Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 1 April</td>
<td>Café-2:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 5 April</td>
<td>Touchdown Morning Tea – 9:30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 5 April</td>
<td>Public Speaking Display – 11:30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 6 April</td>
<td>School Cross Country – 11:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 7 April</td>
<td>ANZAC Day – 10:15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 8 April</td>
<td>LAST DAY OF TERM 1</td>
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Harmony Day

Well done to all of our Richmond Public School students who celebrated Harmony Day on Monday, 21 March. It was a wonderful day where the students came to school dressed in orange, the colour which recognises Harmony Day, and where classes participated in activities which highlighted tolerance and inclusivity within our community. Each student received an orange wrist band with the message, ‘Be a Buddy, Not a Bully’.

During the day the school also had a Buddy Bench delivered. The Buddy Bench was constructed by The Men’s Shed with all material being donated by Bunnings, McGraths Hill. The Buddy Bench will be set under the tree in the passive playground area on the oval. Stage 2 will decide on the colour/s of the bench and once this is complete a message will be placed on the bench related to being a buddy/friend.

A big thank you to Mrs Heidi Johnson (Lily – 5D and Chloe – 3/4B) who organised for the wrist bands to be made and donated and who also organised for the construction of our Buddy Bench.

I would also like to publicly recognise and thank Bunnings, McGraths Hill who did everything possible to assist in making the Buddy Bench including providing any paint we needed and signage. Thank you.

(There are photos of the event further into this Newsletter)

Mathematics Computation Quizzes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Skill</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31 March</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>Counting groups to ten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 April</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>+5 and -5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>+50 and -50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Years 3-6</td>
<td>X9 and +9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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RED Notes!

It is policy at Richmond Public School, that any emergency be it a Stranger Alert or any other emergency where families need to be notified, every student in the school will be sent a Red Note. Red Notes are obviously not restricted to Note Days and will always go out to families when the school experiences or is notified of an incident that requires family notification. Recently, a Red Note was sent home regarding a stranger alert which occurred at one of our neighbouring schools. The following day, one of our parents highlighted to the school the website for, ‘The Daniel Morcombe Foundation’. This is a wonderful website with many resources which could assist families in educating their children about Stranger Danger. At a recent staff meeting, all staff were given access to this site and will be using the available resources to highlight Stranger Danger; particularly when a Red Note is handed out in regards to a Stranger Alert. The school also ordered the free Stranger Danger Resource Folder which will be accessioned through the library and will be available to staff and families (through the school’s Parent Library)

I encourage all families to visit this site and make themselves aware of the valuable resources available.
Regional Swimming Competition

Congratulations to our Richmond Public School students who represented the Hawkesbury Region at the Sydney West Regional Swimming Competition held on Thursday, 24 March at Homebush Aquatic Centre – Home of the 2000 Olympics. All students did their best and represented our school and their region with distinction.

A special congratulations to Solomon L who made the 50m finals for his age group and to the Junior Girls Relay Team who also made the finals. It was wonderful to witness our students compete at such a high level and in the pool which also saw Ian Thorpe compete at Olympic level.

Thank you to the parents/caregivers who transported the students to and from the venue and cheered on not only our students but all competitors.

Well done Richmond Public School!

Last day of Term 1  (Reminder)

The last day of Term 1 is Friday, 8 April 2016. Our educational journey recommences for all students on:

Wednesday, 27 April 2016

Thank you to all of our parents/caregivers who have assisted the school and the students during the term. Your assistance and support is indeed appreciated!

I would also like to recognise our senior students who were our Kindergarten buddies during the term and who also took on the role as play buddies to some of our younger students. They have done a wonderful job and certainly demonstrated that they are responsible and caring students. If this is an indication of the youth in our community then we should be very proud.

Easter Parade

Thank you to the parents and caregivers who attended our Easter Parade on Wednesday 23 March, 2016. It was wonderful to see the effort the students and families made to have something to parade in for the day. I was especially impressed with our Stage 3 students who assisted their Kindergarten Buddy in marching around during the parade but who also came dressed for the occasion and really took on the spirit of Easter. It is these great role models which is one aspect as to why Richmond Public School is such a great school. Well done Stage 3.

Thank you to Mrs Greene and her organising Team for organising the parade and to our hardworking P&C who organised for the Easter Raffle and the spoils and beverages sold at the canteen.

Great work Richmond Public School.

There are photos of the event further into this Newsletter.

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:


Whooping Cough (Reminder)

Recently, the school has been informed, after the event, that a family member or a student of our school has had whooping cough. The NSW Health site states that in the event of diagnosing Whooping Cough, a doctor, laboratory or hospital are by law required to notify the local Public Health Unit. Unfortunately, it appears that this does not include informing schools. The NSW Health site also states that students who have been diagnosed with Whooping Cough are to stay away from school for five days while they have antibiotics for those five days. Parents /Caregivers are to inform the school.
I kindly ask that if your child or a member of your family is diagnosed with whooping cough, that you notify the school as soon as possible. This will enable the school to inform the teacher and the families with students in that class.

Thank you

Painting at Richmond Public School – Started

Painting at Richmond Public School started earlier than anticipated and should be complete by the end of the term. The painters worked through Easter in an attempt to alleviate any problems with having to close rooms. There is more painting work to do that is listed and this will be completed either at the end of this year or the beginning of 2017. As most know, painting something so large as a school is like painting the Sydney Harbour Bridge; once you get to the end, you need to go back to the beginning.....

Work that is being carried out or is planned is as follows:

1. Painting Classroom 5D;
2. Painting Classroom 1/2C;
3. Painting the ceilings of the stairwells in the main building;
4. Painting the hallway upstairs in the main building; both walls and ceiling;
5. Repair and paint the facia boards on the main building; and
6. Repair the concreted area near the gym equipment which includes filling and relaying asphalt.

ANZAC Day Service

Richmond Public School’s ANZAC Day Service is to be held on Thursday, 7 April 2016. 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 this time is available and they’re invited to lay their flowers. I look forward to seeing many parents/caregivers attend our solemn, yet very important ceremony.

Feeding Families Friday – A Thank you from Helping Hands – Social Media

On Wednesday 23 March, I was informed that Richmond Public School are being officially thanked by Hawkesbury Helping Hands our Feeding Families Friday Charity on social media sites. Though we appreciate being recognised by Helping Hands, the message is about giving to others in need not being rewarded for our actions. This is a wonderful cause and I thank the community for embracing this initiative established by Richmond Public School’s SRC. We are now receiving calls from other schools in regards to this initiative; enquiring as to the process we have undertaken, contacts and our organisational procedures. Again, thank you to the many families who donate to our Feeding Families Friday which began on Friday 19 February, 2016. ‘Hawkesbury Helping Hands’ is a charity that assists the homeless along with many families who are in desperate need of food items.

As stated in past Newsletters, the SRC is not asking for donations from each family every Friday. However, if, as you go shopping during the fortnight, possibly purchase one item for this worthy cause. Richmond Public School is such a wonderful school with many good things happening, it is nice to stretch our generosity outside of the school and to those who are needy.
Parent / Caregiver / Teacher Interviews

Thank you to the parents/caregivers who organised to meet with their child’s teacher during the final weeks of Term 1 (Tuesday, 29 March – Wednesday, 6 April). In Term 2, student Report Cards will be sent home reflecting your child’s achievements under specific Key Learning Areas. Richmond Public School strongly believes and adheres to an ‘open door policy’ for parents and caregivers and I encourage parents/caregivers to continue having conversations with their child’s teacher regarding their child’s progress.

Working with Children Check (Reminder)

It has been legislated that from 2016 all unsupervised volunteers, be it sporting, reading helpers, fundraising helpers, canteen workers and the like MUST have a Working with Children Check. The initial Working with Children Check can be accessed at;


Once this check is completed online, volunteers will need to submit relevant paperwork to the Roads and Maritime Service (RMS) in order to be issued a WWC number. As a volunteer, there is no cost involved in gaining this WWC number. This number must be given to the school office in order for volunteers to begin service in our school. We understand that this process takes a little time to complete, however the safety of our students is imperative to all concerned.

Gary Ruzgas
Principal

Library News!

Library Furniture

Have you been into the library lately? Did you notice anything different? The final parts of our brand new library furniture has arrived! Mrs Howell has been very busy unwrapping all the brightly coloured furniture and after much rearranging, she has finally got it all organised. All the classes who have visited the library over the past two weeks have enjoyed working at the funky new circular tables and computer bars. More importantly, everyone has had the opportunity to relax on a comfortable lounge seat or stool to read a book.

Come in and have a look the next time you are wandering past the library.
Library Monitors

Over the past five weeks, students in Year 5 and Year 6 have had the opportunity to try out for a library monitor position for 2016. Mrs Howell had over forty students who were keen to help in the library this year and was very impressed with the positive attitude of all the students who tried out. Congratulations to the library monitors for 2016: Selena B, Layla G, Bryce H, Sarah L, Patrick M, Aalia N, Karla S and Niamh S.

Woolworths Earn & Learn Program

Last year, Richmond Public School participated in the Woolworths Earn & Learn Program. With the help of our school community, our school collected stickers which were then used to purchase educational items for our classrooms.

The ordered equipment has arrived and has been shared across the stages, with each class receiving new educational games to build social skills and assist development in Numeracy (e.g. Dominoes, Snakes & Ladders, Battleship and Checkers). Our Library also gained a range of new equipment which students can access during playtime at lunch.

A big thank you to our school community for supporting this program.

Melissa Deal (Stage 3 Teacher).
Easter Hat Parade
On Wednesday, 23 March we all had a great day of fun and celebration at the Easter Parade. The P&C ran a raffle with the potential of winning one of the many baskets of Easter eggs. Morning tea was also offered. People could enjoy some Baker’s Delight Easter Buns and tea or coffee. The P&C are grateful for the support for this fundraising event. The entire event raised over $2000 profit. This will go towards upgrading technology within the school. Without the time or money provided by the school community, the school would not have the resources it has today. So a big thank you to all.

The next P&C event will be Mother’s Day stall Week 2, Term 2 – Mother’s Day this year is Sunday May 8, 2016.

All the best for the school holidays.

#### Richmond Reminders

- **Year 6 students need to return their 2017 Year 7 Expression of interest for High School immediately.** All forms must be returned even if your child is going to a private school.

- **Café is on this Friday, 1 April.** Come and join Mrs Stevens for a delicious afternoon tea and a catch up with other parents/carers at Richmond Public School.

- **Stage 3 Great Aussie Bush Camp** final payments are due Friday, 1 April. The 3-Day camp is the first day of Term 2 from Wednesday, 27 April to Friday, 29 April.

- **Feeding Families Friday** is held each Friday and students are encouraged to bring a non-perishable item to the office that will be donated to Hawkesbury Helping Hands. The Student Representative Council from Richmond Public School designed this initiative to assist Hawkesbury Helping Hands to provide much needed food to struggling families in the local area.

- **School Cross Country 2016** is being held on Wednesday, 6 April. Students in Years 3 – 6 and students in Year 2 that are turning 8 this year are participating. Students need to wear sports uniform and a hat. Parent/carers are welcome to attended and if you are able to assist on the day by standing at vital points of the track, please let Miss Bailey or Miss Deal know. The days schedule is as follows:
  
  - 11:40 am 8/9y Girls 3 Laps
  - 11:40 am 8/9y Boys 3 Laps
  - 12:00 pm 10y Girls 3 Laps
  - 12:00 pm 10y Boys 3 Laps
  - 12:20 pm 11y Girls 5 Laps
  - 12:20 pm 11y Boys 5 Laps
  - 12:40 pm 12/13y Girls 5 Laps
  - 12:40 pm 12/13y Boys 5 Laps

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### Mathematics Problem Solving

#### Early Stage 1
Miss Spiteri has 7 star stickers. Mrs Fitzsimons has 3 heart stickers. How many stickers do they have altogether?

#### Stage 1
How many legs are there on 5 elephants?

#### Stage 2
Charlotte received $15 for her birthday from her grandmother. She added this to her savings account which has $53. How much does Charlotte have now?

#### Stage 3
What is the mystery number? Find the smallest number that fits these clues:
- It is a natural number.
- It is divisible by 5 and 7.
- When divided by 9, a remainder of 6 is left.
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! 

Find out more at www.skoolbag.com.au