Calendar
What’s On

Term 2 Week 2

Wednesday 7 May  Mother’s Day Stall
Thursday 8 May  Dental Session
Friday 9 May  Cross Country Carnival
             Biggest Morning Tea
             RDA

Term 2 Week 3

Monday 12 May  Black and White Mufti Day
               Gold Coin Donation
Tuesday 13 May  NAPLAN
Wednesday 14 May  NAPLAN
Thursday 15 May  NAPLAN
Friday 16 May  Round 1 PSSA
               RDA

Principal’s Message
Welcome back to Term 2 and with only 9 weeks it will be a quick one with plenty of exciting events.

Staffing News
Mrs Stephens remains on sick leave at this stage and we do hope she returns to us soon. Miss Jane is currently taking 5S to see them through NAPLAN in Week 3 and then we hope to have Mrs Stephens back with us. In Mrs Stephens’s absence Mr England will take up supervision as the Assistant Principal of Stage 3, please contact Mr England if you need any assistance with Years 5 and 6.

Mrs Azzopardi will be supervising Kindergarten to assist Mr England during this time.

Over the holiday period Miss Camilleri had some very exciting news being appointed as a permanent staff member at Riverstone Public School. Miss Camilleri has been with us over a number of years and we are very pleased she will be staying with us.

Congratulations Miss Camilleri.

Mrs Ale will be starting her maternity leave very soon. Mrs Wright will be looking after K-6A and Miss Camilleri will be relieving as the Assistant Principal Support Unit. We wish Mrs Ale well on her maternity leave and look forward to meeting baby Ale soon.

PSSA Sport
This year we have entered into the Ridges PSSA winter sport competition. This year we will have teams in both the senior and junior Soccer and Netball. This competition starts in Week 3 on Fridays and gives our teams the opportunity to compete against other local schools each week. Good luck to our teams and thank you to Mrs Plummer and Mr England who will be coaching the Soccer and to Miss Smigliani and Miss Tegan who will be coaching the Netball. We are hoping to include Rugby League into next year’s planning.

FAME
While our PSSA teams are away competing in their chosen sports the students remaining at school will be participating in a Creative and Practical Arts and Sports program at school. Students will be put into groups of areas of interest to them. This gives students the opportunity to develop skills in areas that they identify as high interest and will be very hands on and practical. The final details of the program will be available towards the end of the week.

Woolworths Schofields
Thank you so much to all who gave up time in the school holidays to take children to the opening of Woolworths Schofields. While we had a bit of a false start the children ended up cutting the cake and hopefully will enjoy the celebrity status in the papers. A huge thank you to all the parents and staff that supported our fundraising BBQ outside Woolworths on the last Sunday of the holidays. It is a big ask for people to give up a treasured Sunday to raise money for our kids. The $400 raised will come in very handy. We are hoping to continue building on the relationship we have started with Woolworths Schofields and look forward to ongoing support for our school.

ANZAC Service
I was very proud to march in the ANZAC Day service in Riverstone with the students this year. We had a good turnout of students and I was so very proud of our school leaders who were outstanding representatives. Well done Halley, Tyler, Robbie and Jasmine who did so well on this very important formal occasion.
Riverstone Festival
The Riverstone Festival on Saturday 17 May is creeping up very quickly. Students will be participating in the march on the day and will bring home a note confirming times later this week. We will also be combining with the P&C on the day to run a stall with promotional items, cakes and activities for the kids. If you have some time to volunteer on the day it would be much appreciated.

NAPLAN
The National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) commences in Week 3 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning.

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit the NAPLAN test in May each year. The assessments are an opportunity for students to demonstrate what they have learned in class.

For students in Years 3 and 5, there are four tests covering numeracy, reading, writing and language conventions (spelling, punctuation and grammar).

The results provide information about student achievement that can be used to inform teaching and learning programs. NAPLAN tests provide point-in-time information regarding student progress in literacy and numeracy and are intended to complement the wide range of formal and informal assessments that are already conducted in schools.

NAPLAN test results are not intended to be used in isolation from other school-based assessment programs. I will be holding a brief parent information session on Thursday 8 May at 2.15pm in the library. All parents of students in Years 3 and 5 are welcome to attend.

Cross Country
On Friday the school Cross Country Carnival will be held and so far the weather forecast is looking good! Students are encouraged to wear their house colours on the day and parents are welcome to attend to support the students.

A BBQ lunch will be available for parents and students on the day and drinks will be available at the canteen. Students need to ensure that their sausage sandwiches are pre-ordered. Parents do not need to order in advance as we will have plenty available.

Biggest Morning Tea
In conjunction with our Cross Country Carnival our school will be hosting the Biggest Morning Tea in support of the Cancer Council. We will be setting up in front of the hall and will have tables and chairs for adults to sit at and enjoy the goodies from the stall. (Students will not be permitted to sit with parents/family as this is a safety concern).

We are asking for a donation of $4.00 to part-take. This will entitle customers to a coffee/tea and a plate of delicious offerings that have been made by our staff.

Mrs Emma Thompson
Principal

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.

P&C News
Mufti Day
On Monday 12 May the P&C will be holding a “Black and White” Mufti Day. The money raised from this day will help to pay for fruit for the joint stall the P&C and school will have at the Riverstone Festival on 17 May where we will be selling fruit salad cups along with our usual cake stall.

Easter Raffle and Cake Stall
The P&C would really like to thank all of the families for the overwhelming response to the recent Easter Hat Parade. Your generous donations of cakes, slices, biscuits and the purchase of raffle tickets was fantastic! We raised just over $370 on the cake stall and around $1300 on the raffle! Thank you for showing your support! Well Done!

Shopping Trip
We have also planned a Factory Outlet Shopping Tour for Sunday 29th June! A note will be coming home this week with more details. It would be wonderful to see a lot of parents come along and enjoy a great day out...even pick up some bargains!! So ask your friends, family and neighbours and pay your deposit by Monday 19 May to secure your seats!

The P&C Committee

Mother’s Day Stall
On Wednesday 7th May, we will be holding our annual Mother's Day Stall. If you would like your child/ren to purchase gifts from the stall, please ensure that your child brings a clearly marked envelope with their name, class and the amount of gifts to be purchased on the day Gifts are $5 each. We have a great array of gift ideas this year!

School Photos
School photos will be taken on Wednesday 28 May. Photo envelopes are being sent home today with the newsletter. Students are to bring their envelope back on the day the photos are being taken. Please do not sent envelopes and money back to school early. Family photo envelopes are available from the school office.
Young Leaders Day

On Monday 31 March, the School Captains, Tyler and Halley and Vice Captains, Robbie and Jasmine attended The National Young Leaders Day Conference with Miss Camilleri. We began the day very early and caught the train into the city and walked to the Entertainment Centre. For the next few hours we had the pleasure of listening to several enthusiastic and engaging speakers; Mike Martin Executive Director of Halogen (the organisers), Former Premier Bob Carr, a 16 year old boy named Coen Ashton who has cystic fibrosis and has survived a double lung transplant. Coen has also provided positive media attention to organ donations and cystic fibrosis. We also heard from famous children’s author Andy Griffiths and Ita Buttrose who is famous for her works in the media, fundraising as well as being an author.

We had a fantastic day listening to inspirational people talk about their ideas and opinions on how best to become a positive leader. We even walked away with three signed copies of Andy Griffiths tree house series books to add to our library collection. Definitely an excursion to look forward to again next year. Miss Katie Camilleri
4-5 M

4-5M has been very busy in their H.S.I.E units of work. Year 4 studied British Colonization in Australia. The children explored issues related to Australia's original inhabitants, explored Australia before and after the British arrival and occupation of Australia. The children completed artworks of the first fleet.

Year 5 studied the Gold Rush. The children explored the history of the Gold Rush, the impact of the Gold Rush on Australia, life during the Gold Rush, how the Gold Rush shaped Australia's culture and heritage and the difference in current mining practices. They also completed a collaborative piece of artwork depicting gold miners panning for gold in a river.
Term 2 is looking like fun for students in Years 3 and 4. We are looking at lots of exciting things in class such as:

**Wordless texts and short films**
Through a variety of shared reading, writing, speaking and listening activities, students will be developing their understanding of how stories can be communicated using still and moving images. Through an in-depth study of a wordless picture book and an animated short film, they will explore how visual narratives are constructed. They will engage in interpretation of the settings, events, characters and themes expressed in texts. Students also experiment with digital tools and processes to compose their own multimodal texts and narratives.

**The Art of Jeannie Baker**
In this learning opportunity, students will focus on the particular art elements of shape, texture and colour, expanding their knowledge of these elements. Students will be introduced to the picture book by Jeannie Baker called Mirror, which shows the comparison of two boys and their families, one in Sydney and the other in Morocco. Students will be able to apply their knowledge of the particular elements through focusing on specific illustrations that exist in Mirror as well as their own artwork created in the previous lesson.

**Moving Pictures - Team Teaching with Mrs Graham**
Students draw pictures of or photograph various objects or scenes, showing a variety of perspectives and sizes of shots. From the results of this students’ efforts will be used to make video or computer animations. This will build skills in using the video and/or computer technology appropriately; coordinating sound effects, dialogue, music, text and graphics.

**Colonial Australia Incursion**
Last week some visitors from Australia’s colonial past visited to give us a glimpse of what life was like in the early days of the colony. The performers were highly entertaining and we all learned a lot.

**NAPLAN**
Next week the students in Year 3 will be sitting the NAPLAN assessment. We wish all the students involved the best of luck and would like to remind them to relax and just try their best!
STAGE 2
our completed artwork
Fire and Rescue NSW Open Day 2014

Fire & Rescue NSW is hosting its Annual Open Day on Saturday 17 May 2014 between 10.00am and 2.00pm.

Children and their parents are invited to watch fire safety demonstrations, hop aboard our station’s fire truck, hold a fire hose and get an information bag while chatting with firefighters about what they do.

This is a fantastic opportunity for children and their parents to meet their local firefighters and learn about fire safety in the home.

Winter is just around the corner and it's the worst time of the year for house fires, so this is a great opportunity to learn as much as you can about home fire safety.

Don't leave fire safety to chance this winter - click on this link - 2014 Open Day Participating Stations to find your local Fire Station and join

Cross Country

On Friday 9th May, Riverstone Public School will be holding their annual school cross country. The event will be held on the oval and all students will be participating. If you are available to help as a lap counter for the Years 3-6 session on the day this would be greatly appreciated.

Preschool -Year 2 will be held from 9.30-11.00am.

Years 3-6 will be held from 11.40-1.00pm.

We encourage all parents to come and support their child. There will be a sausage sizzle available for parents to purchase at the conclusion of the cross country. Bring your chair or blanket, your cheering voices and have a picnic lunch with your children.

Looking forward to seeing you there.
Mrs Plummer

PSSA Sport News

This year Riverstone PS has joined winter PSSA sport. Selected students from years 3-6 will participate in soccer and netball sport every Friday starting Week 3 in Terms 2 and 3.

Congratulations to those students who have been selected and we wish you all the very best.

Permission notes will be sent out to students selected very soon.

HELP NEEDED - if you have any old unwanted soccer shin pads or goal keeping gloves, we would greatly appreciate them. Please hand them to either Mr England or Mrs Plummer so we can use them for students at PSSA.

Thank you
Mrs Plummer

When lunch comes home again-uneaten

Almost nine out of 10 Australian parents say children's resistance is a major obstacle in their efforts to provide a healthy diet, and in many cases school lunches are one of the battlegrounds.

But it's a battle families can do without and there are some simple steps to help avoid it. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/food/when-lunch-comes-homeagain
Opportunity Class Placement 2015
For more information please contact Mr David England at the school on

**Key dates**

- **Monday 28 April 2014**
  - Online application opens or
  - Application information and forms are available in schools
- **Friday 16 May 2014**
  - Return paper applications to principal or
  - Online application closes
- **Wednesday 9 July 2014**
  - Test centre advice received by parents or carers
- **Wednesday 23 July 2014**
  - Opportunity class placement test
- **October 2014**
  - Outcome advice sent

**The Hills Sports High School**

The Hills Sports High School is offering 16 sports as part of their 2015 Talented Sports Program for students starting high school next year. Applications for placement in the program, as well as Talent Identification Trials will take place between 19 May and 6 June 2014.

An information evening about the Talented Sports Program will be conducted in the Hills Sports High School Assembly Hall on Monday 12 May 2014 at 6:30pm. All interested applicants are advised to attend.

Please contact Mr David England on 9627 1517 for a copy of the application package.
Cross Country Carnival

Students are encouraged to dress in their House colours on the day of the carnival. Following is the list of the Houses and their colours.

If your surname starts with -
A-D your House is Dharug and your House colour is BLACK
E-L your House is Langton and your House colour is RED
M-R your House is O’Connell and your House colour is GREEN
S-Z your House is Richards and your House colour is BLUE

Riverstone Festival 2014

Saturday 17th May sees the annual Riverstone Festival return for its 14th year. From 9am till 3pm the surrounds of the Sam Lane Community Complex, Park Street will be alive with activity, local entertainment, community static displays, rides and games for children, food and drinks, devonshire teas, home made arts and crafts stalls, Historical Society and much, much more.

The 11am Street Parade will celebrate 100 years since the Richmond Rail Line opened with former Rail Line Staffers, Geoff Follett, Garnet Jones, Laurie King and Ray Smith travelling in open cars.

The Festival is a Combined Churches and Local Community Event, supported by Riverstone Chamber of Commerce and Blacktown City Council. Check out the website or phone 4572 3271 for more details.

Vineyard Children’s Early Learning Centre’s

FAMILY FUN DAY

Sunday 25th May
10am – 1pm

Farm Yard Fun  Jumping Castle  Sausage Sizzle  Face Painting  Guided Tours

All welcome! Just come and JOIN the fun...

*Bring a picnic mat and hat!

14 Bandon Road Vineyard
www.vcelc.com.au
9627 6558
director@vcelc.com.au

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

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

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.

FREE SUPPORT WORKSHOP
STRESS LESS!
FOR MEN
Get some FREE TOOLS to get your stress and frustration in the right place.
Richmond Community Services Inc. in partnership with Hawkesbury District Health Service are pleased to offer a free 3 week ongoing workshop for men to give them tools for harnessing their responses to stressful situations and find out how others deal with their stress.
Will be held at
Richmond Neighbourhood Centre
20 West Market Street, Richmond
In Hall 1 out the back
THURSDAYS
1st, 8th & 15th May 2014
5.30pm – 7pm:
BOOKING ESSENTIAL!
Call 4588 3502 to book your place
or Email admin@rcsi.ngo.org.au

NASH PATEL
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!

REMEMBER TO ASK FOR YOUR VOUCHERS AT THE CUSTOMER SERVICE COUNTER
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