Calendar
What’s On

Term 1 Week 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 17 March</td>
<td>PLP’s</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 18 March</td>
<td>PLP’s</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Footsteps Dance</td>
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<td>Year 6 Farewell Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 20 March</td>
<td>Harmony Day</td>
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<td>Year 6 Fundraising Event (orange spider drinks)</td>
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<td>RDA</td>
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<td>PSSA</td>
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<td>Whole School Assembly 11.30am</td>
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Term 1 Week 9

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 23 March</td>
<td>Young Leaders Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 24 March</td>
<td>Parent Cyber Safety Awareness 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25 March</td>
<td>Choir rehearsal at Lynwood Park PS 12pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 13 March</td>
<td>RDA</td>
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<td>PSSA</td>
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Term 1 Week 10

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 30 March - Thursday 2 April</td>
<td>Dental Mobile Clinic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 30 March</td>
<td>RPS Parent Session - Technology 3pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday 1 April</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade</td>
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<td>Official Opening of the new Kitchen</td>
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<td>Thursday 2 April</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
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Principal’s Message

Kitchen Opening

Our outdoor kitchen will have its first official event to cater for on Wednesday 1 April with the Easter Hat Parade and Kitchen Grand Opening.

We are so excited that this small idea hatched almost 2 years ago has finally come to fruition, with the support of Wesley Family Centre Riverstone who applied for the initial grant through the Community Building Partnership Program, the P&C and a contribution of school funds to ensure the facilities completion. We are very proud of what has been achieved in the development of this project and we are looking forward to hosting many community events, parent and student workshops as part of our Kitchen/Garden program.

We look forward to seeing you all at the Easter Hat Parade followed by the official opening and of course a BBQ lunch.

Amazing Art

Autumn’s the perfect season to take a trip to a gallery. The popular ArtExpress exhibition connects us to the inner lives and self-expression of high school students. Amazing works are on show throughout NSW. Check out the calendar.


Personalised and Individualised Learning Plans

Teachers are very busy organising and updating Personalised Learning Plans (PLP) and Individual Learning and Support Plans (ILSP) for students prior to the end of Term 1. Teachers have used these early weeks to assess and get familiar with students and identify any additional support needs they require. These meetings are important opportunities for teachers and families to discuss and make plans for student goal setting and make any adjustments required to accommodate health care, learning or emotional needs.

Thank you to all parents who have attended or booked appointments for these meetings. If your child requires a PLP or an ILSP you will be contacted by the class teacher.

Roles Explained

Stage Supervisors have been assigned to a Stage. They oversee learning programs for that Stage and deal with the day to day organisation of their Stage. The Stage Supervisors are Ms Azzopardi (Kindy), Mrs Calder (Stage 1), Mr England (Stage 2) and Mrs Rout (Stage 3).
Support Teachers provide vital support for teachers and students across the school. Their role includes taking classes for specific subjects, working with small groups of students in class or withdrawing students for an individual focus. Ms Marrow, Mrs Baldock, Mrs Pettitt are our Support teachers.

RFF is an acronym for Release From Face To Face teaching. Full time teachers are entitled to 2 hours per week to prepare lessons and collaborate with colleagues for the benefit of the students. Our RFF teachers are Miss Jane, Mrs Marchetta and Mrs Kumar.

If you have any concerns or compliments relating to your child at school please see the class teacher in the first instance and then if required make an appointment to see the Stage Supervisor. Please don’t be offended if staff ask you to make an appointment at the front office to have a chat. It is often hard to follow up discussions or discuss resolutions in the playground or in front of children.

Travelling to and from school
Over the last few weeks we have had a number of children who are unsure of how they are getting home. This has caused distress for students, parents and staff. Please ensure you speak with your child and explain to them how they are travelling to and from school.

If anything changes, or your child is not confident of their travel arrangements, please contact the class teacher promptly so we can assist to ensure that planned travel arrangements are adhered to and that we are all aware of your child’s whereabouts.

Parent Information Session - Protecting Children Online
Please join us on TUESDAY 24 MARCH at 6pm in the school library for an important information session presented by Constable John Bollard to support knowledge and understanding of protecting children online.

This is such an important issue for families using technology and accessing the internet and covers cyber bullying, predators online and also discusses just what our children are doing online!

Due to the nature of the content of the presentation students are not permitted to attend the session.

Emma Thompson
Principal

P&C News
This year you can order your Hot Cross Buns for Easter directly through the school. We are selling Cross Buns and Lamingtons for $6 per half dozen. These yummy treats are being made for us by Jordan’s Cake shop Riverstone.

Tickets for the Easter Raffle have been sent home with students. Tickets are $1.00 each. We are asking parents and Carers to donate Easter Eggs or treats for this raffle. All donations will be greatly appreciated. Please leave donations at the School Office. Thank you.

P&C Committee

Our school website

Key Features
Every second Tuesday the newsletter is published online. Links to our social media sites are available. Click on these links to connect on Facebook and Twitter.

We are currently working on updating the website to include -
* Stage pages, to keep you informed of what’s happening in your child’s class.
* Updated photos of recent events, please make sure you have signed the Permission to Publish notes.

Facebook
https://www.facebook.com/RiverstonePublicSchool?
ref=aymt_homepage_panel

Key Features
Interactivity with other members.
* Regular status updates. Keeping you informed in a timely manner
* Questions answered by our administrators quickly.
* Pictures published of recent events, keep an eye out for your child if you have signed the Permission to Publish note.

Our School App
Download to smart phone from itunes https://
itunes.apple.com/au/app/riverstone-public-school/id520395124?mt=8

Key Features
* Receive notifications of school events.
* Updated every Tuesday.
* Review pictures of current and recent events.
* Access notes and newsletters.

Username: community
Password: riverstone
NAPLAN 2015
In May 2015 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3 and 5 at Riverstone PS.

The results of the tests will provide important information to our school about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents and carers will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student’s right to privacy is maintained.

NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 12-14 May 2015
Tuesday 12 May
• Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)
• Writing

Wednesday 13 May
• Reading

Thursday 14 May
• Numeracy (Number, Algebra, function and pattern, Chance and data, Measurement and Space

Friday 15 May
• A ‘catch-up’ day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Exemption or Withdrawal from NAPLAN
Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if:
• They are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
• They have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests.

Disability adjustments which reflect the student’s normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students. Access to disability adjustment must be discussed with Mrs Thompson, Principal, and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be exempted or withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with Mrs Thompson. If you wish to exempt or withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with Mrs Thompson or Mr England if you would like to discuss your child’s participation in NAPLAN.


Mr England will be running a parent session on supporting NAPLAN in Week 1, next term.

Stage 3 Visits the IMAX

Last Tuesday 10 March Stage 3 students visited the IMAX theatre in Darling Harbour, Sydney. We saw a 3D movie called Under the Sea. You may be wondering why we went? During our Science and HSIE lessons this term, we have been learning about marine environments, with a strong focus on The Great Barrier Reef.

We travelled by bus to the city and were very lucky to make it on time, a big thank you to the bus drivers for getting us there with 15 minutes to spare.

When we entered the theatre, students were handed very large and fancy 3D glasses, our students requested being able to keep them as a memento. To their surprise the glasses were not a gift and had to be handed back at the end of the movie. Walking into the theatre, students were absolutely amazed and stunned by the sheer size of the screen, not to mention the hike up the steep stairs to get to our seats. Riverstone sat in two rows close to the front, and enjoyed their recess while watching the movie. It was quite a sight for those who took their 3D glasses off and had a look around the theatre, only to see lots of children trying to reach out and touch the screen.

During the movie we saw a variety of marine life swim off the screen and straight towards us to both our excitement and terror! Let’s just say that trying to watch a 3D movie with a whole bunch of school aged children was never going to be done in silence.

After the movie was finished we walked to a nearby park where students were allowed to experiment with very shallow water circuits and stretch their legs on open grass. We were even lucky enough to see a mother duck and her ducklings waddling across the open grass.

Hayden Smith, from 3/5P, summed the day up quite nicely, “That was awesome!” Riverstone Public School students should be extremely proud of their outstanding behaviour on the day.

Mrs Rout
Stage 3 Supervisor and 6R Class Teacher
Stage 3 visit the Imax Theatre

and The Darling Quarter Kids Playground
5B plasticine fish

5B had some fun making plasticine fish in the afternoon after arriving back at school from the stage 3 excursion to the IMAX cinema in the city watching all the sea creatures in the sea. Stage 3 have been focusing on marine environments as part of our HSIE and science units this term.
Travel Bugs

On Tuesday 10 March 2015 students from KA, 1L, 1/4AW, 1/2S and 2C went to see the Travel Bugs in our school hall. There were LOTS of bugs including: Wolf spider, Huntsman spider and a Net-casting spider. There was a scorpion and some large stick insects.

We saw a millipede which had 250 feet, plus a LARGE centipede. The grasshopper we saw was an extra, he hitched a ride with Jacqui, the bug lady, and she kept him in the bug bag with a branch in it.

The stick insects stayed outside their cages on a branch in the hall. Some of us got our photos taken with them. There were 2 containers that had stick insect eggs ready to hatch. The large female stick insect, when fully grown can lay 4-5 eggs a day. Every day. She will live for about 1 and a half years.

William said his favourite part was seeing the wolf spider. Eden loved holding the insects. Shyllah-Rose liked seeing so many insects in the preserving jars and cubes because you could pick them up and look at them up close without them getting away. Matilda enjoyed holding a stick insect. The students were well-behaved and had great questions to ask The Bug Lady.
Throughout this term the Smarties have shown a strong interest in insects. As a result we have begun a number of class of projects with the children being given the opportunity to learn the difference between living and non-living things. The children have also been learning about the lifecycle of different insects and more important the defining characteristics associated with their anatomy.

Mr. Wall and Miss Sue have also been busy following up on children’s interests with their most recent project being based on “The Rainbow Fish”. For those of you, who are unfamiliar with the narrative the story is about a beautiful fish that discovers true happiness through the process of sharing with others. The children were enthralled by this narrative and with the help of their educators have turned their classroom into a work of art.

The Easter Hat Parade will be held on the 1 April 2015. Due to programming constraints if you would like your child/children to participate we ask that they make their Easter Hats/Masks at home. Alternatively children are also able to wear crazy hairstyles or dress in theme. If you have any questions surrounding the Easter Hat Parade please ask your child’s classroom teacher or direct your enquiries to the front office.
Kindergarten enjoyed our Travelbugs Incursion and learned lots of new things about bugs and spiders.
Cyber Bullying and Internet Safety for Parents

Please join us on **TUESDAY 24 MARCH at 6pm** in the school library for an important information session presented by Constable John Bollard to support knowledge and understanding of protecting children online.

This is such an important issue for families using technology and accessing the internet and covers cyber bullying, predators online and also discusses just what our children are doing online!

Due to the nature of the content of the presentation students are not permitted to attend the session.

A light supper will be served so please RSVP to the school office by Friday 20 March on 0412663624 or email debra.latham@det.nsw.edu.au
Riverstone High School

Taster Day

On Thursday 5 March year 6 students visited Riverstone High School for a taster day. Year 6 participated in a variety of different subjects. We baked butterscotch scrolls in Technology, mummified our friends in History, made green slime in Science and danced and acted our way through Drama. An outstanding lunch was provided on the day by RHS canteen. It was a great day enjoyed by all. We are looking forward to more visits to the high school this year as part of our Transition to High School Program.
The simplest way
...to make Blueberry + Banana bread

Ingredients
- olive or canola oil spray
- 3 ripe bananas, peeled
- ¾ cup raw sugar (60g)
- ½ cup reduced-fat milk
- 2 eggs
- 2 cups self-raising flour
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 cup frozen blueberries

Method
Preheat oven to 220°C and spray a 20 x 10cm loaf tin with oil. Line base and sides with non-stick baking paper. Mash bananas in a large bowl, add sugar, milk and eggs and mix until well combined. Sift flour and cinnamon on top of mixture. Mix ingredients together until just combined, taking care not to over-mix, then gently fold through blueberries. Spoon mixture into prepared loaf tin and smooth the surface. Bake for 35-40 minutes, or until a skewer comes out clean from the middle.

For more information visit www.eattitobeatit.com.au or join us at facebook.com/eattitobeatit

28th Annual Penrith Working Truckshow
Sunday 29th March 2015 - 8am-5pm
Australia’s Best Value Family Day

Fun and Excitement!

- Direct access from Penrith Station
- Unlimited FREE amusement rides all day (20 rides)
- Concert sounds full stage
- Specialist trade stalls & displays
- Entertaining games & competitions
- Free Balloons & Fairy Floss
- Free face painting
- BBQ, drinks & beer tents
- Major prizes & trophies
- Price includes entry to Museum

Held at: Museum of Fire
“Learn, Don’t Burn”

The Best In Country Music

- Direct access from Penrith Station
- Unlimited FREE amusement rides all day (20 rides)
- Concert sounds full stage
- Specialist trade stalls & displays
- Entertaining games & competitions
- Free Balloons & Fairy Floss
- Free face painting
- BBQ, drinks & beer tents
- Major prizes & trophies
- Price includes entry to Museum

Sydney Classic & Antique Truckshow on 31st May, 2015
(See website for more details)

www.pwts.com.au