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## From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

You will be aware our school has been participating in a process of **External Validation** since the start of Term 2. This process came to a close today when the school executive met with the members of the **external validation panel** to review and discuss:

- the outcomes of the school's self-assessment based on the School Excellence Framework
- the evidence gathered by our EV teams to support our judgements and
- the next steps we believe we should take in order to achieve our vision for the school.

Schools participate in the process of External Validation every four years. While it is rather time consuming and undoubtedly places additional demands on the staff, it is also extremely valuable to have the opportunity to receive objective feedback from the EV panel members. I am very pleased to be able to report that the panel were not only very affirming of the strategies and initiatives linked to our current Strategic Improvement Plan but also provided us with high

### Vision Statement

Rathmines Public School's vision is to pursue and celebrate excellence in all areas and to ensure every student has the opportunity to experience success within a supportive, safe, personalised and engaging learning environment which is free from all forms of discrimination.

Our vision is to educate students for life, to enable them to act with moral and ethical integrity, to foster their sense of wellbeing and to develop their personal values of honesty, resilience, empathy, respect and responsibility.

## From the Principal cont'd

quality advice and suggestions regarding the future directions for Rathmines Public. I take this opportunity to publicly thank **Matt Elston, Patrick Wild** and **Troy McNamara** for the time and effort they contributed to fulfilling their EV responsibilities and offer particular thanks to **Cathie Ruecroft** for the very professional manner in which she lead our executive team through the EV process. Cathie and I are looking forward to sharing the key outcomes with parents and carers at the next meeting of the P and C Association.

### **School Concert Update**

We are fortunate to be working within the Level 2 COVID restrictions rather than the more severe restrictions being experienced by school communities in the Greater Western Sydney area. The impact on the day to day operation of our school has been relatively minor but unfortunately the current restrictions have had a significant impact on the organisation of our School Concert Movie Night. Members of our school community will already be aware that the timeframe for rehearsing, filming and presenting "A Night in the Library" has had to be adjusted in order to comply with the COVID restrictions. Members of our school concert committee met last week to develop a revised plan which will focus on rehearsals resuming in week eight (beginning Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August), filming of concert items in week three of next term, and the School Concert Movie being presented on **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November**.

One of the challenges associated with the production of the Concert Movie is the time that needs to be allowed for the production company to edit the filmed items. In addition managers of the theatre complex need to have access to the movie for a minimum of two weeks prior to the "premiere". If the current restrictions continue **beyond 28th August** we will probably have to revert back to presenting the concert in the school hall over three nights as we have done in past years. The concert performances would be held towards the end of term four if the COVID restrictions in place at the time allow for large gatherings indoors.

### **COVID Guidelines**

We have received a number of enquiries from parents and carers regarding the rules that apply to situations where children and/or adults have entered areas with higher levels of restrictions (e.g. Greater Sydney area including Central Coast) and then returned to regional NSW (e.g. Rathmines). The following extract from department guidelines highlight the key points:

*"If you live in regional and rural areas, you must not enter Greater Sydney including the Blue Mountains, Central Coast, Wollongong and Shellharbour local government areas unless you have a reasonable excuse.*

*Facilitating attendance at school (where the student cannot learn from home) or to attend early childhood education is a reasonable excuse to enter Greater Sydney under the Public Health Order.*

*Facilitating arrangements for access to and contact between parents and children or siblings is also a reasonable excuse to enter Greater Sydney under the Public Health Order.*

**If you enter these areas for any reason, stay at home rules will apply to you for 14 days after you were last in any of these areas.**

*This means that you will need to stay at your place of residence for 14 days, even if it is in a regional area, unless you have a reasonable excuse. Attending school or early childhood education is a reasonable excuse.*

*At all times, please continue to:*

*closely monitor for symptoms for COVID-19 and immediately get tested should you have the mildest of symptoms, regardless of where you live or attend school. If you get tested for COVID-19 because you have symptoms or if you have been directed by NSW Health to do so, you must isolate at home until you receive your test result. refer to the NSW Government list of case locations, and act on advice from NSW Health if you have been to any of these venues."*

## From the Principal cont'd

The stay at home rules which apply when a person returns from Greater Sydney can be accessed on the NSW Health website. I trust that the information set out above will assist parents and carers who have experienced some uncertainty about the current Health Orders relating to entering the Greater Sydney area.

### **Kinder 2022 Enrolments**

The Catalina kids transition program for the children starting in Kinder at Rathmines next year is continuing each Friday morning and it has been really pleasing to observe how the children are becoming more relaxed and confident in the school setting. Our kinder teachers are eager to ensure that all children who are to start their primary schooling at Rathmines next year have the chance to participate in this valuable transition experience. I encourage any parents who may not have contacted the school office about a potential kinder 2022 enrolment to do so as soon as possible and also urge school community members to “spread the word” about our kinder enrolment and transition process being underway.

### **Sports News**

The extension to the lockdown in Greater Sydney has resulted in the **Westlakes Athletics Carnival** being postponed once again in order to accommodate student athletes who live in the Central Coast area. The new date for the Zone Carnival is **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August**. The Hunter carnival has also been postponed and will now take place on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September**. While these changes to the PSSA calendar are inconvenient, we are clearly fortunate not to be trying to manage the learning from home challenges currently being faced by school communities in the Greater Sydney area.

The children who have been trying out for the school's representative basketball teams have no doubt been inspired by the achievements of our Olympic basketballers in Tokyo. I congratulate the following students and wish them the best for their participation in the Hunter Basketball Tournament which is, at this stage, scheduled to go ahead at the Broadmeadow Basketball stadium on 31st August -

Girls —Marli, Mackenzie, Talei, Ruby, Haylee, Ella T, Aurora and Keira.

Boys —Dustin, Brody F, Kruiz, Ben, Charlie S, Kaizen and Alex McD.

### **Breakfast Club**

I think it is fair to say that we often do not fully appreciate the value of services and the support they provide until they cease to operate. This was definitely the case when we had to temporarily close the school breakfast club due to the introduction of level 2 restrictions. It quickly became apparent that the children really missed having the opportunity to share a simple breakfast (or top up their brekky from home) when they arrived at school. The RPS Breakfast Club returned to service on Monday of this week. On behalf of all the children I thank all the members of the “breakfast crew” who have taken on the responsibility of serving breakfast to up to 80 children each day and I offer special thanks once again to all the following local businesses and clubs for their ongoing financial support:

**Wangi District Workers Club, Rathmines Memorial Bowling Club, Catalina Players Inc, Jules by the Lake Café, Rathmines IGA and Wangi Bakehouse.**

Yours sincerely,

*Nick Walker*

## STUDENT VOICE TEAM

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected to represent their stage in the 'Rathmines Student Voice Team' (formally known as the Student Representative Council)

Aoife	KR
Ollie	KF
Koah	KW
Sophie	Year 1
Knox	Year 2
Levi	Year 3
Taylor	Year 4
Logan	Year 5
Cleo	Year 5
Daniel	Year 6
Joseph	Year 6
Isabelle	Year 6
Mackenzie	Year 6
Makayla	Year 6
Dustin	Year 6
Marli	Year 6
Alexander	(Emerald Yr6)
Zaivier	(Ruby Yr5)

These students will be attending meetings where they will work closely with teachers in contributing to whole school initiatives, organising fundraisers and implementing student-led projects.

- Cassie Laughton, Rebecca Priest and Keira Dole  
Rathmines Student Voice Team Organisers

### CANBERRA EXCURSION DEPOSITS

Refunds have now been processed for families who have returned forms to the office. Please allow a few days for the credit to show in your bank account.

- Kay



# LIBRARY NEWS

## Book Week 2021

*My favourite time on our school calendar, BOOK WEEK!*

Wow, this has come around fast! This year our book week celebrations will again be held a little differently. The theme for this year is Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds. A fantastic theme that is open to many interpretations. It has been inspiring to hear our students share their ideas relating to the many books linked to each category. *Here is what we have planned in Week 6 to celebrate:*



### Book Week Parade - Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> August.

All staff and students are invited to dress as their favourite book character or a costume relating to this year's theme. The parade will be held under COLA/hall. Unfortunately, due to current COVID restrictions there will be **no parents/carers on site this year**. However, so that you don't miss out on the fun, we are planning to record the parade and upload to our school YouTube channel. The link for this will be sent out the day of the parade.

**Scholastic Book Fair-** This will run in the library from **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Aug- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> August**. All classes will have the opportunity to preview the books on the Monday and Tuesday. From there, students will bring home a 'wish list' and details on how to order items. It is very important that parents read these ordering instructions carefully to avoid disappointment.

The Scholastic Book Fair is an extremely important event for our school library. For every dollar spent, our school receives credit to spend with scholastic over the year. I use this regularly to purchase quality literature for our library and resources to help classroom programs.

**Decorate the Door-** Each class will be decorating their classroom door as their favourite book or something relating to this year's theme. Our lovely library monitors will then choose 2 winning classes to select a book from the book fair for their classroom. I look forward to sharing these creations with you in the Week 8 newsletter.

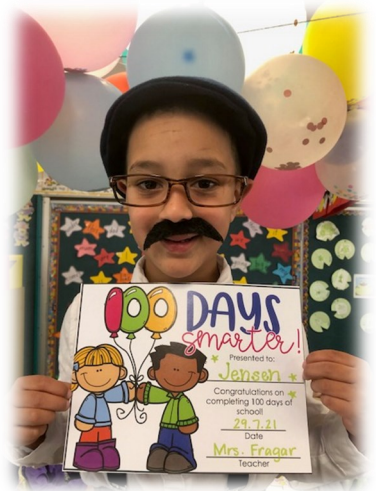
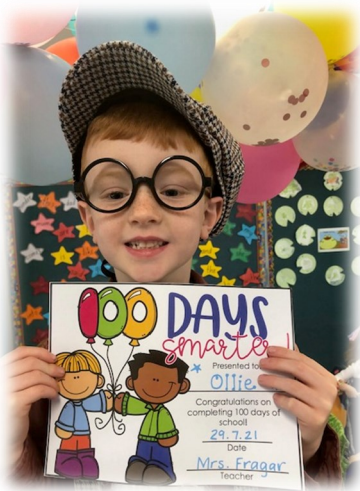
**Author Visit-** Luckily for us, we managed to escape the COVID restrictions in Term 2 and have already participated in an author visit from the fabulous Dr Cameron Stelzer.

**DON'T FORGET- Premier's Reading Challenge is finishing soon!** We have a large group of students in the primary who are only one or two books off completing the challenge. Please encourage your children to get those books logged. I am in the library during recess to help if needed. Happy Reading!

Mrs Priest



# KINDER'S 100 DAYS OF LEARNING



## WONAI GROUP

### Maruung bangayi

At Rathmines School we are learning Awabakal Language. Each fortnight children in our Wonai group will give us a new Awabakal word or phrase to learn. This fortnight's phrase is 'Nginuwa' which means 'goodbye'.

## SCHOOL WEBSITE



### Have you visited Rathmines Public School's website?

Our website <https://rathmines-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/> offers information on various topics which you may be interested in or about which you have questions. You can also just search for Rathmines Public School.

A simple click will take you to the features including:

**About Our School;**

**Supporting Our Students;**

**Learning at our School;**

**Calendar** (easy access to planned school activities);

**Video Gallery;** and

**Contact us.**

There are also pages on :

**How to Make a Payment;**

**Enrolment;**

**News;**

**Newsletters** (including back copies from 2018 onwards); and

**Gallery** (Photos of school activities which are updated regularly).

The website is very easy to use and it is worthwhile taking a look.



## DEBATING NEWS



We have now completed two rounds of the Premier's Debating Challenge by Zoom with mixed results even though both our debating teams, the Rathmines Raiders and the Rathmines Rockstars, have debated well. Our very capable **School Debating Officials (Berrick and Miah)** were ably assisted by Mr Ruecroft's IT expertise.

Due to the availability of schools, Round 2 was held before Round 1 and this was against Bonnells Bay School on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> July.

The first debate on the day was between Bonnells Bay Fives as the Affirmative and **Rathmines Raiders (Mackenzie, Marli, Dustin and Ben)** as the Negative team. The topic was 'That Year 5 and 6 classes should set a side 20 minutes each day to watch and discuss the news'.

The Affirmative team mainly argued that it is important for kids need to know the truth of what's happening. In the more difficult side of the argument, due to students already watching BTN, the Raiders argued that some students could be distressed by what they could see. This could be due to immaturity or sensitivities.

The adjudicator acknowledged the closeness of the debate but awarded it to Bonnells Bay Fives – Affirmative.

That debate was immediately followed by the debate between Bonnells Bay Sixes and **Rathmines Rockstars (Makenna, Chelsey, Zen and Riley)**. Again Rathmines were the Negative team with the topic 'That we should allow kids in Year 5 and above to use social media sites like Facebook, Instagram and Twitter'.

In this debate, Bonnells Bay argued that 11 year olds can learn to manage the possible dangers of social media and can block inappropriate sites. The Rockstars were quick to pick up that not all students in Year 5 are 11 and that the topic did not mention 11 years of age, only Years 5 and 6. This is an important point in debating. Debaters must debate the actual topic! The Rockstars went on to argue, among many other strong points, that young children are too young to fully understand the dangers and deal with them.

Again, a close debate with the Rockstars - Negative declared the winning team.

Yesterday, 4<sup>th</sup> August, we were able to complete Round 1 when we debated against Coal Point School.

In the first Zoom debate against Coal Point Gold, the **Rockstars (Zen, Ruby, Chelsey and Makenna)** were the Affirmative team with the topic 'That every class in primary school should adopt a dog or a cat as a class pet'

The Rockstars argued that it has been proven having a pet can reduce stress and improve mental health and that the risk of allergic reactions would be a prime consideration in the chosen breed of the pet whilst the Coal Point Gold argued that pets can be aggressive and would require training taking time away from learning.

This week's adjudicator commented on the quality of the debate and declared the Rockstars-Affirmative as the winning team.

Again, we followed this with second debate, the **Raiders (Marli, Dustin, Isabella and Mackenzie)** against the Coal Point Black team. The topic was 'That primary schools should have a three day weekend' with the Raiders being the Affirmative team.



## DEBATING NEWS (Cont'd)

The Raiders argued that three day weekends would give kids more time with family and more time to spend in other recreational activities thus reducing stress. Coal Point argued that if students were away from school for an extra day, they would forget what they had previously learned, that the curriculum could not fit into just 4 days per week and that teachers would have their pay reduced.

In what was a very close debate, the adjudicator awarded the debate to Coal Point Black - Negative.

As the coaches, we are really looking forward to seeing the progress in our teams' debating skills with both teams having two more debates each to come. The last debate is Raiders v Rockstars which will make for a very exciting finish to the Debating Challenge. We will report on the results in our next newsletter.

Helen Bristow and Jason Ruecroft.

## UNWELL STUDENTS

If your child shows any signs of being unwell please keep them home. If they have any of the following symptoms they must have a COVID test–

- ⇒ Runny nose
- ⇒ Sore throat
- ⇒ Cough
- ⇒ Temperature above 37.4



Once they have received a negative result and their symptoms have resolved, they are free to return to school. A screenshot of the negative result should be emailed to [rathmines-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:rathmines-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

If your child has diarrhea or has vomited, they must wait for 24 hours after the last episode before returning to school.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO ADVISE THE SCHOOL OF YOUR CHILD'S ABSENCE.**

The continued good health of our students and staff is dependent upon all of us taking extra care to reduce transmission.

Thank you.

## IMPORTANT DATES

DATE	EVENT
Friday 6th August	Catalina Kids 9—11am
Friday 13th August	Catalina Kids 9—11am
Monday 16th August to Thursday 19th August	Book Week and Book Fair (to be confirmed)
Monday 30th August	Zone Athletics Carnival
Tuesday 31st August	Hunter Basketball Tournament
Tuesday 14th September	Hunter Athletics Carnival

## CANTEEN ROSTER

<u>WEEK 5</u>		<u>WEEK 6</u>	
<b>Mon 9th August</b>	A.Greenwood, M.Breith, A.Lillis	<b>Mon 16th August</b>	A.Wilkinson, A.Greenwood
<b>Tues 10th August</b>	K.Grant,	<b>Tues 17th August</b>	J.Bracken,
<b>Wed 11th August</b>	L.Johnstone, S.Moore, L.McAlister	<b>Wed 18th August</b>	L.Johnstone, S.Moore, L.Morris
<b>Thurs 12th August</b>	E.Gray, B.Lulham	<b>Thurs 19th August</b>	M.Redgen, L.Faint
<b>Fri 13th August</b>	T.Warner, V.Ryan, M.Clare, A.Telfer	<b>Fri 20th August</b>	V.Olsen, K.Betteridge, A.Telfer, A.Lishman

## P&C FUNDRAISING

# Entertainment

Fundraising with Entertainment

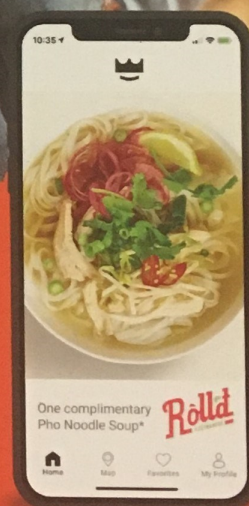
20% of every Membership we sell, goes directly to our fundraising



## More ways to enjoy every day

From dining to shopping, to travel, get more of what you love & give back to our cause.

Share in the good, with up to 50% off & 2 for 1 deals in your city and across Australia and New Zealand.



Support us. Buy your Entertainment Membership today!

### Rathmines Public School

Order your Memberships online today!

[www.entbook.com.au/3464s3](http://www.entbook.com.au/3464s3)

T3AU\_1870



SCAN HERE

\*Member offers are subject T&Cs. Check individual offers on the Entertainment Membership page.



## SCHOOL INFORMATION

### 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.



### **STUDENT BANKING IS BACK**

#### **FRIDAY IS BANKING DAY.**

Bank books should be handed to the class teacher at roll call each **Friday** morning. Deposits will be processed and books returned before the end of the day.



### **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/>

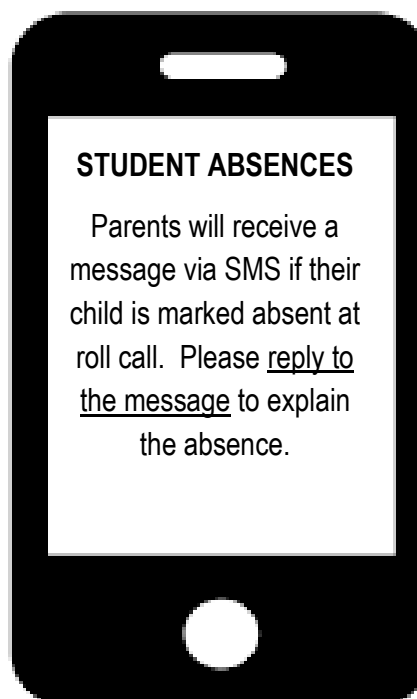
In the MAKE A PAYMENT tab enter your child's name and date of birth to begin the process.

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.





Immune Deficiencies Foundation Australia is proud to host International Entertainment's

# 2021 'CIRCUS QUIRKUS' ONLINE SHOW



ENTER THE WONDROUS WORLD OF CIRCUS QUIRKUS WITH UNBELIEVABLE ACROBATIC SKILLS, MAGIC, JUGGLING AND VAUDEVILLE  
CIRCUS ACTS WITH LAUGH OUT LOUD COMEDY THAT WILL HAVE AUDIENCES OF ALL AGES CHEERING ALONG!

**WATCH DIRECTLY FROM OUR STAGE TO YOUR SCREEN WITH FREE UNLIMITED  
AND ON-DEMAND VIEWING – AVAILABLE UNTIL SUNDAY 29TH AUGUST 2021**



CLICK ON THE WEBSITE OR SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW, AND ENTER  
THE PASSWORD TO ACCESS THE VIDEO...

**[vimeo.com/showcase/cqidfa21](https://vimeo.com/showcase/cqidfa21)**



Password: **cqidfa21**



Please show your appreciation to the businesses that sponsored this event by sending a thank you email to  
[thankyou@iepty.com](mailto:thankyou@iepty.com)



# ACTIVE OOSH RATHMINES

## 2021 PARENT INFORMATION FLYER

### SERVICE INFORMATION

#### 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: \$72.00

(Before CCS is applied)

**NOTE:** No casual booking or enrolment fees are incurred to family accounts.

#### SCHOOLS WE SERVICE

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

#### HEALTHY MENU

Active OOSH provide a nutritious breakfast and afternoon tea every day. The meals are designed to be healthy and offer new tastes and textures so eating can be an educational and cultural experience. Children with food allergies or dietary requirements are catered for in our inclusive programming practices.

#### ENQUIRIES & BOOKINGS

**Phone:** 0438 224 914

**Email:**

activeooshathmines@gmail.com

**Website:** activeooshnsw.com

**Facebook:** Active OOSH Rathmines

**Address:** Rathmines Public School - Secret Corner Road, Rathmines.

### ACTIVE OOSH

Active OOSH provide before school, after school and vacation care programs 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 that enter the Active OOSH doors are given the opportunity to learn and grow through play and enjoy a wide variety of activities and experiences as a result of our child focused programming.

The K - 2 zone is a designated area within the service for children in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2. The K - 2 Zone provides a safe place for our younger children to engage in a range of age appropriate games and activities.

#### KINDY - YEAR 2 ZONE



### Our Point of Difference

We excel in providing an extensive variety of engaging and enjoyable experiences for children of all ages and abilities to enjoy on a daily basis. As part of this, we are continually planning and programming new and exciting activities for our children to partake in. All of our incursions, excursions, extra curricular activities, homework tuition, resources, transportation and meals are inclusive in the above fees. No enrolment or administration fee is charged to families.

#### PERSONALISED HOMEWORK CLUB



We offer tailored, small group learning experiences with our qualified educators. These sessions are at no additional cost to families. Children can work on their homework tasks such as projects, spelling words, home readers and speeches. Alternatively, our qualified educators can create a personalised program to suit your child's individual needs.

#### EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



Active OOSH has a range of extra curricular activities to choose from each day, including:

- Art Social Club
- Specialised Sport Clinics
- Junior Master Chef
- Little Einstein's Science Club
- Yoga, Dance and Drama Classes
- Cultural Group Activities
- Sustainability Activities
- Arcade, Board and Card Games
- Imaginative and Creative Play
- Lego and Construction Activities