Welcome back!

Welcome back to school. I hope all of our families had a safe break and are now ready to return to our lovely learning environment.

The playground equipment was completely stripped back during the holidays and was re-painted. Thank you to the Stage 2 students who chose the colours for the playground equipment. Though we could not have all the colours chosen, I took the colours that were commonly chosen by the students and dedicated where the colours were to go on the equipment. Have a look at the before and after photos further in the newsletter. The painting of the classrooms is almost complete and I thank the community for their consideration when near the painters. A special thank you to our cleaners, Leona and Trish, who came in each morning and cleaned the classrooms after the night time painting ready for another day of learning. Thank you also to the teachers and students for their patience. I inspected the work carried out last week and I was satisfied with the quality.

Once again, welcome back. I hope to see as many parents as possible within our school ensuring the students can witness the partnership we are strengthening between home and school.

Mathematics Computation Quizzes

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Skill</th>
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<td>14 May</td>
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<td>Years 3-6</td>
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Term Planner

There are many events happening at Richmond Public School this term, from the National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy for students in Years 3 and 5 through to the presentation of your child’s Report Card in Week 10. To improve the communication between the school and our families, a Term 2 Planner has been sent home with each student today. I hope the term planner will assist you in organising our school events with your busy schedules and ensure you can be part of your child’s education.

Richmond Public School – Nut Free

With the prevalence of anaphylaxis within schools, I would like to remind families that Richmond Public School makes every attempt to be a nut free school. I kindly request that parents / carers do not send their children to school with peanut butter sandwiches, with peanuts or with any nut related item. Our school canteen is very careful with this policy and makes every attempt to purchase items that were not processed on a machine that was used to make a peanut product.

I thank you in advance for you co-operation with this very important policy.
Easter Parade

Thank you to the parents and caregivers who attended our Easter Parade on Thursday, 2 April 2015. Unfortunately I was called into head office to be on a panel to select a Principal for another school; the date and the ‘call-up’ being non-negotiable. From all reports the parade was a success, the students were great and the Easter Bunny was very impressed with the Easter hats and posters. There are photos of the event further into this Newsletter.

Richmond Public School App’ (Reminder)

As of Wednesday 25 March 2015, Richmond Public School now has its own app’ called Skoolbag. There are instructions further into this Newsletter in getting the app’ onto your phone. Both the Play Store and the Apple Store have the free app’. This process was undertaken as part of the school’s Strategic Directions for 2015 under the Community Participation and Engagement direction. The app’ has many options for you to access including Alerts, Events, the school’s website, the fortnightly Newsletter and much more. In addition, the school is now able to notify families through their phones if an excursion is late or early and this certainly became a necessity last year with the Bathurst Excursion when the bus broke down and the students returned to school quite late. On the app’ you are able to turn on notifications for the grades your child/ren are in, thus ensuring you don’t receive notifications unnecessarily. When the school was notified earlier in the term that the app’ was available to staff to familiarise themselves with before it went ‘live’, I set aside time to explore the app’ and was very impressed that the school has gone in this direction.

Thank you to the Community Participation and Engagement Team for their work in this area.
I encourage all families to explore this great initiative.

Opportunity Class ~ 2016

If you would like to have your child considered for Year 5 opportunity class entry in 2016, you will need to apply on the internet using a valid email address (not the student’s email address).

Detailed instructions on how to apply online will be available from 27 April 2015 in a printed application information booklet and at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement. The application website opens on 27 April 2015 and closes on 15 May 2015. No late applications will be accepted.

National Consistent Collection of Data ~ NCCD (Reminder)

Last Term a note was sent home to all families regarding the National Consistent Collection of Data for students with disabilities. This is a mandatory component for all NSW public schools and this is the first year of implementation. The aim of the collection is to provide data to the Australian Government in regards to provisions that are made within schools for students with disabilities. The collection of the data will:

1. Have no direct impact on your child;
2. Not involve any testing or assessment;
3. Be fully confidential;
4. Not involve all students.

If you DO NOT want for your child to participate in the collection of this data, then please complete the section of the note regarding omitting your child/ren or contact the office.

Electronic Newsletters (Reminder)

Just a reminder that the Newsletter will not be sent home as a hard copy unless requested. The Newsletter will be on our website, sent to your e-mail address and on our School App’. If the school has not received your latest e-mail address, please complete the section at the end of this Newsletter so adjustments can be made at the office
Removing Head Lice and Nits (Reminder)

Lately the school has had an increasing level of students with head lice or nits. This is not an indication of dirty hair but more on the contrary, head lice love clean hair. While head lice and nits, (the eggs of head lice) are certainly annoying and persistent, they’re not dangerous. In attempt to avoid head lice the school suggests two methods:

1. Where applicable, tie your child’s head back into a ponytail. This avoids flowing hair and therefore the easy transfer of head lice.

2. Spray your child’s hair with hairspray before going to school each day. Head lice don’t appear to like hairspray or similar hair treatments.

More information on head lice and nits can be found at the following websites:


ANZAC Day Commemoration Ceremony

Richmond Public School’s ANZAC Day Service is to be held on Friday, 24 April 2015. The service is to begin at 10:15am and will conclude by 11:00am. During the service, students place class wreaths at our flag post. These class wreaths are constructed with the flowers that are donated by students on the day. Once again, we ask that parents/caregivers support our ANZAC Day Service by sending in flowers for the wreaths. In addition, parents, caregivers and visitors who attend the service have the opportunity to place a wreath at the flag post as there is a moment in the service when they’re invited to lay their flowers. As this year is a very special year marking the 100 year anniversary of the Gallipoli landing, each student will be making a poppy and will place the name of a person who represented the Hawkesbury in the Gallipoli campaign. These poppies will be placed on the fencing behind our flag post before the ceremony. During the days leading up to the service, students from Stage 2 and Stage 3 will be reading ANZAC poems they have written. This is a very special ceremony and I hope to see many parents/ caregivers and friends sharing the moment.

Community Use of Richmond Public School

Richmond Public School is a community based school that aims at providing resources to businesses within our community which in-turn provides services to our community members. Resources within the school are hired to a number of business and while their products are not endorsed by the school, the school supports the effort of the business owners in becoming a success. Below is a list and contacts of the companies that presently hire the school’s resources:

GKR Karate – Tuesday nights – 0883 680 600

Beat Fitness – Monday and Wednesday nights – 0408 866 672 (Suzie)

Viva Fitness – Tuesday afternoons – 0415 903 766 (Wendy)

P.K. Taekwondo – Tuesday and Thursday nights – 0432 359 848 (Steve)

The Keyboard Academy – Thursday afternoons – 0405 510 965 (Julie)

Music / Band Tuition – Tuesday –Thursday – 0416 058 752 (Barbara and Kevin)

Gary Ruzgas
Principal
Skoolbag is a mobile App for your school to communicate directly to both parents and students. It works through both smart phones and smart devices (such as iPads and Android Tablets). Ideal for:

- School, free push notification alerts
- School events
- School newsletters
- School documents
- School RSS feeds
- School social media (Facebook, Twitter)

How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

**iPhone & iPad Users**

1. Click the “App Store” icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click "Free" then "install".
4. If iPad, change the drop list to "iPhone Apps", your school will then be visible, click "Free" then "install".
5. When installed click “Open”
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the “More” button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

**Android Users**

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

Don’t forget to like us on Facebook! 📸 Like

Find out more at www.skoolbag.com.au
ANZAC writing competition

In partnership with the Windsor RSL sub-branch, students at Richmond Public School entered writing samples into a competition to reflect on the centenary of the ANZACs. The main themes of these writing samples were courage, sacrifice and mateship. The first prize winner from Stage 2 was Karla in 3/4F and the first prize winner from Stage 3 was Ebony in 5L. Their writing samples have been submitted to the Windsor RSL Sub-branch and will be judged amongst other entries from schools within the Hawkesbury District. We would also like to share them with you below.

My life as an ANZAC

Oliver stared up at the pitch black sky. It was 4:30 in the morning. In one hour and thirty minutes he would be fighting the enemy. His friends, George and Ryan, were next to him in the trench. George was half asleep, holding his rifle and staring at his watch. Ryan was snoozing a little with his rifle laying across his chest and the pet chicken he had found near a blown up barn. George had decided to call her Lucky for she had begun to lay delicious eggs to eat.

Oliver looked at George’s watch. One hour to go. A shout made him jump. Dust was falling in the trench from above. The trench was collapsing! Quickly he woke Ryan, grabbed Lucky and headed for the nearest ladder with George. They all scrambled up just in time to see the rest of the trench fall in. George still had his back-pack and his rifle. Ryan only had things for wounded soldiers. And Oliver only had the messenger dog, Dart.

A soldier quickly scribbled a note, put it in the pouch and Dart ran off. Suddenly some rifles blew up! Oliver knew the battle had started. Boom! Crash! More rifles blew up. Four Turkish and ten English soldiers fell. Then Oliver heard a scream. Lucky had fallen into a shell hole! “There’s no time to care about Lucky” Oliver thought. “I have to survive”. So he ran for his life.

A soldier quickly scribbled a note, put it in the pouch and Dart ran off. Suddenly some rifles blew up! Oliver knew the battle had started. Boom! Crash! More rifles blew up. Four Turkish and ten English soldiers fell. Then Oliver heard a scream. Lucky had fallen into a shell hole! “There’s no time to care about Lucky” Oliver thought. “I have to survive”. So he ran for his life.

He had been running for what seemed like an hour when he tripped and fell. Oliver landed with a gentle thud in the bottom of the dark hole. For a moment he lay there panting and exhausted. Then Oliver heard a gentle cluck and opened his eyes. There was something in front of him. It was …… Lucky!

Oliver picked up Lucky. His eyes fell upon a coil of rope which Lucky had been sitting on. “Lucky, that’s it!” cried Oliver. Carefully, he aimed and threw the rope over the top. He tugged but the rope did not break loose. He grabbed Lucky and climbed out.

The war had ended. He searched the battle-field for George and Ryan. Finally he spotted George and ran over to him. “Where’s Ryan?” asked Oliver. “He’s injured” replied George. “He tried to save me and got injured, but he’ll be okay”. So if you’re wondering what happened next, Ryan got better, the English won the battle and George and Oliver got to see their families again.

By Karla 3/4F

His Name Was William

Hello, my name is Annie Bartlett; I had four dear sons who went to fight in WW1. Their names were Tom, Joe and the twins, Alan and William. This story is about my son William, a brave, loving and proud man.

It was his 21st birthday, the whole family was home, music filled the home like air, laughs of children echoed, and there was a smile on all faces. Smiles had been scarce lately as our family was filled with fear knowing that my first three sons were waiting to leave to fight at war.

The clock ticked it struck twelve; there was a deep knock at the door. There stood a tall man, he handed me a telegram, it was addressed to William. My heart stood still. Before I could call he was already there. I looked into his eyes slowly they started to tear up, I saw the note drop and him run to his wife and hug her with so much love. I didn't need to read the telegram as we had received three of those before. Yes William had been conscripted. The hole in my heart was now bigger.

The night continued although the mood was down but we all knew this was the last time we would be together. So we tried to make the most of it. My boys left for Germany, October 7, 1916, they left on the boat HMAT Ceramic. Post cards were the only form of communication but it wasn’t enough.

William’s post cards stopped and I had no way to contact him. Postcards sent by my other sons, said that they had no news from him either. I was deeply worried. Many months later we were sent a telegram saying that they were searching for my beautiful boy William, he was missing.
family all gathered together in hope that the search would have a good outcome.
I was heartbroken, speechless, confused and miserable. For six gut clenching months I waited for news on the status on my son's life.
It was Sunday, we were all at church, news came that a telegram had been delivered to my home.
Father excused me to head home. A lady would usually use manners by walking, but I was too desperate, I bolted, I wanted my son.
I ran inside, there it was, it seemed I had been waiting a lifetime for this telegram. I did not want to open it, but I had to. My worst fear came to life. It was confirmed that he was killed in action during a battle against the imperial German army. whilst trying to hold ground. He was killed from a bullet to the head while checking to see if all was clear. He died on the 20th September 1917 aged 22. A knife pierced my heart. My eyes started a thunderstorm. My life will never be the same again. I had lost a quarter of my heart, which I could never get back again.
My son, William Bartlett, sacrificed his life for this country.
In appreciation from the Australian Government, they acknowledged the sacrifice made by a parent having 4 sons go to fight for our countries freedom, by presenting us with new "house in Tarana Quarries. We named this house Paniondale, named after the battle he was killed in, which was later known as the great battle of Passchendale.
By Ebony 5L

 Defence News

Many thanks to Richmond Kurrajong Florist for their generous donation of the wreath for our ANZAC Service.
A very big thank you to Mr Miles doe delivering an ANZAC presentation for the students of Richmond Public School.
And a special thank you to Group Captain Carl Newman for presenting Centenary medal to all of our defence students.

Kerri Stevens
DSTA

P&C News
P&C Meeting

Our next meeting is to be held on:


As with all of our P&C Meetings, Mrs Stevens has kindly volunteered to mind the children of parents/caregivers who are attending the P&C Meeting. This is a service that is very rare to schools and one that the P&C truly appreciate.

Items on the P&C Agenda include:

1. Fundraising Projects;
2. The Queen’s Birthday long weekend adjustments to the P&C Meeting in Week 8;
3. Mother’s Day Stall evaluation; and
4. Canteen ‘Special Food Days’ Timeline

Belinda Scholte
P & C President

Play Equipment
Before

After
Richmond Public School Easter Hat Parade 2015
Richmond Reminders

- All students are to be in **FULL SCHOOL UNIFORM** for our **ANZAC Day Ceremony** on Friday, 24 April.

- Payments for **Book Club** are no longer being taken through the school office. If you wish to pay for a Book Club order you will need to log in to [www.scholastic.com.au/loop](http://www.scholastic.com.au/loop)
  All orders will still be given to students at school to take home.

- **Payments and permission slips** can be put in our payment slot at any time but the receipting will only be done on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.

- **School Banking** Commonwealth bank is on Thursday and Friday for Bandigo Bank.

- **Year 6 2015 Polo Shirts** are now available for order. Payments and the order form must be returned to the office by Friday, 1 May.

- Year 5 and 6 students that are going on the **3 Day Canberra Camp** will need to pay the second instalment of $80 to the office by Friday, 15 May. The third instalment of $80 is due by Friday, 12 June and the final instalment of $80 is due by Friday, 17 July.

- **Café** is on this Friday, 24 April at 2:30pm. All parents are welcome to attend the afternoon tea in the staffroom every fortnight with Mrs Stevens. Please enter the staffroom via the old hall.

- For **Late arrivals and early departures**, Parents need to come to the office to fill out the slip for each child and have the office staff sign it. Students are not to fill the form out by themselves unless they have come to school late via public transport.

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**Mathematics Problem Solving**

**Early Stage 1**
Mike was carrying 10 strawberries and he dropped 3 on the ground. How many strawberries does he have left?

**Stage 1**
Scott rolled a ball 4 metres. Ben rolled a ball 8 metres. How much further did Ben’s ball roll?

**Stage 2**
On the pages of Marie’s stamp album there were 4 stamps, 8 stamps, 8 stamps, 7 stamps, 6 stamps and 5 stamps. How many stamps did Maria have in her stamp album?

**Stage 3**
A snail and an ant are moving slowly crossing the playground. For every ten metres the ant travels, the snail travels one metre. By how far will the ant be ahead of the snail over a distance of- 10 metres? – 100 metres? – 200 metres?

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**Answers**

Name: ..............................

Class: .................

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**Answers**

Name: ..............................

Class: .................