Dear Parents,

I would like to quote from a book called “Kids are worth it!” by Barbara Coloroso, it belongs to Mrs Batson: “Being there when they (our kids) learn to ride a bike is easy; being there when they have wrecked the family car is not. Being there when they are performing in the school play is easy; being there when they call from the police station is not”.

It reminded me of our fabulous parents catering for the BBQ on Friday night. It was fairly easy cooking and serving. What wasn’t easy was being there after a long week of work when you’re tired. What made it easy was the fabulous attitude of our parents who thought “Hey, let’s make this food great, so the town will know that when Berridale P&C are cooking again, they are guaranteed to get a delicious meal.”

To all the parents and families who came, cooked and ate - thank you for believing Berridale PS kids ARE WORTH IT!  

Tracey Southam  
Principal

A lucky star?

Yes, that big box in the foyer is a brand spanking new Samsung Display Board, the next step on from Interactive Whiteboards. Our school was one of about a dozen schools chosen by Samsung to receive it for free as part of their Corporate Responsibility program. It will be installed free of charge in the Stage 1 class.

Don’t be a bystander.

This week children will learn about the power of the bystander in our Anti-bullying lessons. Looking on, we have the choice to follow the crowd or stick up for our friends in a way that doesn’t cause more trouble – another great lesson, not just for primary school....

Concerned about your child?

Parents, if you have concerns about your child or children at school, whether it is academic, social or just readiness for high school, please do not hesitate to see your child’s class teacher or myself. This is our core business – teaching your child well and working with you to prepare them for the wider world.
Friday Night BBQ at Coolamatong Country Club raised a total of $431.00. Fantastic Effort and a big thank you to all involved.

CAN'T WAIT TO SEE THIS OUT OF THE BOX!!

P&C News

Berridale Out of School Hours Care
Baanya Hall (Opposite Berridale School)
Phone Numbers: 6456 4444  0411 280 786
Email: booshc@bigpond.com
Opening Hours:  Morning 7.30 - 9am  Afternoon 3.15 - 6pm
Bookings Essential
Prices:  $12 an hour, $15 an hour unbooked (less than 24 hrs) Government Rebate applies. Come and see how much fun the children have

WOOD RAFFLE DRAW
1st Prize – Load of Wood – won by S Thorp, Berridale
2nd Prize – NPWS Pass – won by Lee Gleisner
Approx. $400.00 raised. Thank you to everyone, Great Effort!

Dates to Remember

Week 8
Tues 9th - Literacy Information Session, 5.30pm – Mrs Baff
- Welcome Ellen Fletcher - Practicum Student (Kindy)
Weds 10th - Whole School Music + Assembly @ 2.35pm
Thurs 11th - CANTEEN LUNCH DAY

Week 9
Mon 15th - Staff CPR Update @ 3.30pm
- Reports going home
- K-2 Pirate Day - come dressed as a pirate
Fri 19th

Week 10
Weds 24th - Whole School Assembly
Thurs 25th - Conservatorium Visit
Fri 26th - LAST DAY TERM 2

TERM 3
Week 1
Mon 13th July - Staff Development Day
Tues 14th - Students Commence Term 3
Weds 15th - Whole School Music
Friendship skills: Suggestions for families

Parents and carers are children's first and most important teachers when it comes to relationships.

The ways you relate to your children and the guidance you provide help develop children's social skills. You can help children develop and maintain friendships by modelling effective social skills, providing opportunities for children to practice interacting with others, and offering support when they go through difficulties. Taking the role of a coach helps children learn the skills they need for themselves.
Children who have a wide range of interests are more likely to have something in common with others and so find it easier to make friends and get along.

The following suggestions may be helpful

**Make time to play too**

Parents and carers can improve their children's social skills by playing with them regularly. Setting children a choice and time limit for play allows you to be playful with them and encourages them to participate in games that promote cooperation and negotiation. Taking time to play helps strengthen your relationship with them as well as their self-esteem and confidence in themselves.

**Allow your child to try out all sorts of different activities.**

Children who have a wide range of interests are more likely to have something in common with others and so find it easier to make friends and get along.

**Invite children for play dates.**

Having friends and family helps children to develop friendships and practice their social skills. It also provides an opportunity for you to provide the setting, allowing the children as they develop their social skills. Providing positive and supportive teaching to help them cope (while still learning) can be very important when establishing new friendships.

**Child says...**

"You might get more girls together next time in the park, and so we can all meet up right back here.

"Maybe she doesn't like me, and she's being mean to us.

"Well, like her when she's not being mean.

"Maybe we could invite her over to play after school!"

**Talk with children about what is happening for them with their friends.**

Find a relaxed time and the drive home from school or after dinner, to talk about what is happening in your children's friendship group. By doing this, you tell them that you are interested in their wellbeing, and this can also be an opportunity to share some of your experiences and to help them solve any problems they might have.

**Encourage positive, relevant strategies.**

Parents and carers can talk about and encourage friendly and helpful strategies that can help their child to develop friendships. For example, encouraging children to negotiate or compromise when trying to solve conflict with peers is a strategy that is positively encouraged rather than aggressive or verbal threats.

**Take a problem-solving approach.**

Provide your children with the tools to help them through a problem or form friends by talking with them and asking some useful questions. For example:

**Parents/carers ask...**

"Why do you think she is being so mean?"

"Is there anything you can do to help her?"

"So you can always tell me if you do this, and that I can never tell her to be mean?"

"Always talk to someone like an adult if you want to."