



# RPSnews

**Number 25**  
August 20 2009

**Richmond Primary School**  
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www.richmondps.vic.edu.au

## Dates to Remember

### August

**28** Pop Star / Rock Star Day

**30** Working Bee

### September

**2** 2-4 Grade 6 Play

**3** Grade 5/6 Father's Day Stall

**4** Prep-Grade 4 Father's Day Stall

**11** RPS Auction and Social night  
Models Super Orchestra

**18** Last day of Term 3 - 2:30pm finish

### October

**5** Term 4 begins

**14** Whole School Responsible Pet  
Program Incursion

**15** School Photos

**22** Prep 2010 Transition 2:30-3:30pm

### November

**3** Melbourne Cup Day (child free)

**4** Prep 2010 Transition 2:30-3:30pm

**11** Prep 2010 Parent Information  
Night – 7pm

### December

**10** Yarra City Carols By Candlelight  
Citizens Park

**16** Whole School Presentation Night

**18** Last day of Term 4

## REPORT FROM STU

Dear Parents and Carers

Term 3 has been a solid one for Physical Education and Performing Arts, particularly at the senior level. In the past week, PE activities have had to be modified and, in some cases, temporarily suspended, owing to the unavailability of the yard during resurfacing work. However, the program has kept running:

- Grade Prep have been consolidating their fundamental motor skills and increasing their grasp of competitive games, fair play and perseverance;
- Grades 1 and 2 have focussed this term on ball and bat skills, being introduced to the game of bat tennis;
- Grades 3 and 4 have been learning the rudiments of basketball, in preparation for their involvement in the MacDonald's Hoop Time tournament at MSAC;
- Grades 5 and 6 have also had a basketball program, leading up to their own recently-completed McHoop Time tournament. They are now preparing for participation in the Richmond District Athletics Sports this week.

The basketball and athletics interschool competitions are new initiatives for us and, if successful, should become regular features in our sports education program.

As to Performing Arts, the school is currently abuzz – as it usually is in Term 3 – with activity and anticipation as the Grade 6 play 'Global Eyes' approaches. The Grade 6's are heavily into rehearsal and are also engaged with the Grade 5's (who will work as backstage crew) in composing and recording music to be played during scene changes. Grades 3 and 4 are also focussing on drama this term, exploring characterisation and sketch creation. The emphasis is on Music for Grades 1 and 2, who are continuing with instrumental ensemble work (Grade 2's are developing their recorder skills while the Grade 1 students accompany them on percussion instruments.) Grade Preps follow a program that stresses rhythmic and creative movement, rhythm patterns, melody and singing, and instrumental work on tuned and non-tuned percussion.

Both these subject areas are high in physical, creative and social demands, and every effort is made to help students find success regardless of entry level. The key to this success is 'enjoyment' – the bedrock of real learning and progress in any area. Note that enjoyment is not always 'fun' – some components of an enjoyed activity can be onerous, boring, even uncomfortable – but our aim is to provide programs that enable a student to know the satisfaction of reaching a goal, beating an obstacle, creating a work they never realised they had in them, or otherwise seeing a reward for effort put in. And, wherever possible, to have a laugh along the way!

**Stu Cooper** Health/Physical Education & Performing Arts coordinator

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## Parent Managed Head Lice Program

The parent managed head lice program resumed on Friday 14th August (3 weeks after the initial inspection).

We now have 91% of children participating in the program – an increase of 2% when compared to the last inspection date. Permission forms can be obtained from the school office or downloaded from the school website at [www.richmondps.vic.edu.au](http://www.richmondps.vic.edu.au).

Inspections indicate that 20% of children inspected were identified as having live lice or eggs present in their hair -

a decrease of 2% when compared to the last inspection. We encourage you to inspect your child's hair each week, particularly after treating, to ensure that the lice/eggs have been eliminated. There will, of course, be some misidentification of lice/eggs when inspections occur, however we ask you to check your child's hair and inform the school either way as this is a requirement of the policy. Our parent volunteers do the best they can in the short time they have available to them

to correctly identify lice/eggs and we need to recognize that it is not an easy task.

It is also important to note that under the Health Regulations 2001, children found with lice cannot be readmitted to school until an appropriate treatment has commenced. The school policy can be found on the website at [www.richmondps.vic.edu.au](http://www.richmondps.vic.edu.au).

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## Parent Snippets Worms - Pinworms

The most common type of human worm infection in Australia is pinworm. Other names for this parasite include threadworm and *Enterobius vermicularis*, or the common term 'worms'.

Children are more likely to pick up an infection than an adult, probably because of children's tendency to put their fingers in their mouths. However, once a child is infected, other members of their household are also likely to get pinworms unless strict hygiene practices are observed.

Despite the unsavoury reputation, a pinworm infection is relatively harmless and can be easily treated. Worms require a host in order to survive. In the case of pinworms, the human acts as the host.

### Life cycle of a pinworm

Infections begin when pinworm eggs are eaten, usually directly through contaminated hands or indirectly through contaminated food, bedding, clothing or other articles. The eggs then travel to the gut where they hatch and mature. A grown pinworm is yellowish white, slender and about one centimetre long.

Around four weeks after ingestion, the adult female moves down the gut and exits the body via the anus to lay a batch of eggs on the surrounding skin, often at night. The worm then dies, her reproductive mission complete.

The eggs may cause intense itching, especially at night, so children can easily

reinfect themselves by scratching the anus and scraping eggs under their fingernails. These eggs can then be transferred to the mouth and the whole life cycle of the pinworm starts again. The eggs can survive for several days in the right conditions.

### Symptoms of pinworm

Pinworm infections often produce no symptoms but, when they occur, symptoms can include:

- Itchy bottom, especially at night
- Reduced appetite
- Feeling mildly unwell
- Inflammation of the vagina
- Adult worms can sometimes be seen in the faeces, and eggs may be seen clinging to the skin around the anus
- Irritability and behavioural changes.

### Treatment options

Your doctor might want to test a sample of the patient's faeces to make sure the problem is a pinworm infection. Medication is available to kill the worms and this is usually prescribed for the person who is infected and all other members of the household. Usually, one dose is followed up with a second dose two weeks later to take care of any surviving worms.

Although the medication is safe for humans, you should consult your doctor or chemist before commencing treatment. An itching anus can be treated with a nappy rash cream or similar preparation.

### Preventing another infection

Suggestions to prevent another infection during treatment include:

- All family members should wash their hands and nails thoroughly with soap and water, particularly after going to the toilet, after changing nappies, before preparing food and before eating food.
- Discourage scratching of the bottom and nail biting.
- Keep fingernails short.
- Daily bathing and showering.
- Wash all sheets, bed linen, pyjamas and sleepwear in hot water to kill any pinworm eggs.
- Clean the toilet seat regularly with disinfectant (remember to store the disinfectant out of reach of children).
- All family members should take the medication, regardless of whether they are experiencing symptoms.

### Where to get help

- Your doctor
- Chemist

### Things to remember

- Pinworm is the most common worm infection in Australia.
- The major symptom is an itchy bottom, particularly at night.
- Treatment usually includes a two-dose course of medication that should be taken by all members of the affected household.
- If symptoms persist, consult your doctor.

[www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au](http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au)

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## Personal Property at School

Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises.

Please note the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it will not pay for any loss or damage to such property. Any items lost or misplaced during the school day are not the responsibility of Richmond Primary School

or the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

Richmond Primary School therefore discourages staff, students and visitors from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.

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## Communication with Teaching Staff

A reminder that the teaching day begins at 9am for all staff members and finishes at 3:30pm. If you need to talk to a classroom teacher please make an appointment to see them before or after these times. Teachers are unable to focus on parent/carer requests when they are with their class and it can cause significant disruptions to the class if parents/carers try to discuss matters with them during teaching time. We thank you for your support on this matter.

## The Dancing President

'A Touch of the 80s RPS Party Night'

I woke up with a sore hip last Saturday. No not from the drudgery of household chores, or enforced sporting pursuits but from dancing. Yes, it's true. I had the good fortune to enjoy a ride down memory lane inspired by the music of the Models Super Orchestra.

A multitude of people, young and old and many in between, tapped, bounced, spun and danced for the whole evening.

As the evening came to a close I felt my youth about to vanish again until I realised that I (we) can do it all again at the next School Fundraiser on the 11th of September. The Models Super Orchestra will be our special guests and their wonderful brand of music will be on display for all in attendance to take pleasure in.

I urge all RPS parents to act quickly, tickets are selling rapidly.

I can honestly say that I'm finally looking forward to a fundraiser; all of me but my hip. See you on the 11th of September. **Tom Pagonis** - President RPS Council

## A Touch of the 80s RPS Auction / Social Night featuring Models Super Orchestra

We have now sold over 70% of the tickets for the night.

It is sure to be a great night so if you are thinking of going, please call the fundraising phone on 0411 537 842 or return your slip to the office. If you didn't receive a booking/donation form, please see Jane or Louise in the office.

### Prizes for the evening

If you think you can source a prize for the evening, please return the form ASAP and Catherine from fundraising will be in touch.

Thanks to all who have sourced prizes already and for the very speedy booking of tables.

## Father's Day Stall Friday, September 4

Dear Parents and Carers,

Two weeks out from the Father's Day stall and we have received a handful of donations.

We need more donations of wrapped sweets, chocolates and so on if we are going to ensure there are ample gifts for children to buy their dads, grandpas, uncles and other significant people in their lives.

There has been a bit of paper warfare lately with many events/activities arranged for this busy part of the year so you may feel you are being bombarded. But, if you could see your way clear to make a small donation that would be appreciated.

Donations can be left in the basket in the office area.

NOTE: due to a clash with the stall and the school play the grades 5 and 6 pupils will not be here on Friday morning to choose a gift from the stall.

Therefore, they will have an opportunity to select a gift on THURSDAY (September 3). They should bring their money on that day if they wish to buy something.

For all other grades the stall will operate as usual during class time on Friday morning. A reminder for parents of younger children. Please place the money in an envelope with their name on it, details about whom they need to buy for and how much they are to spend. This will save confusion/tears on the day. If you don't want your child to participate please tell their teacher to avoid upset on the day.

Many thanks. **Claire Heaney**

### WORKING BEE ALL WELCOME

A reminder that RPS's second working bee will be held on Sunday August 30th 10am - 2pm

We will be having a general clean up and working in the garden!

A sausage sizzle will be provided! Please e-mail Lisa if you can attend. marsden.lisa.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

### OFFICE SPACE REQUIRED

Small office required for short term in Richmond or surrounding areas; enough room for two desks and a couple of engaging (but quiet) people.

Please ring Tom ASAP - 0411 369 505

## Student of the week



GREEK  
G

**Shravni Satish**, 3/4 R, for her incredible enthusiasm and quick grasp of the Greek language.

**Tallulah Bove**, 3/4T, for her positive attitude and great work in Greek.

GRADE  
12

**Jasmine Koulouris** for always trying her best in everything we do and for being brave while her mum was away!

**Bec Grandi** for greatly improved organisation and for always giving 100%, well done Bec!

GRADE  
34

**Vanessa Nguyen** for displaying amazing maths skills and for working well with others. Always a pleasure to teach. Well done Vanessa.

**Tayer Farrell** for being such a friendly happy student and making those around her feel good about themselves. She is a great listener and learner, and is always smiling. Well done!

GRADE  
58

**Lily Leerson** for her perseverance with difficult tasks.

## KidsQuiz

Write your answer on a piece of paper, along with your name and grade, and put it in the cream letter box in the office. The first correct entry drawn will win a Student Pass for one hour.

The winning entry will be drawn on Tuesday at 3.30pm.

### NOTE:

- > You may place only one entry per week in the box.
- > Each player must put in their own entry (no joint entries)
- > If you win, you are win-binned (disqualified) for one week, to give others a go.

### This week's clue:

**Change the 'a' to and 'e', and this Area 1 student's name will also be the name of a town in NSW.**

Last week's clue:

The last four letters of this Area 3 student's name spell the name of the 'eternal city'.

**Answer: JEROME** Meehan Gr3/4 (The city is Rome, capital of Italy. It's called eternal because people say it will last forever.)

**Winner: Julia Murray** Grade 3...I'm afraid the student pass isn't eternal, Julia, so enjoy it soon!

You are invited to attend....

# Global Eyes

The Grade 6 Play - Written & Directed by Stu Cooper

Thursday 3rd September at 1pm and 7pm  
~~Friday 4th September at 7pm~~ **SOLD OUT**  
Performed in Area 3

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW**

Adults: \$15

Children: \$8

## Ticket Order Form

Global Eyes Grade 6 Play

I wish to purchase tickets for the play for:

Thursday 3rd September at  1.00pm  7:00pm

Number of Adults @ \$15 per person = \$

Number of Children @ \$8 per child = \$

**Total** = \$

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name & Grade: \_\_\_\_\_



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**RPS Auction and Party Night**  
2009 featuring:

# models super orchestra

playing many of the Models hits and much more...

FEATURING

**Sean Kelly** (Models)  
**Andrew Duffield** (Models)  
**Mark Ferrie** (Models, Rockwiz Orchestra)  
**Jack Howard** (Hunters and Collectors)  
**Billy Miller** (Ferrets, Spaniards)  
**Cal McAlpine** (Large No 12s, Clip Clop Club)

Bookings  
Kim Croft  
T: 0411 537 842  
10 per table  
\$25 per head

**fitzroy town hall**  
**friday 11 september 7pm**

*Your school community is here to help. If you have any comments, concerns or praise, please speak to your child's teacher, the principal or a School Council member*

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