

Richmond Primary School Newsletter



8 Surrey Road Keswick 5035
RPS Office: 8293 1863
Absentee SMS: 0437 697 858
OSHC: 8351 0794

Learning and Caring for Life



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

E: Reception: dl.0381.info@schools.sa.edu.au
E: Finance: dl.0381.finance@schools.sa.edu.au
E: OSHC: dl.0381.info@schools.sa.edu.au
Web: <https://www.richmondps.sa.edu.au/>

Term 2, Week 5 2021

Week ending Friday 28 May

Ella Blake
Principal

Thuy Pham
Deputy Principal

WELCOME

Dear families,

Recently I was asked, what makes a great school? A simple question with a complex answer. My immediate response was a single word, improvement- a continual, sustained and universal commitment to making things better. In essence, we need to identify what works well and what needs changing.

Expert teaching, quality leadership, resourcing, accountability, stronger connection to services and engaged communities are key levers to school improvement.

As our school continues to grow and change, we need to spot opportunities, build great habits and create conditions for optimum school improvement. By focussing on relevant Australian Curriculum (the “what”) and best pedagogy (the “how”) we can create, track and monitor progress in all curriculum areas for all learners. I wonder how others may respond to the same question, what makes a great school? and invite responses to be sent to dl.0381.info@schools.sa.edu.au

You may have noticed some changes to our school grounds: our new classroom/building works continues, new garden beds are appearing, our new bike shelter is soon to be installed and some new Junior Primary playground equipment and surfacing is on order. Exciting times ahead!

Presently we have a number of staff off site who are unwell. Please be reminded, if your child is feeling unwell we ask them to remain home to recover, as we continue to adhere to SA health and safety rules.

Lastly, we have included a photo of one of our bell ringers yesterday. Without any electricity we had to ring the old school bell to signal the end of break times! It seems we will have a generator for approximately two weeks to assist with solving this underground dilemma. Please be vigilant of temporary fencing/boarding/out of bounds areas.



“We’re making our school better, so we can play and learn” Snow, Year 2

Kind regards,
Ella

DIARY DATES 2021

TERM 2

June

Tue. 1st IELP Adelaide Zoo Excursions
Thu 3rd Street Smart, Rec – Yr. 4
Fri 4th Street Smart Rec – Yr. 4
Fri 11th Yr. 3 – 7 Assembly
(Limited parent seating available)

Mon 14th Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday
Wed 16th Governing Council Meeting @ 6pm
Thu 24th Yr. 5/6/7 Road Crossing Training

July

Mon 1st Rec – Yr. 7 Assembly
(Limited parent seating available)
Fri 2nd Pupil Free Day

2021 TERM DATES

Term 2 Tue 27th April – Fri 2nd July
Term 3 Mon 19th July – Fri 24th September
Term 4 Mon 11th October – Fri 10th December

AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

One of the world’s largest school-based mathematics competitions, **AMC is to be held at our school Wednesday 4 August, Term 3 Week 3.**

<https://www.amt.edu.au/australian-mathematics-competition>

Students are asked to solve 30 problems in 60 minutes (Years 3–6) or 75 minutes (Year 7). The problems are designed to test mathematical thinking and questions are designed so that they can be answered just as quickly without a calculator as with one. **The problems get more difficult through the competition, so that at the end they are challenging to the most gifted students.**

If your child has shown a special interest/talent in maths you may wish to collect a permission form from our front office staff, there is a \$6.50 entry fee. Our students will be sitting the paper version of this test. Closing date for entries is Friday 18 June, 2021 (Friday Term 2 Week 9)

Honesty



Inclusivity



Courage

YEAR 4/5 MR ROB'S CLASS

This term, Mr Rob's Year 5 class have been working on developing their narrative writing skills. Having just completed their NAPLAN tests the students wrote some inspired stories on the theme *The Big Test*.

Here Come the Butterflies!

Oxygen didn't want to go down my throat. My palms were sweating and my feet were tapping. I'm Ojas. Just an average boy in Year Three. Yes, Year Three, which means it's my first time doing NAPLAN. Sad, I know. You know what NAPLAN is, don't you? It's a series of tests that children in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 do. There are four tests in total: Writing, Reading, Conventions of Language and Maths. It's definitely my weak point. Next week is my first test ever! My sister, Parnika is in Year Nine and she is doing it for the last time. She is very smart. Lucky as a ducky! We just moved to Adelaide a few weeks ago, so I didn't do as much practice as the other kids. So unfair!

"Achoo!"

"Ojas, please don't tell me your sick!" Parnika begged while slapping her forehead with her hand.

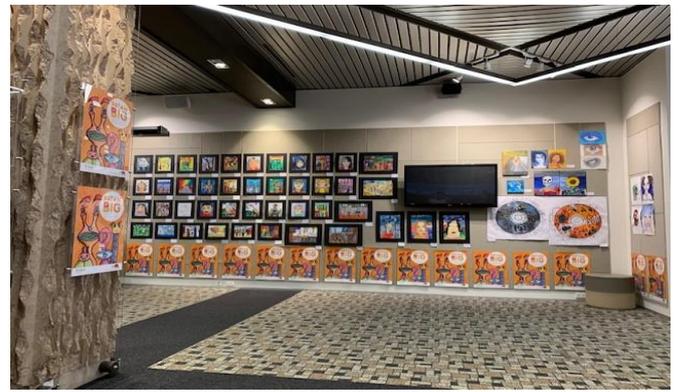
"I'm fine Parnika, I'm- I'm achoo!" It's true, I was sick. I felt a twinge of guilt because I was a little happy thinking that I might get to miss NAPLAN. That made me very disappointed in myself. Life doesn't work that way, though, I did, in fact get better. Phew! In a blink of an eye, the big day was there. Writing was my first test, and I smashed through it, as well as Reading and Conventions of Language on the days after. There were four days left until the dreadful Maths test, I was terrified! Butterflies were making a nest in my stomach as the weekend went by and the only thing I did was practice, practice and practice. By Tuesday, the butterflies were laying tiny little eggs in their brand-new nest. "Now, we begin!" my teacher, Mr. Fox announced, as he hesitantly pressed the little blue button. The test began. Everyone was typing, everyone except me. My screen was blank. My sister had told me, "Don't be afraid to ask for help," As it Turns out, I didn't need to, my test had finally started.

I was doing quite well, until something awful happened, my screen turned black! The eggs started hatching and little caterpillars were crawling around inside me. I stared at it with my eyes full of horror. My sister's words kept echoing in my head, "Ask for help, ask for help!"

Finally, I asked for help. "M-Mr. Fox, my work disappeared." "Did it, now" he replied, "Oh I see." he clicked a few keys and there it was, all my work came back! Thanks to Mr. Fox, my hard work didn't go to waste and all my practice did pay off. Maybe NAPLAN isn't that bad. Guess what? You won't believe it! It may not be the best in the class, but I got an awesome score! Mission ACOMPLISHED! The butterflies started to fly away. One by one, they flew off to find a new, warmer place to stay, for the winter.

By Arohi

DREAM BIG



Richmond Primary School artwork on display at the Department for Education foyer, 31 Flinders Street, Adelaide.



We are proud to see so many high quality RPS works of art on display.

You may wish to visit the SA Dream Big Exhibition if you are in town, on display until 26th May 2021.

Thank you to Ms Gasper for her time, skill, and commitment which makes things like this happen.

NORTH SOUTH CORRIDOR

Are you concerned about the North South Corridor development and how it will impact Richmond Primary School?

Have your say in the RPS Governing Council survey.



DECODEABLE READERS

In the beginning, to kick start the learning to read journey, decodable readers are the most effective way.

If your child stumbles on a word when they are reading—knowing what to do, and how to prompt them is key to building their confidence and their literacy skills.

Always bring it back to the word. Picture books are great. However, the picture is not there to help your child learn to read – the picture is there to add to the experience. Using the picture as a cue will develop bad habits.

Try this when stuck

Always stop and look at the whole word from left to right.

Swipe your finger under the whole word and show your child how to sound out the word, connect the sounds as you do this. Say each sound as you run your finger under each letter, blending the sounds as you go. In the beginning, short decodable words are best because they are easy to sound out – words like cat, dog, cup, etc.

As your child makes progress the individual letters will become letter strings. /ch/ /i/ /p/ /b/ /oa/ /t/

Once you have shown your child this strategy, the next time they get stuck—prompt them to stop, look through the whole word, sound out the letters swiping their finger under each letter matching to the sounds they are saying. Connecting the sounds to blend as they read.

If they don't know a sound, just prompt them. Segmenting and blending sounds are skills that take lots of time and repetition. It takes many exposures for most children to develop the sound to symbol correspondence. It takes time!

Once your child has blended the sounds together and says the word – prompt them to check if it makes sense. Lifting the print off the page is one thing — but checking it makes sense is the complete package.

Blend the sounds showing the letter-sound correspondences with your finger. Do this together and ask them to repeat it and have a quick chat about the word.

Download, print and use the fantastic free books from SPELD South Australia. <https://www.spelsa.org.au/speld-phonics-books>





The Arts – Music, Dance and Drama



DREAM BIG 2021 YEAR 6/7 EXCURSION

Teacher Recount

On Wednesday the 19th of May the Year 6/7 students attended the Opening Event where they sang as part of The Choir of Mighty Voices. Several parents supported the students learning by accompanying the classes and providing duty of care.

The Upper Primary teaching team were very grateful for the volunteers' time and care. I had a wonderful day with the teachers, school support staff, parents and students.

Mrs. Poppy Cumiskey

Student Recount

After the opening event two classes went to a show called Creation Creation at the Space Theatre. It was a very interesting show because it was educational and also funny.

This weekend the Dream BIG festival is having a family weekend. If you want something to do we would recommend this show to children aged 10 years and above.

Mia & Sneha

DREAM BIG 2021 YEAR 6/7 EXCURSION

Student Recounts

The 6/7 excursion to Dream Big on Wednesday, 19th of May was a marvellous experience consisting of 2 different workshops. The performances by the Adelaide High Students was a worthy watch.

Manthan & Sanan
I thought it was a good day, I enjoyed all the shows I watched.

Mason
The whole experience was amazing and It was fun when everything went black during the black hole explanation in Creation Creation.

-Dhhruv
It was very fun I liked rolling down the grassy hills.
Dash



THE SEARCH FOR RECIPES FOR THE RICHMOND PRIMARY SCHOOL COOKBOOK CONTINUES..... EXTENDED BY 1 WEEK...



Our wonderful Governing Council are creating our very own **RICHMOND PRIMARY SCHOOL COOKBOOK** and are hoping the students, families, and staff of RPS can help us.

Our community is collecting recipes once again so we can add them to the recipes collected during 2020.

We are seeking a wide range of cultural dishes so please consider contributing your favourite recipe, these can include gluten free, vegan, vegetarian, halal etc. We would also love to see a photo of yourself with your dish or just your fabulous creation (this is optional).

To share your recipe with us please e-mail them to adsking@outlook.com or drop them into the school office **BY FRIDAY THE 4TH JUNE 2021**

Please ensure you include your name, your child's/children's names, and the class they are in.

We look forward to receiving your recipes and thank you for your support.

RPS Governing Council

