Thank you to Richmond Public School’s P & C for their sponsorship of our school Newsletter

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“To Strive for Excellence”

Important Dates

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<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 14 August</td>
<td>Stages 2 and 3 Touch Football gala Day</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 19 August &amp; Friday, 21 August</td>
<td>District Field / Track Carnival</td>
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<td>Thursday, 20 August</td>
<td>K-2 Sport Carnival</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 25 August</td>
<td>Hawkesbury Dance Eisteddfod</td>
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<td>Thursday, 27 August</td>
<td>Dance-a-thon Sponsorship Cards distributed</td>
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<td>Friday, 28 August</td>
<td>Touchdown Morning Tea Cut-off Date</td>
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Mathematics Computation Quizzes

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>13 August - 3 September</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>Friends of 10</td>
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<td>Friends of 10 with missing numerals</td>
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Richmond Marketplace Performances

Congratulations to Richmond Public School students who performed at Richmond Marketplace on Tuesday, 28 July 2015. Richmond Public School had a number of performances during the session which included our dance, choir and our recorder ensemble. Our dancers were restricted by the space available and with their performance telling a story and requiring quite a large area, the students were excellent in their performance and the way they negotiated the space. Richmond Public School’s Choir has really improved this year and their performance, “Raining on the Rock’ certainly impressed the audience and passing shoppers. Finally the Recorder Ensemble performed two pieces and I had parts of the audience and passing shoppers congratulating the Recorder Ensemble on their wonderful performance and their skills; with the audience recognising the many hours of practice necessary to reach such a level of performance.

Thank you to the many families who attended to support our students. A big thank you to Mrs Howell, Miss Fedele, Mrs Wilkinson, Mrs Morris, Mrs Micallef and Mr Redemski who have spent many hours organising and practising with their specific groups, ensuring the students were at such a high standard.

Great work Richmond Public School!

Recorder Ensemble – Congratulations!

Congratulations to our 22 students who performed at The Sydney Opera House on Tuesday, 4 August 2015. It was wonderful to see our students amongst more than 700 students from around the state within the concert hall performing and representing our school. This was a great opportunity and experience for our students and, at the end of the night when the students were being collected, nothing could take away their smiles and jubilation at such an experience.

Thank you to Mr Redemski for all of his hard work and to the students for their many sacrificed hours to ensure they could perform at the expected standard for the Opera House performance.
Richmond Public School commissioned the Skoolbag App’ in early Term 2, 2015. It has proven very successful for most families and I again encourage those families who haven’t engaged this free app’ to do so as soon as possible. Part of the app’ includes e-forms which are accessed through the e-form section of the app’. Though the school is investigating placing permission notes to excursions on the app’ with a link to our Parent-Online-Payment (P.O.P) process, the e-form section of the app’ already has Absentee Note access for families. With the e-form, you are able to write, with your finger, a reason for your child being absent and sign the e-form. Submitting the absent note sends the e-form to our school e-mail account where the office staff download the e-form as a hard copy and place it into the teacher’s tray ready for processing in their rolls. This is provided in the aim in making such a task easier for families. I again encourage you to use this very useful resource.

Aboriginal Incursion – An Indigenous Experience

On Tuesday 4 August, Richmond Public School students were immersed into the Aboriginal culture with a performance titled, “An Indigenous Experience”. This was a free incursion offered by the school to provide for the students an insight into the Aboriginal culture. They were able to witness and experience Dreamtime stories, music and dance, weaponry, Aboriginal food and the vast array of musical instruments which make the Aboriginal music so unique.

Thank you to Miss Spiteri who organised the event. I have only had positive reports regarding the performance and additional Aboriginal incursions have been organised for 2016. (There are photos of the event further into this Newsletter)

Registration of NSW Schools

The Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES) is an integral body in the development of curricula being implemented in NSW schools. BOSTES also advises the Department of Education in all aspects of teacher quality and content quality. In an additional role within BOSTES, the body has decided that all public schools in NSW must be registered. Presently, all private/independent schools are required to be inspected every 5 years to ensure their registration with BOSTES and the Department of Education. This process is now going to be implemented in all NSW public schools.

Late in Term 2, I was approached by my Director who requested for Richmond Public School to participate in the trial of this registration process. After consultation with the staff, it was decided that we would allow for Richmond Public School to be nominated. On Wednesday 24 June, I was notified that 20 schools in NSW (out of 2200 schools) have been chosen to be inspected; Richmond Public School is one of the trial schools.

On Friday 28 August, an inspector from BOSTES will be coming to Richmond Public School to inspect our curriculum implementation, primarily the English, Mathematics and Science curricula. They will also be inspecting our policy implementation processes focussing on our Incident Reporting Policy and Procedures and the school’s Attendance Policy and Register Codes. In true sense this is a compliment to the staff and community of Richmond Public School as;

1. The Director sees our school as a school with very tight procedures,
2. BOSTES will be able to confirm that what we do is correct; and
3. The school will be able to advise other schools on the inspection procedures; ensuring they are prepared for the registration process.

I will inform the community of the inspection results once the process is finalised.
Stage 3 Canberra Excursion

Richmond Public School’s Stage 3 headed to Canberra from Wednesday, 29 – Friday, 31 July. This was an important excursion to support the unit being treated on our government system. Unfortunately from the start of the excursion, before the first stop at Sutton Forest, students were presenting with significant health issues including vomiting and fever. There was no suggestion of any food poisoning from the excursion as students were ill prior to any food being consumed. The staff worked tirelessly to ensure the ill students were comfortable and those around our ill students had minimal disruption to their excursion. I was in continual communication with the staff as we worked through some significant concerns. Thank you to the families who drove down to Canberra to collect their ill child, this not only assisted the staff but I am sure that it decreased the spread of the virus. By Friday morning there were a number of students who had become ill with some students showing concerning signs. It was decided on Friday morning for the students to come home early. Undoubtedly, our new school app’ was a success with most families receiving the alert and then receiving hourly updates. We have found some issues with devices that are not Apple devices and Skoolbag is working through them. However, overall the school app’ was very successful.

Thank you to the many parents and caregivers who assisted me in unloading the coaches as quickly as possible ensuring the students could get home and receive the necessary treatment.

A very big thank you to the staff who attended the excursion. Many of the staff did not sleep over the two nights; continually monitoring the ill students through this period. The staff is not paid overtime for the excursion; they do it for the love of the job and the desire to give the students a range of new experiences.

Finally, thank you to our community who could see the logic in the decision that was made to return the students early and for their support during the students’ return and when they finally arrived.

Thank you!

Richmond Public School’s Parent/Caregiver Library

Parent Library

A number of years ago, Richmond Public School worked with the P&C in developing a Parent/ Caregiver Library. The aim of the Parent/Caregiver Library is to make available to parents/caregivers books that may assist them in dealing with any questions or concerns regarding their children. We now have a wide range of topics available. Parents/caregivers wishing to borrow from our Parent/Caregiver Library will need to see Ms Jameson and register themselves as external borrowers. Once this is complete, then borrowing may occur. Books purchased to date are books that deal with assisting your child who has been diagnosed with autism, healthy eating, puberty, mental health issues and tips on bringing up boys and girls. Recently, the school and P&C have received books on, “Dealing with those Difficult Conversations.” Once again, these books are available in the Parent/Caregiver Library and I encourage you to utilise such a useful resource. Thank you to the P&C for their continued donation and thank you to Ms Jameson for organising and maintaining such a wonderful initiative.

Congratulations Hannah, Harrison and James!!

Congratulations to Hannah.R, Harrison.P and James.H who are representing NSW at the Australian Federation National Karate Championships in August. Representing NSW is a wonderful achievement and we all wish them the best of luck in their endeavours.

Public High School Orientation Date

Families with students in Years 6 are advised that Public High Schools in NSW will be having their Year 7, 2016 Orientation Day on Thursday, 3 December. Our local feeder high school, Richmond High School, will be starting their Year 7 Orientation Day (Thursday, 3 December) at 9am. More details of the event will be sent home to students/families attending Richmond High School in 2016 in the near future.
Staff Development Day
– Saturday, 22 August – Advising the Community

The last day of the school year for all students is Wednesday, 16 December 2015. However, this is not the last day for the staff. The Department of Education has set aside Thursday, 17 December and Friday, 18 December as Staff Development Days. During these staff development days, the staff complete mandatory on-line training and Child Protection Training, syllabus training, preparation for the following year and closing down of the school. With the development of the new History and Geography curricula, the staff have requested training in the implementation of the new curricula before the end of the year to enable them time and knowledge to prepare for implementation in 2016. Therefore, the staff will be attending a Staff Development Day on Saturday, 22 August with a focus on the History and Geography curricula. This will replace the very last day of the school year; Friday, 18 December 2015. Agenda for the day is as follows:
1. Mathematics Diagnostic Assessments
2. Geography Curriculum
3. History Curriculum
4. Visual Literacy
5. Professional Development Plans
6. School Website Updates

Congratulations to Richmond Public School’s P&C!

Thank you to Mrs Jodie Stanley who organised our wonderful school tea towels which have been well received by our community. When Mrs Stanley ordered and paid for the tea towels, she entered a raffle competition with Expressions, the company who provided the tea towels. The P&C were informed on Friday, 31 July that Mrs Stanley’s ticket was drawn from the raffle winning for our school an additional $1000. This money will go towards assisting with the funding of our Wi-fi network which is the P&C’s major focus for 2016.

Congratulations Mrs Stanley!!!

Earn and Learn – Final Date

Woolworths Earn & Learn is back and it is now easier than ever to earn valuable resources for Richmond Public School. The final date to collect the stickers is Tuesday, 8 September 2015. 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 or place the sheets into the Richmond Public School box in front of Woolworths – Richmond Marketplace

2016 Enrolments (Reminder)

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.

Gary Ruzgas
Principal
Stage 3 Excursion to Canberra and The Snow

Stage 3 students from Richmond Public School have recently experienced an education tour of the national capital, Canberra. 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 their national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion, the Australian Government is contributing funding of $20 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate Program, towards those costs. The rebate will be paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

Highlights of the first day of the excursion were the visits to Parliament House, where students undertook a guided tour and experienced a role play of passing a Bill. At Old Parliament House, they studied details about the Australian Constitution, Federal Government and took part in a mock election which highlighted preferential voting. They also were able to explore the Australian National Museum. That evening, the students were able to see the night lights of Canberra from the top of Telstra Tower.

The second day saw us bound for Smiggins and the snow, and it certainly did not disappoint. The snow was magnificent and the students had great fun sliding, rolling, making snowmen and of course, throwing snowballs. Back in Canberra that evening they attended the Dinosaur Museum, where some excellent guides engaged the students in amazing facts about dinosaurs.

The last day featured an exciting visit to Questacon, where the students had great fun exploring lots of hands-on scientific displays.

Congratulations to the Stage 3 students for their cooperation and responsible behaviour on the trip. A big thank you to all the staff who assisted - Mrs McGrath, Miss Bray, Miss Deal, Mrs Micallef, Mrs Harris, Mrs Shoobridge, Miss Dennis, Miss Luland and Mr Redemski.

Richmond Marketplace Performance Primary Dance Group

On Tuesday 28 July 2015, Richmond Public School’s Dance Group performed at the Richmond Marketplace. It was a wonderful performance which was thoroughly enjoyed by the school and local communities. Our dancers walked to and from the school grounds wearing their brand new cloaks which were kindly funded by the P&C. They were extremely grateful to receive a kind and generous donation from the committee and enjoyed wearing them to protect their costume whilst keeping warm.
Library News

Australian Children's Book Week

Books Light Up Our World!

Get ready for our Book Parade
Monday 31st August.

Come dressed as a favourite book character or creatively depict the theme, “Books Light up Our World”.
Parents and pre-schoolers are welcome to attend.
We will also be having a presentation after recess from a visiting author, Jess Black.

Book Fair

There was great excitement in the library during our Book Fair, with a wide range of books, posters and stationery on sale. A wonderful team of parents were kept very busy selling books, before and after school each day. Many thanks to all those who gave their time to work at the Book Fair. An event like this is not possible without your support.
Thank you to the generous families who made a donation of books to our library. The books that were donated totalled over $200. Thank you also to our library monitors, who looked after the raffle, with prizes for students from each Stage.
Sales were high and as a result, we will receive a commission of $1500 worth of books to our library. More wonderful new books will soon be available for students to borrow.
If you are able to help with the covering of new books, please see Miss Jameson in the library.

Recorder Ensemble - Opera House Performance

Members of the Richmond Public School Recorder Ensemble travelled to the Opera House for their ultimate performance at the Festival of Instrumental Music’s Banksia Concert.
It was a fantastic experience for our students, and their recorder playing was superb. They participated with 700 other students from a variety of public schools throughout New South Wales. Their repertoire consisted of, “Dance of the Tumblers” by Rimsky-Korsakoff, “Rondo by Henry Purcell” and “The Swans of Lir” by Stephen Chin. For the last piece, they were accompanied by the Combined Public Schools String Ensemble, which was a tremendous finale. Well done to all Recorder Ensemble students for their hours of practice and their enthusiasm in producing wonderful music.

Raymond Redemski

RPS Athletics Carnival 2015

On Friday, 24th July, RPS held its Athletics Carnival at Tamplin Field. It was an exciting and action-packed day. Our girls and boys competed in Shot Put, Discus and Long Jump in the field events section. Their track events were 100m, 200m and 800m. What a wonderful sight it was to see our students compete with enthusiasm and sportsmanship.
The teaching staff did a fantastic job running events and worked incredibly hard throughout the day. Parents provided great assistance with events and cheered on the competitors, helping them to achieve their best. Everyone at the field made the day run smoothly, so thank you all.
There were a number of excellent individual performances on the day and three new records were set:
Senior Girls Shot Put – Georgia P 8.87m replaces 7.50m set in 1998
Senior Girls Discus – Georgia P 34.11m replaces 14.68m set in 2012
We have a great squad of qualifiers that will now go on to compete at the District Athletics Carnival. This will take place over two days – Wednesday, 19 and Friday, 21 August. Good luck to our District Athletics Team!
Mr Crye

2015 RPS Athletics Carnival Results
District Relay Teams

11 Boys
11 Girls
10 Girls
9 Girls
8 Girls
800m
1st Kristina B(Q), 2nd Melonie G(Q), 3rd Riley W
1st Adam B(Q), 2nd Cameron M(Q), 3rd Jye W
1st Georgia P(Q), 2nd Ashley C(Q), 3rd Renee B

1st Lachlan P(Q), 2nd S.B(Q), 3rd Elijah H
1st Tori C(Q), 2nd Rachel N(Q), 3rd Alysses D
1st Matthew G(Q), 2nd Lachlan C(Q), 3rd Hugh M
1st Kristina B(Q), 2nd P.B(Q), 3rd Chloe B
1st Adam B(Q), 2nd Isaac N(Q), 3rd Lennox H
1st Tahlia K(Q), 2nd Renee B(Q), 3rd Grace T

Long Jump
1st Pearce M, 2nd Lachlan P, 3rd Cooper B
1st Ellyce B(Q), 2nd Katie-Jane P, 3rd Alysses D.
1st Lucien B, 2nd Hugh M, 3rd Charlton C
1st Melonie G(Q), 2nd Carly P, 3rd Ebony C
1st Jye W(Q), 2nd Levi M, 3rd Blayke M & Ben S
1st Georgia P, 2nd Isabella C, 3rd Renee B

Shot Put
1st Lewis V(Q), 2nd Blake V(Q), 3rd Lachlan P
1st Charlotte M(Q), 2nd Ellyce B, 3rd Kiera W
1st Harry K(Q), 2nd Lucien B(Q), 3rd Lachlan C
1st Melonie G(Q), 2nd Melissa D, 3rd Chloe B
1st Alvin W(Q), 2nd Levi M(Q), 3rd Samuel M
1st Georgia P(Q), 2nd Taylor G, 3rd Abbi G

Discus
1st S.B(Q), 2nd Daniel I (Q), 3rd Bryce H
Jr Girls
1st Charlotte M, 2nd Amy P, 3rd Kiera W
11 Boys
1st Michael W(Q), 2nd Hugh M, 3rd Lachlan C
11 Girls
1st Melonie G, 2nd Alyssa V, 3rd Chloe B
Sr Boys
1st Levi M(Q), 2nd James H(Q), 3rd Leo L
Sr Girls
1st Georgia P(Q), 2nd Angela H, 3rd Lucy M

House Points
1st Toxana 204
2nd Yarrabee 195
3rd Kamilaroi 179

Stage 2 Hawkesbury Milo T20 Blast School Cup

On Thursday 30 July 2015, students from Stage Two attended the Milo T20 Blast School Cup. The Gala Day was held at Bensons Lane in Richmond. Twenty Three students walked to and from the school grounds accompanied by Miss Fedele and Mr Cormack.

The Gala Day was designed to engage students in a series of fun and exciting cricket games. It was a great success as all our attendees played with enthusiasm and enjoyment.

Richmond Public School entered 3 teams, 2 boys’ teams and one girl’s team. We achieved excellent results with all teams achieving at least one win in their competition draw. The teachers, parents/caregivers and organisers were extremely proud of the positive skills in sportsmanship and encouragement displayed by our students at all times. We congratulate them on their effort, well done!

CPR Help – Stage 3

Last week (Wednesday, 5 August - Friday, 7 August), Stage 3 students participated in a valuable program to learn how to manage emergency situations. The students gained knowledge and skills which are vital to ensure their own safety and the safety of others.

Initially, the students learnt the fundamental steps DRSABCD:
1. Danger
2. Response
3. Send for help
4. Airway
5. Breathing
6. CPR
7. Defibrillator

They thoroughly explored the importance of the DRSABCD steps and how to conduct each one safely and correctly. Following this, they learnt the valuable skill of how to perform CPR on an unconscious person by using compressions and breaths.

This program is available annually for Stage 3 students at Richmond Public School to provide them with the opportunity to learn these important life skills.
**P&C News**

Thank you to the parents/caregivers who attended our P&C meeting held on Monday, 3 August. Considering the cold weather we still had a large number of families attend.

Items discuss included:

1. Bunnings Barbeque Evaluation – The P&C raised just over $1500. Thank you to Bennett Property, Richmond for their $500 donation towards our barbeque.

2. Father’s Day Stall Organisation – Items have been purchased and are ready to price and organise into class sets for sale – help is requested for the stalls.

3. Dance-a-thon Organisation – Sponsorship cards are being prepared for distribution. A number of small prizes have been purchased. The major prizes are still to be purchased.

4. Wi-Fi Funding/Quotes – Mr Shirvington, who is organising the quotes, will answer questions regarding the purchasing of the Wi-fi network at our next P&C meeting on Monday, 31 August 2015.

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

**Monday, 31 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. Dance-a-thon organisation;

2. Final organisation for the Father’s Day Stalls;

3. Registration of Schools – Results; and

4. Wi-fi Quotes – Discussion with Mr Shirvington regarding the quotes.

Belinda Scholte  
P & C President

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**An Indigenous Experience**
Richmond Reminders

- **Café** is on again tomorrow (Friday, 14 August) in the staffroom at 2:30pm. All parents and caregivers are welcome to join Mrs Stevens for a delicious afternoon tea.

- **Primary Away Sports Program** notes went out on Tuesday, 11 August to all students in Years 3 – 6. Please make sure these notes are signed and returned to the office by Friday, 14 August.

- **Book Week Incursion, Visiting Author – Jess Black** notes went out to all students. On Monday, 31 August Jess Black will be visiting Richmond Public School with the cost for this incursion being $6. Permission slips and payment need to be handed in to the office by Friday, 28 August. An **Order Form** also went home attached to this note. If you would like to order any of Jess Black’s books, please fill in the order form with payments to The Children’s Bookshop and return the forms to the school office.

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**Richmond Public School**

**Starting School Group**

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

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

- **Stories & Games**
- **Group Activities**
- **Art & music**
- **Visits to a classroom**

**Do you have a child starting kindergarten next year?**

- **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

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**Mathematics Problem Solving**

**Early Stage 1**

Viv is 5, her brother Ned is 3 years older. How old is Ned?

**Stage 1**

I had 71 cars. Mum gave me 13 more. How many cars have I got now?

**Stage 2**

Mrs Green has 45 students in her class. How many equal teams of 5 can she make?

**Stage 3**

Find the mystery money. I have $99, but I can’t give change for a $50 note, a $20 note, a $10 note or a $2 coin. What notes and coins do I have?