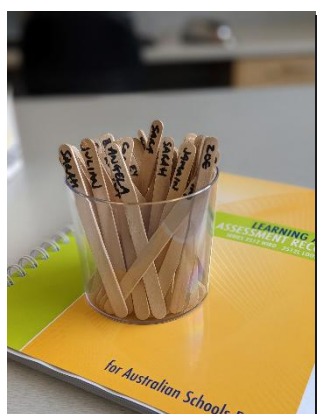


24 August 2026

We are fast approaching the midway point of the term and it's so lovely to see all the children so engaged with their learning in classes.

Teaching Sprints in Mathematics

This term, our teachers are engaging in an exciting professional improvement practice known as *Teaching Sprints*. In collaborative teams, staff are focusing on specific pedagogical strategies to enhance mathematics instruction. Our current focus is on *checking for understanding* and ensuring we gather responses from every student. You might hear your children talking about new classroom routines such as *thumbs up or down*, *mini whiteboard responses*, *paddle pop stick cold calls*, and *multiple-choice questions*. These techniques provide teachers with immediate, vital information to help plan the next steps in your child's learning journey.



Drop-In Day Success: A huge thank you to all the families who joined us for our "drop-in" morning this past Wednesday. It was wonderful to see so many parents and carers walking through our classrooms and observing learning in action. As a reminder, these sessions are held on Wednesday of Week 5 every term.

Father's Day Breakfast: Our wonderful P&C is currently busy organising a Father's Day breakfast for **Friday 28th of 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.



Celebrating Sporting Success: On Friday the 14th, we celebrated the fantastic achievements of our students at the recent Cross Country and Athletics carnivals. Congratulations to everyone who participated and to those who received ribbons for their efforts—your school spirit was on full display!

On Monday the 24th, several students represented our school at the Tuggeranong regional athletics carnival. Students met Ms Martin and Ms Kylie at the track in the morning, and the day focussed on participation and having fun. We hope all the students had a wonderful day. Thank you to our teachers who supervised on the day!

Bullying No Way Week: This initiative is Australia's leading effort for bullying prevention in schools. It provides a valuable opportunity for our community to foster a shared understanding of bullying behaviours and highlight proactive strategies for prevention. This year's theme was Small Acts, Big Impact. Bullying is everyone's responsibility, and small acts can make a real difference. This year's theme reminds us that actions don't need to be big to change someone's world. Small actions – like including someone, speaking up or showing kindness – can create meaningful change. In our schools and communities, our goal is to build environments where everyone belongs, diversity is celebrated and bullying is never accepted. Last week classes engaged with different lessons and resources to build understanding and awareness.



Combined Band: Last week, we welcomed schools from Theodore and Calwell to have a combined ukelele band practice. Thank you to Mrs Geeves for organising this at our school. Richardson students were treated to a concert and thoroughly enjoyed the performance. 5/6 students continue to impress us with the significant gains in their skills and confidence to perform, in the short time they have been learning the ukelele.

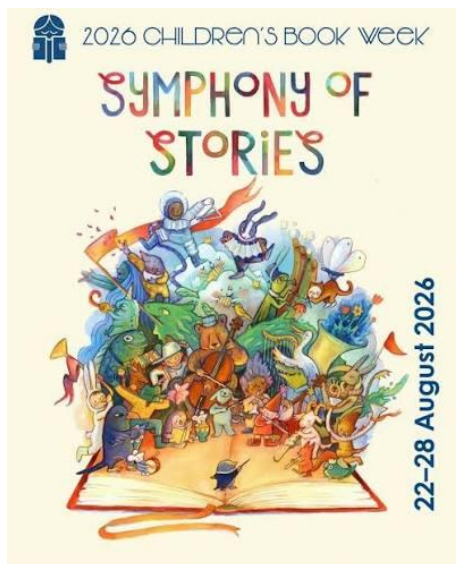
Sun Smart Reminder: As a SunSmart school, it is now "hats back on" for the remainder of the year. Please ensure your child brings a sun-safe hat to school each day; please remember that caps do not meet our sun-safety requirements.



Community Health: With viruses and colds circulating, we kindly ask that if your child is unwell, you keep them home to rest. This helps us keep our entire school community healthy and minimizes the spread of illness.

Book Week 2026: This week we celebrate Book Week! The theme for this year is ‘*Symphony of Stories*’. Our annual Book Week Parade will be held on **Friday 28th August, at 9:00 am** in the school hall.

We can't wait to see all the creative costumes! Remember, costumes don't need to be expensive—we love seeing students use materials found at home to bring their favourite characters to life.



Kind regards,

Kayla Hayward

News from Kirrang Term 3 2026

A snapshot of learning in Years 1 & 2 in the first 3 weeks of term 3.

Literacy

Our InitialLit lessons continue each morning starting at approx. 9:15am. This term both year levels have begun each morning in small literacy groups. During this time students read their allocated texts, alternating between reading independently and reading together with their peers. Each group then works on a literacy task that builds on and helps reinforce the learning that has taken place during explicit lessons. These small groups allow teachers to differentiate learning to meet the needs of individual students. Teachers also use this time to work with individual groups to grow reading and comprehension skills.

One of the most valuable ways you can support your child's learning at home is by reading with them every day. Even 10 minutes of reading each night can make a significant difference to a child's confidence, vocabulary, fluency and overall success in literacy. We encourage families to listen to their child read their 'home readers' regularly, discuss the story together, and remember to exchange home readers so your child always has a new book to enjoy.

This term, our Year 1 students have been working hard to become confident readers and writers. Through our

Students can also borrow books from our school library each **Monday**, so please remember to return library books each week so they can continue exploring new stories.

As children's author Emilie Buchwald beautifully said, "Children are made readers on the laps of their parents." There is no substitute for hearing a book read by a caring, trusted adult. Those shared moments help children develop not only their reading skills, but also a lifelong love of books and learning.

daily InitialLit lessons, students have been learning new digraphs and trigraphs, strengthening their phonics knowledge and improving their spelling, reading fluency and comprehension. In writing, we have been learning how to 'bump up' our sentences by using interesting adjectives, powerful verbs and exciting adverbs to make our writing more detailed and engaging. Students have used picture prompts and class discussions to build rich vocabulary before transforming simple sentences into creative pieces of writing. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they take pride in sharing their ideas and becoming more independent readers and writers.

Year 2 students have been working on deepening their understanding of the way we can make connections to texts. They are continuing to develop their comprehension skills and have been working on answering questions about the texts they read. We have begun to do some persuasive writing and will be soon working on writing some poetry which will be displayed during book week.

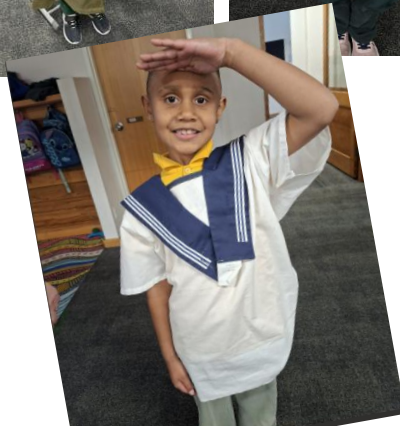
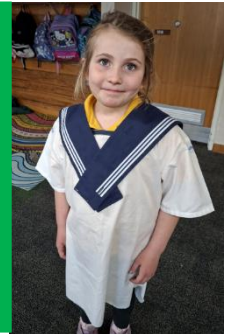
History - Canberra - A Step Back In Time

This term, our classroom has transformed into the Richardson Museum, with students taking on the role of museum curators as they investigate Canberra's rich history. We have been exploring why history is important and have begun to learn about significant Canberra landmarks. Throughout this unit we will be investigating and discovering how our city has changed over time through historical events, photographs and timelines.

Students have been investigating what artefacts are. We borrowed some 'Memory' boxes from the War Memorial, so the students could have 'hands on' experiences with real and replica uniforms, equipment, artefacts and photographs.



Students wearing replica uniforms borrowed from the Australian War Memorial



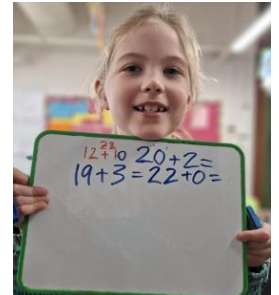
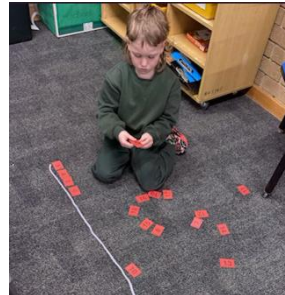
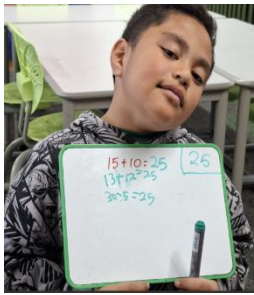
Viewing artefacts borrowed from the Australian War Memorial

Students wearing their museum badges and working together as 'curator' to put confidential puzzles together.

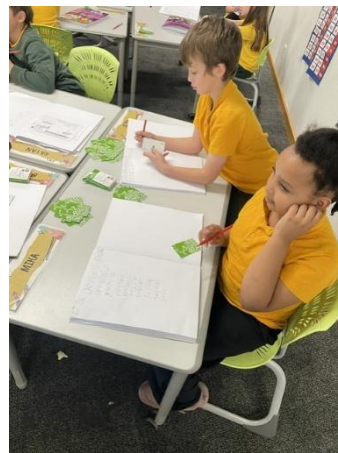
Students have identified natural and constructed landmarks in and around Canberra. The first Canberra landmark they have begun exploring is the Australian War Memorial. We have investigated its importance to Australia and participated in a virtual excursion with the Australian War memorial staff to deepen their understanding.

Mathematics.

Year 1 are continuing to learn and practise different strategies that will assist them with adding and subtracting. The strategies include 'friends of ten', 'bridging to 10', representing 'difference' with number stories with pictures and materials.'



Our Year 2 students have been exploring a range of strategies to help them add and subtract numbers efficiently. They have been practising strategies such as doubles, near doubles, fact families and mental maths using partitioning. Students have also been enjoying a variety of hands-on maths games to practise these strategies, build their confidence and consolidate their learning.



During our Strand Maths sessions, Year 1 and 2 students come together as a cohort to explore different areas of mathematics. We have started the term by investigating 2D and 3D shapes and discussing their features, including straight and curved lines, parallel lines, faces, edges and corners. For the remainder of Term 3, students will explore measurement concepts including mass and area, as well as learning about the duration and sequencing of events and how to read and use calendars.

Design & Technology

This term 1/2D students are developing their digital skills by learning how to confidently log on to and log off their Chromebooks. They will explore Google Docs and Google Slides. Throughout these lessons, students will build essential computer skills such as using a keyboard, cutting and pasting, and changing fonts and text sizes. The semester began with a fun and engaging cyber safety lesson, helping students learn how to use technology safely and responsibly.

P.E

This term, students have been developing their fundamental movement skills through a variety of fun and engaging activities. We have been practising throwing, catching, jumping, kicking and dribbling while learning the importance of teamwork, cooperation and good sportsmanship. Students have enjoyed participating in a range of active games, relays and team challenges that encourage communication, problem-solving and fair play.

In Week 3, students also began participating in the Gecko Sports program, with a focus on gymnastics. They will continue the program in Week 4, developing their balance, coordination, flexibility and body control through a

range of exciting gymnastics activities. Through all of these experiences, students are continuing to build their confidence and movement skills while staying active and having fun.



We look forward to seeing their continued learning and achievements.
From: Miss Aniyar, Mrs D, Mrs Bowden, Ms Tamara & Mrs Hayward

♥ **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!
♥

LEGEND.
PROVIDER.
PANCAKE
FLIPPER.
♥

DAD BOD?
THAT'LL ALSO
GET YOU IN!

**BUILT FOR
BBQ'S &
BACK NAPS**
zZz

♥ **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)

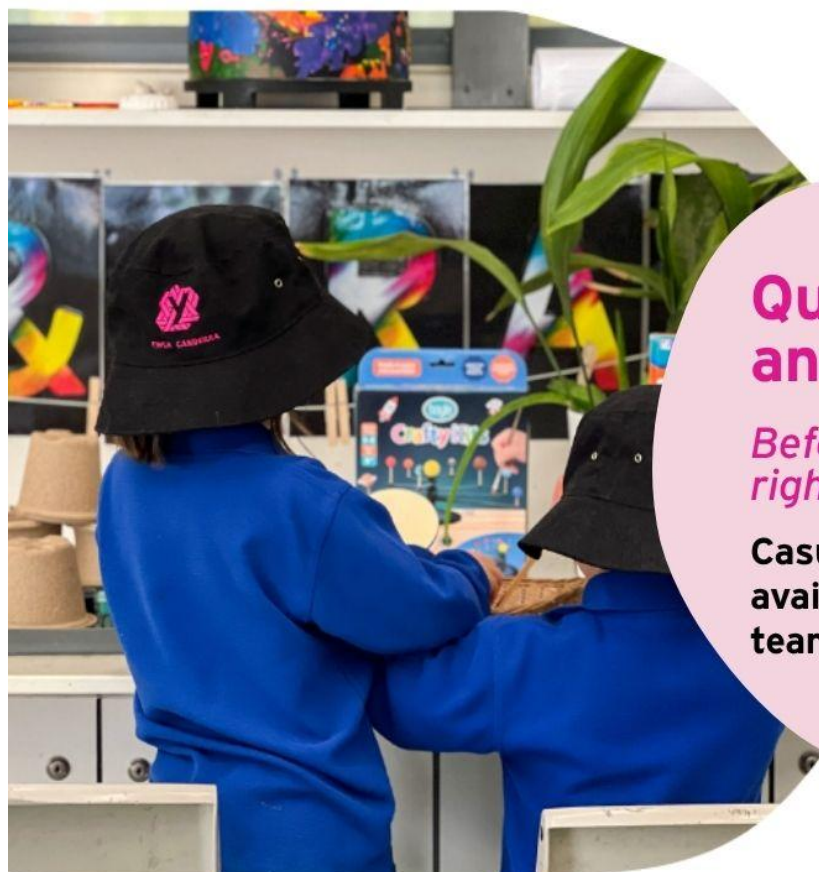
Ph: 0421 727 202
E: sadhana.kunwar@ed.act.edu.au

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.



YWCA
CANBERRA
CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Quality care, before and after the bell rings!

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right here at your school.*

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available. Get in contact with our
team to learn more.**



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