RATHMINES PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 1 Week 7 2020

Website: rathmines-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/



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PUBLIC

CHOOL

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From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Many thanks to all the parents and carers who came along to the Welcoming BBQ and Drumming Celebration on Tuesday night. The children in all classes clearly enjoyed having the opportunity to share some of the drumming skills they learnt during the day under the guidance of the "InRhythm" musicians, and I am sure everyone appreciated the BBQ which was kindly donated by Active OOSH

The drumming was such a "hit" with the students we are looking at purchasing a class set for the school to use as part of our music program throughout the

year!



<u>Vision Statement</u>

Rathmings 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

Parent/Spectator Expectations

Early in Term 1 each year I include a fairly detailed overview of the sports programme which is conducted at Rathmines Public School. The overview focuses not only on the wide variety of sporting opportunities available to students in our primary classes but also on the expectations we have for students in terms of their behaviour on and off the field. Many schools associated with the NSW Primary Schools Sports Association have a requirement for parents and carers to sign a **Parents/ Spectators Code of Conduct** prior to their children being granted permission to represent the school in a sports event. It is really pleasing to be able to say that parents and carers in the Rathmines school community have overwhelmingly displayed the highest standards of personal conduct when supporting any of our sporting teams and as a result I have not considered it necessary to implement that practice. However, I believe there is value in taking the time each year to also highlight and hopefully raise the awareness of the following expectations we have in this regard:

- Remember that children participate in sport for **their** enjoyment and fulfilment.
- Focus on your child's efforts and performance rather than winning and losing.
- Provide a model of good sports behaviour for your child to copy and always remember that children learn by example.
- Appreciate and applaud good performances and skilful play by all participants.
- **Be courteous and respectful in your communication** with players, coaches and game officials.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal abuse from sporting venues.
- Show *appreciation* for teacher-coaches and officials who give up their time to provide sporting opportunities for students at our school. Without them your child would not have the opportunity to participate.
- **Respect the decisions made by officials** and teach your children to do the same.
- Do not coach from the sideline.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, age, cultural background or religion.

I strongly encourage all parents and carers to reflect on these expectations whenever they attend a sporting event in which their child is representing Rathmines Public School.

Year 6 Elizabeth Beach Camp

Outdoor education experiences have the potential to produce very positive outcomes on an individual and group level for the students who are fortunate enough to be given the opportunity to participate. Supervising children during these excursions can also be a very rewarding experience for teachers, especially when the students in your care respond in a positive and enthusiastic manner to the challenges they encounter during the excursion.

I was very pleased to be able to spend two days

with our Year 6 students during their Elizabeth Beach camp last week and it is good to be able to report that this outdoor education activity was a success in all respects. The children are to be commended not only for their behaviour but also for the positive and supportive sense of class spirit they displayed during the two days of activities. I particularly commend **Brayden C** on the resilience he showed in completing the demanding bushwalk and **Jensen** for his readiness to provide support and encouragement to other students. The camp challenges included: a beach, headland and rainforest walk from Seven Mile Beach back to Elizabeth Bay; beach activities including wading races, "linked against the waves" challenges, bocce on the sand; the traditional "Rathmines Talent Quest"; a night walk through the rainforest and a ghost crab hunt. The trip to Pacific Palms finished on a very positive note when the Year 6 students successfully defended the Bin Ball Challenge "trophy" which was won by RPS last year.

On behalf of the children and their parents I thank **Mrs Quinn**, **Mrs Wicks** and **Mr Elston** for their readiness to take on the extra responsibilities associated with this excursion. It was particularly pleasing to observe the number of times that individual students in this group actually took the time to express their thanks to Josie, Ellouise and Matt and it was very evident that the



From the Principal cont'd

Year 6 class as a whole was very appreciative of this extracurricular activity.

Debating Teams

Student interest in debating continues to grow each year. **Mrs Bristow** and **Mr Ruecroft** have completed the difficult task of selecting our two debating teams from a large group of Stage 3 students. I commend the following girls and boys on their selection and thank Helen and Jason for once again giving of their time to foster the children's interest and skills in debating:

"Rathmines Raptors": Molly, Brayden S, Harrison, Jamie F, Jamelia **"Rathmines Rhinos":** Kenya, Cruz S, Orton, Tayla L, Zane F Debating Officials for home debates: Amber, Noah H and Dakotah C

Sports News

The boys in the school's 7 a side rugby league team are to be congratulated on once again making it through to the final of the ______

Paul Harragon Cup which was played last week .The RPS team won all of their pool games before losing narrowly to Blacksmiths Public in what Paul Harragon described as an excellent and high quality final prior to handing out the runners up awards to each of our team members. The school's full rugby league squad will now start training for the Newcastle Knights Knockout which will be held later in the term. I also commend the following boys who were selected in the Westlakes PSSA League teams to compete at the Hunter PSSA Rugby League trials next Monday: Ryder, Dustin (11yrs) and Jai, Kobe (Opens)

Next Tuesday the school cricket team

will play in the first round of the PSSA competition when they meet Biddabah Public on our school oval. **Mr Fisher**, the team coach, has told me that the team has been inspired by the amazing performance of the Australian Women's Cricket team in winning the World Cup on Sunday night and they are looking forward to giving of their best against what is always a strong Biddabah side.

P and C Annual General Meeting

Finally I encourage all parents and carers to come along to the Annual General Meeting of our school Parents and Citizens Association next Monday evening at 7pm. In addition to electing the P and C executive for 2020, we will also have the opportunity to thank members of the outgoing executive for the important contribution they have made to our school. A special invitation is extended to all of the new parents and carers who have joined our school community this year.

Yours sincerely,

Níck Walker

Principal





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



LIBRARY NEWS





Book Club

Book Club Issue 1 had a competition for Kindergarten. All Kindergarten parents who ordered a book were entered in the competition, prizes were a book and game. The winners were Koah and Indianna as pictured. Enjoy your prizes and new books girls.

Issue 2 is out now, order by Monday 23rd March. Online orders only. If there is a problem, please let me know.



Premiers Reading Competition

Premiers Reading Challenge is up and running.

K-2 students will be completing the challenge in class. All Year 3-6 students will be bringing home their single page reading log this week. Please encourage your child to complete the challenge by helping them to find PRC books on the correct challenge level (Year 3-4 OR Year 5-6). These can be found in the school or public libraries or access through the PRC website

https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/home.html

Read, read, read your own books, swap with friends and borrow from the school or public libraries. On the reading log, record each title and PRC number and ask an adult to sign it. The PRC number can be found inside the book, on the first few pages or online. Students will be guided through the process of entering their books online during a library lesson in Term 2.





Stage 2 Paul Jennings 'Unreal' excursion

Notes for the Year 3 and 4 excursion to Newcastle Library were sent home this week. On Tuesday 24th or Thursday 26th March (depending on grade and class), students will have the opportunity to look at the exhibition, explore Paul's writing process and create their own 'Gizmo' to take home.

Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body. Quote by Richard Steele

Mrs Styan, Relieving Teacher Librarian

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Each term, John Fleming visits Rathmines Public School. John is a very well respected educator, Deputy Chair of the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership, Deputy Principal at Haileybury College's Junior School, and Director of the Haileybury Institute. John works as a consultant in schools across Australia teaching strategies to educators and has been working closely with Mrs Cat Cronje and Rathmines Public School since 2016 in the development of Explicit Instruction.

Last week, John worked with different staff throughout the day in the development of high quality Mathematics lessons that include Lesson Intentions and Success Criteria. During the last session of the day, John spoke to Stage 2 and 3 staff about Spelling improvement and discussed the research behind developing spelling abilities and best practice. The day was extremely productive and enjoyed by all staff.

Cat Cronje Assistant Principal





SCHOOL INFORMATION



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

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

<u>NO NUTS</u>

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 <u>reply to</u> <u>the message</u> 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 Ph 4975 1229 Fax 4975 4239 Email rathmines-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

IMPORTANT DATES

DATE	EVENT
Friday 13th March	Infants Assembly 2.15pm in the hall
Monday 16th March	 Primary Assembly 2.15pm in the hall P & C AGM 7pm in the staff room
Friday 20th March	Harmony DayInfants Assembly 2.15pm in the hall
Tuesday 24th March	Years 3&4 Excursion to Newcastle Library
Thursday 26th March	Years 3&4 Excursion to Newcastle Library
Friday 27th March	Infants Assembly 2.15pm in the hall
Monday 30th March	Primary Assembly
Tuesday 31st March	School photos
Friday 3rd April	Cross CountryInfants Assembly
Thursday 9th April	Easter Hat Parade

CANTEEN ROSTER

Friday 13th March	L.Johnstone, A.Telfer, L.Feint, K.Shoesmith
Monday 16th March	L.Kerr, L.Bicanic
Wednesday 18th March	J.Sharp, K.Grant, M.Breith, L.McAllister
Friday 20th March	L.Johnstone (pm), N.Hinchliffe, T.Warner, V.Ryan
Monday 23rd March	J.Bracken, A.Alley, J.Roberts

Wednesday 25th March

M.Breith, S.Guicciardi, M.Casey-Villis, V.Olsen

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.



Compulsory School Attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why. Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.





My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

 Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

 Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities. If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's *Policy library*

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's *Wellbeing and Learning* website

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 512 www.dec.nsw.gov.au

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COMMUNITY NOTICES



GIRL GUIDES

Toronto Junior Guides 5-9 years Girl Guides 10-14 years

Juniors – Wednesdays 6-7:30pm Guides – Tuesdays 6-8pm during school term, with some optional weekend activities. Location: Toronto Girl Guide Hall, 11a William Street, Toronto.

Make friends, learn skills, and have lots of fun! Activities include: craft, cooking, singing, playing games, outings and camps.

TRY IT FREE FOR 2 WEEKS!

Fees: \$155 per year to NSW Guides (NSW Active Kids Voucher can be used) and \$50 per term to Toronto Guides

More info: aplacetogrow.org.au

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.



We are a women's charity, aiming to give women the dignity they deserve. In March and August we ask the public to donate sanitary items for our #DignityDrives across the country.

Local collection points are at Woolworths and Yummy Honey, 79 Dorrington Road, Rathmines.

Donated items are given to our partner charities to help women fleeing domestic violence, experiencing homelessness and those doing it tough. We believe every woman deserves the right to her dignity.

Autu 13

Active OOSH Rathmines Autumn Vacation Care Program 13th April - 27th April 2020



Enjoy a fun and

safe Easter long

weekend!

TUESDAY 14TH NE

Inflatable World Dodge, jum, spin and ince your friends on the biggest and fastest inflatables. Enter the bator

attle zone to conquer the ultimate challinges or jump on the speed lane side to beat the record time!

11am - 3:30pm

Clay Key Rings

Get messy solutions your set of marbin clay beads to make your very own funky key ring it's the perfect accessory to how off by hanging it on you's school bag taky termi

WEDRESDAY 15TH

Treetop Net World Bounce, play, explore and discover an exciting new world high up in the tree tops! Experience a whole new sense of gravity as you bounce around the tree canopies and play a bunch of exciting games including the gigantic inflatables balls!

11:30am - 3:30pm

Marvellous Michelle

The Mosaic Mastermind is back! What amazing treasures will she have for us this time? More importantly, who will you make your creation for? 9am - 11am

THURSDAY 16TH Roald Dahl's

"The Witches" The trave bo's and give a Active OOSI are in for a wicked and wonderful ime today! Do you, trink you can outwit a witch and outrun a mouse? Get comf, in your seat tr not to scream and be ready for the caekies at the Civic Theatre! 9am - 1pm

Aim 4 Fun Laser Tag

Immate your opponent y working solo and is a team! -ide perind the unique Army inflatable bunkers medic and mination boxes to score

max amount of polits 1:30pm - 3:30pm



FRIDAX 17TH LED Hula Hoop Rave ou'll be singing 'You spin me right round baby, right round' all day after this one! Practice your epic dance moves and test your skills playing fun hula hoop games for all abilities Show us what you've got during the dance party show down in the finale glow hoop performance 3pm - 4:30pm

Playgrounds Park Bring along your bike, scooter or skateboard to show the professionals how it is done. Challenge your friends in the obstacle course time trials.

A helmet is compulsory. 11am - 3pm

0438224914 - activeooshrathmines@gmail.com

HONDAY 20TH Magnificent Movies @ Event Cinemas

Thols World Tour Poppy and Branch Iscover that they are one of six different troll tribes scattered over six Different binds devoted to six different kinds of music Who will come out on top 9:30am - 12:30pm

Royal Carnivale

Come one, come all to the inaugural OOSH Carnivale Spend the afternoon visiting our mill shake, popcom, cupcake and mini games stalls

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Children must wear sun safe clothing,

enclosed shoes and a hat each day.

prior to your child participating in any

activities, incursions or excursions.

the scheduled excursion departure time

- Children must arrive 15 minutes prior to

Authorisation forms must be completed

TUESDAY 21ST Oakvale Farm + Splash Bay Arena

Wildlife and water fun all in one! Take part in bottle feeding, cow milking, tractor trailer rides, koala patting, feeding kangaroos and much more. Cool down in the splash bay water park arena. Sun safe swim wear, rash shirt and a towel is mandatory.

9:30am - 3:30pm **Tattoo Parlour** Choose your favourite design from the huge

selection of funky temporary tattoos while you wait in line for one of our talented educators to help you tat up!

MEDNESDAY 22ND THI Dullboy's Social Co Boy some cobe, while Int

billowing a red shell at logi or finally nal that 10 000 point hole in Ice Ball to test your luck a withing the fuzzy bear Challenge your friends in Bie dim retur path out course and see who gets a hole in one first 9:30am - 2:30pm

Art Social with Lucy

liet wild in the jungin with

our Art Queen Lucy! Gollage a roaring riger and make a geometric rainbow peacock to put on show in your bedroom!

THURSDAY 23RD Giant Games + Inflatables Day

An exclusive and unbeatable day of fun for our OOSHIes! Start your day with giant Connect 4 Jenga, Twister Chess and O's and X's! Challenge the ducators on the toughest mobile mini golf course in town. Will you be the first to sink a hole in one?

Race your friends around the ultimate inflatable obstacle course track and see who clocks the fastest ap! Finish the day off with some delicious fairy floss and bust out some moves to the karaoke jukebox 10am - 4pm

FRIDAY 24TH Unreal Virtual Reality

pecape to your new reality! Pet on your poggles and step into the ultimate land of paradise While you're there show off your meativity with at and resign Or for the real risk takets jump into some extreme and vivid adventures! 9am - 2pm

Nerf War Challenge Who will be crowned the ultimate Nati Warrior? Thallenge your friends on the wicked outdoor baltlefield while dodging he high powered blasters.

Daily fee is \$70 before CCS is applied. All incursions, excursions, breakfast and afternoon tea is included.

MONDAY 27TH

Springloaded Tramp Park

Trampolines, gymnastics, parkour and indoor sports all in one big happy place! There really is something for everyone here from the dodgeball arena, foam pits and tumble trampolines to the will and wicked Extreme Zone 10am - 1pm

The Ultimate Trivia Challenge

A fun game that will test your knowledge, skills and teamwork. Work together with your friends to gain maximum points while you battle it out to be crowned the OOSH champion¹ Prizes are on the line

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

 Follow us on Facebook "Active OOSH Rathmines" for daily updates on departure times and photos of child led play experiences.

- Breakfast and afternoon tea is provided each day.

 Parents must ensure their child has a packed recess, lunch and a refillable drink bottle each day