

27 February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful start to the year we have had so far. The first five weeks at Richardson Primary School have been jam-packed full of learning and classes have settled in well. Each class has been working to establish a successful learning community by building trusting and collaborative relationships. When the culture is right, our students feel safe and willing to take risks with their learning. Here at Richardson we do this in many ways:

- All classes have worked together to create essential agreements. Essential agreements aim to set the tone for learning. A copy of your child's classroom essential agreement will be emailed home soon.
- Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) expectations are being taught. Teachers unpack the expectations with our students and then reinforce desired behaviours by rewarding coloured value tokens.
- Students participate in social and emotional learning lessons which aim to support them in recognising and verbalising their emotions and building strategies to help them regulate.

When we establish a positive, caring and trusting school culture early, our students are provided with every opportunity to succeed.

Our Initialit program is back in action for our Kindergarten and Year 1 and 2 classes. Initialit is an evidence-based, whole-class literacy program providing all children with the essential core knowledge and strong foundations to become successful readers and writers. The program consists of whole class explicit instruction, groups and independent activities, storybook lessons, games, spelling, grammar and vocabulary, and handwriting lessons. Teachers will also be supplementing the program with additional writing lessons. Initialit focuses on teaching students phonics skills they need to read as well as vocabulary, oral language and listening comprehension.

Initialit will run Monday to Friday in the morning block. Please ensure that your child/ren arrives to school on time so that they do not miss any of their Initialit lesson.

Last we held our K-6 parent information sessions. Families were provided with information about classroom routines, expectations, the teaching and learning programs and what the year has in store for students. Families also had the opportunity to 'drop in' on Wednesday and witness the learning that is occurring in classrooms. 'Drop In' days are held every term on week 5 Wednesdays and provide families with the opportunity to witness teaching and learning in action.

Thank you to all our families who have attended our school events this term, it is great to see so many families connecting with the school community.

A few reminders:

- Scooters, bikes, rollerblades and e-scooters are not to be ridden inside the school's gates and need to be locked in the bike shed on arrival at school. Students should also be wearing a helmet when riding or scooting to and from school.

- With the warm weather continuing we again remind students to bring a hat to school, if students do not have a hat they will be encouraged to play in the shade. All units also have a supply of sunscreen if students wish to reapply this during the day.
- Families are encouraged to please label all their child/ren's clothing clearly and to check lost property if you are missing items.
- Meals in schools continues to run on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays. Lunch orders can be purchased via flexi schools on Fridays. Breakfast club runs every morning at 8.45am.

Upcoming school events:

- Years 1 and 2 are hosting our next assembly on Friday 13 March, we invite families to attend.
- Our Easter Hat Parade will be celebrated on Friday 27 March and we are looking forward to seeing all the creative Easter bonnets.
- Learning Journeys and Preschool Play and Stay will be held in week 10. Learning Journeys are a celebration of progress and provide an opportunity for your child to share their learning with you. More information will be shared closer to the event.

Warm regards,

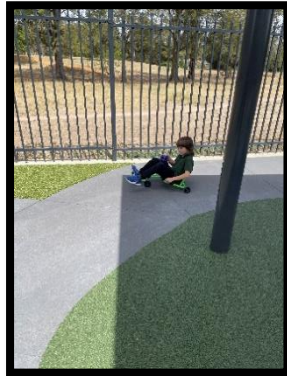
Kayla Hayward
Executive Teacher

Student Awards

The following students will receive an award Friday 27 February 2026	
NAMES	CLASS
Astrid Cannings-Fisher	KT
Oliver Rowland	KT
Holly Cooper	1/2A
Sebastian Currie	1/2A
Millie Shepherd	1/2D
Jordon Twigg	1/2D
Michael Byrne	3/4C
Leticia Freeman	3/4C
Lincoln Lloyd	3/4M
Ellie Wilding	3/4M
Evie Bosak	5/6G
Sarah Flaherty	5/6G
Desmund Tong	5/6G
Jaspar Wilson	5/6G
Jaycob Bonaccorso	K-6W
Deejay Kelly-Higgins	K-6W

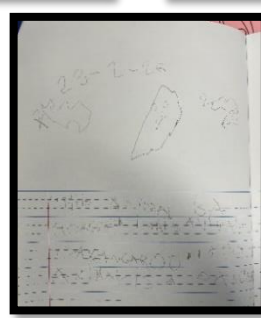
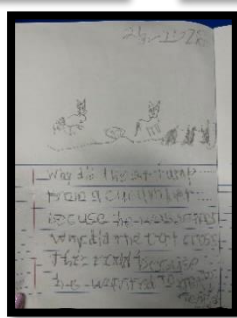
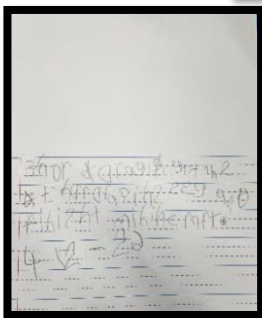
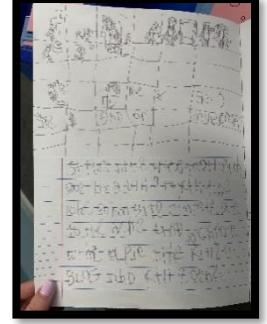
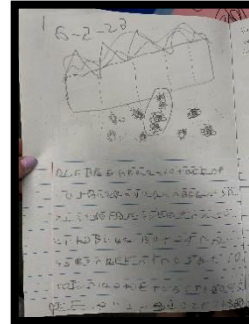
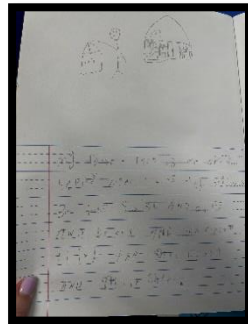
What's happening in K-6W 2026...

Welcome back to an exciting start to the new school year! Although we are only in week 5, it's been wonderful to see students settling in, building friendships and embracing new routines. A highlight of the term so far has been the excitement around the opening of our brand new courtyard space. The students thoroughly enjoyed watching the build and the addition of a trampoline and swing has brought so much energy and opportunity for movement and regulation throughout the day. We are looking forward to a fantastic year ahead filled with learning, growth and fun.

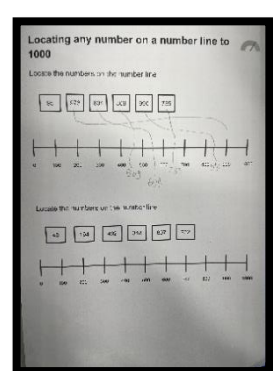
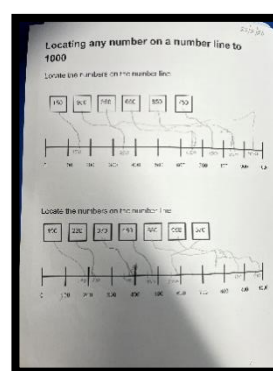
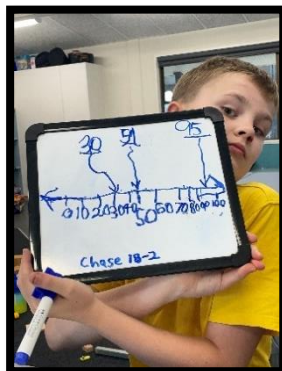
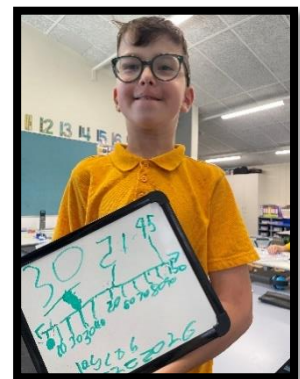
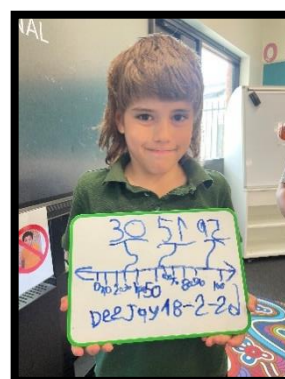
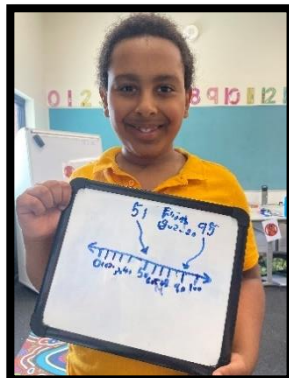




Our class has jumped back into Quick Writes with great enthusiasm! Using a range of engaging prompts, students are building confidence in getting their ideas down quickly and creatively. These short bursts of writing are helping to strengthen sentence structure, vocabulary and imagination. One of the highlights has been sharing our writing with peers and staff — it's been wonderful to see students proudly reading their work aloud and celebrating each other's efforts. We're so impressed with the growth already happening!



In maths, students have been working hard to strengthen their understanding of place value. We have been exploring numbers up to 5 digits, breaking them apart to understand the value of each digit and how numbers are built. Students have also been practising identifying and placing numbers accurately on a number line, helping to develop their number sense and confidence. It has been fantastic to see their persistence and growing understanding as they tackle bigger numbers!



Over the last few weeks, we have been learning about Lunar New Year and the traditions and celebrations associated with it. Students were especially excited to explore the Chinese zodiac and discover which animal represents the year they were born in. We are lucky to have a wonderful range in our class, including the Goat, Rat, Dog, Monkey and Ox — and even this year's zodiac animal, the Horse! It has been a fantastic opportunity to celebrate culture, diversity and the unique qualities that make each of us special.



This term, our Inquiry Unit has a Science focus centred around our big question: *How can events in space change life on Earth?* We began with a “tuning in” task, sharing what we already know and what we wonder about space, meteorites and how the dinosaurs became extinct. Students generated thoughtful and curious questions that will guide our learning throughout the unit. To spark our thinking, we even watched footage of the historic moon landing, which created plenty of excitement and discussion – including conversations about how terrible the picture was! We are looking forward to investigating our wonderings and uncovering new discoveries together over the coming weeks.

Some of our questions to explore throughout the unit:

- How does the moon grow?
- Why can we only see half the moon?
- What is the moon made of?
- What is an eclipse? What does it look like?
- What causes the northern lights/southern lights?
- How do you get into the shuttle? How do they land it again?
- How long does it take to get to the moon?
- How did they know about the moon and why did they go?

Iterika Newsletter

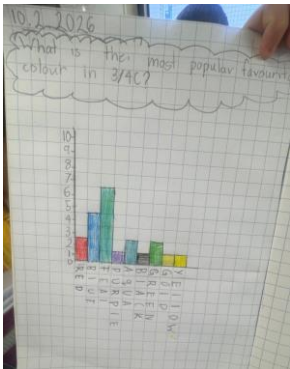
What an amazing start to the year the students in 3/4 have had! Every student is coming to school ready to learn and prepared to take on any challenges that the teachers set for them. We are seeing success for every student, every day, in all areas of the curriculum. Thank you to the families for sending your child to school with a full tummy, with healthy snacks and a water bottle to keep them ready to learn all day.

Learning in Iterika

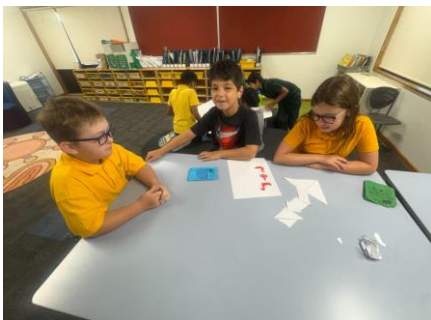


In literacy, the students are fully immersed in writing and reading each morning. In writer's workshops, the students are currently investigating writing to entertain, in the form of narratives. Through our unit novel, "You and Me, The Land Of Lost Things" by Andy Griffiths, students are using the plot, characters and complications of the story to develop their own 'hook' to pull their audience into their stories, while creating characters and settings to make their stories exciting to read. The students are using a story mountain to help develop suspense to their writing. Using the writing process, the students are beginning to engage in the planning, drafting, editing and re-crafting cycle.

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. Home readers will be coming home in the next few weeks to support the reading process further.



In maths, the students are learning about whole number, addition and subtraction. Students are developing their understanding of place value, working with numbers up to five digits. They are learning to classify odd and even numbers. Students are learning about data collection and graphing. They are engaging in cooperative learning groups to solve word problems to further develop their numeracy skills. As the term progresses, we will be learning about measurement and statistics and probability with lots of interactive and cooperative learning challenges.



In inquiry, we are establishing our classroom routines and expectations through our Classroom Essential Agreements. We are also learning about civics and citizenship, and what it means to be an active citizen. We are learning the difference between rules and laws. We are learning about collaborative and cooperative work. In week six, we will have an incursion from the ACT Legislative Assembly where we will learn about how laws are made through fun and interactive role plays.



In science, we are learning about Earth and Space Sciences. We are learning about different types of rocks and comparing their observable properties and investigating important earth resources.



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.

During weeks 7 and 8, our year 3 students will participate in NAPLAN. The students will complete four tests. These include writing, reading, language conventions and numeracy. Information regarding this has been sent home. Please speak to one of the teachers if you have questions about NAPLAN.

Dance Nation had started for our year 4 students. Each Wednesday, the students who have signed up for the dance program will be learning a dance routine that they will perform in front of a large audience of other schools, students and families at the end of term 2.

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 and a labelled sunsmart hat with your child everyday.



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

Have you registered an account to access the Parent Portal?

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.

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
- receive messages from your child's teachers
- make payments
- access the school calendar

Parent Portal is used by all ACT public schools from preschool through to year 12. If you have children at other ACT public schools, you don't need to sign up to the system twice. You can access their information from one account.

You can also access Parent Portal through the *Sentral for Parents* app. Download the app from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#).



Google Play

You can create your ACT Digital Account now if you don't have one already. Create an account and complete the level 2 ID verification by visiting: <https://www.myaccount.act.gov.au/>.

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.



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Contact Information:



0431-730-025



Cantkdacademy@gmail.com



<https://www.facebook.com/canberratkacademy/>

Chapman Primary

Tuesdays 6PM-7PM

Thursdays 6PM-7PM

Richardson Primary

Mondays

Junior Class 5:30 - 6:10 PM

Senior Class 6:10 PM - 7PM

Wednesday

Junior Class 5:30 - 6:10 PM

Senior Class 6:10 PM - 7PM







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Books and
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excursions

To join Saver Plus

- ✓ Be 18 years or older
- ✓ Have a Health Care or Pensioner Card
- ✓ Be in receipt of an eligible Commonwealth social security benefit, allowance or payment
- ✓ Have a child in school, starting school next year, or be studying yourself
- ✓ Get a regular income (you or your partner)
- ✓ Agree to join in free online financial education workshops

Saver Plus supports people to develop life-long savings habits. It's delivered by Brotherhood of St. Laurence, The Smith Family and Berry St Yooralla. It's funded by ANZ and Department of Social Services.

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