Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 4 December</td>
<td>Successful 2016 Prefect Nominees Notified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 7 December</td>
<td>6R Zoo Snooze</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 8 December</td>
<td>Carols on the Green – 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 9 December</td>
<td>Year 6 Leaving Ceremony and Farewell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 11 December</td>
<td>Presentation Day – 9:30am@ Richmond High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 14 December</td>
<td>Picnic Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 15 December</td>
<td>Captains/Vice Captains / Prefects Lunch with the Principal</td>
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Last Day of School

The last day of the school year for all students is: **Wednesday, 16 December 2015**.

It has again been a very busy yet successful year at Richmond Public School. Our NAPLAN results continue to improve with some areas being well above the state average. Academic results, sporting experiences and performing arts play a major role in the expectations set at Richmond Public School.

Thank you to Richmond Public School’s P&C and all of our community members who have again worked in unity with the school to provide as many opportunities for the students. The support from the parents/caregivers for our school and the students certainly creates a strong bond that can only benefit the students.

Have a safe and relaxing holiday period.

School resumes for students in Years 1-6 on: **Thursday, 28 January 2016**.

School begins for our kindergarten students on: **Friday, 29 January 2016**.

Mathematics Computation Quizzes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Skill</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19 November - 3 December</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>Completed for 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Year 2</td>
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<td>Years 3-4</td>
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<td>Years 5-6</td>
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Congratulations Serena and Sam!

Congratulations to Serena Monteleone and Sam McGrath, our school captains, who attended The Richmond Rotary Junior Citizenship of the Year Award on Monday, 23 November 2015. These two deserving students have represented Richmond Public School with pride. They have accepted the responsibility of their role in an exceptional manner and have always strived to do their best.
School Administration Manager's Position

Applications for the position of School Administration Manager closed on Wednesday, 25 November 2015. Culling for the position will occur on Friday, 4 December 2015 with interviews anticipated to occur on Tuesday, 8 December 2015. Once the successful candidate has been decided by the panel, Staffing are required to approve the process and the decision and this may take a number of days. It is planned for the successful applicant to be informed by Friday, 11 December 2015 with a period of transition and orientation occurring during the last week of the term (Monday, 14 December – Thursday, 17 December).

SENTRAL

The program titled; “SENTRAL” has now been installed into the school and is in its last stages of implementation. SENTRAL will allow for easy tracking of students with both positive and negative behaviour and will allow for a more effective method of communication with families. SENTRAL can also track student performance and the school is researching a Report Card format that is aligned with SENTRAL but does not move too far from the Report Card format we have at present. Staff at Richmond Public School can gain access to SENTRAL from school or home and with the program at its final stages the staff will have the opportunity to become familiar with SENTRAL during the Christmas break.

Wi-Fi Network

The school’s Wi-Fi network is now ready for full implementation and access in 2016. Mr Shirvington has organised for two additional switches to be purchased and installed to ensure there are no issues with all of the technology and internet access around the school. To date there are eight WAPs (Wireless Access Points) that are fully operational within the school and as stated in the last Newsletter, the frequency strength of each WAP is excellent. Thank you to the P&C from their support and funding of such a valuable project. The school will be fully wireless by the beginning of 2016.

Defence Farewell and Thank you to our Parent/Carers Afternoon Tea

On Friday 27 November 2015, Richmond Public School held its annual Defence Farewell and Thank you to our Parent/Carers Afternoon Tea. It is only a small way that the staff can thank all of those parents/carers who commit their time to the school with minimal fuss but maximum impact for our students. If you didn’t get a chance to attend the afternoon tea, please be assured that the school is very grateful to our community for their dedication to the staff and students of Richmond Public School. To our defence personnel, who have been posted elsewhere, thank you for being members of our school community. Thank you to Mrs Stevens who again used her culinary skills to produce a great spread.

Touchdown Morning Tea / Touchdown Certificates

Congratulations to the 207 students who received their Touchdown Certificates on Friday, 27 November 2015. It was great to see the many parents and grandparents attend the presentation and support their children. Thank you to Mrs Stevens who again catered for the event. Mrs Stevens gets up early in the morning to begin cooking for our morning teas and each time she does a wonderful job. Thank you also to Baker’s Delight (Opposite COLES) for their donation of pastry goods for the event. In 2016, we will have SENTRAL controlling the student data in terms of Touchdown Morning Tea Certificates. However, I encourage you to continue collecting your child’s certificates in an album or the like to ensure they have these certificates a long time after their primary schooling.

Gary Ruzgas
Principal
Hawkesbury Public Speaking Competition Success

This term, Stage 2 and Stage 3 have been busy preparing and delivering speeches in class as part of the Hawkesbury Public Speaking competition. The finalists were then chosen from each stage to represent Richmond Public school in the local final. The Stage 2 finalists were Layla G. and Felix K. The Stage 3 finalists were Chloe B. and Victoria P. They all made a fantastic effort at the local final which was held at Londonderry Public School. In particular, Chloe came first in the Stage 3 section and, as a result, progressed onto the Regional final at Comleroy Road Public School. Even with such tough competition at that level, Chloe was placed second in the Stage 3 section of this final. A huge achievement!

Congratulations to all students who took part at school, as well as those who represented us at the external finals in the Hawkesbury Public Speaking competition. Public Speaking is an important focus at Richmond Public School and it is fantastic to see such pleasing results from our students.

Miss Samantha Bray

Library News

Borrowing has finished for 2015. Please return all books to the library. They can be put in the returns bin in the library at any time.

Carnival Book Fair

A wonderful group of parents helped to run our Book Fair in Week 7. We sold lots of books and our school benefited by receiving commission of $400 to spend on books. Thank you to the parents/carers who gave up their time to make this possible and a big “Thank You” to everyone who purchased books. Happy Holiday Reading!

Deslie Jameson

Feeding Families Friday

This year, our Student Representative Council (SRC) has been working hard to prepare our school’s involvement with the Hawkesbury Helping Hands charity, who aim to assist families who are struggling in the local area. Our SRC students assisted in developing a plan for ways our school could assist with this initiative. It was decided that every week on a Friday starting in 2016, all students could make donations of non-perishable food to the school office who would then pass these onto Hawkesbury Helping Hands. Following the development of this strategy, the SRC gathered ideas from their classes for a title and logo to support this plan. As a group they voted on the ideas which they believed would be the most effective at gaining attention and communicating our message about what Helping Hands was all about. The winning logo can be seen below.

Thanks to our SRC, this plan will begin at the beginning of the 2016 school year. We would like to thank our SRC students for the fantastic work they have put into organising this conscientious way of giving back to the community. They have been an innovative and optimistic group of students who are commended on such a successful year as the SRC for 2015.

Miss Samantha Bray

Chickens need a home for Christmas

The Green Team are looking for a family to take care of our three chickens during the Christmas holidays from Wednesday 16 December, 2015 until Thursday 28 January, 2016. We will provide the chicken feed and you may keep the delicious eggs. If you are interested in spending the Christmas holidays with the chickens please let the office know.
Art Workshop

A wonderful group of 28 students from Richmond Public School participated in an art workshop on Tuesday, 24 November, ran by art educators from the local Hawkesbury Regional Gallery. Students enjoyed using a wide variety of material to construct a ‘typical’ home, and later used paints to add colour and life to their designs. The students thoroughly enjoyed using their imagination and creative skills to design and decorate their homes, adding some interesting elements such as swimming pools, cars and even rainwater tanks. Each sculpture designed and created by our students will be exhibited at the gallery during the Summer School Holidays as a part of the ‘Work, Rest and Play’ exhibition. Families from our school are invited to attend the opening of this exhibition on Friday, 4 December from 6-8pm and enjoy the wonderful free activities the gallery has on offer. More information about this opening appears further in the newsletter.

Miss Bailey

P&C News

P&C Meeting

Our last P&C meeting for 2015, which was also our AGM, was held on Monday, 30 November at 7pm.

Congratulations to the following office bearers for Richmond Public School’s 2016 P&C:

President: Kellie Lorschy
Vice President: Anne Lyle
Vice President: Douron Miedema
Treasurer: To be filled in 2016
Secretary: Allison Scott
Canteen Convenor: Brad Bowers
Fundraising Convenor: To be filled in 2016

I would like to thank all members of our 2015 P&C and all of our school community for their work over 2015. It is the combination of our P&C and this lovely school that we succeed so much for our students and children.

May I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday period and wish the newly elected members for the 2016 P&C the very best.

Belinda Scholte
Outgoing P&C President 2015

Hawkesbury Regional Gallery warmly invites you to

Opening 6 - 8pm Friday 4 December 2015, continuing till 7 February 2016

Join us to celebrate the last exhibition opening of the year. Our opening/party is one for the whole family with lots of food, entertainment and excitement for kids as well.

Artist talk & exhibition preview with photographer Simone Rosenbauer & Gallery Curator, Elissa Blair 6.30pm
Official opening by Cr. Kim Ford, Mayor Hawkesbury City Council, 7pm.
All welcome.

HAWKESBURY REGIONAL GALLERY
Druitt Street, Windsor NSW 2756
T: 02 4560 9444, gallery@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au
Mon, Wed, Thurs and Fri 10am-4pm, Saturday 10am-3pm
Closed Tuesday and public holidays
Free entry, all welcome
Richmond Reminders

- **Year 5 and 6 end of year Picnic at The Life Adventure Centre** is on Monday, 14 December. Please make sure the permission slip and payment are returned to the office by Wednesday, 9 December.

- **3/4W, 3/4B and 3/4F Excursion to Sackville Gardens** is on Monday, 14 December. Please make sure the permission slip and payment are returned to the office by Wednesday, 9 December.

- **K-2 Movie Party Day** is on Monday, 14 December. Notes have gone home with all K-2 students. Please make sure to return payment and permission slips to the office by Friday, 4 December.

- **Christmas Hampers** are still being put together for the raffle at Carols on the Green, if you are able to donate please bring the items into the office.

- **Christmas Scripture Presentation** is being held on Thursday, 10 December at Richmond Public School for all students. The speakers are volunteer protestant scripture teachers. If you do not wish your child to attend please let the classroom teacher know before the day.

- **Richmond Public School K-6 Presentation Day** is being held at Richmond High School on Friday, 11 December at 9:30am. All students need to be at Richmond Public School by 9am to catch the bus to the presentation. Please make sure the orange permission slip is signed and returned to the office for students to be able to catch the bus and attend the presentation. As this is event involves the whole school, there will be no supervision back at school. Parents/Carers are encouraged and welcome to attend our Presentation Day.

- **Richmond Public School backpacks** are available to be ordered through the office. The school bags are approved and recommended by The Chiropractic’s Association. The back packs are royal blue and are available with or without the the school logo and come in small, which is appropriate for students in K-2 and large which are suited for students in years 3-6. Prices range from $68.00 - $79.00. For more information or for an order form please see the office or return the blue notes that went home this term. Orders need to be placed ASAP.

- **Year 6 leaving Ceremony** will commence at 9:30am on Wednesday, 9 December in the School Hall. Parents/Carers are invited to attend the ceremony and to join us afterwards for morning tea. Please return the permission slip to the office stating how many people will be attending the event.

- Any year 6 students who wish to attend the **Year 6 Farewell** who have not already returned the permission slip and payment are required to do so immediately.

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**Mathematics Problem Solving**

**Early Stage 1**
I had 4 candy canes. Mum gave me 7 more. How many candy canes have I got now?

**Stage 1**
I had 64 reindeers. 9 ran away. How many have I got left?

**Stage 2**
Santa has 36 presents left in his sack to share among 4 children. How many presents will each child get?

**Stage 3**
Mrs Claus made 3 dozen cookies. She gave one fourth of the cookies to Santa. Then she gave 18 of the cookies she had left to the elves. Mrs Clause ate 3 cookies and decided to save the rest for Christmas Eve. How many cookies did she save for Christmas Eve?