

Rivervale Primary Newsletter

ISSUE 9 Term 4 November 2019



Hello Parents,

It is weeks like last week that make us so thankful that we invested in refrigerated a/c systems in all classrooms, many years ago. Creating a perfect learning environment has always been one of our aims and we continue to evolve and strive in this area.

I had the great pleasure a fortnight ago in welcoming our new kindergarten families for 2020. It is so exciting to meet new families (new children) and let them know that we are excited to be an integral part of their education journey.

SWIMMING

Our 120 swimming places went within 2 weeks. It is fantastic that we have been able to negotiate for an extra 60 places this year. Over the past 3 years at least, we have had to disappoint students and parents when our 60 places were taken within days. Swimming is such an important skill- we know that our swimming students will make the most of their 9 sessions in weeks 9 and 10 . More swimming information will be sent home soon.

8:45am – 11:00am

11:00am – 11:20am—Recess

11:20am – 1:00pm

1:00pm – 1:30pm—Lunch

1:30pm – 2:50pm

**Early Close—Thursday
2:30pm**

Classrooms open at 8:30am. There will be supervision available from 8:15am in the undercover area for children who arrive earlier than 8:30am.

Please phone or email us at the school if your child is going to be absent from school.

PH: 6216 1850

Rivervale.ps@education.wa.edu.au

SCHOOL COUNCIL

I would like to sincerely thank the Rivervale School Council for their guidance and input this year. Your time and efforts are very much appreciated.

At the recent meeting the Council unanimously backed the notion to change the school times for 2020. The changes will take effect on day 1 of term 1, 2020 and they include:

- ◆ Recess starting at 10:35 (not 11am). This will allow the whole school to have the same morning break
- ◆ Recess will be 5 minutes longer – from 10:35 am- 11am (currently this is 11-11:20 am). This will allow the children 5 minutes extra to eat their snacks, play their games and not feel rushed. We have invested a lot of time into our Play Plan and want to validate it with this extra time.
- ◆ Lunch time will run from 1pm- 1:35 pm- this allows 5 minutes extra lunch time for the same reasons listed above for recess
- ◆ Thursday lunch break will not be earlier (not 12:30)
- ◆ Thursday early close will now be at 2:40 (previously 2:30)
- ◆ The end of the school day will be at 3pm. Currently it is 2:50 pm. We need to add 10 minutes to the day to make up for the 10 minutes added to breaks.

NEW CHIME AND TUNES

For the past 2 weeks we have seen children dancing, skipping and singing their way to line up as they “RESET” after breaks. We have had a new PA system installed which allows us to play a song/tune which signals the end to a break. The song lasts for 3 minutes and allows the children that amount of time to RESET following a break. The children are taught that RESET time means- stop and think about what they need to do, pack away their game, go to the toilet or get a drink and then go and line up. When the song has finished they should be sitting quietly with their class. Songs /tunes are chosen based on a theme. In week 1 and 2 we had “Here Comes the Sun” and “Walking on Sunshine”. For week 3 we chose “Don’t worry Be Happy”. Winners of the Positive Class Award will be able to select a song and songs will be chosen to go with particular themes linked to what is happening in the school. Because of this new system we also have a state of the art evacuation warning system. A recent fire drill highlighted the need to find a new system as a lot of the classrooms could not hear the previous warning siren. And whilst speaking of the siren, it has been wonderful to not have to suffer through the screeching “air raid” like siren which started every day. We now welcome the children to a new day with a relaxing chime.

BOOKLISTS 2020

Booklists for 2020 have already gone home. If your child’s did not make it home, please call into the office for one or call/email us and we can email one to you. You can come into the office and pay for your Booklist now or take it to Kooyong Rd Newspaper yourself. Newspaper will ensure that the books are ready and waiting for your child for day 1 of school or you can come into the office on January 30 or 31 to pick up book orders and uniforms.

OFFICE OPEN

The office is open in 2020 before the first day of school. It is open on Thursday January 30 and 31.

PARLIAMENT HOUSE VISIT

On Thursday November 14, our student councillors attended a fantastic lunch at Parliament House with our good friend Cassie Rowe-Member for Belmont. It was a fun, informative and delicious trip.

ORAL LANGUAGE

I am sure that a lot of you are aware that we have a terrific Speech Therapy, collaborative program, with Edith Cowan University. Through this program we screen all of our kindergarten and pre-primary children to ensure that their early language program is on track. What we know for certain based on our own intensive investigation into early language and from speaking to the experts is that ORAL LANGUAGE IS KEY. Without this oral language development children will struggle in the next phases. The great part is that parents are integral to this oral language development. The books that you read and the conversations that you have with your children are vital. If you want to know more about the Speech Program or oral language, then come in and have a chat with one of our staff.



BUILDING AND FACILITY UPGRADES

We recently had our 4 new flag poles installed. It is great to be able to display the Australian, Western Australian, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island flags. Work is almost complete on the entry statement/sensory garden project. This garden replaces the mosquito infested and overgrown garden adjacent to the staff room. We are creating a garden in which children can touch, smell and even taste some of the amazing plants. A big “thanks” must go to our fabulous MCS, Mrs Hodge and to Mr Major for all of their hard work to create this garden. They do things like this because they care about your children. (Look at the front cover for the photos)

EARLY FAREWELL

As this will be the final large newsletter for the year I would like to take the time to thank a number of people. To our staff at RPS- this year has been one to celebrate with regard to our core business of teaching children. The literacy and numeracy programs that we selected are now reaping such great results. The hard work of staff in trying to make the most of every teachable moment is making a big difference.

At the end of the year we will farewell Ms Kaitlyn Cooper. Ms Cooper has done a fabulous job with our year 4/5 class. Her enthusiasm and joy for teaching is infectious. We were very lucky to have had Mr Adrian Lane for over a year. He has guided and supported in many areas and took over from Ms Gregory at very short notice. Mr Lane is off to Lathlain PS for a year. (Ms Gregory will be back in 2020)

PUPIL FREE DAY/IMPORTANT DATES

- * Just a reminder that children do not attend on the **Monday of week 8 (December 2)**. This is a pupil free day when the staff will spend a large part of this day handing over information to help set up the classes for 2020.
- * Swimming starts on **Monday December 9**.
- * The last day for students is **Thursday December 19**.
- * The year 6 Farewell and Whole School Awards assembly is on **Tuesday December 17 at 10am**.
- * First day for students in 2020 is **Monday February 3**. The office will be open for uniforms and booklists on **Thursday January 30 and Friday January 31**.

HONOUR AWARDS



Pre Primary

*Rhys Jamieson, Faith Kereu, Aylín Polat,
Kamsi Ramanijam,*

*Year One/
Pre Primary*

Jeremy Bolton, azhini Nagarajan, Peter Win,



Year One/Two

Ava Leckie, Bailey Magee, Kiera Ward,

Year Two

Wilson Dring, Tarlia Kieu



*Year Three/
Four*

*Sio Ashford, Julia Chuwah, Howl Collard, Hritika Pun,
Raïden Watson*



Year Four/Five

*Mohammed Alismail, Kamika Gilkinson, Mohammed
Khan, Sohail Noori, Katerina Payne*

Year Five/Six

Saja Alsindi, Uni Heard, Rhian Mendoza, Heath Steffert