

Caring and Sharing

A small school achieving BIG Things

7 March 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Improve student learning and achievement for all students

It's week five already which is exactly half way through our first term. It's most encouraging to observe students working really hard to master their skills, knowledge and attitudes to learning that will see them develop into skilful, knowledgeable and caring citizens of the future. Last week you may have read about our targeted support program in literacy. We have created an inviting learning space where our students will participate in this program which will begin this week.

Our school Psychologist Ellen Sheridan is based at our school for two days per week. If you would like to make contact with Ellen about your child, please contact Brooke Calvert our Deputy Principal who will share with you the referral system and can provide additional information if required.

This week our year five and six students embarked on their leadership camp to Cooba. A group of very enthusiastic students and teachers left on Monday morning to share time together to learn more about themselves as they explore their leadership potential and form new friendships. It's exciting to watch them grow and develop into capable and respectful leaders of our school.

Our lunchtime clubs are well underway with many students enjoying Martial Arts Monday with Mr Smith, Drumming Club has just commenced in the Hub and the Masterchef kitchen is full to capacity on Thursday and Friday where Mrs Vince and Mrs Agius cook up a storm with some very creative chefs!

Develop an expert teaching team

On Friday morning our teachers were engaged in a professional learning session to set-up their classes on Seesaw. Look out for your child's individual QR code (scannable item that allows you to access your child's digital portfolio) and instructions on how you can set up and access the learning that takes place in your child's class. You will have the opportunity to view and comment about their learning. Support will be provided at school if you would like assistance to upload the Seesaw APP, please speak with your child's teacher.

Monday afternoon saw our staff attend a two hour professional learning session hosted by Kingsford Smith School led by the literacy expert and author, Christine Topfer. The focus of the session concentrated on developing and extending our teaching of phonemic awareness. Phonemic awareness is one of the foundational skills of literacy and is vital to student's development of the English language. We partnered with other schools in the Belconnen network to learn with each other and share our expertise. This work is reflected in our strategic priorities in our Annual Action Plan for 2018 and is building upon the work we commenced mid-2017.

Provide a safe, inclusive and respectful school culture

When working with students to solve their concerns, we follow relational practice protocol to support discussion between two parties, ascertain the cause of a problem and repair the harm through thoughtful, supported dialogue so that everybody can move forward. The question framework is included in this newsletter so you can share and support your child to become familiar with the questions.

On Wednesday afternoon our staff continued the collaborative process of further developing our behaviour matrix which will inform our Positive Behaviours for Learning (PBL) journey. PBL is a research based framework for creating safe, inclusive and respectful school cultures. Our PBL journey so far includes three main expectations of student learning behaviour. At Richardson Primary School we are; *Respectful, Positive Learners* who are *Safe*. This is a very exciting time for our school community as we work to build a culture together that is safe and supportive and underpinned by very clear expectations for behaviour and learning. We have further work planned for this term and will be keen to share our progress with you.

Warm regards
Nicole Agius - Executive Teacher

Student Awards

The following students will be receiving an award at assembly on Friday 9 March 2018.
Assembly is 9:15am in the Hall.

NAMES	CLASS
Aiva Hung	KA
Ulia Vaana	KA
Kendrick Singh	KM
Ella Stephen	KM
Charlotte Stafrace	1/2B
Hanna Fitrawan	1/2B
Monica Brimmer	1/2M
Sara Singh	1/2M
Ailys Dulguime	3/4I
Raymund Tong	3/4I
Kai Clarke	3/4I
Callum Clarke	5/6S
Hannah Herczeg-Clarke	5/6S
Emmet Hughes	5/6V
Anthony Myszka	5/6V
Bella Spencer-Brown	1-6T
Eissa Saeed	1-6T

Positive Behaviour at School

At Richardson Primary School we believe that the work we do in establishing positive relationships encourages positive behaviour at school. To maintain these positive relationships we work with a restorative approach.

What is Restorative Practice?

We understand that at times things do go wrong, restorative practice aims to rebuild relationships. Following a process of reflection, repair and reconnect, staff are trained to manage inappropriate behaviour by following restorative practices. Teachers and students meet together during a 'restorative discussion/conference' to reflect on what happened and the consequences of the behaviour on others. Through dialogue and mutual understanding, relationships are repaired and those involved are able to reconnect and move forward together.

The key questions used during a discussion/conference include;

What happened?

What were you thinking at the time?

What are people thinking now?

Who has been affected?

What needs to happen to make things right and repair any harm?

What will you do next time?

This script is presented in a visual format and is used from Preschool to year six. If you would like to know more about restorative practices a helpful website to visit is www.behaviourmatters.org

Richardson Primary School School Psychologist

Ellen Sheridan our school psychologist will be working at Richardson Primary 2 days a week (Monday and Tuesday). She works closely with the Deputy Principal in a case management approach focussing on referrals, observations, assessment and counselling. Ellen's work also involves meeting with parents, teachers and students as this is paramount to the success of each child who requires support. If you are concerned about your child and their needs, we encourage you to talk to your child's class teacher first. Class teachers and executive can make a student referral to the school psychologist through the student engagement team. Parents and carers can also request support or make a referral by contacting the school's Deputy Principal on 6142 3630.

Richardson Primary School acknowledges the Ngunnawal people, the traditional custodians of this land. We would also like to pay respect to the United Ngunnawal Elders Council and to the Elders, both past and present of the Ngunnawal nation. We also extend that respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in our community.

Richardson Primary School School Board Election

School board nominations have been returned and we are pleased to announce that we have 4 enthusiastic parent and citizen nominations. Voting will be opened from Tuesday 6 March to Monday 12 March, the community will have the opportunity to elect three parent members to the school board. Please see below for information about each of the nominees.

If you would like to vote:

1. Go to the front office and collect a ballot paper
2. Complete the ballot paper by selecting one (1) person
3. Place ballot paper in the provided envelope and sign the envelope
4. Place envelope in the School Board election box located at the front office

Assistant Returning Officer
Brooke Calvert

Deb Clarke

Dear Richardson Community,

Hello! My name is Deb Clarke and I have nominated myself as a parent representative on the Richardson Primary School Board. I have 3 children at Richardson Primary in Years 1, 3, and 5.

I have been an active member of the P&C for the past 2 years and I have just been elected as the P&C Secretary for 2018. During my time with the P&C I have volunteered for all P&C fundraising events which has allowed me to get to know other parents. Over the seven years that my children have attended the school, I have also helped out with other school events including being a parent helper on class excursions, running the Scholastic Book Fair, and making costumes for class performances.

I have always appreciated that the parents and carers of the students are always welcomed and encouraged to participate and have their voices heard about the goings-on of the school. In the last 12 months I have seen significant positive changes and improvement to not just student learning but also student behaviour. I have been active with the teachers of my children and their Executive Teachers in addressing bullying in the school and ensuring all children are supported in the classroom.

Like all parents, I want my children to be able to learn to their fullest potential in a safe and supportive environment; I also want this for all children in the school and I am passionate about being able to contribute to the continued improvement of the school through the relationships I have developed with the teachers, the Executive staff, the P&C, and the parents and carers that make up the Richardson community.

I would appreciate your vote for a parent representative position on the School Board so I can take on a more proactive role in the management of the school and supporting the improvements to the learning environment for students to succeed.

Thanking you,
Deb Clarke

Hongyan Cottam

To Richardson Community,

I am Jasmine Cottam's mum, she has commenced pre-school in term 1 2018. I am currently self-employed tax agent and work at home to help my clients prepare tax returns and financial statements. Before my family moved from Young NSW to Richardson, I was Executive assistant of CEO and secretary on the board for Elouera Association Inc. in Cootamundra.

I am full member of CPA since 2013 and have public practice certificate since 2017. I graduated from the University of Sydney with Master degrees of Commerce (Taxation) and Professional Accounting in 2009. I have worked for several accounting practise and one middle-sized not-for-profit organization in Cootamundra. I have experiences in preparing financial statements and tax returns for different size of business and individual, with annual turnover up to \$20 million. The not-for-profit organization I worked for as Executive Assistant of CEO for 3 years, operates special school, day care, two recycling plants, pallets making factory, commercial laundry and café. As Executive Assistant of CEO I am responsible of all accounting and administration duties. I prepare projective cash-flow statement every month, so we can allocate limited resources in important areas. Since I am the one preparing all financial statements, I have to report to the board, auditors, and other parties. Some of them have high level of accounting knowledge, such as our auditors from mid-tier accounting firm, some of them do not have much knowledge of accounting.

The organization I worked provides employment opportunity for people with disabilities. On one side, we have to provide the social benefits, on the other side, the goods and service we provide have to be commercially sound and viable. During the period of my employment, we were changing from paper based filling system, to digital system. Worked in the disabilities service industry for two years, I understand the importance of equal opportunity and respect human rights for people with or without disabilities.

Tali Perry

Hello All,

As part of the board, I got to be in the process of choosing a new principal it was another great step in the right direction for our school.

I have greatly enjoyed my time as Richardson Primary School Board Chairperson, it has been a great experience to be a part of making changes to better our school staff and community.

I have felt very privileged to be part of the Board to make the fantastic and ongoing changes to our school. My children and I have been in this School for 9 years. I have seen a lot changes with staff, principals and students I have been very involved in the P&C and Board. This has also given me a lot of experience in helping wherever possible for the School, P&C , Community and kids or their parents.

I feel that continuing my part as Board Chair we can all work to continue the great changes to make our great school even better.

It is a passion to seek the best opportunities that are possible to help make a better school, for a better future.

Tali Perry
Current Board Chair Richardson Primary School

Jimmy Varghese

Jimmy Varghese is a resident of the Richardson suburb since 2011 and associating with RPS activities as a parent since 2013. He had served the RPS Board as a Vice- Chair during the period from 2014 to 2015. Jimmy Varghese is a professional member of the Australian Institute of Leaders and Managers (formerly known as Australian Institute of Management) since 2012. He started his career as a Mechanical Engineer and later held lower and middle management roles with world's largest multinational corporations that include Electrolux, Whirlpool and Xerox. Jimmy has a Master's Degree in Business Administration from India and also holds Human Resource Management qualifications from Ireland in addition to other qualifications gained from Australia. He has more than 20 years of management and leadership experience working with more than six different Industries on three different continents. He had worked as a Trainer of the Trainers for the United Nations Environment project 'HIDECOR/NCCoP' in Asia during 2003-2004 representing Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Industry in the International Consortium. He was appointed to the Casual Teacher register of Canberra Institute of Technology in the year 2013. He ran a successful trade and marketing business in Canberra during the period from 2012 to 2014 to provide trade services to the customers of 'The Good Guys'.

He is a public servant since 2014 and currently working as the Operations Manager - Ward Services of The Canberra Hospital. In this role, he is managing a culturally diverse team of approximately seventy staff to provide excellent Ward Clerk services. As one of the On Call Managers of the Canberra Hospital, he manages four other portfolios to ensure uninterrupted services to our patients and their families and Clinicians during after-hours. In his previous role, he worked with Chief Minister's Directorate as an IT Systems Administrator of ACT Health.

He is an active community member and held various positions with many community organisations. He served Canberra Malayalees Association (CMA Inc) as its Secretary and Interim President for more than two years which has more than 4000 members in Canberra. He represented Indian community as a delegate of the Federation of Indian Associations in Canberra (FINACT) in many Government forums conducted by Australian and Indian Governments. He was appreciated by ACT Legislative Assembly for his community work in the year 2015. He is a member of the Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church, and he has been serving its members as a Principal of the Sunday school since 2011.



The advertisement features a blue background with a white silhouette of a person running. On the left is a red circular logo with the text 'coles SPORTS for SCHOOLS 2018' and two small figures. In the center, the text 'SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL AND GET COLLECTING' is written in large white letters. On the right, two athletes are shown: a male athlete in a grey singlet with 'coles BOLT' on it, and a female athlete in a grey singlet with 'coles PEARSON' on it, holding a tennis racket and a tennis ball. The Coles logo is in the bottom right corner.

We would love your help collecting Coles Sports for Schools for our school. Tell your friends and family to get involved as well, because the more vouchers we collect, the more sports gear our school will receive.

Richardson Primary has signed up for the Sports for Schools Program for 2018. This means that any sports for schools vouchers you receive when shopping at Coles can be brought to classroom teachers or left in the front office. Once the program ends, we are able to exchange the vouchers for sporting equipment plus loads of fun extras to encourage all students to get healthy and active. All vouchers need to be collected and given to school by 30 April 2018.

THE KINDER GARDEN

The Ladybugs and the Bees have had a busy start to the year. They have settled in to the routine of school.

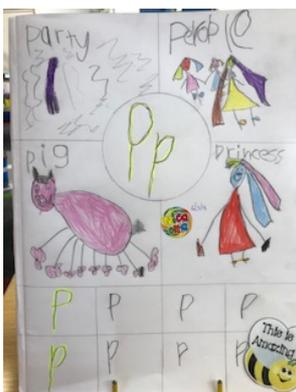
Kindergarten have enjoyed doing art with Mr Fraser. They have been exploring concepts in visual arts, looking at different lines and are engaging in drama with the book *Tiddalick the Frog*.

We have begun to explore reading through looking at books and texts around the classroom. We are beginning to learn our golden words as well as the letters and sounds S, A, T, I, P, N.

Kindergarten have been learning about themselves, their families and exploring the differences between themselves and children all over the world. It would be wonderful for our students' families to come in and share their own experiences and culture with the students during this inquiry. Please see your child's teacher to organise a time.

REMINDER

A set of the 'Golden Words' have been sent home with every child. The students have been learning games and strategies to practice these sight words. Practice at home is also important to support their growing understanding of reading and writing.



Kingdom Kids

When: Every Tuesday during school term

Time : 3:00 – 4:00pm

Where: School Library,
Richardson Primary School

Bible Stories, craft, songs, games....

To register please collect a registration form from the front office.



Richardson Primary has a Facebook page to keep you up to date about things happening at our school on a daily basis. We would love you to "like us" and become part of our RPS Facebook Community.



SCHOOL AGE CARE

Before and after school care is available at Richardson Primary School. Enrolment forms are available from www.ywca-canberra.org.au or from the front office. Once you have completed the enrolment form you will need to scan and email to childcareaccounts@ywca-canberra.org.au.

Contact details for the YWCA:

Phone: 6180 5777

Address: Level 2, 71 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra ACT 2601

Postal Address: YWCA Canberra, GPO Box 767, Canberra ACT 2601



MEDICATION

DEPARTMENTAL POLICY REQUIRES SCHOOLS TO ENSURE THAT:

Any request for administering medications must be in writing. The school **will not** administer medication without required documentation.

The medication must be accompanied by clear written instructions on the method of administration, timing and dosage, and signed by a doctor. Forms can be provided by the school upon request.

We would be grateful if such documents regarding medication could be sent to the school to ensure we are following the departmental policy and medical records are up to date.

SCHOOL TIMES

9:00am School commences

11:00-11:30am Recess/Play

11:30-1:00pm Class Programs

1:00 – 1:15pm Supervised Lunch Eating

1:15 – 1:45pm Play

1:45 – 3:00pm Class Programs

Caring and Sharing



SMOKE FREE



All public school grounds in the ACT are smoke-free. A government policy, which prohibits smoking at all government schools came into effect on January 1, 2008. **It applies to all staff, departmental officers, students, contractors and visitors, including volunteers.** Under the policy, smoking is no longer allowed in enclosed and open spaces, such as ovals and car parks, or in grounds managed by the ACT Department of Education.

Breakfast Club

A great way to start your day!

When: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
And Friday

Time: 8.40am (Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri)
8.15am (Thurs)

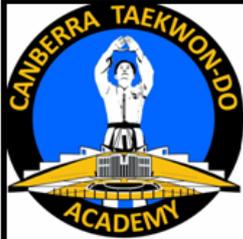
Venue: Canteen



Who: All students Preschool to Year 6

We look forward to seeing you there





Canberra Taekwon-Do Academy. Winning Nearly all the Gold and Silver at the National Australian Championships.

Come and Join Australia's No 1 Taekwon-Do School today



Classes every Mon & Weds Night in the school Hall. Classes start at 6pm.

Contact Head Instructor and Australian Representative Ben Mott for details
0431 730 025 or Email Cantkdacademy@gmail.com

We are in a different league

Safe Play



Register Today

1. www.playNRL.com/register

Contact: Bernie Traynor
Email: buffs.registrar@gmail.com



nrl.com/play

ONLINE ORDERING



- Available 24/7
- Convenient for parents
- Removes paper orders and cash
- FREE registration

Online ordering is more convenient, providing a 24/7 payment and ordering system that can be accessed from home, work or a mobile device.

No more fumbling around for coins in the morning or sending kids to school with excess cash, online orders are faster and more accurate giving parents peace of mind that their order and payment is received accurately at the school.

Registration is free and only takes a few minutes.

EASY, ONLINE REGISTRATION

- Go to www.flexischools.com.au
- Click REGISTER
- Enter your email
- You will be emailed a link to an online form - follow the link
- Choose a username and password and complete the form
- Add each student and their class
- Top-up the account - VISA or Mastercard preferred.



Place lunch orders from your iPhone, iPad or mobile device!

For help call 1300 361 769



www.flexischools.com.au