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From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

All members of our growing school community are invited to attend a "Welcoming BBQ and Drumming Celebration" which will be held on Tuesday 10th March. "InRhythm", a creative drumming company which specialises in working with primary school students, will conduct drumming sessions with all of our classes during the day and will facilitate a community drumming celebration in the evening. The following extract from the company website, and the words of recommendation from a primary school teacher, give an insight to the potential impact of this musical experience:

"With a drum in each child's hands we lead your students on a magical, exciting journey into African music and culture that's more than just immense fun! Our African Drumming Incursions and School drumming workshops teach musicality, culture and mindfulness all at once. They are perfect for improving social skills, confidence and self esteem, reducing stress and exploring resilience! "

Vision Statement

Rathmines Public School's vision is to pursue and celebrate excellence in all areas and to ensure everyone has the opportunity to experience success within a supportive, safe and engaging learning environment which embraces the creative and productive use of technology and is free from all forms of discrimination. Our vision is to educate students for life by fostering their sense of wellbeing and developing their personal values of honesty, resilience, empathy, respect and responsibility.

From the Principal cont'd

"I could not have asked for a better activity to come our way. Tim and Jason are exciting and very skilled in their teaching of this fascinating instrument. My kids just LOVED it; they were absolutely enthralled with the 'boys' and what they found that they could do with their drum. It is such a gift to be able to touch each child's heart as you teach them a skill. Tim and Jason achieved that with an ease and finesse that makes me want to not only learn the drum but go to Africa as well!!! Thank you both so very much. Anita."

Active OOSH have kindly offered to host a **free community sausage sizzle** commencing at 5:30pm prior to the drumming performances by each stage commencing at 6:45pm. To assist in the catering for this event parents and carers are asked to complete and return the sausage sizzle order form which is being sent home to families today. I am confident this community celebration will not only be enjoyed by everyone who attends but will also provide us with a great opportunity to welcome our many new families.

Parent Information Sessions

I trust that the parent information sessions conducted last week proved to be beneficial for parents and carers. Overviews of the content covered in the meetings are available for anyone who was unable to attend due to other commitments. I take this opportunity to stress that the meetings should be seen as a "first step" in developing a relationship of shared responsibility with class teachers for your child's education. As the school year progresses I encourage you not to hesitate to contact class teachers regarding an appointment if you wish to discuss any matters of concern.

Staffing Update

I am very pleased to be able to confirm that **Helen Styan** has been appointed to the position of **Teacher Librarian** at Rathmines Public while Rebecca Priest is on maternity leave. **Josie Quinn** and **Joanna Lizdenis** have also commenced temporary teaching contracts at RPS as part of our intervention/support program for students in Stages 2 and 3. Josie will be based in Stage 3 and Joanna will link with Stage 2. Both teachers come with very high recommendations from the Principals of schools in which they have previously been employed and I have no doubt they will make very positive contributions to RPS during the next 20 weeks. In addition, **Dr Andy Mathes** will join our teaching staff every Thursday in order to provide literacy and numeracy extension activities for students in Years 3 and 5. On behalf of everyone in our school community I extend a warm welcome to Helen, Josie, Joanna and Andrew and thank them for accepting these important teaching responsibilities.

Year 6 Camp

I have no doubt all of our Year 6 students are looking forward to heading up the coast to Pacific Palms for their outdoor education camp next Monday and Tuesday. During the two days away the children will participate in a range of outdoor education activities designed to firstly challenge them both as individuals and as a group and secondly to build their class identity and sense of cohesion. I thank **Mrs Wicks, Mrs Quinn** and **Mr Elston** for their readiness to take on the extra responsibilities associated with taking a large group of students away on an overnight excursion. I am confident that the children will show their appreciation to the teachers by the exemplary manner in which they conduct themselves during the two days.

Spelling Challenge

Dr Mathes has provided the following background information about an important curriculum initiative he is coordinating at our school this year.

From the Principal cont'd

“At Rathmines Public School we aim to provide the best outcomes for your children in all Key Learning Areas. One of these areas is in the Literacy strand of Spelling. NAPLAN test results provide useful information on individual student levels as well as providing a state-wide performance standard against which we view our overall results. We are encouraging all parents to participate with us on a focus to further strengthen the spelling results of our students. The plan is to have Years 3-6 all participating in a Magical Buzzing Bees Spelling Challenge in a motivating and fun learning environment in Week 10 (Thursday 2nd April). Parents are invited to attend to be part of the audience from 9.00-11.00am for Stage 2 (Years 3-4) and 11.45-1.45pm for Stage 3 (Years 5-6). In the mean-time, be sure to encourage your child to participate to the best of their ability by learning their list words from their weekly Sound Waves Spelling Lists where the words will come from.”

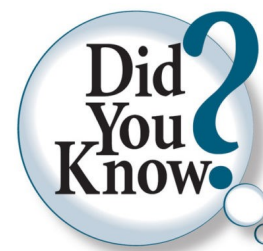
I thank Dr Mathes for the time and effort he has contributed to organising this activity and encourage all students to give of their very best when preparing for their participation in the Spelling challenge later in the term.

School Sport Programme

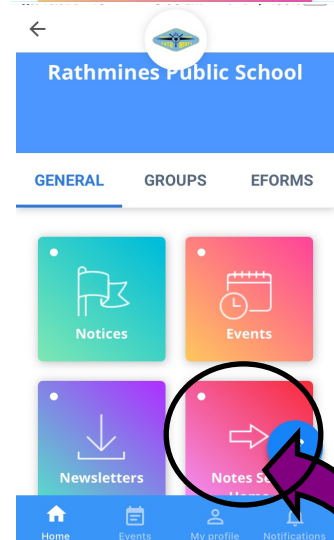
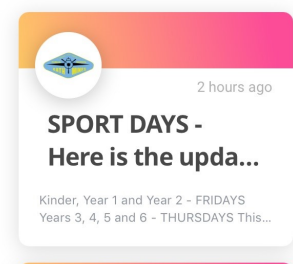
Students at Rathmines Public are fortunate to be able to participate in a wide variety of sporting opportunities which are provided as part of an overall sports programme for students in primary classes. As we start a new school year I believe there is value in highlighting not only the different aspects of this programme but also the guidelines which the school is required to follow. **Mr McNamara** has the responsibility for overseeing all matters relating to primary sport and has particular responsibility for organising our annual swimming, cross country and athletics carnivals. **Miss Case** provides great support to Troy and is also the school's representative on the Westlakes PSSA Sports Association. As a school we are indebted to Troy and Niesa for all the time and effort they contribute to their roles.

Rathmines Public enters teams in 11 different PSSA competitions and also participates in competitions run by NSW Touch, NSW Rugby, OZtag and the Newcastle Knights. Inclusion in these representative sporting teams is based on the outcome of school based selection trials and guidelines provided by the NSW PSSA. **Students who gain selection in a team are required to display a high level of commitment to training sessions before or after school and to also display the highest level of sportsmanship and team spirit when playing for the school. Parents and carers who attend sports events are also expected to act in accordance with the Code of Conduct for parents which has been developed by the Hunter PSSA.**

In addition, students with above average ability in a particular sport are eligible to take part in **zone selection trials** conducted by the Westlakes PSSA. Each school is usually restricted to sending a maximum of **four**



Any school notes that are sent home can also be found on the Skoolbag App. On the home screen, click on the Rathmines Public School link.



On the next screen click on Notes Sent Home. You can then scroll through to find the information you need.

From the Principal cont'd

students to a trial. Selection in a Westlakes squad is the first step on a pathway to possible selection in a NSW PSSA representative team. (eg ex-student **Jake Riley's** inclusion in the NSW PSSA Golf team in 2016). In the same way, students who are selected to represent RPS at the zone swimming, cross country and athletics carnivals, as a result of their performances at a school carnival, have the chance to progress through to Hunter and possibly NSW representation (eg ex student **Cameron Gawn's** selection in the NSW swimming team in 2018). It is important to note that the NSW PSSA is responsible for setting the guidelines for selection procedures.

The Westlakes PSSA also conducts a series of annual **Gala Days** which are **non competitive** and are designed to give **all primary students** the chance to play sport with students from other schools in our zone. These gala days generally run on separate days for junior (Years 3 and 4) and senior (Years 5 and 6) students.

Sports News

Our school was well represented at the **Zone Swimming Carnival** held at Speers Point Pool Tuesday of last week. **Mrs Bristow**, our school team manager, was very pleased with the manner in which our students conducted themselves throughout the day. I commend all of the children who attended the carnival and offer special congratulations to **Ben M** who came first in the 11yrs Boys backstroke and third in the 50m freestyle, and the boys in our junior relay team which gained a third placing overall. **Ben, Kaizen, Logan F, Tiaki and Thomas R** will represent our school and the Westlakes Zone at the **Hunter Region Swimming Carnival** on the 3rd March.

The boys in our school rugby league team are looking forward to defending the **Paul Harragon Cup** trophy which our school won last year when they take part in the 2020 competition at Keith Barry Oval today. The team has trained really well during the past few weeks and, even though the majority of boys play soccer as their Saturday sport, they seem to have revelled in the contact aspect of rugby league and are keen to test themselves against some of the more traditional rugby league schools in the Newcastle area.

Wedding News

Finally, on behalf of everyone in the Rathmines School Community I congratulate **Ellouise Boyd** , on her marriage to her husband Rhys Wicks last week end! Mrs Wicks will be taking leave for her overseas honeymoon during the last week of this term and the first two weeks of term two.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Walker

Principal

LIBRARY NEWS



Library timetable for borrowing

Monday

6W, KF, KR, 1C

Tuesday

5C, 5/6E, 2V, K/1C, 1W

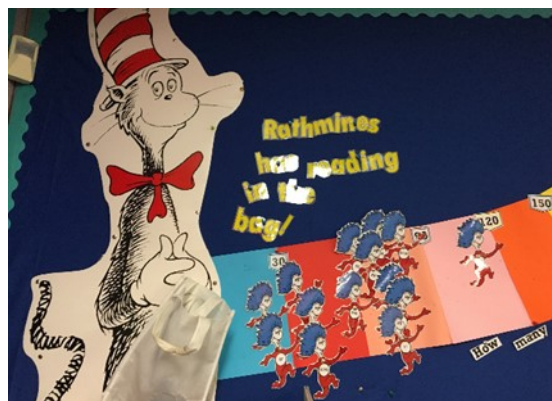
Wednesday

4M, 3R, 2F, 2/3R, 3/4 GS

The school library is also open Monday – Thursday at recess time. Students are welcome to borrow then. Please encourage your children to slowly take responsibility for their own library books.

Borrowing race

The popular borrowing race is up and running. This year we have an early starter, with 4M having over 100 loans already. Great start, the race is on!



“If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. “

Spoken by Albert Einstein

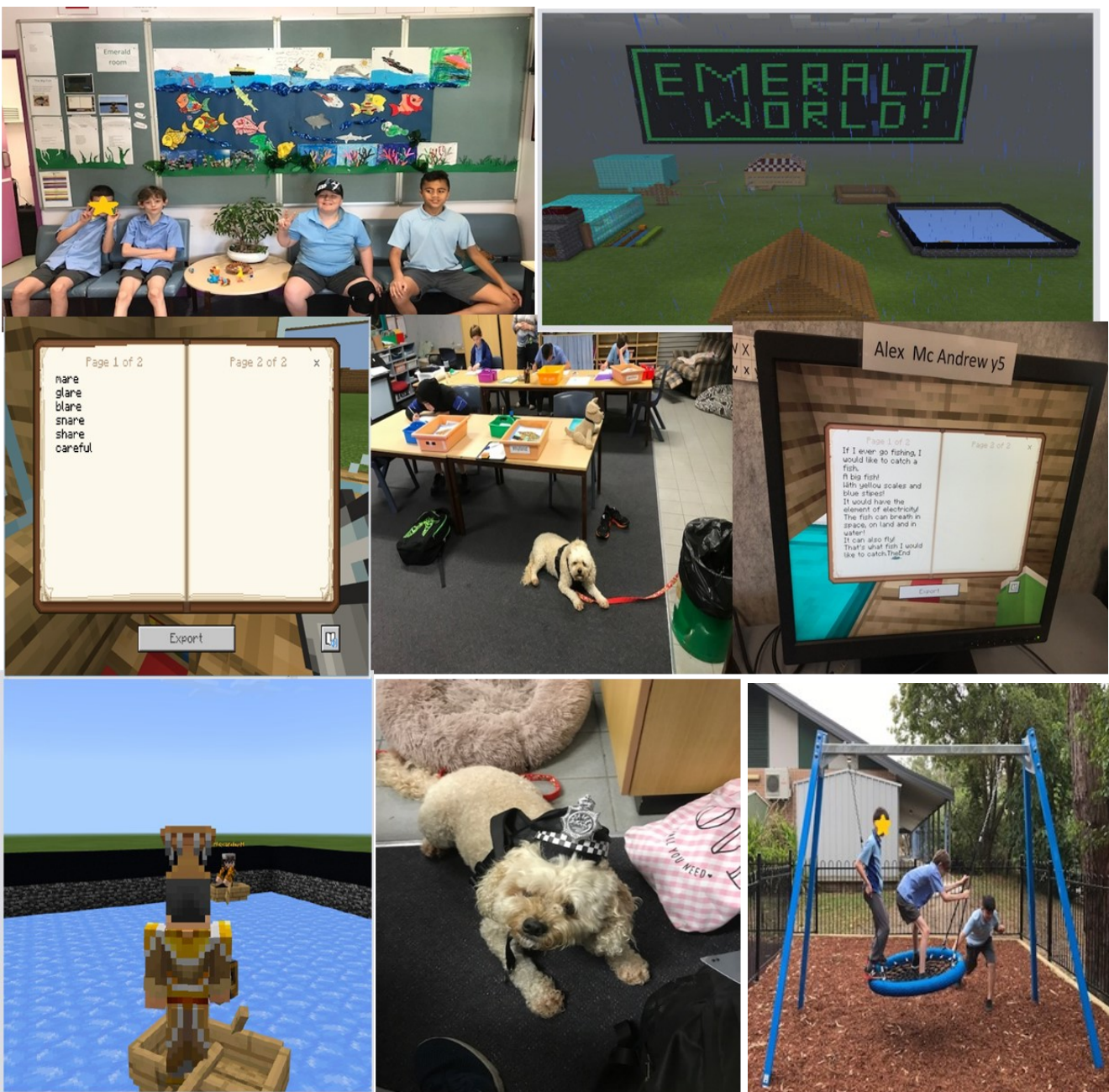
Mrs Styan

Relieving Teacher Librarian

EMERALD CLASS NEWS

Emerald has had a smooth start to the year, welcoming our new addition to the class Alex McAndrew. Emerald has been using Microsoft Education Edition and have understood it is a **learning tool** and not a game to play. At present, we have used the platform to insert our spelling words and story writing. Our terrific work is now being displayed in the foyer. Emerald is very fortunate to have my pet dog cavoodle "Bear" to join the Special Education Unit on a part time basis. Bear has a calming presence on the students in the Support Unit.

Thank you Mr. Walker for allowing Bear to be at school with us



SCHOOL INFORMATION



Woof!

FRIDAY

is School Banking day.

KINDER AND YEAR 1 PARENTS
Please pack spare undies and pants
in your child's bag.

School supplies of spare clothing are very limited and if we have nothing suitable, we will need to contact you to bring a change of clothes to school.

Thank you.



SCHOOL OFFICE
8.30am—3.00pm

Cash payments can be left in the payments slot after hours (right hand side of counter).

EFTPOS only available before 3pm.

For the safety and well-being of all our students, please ensure

NO NUTS
OF ANY KIND

are brought to school. This includes any type of nut butter, chocolate nut spread like Nutella and any snack foods containing nuts.



MAKING A PAYMENT?

To pay by card simply go online to <https://rathmines-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

In the MAKE A PAYMENT tab enter your child's name and date of birth to begin the process.

Cash and EFTPOS are accepted at the school office **before 3pm.**



STUDENT ABSENCES

Parents will receive a message via SMS if their child is marked absent at roll call. Please reply to the message to explain the absence.

STUDENTS ARRIVING LATE OR LEAVING EARLY



must be signed in or out at the office by a responsible adult. Parents will receive an email notification if their child has arrived late to school unaccompanied by an adult. Please reply with an explanation.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

PHOTO DAY IS
TUESDAY 31ST MARCH
Order envelopes will be sent home in Week 8



Rathmines Public School 2020 School Photos

2020 School Photos can be ordered online.

To view packages and to place your order please visit
www.newcastleschoolportraits.com
 and enter your code.

200916

Orders to be done before photo day to avoid late fee.
 Payments can be made with any Mastercard or Visa cards.

School Packages

Qty Ordered	A Pack		\$65	Cover, Traditional Class Photo, Composite Class Photo. Softcover Album 8x10" 30 page to store many years of photos.
Qty Ordered	B Pack		\$45	Cover, Traditional Class Photo, Composite Class Photo.
Qty Ordered	C Pack		\$38	Free low res Digital Image of individual.
Qty Ordered	D Pack		\$26	There are no individual photos in this package.
Qty Ordered	E Pack		\$22	
Qty Ordered	F Pack		\$65	Hardcover Book includes Title Page, Traditional Class Photo, Composite Class Photo, Principals Message & Autographs Page.
Qty Ordered	Photo Album		\$25	8x10" 30 Page Photo Album A great way to store your child's photos over the years. Photo Album is available for purchase without purchasing a photo pack. These albums contain no photos.

Family Package are also available online but must be ordered by 9pm the night before Family photo day.

Family Packages

Qty Ordered	Family A Pack		\$25
Qty Ordered	Family B Pack		\$35

IMPORTANT DATES

DATE	EVENT
Friday 28th February	Infants Assembly 2.15pm in the hall
Monday 2nd March	Elizabeth Beach excursion -Year 6 only
Tuesday 3rd March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Swimming Carnival Soccer Gala Day Years 3 & 4
Wednesday 4th March	Year 6 Linkage Day at Toronto High
Thursday 5th March	Soccer Gala Day Years 5 & 6
Friday 6th March	Infants Assembly 2.15pm in the hall
Tuesday 10th March	P&C Welcome & Drumming Night 5.30pm
Monday 16th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary Assembly 2.15pm in the hall P & C AGM 7pm in the staff room
Tuesday 31st March	School photos
Thursday 9th April	Easter Hat Parade

CANTEEN ROSTER

Friday 28th February	A.Telfer, L.Johnstone, T.Warner, V.Ryan, K.Shoesmith
Monday 2nd March	G.Weston, J.Austin
Wednesday 4th March	M.Breith, C.Metcalf, S.Guicciardi
Friday 6th March	L.Johnstone, R.Cross, N.Hinchliffe, J.Jessop
Monday 9th March	L.Kerr, L.Bicanic
Wednesday 11th March	K.Betteridge, S.Kay, M.Breith, E.Gray

UNIFORM SHOP OPEN MONDAYS

8.30—10.00 IN THE HALL

At other times order forms and payment can be left at the school office. These will be processed the following Monday and can be collected after 10.30am from the office.

COMMUNITY NOTICES



RATHMINES NETBALL CLUB

Rathmines Netball Club have registrations open online now. To register please go to <http://rathminesnc.nsw.netball.com.au>.

The competition commences with a compulsory round robin day on Saturday 21st March.

All games are played on a Saturday at Wangi Netball Courts. If you are interested in joining a team, or just want to find out more information, please call Jo Chalmers on 0414 721 682 or come and see us at Rathmines Bowling Club on Saturday 8th February between 10.00am and 12.00 noon

Fun, Friendship and Flying!

Join the ADVENTURE!

THE AUSTRALIAN AIR LEAGUE

For boys and girls ages 8 and older

Located at Toronto Public School Hall
Every Friday 6pm - 8pm

www.airleague.com.au

Contact Robert Clark

0402 323 925

Email: oc.hunter@airleague.com.au

Disclaimer: Rathmines Public School does not necessarily endorse the services or products which may be included in or attached to this newsletter and is in no way responsible for any issues arising from use of the services or products offered. No responsibility is accepted for errors or omissions.

Register now!



Lake Macquarie
Dockers
AFC

Brad Farrell 0402 494737

lmafc@hotmail.com

Open for boys and girls 5-17yo



Sign up for junior footy play.afl

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Rathmines Park Draft Concept Master Plans

Consultation with the community on Rathmines Park during September and October 2019 identified a large number of ideas, features and suggested improvements. Concept Master Plans have been developed to highlight key directions and ideas for the Park.

An *Issues and Opportunities Paper* has also been produced to support the Concept Master Plans and clearly articulate the potential directions and ideas for the Park. The Paper summarises the key community values of the Park and an initial vision and principles for future use. Potential future opportunities and directions are identified under five key themes which provide overarching direction to the area as a whole.

A series of *Analysis Plans* have also been produced which explore the current conditions and use of the Park and to highlight the potential opportunities.

These Concept Plans are not final and are still to be tested through consultation, design refinement and in response to further site investigations as required.

Whilst a number of proposed projects and opportunities have been identified, Council has many and competing needs for funding allocations. There are existing funding streams available for a small proportion of projects, albeit the full cost of these will only be known once detailed design is undertaken and some projects may need to be staged as a consequence.

As such, part of the road-testing process is to seek feedback on priorities for funding which will then inform the priorities identified in the Plan of Management and Council's subsequent funding commitments.

This survey focusses on those areas where clarification and prioritisation are needed - refer Concept Master Plans for further details.

This survey will take approximately 20 minutes to complete.

https://shape.lakemac.com.au/rathmines-park/survey_tools/rathmines-park-draft-concept-master-plans

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Safety

around schools

Road rules in school zones

Pedestrian crossings

You cannot stop within 20 metres before a pedestrian crossing or 10 metres after a pedestrian crossing unless there is a control sign permitting parking.

Minimum penalty: \$439 and two demerit points

Double parking

You may not stop on the road alongside to another vehicle at any time even to drop off or pick up passengers.

Minimum penalty: \$330 and two demerit points

Parking on a verge

You cannot stop or park on a verge area (footpath, nature strip, dividing strip or kerb).

Minimum penalty: \$183 and two demerit points

Slow down

Stick to the 40km/h speed limit in a school zone and look out for children who may be about.

Kiss and ride

Some schools have 'kiss and ride' or 'drop-off and pick-up zones' for children in 'No Parking' zones. If your school has a program in place, remember to always drop off or pick up your child from the designated zone and follow the school's procedures. You can stop in a kiss and ride area for two minutes only to pick up passengers and you must stay within three metres of the vehicle.

If your school does not have a 'kiss and ride' program in place please use the 'No Parking' zone to drop off and pick up passengers.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

PARKING RESTRICTION SIGNS



You cannot stop here

A driver must not stop in a no stopping zone.

*Minimum penalty:
\$330 and two demerit points*



You cannot stop here

You are not allowed to stop your vehicle unless you are driving a bus.

*Minimum penalty:
\$330 and two demerit points*



You can stop here for two minutes only

You have no more than two minutes to drop off or pick up passengers or goods and the driver must stay within three metres of the vehicle.

*Minimum penalty:
\$183 and two demerit points*



You cannot stop here

Unless a current Mobility Parking Scheme (MPS) permit is displayed.

*Minimum penalty:
\$561 and one demerit point*

 02 4921 0333  lakemac.com.au

 council@lakemac.nsw.gov.au

24153



ACTIVE OOSH RATHMINES

2020 Parent Information Flyer

SERVICE DETAILS.

HOURS OF OPERATION.

Before School: 6:30am – 9:30am

After School: 1:30pm – 6pm

Vacation Care: 6:30am – 6pm

OUR SERVICE PRICES.

BSC: \$20.00

ASC: \$25.00

Vacation Care: \$70.00

Child Care Subsidy benefit can be claimed through Centrelink.

SCHOOLS WE SERVICE.

We offer a drop off and collection service for children attending Rathmines, Arcadia Vale, Coal Point, Wangi Wangi and Blackalls Park Public School.

ENQUIRIES & BOOKINGS.

Phone: 0438224914

Email: activeoosh Rathmines@gmail.com

Website: activeooshnsw.com

Facebook page: Active OOSH Rathmines.

Address: Rathmines Public School – Rosemary Row, Rathmines, 2283.

About Active OOSH

Active OOSH provide a before school, after school and vacation care program for primary school aged children. We aim to provide a service that is supportive, stimulating, caring and inclusive. We value family partnerships and have an open door policy where families are encouraged to be actively involved in our service. All children are given the opportunity to learn and grow through play and enjoy a large variety of activities and experiences at the service through our child focused programming.

K-2 Zone.

The service K - 2 zone is an area that provides children from Kindergarten to Year 2 with a range of age appropriate games and activities. This area is developed to assist younger children with positive transitions to Primary School.

Homework.

OOSH homework club operates at the service before and after school care. Children participate in jolly phonics, home readers, spelling words, mathematics, projects and speeches. The children are assisted by an educator who will guide them with any questions they may have.

Extra curricular.

The service program extra curricular activities everyday based on the children and families interests. Some of the activities include:

- Dynamic Mosaics art club.
- OOSH MasterChef.
- Little Einstein's science.
- Yoga, dancing and drama.
- Specialised sport clinics.
- Cultural groups.
- Crafty Creations.

Daily Activities on offer.

There are a wide variety of activities on offer at the service that include:

- Drama and dance.
- Science experiments.
- Arcade games.
- Sustainability activities.
- Imaginative and creative play.
- Board and card games.
- Lego and construction activities.
- Sporting clinics.
- DIY slime and playdough.

Breakfast + Afternoon Tea Club.

Active OOSH provide breakfast and afternoon tea daily. This is all inclusive in the daily fee. The menu is developed in consultation with industry professionals and our menu is displayed at the service for families to view. The meals are designed to be nutritious and offer new tastes and textures so eating can be an educational and cultural experience. Children with food allergies or special dietary requirements are catered for in our inclusive programming practices. Water stations are available to children both inside and outside.