Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 31 July</td>
<td>Café ~ 2:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 31 July</td>
<td>CONNECT ~ 9:10am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 3 August</td>
<td>P&amp;G Meeting ~ 7:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 4 August</td>
<td>Aboriginal Incursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 4 August</td>
<td>Opera House Recorder Ensemble</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 5 August</td>
<td>CPR Help – Stage 3</td>
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<tr>
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Mathematics Computation Quizzes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Skill</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30 July – 20 August</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>+ and – 10 or less without pictures + to 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>X1</td>
<td>X2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>X1 and +1</td>
<td>X2 and +2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years 3-6</td>
<td>X8 and +8</td>
<td>X3 and +3</td>
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Education Week Celebrations – Thank you

Thank you to all the parents, caregivers and friends of Richmond Public School who attended our Education Week celebrations on Thursday, 23 July 2015. It was a wonderful opportunity for parents and caregivers to view their child’s classroom, their books and to witness some mathematics activities in action. The day ended in the culmination of the many opportunities and experiences that are offered at Richmond Public School through our outdoor assembly where we had dancers, the choir, the band, the recorder ensemble and our very cute Kindergarten item. Thank you to the teachers who put in many hours of practise time to ensure the students are well prepared and confident in their ability. Thank you also to our great students who spent many hours practising; practise that certainly paid off with their excellent performances. Unfortunately our K-2 Sports Carnival had to be postponed due to the threatening weather but more so due to the grounds being very wet and unsafe. The new date for the K-2 Sports carnival is Thursday, 20 August. More details of the event will be sent home in the near future.

(There are photos of our celebration further into this Newsletter)

Bunnings Barbeque

Thank you to the parents and caregivers who assisted at our Bunnings barbeque on Sunday, 26 July 2015. It was certainly an early morning but our volunteers were all cheerful and prepared for a very busy day. Our barbeque made $1483.00 which is a wonderful achievement. Thank you to Bennett Property Richmond who donated $500 to our barbeque which meant that there was no initial outlay from the P&C or the school to purchase the necessary consumables. Thank you also to Bunnings, McGraths Hill who provide such a valuable community fundraising opportunity. All money raised will be going towards a full wi-fi network around Richmond Public School. The plan is for our students to be able to access the internet anywhere around the school to further enhance their learning in all key learning areas.
Athletics Carnival – 2015

Congratulations to all the students who competed at Richmond Public School’s Athletics Carnival on Friday, 24 July 2015. We were very fortunate to have a lovely day with the sun shining and the temperature being very comfortable. Again, the carnival was run in a tabloid format with the students going around to each event with their age group. This is a very successful process as it does not have the students sitting on the ground for extended periods of time. It also ensures the students don’t miss the event because they couldn’t hear the announcement. Thank you to Mr Crye, Miss Bailey and Miss Deal who organised the carnival. Thank you also to the parents and caregivers who assisted on the day, without this assistance the day would not run so efficiently.

The District Athletics Carnival is on Wednesday, 19 August (Field) and Friday, 21 August (Track).
Well done Richmond Public School!

Sentral - Commissioned

During the term break, the staff at Richmond Public School were given access to SENTRAL. As I have stated in past Newsletters, SENTRAL is very student based and it will allow for staff to track attendance, positive and negative issues, Report Cards and many other options. Importantly for families, it will allow for parents and carers to log into their child’s profile on the system and electronically track their child’s progress; particularly at the end of each semester. In staff using SENTRAL, a parent or caregiver can call the school regarding an issue and staff can immediately access the system and discuss with you the issue, what actions were taken and which teacher investigated the issue. The system can also track students in terms of the ORBITS, TOUCHDOWN Certificates and their NO DETENTION Certificates. Though the school still strongly suggests that all families have a collection point at home for all certificates, SENTRAL will be a second point of reference for staff and families; something I have been discussing with the community over a period of time.

On Wednesday 22 July, I formally agreed to have SENTRAL at Richmond Public School. This will mean the purchasing and installation of a new server and training for staff. Once SENTRAL is being utilised at Richmond Public School, I will have a parent/caregiver information evening before a P&C meeting and an afternoon session before the end of a school day.

2016 Enrolments

Richmond Public School’s enrolment numbers are at capacity point. Most classes are at Department of Education Enrolment Policy level and Richmond Public School’s Enrolment Panel has had to decline many out-of-area applications. If you have a student or know of a family whom intend on sending their child to Richmond Public School in 2016, please have them notify the office as soon as possible.

CONNECT – 2016 Kindergarten Transition Program – Started!

Our CONNECT Kindergarten Transition Program started on Friday, 17 July 2015; from all reports the program has again been enthusiastically supported by the community. This is a very valuable program as it assists our new Kindergarten students to adjust to ‘big school’. During the program, the students borrow from the library, become familiar with the school environment, meet the teachers and the Principal and participate in many of the activities that they will be involved in during the following year. The program starts at 9.10am and will conclude at 11.00am. All 2016 Kindergarten students and parent/caregivers are to meet in the new hall. There is a flyer further into this newsletter regarding our CONNECT Program.

Gary Ruzgas
Principal
Penguins

What kind of animal are they?
Penguins are a flightless bird. There are many different species of penguin in the world; there are about 12 in fact. Some include Fairy Penguins, Emperor Penguins, Yellow-eyed Penguins, Royal Penguins and Little (Blue) Penguins.

What do they look like?
Most penguins are small, but some are big. They are all different shapes and sizes. Some penguins are black, white and yellow, whilst others are just black and white. Penguins have specialised feet that act like flippers to help them swim.

How do they move?
When penguins are walking on land their movement is a waddle. Penguins are amazing swimmers who use their amazing flipper-like feet to swim and pull them through the water.

I think the penguin is a remarkable creature and we should protect it.
By Bryce H

Spectacular Saturn

Saturn is a brownish planet that has a ring which is made out of rocks and ice. It is the sixth planet from the sun in our solar system.

Saturn’s rings
Saturn’s spectacular rings make it the most beautiful planet to see through a telescope. Saturn is not the only planet to have a system of rings. The other giant planets, Jupiter, Uranus and Neptune also have ring systems, but they are too faint to see from Earth.

Why is there a big gap between Saturn’s rings?
The Cassini gap of Saturn is caused by the force of gravity. Astronomers knew very little about this gap in Saturn’s rings until space probes were sent to visit the planet and explore.

What is Saturn’s largest moon?
Although Saturn has no moons as easily seen as Jupiter’s four big moons, it does have a moon called Titan. Titan is over 5000Km in diameter and it orbits Saturn about once every sixteen days.

Saturn is a great planet and its system of rings is so beautiful.
Jessica P.

Marvellous Mars

Mars is known as the ‘Red Planet’. It has craters, volcanoes and canyons and also has two very tiny moons. Mars is the fourth planet from the sun in our solar system.

How long is one year on Mars?
One year on Mars takes just a little longer than on Earth. One Martian year actually lasts 677 days. This makes it nearly twice as long as one Earth year.

The surface of Mars
Mars is made from lots of rocks. The surface of this great planet is a ‘blood’ red colour because of the dust and this gives it its nickname the ‘Red Planet’. It also has huge mountains.

Travelling to Mars
Various spacecraft landed on Mars back in the 1970’s. The latest United States mission to land on Mars safely took place in 2004. Its voyage lasted seven months and consisted of 500 million Km of travel.

My dream is that one day when I am older I will have the chance to travel to Mars and explore this great planet.
Hannah A.
Green Team News

We would like to thank Cassie (5M) and her family for taking great care of the chickens over the holiday period.

If you would like to take care of the chickens during the next holidays, please let Miss Bray or Miss Spiteri know.

Don’t forget No Waste Wednesday (Your lunch box can only have one piece of plastic or foil wrapping to earn a green environmental blast off).

Penrith RSL Chess Competition

Richmond Public School entered 4 teams in the recent Penrith RSL Chess Competition. It was an interesting day with each team playing seven games of competitive chess. There were 53 teams in the competition overall and the Richmond players played particularly well.

A big thank you to Mr Cormack who supervised on the day and Mrs Hermes, Mr Cranfield and Mr Haynes who assisted with transport.

Results were:
Team A: (Lachlan P, Leo L, Lucien B) - 13.5 points (Equal 6th)
Team B: (Joshua C, Blayke M, Michael C) - 11 points (Equal 22nd)
Team C: (Jeremy P, Jacob Z, Declan S) - 10.5 points (Equal 25th)
Team D: (Mitchell H, Jackson H, Mason T) - 10.5 points (Equal 25th)

Great work boys. Your behaviour and sportsmanship on the day were excellent.

R. Redemski
Chess Coordinator

Woolworths Earn and Learn

Woolworths Earn & Learn is back and it is now easier than ever to earn valuable resources for Richmond Public School. From Wednesday, 15 July to Tuesday, 8 September 2015, when you shop at Woolworths you can collect Earn & Learn Stickers from the checkout or through your online order. For every $10 spent you receive one Earn & Learn Sticker, place them on a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet. Once completed, simply place the Sticker Sheet in the Collection Box located in our front office.

Richmond Public School
Starting School Group

Starts July 17th 2015
Friday mornings
School Terms 3 and 4
9.10am—11.00am

Do you have a child starting kindergarten next year?

Come along to a free playgroup designed to assist children and parents transition to school life.

Art & music
Bring some fruit and water for morning tea.

Parents stay with their child for the playgroup and siblings are welcome too.

Children not attending Preschool or Child Care have priority of access

Please call the school on 45 782 027 or Lisa Jackson on 0423 720 492 for more information
Education Week 2015

Bunnings Barbeque
P&C News

Just a reminder that our next P&C meeting is to be held on:

**Monday, 3 August 2015.**

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.

**Agenda Items Include:**

1. Bunnings Barbeque Evaluation
2. Father’s Day Stall Organisation
3. Dance-a-thon Organisation
4. Wi-Fi Funding/Quotes

Belinda Scholte
P & C President

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### Mathematics Problem Solving

#### Early Stage 1

7 frogs sat on a mossy log, 2 jumped in the creek. How many frogs are left on the log?

#### Stage 1

I had 27 books. Mum took away 17. How many books have I got left now?

#### Stage 2

Jose sold 178 apples, 53 oranges and 156 pears. How many pieces of fruit did he sell altogether?

#### Stage 3

The high scorers on the girls’ basketball team averaged 16 points in their last game. During the game four of the girls scored: 22 points, 21 points, 15 points and 10 points. What was the score of the fifth player?

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**Richmond Reminders**

- **Café** is on again tomorrow in the staffroom at 2:30pm. All parents and caregivers are welcome to join Mrs Stevens for a delicious afternoon tea.

- **K-2 Sport Carnival** has been rescheduled due to wet weather. The carnival will be held on Thursday, 20 August 2015.

- Stage 3 students are invited to participate in the **CPR HELP Safety Awareness Program**. The cost of the program is $14.50 per student and will be held on Wednesday, 5 - Friday, 7 August 2015. Please make sure the permission slips and payment are returned to the office.

- **School Swimming and Water Safety Program** has been organised for Term four. There are limited places available and are filling up fast. This 10 day program is available to students from Year 2 to Year 6. If you are interested please get your permission slip and payment ($10 deposit or $75 full payment) to the office soon.

- When paying for excursions, fees or items for your children you can make the payments with our **Parent On-Line Payments (POP)**. Using this system eliminates the need for children to carry large sums of money and the risk of money being lost. To use POP go to [www.richmond-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/](http://www.richmond-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/) and find the ‘make a payment’ tab. To make a payment you will need to enter the students name and date of birth. The person paying will also need to enter their name, contact phone number and email address. Simply select what you are paying for and add the amount followed by your payment details and you will receive a receipt number. Once paid make sure you sign the permission slip with the payment receipt number and return it to the school office.