

Calendar

What's On

Term 1 Week 5

Tuesday 22 February	Scripture starts
Thursday 24 February	Swimming Carnival
Friday 25 February	RDA Sports in School

Week 6

Tuesday 1 March	Ridges netball trials
Wednesday 2 March	Ridges touch trials
Friday 4 March	Sports in School RDA

Principal's Message

It's Academic

Last week fifteen of our Stage 3 students represented our school on the television show It's Academic. Every student did themselves and our school proud not only in the way they played the game but also in the way they conducted themselves. I am extremely proud of each and every student.

Riverstone PS Yellow Pages

Our school community has always surprised me how generous we are at making our school the best place it can be for our kids.

Many parents have offered their help in one way or another. If you talk to my staff they will tell you that when I am whistling it means I am about to change something!!! I am always on the lookout for new ways to improve the learning environment for our students.

This has led to the idea of, creating a **RivoYellow Pages**. With over 360 students we have many parents, family members and friends with skills and contacts to help our school grow.

This help can come in many different forms, from being

able to lend a hand with the skills you possess, maybe in welding or gardening, to having contacts in business.

I am putting together the **RivoYellow Pages** so that we can have on file people in our community that may be able to lend a hand.

Attached to the back of this newsletter is a form you can fill in with the details of how you can help and be part of the **RivoYellow Pages**.

RivoYellow Pages will not be published in any directory. It will become a database held by the school to help us.

We would like to offer any businesses that can help our school free advertisement in our fortnightly newsletter. This not only goes home with 360 students but is published on our school's website each fortnight.

I look forward to hearing from parents, family and friends.

Positive Behaviour For Learning Awards (PBL)

Andrew Douglas	KH
Mia Esner	KH
Justin Highett	1-2K
Samuel Benson	1-2P
Leesa Cross	1-2P
Louise Bond	3-4C
Tiffany Galea	3-4C
Hayden Brown	5-6W
Amelia Lawrence	5-6W
Brock Morris	5-6W
Nolle Opsomer	5-6W

Maroon Day

Thank you to all the families who donated money for the flood affected schools in Queensland. We raised \$263.70 It was heartwarming to see five, ten and even twenty dollar notes being donated from staff and students.

Five Ways to a Healthy Lifestyle

Encourage your child to:

1. Get active every day
2. Choose water as a drink
3. Eat more fruit and vegetables
4. Switch off the screen and get active
5. Eat fewer snacks and select healthier alternatives.

Tuesday 8 March is International Women's Day

International Women's Day (IWD) is a global event which celebrates the economic, political and social achievements of women-past, present and future.

Education Tax Refund

Parents and caregivers are encouraged to keep their receipts from educational related expenses to take advantage of a federal government tax initiative.

The Education Tax Refund (ETR) gives you refunds of 50% on a range of primary and secondary school education expenses.

You can receive refunds up to a maximum of \$397 per primary school student and \$794 per secondary school student.

To see if you are eligible to apply for the education tax refund, see www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au

Lunch Box Safety

Tips to reduce the risk of food poisoning

- Use insulated lunch boxes or cooler bags
- Keep a frozen drink or freezer brick inside the lunch box or bag
- If you are making lunches the night before, store them in the fridge until leaving for school
- It is particularly important to keep meat or chicken sandwiches cool.

Peter D'Ernilio

Principal

Front Car Park

The car park at the front of the school is for the use of the school executives and visiting departmental personnel only. Parents should not be parking in these spaces.

The bus bay areas are for the use of the taxis that drop-off and collect the students that are in our Special Education classes and must be left vacant until 9.30am and after 2.15pm every day.

Before School 8.25am - 8.55am

For safety reasons all students are required to play under the Primary COLA (in front of the school hall) or on the concrete area before school. NO STUDENT is to play or wait under the Infants COLA before school.

Parents are asked to take their children down to the main COLA area with their bags when they arrive at school.

It's Academic Program Times

As you are aware, our students represented our school in the 'It's Academic' competition that was filmed at Foxtel Studios on Tuesday 15 February. I was privileged to be with these students whose behaviour, attitude and gamesmanship was remarkable.

We were right in the competition up until the very last game and although we did not achieve the result we aimed for, all of the students supported each other in their attempts.

The programs will be aired for a week and the scheduled days are as follow:

Monday	25/04/11	4pm
Tuesday	26/04/11	4pm
Wednesday	27/04/11	4pm
Thursday	28/04/11	4pm
Friday	29/04/11	4pm

Sports News**Swimming Carnival**

All of our students are getting excited about our upcoming school Swimming Carnival (Thursday 24th February). We would love your support on the day at Riverstone Swimming Centre.

Please keep in mind that the day is a **compulsory school day** and all children are expected to attend, even if they do not want to swim.

No teachers will be at school on this day as they are all attending the Carnival.

The carnival is planned in such a way as to provide opportunities for maximum involvement for all students. Events at our carnival include age races (50m & 25m), relays and novelty events. There will be no free swim.

Please be aware that Riverstone Pool is an open air pool and students are to bring a hat and sunscreen which should be applied regularly throughout the day.

Parents are welcome to attend the carnival. Spectator admission will be \$2.40.

Sports in schools

Sports in Schools is being offered to all students K-6 again this year in Term One. The payment of \$4.00 needs to be given to your child's class teacher by **Thursday morning**. NON PAYMENT WILL MEAN NON ATTENDANCE.

2011 Ridges Sport Trials

In the coming weeks children will have the opportunity to attend trials for Ridges Zone and Sydney West Sporting Teams (depending on the sport).

Any students wishing to attend must obtain a permission note from Mr Lewis, which needs to be filled out and taken to the trial.

Listed below are this terms trial dates:

1st March	Ridges Netball
2nd March	Ridges Boys & Girls Touch
8th March	Ridges 11 Yrs Rugby League
10th March	Ridges AFL
16th March	Ridges Boys Soccer
22nd March	Ridges Open Rugby League

Pre School Report

A big welcome to the parents and students who have join us at Riverstone Public School this year. The Pre School students settled in well last week for their first week at school. They were engaged in many fun activities from bubble blowing, playdough sculpturing, drawing, sand pit play and ball skills.

This year we have 3 teachers working in the Pre School, Mrs Susan Smith, Mrs Sangita Kumar and Miss Kaylene Smith. The teachers are excited to work alongside your children to achieve many great learning experiences throughout 2011. We also have two Learning Support Officers working in the Pre School this year; Mrs Susan Lawford and Ms Elaine Keating.

We appreciate your support with us implementing the Healthy Eating Program introduced last year by the NSW Department of Health. We would like to remind you about the following:

- Water only at Pre School. If a child needs another drink they can have plain milk poppers at lunch, but please make sure they are stored in the student's lunch box with a freezer brick.
- At Morning Tea and Lunch please do not pack muesli/breakfast bars, fruit bars/straps, potato chips or chocolates. The students are encouraged to eat healthy snacks such as fruit, boiled eggs and cheese sticks.

Please have a look at the entrance of the Pre School. Both class have a "Healthy Star of the Week". This is the student who brings the healthiest lunch box during the week. We have a photo of them displayed with their lunch. Also please take the time to look at the Learning Stories the teachers are creating this year about class experiences during the week. This can be found at the sign on desk.

We hope everyone has an enjoyable year at Pre School.

Mrs Karen Holman
Assistant Principal

Learning with our new Preschool students



Kindergarten Report

WOW! The Kindergarten students have arrived at our school this year eager and ready to learn. They completed their Best Start Testing in Week 2 and the results will be sent home at the end of Week 5. The students have settled in well to their classes. They have been busy participating in many learning experiences including writing, drawing, music and counting. The students in Kindergarten have learnt 5 sounds so far and are busy looking for these sounds in the classroom environment.

This term we have had the privilege of Miss Jessica Gummerson working in the Kindergarten rooms as she completes her 2nd year teacher training program. The students have enjoyed working with her in small group reading activities. She has taught us some great Maths games and how to play musical instruments.

The highlight for the Kindergarten children so far was having their Year 6 buddies look after them in the first few weeks. The Year 6 students were terrific leaders, helping the Kindergarten students learn their way around the school.

Mrs Karen Holman
Assistant Principal

Kindergarten students with their buddies



Stage 1

Students in Stage 1 have settled into their classes.

We have been preparing for a busy Term 1. On Friday 1/2PW hosted the K-2 Assembly. Miss Jane and 1/2PW practised a song about transport and presented it at the Assembly. The song was linked to the unit of work that Stage 1 is studying in Human Society and Its Environment. Everyone enjoyed the lyrics and the actions.

Stage 1 teachers are planning an interesting excursion. We would like to take the students to a venue that will be informative, interesting and exciting and also good value for money.

This day will also be linked to our unit of work regarding Transport. More information will follow at a later date.

If you have any issues or concerns regarding your child please feel free to make an appointment or leave a message at the front office and we will respond as soon as possible.

Mrs Stephens
Stage 1 Supervisor



1/2S doing their best to be Safe,
Respectful, Learners.

Stage Three

- Year Six have the 'Taster Day' tomorrow
- Looking forward to the excursion to Canberra
- Leaders are displaying excellent examples to the other students
- Swimming Carnival - Sports Captains are leading the way.
- Sports in School / Fitness
- It's Academic

Mrs Finn
Stage 3 Supervisor

Poems from 5/6 W

When the heat wave struck we were inspired to write the following Poems:

It's really hot in the sun
But gee I am having fun.
The holidays are here,
I have sweat dripping down my ears,
I dive in the water
But as soon as I get out I have to play with my daughter.
The waves come crashing down,
But I'm already back in town
By Jeremy Hawes

There is nothing like a good barbeque,
But with all the flies we all go shoo.
Water fights around the house,
"Oh no" there goes one more mouse.

Let's sit down and watch the cricket,
"Yes" there goes another wicket.
The good old day is nearly gone,
Let's sit down and beep the horn.
By Blake Whipp

It is really hot in the sun,
But gee I'm having fun.
But who needs air conditioning
when you've got some good sunny fishing.
Catch a big fish and chuck him on the barbie,
Invite some friends and have a big party.
By Brendan Ryan

Here I stand on the wharf,
I catch a fish like dwarf.
It has no energy left,
But it is still the best.
I cast my line back in,
I get a bite and I win.
I bring my line into the wharf,
But the fish is still like a dwarf.
By Nolle Opsomer

Student Representative Council (SRC)

The Student Representative Council will be meeting on the 1st Tuesday of every month. Our First meeting is on next Tuesday 1st March.

In these meetings the children will have an opportunity to discuss and suggest ideas that the school can become involved in. The SRC will be fundraising and making donations to causes such as 'Red Nose Day', 'Bandage Bear Day' etc. Hopefully we will also be involved in 'Clean Up Australia Day', just to name a few.

Miss Wesley and Mrs Finn
Coordinators

Literacy Report

In Term 1 the teachers are consolidating their teaching knowledge through the continued implementation of Accelerated Literacy from Pre School to Year 6.

Each class is studying a book and completing activities based upon this book in spelling, grammar, writing, reading, talking and listening. We are also training the following staff: Mrs Weisback, Ms Anderson, Ms Shaw and Ms Weller in the Accelerated Literacy Pedagogy.

The teachers are attending a staff inservice for Literacy next week on Comprehension Strategies. The staff will revise various comprehension strategies and continue implementing these in their Guided Reading Groups.

Mrs Hall is running an inservice for Kindergarten parents on Wednesday 23 February 2011 on teaching your child to read at home. If any other parents would like to join this afternoon session from 2:00-2:45pm you are most welcome.

Mrs Karen Holman
Literacy Coordinator

Community Noticeboard

Riverstone Public School, as a service to parents, will advertise community events that may be of interest. Riverstone Public School does not necessarily endorse or sponsor the events and accepts no responsibility for the management or organisation of these events.



Riverstone Families Connect **BREAKFAST CLUB**



Thursday Morning
8.15am—8.50am

**All students are welcome
to come along.**

Students must leave the Breakfast Club to line
up for class when the bell goes.

“SKOOL IS KOOL WITH KARL”

The **Good Guys Prospect** are offering us the opportunity to earn rewards points for our school.

How does it work?

Every time you make a purchase at the **Good Guys at Prospect**, you start earning points for our school. Every \$25 spent earns 1 rewards point. The school can then spend these points in the Good Guys at Prospect on equipment or prizes for raffles. So if you spend \$300 the school will earn 12 points, \$600 will give the school 24 points. Karl will then send the school the vouchers to spend in the store.

**All you do is tell the sales person
the name of the school.**

Let's start earning points today!



February 25th 4pm - 7pm
Park street Riverstone

Jumping Castle
Petting Zoo
Animal balloons
& clown
Free Bq & Drinks
Information stalls



Brought to you by



-6-

G U T S

(Growing up through Separation)

A free 6 week ongoing group for kids
aged 5-12 years who have
experienced the breakdown of the
parental relationship.

Tuesdays - 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th,
31 May & 7th June
3.30pm - 5pm

After school
drinks & snacks included.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
Call: 4588 3502

Will be held at
Richmond Community
Services Inc.
The Neighbourhood Centre
20 West Market St
Richmond