

# Richmond Primary School Newsletter



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*Learning and Caring for Life*

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Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

Term 1, Week 1, 2020 Week ending Friday 31 January

Ella Blake  
Principal

Stacey Eichenberger  
Deputy Principal

Thuy Pham  
IELP Assistant Principal

## WELCOME

Dear families,

**Welcome back!** It is an exciting time for our staff and students as we all embark on successful teaching and learning for 2020. A special welcome to our Reception students and new students/families who are attending Richmond Primary for the first time. Our enrolments continue to grow and we start 2020 with 13 mainstream classes and 5 Intensive English Language Program classes.

We also welcome new or returning staff; Mark Miels (Year 4/5) Anna Pok (EALD), Maree Moore (Science), Glenn Hart (student wellbeing) and Tania Barr (finance for 6 months). Thank you to Gail Rose for her interim finance role.

School holiday breaks are usually a great time to upgrade facilities and infrastructure; you may notice some changes to play areas, library, bag racks, seating etc. Surrey Road looks very different! Roadwork will continue during the next school holiday break, with new bitumen surface planned. Please be reminded of safe driving practices at pick up/drop off. No U-turns please, we need predictable vehicle directions for child safety and efficient flow of traffic for all drivers.

As a staff, we are committed to learning. Learning is for everyone whether we are a student, teacher, staff or parent. All staff have spent much time prior to this week to prepare relevant learning experiences that support, engage and challenge our students.

We continue to look for ways to address and promote growth in any areas requiring improvement. Our specific directions, recommendations, parent feedback (please see summary of our 2019 parent survey included in this newsletter), priorities, goals and values guide us. There is always much to consider and this year I wish to highlight our Australian Curriculum priorities of developing knowledge, understanding and skills relating to; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures, Asia and Australia's Engagement with Asia and Sustainability. I look forward to working with our school community once again as we continue to strive for ways to improve student learning at Richmond Primary School.

Our first whole school event for this year is **Acquaintance Night, Week 3, Wednesday 12th February**. We encourage as many of you as possible to attend this night to hear from your child/ren's teachers as well as specialist teachers and the leadership team.

We will also hold **RPS Governing Council Annual General Meeting (AGM)** and everyone is welcome to attend. Elliot Keane, our Governing Chairperson, and I will present our 2019 Annual Report and encourage parents to be a part of our council meetings, held twice per term. We ask that, if possible due to limited space and supervision, children not attend the evening. We will provide a crèche in the OSHC building if your children cannot be cared for at home.

If you are unable to attend, information from the evening will be sent home with your child the following day. If you would like to nominate as a 2020 Governing Council member please email [dl.0381.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0381.info@schools.sa.edu.au) supplying your name and the name of your child and his/her class teacher by Tuesday 11th February. Further details of the evening are included in this newsletter.

## 2020 DIARY DATES

### TERM 1

#### February

Tues 4<sup>th</sup> Student Road Crossing Training  
Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Aquatics Yr. 6/7  
Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Whole School Assembly  
Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Acquaintance Night  
Governing Council AGM  
Fri 14<sup>th</sup> Newsletter  
Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Governing Council Meeting  
Fri 21<sup>st</sup> R-2 Assembly  
Thurs 27<sup>th</sup> Principal Tour 9.15am  
Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Newsletter

#### March

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> – Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Parent Teacher Interviews  
Friday 6<sup>th</sup> Year 3-7 Assembly  
Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Adelaide Cup Public Holiday  
Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Pupil Free Day – OSHC open  
Wed 11<sup>th</sup> – Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Parent Teacher Interviews  
Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Newsletter  
Wed 18<sup>th</sup> Governing Council Meeting  
Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Harmony Day Assembly  
Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Newsletter  
Mon 30<sup>th</sup>-Wed 1<sup>st</sup> April – Yr. 6/7 Camp

#### April

Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Whole School Assembly  
Wed 8<sup>th</sup> IELP Graduation  
Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> End of Term 2pm dismissal

#### TERM DATES:

Term 2 27<sup>th</sup> April - Fri July 3 July  
Term 3 Mon 20<sup>th</sup> July - Fri 25<sup>th</sup> September



Honesty



Inclusivity



Courage



Empathy

Lastly, to stay involved in all of our schools' information and events it is important to access our Skoolbag app.

Skoolbag is a simple and central communication app that streamlines all aspects of organising school life, from newsletters and events to student attendance and documentation. [Click here for help installing Skoolbag.](#)

"When everyone is included, everyone wins". Jesse Jackson  
Kind regards, Ella



### PARENT ACQUAINTANCE NIGHT Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020

#### 5.30pm in the hall:

- Leadership team welcome. Specialist teachers deliver a brief overview of subjects, Visual Arts (Gail Glasper), Physical Education (Daniel Nguyen), Italian (Rob Cherin) and Science (Maree Moore).

#### 6- 6.30pm in your child's classroom:

- IELP 1, 2 and 5
- Junior Primary classes; Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and Ms Poppy's Year 2/3.

#### 6.35-7.05pm:

- IELP 3 & 4
- Middle/Upper Primary classes; Year 3,4,5,6, 7

#### 7.10 -7.40 pm:

- **Richmond Primary School Governing Council Annual General Meeting.** All welcome to attend. Please consider being part of our school council this year.

### RICHMOND PRIMARY SCHOOL GOVERNING COUNCIL AGM

Welcome back to school! If you are new to Richmond Primary we want to offer you a warm welcome to our school. We are proud of our amazing teaching staff, passionate school leadership and friendly school families. Don't be afraid to offer a smile and a greeting to other parents and we encourage you to make the effort to make new friends across the school.

This year Sarah and I have three children at Richmond and we are thankful our kids get so well loved, supported and taught by the teachers of Richmond Primary. I also have the privilege of serving as our Governing Council Chairperson. I really enjoy the opportunity to work alongside our school leaders and support their vision for a fantastic school for every student. Our Governing Council is a team of passionate parents who want to contribute to making our school even better. Governing Council meets twice a term to collaborate with school staff, share ideas and positively contribute to the life of our school. You are welcome to express your interest in joining our team too. We'd love to meet you and talk with you some more about what it means to be part of Richmond's Governing Council.

Everyone is welcome to attend our school's **Governing Council Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Acquaintance Night in Week 3, 7.10 -7.40 pm Wednesday 12th February** in our school hall, during which the 2019 Annual Report will be presented to the community. If you would like to nominate as a 2020 Governing Council member please email [dl.0381.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0381.info@schools.sa.edu.au) supplying your name and the name of your child and his/her class teacher by Tuesday 11th February.

If you are new to our school or have questions about our school community please feel free to contact me at [elliott@richmond.org.au](mailto:elliott@richmond.org.au) or call me on 0408 180 284. Elliot Keane, Governing Council Chairperson.

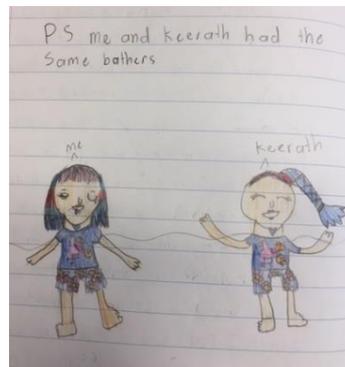
### PARENT SURVEY SUMMARY

Thank you to those of you who were able to take part in our school's parent opinion survey in Nov/Dec last year. This has allowed us to improve our understanding of our families' perspectives. It also helps to continue to improve practices and strengthens relationships. Here is a summary of statements below;

#### In your opinion, what are the strengths of our school?

All welcoming community feel. Open, honest, strong community base, culture of belonging, equality, discipline, inclusion, empathy, diversity & multicultural community. Diversity of opportunities in the arts, sport. Great learning programs; music, intervention, individual learning awareness, literacy, numeracy. Challenging my children.

The fairness and openness of the teaching staff, willing to achieve



better outcomes for the children. Staff are caring, professional and involved. They are open-minded and teach wholeheartedly; invested in their own development and relationships with families. Credit to the educators for blending their personal lives with their teaching lives. Friendly and organised front office and

leadership staff. The awareness that all children have unique talents and the educators support these talents and endeavours.

Our school is good at communicating with students, parents and teachers. Good speed of dealing with parental concerns, the children's personal goals and passions are celebrated. The school encourages the students to treat others with respect. OSHC and vacation care service is wonderful.

We are very proud of the school. We have built a wonderful learning community where all people belong. Great school, keep up the good work!

#### What could be done to improve learning outcomes for our students?

Customised learning using digital resources. Continue to be aware of the impact on learning re social and emotional wellbeing. Balance Australia and international studies. Homework. Cross-age learning/buddies. Social emotional support for all children to help them feel included. Consistent practice re Seesaw communication. Frequent updates about student learning progress. Expand facilities/programs. Continue to improve school pickup safety/organisation.

We plan to conduct an online parent survey each year during Term 4 and hope you may be able to contribute. In the interim, you may wish to offer any other feedback via [dl.0381.info@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0381.info@schools.sa.edu.au).

### SOME ALTERNATIVES TO ...HOW WAS SCHOOL TODAY?

*You may like to try.*

*What made you smile today?*

*Does everyone have a friend at recess?*

*What did you do that was creative?*

*Did you help anyone today?*

Did you tell anyone "thank you?"  
 Who did you sit with at lunch?  
 What was the best part of your day?  
 What was your least favourite part of the day?  
 What is something you heard that surprised you?  
 What is something you saw that made you think?  
 Who did you play with today?  
 Tell me something you know today that you didn't know yesterday.  
 What is something that challenged you?  
 Did you like your lunch?  
 Rate your day on a scale from 1-10.  
 What are you looking forward to tomorrow?  
 What are you reading?  
 What was the hardest rule to follow today?  
 Teach me something I may not know.  
 If you could change one thing about your day, what would it be?  
 What made your teacher smile?  
 What learning goals do you have for yourself this year?

### ONCE AGAIN CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2019 YEAR 7 GRADUATES AND AWARD WINNERS

**Old Scholars Award:** outstanding effort across the areas of academic performance, community involvement, the Arts, leadership, student voice, and sporting and/or extra-curricular activities - **Kashvi and Raji**



**Progress Award:** Persistence and personal growth- **Marlon**

**Community Service Award:** positive difference to the wider community through active and enthusiastic participation in community service and initiatives - **Jack**

**Student of the Year Awards:** outstanding effort, dedication and academic achievement in a range of subject areas -**Shyla and Elliot**  
**And farewell to all Year 7 students**

*To the graduates of 2019. My feelings are, when you leave today it's not an end to something, it's a brand-new beginning to a new chapter of your life. Valedictorian, **Manasvi***



### SUN SMART



Our Sun Safe Policy operates from the beginning of September to the end of April each year and all students must wear a broad brimmed hat when outdoors at all times. We do have a No Hat/No Play policy.

### SOME FRIENDLY UNIFORM REMINDERS

Children are required to wear red top, black bottom and red bucket hat as part of our school uniform. Please refer to our [school's uniform policy](#).

Please refer to our school uniform provider; [www.lowesschoolwear.com.au](http://www.lowesschoolwear.com.au)

### STUDENT WELLBEING LEADER – Glenn Hart



Hello to all families and carers. We are fortunate to have a 0.6 staffing allocation for a Student Wellbeing Leader again this year. If you are still becoming familiar with the name Student Wellbeing Leader it is the department's new name for the role of Primary School Counsellor.

I am very glad to be back at Richmond

Primary School after nearly two years away.

Please feel welcome to talk to me personally at school, or arrange a time for a meeting, or leave a message for me to call you. I value the knowledge that you have of your child and appreciate your understanding and involvement to resolve any issues and improve wellbeing.

I will be working with all staff, parents and students on our school's wellbeing initiatives. In brief, this will involve continuing to move forward with social and emotional learning curriculum in all classes and with small groups of students. Developing students' knowledge and understanding of human values with a focus on our four school values of Honesty, Inclusivity, Courage and Empathy (I will write more about these values and values education in future newsletters). I will also be coordinating student voice and leadership with 'student action teams' and classroom meetings. Facilitating recess and lunch activities. Organising special events. Working with parents, particularly with regards to wellbeing and intercultural understanding.

If you have an interest in being involved as a parent in any capacity with our school's wellbeing or cultural awareness initiatives, please contact me.



### KEEPING SAFE: Child Protection Curriculum (KSCPC)

The Keeping Safe Child Protection Curriculum (KSCPC) is a child friendly safety program for children and young people from age 3 to Year 12. It teaches children to:

- recognise abuse and tell a trusted adult about it
- understand what is appropriate and inappropriate touching
- understand ways of keeping themselves safe

The KSCPC is mandated in all public preschools and schools and is taught every year by teachers who have completed a full day KSCPC training course. It is a world-class, evidence-based child safety program that is used by a range of other Australian and international schools.

### Why we teach children about keeping safe

The department has a legal responsibility to protect children and young people from abuse in its own setting and in the wider community. All children and young people have a right to:

- be treated with respect and to be protected from harm

- be asked for their opinions about things that affect their lives and to be listened to
- feel and be safe in their interactions with adults and other children and young people
- understand as early as possible what is meant by feeling and being safe'.

## Curriculum

### Themes

The curriculum follows two main themes:

- we all have the right to be safe
- we can help ourselves to be safe by talking to people we trust

### Focus areas

The two themes are explored through the four focus areas:

- The right to be safe
- Relationships
- recognising and reporting abuse
- protective strategies

The focus areas are targeted to the age of the learners.

More information can be at

<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/teaching/curriculum-and-teaching/keeping-safe-child-protection-curriculum/about-keeping-safe-child>

Please contact Mr Glenn Hart if you have any questions about the programme.

## SEASONS FOR GROWTH PROGRAMME



Later this term I will be starting one or more Seasons for Growth groups. *Seasons for Growth* is a small group programme for students who have experienced changes in

their families. The programme is comprised of eight 45 minute lessons (one lesson each week), and is extended with a celebration event and one or two reconnectors.

Change and loss are issues that will affect all of us at some stage in our lives. At Richmond Primary School we recognise that when changes in families occur, (through illness, death, separation, divorce or related circumstances) it can be challenging for children and young people. *Seasons for Growth* is an Australian developed educational programme that is developed specifically to help children understand and manage these changes effectively.

This programme is facilitated in small groups (of 4-8 students) and is based on research that highlights the importance of social support and the need to practise new skills to cope effectively with change and loss. The programme focuses on issues such as self-esteem, understanding and managing feelings, problem-solving, decision-making, effective communication and support networks.

The programme was developed in Australia by Anne Graham and launched in 1996. It is now taught in a number of other countries. The third edition of the programme was published in 2016. There have been several very favourable evaluations of the programme over its history. Essentially the programme involves a process of insight, support and affirmation. It is based on childhood studies and J. W. Worden's tasks of grief. Key aspects that are particularly valued by children completing the programme are:

- Understanding that they are 'not the only one' – reducing their sense of isolation

- Learning to understand and attend to their feelings
- The peer support of the group
- The opportunity to voice and make sense of their story (This is done in confidence; students learn to tell only their story)
- Learning that overwhelming feelings of grief don't last forever
- Being encouraged to identify and engage in social networks

As a result, participants are better able to:

- Seek support and communicate better with parents, other adults, siblings and friends
- Understand that life moves forward and that changes happen
- Cope better with their emotions
- Seek support from friends and support networks including from others within the programme

In weeks 2 and 3, I will be talking to students in mainstream classes from Year 2 to Year 7 about the programme to gauge their initial interest. Students who are interested will be taking letters home to be signed. If your child brings a letter home, it is important that you have a conversation with them about their interest in participating in this group. Also, there will be a space on the form for you to indicate if you would like to know more about the programme. If you circle Yes, I will contact you to arrange a suitable time for a parent information session. If necessary, I can run two sessions one at 2:20pm (before pick-up) and one later in the evening (5:30 or 6:00pm). Lastly, if you would like to recommend your child and they have not brought a letter home, please give me a call, 8293 1863, or let your child's teacher know, so that I can contact you.

Kind regards

Glenn Hart, Student Wellbeing Leader.

[Glenn.Hart977@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:Glenn.Hart977@schools.sa.edu.au)

## RICHMOND PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Our Vision:** To support our students to become active articulate citizens of the world.

**Our Mission:** Rich Learning in a Family Atmosphere

**Our Motto:** Learning and Caring, for Life.

**Our Values** Honesty, Inclusivity, Courage and Empathy

