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Dear RPS Community,

I hope that all families and staff enjoyed a well-deserved break over the holiday period. I'm grateful that, in the ACT, we can return to school and enjoy face-to-face learning under relatively normal circumstances. No doubt many families share my gratitude. There are only a few minor tweaks to our COVID normal school practices which I will outline further in this newsletter piece.

At this stage we plan to proceed with our Three Way-Interviews in weeks three and four of this term. These interviews provide an opportunity for students, parents and teachers to discuss and celebrate student learning progress. It will be an opportunity to discuss the mid year report and identify areas of strength and development. Personal learning goals will also be discussed. The interview process lasts for 25 minutes and consists of two parts. Your child will lead the first ten minutes of the interview, sharing with you their work books, artwork and work samples that they are extremely proud of. Your child's teacher will then invite you both into the classroom to conduct the three-way conversation. Notes will go home shorty.

Late last term, I attended the ACT Schools Dance Nation concert at the Convention Centre. Our senior students and their Kulture Break dance coach had been working up to this event for 12 weeks, with practice every Thursday afternoon after lunch. I was very proud watching our confident dancers perform on centre stage, they excelled in their performance to this year's theme, resurgence. I would like to thank Miss Ritchie for her leadership and coordination and also to Christine Batchelor for accompanying our students to the dress rehearsal and supporting back stage. I can't wait for next year's Dance Nation opportunity.

Congratulations to Amber Murrell who represented our school at the ACT Rostrum Public Speaking finals held at Saint Claire of Assisi last term. Amber's delivery of, *A Better Way*, was exceptional and we are very proud of her achievement. Every year our school participates in this important initiative to develop students' public speaking skills. Our year three-six classes plan a speech on a selected topic and deliver it to their class mates. A winner from each class is selected to then present their speech to their entire senior cohort with our teachers assessing and providing feedback to each student. Well done, Amber!

Our school has no shortage of students who are not only excelling academically but also in the sporting arena as well. Congratulations to Kira Batchelor who, after our school athletics carnival, went on to represent our school at the Tuggeranong zone carnival, placing seventh in her age group. This qualified her to compete in the ACT carnival. At this event, Kira showed us that she is the 19<sup>th</sup> fastest ten year old in the whole of the ACT. Go, Kira!

This term sees a few changes to our staffing profile. I am pleased to announce that Mrs Sally Alexander has won the Deputy Principal's (DP) position, replacing Ms Brooke Calvert. Sally is a very experienced leader, having spent the last 11 years as DP at Caroline Chisholm School. Sally will be joining us in week three. We also welcome back Mrs Cherie Lugg-Restall who is now working on 1/2H as Mrs Kathryn Hope has resigned from her substantive position but will do some relief work for us in the future. Ms Jayne Queripel returns from maternity leave in a part time capacity, providing relief teaching, working in the preschool and replacing Mr Smith on Fridays in 3/4SG. Sue Short has also been appointed to our school as our new school psychologist. Sue will commence in week three.

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## COVID-19 and Term 3 in ACT public schools – CHANGES

These changes relate to the use of the Check in CBR app and interstate excursions.

The Chief Health Officer is now strongly encouraging all adult visitors to schools, including parents and carers dropping off children, to use the Check In CBR app.

We are asking adults – parents, carers and visitors to use the Check In CBR app when they enter school grounds. The general rule is that if leave your vehicle and enter school grounds, find a QR code and check in.

Although schools do have sign-in requirements via their front offices, not all visitors to schools enter through the front office – for example, parents and carers dropping off or picking up their children from playgrounds. This will make contact tracing far easier if we have a confirmed case at a school.

We are now mandating that most interstate excursions should not proceed at this time, given the recent outbreaks in Australia and the risk posed by travel.

However, lower risk camps and excursions to the local area can still go ahead.

This includes to neighbouring Local Government Areas in South East NSW including Yass Valley, Goulburn Mulwaree, Queanbeyan-Palerang, Snowy Monaro, Snowy Valley, Eurobodalla, Bega Valley and Shoalhaven.

While students may be disappointed not to go further afield, this will mean some excursions can proceed because the destinations are lower risk and geographically closer, and that groups can return quickly by road travel if needed. The recent cases across Australia are a reminder of the importance of this.

Members of our school communities have been keen to clarify whether staff and students will need to wear masks when they return to school. Masks are not required to be worn by students and staff in school, including in before and after school care.

However, anyone is free to wear a mask to school if they choose and staff, parent volunteers and students aged 13 and above are encouraged to wear masks if visiting a crowded indoor venue off-campus, for example, on an excursion.

A reminder that families who have travelled interstate during the school holidays should check the ACT Government's COVID-19 website and follow the health advice if you have been in any of the exposure locations listed.

It is also important to remember that everyone in the ACT should be following COVID Safe practices. If your child is unwell, they need to stay home and get tested with even mild symptoms.

You can find updated questions and answers and our revised ACT public schools COVID-19 document on our COVID-19 school arrangements page.

Kind regards,

Anna Wilson  
Principal

### **SCHOOL TIMES**

9:00 - 11:00am - School First Session  
11:00 - 11:15am - Supervised Lunch Eating  
11:15 - 11:45am - Lunch Time Play  
11:45 - 1:15pm - Middle Session  
1:15 - 1:45pm - Recess/Play  
1:45 - 3:00pm - Afternoon Session



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## TERM 3 STAFF 2021

### Executive Team & Administration Staff

**Principal:** Anna Wilson

**Deputy Principal:** Sally Alexander (starting week three)

**Executive Teacher Kindergarten & Preschool:** Natalie Hogan

**Executive Teacher Year 1/2 & LSU:** Deborah Watling

**Executive Teacher Year 3/4/5/6:** Ben Smith

**Business Manager:** Stephanie Bermingham

**School Secretary/Enrolments Officer:** Marie Annesley

**Building Service Officer:** Kelvin Curtis & Milad Shasha

### Koori Preschool Staff - Butterflies

Sue Turtle & Kian Grainger

### Black Cockatoos / Swans Preschool Unit

Jasmin Nuzda & Glenise Henderson

### Possum Magic Unit

Amie Smith - KS

### Kirrang Unit

Barbara Martin – 1/2M

Cherie Lugg-Rustall – 1/2H

### LSU – 1-6T

Anne Tow & Kylie Crabtree

### Iterika Unit

Danielle Greeves – 3/4G

Jen Glover & Jayne Queripel – 3/4SG

### Kakadu Unit

Lauren Ritchie – 5/6R

Luke Behrendorff – 5/6B

### Creative Arts

Andrew Fraser

### Library Staff

David Hutchison

### EALD

Deborah Watling

### Support Staff

Tamara Blake & Nathan Spencer

### Youth Worker

Brodi Allingham

### School Psychologist

Sue Short (starting week three)

## REMINDERS

**School Phone Number: 6142 3630**

**School email: [info@richardsonps.act.edu.au](mailto:info@richardsonps.act.edu.au)**

### 1. Accidents at school:

Any member of our school or local community who has an accident before, after or during school please come to the front office or ring the front office as staff trained in First Aid are available to assist, support and offer First Aid. We certainly want to know about all accidents, offer whatever support we can at the time and follow up as well as rectify any safety risks we are unaware exist around the school. Thank you for your cooperation.

### 2. Allergy Aware:

We currently have a number of children and staff with Asthma and gluten, nut, artificial colouring / preservatives allergies presenting in our school and the wider community. Our staff supervise eating duties at lunch time every day and train the children to eat their own food, NOT to share food and NOT to borrow or swap food. In particular peanut butter products, fresh peanuts or nutty muesli bars.

Richardson Primary School is a nut aware school. We ask families not to bring nuts or nut products to the school or to school activities in order to minimise exposure to students who do have allergies.

While this is an acceptable strategy to reduce the risk of exposure to known allergens, it is never possible to guarantee a school site is nut free.

Richardson Primary School cannot claim that we are nut or peanut free. Such a claim could not reliably be made and, if made, may lead to a false sense of security about exposure to peanuts and peanut products.

Some food packaging have the words 'may contain' in relation to nuts. The 'may contain' statement is voluntary information provided by the manufacturer in order to inform the consumer that the product may have been inadvertently contaminated during the manufacturing process. It does not necessarily mean that the product will contain the allergen (this information is on the ingredient list). Some children who are at risk of anaphylaxis eat the products that have the 'may contain' statement while others do not.



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Products with the 'may contain' statement do not need to be removed from the school.

### **3. Medication:**

Departmental policy requires schools to ensure that: Any request for administering medications must be in writing. 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 letters regarding medication could be sent as soon as possible.

### **4. Bikes and scooters:**

Bikes & scooters are to be left locked at the bike & scooter racks. The school does not accept responsibility for lost or stolen bikes or scooters. By law, a helmet must be worn while riding.



### **5. Canteen:**

Healthy Kids Association will operate from Calwell High School and deliver lunches to Richardson Primary School every Friday at 11:00am. The menu has a variety of freshly made food and drinks that have been approved by the National Healthy School Guidelines. The ordering process has been streamlined using an online service called flexi schools where you can plan ahead and make an order the night before. All orders must be completed online



### **6. Children arriving after 9.00am or leaving school before 3.00pm:**

If you need to keep a medical or dental appointment or for any reason, please come to the front office and sign your child /ren back into/out of school. This is for safety and security reasons so that we know exactly who is on the premises.

### **7. Containers for food:**

Tins (especially lids) and glass containers are dangerous to have in lunch boxes. We encourage you to use reusable plastic containers at all times.

### **8. Current Contact Numbers:**

It is **very important** that we have your current contact numbers and at least one other emergency contact number. If your child is sick or has an accident we need to be able to contact you immediately.

### **9. Dogs:**

ACT Dog laws prohibit dogs from being on the premises (including the grounds) of primary schools at any time. For the safety of our students, dogs should not be on

the school grounds. There are obvious problems when dogs use the playing areas as a toilet. We also have some students who are very frightened by dogs.

### **10. Information Regarding Events, Excursions and Performances:**

Please remember all notes that go home have a definite closing date. Your assistance with returning all notes, along with your permission is crucial to informing us as to whether the event can proceed or not. There is a section in the newsletter advising of coming events.

### **11. Liability for the Loss, Damage or Theft of Students' Personal Property at School:**

Advice from the ACT Government Solicitor indicates that notwithstanding the merits of each particular incident, schools generally cannot be held responsible for the intervening acts of third parties, resulting in the loss, damage or theft of students' personal property. Parents and students are advised that schools do not provide private insurance cover to automatically compensate for the loss, damage or theft of bicycles or other personal property and nor will they be legally liable for the loss.

### **12. Lost Property:**



Parents are requested to label all items of school clothing, as staff endeavour to ensure all labelled items misplaced are returned to their owners. All lost property is at the front office area in a basket labelled "lost property". At the end of each term, school uniform lost property items WITHOUT any identification, are washed and donated to charity. Please visit the lost property area regularly throughout each term to claim items.

### **13. Mobile Phones and all Electronic Equipment:**

All mobile phones and electronic equipment brought to school must be left at the front office in the morning. Phones and any electronic equipment can be collected at 3pm. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

### **14. Playground Equipment:**



The school playground equipment should only be used by students during school hours under the supervision of staff. In the interests of the safety of all children, parents should ensure that their children **do not** use this equipment before or after school or when a staff member is not supervising, unless of course you are there providing the supervision outside of school hours.

### **15. Retrieving Items from the Roof:**

The BSO is the only staff member who has undertaken additional training regarding safety with accessing the roof. As a result, he will only be able to access the roof once a fortnight to retrieve any items that have found their way onto the roof.

### **16. Safety in the Car Parks:**



The aim is for people to park in the various designated spaces, which have been designed to minimise the risk for children and adults, particularly as pedestrians, as they move into and out of

the car parks. Double and triple parking is particularly dangerous, as children can be hidden as they move between cars. As well as the central car parking spaces in front of the school, please consider using the car parking areas marked out next to the oval or along the side streets bordering the school such as Rohan, Mack, Pritchard or Chauncy Crescents. We appreciate your cooperation, as keeping our Richardson children as safe as possible is our main focus.

### **17. School Psychologist:**

We have a registered psychologist, Ashleigh Dolan, who can provide individual support to students, parents and teachers. Parents or carers will always be contacted to give permission for the School Psychologist to work with a child. If you wish to make an appointment contact our Deputy Principal on 6142 3630.

### **18. School Uniforms:**

We wear GREEN AND GOLD with pride. Green shorts and gold polo shirts can be purchased from local providers.

### **19. Smoke Free:**



**All public school grounds in the ACT are now 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 and Training.

### **21. Student Absences:**

Class rolls are marked both morning and afternoon by the class teacher each day. All student absences are recorded using the following code. An **S** for when written advice has been received by the class teacher to explain that the student has been sick or ill for a

particular day or for a specific number of days. An **L** for when written advice has been received by the class teacher to explain that the student has been on leave for a particular day or for a specific number of days. If the class teacher does not receive any information regarding a student's absence, then an **A** is recorded for the specific day. All student absences and late arrivals are totalled at the end of each term and recorded on student records. Children arriving after 9.15am are asked to report to the front office and collect a late note to take to the class teacher. Your assistance with providing information for every student absence is greatly appreciated.

### **22. Sun Hats and Keeping Safe at All Times:**

Richardson Primary school recommends that children wear broad brimmed sun hats for Terms 1 and 4. Hats are not required to be worn in Terms 2 and 3. We ask all families to be aware and take extra care regarding safety for your child/ren wearing any earrings other than studs, necklaces, jewellery, clothing or hats which have long cords that could possibly get caught on equipment. At RPS we support the safety of all children at school.

### **23. Unauthorised Access to School Roofs:**

Parents are reminded of the dangers inherent when children climb onto the school roof. Your support in reminding children of these dangers is requested. Signs have been erected at the school warning of dangers of accessing the school roof.

### **24. Volunteers and Visitors:**

All visitors, classroom helpers, and volunteers must come to the front office to sign in. This is for safety and security reasons so that we know exactly who is in the building.



### **25. Complaint or Concerns:**

Many concerns are resolved quickly and easily by discussing the matter directly with the school. Firstly speak directly to your child's teacher or talk to a member of the executive team. If you continue to be concerned please make an appointment to see your principal.

If you are not satisfied you may lodge a written complaint. The Complaints Policy and Complaints form are available from the policy section of the Directorate website: [www.education.act.gov.au](http://www.education.act.gov.au) You have the right to approach the ACT Human Rights Commission. Details are available from the Commission website: [www.hrc.zact.gov.au/humanrights](http://www.hrc.zact.gov.au/humanrights).

If you need assistance, or you would like to compliment us, contact the ACT Education and Training Directorate's Liaison Unit on 6205 5429 or visit [www.det.act.gov.au/contact\\_us](http://www.det.act.gov.au/contact_us)

## 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 2020.

Looking forward to continuing our service to you.

Canteen team - Kerry & Lucy



## 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

## Breakfast Club

***A great way to start your day!***

**When:** Monday - Friday

**Time:** 8.40am

**Venue:** Canteen

**Who:** All students Preschool to Year 6

***We look forward to seeing you there***



## 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. **No medications can be left in students school bags.**

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.**



There is a basket near the front office that contains lost property. If your child/ren are missing anything please take the time to check the lost property basket.

# Student Awards

*DAB Awards*  
Displaying Amazing Behaviour

The following students received an award at assembly on Friday 18 June 2021

NAMES	CLASS
Sidney Simpson	KS
Sarah Flaherty	KS
Callum McBeth	1/2H
Jaidon Foster	1/2H
Allie Oliver	1/2M
Kayden Fleming	1/2M
Thomas Cumberland	3/4G
Lucas Batchelor	3/4G
Ahmed Saeed	3/4SG
Sunksh Dheer	3/4SG
Izabella Boyle	5/6B
Mason Pratt	5/6B
Hannah Vaughan	5/6R
Jaxson Smith	5/6R
Eissa Saeed	1-6T
Keith Matele	1-6T

*DAB Awards*  
Displaying Amazing Behaviour

Congratulations to the following students who received their DAB Award at Friday's Assembly. These students have consistently displayed our signature behaviours of being Respectful, Positive Learners and Safe

Students awarded a Bronze 50 Wristband

NAMES	CLASS
Sebastian Love	KS
Parker Fensom	KS
Riley Goddard	KS
Tylar Jeffries	3/4SG
Stella Meldrum	KS

Students awarded a Silver 75 Wristband

NAMES	CLASS
Annabelle Bonaccorso	1/2H
Mayan Leversage	5/6B
Nova Kibblewhite	KS
Zara Boyle	3/4SG
Ayla Peters	3/4G

Students awarded a Gold 100 Wristband

NAMES	CLASS
Theodore Currie	1/2H
Ozaya Drazevich	3/4SG
Billy Vaughan	3/4G

Students awarded a Rainbow 125 Wristband

NAMES	CLASS
Ron Cabais	5/6R
Sunksh Dheer	3/4SG
Chloe Maniti	3/4SG
Olivia Britt	5/6R

Students awarded a Silver 175 Certificate

NAMES	CLASS
Amber Murrell	5/6R

Students awarded a Rainbow 225 Certificate

NAMES	CLASS
Henri Fitrawan	3/4SG



50 Nights Reading Awards

Callum McBeth	1/2H
James Cooper	1/2M
Zara Meldrum	3/4G

100 Nights Reading Awards

Theodore Currie	1/2H
James Cooper	1/2M
Jaidon Foster	1/2H
Ben Waters	1/2H

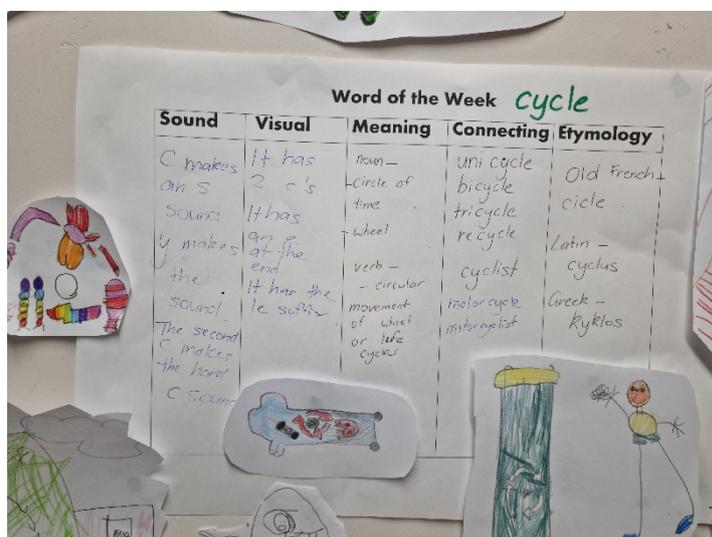
Caring and Sharing



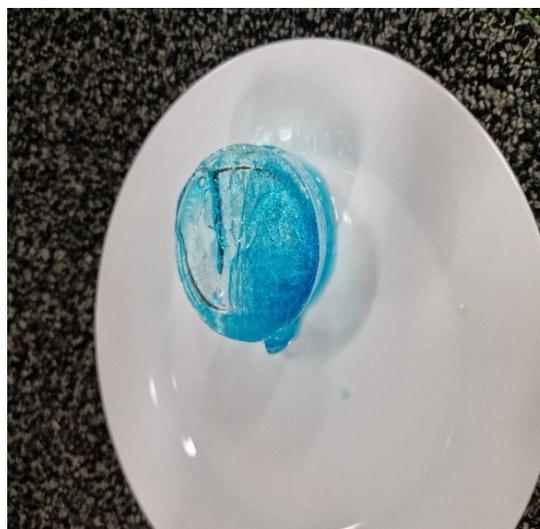
## Kirrang News

The children of Kirrang have had a busy Term 2. During mathematics sessions, we worked on place value, addition and subtraction.

In literacy, we investigated a word of the week. This includes looking at the origins of the words, letter patterns and how words relate to each other, for example, triangle, triple, triathlete.



Our Inquiry unit of work is exploring, *How water changes its state with changes in the weather*. We have learnt water can be a liquid, a solid or a gas. This will be connected to the different parts of the water cycle - precipitation, evaporation and condensation.



The children have also investigated different weather patterns and the various types of clouds.

Barbara Martin, Deborah Watling and Kathryn Hope



## Could \$500 help you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and we'll match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for school costs.

-  laptops & tablets
-  lessons & activities
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-  camps & excursions

To join Saver Plus, you must be at least 18 years or over, have a child at school or starting next year, attend vocational education yourself, have regular income from paid employment (you or your partner)\*, have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card and be in receipt of an eligible Commonwealth social security benefit, allowance or payment\*



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\*Many types of income and Centrelink payments are eligible, please contact your local Coordinator for more information!  
Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St. Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with The Smith Family, Barry Street and other local community agencies.  
The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to [www.dss.gov.au](http://www.dss.gov.au) for more information.\*



**GET ACTIVE  
SPORTS**

## BASKETBALL FOR JUNIORS



**We Get Kids Active!**



**Only \$84 for 6 classes in Term 3 2021**

- Boys & Girls aged 3 - 9 Years
- Skills based intro to Basketball
- Indoor sessions
- Modified equipment
- Ideal for beginners
- Age appropriate programs
- Parent help for 3+4 year olds
- BASKETBALL TO KEEP!

**Location: Wanniasa**

**St Francis of Assisi Primary School – 120 Casey Crescent, Calwell**

**Starts**

Sunday 25th July

- 3 + 4 year olds - 9.45am to 10.30am
- 5 + 6 year olds - 10.30am to 11.15am
- 7 - 9 year olds - 11.15am to 12.00pm



**ENROL + PAY ONLINE AT**

[WWW.GETACTIVESPORTS.COM.AU](http://WWW.GETACTIVESPORTS.COM.AU)

**To receive the Earlybird price of \$84 you need to Enrol+Pay before 7<sup>th</sup> July.**

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