As we prepare for the Easter holidays, all of us here at Riverstone Public School would like to wish everyone a safe, enjoyable and relaxing break. We look forward to seeing you in term two.

Working Bee
On Sunday 30 March we held our community working bee where members of the wider school community gave of their time and came up to assist in completing some gardening and painting around the school grounds. We managed to weed garden beds, refurbish furniture and complete much needed landscaping duties followed by a well-deserved barbecue. Thank you to everyone for lending a hand with your talents – it is greatly appreciated. We look forward to seeing you again at the next working bee.

Voluntary Contributions
We aim to keep our contributions as low as possible at Riverstone Public School. Again this year the requested contribution is $30 per child or $50 per family. These contributions assist greatly in the ability of teachers to provide innovative and quality learning experiences for the student. The contributions are due in Term 1 and a note with envelope will come with the newsletter this week.

Parent Teacher Interviews
Our Parent/Teacher/Student conferences will be held in Week 11 Tuesday April 8, between 3pm and 6.30pm. Notes have already been sent home for parents/guardians to select suitable times. Appointment confirmations will be sent home throughout this week. We encourage you to take the opportunity to make an appointment to see your child’s classroom teacher regarding his/her progress. This is a very important way to communicate with teachers and discuss students’ progress and goals for the future.

Easter Hat Parade
Our annual school Easter Parade is on Wednesday 9 April. Children have begun the exciting and creative task of designing their Easter Parade attire. We look forward to you joining us at 11.30am to watch the parades and activities. A reminder regarding 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.

Staff Changes
Mrs Stephens has been very unwell and we have been further advised that she will be off until the end of this term. Ms Jane Pugh will continue to teach 5S until the end of the Term 1.

Website & App
If you have not yet had the opportunity to browse through our updated website – make sure you do at: www.riverstone-p.schools.nsw.edu.au.

There are loads of new photos and features concerning the exciting learning experiences by our students at 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

Facebook
Don’t forget to “Like” us on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/RiverstonePublicSchool
It is the easiest way to receive reminders about events and keep up with all the school news.

Mrs Emma Thompson
Principal

P&C News
Easter Raffle
Raffle tickets are currently being sold for our Easter Raffle. Tickets are $1.00 each, extra books are available at the office. The raffle will be drawn on Wednesday 9 April at the Easter Parade. Any donations for the Easter Raffle can be left at the office at any time.

Uniform Shop
The Uniform Shop will be open this Friday—4 April - from 8.45 am until 9.30 am.

If you could spare an hour a fortnight on a Friday morning to lend a hand in the Uniform Shop please leave your name with the front office. You are welcome to bring your pre-schoolers with you.

Hot Cross Buns
If you would still like to order the delicious Hot Cross Buns from Bakers Delight that the P&C have organised please drop your order form and money into the school by Thursday afternoon at the latest as the order will be placed first thing on Friday morning. The Hot Cross Buns are $7.00 per half dozen. The school will get back $5.00 for each dozen sold.

Milo Cup Cricket
On Monday 31 March, 19 students from Riverstone Public School headed to Blacktown Indoor Sports Centre to participate in the Milo Cricket Gala Day. The students represented the school capably showing good sportsmanship and developing skills in the game. The boys played hard and put in a tremendous effort against some very drilled schools. Standout performances were Daryl D with his phenomenal one handed catching skills and Daniel H hitting the ball for a six!! The girls team were very new to the game and had the opportunity to do a skills session before their games. They came out triumphant winning all games played. Some standout performances were Hannah R and Rachael M hitting sixes, Hannah A with some spectacular fielding and Jaylah S with her amazing fast bowling. A great day was had by all. Thank you to Miss Tegan for helping coach the boys on the day.

Mrs Plummer
Milo Cup Cricket
Preschool News Term 1

This term the Prechool has been very busy getting our outdoor play area ready. The sandpit was finished on Sunday and we can now play outside. The Smarties and Jellybeans have settled well into Preschool and are embracing the Early Years Learning Framework. Through the EYLF the children are learning through play and choosing what they want to learn.

There has been lots of exploration and investigation from the lifecycle of a butterfly to dinosaurs and where they come from.

We have been focusing on the Munch and Move program. This program focuses on healthy eating and exercise and is a NSW Department of Health initiative to stamp out childhood obesity. The Smarties and Jellybeans really enjoy this program and I would like to thank the parents and carers for providing healthy food choices for their children. The children are exercising everyday and are developing their gross motor skills.

We also enjoyed taking part in the Tolerance and Resilience Day with the main school. The Smarties and Jellybeans came together to talk about friendship and what it is to be a good friend at Preschool. We also celebrated Harmony Day, the Smarties chose Japan as their country and they made koi carp kites, origami dogs and even tasted sushi. The Jellybeans chose Italy as their country and got to throw a coin in the Trevi fountain, painted an Italian flag and tried pasta and meatballs.

It has been a busy term and we are all looking forward to the holidays but can’t wait to see what next term will bring.

Kaylene Smith
Preschool Supervisor
2/6 enjoyed an informative and fun filled day with some of their fellow support and mainstream peers at the Sydney Observatory last Wednesday. The students were engaged in a meaningful way while they challenged the observatory staff with many intelligent and related questions. The staff at the Observatory were impressed with the student’s excellent conduct as well as their high level of interest and engagement.

Below: Hayden looks through the largest telescope at the observatory.

Above: Students learn how a rain gauge is used to measure rainfall.

Above: 2/6G view a movie in 3D on how the many galaxies in our universe were formed.

Above: Stage 3 measure the amount of moisture in the air to determine the level of humidity.

Above: Students measure air pressure using a barometer.
After taking a close look at the grammar used by Australian author, Sally Morgan and being inspired by her award winning style of writing, each student has transformed the study passage in their own words. Below are a few of their transformations taken from their AL books.

The students of 2/6G all participated in the creation of this amazing wall mural in class, based on their Accelerated Literacy text, Dan’s Grandpa.
Tolerance and Resilience Expo

Tolerance and Resilience Expo was held on Friday 21 March, joining two events together; Harmony Day and Anti-Bullying Day. The day was split into two sessions; in the morning classes engaged in an Anti-Bullying lesson and activity and after recess students learnt about two countries and completed an activity for each.

At recess, after our Anti-Bullying session, some students emerged from their classes with ‘Say No to Bullying’ badges, others had made posters, taken photos or become Everyday Hero’s. It was a time where students learnt about what a bully is, why they bully and how they could stop or prevent bullying. To further support this cause, every student received a wrist band which said *Take a stand together*, and it was great to see everyone wearing them at the end of the day.

During the Harmony Day session, classes buddied up to allow students to experience more than one country. Teachers created interesting lessons about their chosen country. Students had an opportunity to learn about; Canada, Ireland, Brazil, Sweden, Scotland, England, India, Mexico, South Africa, Italy, Australia, Wales and Greece. To further support this cause, every student received an orange balloon, students were also allowed to wear orange inspired mufti or cultural clothing for a gold coin donation. The money raised on this day has been donated to Stewart House. A big thank you to teachers for organising fantastic engaging lesson and thank you to students for outstanding behaviour and participating in the event.

Katie Camilleri
Parking and Using Bus Bays

As we had notified previously, during the Christmas Holidays the council moved the ‘Kiss and Drop’ at the front of the school to the other side of the pedestrian crossing. This seems to be causing some of our families some distress as fines have been issued by police.

There are signs in place at the front of the school designating where the bus stop and kiss and drop have been moved to.

Please do not park or ‘temporarily stop’ in the bus bay at the front of the school. Using the bus bays can cause significant delays which may then flow on to other schools in the region and may also cause you financial distress.

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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
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.

**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 weekdays & 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
FAMILY FUN AFTERNOON

OLYMPIC GAMES

FRIDAY
11TH APRIL, 2014
3:30 – 6:00
PARK STREET
RIVERSTONE

Jumping Castle
Gladiator Ring
Sack Races
Relay Run
Old School Games
Dance Performance
Show Bag Van
Food Stall
FREE BBQ
Prizes. Prizes. Prizes

Come along and build some awesome family memories!

There will be something for all ages.
NGALLU WAL ACFC
in partnership with
Nirimba TAFE Outreach Section

is offering a free computer class for beginners

**Wednesdays 9am to 12 noon**
from April to June

**The course will include:**

- Getting started with computers
- Creating simple documents
- Sending and receiving emails
- Using the internet
- Pathways to employment and /or higher level qualifications

**Interested?**
Come to an information session to meet the teacher and ask questions about the course.

**When:**  **Wednesday 9th April at 11am**

**Where:**  NGALLU WAL Aboriginal Child and Family Centre
259 Kildare Road
DOONSIDE
9621-6514