

1 March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

#### **Improve Learning and achievement for all students.**

Social Emotional Learning (SEL) programs this term have focused on reminding, reviewing, and establishing our Positive Behaviour for Learning program. This is being followed up this term with our Protective Behaviours program. All aspects of children's safety, particularly that of personal safety, are important. Child safety is a shared responsibility and requires a commitment from all members of our community. At school, education about protective behaviour is included in the curriculum. Children rely on a range of adults in their lives to ensure they are valued, respected, and protected. Listening to children and promoting their safety and wellbeing plays an important role in preventing child abuse and neglect. The teaching and learning objective is to enlighten children without frightening them and each year level has age appropriate programs.

Child protection education aims to assist students to develop skills in:

- Recognising and responding to unsafe situations
- Seeking assistance effectively
- Establishing and maintaining non-coercive relationships and strengthening attitudes and values related to equality, respect, and responsibility.

Up to 25% of all children struggle with learning to read. We are using Initialit, an evidence-based program, designed to improve our students' reading accuracy, fluency, comprehension, and spelling. This is typically a three-year program over the first years of schooling. A lesson typically covers 25 minutes of whole-class teaching using a detailed scripted lesson plan that includes 10 minutes of spelling learning, 30-40 minutes of small group learning and 15-20 minutes of a storybook activity. Ongoing assessment allows teachers to track very closely the growth children are making. It is essential that children are at school on time daily as the program begins shortly after we do the roll at 9.00am.

Cricket clinics are being held over the next few weeks. Children across the school are being given the opportunity to participate in expert teaching with highly skilled instructors.

On Wednesday this week, children in years 3-6 had the opportunity to experience a Dance Nation taster. Richardson Primary has participated in this program since it began, and we are offering it again this year.

ACT Domestic Animals are visiting junior classes developing children's awareness of responsible dog ownership. The purpose of this program is to teach children under eight years of age how to interact safely with dogs.

We have all preschoolers and a group of senior boys in programs that take them Learning on Country. This involves teachers and children going out onto Country with local Aboriginal community members who share their knowledge of culture and history.

#### **Develop an expert teaching team.**

Staff are continuing to update the scope and sequence of curriculum delivery at Richardson Primary to the new version Australian Curriculum V9. This review has made improvements across all areas of the curriculum by refining, realigning, and decluttering the content.

The ACT Directorate have recently released Inclusive Education: A Disability Inclusion Strategy and Action Plan for ACT Public Schools 2024-2026. The package includes a shared vision, *"Every child and young person is welcomed, valued, has*

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*a sense of belonging and can access quality education designed to meet their needs at their local school,” and all staff will be involved in different levels of professional learning to implement this strategy in our school. We are evaluating processes currently in place and investigating how we can add further value to the education of children in our care. Provide a safe, inclusive, and respectful school.*

It was lovely to have the school open for Drop-In Day on Wednesday and see families visiting children at school. Drop-In Days are scheduled for Week 5 Wednesdays for the remainder of the year, so please pop them in your diary.

On our sports calendar we have the **School Cross Country** on March 26 and the **Tuggeranong Regional Swimming Carnival** March 28. Mr Smith has sent home information for this.

Thank you to the parents and staff who nominated for the School Board. We now have a full Board and official announcements will be made shortly.

A very friendly reminder that parking under the trees on the left side of the drop off pick up zone is dangerous. We have had several children run out between cars to jump in family cars.

Kind regards  
Sally Alexander  
Deputy Principal

### **SCHOOL AGE CARE**

Before and after school care is available at Richardson Primary School. Enrolment forms are available from [www.ywca-canberra.org.au](http://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](mailto: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



### **FLEXI SCHOOL LUNCH ORDERS**

Healthy Kids Association welcomes you to another year of providing your school with healthy lunches.

We are a not for profit organisation and our mission is to promote and influence healthy food choices for children.

Your lunches will be delivered every Friday for the 11.00 break, lunch orders will need to be placed by 8.30am.

Order lunches online at [Flexischools.com.au](http://Flexischools.com.au) or you can download the new Flexischools App.

REMINDER: Please ensure you update your child's new classroom for 2022.

Looking forward to continuing our service to you.

Canteen team - Kerry & Lucy

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



## Iterika Newsletter

### 3/4L and 3/4C



What an amazing start to the year the students in Iterika have had! Every student is coming to school ready to learn and prepared to take on any challenges that the teachers set for them. We are seeing success for every student, every day, in all areas of the curriculum. Thank you to all the families for sending your child to school with a full tummy, with their book packs, and with healthy snacks and a water bottle to keep them ready to learn all day.

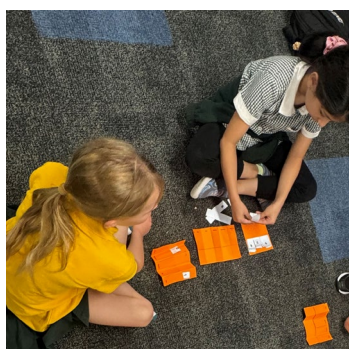
#### Learning in Iterika



In literacy, the students are fully immersed in writing and reading. In writer's workshops, the students are currently investigating writing to entertain, in the form of narratives. They are working on developing a 'hook' to pull their audience into their stories, while creating characters and settings to make their stories exciting to read. Using the writing process, the students are beginning to engage in the planning, drafting, editing and re-crafting cycle. Our next step as budding authors will be to give and feedback from our peers and teachers to make improvements to our writing.

During Reader's Workshops, students are learning how to implement specific strategies to develop them further as readers. We are currently working on the strategies of predicting, connecting, comparing, sounding out and creating images. During Reader's Workshop, students are engaging in both guided and cooperative reading, depending on their area of need with reading. Home readers will be coming home in the next few weeks to support the reading process further.

In InitialLit, our focus is teaching students phonics skills they need to read as well as vocabulary, oral language and listening comprehension. We are beginning with letters and sounds, and once the first phonics set is taught, the children will begin using those 4 sounds to decode words. The program consists of whole class explicit instruction, groups and independent activities, storybook lessons, games, spelling, grammar and vocabulary and handwriting lessons. We also be supplementing the program with additional writing lessons.



In maths, the students are learning about whole number, addition and subtraction. They are developing their understanding of place value and classifying odd and even numbers. As the term progresses, we will be learning about measurement with lots of interactive and cooperative learning challenges.

In inquiry, we are establishing our classroom routine and expectations through our Classroom Essential Agreements. We are also learning about civics and citizenship, and what it means to belong. We are finding out about how we can be citizens in our community. We are looking forward to our upcoming incursions with the Museum of Australian Democracy in week 6.

In science, we are learning about Biological Sciences. We are investigating what living things need to survive and life cycles of living thing. As part of our science learning, we have had special visitors in our classroom. Mrs Lugg has bought in her chicken and guinea pigs to share with the students. The students have developed their understanding of what living things need to survive through real life experiences with animals.



In PE and health, we are enjoying playing modified games and promoting sportsmanship during whole unit PE sessions. During social and emotional learning, we are focusing on building a positive self-esteem, and being respectful, positive learners who are safe every day. We are participating in cricket clinics each Tuesday, developing the skills and rules of cricket.

### Reminders



Several notes have gone home over the last fortnight. Please make sure you have checked your child's bag for any notes that might be hiding. Please check you have returned your child's Seesaw note so that you can stay connected and up to date with what is happening in the classrooms.

Please make sure you send a labelled drink bottle with your child everyday.



We are always happy to have a chat with families, so please don't be shy, please email or call us if you have any concerns or questions.

The Iterika Team,  
Jen, Cherie, Kylie and Ben

**PLAYER REGISTRATIONS  
NOW OPEN**

The logo for Brindabella Blues Football Club (BBFC), featuring a stylized blue bird with its wings spread, perched on a globe, with the letters "BBFC" below it.

A collage of four photographs showing young football players in action on a grass field. The players are wearing blue and yellow kits. One photo shows a player kicking the ball, another shows a player running with the ball, and two others show players in various positions during a game.

**WWW.PLAYFOOTBALL.COM.AU**  
**SEASON 2024**  
**WWW.BBFC.ORG.AU**