

6 August 2026

Dear RPS Families,

What a fantastic start to Term 3! We have several exciting events happening across the school in the coming weeks. From our Book Week assembly and costume parade to the regional athletic carnival and Gecko Sports gymnastics clinics, there is plenty for our students to look forward to.

This Thursday and again the following Thursday, we will welcome Matt and his team from Gecko Sports to conduct gymnastics clinics for all students from Kindergarten to Year 6. The last time these clinics were held they were extremely popular, with students thoroughly enjoying the experience. The clinics will run throughout the day, with each class attending during their allocated session.



Last Friday, students celebrated their achievements in Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) with a highly successful Wheels Day. Students brought along their bikes, scooters and rollerblades to enjoy the pump track and obstacle course on the basketball court. Congratulations to everyone who participated. We couldn't have asked for better weather, and it was wonderful to see so many students having fun while celebrating their positive choices.



Our Richardson Individual Pursuits Program (RIPP) will continue throughout the term on Friday afternoons when assemblies are not scheduled. Students will continue rotating through the nine engaging activities on offer, providing opportunities to develop new skills, interests and friendships.

As we enter the final month of winter, this is a reminder that students are now required to wear their SunSmart hats during playtime and PE lessons. Students without an appropriate SunSmart hat will be asked to play in shaded areas. The following hats meet our SunSmart requirements:



- **Broad-brimmed hat** – A wide, flat brim that provides shade for the face, neck and ears.
- **Bucket hat** – A deep crown that sits low on the head with an angled brim to protect the face, neck and ears.
- **Legionnaire hat** – A hat with a flap covering the ears and back of the neck, with overlapping side flaps and a front peak to protect the face.

This week marks our first assembly for Term 3. Ribbon presentations for the Cross Country and Athletics Carnivals will take place at approximately 2:00 pm on Friday.

Families may notice that our assemblies are now being held later in the day. This change has been made to ensure we meet the required number of hours for Literacy and Numeracy instruction each week. We appreciate your understanding and support as we make this adjustment.

Last week, our preschool students enjoyed an exciting excursion to the Megafauna Exhibition at the Australian National Botanic Gardens. Through hands-on activities, storytelling and guided exploration, the children learned about the fascinating giant animals that once roamed Australia and discovered how scientists uncover clues about the past. The excursion sparked curiosity, encouraged rich conversations and supported our learning about the natural world. A big thank you to our parent volunteers for helping make the day such a success.

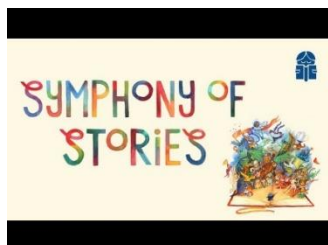
Each year, the Directorate surveys parents and carers, school staff and students in Years 4 to 12 about their experiences of public education. The 2026 School Satisfaction and Climate Survey will be open online from 14 August to 4 September.

The information collected helps inform policy and supports school improvement. It also assists us to identify what we are doing well and where further improvement may be needed.

As part of current protected industrial action during enterprise bargaining, staff who are union members will not participate in the survey or support students to complete it during school hours. As a result, we may not receive our usual range of staff and student feedback this year.

Families will receive the survey by email, and we strongly encourage parents and carers to take the opportunity to provide their feedback. Your views remain an important part of our school improvement planning.

Our school social worker, Sadhana, is organising a series of workshops for parents and carers. The first workshop will focus on PACE, an attachment-based parenting approach that supports families to strengthen relationships with children, develop emotional regulation and build emotional literacy. Further details, including the date and time, will be shared soon.



It is also time to start thinking about Book Week and costumes! This year's theme is *Symphony of Stories*. Book Week will be celebrated in Week 6, with our Book Week parade and assembly taking place on the morning of Friday, 28 August. We cannot wait to see the wonderful costumes and creative ideas our students bring to life!

Our wonderful P&C has two exciting community events planned for the coming weeks.

The Father's Day Breakfast will be held on Friday, 28 August, from 8:30 to 9:00 am in the library. We look forward to welcoming fathers, grandfathers and other special people for a relaxed morning together.

The P&C is also planning a Community Movie Evening, tentatively scheduled for Friday, 11 September, from 5:00 pm. The movie will be shown in the school hall, with drinks and popcorn available. More details will be shared soon. We are incredibly fortunate to have such a hardworking and cohesive P&C supporting our little school. We greatly appreciate everything they do and look forward to enjoying these exciting events with our community.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to another exciting and successful term together.

Kind regards,

Benjamin Smith

3-6 Executive

Iterika Newsletter

Learning in Iterika



In literacy, the students are fully immersed in writing and reading. We have begun applying our learnt reading strategies in our reading groups. Students work on cooperative and reciprocal reading each morning using self chosen or levelled text. Last Wednesday, Iterika students had the opportunity to join the 2026 Children's Book Laureate, Andy Griffith, as he launched his new book, "You and Me and the Giant Knucklehead". We quickly acquired a copy of the new text and are enjoying this adventure. The You and Me series has been an integral part of our Literacy program since Term 1. During the session, Andy also explained where his ideas come from and hints that he uses to structure texts. The students have begun to use these in their daily writing tasks as they produce texts to persuade, inform and entertain their audience.



We noticed students were using lots of direct speech in their personal writing. Students have been explicitly taught about speech conventions during writer's workshop. We used readers theatres to explore how texts are formatted when characters are talking to each other.

Readers Theatre



In maths, the students are learning about 2D and 3D shape, lines of symmetry and telling the time on both digital and analogue clocks to the nearest minute. The students have been consolidating their knowledge and skills in shape by using hands on materials to demonstrate their understanding of 2D shapes, their properties and lines of symmetry. The students have also been practising telling the time to nearest minute on analogue clocks, and transferring that knowledge to digital clocks. Next week we will be moving into learning about elapsed time and reading timetables.

In inquiry, we are continuing our learning about the history of Australia from the discovery of Australia, to the industrial revolution in England and how that affected the colonisation of Australia in 1788. Students have been learning about the voyage of the First Fleet from England to Sydney and the actions that have shaped Australia's history.

The beginning of this term sees us finish our work on Biological Sciences. Somehow our bean experiments survived the holidays and on return, we were able to discuss our findings and results to create a life cycle of a bean plant. We are beginning to compare that with the lifecycle of common minibeasts. We are learning to use scientific models, annotated drawings and labels to explain our understanding of these concepts.

In PE and health, we are enjoying playing modified games and working on our sportsmanship skills 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 always happy to have a chat with families, so please don't be shy, please email, message us on Seesaw or call us if you have any concerns or questions.

The Iterika Team,

Benjamin, Barbara, Kylie and Jen

 **RICHARDSON** 
★ PRIMARY SCHOOL ★

FATHER'S DAY

Breakfast

GOOD DADS COME IN ALL SHAPES!

 **FRIDAY 28TH AUGUST**

 **8:30AM – 9:00AM**

 **IN THE LIBRARY**



LOTS OF FOOD & DRINKS PROVIDED! 

 **DAD BOD?**
THAT'LL ALSO
GET YOU IN!

♥ **EVERYONE WELCOME!** ♥
Granddads • Stepdads
Carers • Father Figures
YOU'RE ALL LEGENDS!

 **THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO!**

BRING YOUR APPETITE, YOUR BEST JOKES AND MAYBE YOUR *STRETCHY PANTS!* 



Have you registered an account to access the Parent Portal? - Changes to ACT Digital Account ID requirements

Parent Portal is a secure online platform used to share student information between you and your child's teachers. You'll be able to access a range of information and services about your child's school life using the Parent Portal. You can create your ACT Digital Account now if you don't have one already. Create an account and complete ID verification by visiting: <https://www.myaccount.act.gov.au/>. You now only need one form of accepted ID. If you want to read more about the Parent Portal, head to our website: <https://www.richardsonps.act.edu.au/>. You can contact the school on 6142 3630 or send an email to info@richardsonps.act.edu.au if you need your access key or have any questions.

Use Parent Portal to:

- notify us if your child is sick or explain an absence
- book parent/teacher interviews
- receive academic reports
- receive our school newsletter
- make payments - Families using Parent Portal will receive notifications through the platform and can pay through the app or online. Families that do not have Portal access we will send invoices and requests for contributions to you by email with a payment link. An automated receipt will be generated and sent to you following payment. We are no longer using the Westpac QuickWeb payment platform in ACT Public Schools
- access the school calendar

**Social Work
Support for
Richardson
families 2026⁺**

**Sadhana Kunwar
Social Worker
Wellbeing in Schools (WinS)**

Ph: 0421 727 202
E: sadhana.kunwar@ed.act.edu.au

Drop-in sessions available:
Tuesdays & Wednesdays
9:00 - 10:00am
**Ask the front office when
you arrive at the school.**

Parents and carers are welcome to drop in for a chat, ask questions, or explore supports available for their child & family.

I can support with :

- NDIS support and service navigation;
- Linking families with community services and therapy supports;
- Parenting and family support;
- Children's wellbeing, emotions, and behaviour.