

Dear Parents and Carers,

The cold and crisp mornings are continuing to remind us that we certainly do live in Canberra! Please ensure that your children are coming to school well prepared for the playground with jumpers, jackets and beanies to keep them warm.

#### **Improve learning and achievement for all students**

At the end of last term, a small but mighty dance team represented Richardson Primary School at the National Convention Centre where they joined nearly 600 students from schools across the ACT. Our students demonstrated confidence as they danced in the Dance Nation 'FEARLESS' 2023 showcase. Thank you to the year 5/6 teachers for supporting the students through rehearsals, preparation, and the evening showcase. Thank you to those families who attended on the night. For a small school, we certainly know how to empower and encourage our kids!

In week 1 the children at preschool ventured to the National Botanic Gardens to participate in the MEGAfauna exhibition. The children worked together to follow a map and discovered flora and fauna from times long, long ago.

Every fortnight the Koori Butterflies preschool group will continue to learn on Country. This term their learning on Country takes them to the National Botanic Gardens where they continue to explore and connect with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

On Friday 21 July, students from kindergarten through to year 4 attended the Canberra Theatre to see a production titled, 'Are We There Yet?' which was adapted from the much-loved picture book written by Alison Lester. This excursion has served as a wonderful way to ignite interests and questions as students launch into geography-based inquiry learning this term.

On Monday 31 July we enjoyed a visit from our favourite Constable, Constable Kenny Koala. He was here to spend time with students in preschool, kindergarten, year 1 and year 2, reminding them about how to remain safe in the community. He will return later this term to speak with the year 4-6 students about keeping safe online.

The Richardson Interests and Pursuits Program will recommence this Friday! Students have been able to vote for the group that they would most like to attend. This term we have on offer:

Bikes	Sketching and Drawing
Inquiry	Maths games
Painting	Recorder
Drama	Pom pom making
Paper craft	Hall games
Warrigal Retirement Village – Kindy students & siblings	

We value the support from our families. If you wish to join us for RIPP, please contact your child's teacher.

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

On the last Friday of term 2 we farewelled Miss Lauren Richie as she has taken leave for twelve months. Ms Cherie Lugg-Restall, has seamlessly stepped in as a 5/6 teacher and the Kakadu unit hasn't missed a beat! Ms Lugg is very familiar with our school, and the students are thrilled to have her.

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On Monday 24 July 2023 it was announced that our Koori preschool will be expanding in 2024. We currently have one Koori preschool class which operates every Monday, Tuesday and even week Wednesday. We are thrilled to have been given the opportunity to run a second Koori preschool group in 2024 every odd Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The Koori preschool program offers a preschool placement to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from the age of 3 to 5 years old. It aims to provide a play-based, culturally safe learning program aligned with both the Early Years Learning Framework and the Koori Pre Curriculum. To find out more, please contact the Early Childhood Education Officer via email [EDUKooriPre@act.gov.au](mailto:EDUKooriPre@act.gov.au) or on 6207 1106.

Each year, the Directorate surveys all parents and carers, school staff and students in Years 4 to 12 about their experience of public education. The *2023 School Satisfaction & Climate Survey* will be available online from **18 August to 8 September**. The survey results will help us to continue to make quality informed decisions about how to improve our school. No personal identifying information will be provided to any school or college.

For each child in their family who attends an ACT public school, parents and carers will receive:

- A letter about the **student survey** outlining the reasons for collection and privacy provision for the data; and
- An email about the **parent survey**, including a unique link to access the survey. **Genuine survey invitation emails will have the title "The 2023 School Satisfaction & Climate Survey is now open!" and will be sent from EDU Surveys & Evaluation with 'from' address [EDU@qualtrics-survey.com](mailto:EDU@qualtrics-survey.com).**

If you do not receive the survey invitation, please check your Junk email folder; if it is not there, please contact your school. If you do not receive an email, please contact Richardson Primary School on 61423630.

The Parents and Carers Survey will be available online in other languages: Arabic, Burmese, Chinese, Hindi, Korean, Urdu, Vietnamese, Punjabi, Bengali, Spanish, Telugu, French and Italian. Respondents can select their preferred language when they start the survey. A shortened paper-version of the Parents and Carers Survey is also available in the following 5 languages: Dari, Dinka, Farsi, Karen and Mon. These surveys will be available at the Front Office.

For the results to reflect the opinions of our whole school community, we need as many parents and carers, staff and students as possible to complete the survey. Your feedback is important, and we hope you will take part.

For more information, visit: <https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/school-satisfaction-and-climate-survey>

### **Provide a safe, inclusive, and respectful school culture**

Thank you to all families who participated in Three-Way Interviews over the last two weeks. We value the opportunity to work collaboratively to reflect on learning and set future learning goals with students and their families. Please remember that we welcome your feedback and remind you to touch base with child's teacher at any time that you wish to discuss your child's progress.

This week we will acknowledge NAIDOC Week with the SRC NAIDOC Assembly on Friday 4 August at 9:15am. The NAIDOC theme for 2023 is, "For Our Elders" which celebrates and pays respect to all Elders, honouring the important role they play as cultural knowledge holders and leaders in the wider community. We look forward to welcoming Emma Laverty from Project Dust join us as a guest speaker at the assembly. Emma was recently awarded ACT NAIDOC Teacher of the Year.

This year we will celebrate and acknowledge NAIDOC Week on Tuesday 8 September with a whole school excursion to Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve. At Tidbinbilla, students will be involved in learning activities that explore and grow their understandings of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. Please keep an eye out for permission notes that are soon to come home.

We would also like to take the opportunity to thank the NDIS partners from EACH who will help us celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day this Friday 4 August with a free BBQ lunch for all students at the primary school. Students will be treated to sausage sandwiches during our recess break at 1:15pm. Next week the Koori Butterflies and the Black Cockatoos preschool groups will celebrate this special day with a 'Stay & Play' session on Wednesday 9 August 2023 from 9am to 10.30am. Children will dress-up as something they wish to be when they grow up which supports the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day theme, 'Little Voices, Loud Futures'. The staff from Gugan-Gulwan Aboriginal Youth Corporation kindly dropped off some gift bags which will be given to the children

on this special day. Children will be adding their footprints to the playground, participating in biscuit decorating, and making at the arts and craft stations.

On Wednesday 16 August we will once again open up classrooms for our 'Drop in Day'. Families are welcomed into classrooms at any time throughout the day. Drop in days aim to provide an insight into the teaching and learning that happens day to day. Teachers will post a classroom timetable to Seesaw on Tuesday 15 August so that you can plan your visit to see something that interests you. To entice as many visitors as we can, we will also host the Community BBQ Breakfast on Wednesday 16 August from 8.30am in the undercover area outside of the year 3/4 unit. Please come along and enjoy a BBQ breakfast and a chat with our teachers.

Kind regards,

Natalie Hogan  
Executive Teacher



### LOST PROPERTY

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

Any items left at the end of Term will be given to charity.



## 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.

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.**

### 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, PO Box 767, Canberra ACT 2601



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## Richardson Primary 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 and rectify any safety risks we are unaware exist around the school.

### **2. Allergy Aware:**

We currently have a number of children and staff with gluten, nut, artificial colouring/preservative allergies 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. 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. 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 your child/ren arrive after 9am or need to leave before 3pm please advise the front office so your child/ren can be signed in/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 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.

#### **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 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.

#### **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:**

Items that make their way to the roof will be retrieved once a fortnight.

#### **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.

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

We have a registered psychologist 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 morning and afternoon by the class teacher. 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.

## **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.

## **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)

# Caring and Sharing



### **SCHOOL TIMES**

9:00 - 11:00am  
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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# Student Awards

# DAB Awards

Displaying Amazing Behaviour

The following students will receive an award  
Friday 4 August 2023

NAMES	CLASS
Jimmy Johanson	KT
Celeste Jolley	KT
Kavya Bhandari	1/2D
Stevie Barnett	1/2D
Lauren Flaherty	1/2M
Chloe Champness	1/2M
Evie Bosak	1/2S
Lauren Flaherty	1/2S
Kailahrose Kahuroa-Simpson	3/4B
Kayden Fleming	3/4B
Lacey Shepherd	3/4C
Bailey Phillips	3/4C
Rex Blowers	3/4C
Blaze Flaherty	5/6G
Henri Fitrawan	5/6G
Jaycob Robertson	5/6L
Trifnity Marshall	5/6L
Annabelle Bonaccorso	2-6T
Xavier Lowery	2-6T

## Students awarded a Rainbow Wristband

NAMES	CLASS
Johnny Lea	1/2D
Ulopi Matale	1/2D
Zoe Hunt	1/2D
Lucy Collins	1/2S
Desmund Tong	3/4B
Isabel Burger-Ciechan	3/4B
Bailey Phillips	3/4C
Callum McBeth	3/4C
Estelle Meek	3/4C
Lawson McCurley	3/4C
Rex Blowers	3/4C
Tyler Shillabeer	3/4C
Asha Jolley	3/4C
Aurora Kibblewhite	3/4C

Students awarded a Silver Certificate

NAMES CLASS  
Freddie White 1/2S

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 Wristband

NAMES	CLASS
Malakai Kelly-Higgins	3/4B

## Students awarded a Silver Wristband

NAMES	CLASS
Allie Oliver	3/4B
James Cooper	3/4B
Jasmine Blowers	3/4B
Anthony Konemann-Fister	3/4B
Connor Burger-Ciechan	3/4C
JJ Adams	3/4C
Paige Goddard	3/4C
Samson Marshall	3/4C
Eissa Saeed	2-6T

## Students awarded a Gold Wristband

NAMES	CLASS
Sophia Weldon	1/2D
Allie Oliver	3/4B
Chloe Wicks	3/4B
Jasmine Blowers	3/4B
Bailey Phillips	3/4C
Callum McBeth	3/4C
Rex Blowers	3/4C
Asha Jolley	3/4C
Ben Waters	3/4C
Connor Burger-Ciechan	3/4C
Paige Goddard	3/4C
Theodore Currie	3/4C
Cade Clarke	5/6G
Rehaan Mohammed	2-6T

## Students awarded a Bronze Certificate

NAMES	CLASS
Scarlett McCurley	1/2D
Nikola Mateta-Allen	1/2M
Jaxson Howe	1/2S
Lawson McCurley	3/4C
Tyler Shillabeer	3/4C





**To celebrate our 101st day at school, the Turtles dressed up as 101 Dalmatians.**

We did lots of activities around the number 101, including writing 101 words, using 101 cubes to make a long stick, doing 101 drawings and seeing what 101 counters looks like. It was a very busy, and fun day!

