



RATHMINES PUBLIC SCHOOL

RATHFINDER

Term 4 Week 2, 2024



From the Principal,

Dear Parents and Carers,

The students in all our classes are looking forward to welcoming their grandparents into their classrooms on Friday morning and celebrating the special role that they play in their lives when we gather as a school community to celebrate **Grandparents Day**. This is always a particularly happy and enjoyable day in our school calendar. After observing the variety of engaging learning activities in the K to 6 classrooms from 9:30am until 10:15am, our visitors will be invited to gather in the hall for our special **Grandparents Day Assembly** which will include entertainment provided by our junior and senior choirs, the school aerobics team, the Senior Boys Dance group, a poetry presentation by Yr 3, and a story reading 'with a grandparent theme' by two of our Yr 6 students. After the assembly the guests of honour will be served complimentary morning tea under the COLA up until 11:30am prior to the start of our **Infants Sports Carnival** at 11:45am.

Selection of 2025 Student Leaders

Members of the current student leadership team have this week spoken to all the Year 5 students about the rewards and responsibilities associated with being a student leader at our school. This was the first step in the process which will eventually lead to the selection of our school's student leaders **for** 2025. Members of the Year 5 class who decide to stand for election will present speeches to their peers

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, personalised 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, to enable them to act with moral and ethical integrity, by fostering their sense of wellbeing and developing their personal values of honesty, resilience, empathy, respect and responsibility.

From the Principal cont'd

and students from Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 on **Wednesday 6th November**. After an initial round of voting by Year 5 and the Student Voice representatives from other classes, this group will be shortlisted through a preferential voting process prior to a second round of speeches on **13th November** and the final selection of our 2025 student leaders. I encourage all students in Year 5 to think carefully about the information and advice presented by the Year 6 student leaders and to consider making a special contribution to Rathmines Public in 2025 by participating in this election. Please note that interested parents and carers are welcome to attend both rounds of the leadership speeches. The election of our **2025 Sports House Captains** will take place on **Wednesday 20th November**.

“Battle of the Brains”

The following members of Yr 6 will be representing Rathmines Public tomorrow in the inaugural “Battle of the Brains” tournament which is being hosted by Coal Point Public School: **Reece Flevill, Abbygale Hardie, Ryan McGovern, Scarlett Palfreyman, William Smith, Callie Walker, Taylor Ward and Hope Williams**. The background information provided by the competition organisers gives an insight to the variety of **physical, social, academic and creative challenges** students will have to address during the day:

“PHYSICAL”

- self-discipline, persistence and stamina
- control of body, including fine motor skills

There will be tasks where students will be manipulating small objects in building designs and there will be puzzles and board games where students are manipulating objects and using fine motor skills for folding.

“SOCIAL and EMOTIONAL”

- advanced organisational and management skills
- advanced social and communication skills
- emotional stability
- empathy demonstrated leadership and decision-making skills
- task analysis and backwards mapping abilities, social justice advocacy

These skills will be demonstrated in all activities through leadership skill, time management and teamwork.

“ACADEMIC”

- natural abilities in processing, understanding, reasoning, and the transfer of learning.

These skills will be demonstrated through mathematical challenges, geography challenges and history challenges.

From the Principal cont'd

“CREATIVE”

- creates several solutions to a given problem
- demonstrates novel thinking in written and oral expression
- flexibility and divergence in thinking
- synthesises a variety of ideas in original ways
- demonstrates creative thinking across all domain areas
- unusual ability for expressing self through art, dance, drama and music.

These skills will be demonstrated through poetry writing tasks, artworks and performances. These skills will also be demonstrated in design and construction tasks and the ability to creatively solve problems.

On behalf of all of the students representing RPS tomorrow I thank the Coal Point staff not only for the invitation to participate in this unique extra curricula activity, but also for the time and effort they have contributed in order to bring this initiative to fruition. The Yr 6 students will share their Battle of the Brains experiences in the next edition of the Rathfinder.



Yr2 Swimming Program

The annual intensive swimming program at the Toronto Indoor Swimming Centre is designed to provide our Yr 2 and special education students with an opportunity to develop their basic swimming skills and to increase their levels of safety and confidence in the water. **Mrs Bowron** and **Mrs Laughton** have circulated the organisational details and permission notes for this school activity which will be conducted during weeks seven and eight of this term. The high cost of transport associated with bus travel to and from the pool complex for ten days would normally add significantly to the basic charges for pool entry and payment of the swimming instructors. I take this opportunity to publicly express thanks to the managers of **Active OOSH** for transporting our students to and from the pool each day **free of charge**. This has resulted in a marked reduction in the costs for students to participate in the swimming scheme and will hopefully ensure that no students miss out due to financial hardship.

Term Four Calendar

The final term of each school year is always a busy period for all members of the school community. I trust that the following summary of term four events and dates will assist parents and carers with forward planning. **Please note that organisational details relating to each activity will be provided under separate cover closer to the date of the event.**

From the Principal cont'd

- Week 3:** Halloween Disco Thursday 31st October
Yr 6 Mini Fete Friday 1st November
- Week 4:** Kinder 2025 Parent Information Night Tuesday 5th November
First Round 2025 Leadership Speeches Wednesday 6th November
Kinder Orientation Day One Thursday 7th November
2025 Sports and Specialty Photos Friday 8th November
- Week 5:** Second Round 2025 Leadership Speeches Wednesday 13th November
Stage One League Tag Gala Day Wednesday 13th November
Kinder Orientation Day Two Thursday 14th November
P and C "Colour Run" Friday 15th November
- Week 6:** Sports Captain Elections Wednesday 20th November
- Week 7:** Swimming School for Yr 2 and Special Education Unit commences Monday 25th November
- Week 8:** Swimming School concludes on Friday 6th December
- Week 9:** End of Year affirmation Assemblies on Wednesday 11th December
2025 Presentation Day Friday 13th December
- Week 10:** Infants Movie Day Monday 16th December
Stage 3 Party / Surf Fun Day 16th December
Year 6 Farewell Dinner Tuesday 17th December
Last Day for Students Wednesday 18th December

Staffing Update

On behalf of everyone in our school community I offer best wishes to **Mrs Jacinta Cubitt** who commenced maternity leave last Wednesday. Jacinta has made a wonderful contribution to Rathmines Public while teaching in stage two and three during the past eighteen months. **Mrs Verschoor** has accepted responsibility for teaching Yr 5 C on a fulltime basis for the remainder of this term and **Mrs Tanner** will provide Mr Fisher's executive release on Wednesday's.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Walker

Principal

Dates for your Diary

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
Friday 25th October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grandparents Day • 11.30am K-2 Sports Day • NO Primary Assembly
Thursday 31st October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.10pm Infants Assembly • 5-6pm K-2 Infants Halloween Disco • 6.30-7.30pm yr3-6 Primary Halloween Disco
Friday 1st November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yr 6 Mini Fete
Tuesday 5th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6pm Kinder 2025 Parent Information Night
Thursday 7th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9.15am Kinder Orientation (Session 1) • 2.10pm Infants Assembly
Friday 8th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2pm Primary Assembly
Wednesday 13th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6pm P & C Meeting in Library
Thursday 14th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9.15am Kinder Orientation (Session 2) • 2.10pm Infants Assembly
Friday 15th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11.45am School Colour Run

General lost property is kept **outside the back of the office building**. Please check there regularly for missing jumpers, jackets, hats, lunch boxes and drink bottles, etc.



Precious items like jewellery, wallets and purses are held **in the office**. If you or your child has lost something valuable or very special in the last two years, please ring, call in or email the office with a description of your lost item. We would love to reunite these precious pieces with their owners.

Year 3 Poems

Here are some poems that Mrs Burns' Year 3 students wrote. They are thinking ahead and looking forward to the warmer weather. Enjoy reading these poems and take a little journey with us to lots of sunshine and fun times.

Mrs Burns



Year 6 on the BTN news!

In Term 3, Miss Watson contacted ABC to inquire about the possibility of the Year 6 cohort participating in the Behind The News school shoutouts. To their surprise, they responded enthusiastically and reserved a slot for R.P.S in Term 4. That very afternoon, the Year 6 cohort filmed and submitted the School Shoutout with Mr. Fisher and Miss Watson. The students, who watch BTN each week, were thrilled and eagerly anticipated which episode would feature them. This week, as 6W and 6F watched Episode 29, they were ecstatic to see their shoutout in the "Media Literacy Week Special (Ep 29, 2024)." They wouldn't be surprised if all of Rathmines and the surrounding suburbs heard their cheers of excitement! If you'd like to see their school shoutout, skip to 21:00 minutes into the episode. Below is a screenshot!



School Colour Run Fundraiser



Dear Parents and Carers,

This term we have a **School Colour Run** with Australian Fundraising! The primary purpose is fun for the children, any money raised will go towards buying learning resources for the students.

The School Colour Run will be on **Friday 15th November 2024 from 11.45am – 1.45pm.**

- Please make sure students wear a WHITE shirt and closed in shoes.
- Students will be given free sunglasses and a rainbow headband for the event.
- Students will be covered in non-toxic, biodegradable colour powder.
- Colour Powder is made of high-quality corn starch and permitted food colours. Safety data sheet is available upon request.

How Do We Fundraise?

Thank you so much for supporting our school to be the best it can be, especially through fundraising. Fundraising is completely optional and there are many wonderful prizes students can earn through their individual fundraising.

Fundraising for our School colour Run is entirely online. Follow the instructions in your child's sponsorship booklet to create a cybersafe, online profile page at www.australianfundraising.com.au. At the end of the fundraiser either order prizes to receive or donate to a cause – Carbon Neutral (tree planting), Great Barrier Reef Foundation (coral planting or turtle protection), The Smith Family (reading support) or OzHarvest (providing meals).

For further information you can visit www.australianfundraising.com.au. Please feel free to contact the P&C committee via rpspandcexec@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Rathmines Public School P&C Committee

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 also have a COVID test—

Runny nose

Sore throat

Cough

Temperature above 37.4

Diarrhoea/Nausea/Vomiting

Conjunctivitis



If they have a negative result and their symptoms have resolved, they are free to return to school.

If they test **Positive** they must **stay home** until symptoms have gone.

If your child has **diarrhoea or vomiting**, they must **wait 24 hours** after the last episode before returning to school, **provided they have received a negative Covid test result**.

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

Head Lice

Please check your children's hair regularly and treat immediately if you suspect an unwelcome visitor.

ABSENCE NOTIFICATIONS

If your child is absent from school, you can notify the school three ways -

- Use the Sentral for Parents app to lodge an absence
- Respond to the SMS that is sent by the school on the day, and give a reason for the absence
- Write a note to the class teacher giving the absence date and reason.

All absence notifications must be in writing, therefore please **DO NOT RING THE SCHOOL** as verbal notifications cannot be accepted.

Please keep our children safe and do not drop them off directly outside the school gates before 9.30am. Please use the kiss and ride area just past the front gate or walk them in. Thank you for your assistance.

Park safe, stay safe

Parking rules around schools

YOU CAN PARK HERE FOR TWO MINUTES
You can drop off or pick up passengers here, but you must stay in or within three metres of your vehicle
Mobility Parking Permit holders are allowed to park for up to five minutes

YOU CANNOT STOP HERE
You cannot drop off or pick up passengers here

YOU CANNOT STOP HERE UNLESS DRIVING A BUS
You cannot drop off or pick up passengers here



Kindergarten Transition Programs Rathmines Public School



Rathmines Rascals

A playgroup style program for children to visit the school with a parent, carer or grandparent.

Commences:

Friday 7th June 2024

5 weeks (Fridays)

9.15am until 10.45am

Phone the school to secure your place.

ph: 49751229

email: rathmines-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au



For more information, click here to watch a video about transition programs at Rathmines Public School.



Catalina Kids

Every Friday in Term 3.

Friday 26th July to Friday 27th September 2024.
9:15-10:45am.

Children will participate in a wide range of 'school' activities, supervised by the teachers.

Contact the school office if you would like your child to be involved in this exciting program!

Completed enrolment forms for children participating in "Catalina Kids" will need to be returned by the end of Term Two.



Classroom Visits

The final phase of our transition program is children spending time in the classrooms.

Session 1: Thursday 7th November 9.15 - 10.45am.

Session 2: Thursday 14th November 9.15 - 10.45am.

See our beautiful Kindergarten learning spaces and meet up with Year 4 buddies!



ACTIVE OOSH RATHMINES 2025



Active OOSH is a leading Out of School Hours Care provider in the Newcastle, Lake Macquarie and Hunter regions. Established in 2011, we are locally owned and operated and excel in delivering a diverse range of enriching experiences that cater for children of all ages and abilities.

Our experienced and passionate team develop programs tailored to the interests and needs of both the children and their families, fostering an environment where every child feels welcome, safe, valued and cared for.



Types of Care

Before School Care (BSC)
After School Care (ASC)
Vacation Care (VC)



Operating Hours

BSC: 6:30am - 9:30am
ASC: 2:00pm - 6:00pm
VC: 6:30am - 6:00pm



Programs

We program a range of engaging experiences each session including cooking; science; culture; imaginative play; sustainability; health and safety; construction; creative arts; loose parts play and specialised infants activities.



Menu

We are an allergy aware service and provide nutritional, inclusive options for breakfast and afternoon tea each day, including during VC.



Fees (before Childcare Subsidy)

BSC: \$23
ASC: \$28
VC: \$78



Schools

We drop off and pick up children from a range of local primary schools. Contact us to see if we can accommodate your local school! We welcome children from any school to join us during VC!



Transport

We provide reliable, safe and efficient transport between Active OOSH Rathmines and local schools (during BSC & ASC) and to excursion venues during VC.



Homework Club

Our qualified educators run tailored, small group learning and support experiences each day.