



RATHMINES PUBLIC SCHOOL

RATHFINDER

Term 2 Week 2, 2024



Every Day Matters....



Rathmines overall attendance for week 1 ... **91%**

Rathmines attendance prize for week 1 goes to ...

K-2 **2C**

3-6 **4E**

In week 1

2C had an overall attendance of **94%**

4E had an overall attendance of **93%**

Dear Parents and Carers,

From the Principal,

Students from all schools in the Toronto Learning Community will join together to acknowledge and celebrate Reconciliation Week through participation in the annual **Reconciliation Walk on Thursday 30th May**. This is one of the most significant events on our school calendar and is also an important element within our school's Reconciliation Action Plan. During the past two years we have received

great support on this day from the parents and carers of our Wonai students. In an effort to highlight the concept of genuine Reconciliation I would like to extend a particular invitation to all our non-indigenous parents, carers and family members to walk with our First Nations families and students. I trust that this early notice regarding the Reconciliation Walk will allow time for parents and carers to plan ahead and hopefully join with us on this special day and show their support for the principles of Reconciliation: truth, equity and healing.

ANZAC Marches

I congratulate and thank all of the RPS students who represented our school at the ANZAC commemorative ceremonies conducted in the Wangi and Rathmines communities during the holidays.

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

The children once again rose to the occasion and represented our school with distinction. It was wonderful to see some of our Kinder children marching and I encourage them to continue in this tradition throughout their primary schooling. I commend all the students on their willingness to give up some of their holiday time to attend these important events and thank all the parents and carers who facilitated the involvement of our students. I congratulate the school leaders who made special contributions to the community commemorations and offer special thanks also to **Mrs Bristow, Mr Fisher and Mr Wild** for helping with supervision of our students during the two marches.



Mother's Day Celebrations

Last week the P and C Association kindly invited all the mothers and the special women in the lives of our students to come along to our annual **Mother's Day BBQ Breakfast** which will be celebrated tomorrow. We will be serving up the famous prize-winning Rathmines Public bacon and egg rolls between 8:00am till 8:50am. This year, our visitors will also have an opportunity to test their table tennis and pickle ball skills with their children while using the recently purchased games equipment. Many thanks in advance to the P and C for the catering and staff members for helping with the cooking and hospitality. All students have previously received a note from the P and C giving details of the **Mother's Day Gift Stall** which will be held on Friday morning.

Harmony Day

Staff and students are also looking forward to celebrating Harmony Day tomorrow after the original date for our Harmony Week celebrations had to be changed last term due to a clash with the dates set aside for NAPLAN. Harmony Week is the celebration that recognises our diversity and brings together Australians from all different backgrounds. It's about inclusiveness, respect, and a sense of belonging for everyone. To help us celebrate this special day we invite all students to dress in traditional dress/items representing their cultural heritage or to show their support for Harmony Day by **wearing orange**. Students will participate in classroom-based activities on the day exploring a range of different cultures with a focus on the theme 'Everyone Belongs'. Many thanks to **Mrs Verschoor** and all our Yr 6 Cultural Ambassadors for coordinating this special day.



From the Principal cont'd

2025 Kinder Enrolments

The enrolment process for the Kinder class of 2025 has commenced and I encourage any parents who wish to enrol a child in Kinder next year to contact the school as soon as possible. As in past years there will be an opportunity for children to participate in our Kinder transition process that includes the “**Rathmines Rascals**” program which will run on Friday mornings over the last five weeks of this term, the “**Catalina Kids**” transition program which will take place each Friday morning during Term 3 and the traditional **Kindergarten Orientation Days** and **Parent Information Evening** which are held during Term 4.

If you know of local families who do not have children already enrolled at RPS but are intending to enrol a child in Kinder for next year, please:

- provide them with a copy of one of the school information flyers that are being sent home to all families today.
- draw their attention to the kinder transition video on the school website.
- invite them to contact the school office to arrange an initial meeting and tour of the school.

Each year we receive incredibly positive feedback from the parents of children who participate in our transition program and I am keen to ensure that students commencing their primary schooling next year do not miss out on this opportunity to develop their confidence in the school setting before they actually commence in kinder.

Sports News

The prolonged wet weather unfortunately led to the postponement of a number of school sporting events last week including the Newcastle Knights Under 10's Rugby League Gala Day, the Westlakes PSSA Touch Trials, and our school Cross Country Carnival, which has been rescheduled for next Tuesday, 14th May. Due to the ongoing wet weather, and the limited timeframe for submitting our entries to the Westlakes PSSA, we have unfortunately had to make the decision to run this event as a **selection trial** which will be restricted to students who are keen to represent RPS at the Zone Cross Country on 24th May. Students who wish to take part in the selection trial will receive a revised permission note from their class teacher tomorrow.

The Westlakes Touch trials will be held on Friday (weather permitting) and the Under 10's League Gala Day is now planned for later this term or early term three.

Wedding Congratulations

I am delighted to be able to share the news of Miss Watson's marriage during the holidays to her fiancé Luke Shafron. On behalf of everyone in our school community I congratulate Phoebe and Luke and offer our best wishes to them both for a wonderful life together.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Walker
Principal

Dates for your Diary

DATE	EVENT
Thursday 9th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harmony Day • 8am Mother's Day BBQ Breakfast • 2.10pm Infants Assembly
Friday 10th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mother's Day Gift Stall for students • 2pm Primary Assembly
Thursday 16th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.10pm Infants Assembly
Monday 27th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reconciliation Week • Year 6 Excursion to Wangat Lodge
Thursday 30th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole School Reconciliation Walk

Rathmines Public School invites all the wonderful Mothers, Stepmothers, Grandmothers & Special carers to our

Mothers Day BBQ Breakfast

Thursday 9th May
from 8am in the cota

Free bacon and egg rolls cooked by our lovely teaching staff

P&C Mothers Day Online Raffle Fundraiser
Win a Mothers Day hamper that includes an amazing \$150 voucher donated by Chantilly Skin & Brow Toronto
Tickets available online \$1 each



Raffle Link: <https://www.raffletix.com.au?ref=m9nem>



Rathmines Public School
P&C

**Mothers Day
Stall**

Friday 10th May

Gifts ranging from \$2 - \$10
(e.g. fluffy socks, jewellery, candles)

Thank you for your support.
P&C Association



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!



Opportunity Classes for 2025

Opportunity Class (OC) Applications

OC Year 5 entry in 2025: Applications are open 4 April-20 May 2024

What are opportunity classes?

Opportunity classes are one of the ways the NSW Department of Education supports high potential and gifted students. The classes help students learn by:

- grouping them with other gifted students
- using specialised teaching methods so students can learn concepts in more detail and more quickly
- supporting their wellbeing needs.

Most students in opportunity classes enjoy learning with peers who have similar abilities and interests. Opportunity classes are **not** zoned.

Where are they located?

There are 86 primary schools with opportunity classes in NSW each year.

- 54 schools are located in metropolitan Sydney
- 31 schools are located in rural or regional centres
- a virtual class, Aurora College, for rural and remote students is available in over 600 authorised host schools.

Students successfully placed attend the opportunity class full time in Years 5 and 6 at the relevant public school.

In most cases, students who have accepted a place in an opportunity class will leave their current school to attend the school with the opportunity class.

Should you apply?

If your child learns with greater ease and speed than their classmates, they may benefit from placement in an opportunity class. High potential and gifted children need to be challenged so they remain engaged with their education. Discuss the opportunity with your child and look through the information together on Opportunity classes – Year 5.

If you would like to discuss whether you think you should apply, please contact your child's teacher.

Ready to apply?

Apply online at: education.nsw.gov.au/oc

THURSDAY 30TH MAY

10:30AM START

RATHMINES PARK

Please join the
TORONTO LEARNING COMMUNITY

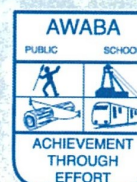
for our

RECONCILIATION WALK

as we show our support for the principles of
Reconciliation: truth, equity and healing.



Tangi Wangi
PUBLIC SCHOOL



Participation of Local Elders
Acknowledgment of Country
Smoking Ceremony
School & Local Artist Performances

NOW MORE THAN EVER

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



The Garden and Sustainability Club will be commencing again in Term 2 and we are looking for any parent/grandparent volunteers to help out on **Wednesdays** at recess time (1.45pm).

If you or a family member are interested, please contact

Miss Crawford by email at brittney.crawford3@det.nsw.edu.au



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.

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.

ACTIVE OOSH

RATHMINES

2024 INFORMATION



Why Active OOSH?

Active OOSH has been providing exceptional care for children in the Newcastle and Hunter regions since 2011. We prioritise building strong, genuine connections with our community by providing opportunities for children and families to be actively involved in the service and by supporting local initiatives and businesses.

Active OOSH excels in providing an extensive array of engaging experiences for children of all ages and abilities to enjoy on a daily basis. Our experienced and passionate team develop programs based on the interests and needs of the children and their families, while creating a space in which all children feel welcome, safe, valued and cared for.

For our littlest OOSHies, we run a specialised Kindergarten Transition Program which slowly introduces children to the routines and expectations of Big School in the comfort of a preschool style environment.

Hours & Fees

Before School Care:

6:30am - 9:30am | \$22

After School Care:

2:00pm - 6:00pm | \$27

Vacation Care:

6:30am - 6:00pm | \$76

(Fees above are before your Child Care Subsidy is applied)



Schools

Rathmines PS
Arcadia Vale PS
Wangi Wangi PS

Please get in touch if you would like us to start picking up and dropping off to your school too! We welcome children from any school to join us during Vacation Care.

What's included?

Healthy menu: Nutritional breakfast and afternoon tea is provided each day.

Specialised Programs: We program a range of engaging opportunities each session including cooking; science; core values; cultural education; sustainability; sport; health and safety; imaginative play; dance; building and construction; creative arts; loose parts play and specialised infants activities.

Transport: Reliable, safe and efficient transport between Active OOSH Rathmines, local schools and Vacation Care excursions.

Homework Club: Tailored, small group learning experiences run daily by our qualified educators.



Contact Us

Phone: 0438 224 914

Email: rathmines@activeooshnsw.com

Visit us: Rathmines Public School

Book a tour of the service on our website: www.activeooshnsw.com

