As we wrap up another busy term I would like to thank the school community for all of the support during this busy time of year. As always Term 4 is even busier as we consolidate learning and celebrate the end of the year with transitions into Kindergarten and off to High School. It leaves us all wondering where the year has gone!

Principal’s Message
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Returning to School in Term 4
Please note that students and staff return to school on Tuesday 7 October. There is NO staff development day on the first day back.

Parking
We have had a few reports of the ranger issuing fines in relation to parking around the school. I have contacted council regarding upgrading the parking signage around the school and hopefully this will occur soon. Please ensure in the afternoons that you do not park in the ‘kiss and drop zone’ in the front of the school. Parents are parking there and holding up traffic over the crossing which is really dangerous for the students. Please make an alternate meeting place or park and walk up to meet your child if they are not at the kiss and drop waiting.

Silver Day
Congratulations to all the students who have achieved a Silver award this year. Students who have reached Silver level and have had less than 2 detentions this year have been invited to attend a special screening of Planes 2 on Friday. This screening is for invited students and supervising staff only as we have filled the cinema. It is always a pleasure on behalf of the staff and P&C to be able to reward so many students for learning and behaviour. Congratulations.

Regional Athletics
A huge congratulations to Toby K and Hannah R who represented Ridges Athletics PSSA last week at the regional carnival. Both represented our school and region beautifully demonstrating a huge effort and exemplary behaviour and sportsmanship. Toby K was particularly successful gaining a place representing our region at the state carnival in Term 4 – way to go Toby!!!!

NAIDOC Week
Last week we celebrated NAIDOC week at Riverstone Public School. Our formal assembly with awards and special guests was a great start to the celebrations. Thank you to Riverstone Neighbourhood Centre staff and volunteers who held the Koori cuppa in the library with a beautiful morning tea complete with kangaroo and crocodile on the menu. The cultural activities throughout the rest of the week provided fantastic experiences for all of our students. Thank you to all involved in the organisation of all these experiences you did a fabulous job.

Blacktown Music Festival
In a busy week representing our school our Choir and Dance groups performed on Tuesday night at the Blacktown Music Festival. Our dancers were amazing and I had so many positive comments from other schools about their performance, well done girls and a big thank you to...
Mrs Govender and Miss Smigliani for all the time you have put into the dance group. Our choir performed as part of the schools combined choir and were very enthusiastic participants. Thank you choir and Mrs Pettitt and Mrs Weisback for all the time you put into rehearsing with the choir.

Swim School
A reminder for students who wish to be involved in the 2014 Swim School Program to please return their money and note as soon as possible to the front office. This program is designed to cater for students who have limited or no swimming ability. With the summer months fast approaching this is the perfect way to ensure that our children are safe and can have fun around water. Please be quick places are filling up fast and we don’t want your child to miss out.

Sending Money for Excursions/Incursions
If a note is sent home for an excursion, incursion, swimming, dancing or any kind of event that requires payment, it must now, be paid for by the due date.

Late payment or payments made on the day of the event will no longer be accepted. This new rule will begin in Term 4, 2014. It has been necessary to make this change due to the impact it has been having on all staff members when people make payments at the last minute.

All money being sent in to the school for all your children may be put into one envelope. Please remember to sign all notes and enclose in the envelope with the money.

Please make the necessary adjustments to your budgets for Term 4. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Emma Thompson
Principal
On Monday 8 September Riverstone Public School held their annual NAIDOC Week Opening Celebration Assembly. Uncle Chris and Mr Rod Little addressed the assembly, engaging the children with many different stories from their childhoods. The schools Aboriginal Education Team were presented with Aboriginal Language Maps that are now displayed in the school’s Library and Front Office. Within the assembly we also recognised some of our Aboriginal students for their outstanding improvement throughout the year and their willingness to be helpful both in and out of the classroom.

Congratulations to Blade H from Early Stage 1
  Malakai M - Preschool
  Lachlan H - Stage 1
  Gemma S – Stage 2
  Kirra M – Stage 3
  Dennis D – Support

On Tuesday, the Beatty Clan Crew came and performed to our students. On Thursday the students participated in an art day.
Preschool News

The Jellybeans have been very busy this term learning all about space exploration. As a part of our group project both classes were given the opportunity to help design and paint a class mural. We also conducted a number of scientific experiments one of which lead to the exploration of various mathematical concepts including height, distance and weight.

Both the Smarties and Jellybeans were also given the opportunity to participate in the school’s Commonwealth Games. The children were very eager to demonstrate or put into practice the skills, which they had learnt as apart of our Munch and Move Program. All the children really enjoyed being given the opportunity to engage in a whole school event.

Sadly the conclusion of this term also see the school’s gymnastic program come to an end. The children have really enjoyed participating in gymnastics and we have seen a marked improvement in their gross motor skills. We will pick up our ‘Munch and Move’ program again next term and we will continue to promote healthy eating and physical activity.

Perhaps a stand out for this term however, were the preparations that we undertook in relation to Father’s Day. The children were each asked for a description of their Fathers with their answers being nothing short of hilarious. Some compared the height of their Father to that of a giraffe, whilst others suggested that their Dad was close to 90 years old.

We are eager to see where the Early Years Learning Framework will take us next term and hope that you have a safe and happy school holidays.
Megan Chivers - Jellybeans Teacher.
Sydney Kings Visit
Riverstone Public School

On Monday afternoon 1-2W and friends from 1-2S were honoured to have the company of Sandra, Cody Ellis and Josh Duinker from the Sydney Kings basketball team. They read stories to the students and enjoyed sharing some footage of the Sydney Kings. Josh was captured in action on the basketball court doing an awesome “Slam dunk”. The students really enjoyed watching the Sydney Kings on screen and receiving autographs on their key rings. This was followed by the athletes teaching some of our students some cool tricks!

Belinda Weisback
Teacher
In Week 8 Stage 2 spent three fun-filled days at The Great Aussie Bush Camp at Tea Gardens. As we pulled up to the giant Uluru that would be our dining hall for our stay we also got a glimpse of some of the activities we would be getting to do such as canoeing, the low ropes, archery, the staple climb and the giant swing.

Our instructors were fantastic. They were friendly and helpful and taught us lots of great new songs ("Da Moose, da moo-oose"). The activities were fun and challenging and at night we had discos and trivia to keep us entertained.

On the Tuesday we went to the beach and played on the sand dunes. Everyone, even the teachers, had a great time and came home tired but happy. A big thank you to Miss Camilleri and Mrs Koberler for giving up their time, and most of all, a big thank you to the kids for being well behaved and enthusiastic.

David England
Assistant Principal
Athletics News

Zone Athletics
Riverstone PS sent a squad of 45 students to the Zone athletics carnival. Many students ran best times and were competitive. We had Robbie J and Eleanor T qualify for the 100m finals.

Hannah R and Toby K both placed 2nd in the junior high jump and have qualified for the Region Athletics.

Well done to all students.

Regional Athletics
On Wednesday 10 September Riverstone Public School had 2 students represent our zone at the region athletics carnival. Hannah R and Toby K both qualified for the junior high jump. Toby K came 3rd on the day and has gained entry into the State Athletics carnival. This is an outstanding achievement and our first state entry for many years at our school.

We wish Toby all the best on the day.

Teachers V Staff Netball
Yesterday afternoon the staff of our school played the students of Year 6 in netball.

Many goals were scored on both sides with the staff making 13 goals and the Year 6 students making 11 goals, although these goals had little outcome on the game as the students had to be awarded an extra 3 points to counter the ‘creative play’ that occurred in the staff team. Therefore the final score for the game 13—14, Year 6 way.

Thank you to all the students and parents that supported the event, your input made the game! Proceeds from the game will be going to the Year 6 Farewell.
OPEN DAY

24 September 2014

Auto Place & Peter Brock Drive, Prospect
10am - 3pm

Bring your own helmet & bike

Road Safety Information

Safety check & skills course

NSWP Push Bike Squad

Cake stall & sausage sizzle

Face painting

Participant show bag