

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 4, Week 7 2021

Week ending Friday 26th November

Pam Thompson
Principal

Tina Farmassonis
Deputy Principal

WELCOME

Hi everyone,

Things are getting very busy here at Richmond Primary School. Today all of our classes will be visiting the Richmond Primary School Art Show. I had the privilege of a sneak peek today and AP was extremely impressed by the quality of the artwork our students have created. There is such an amazing variety on display including 3D art pieces. I would like to acknowledge the work of Gail Glasper who has guided our students to bring out their creativity and build their skills. We will be sharing some photos of the art works with the community soon.

We are currently in the process of placing students into classes for 2022. We will have 14 classes next year with a mix of straight year levels and composite classes. Please let us know as soon as possible if your child/ren will not be continuing with us in 2022 as this impacts on our classes.

We know that this can be an uncertain time for students and parents so I would like to share some advice from Madhavi Parker from Positive Minds Australia.

Worried about your child's class placement in 2022? It's perfectly normal for you and your family to be thinking a lot about this. After all, children spend all day at school. It's only natural to have a preference for a particular teacher and normal to feel worried or disappointed if they don't get them.

It's important to know that a child's emotional adjustment to leaving this year's teacher and preparing for next year's teacher is interconnected with your feelings about it.

Here are some ways you can help make the transition smoother for your child if you or they didn't get the news you were hoping for.

Hear out your child's feelings but try and avoid fixing their feelings by adding your own feelings, judgements and solutions. Feelings need to come out, be present and move through. They don't have to be excited about the teacher they got to learn from that teacher in the long run. The feelings you see in that initial moment aren't necessarily reflective of how they will feel long term - especially if you don't react with them. Humans need time to process change. When news is fresh, we can go through many

DIARY DATES

TERM 4

November

Fri 26th RPS Art Show
Tues 30th '22 Reception Transition Visit 3

December

Wed 1st Governing Council Dinner
Sports Assembly (Time – tcb)
Fri 3rd 6/7 Graduation
45ROB – Zoo Snooze

Sun 5th.....Bunnings Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser

Mon 6th 01D Excursion to Glenelg Cinema
Wed 8th Reports & Class Placement letter sent home

Thurs 9th Transition visit for new 2022 students (not Reception)
IELP Graduation

Fri 10th Last day of Term 4
Farewell Assembly
Dismissal 2pm

2022

Term 1 31st January – 14th April
Term 2 2nd May – 8th July
Term 3 25th July – 30th September
Term 4 17th October – 16th December

feelings of resistance and uncertainty. That doesn't mean that what's coming is necessarily bad. You can gently say something like, 'you really wanted X', so of course you're disappointed. I understand. We can talk more after a cuddle/ play/ hot chocolate. (Basically, you want to avoid talking while their logical brain is switched off and emotions are high). Listening calmly and quietly is golden.

** Avoid looking upset about the placement in front of your child. If they are upset, they will naturally look to you to help them feel better. This doesn't mean you have to fake being excited if you're not (they'll see through that) but it does mean you do your very best to be calm, confident and if you can't be hopeful, try and be neutral. Children need us as an emotional compass when they experience uncomfortable feelings*

Honesty



Inclusivity



Courage



Empathy

* Before you go in to pick them up on the day they receive their placement remind yourself to try and trust the process.

There are multiple layers to how class placements are allocated that couldn't possibly be explained completely. School leaders and staff put in huge amounts of thought into student personalities, learning styles, teaching styles, class size, who asked to have who in their class and much more that is happening behind the scenes we're not aware of.

. * Schools genuinely do their best with this decision. If you're upset, it's possible they are too but ,when weighing everything up, had no other direction to turn. Supporting your child's teachers and school is a crucial part of your child's psychological and academic success there.

* Your reaction to next year's teacher news is hugely important to your child. Your confidence, hopefulness and regulated emotion is crucial. If you're not happy try and keep these feelings in the background and discuss them privately with another adult. Children are too young to take on their parents' worries. If there is a genuine problem, take logical action without involving your child in the stress associated with it.

* Your child's emotional connection to, and respect for, their teacher and school is deeply connected with your connection to, and respect for, their teacher and school.

* Children learn, grow and strengthen in resilience by being with a broad range of personalities and communication styles. When things are unrealistically perfect and easy they can get stuck in their comfort zone. To build confidence for later on in life, you need to experience a broad range of peers and situations and discover that through talking about feelings, asking for help, establishing boundaries and building your social emotional skills, you can handle a lot of what life has in store. Be there to hear their thoughts and feelings out, but above all show you have confidence in your child to get through. If situations are dangerous, toxic or damaging your child's learning and psychological health, always talk to school staff and, if necessary, other experts to ask for and seek help. Seek out the support of a health professional too if necessary. On the surface, do your best as your child's most important adult and leader to show your confidence that your child will be safe and cared for, always.

* Do something heartwarming and compassionate for yourself. If you're upset and stressed it's not because you're weak or incapable. It's because our children hold our hearts

and when they hurt, we hurt. You need to look after yourself first and foremost.

The advice above is general and based on general child development, resilience and confidence research. It is written with the very best intention to help you. Without knowing your individual circumstances it's not intended to replace your expertise as a parent or the expertise of educators and health professionals. Always seek tailored expert advice if you feel your child's physical or psychological health is at risk in any way.

Wishing you all the very best with class placement news if you live in the Southern Hemisphere. Hang in there beautiful parents

Madhavi Nawana Parker

<https://positivemindsaustralia.com.au>

Staffing decisions are still in progress and we will update you as we have more information.

We will be farewelling our Year 6 & 7 students at their graduation on Friday 3rd December. I think there may be just a little bit of excitement going on in the upper primary classes. Our IELP graduation will be on Thursday 9th December.

Richmond's new Principal, Graham Slarks, will be visiting us on Monday 6th December. This will be a great opportunity for staff and students to meet Graham before he starts in the position of Principal next year.

Enjoy the sunshine this weekend.

Pam

Visit by the Mayor



Shreyansh wrote a letter to the mayor of the City of West Torrens about recycling materials from demolished houses in the area. Mayor Coxon wrote back to Shreyansh and later visited Ms Debbie's and Ms Penny's classes. He talked about his role as mayor and Shreyansh's suggestions for recycling. All of the students were able to try on the mayoral chain which was quite heavy. The students learnt that the city of West Torrens is the most multicultural city in the world.

Thank you Mayor Coxon.

Yr 2's Love Reading

Reading in Year 2

Miss Poppy and Miss Angela's classes have recently completed the PAT – R test on comprehension. In both classes all students showed huge growth since the end of Year 1. We (Miss Poppy and Miss Angela) know our year 2s are ready for the exciting reading challenges ahead in year 3.

Below is a snapshot of the children enjoying the teaching and learning of the reading program. Currently 99% of students have reached the Department of Education's Standard of Educational Achievement in reading. Of the 99% three quarters of them are above the year 2 reading level.

What I enjoy about reading in year 2...

I like Book Study when I get to read with a buddy or a small group. I like giving the other person feedback to improve their reading.

I like doing phonemic awareness, especially learning about words I didn't know before.



Changing reading groups is fun because I get to learn and make new friends.

I am most proud of...

The way I can now use expression when I read aloud. My friends think I'm doing a good job too.

I have leapt 19 levels this year!

My self-monitoring, I can now work out how to pronounce unknown words and find out what they mean on my own.



Yr 2's Love Reading



Premier's Reading Challenge

All students in Room 5 participated in the Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) this year.

For some students it was their first experience and the encouragement from past participants (peers) was awesome.

In the Library

Library News

Just a reminder to make sure all resources, eg library books, readers, musical instruments, are back to the library by Friday next week (Dec 3rd). If you have any queries, please give the library a call.

Wishing you all the best for the holiday season,
Joanne



SPORTS DAY



Sports Day

Last Friday students at Sports Day completed several strenuous activities. We started the day with an energetic and fun health hustle, then the fastest runners from each team lined up in their year levels to take part in the sprints. Everyone improved their fitness skills in many events including: marathon, water relay, tails, hoop rescue, running relay, tug of war and footy tube. Before our Sports Day came to an end each team participated in a house chant to boost team spirit, the winner of this competition would earn an extra 40 points! We all waited in anticipation for the results to be revealed. White team came in 4th place, Green team came in 3rd place, Blue team came in 2nd place and Yellow team came in 1st place. The oval erupted in applause as the Yellow team captains walked up to the front of the oval to present their speech and accept the award. Every team presented amazing sportsmanship skills and tried their best. It was a fun and tiring day.

By Ayla Thompson



YEAR 7 TO HIGH SCHOOL IN 2022



Parent Update

Week 7, Term 4 – 2021

Countdown to high school in 2022

With the end of this school year in sight, we thought we would take a look at what year 6 and 7 students and their families can do now and over the holidays to prepare for high school.

These tips are based on feedback from our year 7 pilot program, which involved three SA high schools that started welcoming year 7s in 2020.

We have also drawn on some resources from our public school counterparts interstate, which already have year 7s in high school.

Make transition a priority

We've said it before and we'll say it again – transition is important!

To do:

- Diarise your child's transition visit or visits. If you're not sure when they are, contact your child's high school.
- Look out for school communication about other transition and orientation events late this year and early next year, like family evenings, bring your own device nights and possibly school camps.

Chat about the year ahead

Moving from primary to high school is a big step. Check in with your child to see how they are feeling about the year ahead.

To do:

- Reassure your child that it is normal to feel a mix of excitement and nerves about heading to high school.
- Be realistic when talking about the time it will take to make new friends and settle in. Our pilot students were largely settled by the end of term 1.
- Remind your child there is a lot to look forward to in high school, including new friendships, extra-curricular activities and specialised learning facilities, like science labs.
- You might like to chat to your child about some of your own memories of starting high school.

Look online

The Department for Education website includes a section on the 7 to high school move, including short videos.

To do:

- Look through the [7 to high school](#) pages of our website with your child. Be sure to check out the [information for students page](#).
- Find and bookmark your new high school's website.
- 'Like' the school on Facebook if they have a page set up.
- Sign up for your school's newsletter. Check with your school to find out how it is distributed.



YEAR 7 TO HIGH SCHOOL IN 2022

Consider materials your child will need for high school

Your high school will let you know what your child will need in terms of uniform and learning materials. If you are unsure, ask.

To do:

- Involve your child in uniform shopping and deciding on the best options according to your family's circumstances.
- Make sure all your child's belongings are named.

Plan your journey

The more prepared you are, the smoother your child's first few weeks of high school are likely to be.

To do:

- Chat to your child about how they will get to high school, what time they will need to get up and when they need to leave the house.
- Consider whether your child will need a key and a mobile phone if they are getting to and from school on their own.
- Discuss how your child can make the journey safely if the weather is hot. For example, by packing iced water and being sun smart.
- Do a practice run of catching public transport or walking to school.
- Visit the [Adelaide Metro](#) site to check services and apps your child can use to plan their journey.
- Plan and discuss with them what they can do if they miss their bus or get off at the wrong stop.

Set up a quiet learning space

Your child's learning will continue beyond the classroom as they progress through high school.

To do:

- Set up a quiet space at home where your child can study.
- Talk together about your expectations around when study will be done.
- Remind them that teachers will help them to succeed with high school assignments and it is OK to ask for help.

Where to find out more

Stay informed through your school and the Department for Education's website: www.education.sa.gov.au/7toHS.

Or share your feedback with the project team by emailing: Year7toHS@sa.gov.au.

