	0	0	0
Three Italian language experiences in Meadowbank during school holidays		0	
Six Italian language development days in Leichhardt during school holidays			0



About the curriculum and the teachers





Scan here to visit our website



WHAT'S ON THESE HOLIDAYS! — ROCKETEERS SCHOOL HOLIDAY Special Event PROGRAM WINTER SHOWDOWN WONDER PAND Take the stress out of the school holidays with Rocketeers. Featuring over 200 wonderfully unique experiences that will ensure your child's school holidays are extraordinary! Experience Takeover Double Feature From our Ninja Showdown experience, brought to you by Proactivity and featuring special guests ANIMAL from a certain Ninja obstacle TV show, to creating ENCOUNTERS a DIY mini golf course right here at Rocketeers -Fuzzy, Scaly and Cuddly friends coming to us! and everything in between! There's something for everyone at Rocketeers. Plus, a Big Art Day double feature - 2 massive days ART of creative and social fun! ATTACK et set on an Adventure **DID YOU KNOW?** You don't have to attend the school where we operate to use our awesome holiday programs Simply book into any of our convenient locations 20 O TRAMPOLINE MINICOLF BOWLING PARKS CINEM Discover Create Have lots Build Friendshins Adventure Memories of fun! SAVE BIG Programs vary by location. Jump on our website to find out what's happening at your local Rocketeers THIS WINTER! Child Care Subsidy **BOOK INTO SCHOOL** SCHOOL HOLIDAY BOOKINGS NOW OPEN available for

ROCKETEERS

eligible families

HOLIDAY FUN NOW!

The programs above are offered by third party companies utilising BPS facilities. Birchgrove Public School is not directly affiliated with and does not endorse any events, services or products represented.

Birchgrove Public School

campaustralia.com.au

by Con Camp Australia

BPS after hours 2025

Holiday camps on sale now!

MINEERAFY • ROBLOX Coding • Animation • Craft & much more

CODECAN

16 - 18 July 9:00 AM - 3:45 PM **O** Birchgrove Public School

CODECAMP

www.codecamp.com.au/birchg

SAVES \$25 Use coupon code SCHOOL25 at checkout Supported by

GROUP

The programs above are offered by third party companies utilising BPS facilities. Birchgrove Public School is not directly affiliated with and does not endorse any events, services or products represented.

A message from Primary Ethics

Primary ETHICS

Could you or someone you know teach ethics at Birchgrove Public School in 2025?

A new volunteer is needed to teach the Stage 1 Australian Daisies ethics group. Ethics classes for this group will not continue until a new volunteer is available.

Teaching ethics is a wonderful volunteering opportunity for anyone looking for a meaningful way to give back to our community.

In ethics, students explore everyday issues suitable for their age. They learn to listen closely to each other, to disagree without putdowns and to think carefully as they form their opinions.

You can teach ethics if:

- You're interested in what children think and you have an interest in learning
- You're willing to learn how to use our lesson scripts to ask children ethical questions
- You can remain neutral and give the children space to think
- You're available each school week at 9:45am Friday
- You complete our free training and pass background checks

You will join a great community of Primary Ethics volunteers – at Birchgrove Public School and across NSW. You'll have the rewarding opportunity of listening to the fantastic students at our school and helping them grow. You'll develop new skills yourself – facilitation skills, plus skills in communication and active listening.

Primary Ethics provides free, comprehensive training with online self-paced learning and trainer-led workshops (by Zoom or face-to-face).

Curious?

Visit primaryethics.com.au/volunteer/

Join a <u>free webinar</u> *Discover Primary Ethics: Empower Young Minds*! on Thursday 10 April 7-8pm.

Or contact Renee Alborough, Birchgrove Ethics Coordinator - <u>birchgroveethics@gmail.com</u>

Do something life changing!

Volunteer as a Primary Ethics teacher

"Teaching children ethics is my time to slow down, listen well, think deeply and leave more hopeful"



Dept of Education Notice

NSW Department of Education



Compulsory school attendance

Information for parents and carers

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

education.nsw.gov.au

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all Education in New South Wales is compulsion/for all children between the ages of sky vers and below the minimum school leaving age of 71 years. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and requirarly attend school or, are registered with the NSW Education Standards Authority for home schooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time

- ensures that students do not miss out on mportant learning activities scheduled early in the day
- helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- · gives students time to greet their friends before class
- reduces classroom disruption.
- Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents

What if my child had to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include

- · Being sick, or having an infectious disease having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance e.g.



NSW

NSW Department of Education

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances our child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Philops may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences au unius/field. as unjustified.

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is ne

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's other leftered.

My child won't go to school,

with appropriate support networks. The principal may

continues to have unacceptable absences?

of Education may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurri numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from

education.nsw.gov.au

Some of the following actions may be undertaken Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regulary. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

 Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

· Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsor schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in partnership

The NSW Department of Education recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

Telephone interpreter service

Please contact the school if you would like more Please contact the school if you would like more information. If you need interpreter assistance to contact the school, please call \$3 +50, tell them what language you need and ask the operator to phone th school. The operator will get an interpreter on the line to assist you with your conversation. You will not be charged for this service.

Compulsory school attendance - English 2

NSW Department of Education Calendar 2025

January	February	March	April
M T W T F Sn Su 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 22 24 25 26 27 26 29 30 31	M T W T F Sa Su 1 2 3 4 5 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	M T W T F Sa Su 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F Sa Su 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 19 192 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 3 3 3 3
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September	October	November	December
M T W T F Sa Su 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 30 30 30 30 30 30	I W T F Sa Su I 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 44 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	M T W T F Sa Su 1 2 1 2 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	M T W T F Sa Su 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Key dates * Check with your school as starting and finishing dates may change. Term 1 Autumn: 14 April to 26 April School development days (students do not attend) Eastern division schools: 31 January to 5 February Winter: 7 July to 19 July First day for students in Eastern division schools: 6 February Spring: 29 September to 11 October First day for students in Western Summer 2025 - 26: 22 December Western division schools: 7 February to 12 February division schools: 13 February 2025 to 26 January 2026 Last day for all schools: 11 April Additional summer holidays for All schoo Term 2, 3 and 4 Western division schools ----- 28 April, 29 April, 21 July, 13 Oct O≻□ First to last days for all 31 January to 6 February 2025 School holidays students All Schools Term 2: 30 April to 4 July Public holidays Summer 2024-25: 22 December Term 3: 22 July to 26 September 2024 to 30 January 2025 Term 4: 14 October to 19 December School development days Scan me for key dates on development days ates are determined by the department. Always check with your local sche may change. Parents and carers should not send their children to school hool development days. ation.asw.gov.au/school-development-days

Birchgrove Public School

Travel

holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

what should I do?

seek further support from the Home School Llaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child

It is important to understand that the Department

attending a funeral.

Compulsory school attendance - English 1

Contact us and useful links

Please contact the school with any queries:

Phone: 02 9810 2469

Email: birchgrove-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

You can find important updates and further information on our website,

via the Sentral app, and the BPS Facebook page:

Website: https://birchgrove-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/

Facebook: <u>@BirchgrovePS</u>

Useful Links (click on hyperlinks):

NSW school term dates inc. Staff Development Days (pupil free)

Camp Australia before and after school care: Phone: 1300 105 343

The School Canteen: An external company supplying canteen service to our school Thus-Fri each week.

Extended Leave form: To apply for leave beyond what is available in the school holiday periods please fill and return this form for Principal approval prior to travel:

Administration of medication at school: Information and paperwork required for support at school

Prior Birchgrove Buzz Newsletters

BPS P&C contacts and sponsors

BPS P&C contacts and further information, including the second-hand uniform store, can be found on the **BPS P&C website here.**

or by scanning the QR code below. Our P&C would like to thank our local sponsors for their ongoing support.





