What’s On

Principal’s Message
Tolerance & Resilience Expo
On Friday 21 March we will be recognising both Harmony Day and Anti-Bullying Day in a combined forum as Tolerance & Resilience Day.

During Tolerance and Resilience Day children will engage in a number of workshops focusing on strategies that empower individuals to build tolerance and resilience in a variety of contexts. Children will also experience games from other cultures and discuss the values held by multicultural societies.

To further celebrate the day children are invited to dress in mufti either in traditional cultural attire or in the colour orange as the official colour of Harmony Day and provide a gold coin donation that will go towards Stewart House.

Staffing News
Congratulations to Mr England who was successful by merit in obtaining the Assistant Principals position. Mr England will officially start with us when the 10 day appeal period is complete. We are thrilled to have Mr England join our school community on a permanent basis.

Mrs Stephens has been very unwell and we have today been advised that she will be off until at least the end of Week 9. We are endeavouring to find a consistent casual to cover the class and continue with the teaching program for 5S.

Ms Ale is getting ready for the arrival of her bub during Term 2. Mrs Kumar will be taking K-6A during this time and Miss Camilleri will be relieving as the Assistant Principal for support.

Website & App
Thank you very much Ms Koberler for updating our school website. The website has plenty of updated photos and we are in the process of updating the information on it to ensure the school community has access to plenty of supporting information about our school.

We have also started the Riverstone Public School App to assist in providing reminders and notices. You can download the App by searching the school name on

1. iTunes App store
2. Google Apps
or for those without a smart phone
3. On line http://riverstoneps.myauschools.com

The password for community members is User name: community
Password:riverstone
We are just getting to know the full capabilities of the app so bear with us while we get the hang of it!

Breakfast Club is back!
We are able to again offer students who have not had breakfast before they arrive at school the opportunity to access toast in the mornings between 8.25am and 8.50am. Students will need to line up outside in the playground facing the windows of Ms Marrow’s room and volunteers will cook and supply toast. This program will start tomorrow Wednesday 19 March and run Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. On Thursday Wesley Family Services operate Breakfast Club from the community room. We would love some parent helpers to cook and butter toast if you are available those mornings from 8.25am. Please see Mrs Hall for more information.

Parent Teacher Interviews
Our Parent/Teacher/Student conferences will be held in Week 11 Tuesday April 8, between 3pm and 6.30pm. Notes will go home early next week to select suitable times
and confirmations will be sent home in Week 10. This is a very important way to communicate with teachers and discuss students’ progress and goals for the future.

**Working Bee**

We look forward to seeing as many people as possible at our Term 1 working bee on Sunday 30 March. Helpers will be rewarded with a BBQ lunch and plenty of sincere thanks.

**Easter Hat Parade**

Our annual school Easter Parade is on Wednesday 9 April. We look forward to you joining us at 11.30am to watch the parades and activities. The structure of the Easter Parade is as follows:

**Preschool**: Students are asked to decorate an Easter hat at home. The children will parade these hats on the day. There will be a prize for the best hat.

**Kindergarten**: Students are decorating hats at school and will parade these on the day. Please supply your child with a hat and some decorations. There will be a prize for the best hat.

**Stage One**: Students are decorating masks at school to parade on the day. There will be a prize for the best mask. Students are welcome to make a hat at home and parade their hat instead if they wish.

**Stage Two**: Students will create Crazy Rabbit Ears. There will be a prize for the craziest ears. Students are invited to wear a decorated hat if they wish.

**Stage Three**: Students are invited to use coloured hair spray and hair pieces to decorate their hair. Students are welcome to make a hat at home and parade their hat instead if they wish. There will be a prize for the best hair.

We hope you can stay after the parade to have a picnic lunch with your child. A sausage sizzle will be available to purchase on the day for $2.50. Please note that no pre-ordering is required. Cold drinks and a cake stall will also be available on the day.

**ANZAC Day**

This year ANZAC day falls at the end of the school holidays. Our school service will be held on Wednesday 30 April when students have returned to school. Students and staff have been invited to attend the Riverstone-Schofields RSL Sub-Branch 2014 ANZAC Day Dawn Service. The march will commence at 5.45am on Friday 25 April. Students who would like to participate can meet Mrs Thompson at 5.30am outside the RSL Sub-Branch hall. Parents will be required to meet us at the cenotaph after the service to collect students.

There will also be a gold coin donation sausage sizzle breakfast on the grassed area beside the Sub-Branch hall after the service for those who wish with all proceeds to Legacy.

**Mrs Emma Thompson**

**Principal**

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**Facebook** – don’t forget to “Like” us on Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/RiverstonePublicSchool](https://www.facebook.com/RiverstonePublicSchool)

It is the easiest way to receive reminders about events and keep up with all the school news.

**P&C News**

**Easter Raffle**

Raffle tickets are currently being sold for our Easter Raffle. Tickets are $1.00 each. If you would like extra books they are available at the office. The raffle will be drawn on 9 April at the Hat Parade.

Donations of eggs, chocolates, money to buy eggs for the Easter Raffle can be left at the office at any time.

**Uniform Shop**

The Uniform Shop is open again this Friday 21 March. We are currently looking for helpers to run the shop. If you are able to help please see Julie at the Uniform Shop on Friday morning.

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**Riverstone Public School Working Bee**

**Date:** Sunday 30.03.2014

**Time:** 10.00am to 2.00pm

**Jobs:** Gardening, Painting, General tidy up of grounds.

Please come along and lend a hand if you can and join us for a sausage sizzle.

Please bring your own gardening gloves on the day.
Kindergarten have had a fantastic start to the year. We love learning and know lots of new letters, numbers, sounds and words. Every week our teachers have lots of fun activities for us. We also have lots of visitors like Miss Camellia the speechie. She helps us with our speaking skills and has lots of fun lessons for us to do. On Fridays, we get to go to Mrs Plummer who takes us for sport. So far we have practised our bouncing, catching, throwing and running skills. We also play many exciting games including our favourite: The Parachute!

This Friday we had the photographer come out from the Hawkesbury Gazette. So keep an eye out in the paper for our photo.

We are quickly learning our schools PBL expectations and have earned lots of pocket rockets for displaying our best behaviour. We even have some students who will be receiving their bronze award on Thursday as well as some students who are only one sticker away!
1-2S

We have hit the ground running this year with a full week of learning across the school. On Mondays we go to the library for Science with Mrs Graham and Mrs Shaw. We are learning how to create stories using our voices and photos or illustrations on the iPads. Then on Tuesdays we have Scripture before lunch and either fitness, maths games or anti-bullying lessons in the afternoon.

On Wednesdays we return our borrowed library books so that we can borrow new books on Thursdays. Thursdays are loads of fun too with Miss Camellia, the speech pathologist, visiting us. We play lots of games and activities which use our voices and help us to learn more about speaking and language. Then after lunch we have school assemblies every two weeks.

Fridays kick off with fitness or maths games, depending on the week. We have computer lab lessons after recess and then after lunch we do sport to finish us off at the end of a very busy week. There is certainly no dust on us!

Our school prides itself on being Safe, Respectful, Learners. In 1/2S we work in pairs, small groups and together as a whole class to learn ways to stay safe and to treat ourselves and others with respect. We use activities such as “Think, Pair, Share” to help us communicate with others as we work. In the photos below you can see us sharing our thoughts with our partners about our class story about “Hippy” the hippopotamus. But, you will have to wait till the end of term before you can find out more about why we have a hippo in our classroom!
Who can forget our Water Fun Day this term? Even the teachers got wet this year! Some students got VERY WET whilst others stayed DRY. But in the end EVERYONE GOT WET when the skies opened up and joined in the fun. The faces in these photos tell a thousand words!
Monster Book Sale
Riverstone Public School Library
Monday 7 April 11.00am - 3.30pm
Tuesday 8 April 11.00am - 7.00pm
Wednesday 9 April 8:30am - 1.00pm
While Stocks last!
Cash or cheque only, no credit facilities available.

Sticker Activity Books
Great Gifts
Novels
Picture Books

THE GOOD GUYS®
SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL FUNDRAISING 2014
Every time you spend more than $50 at The Good Guys Castle Hill you earn reward vouchers for our school!
These can be used to buy school equipment such as tablets, laptops, printers & much more!
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.

INSIGHTS
by Michael Grose - Australia’s No 1 parenting educator

Positive Parent Involvement - you make a difference

Positive parent participation demonstrates to children that you value learning as well as their school.

Parental withdrawal from children’s education is a big problem these days as increasingly parents are worn out from working too hard or being involved in a variety of activities. By the time you get home from work or doing other activities you are spent.

But the message for parents is clear – become involved in as many aspects as practical in your child’s education. The involvement of parents helps break down the mystique about school that can exist for some children. Their chances of success are better when they see school as an extension of home rather than merely an institution for learning.

Positive parent participation demonstrates to children that you value learning as well as their school. Children copy many of their parents’ views so your positive attitude to school and learning is catching.

Many primary schools offer parents classroom jobs such as hearing kids read, taking small groups in elective activities and assisting children when writing stories.

Parent participation is much broader than helping out in the classroom. There is a range of simple ways to assist teachers to maximise the learning of your child. These include: hearing young learners read, helping with homework and making sure kids go off to school happy, healthy and with plenty of sleep.

Here are some more ideas to help you participate in your child’s education in positive ways:

✓ Find out what your school is trying to achieve for your child and show your support for its aims. Discover what sets your child apart from others.

✓ Support a broad, balanced curriculum that offers children a variety of educational experiences rather than a program that focuses narrowly on the traditional 3Rs.

✓ Direct constructive criticism through the correct channels such as your child’s teachers, the principal or the school’s governing body. Gossip or thoughtless criticism within the general community can easily tarnish a school’s reputation.

✓ Become an advocate for your child’s school and promote its positive features throughout the wider community. Encourage your child to take pride in their school through your example.

✓ Attend school activities such as open days, concerts, sports events and celebrations. Invite other members of the community along as well.

✓ Consult with your child’s teacher about practical ways that you can assist both at home and at school.

Positive parent participation in school and learning is a proven criterion for student success. One practical way to assist your child as a learner is to become actively involved in his or her school life.

Published by Michael Grose
Presentations. All rights reserved. For more ideas, support and advice for all your parenting challenges visit: www.parentingideas.com.au

Parentingideas.com.au

PO Box 167 Balnarring VIC 3925 P: 03 5983 1798 F: 03 5983 1722 E: office@parentingideas.com.au


Elizabeth Street, Riverstone NSW 2765 T: 9627 1517 F: 9838 1131 E: riverstone-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Wanted:

Families to host a Japanese student
2nd – 9th August 2014

- Students are aged 16-17 years & speak some English.
- What you need to provide: a comfy bed (sharing a room is fine)
- 3 meals a day
- daily transport to/from Arndell Anglican College in Oakville
- Families are paid $50 per night for hosting.
- Students attend school on week days & enjoy family life with you on the weekend.

For further information or any questions -
Tel: 9889 4366  http://www.vsoceania.com
Takashi:  ushinohama@vsoceania.com
mob: 0408 468 538

TERM 1 2014

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<th>Week</th>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Mar 17</td>
<td>Mar 18 Premier’s Sporting Challenge</td>
<td>Mar 19 Chess Challenge 8am</td>
<td>Mar 20 Sydney West Swimming Carnival National Close the Gap Day</td>
<td>Mar 21 RDA 12.30 pm Tolerance &amp; Resilience Day</td>
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<td>Mar 24 Anti-Graffiti Program 2.00 pm</td>
<td>Mar 25 Western Sydney Wanderers Soccer in Schools Football Clinic 9.00 am</td>
<td>Mar 26 Stage 3 Excursion Sydney Observatory</td>
<td>Mar 27 AFL Paul Kelly Cup</td>
<td>Mar 28 RDA 12.30 pm Longneck Lagoon Leadership Program</td>
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<td>Mar 31 Milo Cup Cricket</td>
<td>Apr 1 Apr 2</td>
<td>Apr 3 Choir Rehearsal at Hambleton PS 9.30am</td>
<td>Apr 4 RDA 12.30 pm Camp deposit due.</td>
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<td>Apr 8 Monster Book Sale Parent/Teacher Interviews 3.00 pm</td>
<td>Apr 9 P&amp;C Meeting 1.30pm - Library Easter Hat Parade 11.30 am Year 6 Farewell Meeting 3.15pm</td>
<td>Apr 10 Books in Homes Presentation with guest speaker 2.10pm</td>
<td>Apr 11 RDA FINAL DAY OF TERM 1</td>
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