

24 November 2023

Dear RPS Families

With only three weeks left before we break for the Christmas holidays, the staff and students at Richardson Primary School are extremely busy! Mr Fraser is working furiously with all students from across the school to complete the 2024 RPS movie. This learning opportunity offers the students the chance to create, perform and respond as they create dramatic action and communicate dramatic meaning. On the last day of term, there will be an opportunity for families to come in and view the final product. Stay tuned for details.

Improve learning and achievement for all students

This week saw the school hall transformed into a visual art wonderland. The 2024 Art Show was a huge success with families and students flowing through the doors to view a culmination of visual art techniques taught throughout the year. Art pieces from preschool to year 6 were on display, showcasing students' developing skills, techniques and processes. A huge thank you is extended to Mr Fraser and the Art Show Committee for putting on such a wonderful event which showcased the students' learning.

On Monday the year 5/6 students are venturing to Borambola Camp near Wagga Wagga. They are looking forward to three, fun-filled days of physical challenges such as archery, rock climbing, mud run and team initiatives. The bus will be leaving bright and early with departure set for 7.15am sharp. Staff will endeavour to post Facebook updates however this will depend on the network service available. We look forward to hearing about their adventures when they return on Wednesday afternoon.

Next Tuesday will see our Koori Preschool class venturing to Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve for their last Learning on Country event for the year. To celebrate, the Koori Butterflies have invited their friends from the Black Cockatoos to join them. We look forward to seeing the Butterflies extend their learning of culture by sharing their knowledge and understanding with the Black Cockatoos. Learning on Country has been a new initiative this year thanks to the support of Transport Canberra, who have provided buses free of charge to the Koori Preschool sites across Canberra.

As part of the transition process for our incoming 2024 preschool children, Ms Nuzda and Miss James have been meeting with families and children for the preschool interviews. This is an opportunity for our staff to connect with families and learn a little more about the ways in which we can support the newest members of our community when starting school. We will also open our preschool doors to these new families next Wednesday 29 November between 9.15am and 10.15am for the Preschool Open Morning.

Develop an expert teaching team

Student reports are progressing and will be going home to families at the end of week 9 via email. If your family circumstances have changed this year and you are requiring two reports to be sent home, please contact the front office.

Our work continues, examining updates to both the Australian Curriculum version 9.0 and the Early Years Learning Framework version 2.0. The Australian Curriculum is reviewed every 6 years and updates are made to ensure it continues to meet the needs of students now and into the future. Teachers here at Richardson Primary School have been working in teams to reflect on current planning documents and delve into the changes and updates to both the Australian Curriculum and the Early Years Learning Framework.

The ACT Education Directorate has recently announced that next year there will be a student free day each term. These are the first day of each school term:

- Term 1, Monday 29 January 2024
- Term 2, Monday 29 April 2024
- Term 3, Monday 22 July 2024
- Term 4, Monday 14 October 2024.

We use student-free days for staff development, enabling us to plan in a student-free environment. Student-free planning days have been expanded from one to four days from 2024 as part of our new Teaching Staff Enterprise Agreement which prioritises better teacher workloads for educational leadership, teaching and learning.

Provide a safe, inclusive, and respectful school culture

At Richardson Primary School we look for opportunities to extend our students' experiences and enrich learning opportunities. For the last six years we have had the fabulous Deb Clarke, a parent from our RPS community, providing the Scholastic Book Club to all students and families.

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to Deb for co-ordinating Book Club and offering this to our community.

Kind regards,

Natalie Hogan
Executive Teacher

SCHOOL AGE CARE

Before and after school care is available at Richardson Primary School. Enrolment forms are available from 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.

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

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.

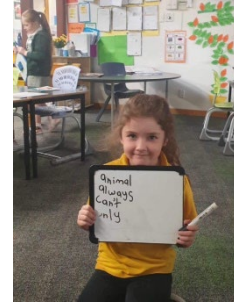
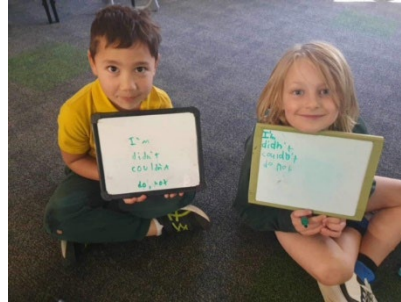
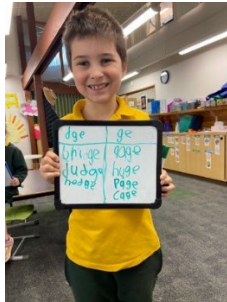
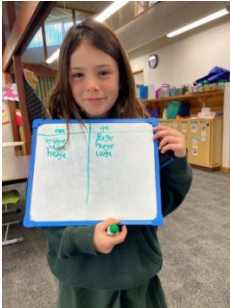
Richardson Primary School acknowledges the Ngunnawal people, the traditional custodians of this land. We would also like to pay respect to the United Ngunnawal Elders Council and to the Elders, both past and present of the Ngunnawal nation. We also extend that respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in our community.

News from Kirrang

We cannot believe that we are nearing the end of Term 4 already! We have had a busy start to the term and will continue working hard as we get ready to transition into years 2 and 3 next year.

Literacy

Each morning we continue with our InitialLit program which supports the development of our reading and writing skills.



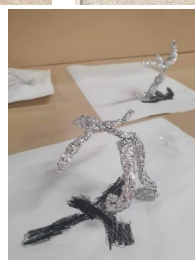
Mathematics

This term we have been revising addition and subtraction strategies, supporting students' learning through hands on manipulatives and playing maths games. Students have also been exploring number bonds and probability.



Inquiry

In our inquiry unit, students have begun to investigate at sound and light. Students have been engaging in experiments to explore how sound is made and travels. This learning was also supported by the help of Barbara Flemming who introduced Indigenous artifacts to show how sound was used in Indigenous cultures. Students investigated light and shadows outside, and consolidated this learning by creating sculptures and drawing the shadow.



Other learning opportunities

Students have been using ICT to consolidate their learning across all learning areas. Over the last few weeks, students have been playing 'Are You Smarter Than a Computer?'

Students had the opportunity to participate in another Gecko Sports clinic, this time focusing on further building their gross motor skills.

Students were also very excited to experience their first Kakadu Fun Day!



Thanks a million,
Barbara, Deborah, Amie and Tamara.



Iterika Newsletter Term 4

3/4B and 3/4C

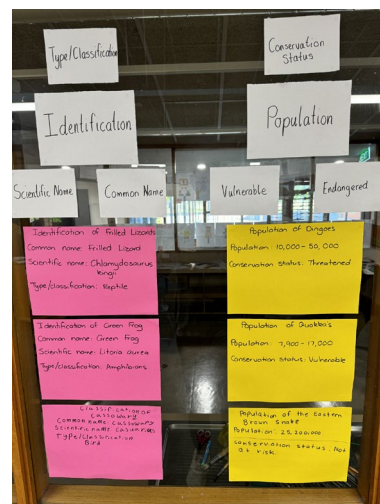
Wow, the year is flying by! The students in Iterika have been extremely busy fully immersing themselves in all learning tasks. We are particularly proud of the risks the students are taking with their learning and how they are taking on all learning challenges that are set for them. We are seeing success for every student, every day, in all areas of the curriculum.

Writing

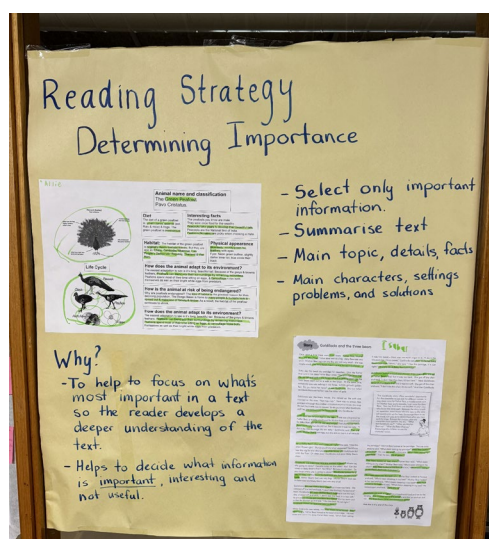
In Writers Workshop, we are working through the writing process of planning, drafting our writing, editing, and then recrafting our writing. We are learning how to write informative texts, including information reports. During our Writers Workshops, we are learning how to write information in our own words and put our writing under subheadings. We have also been learning how to put paragraphs in our writing, ensuring that we have only one idea in each paragraph.

Reading

In readers workshops, we have continued to develop our reading strategies of reading on and inferring. We have been working hard on the reading strategy of determining importance where the students need to establish the key pieces of information in the text they are reading, and then rewrite that information in their own words. We have had a focus on non-fiction texts this term that we are using to support our



research about different topics. Through daily guided reading sessions, the students work in small groups to read and comprehend texts using a variety of reading strategies. After the students have read, they participate in a discussion about the text to support their comprehension skills.



Maths

In mathematics we have been developing a greater understanding of multiplication and division, 2D and 3D shape, fractions, area and perimeter. We have had lots of time being hands on with manipulatives to make concrete connections with these operations. We have been focussing on place value looking into decimal numbers and how they are connected to fractions. We have been developing the skill of measuring using the metric system. Students are becoming increasingly confident in measuring the length of different objects with rulers. The students have been learning how to measure the area and perimeter of different shapes.

Geography

We have been learning about the states and territories of Australia, and the Aboriginal tribe map of Australia. We have been investigating the neighbouring countries of Australia. Through our inquiry, we are exploring different countries and comparing those countries to Australia.

Gecko Sports



In PE, we have been really lucky to have been learning new table tennis skills with Jack from Gecko Sports. Jack teaches us a new set of skills each week to prepare the students to play a game of table tennis.



Handwriting

This term the students have had the opportunity to show their skills in handwriting and earn themselves their L-plate pen licences. This has been met with great excitement and some students have progressed to their P-plate licence as well.



Home Reading

Home readers have been sent home in the last few weeks. Some students also have high frequency words in their folders to support them in recognising and understanding these words in different texts. We are asking that the students bring their books to school to change them on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

With the weather becoming warmer, please make sure you are sending a clearly labelled hat with your child each day. Please also make sure your child brings a labelled drink bottle to school with them each day.

Thank you to all of the grandparents and special friends that joined us for Grandparents Day last week. It was lovely to meet you all and share the students learning with you.

We are always happy to have a chat with families, so please don't be shy, please email or call us if you have any concerns or questions.

The Iterika Team,
Benjamin, Luke, Kian and Jen

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.



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](https://flexischools.com.au) or you can download the new Flexischools App.

REMINDER: Please ensure you update your child's new classroom for 2023.

Looking forward to continuing our service to you.

Canteen team - Kerry & Lucy

Learning with Ms Queripel

Students in the Cockatoos and Swans classes have enjoyed participating in dancing and singing each week. They have learnt a variety of lyrics and actions for different songs.



Students in 1/2 have been participating in Circle Time and looking at our similarities and differences. They have been celebrating what makes each of us unique.



In 5/6, students have been discussing our emotions and the influence these have on our behaviour and how we interact with others.



In 2-6T, students have been exploring different techniques that we can use when creating artwork.

