



RPSnews

Number 26
August 27th 2009

Richmond Primary School

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www.richmondps.vic.edu.au

> **EFTPOS facilities available**
\$1.50 per transaction

August

28 Pop Star/Rock Star Day

30 Working Bee

September

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

18 Last Day of Term 3: 2.30pm finish



WORKING BEE THIS SUNDAY

A reminder that Richmond Primary School's second working bee will be held on

**Sunday August 30th
10.00am – 2.00pm**

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

ALL WELCOME.

A sausage sizzle will be provided!

Please email Lisa if you are able to attend:

marsden.lisa.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

FUNDRAISING EVENT



Donations have been very slow and are still required for the stall. Children are invited to bring money to school to buy a gift for a parent, carer, grandparent or other significant person in their lives.

Donations of wrapped sweets would be the most helpful at this stage so these can be packaged with mugs and beer glasses. Gifts will be priced from \$2 to \$5 and if there are enough goodies children are welcome to buy multiple gifts.

A reminder to parents of smaller children to place their money in a named envelope with any instructions as the littlies get a little overwhelmed. Again, if you do not wish for your child to participate please let their teacher know so we are not scurrying around trying to organise IOUs and cheering them up.

This is another call on you during a time of the year that is very busy, but the children do genuinely enjoy choosing a small gift.

The stall will be held in the covered area on Friday, September 4, during school time. Grades 5 and 6 involved in the school play will have an opportunity to purchase on the Thursday as they are allowed to take the Friday off.

many thanks
Claire Heaney
(0421 612 507 for any queries)

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents and Carers

SCIENCE DAY

Last week was National Science Week thus a whole school science day was held on Thursday 20th August. Students were engaged in a multitude of activities focusing on various aspects of science. Activities ranged from exploring how the telephone works, kite making, exploding volcanoes and optical illusions. Thank you to all teachers for the effort they put into planning such a great day, particularly to Tracey Silvers for initiating and coordinating the day.

SYNTHETIC TURF INSTALLATION

Thank you for your patience during the installation of the synthetic turf. The installation has been delayed due to the inclement weather. It is important that the surface is a dry as possible before the turf is laid.

PARENT OPINION SURVEY

Forty families were randomly selected to complete the DEECD's Parent Opinion Survey. If you were a recipient it would be appreciated if you could complete and return the survey to the school office by Friday 4th September. If you were not a recipient but would like to provide the school with feedback on any aspect of your child's schooling please email Richmond.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au or drop a note into the office.

SCHOOL PLANNING 2010

If any families are leaving at the end of the year we would appreciate finding out as soon as possible to assist with planning for next year. Parents with students leaving the school at the end of the year (with the exception of grade 6) are asked to inform the Principal at your earliest convenience.

Don't forget the **Father's Day Stall, grade 6 play** and **"A Little Bit of the 80s"** are all fast approaching!

Megan

Helping Children Develop Friendships

Parents and professionals often struggle with helping children learn to be good friends or to understand the complexities of social interactions. Below are a number of strategies that can help children develop friendships.

1. Get Involved – Participate in community sports teams, art programs, and special events. These are wonderful opportunities for children to engage in structured activities with peers. For children with special needs, communities increasingly are offering camps and activities geared towards their specific needs. Ask professionals and support groups for information on these programs or check your community newspapers, centres, and websites.

2. Leverage the Child's Interests – If the goal of enrolling a child in a program is to provide opportunities for making friends, look for activities the child enjoys. Some children like the arts while others enjoy sports. If a child is particularly shy, look for activities that initially have less direct contact. Tumbling and swimming are examples of individual sports while soccer and basketball involve more contact with peers. If children start in activities they enjoy, they are more likely to join other programs.

3. Role Play Difficult Skills – Practicing social skills is a way to work on specific aspects of social interactions. For example, if you notice your child stands too close to peers or repeatedly asks the same questions, help them learn about personal space or conversational skills through role play. By practicing these skills in the home, children can learn to improve their social skills and apply them outside the home.

4. Provide Examples – While reading books or watching television, explain social situations to children. Point out how helping others, using kind words, and listening when friends talk are ways to be a good friend. When characters are being hurtful or invading someone's personal space, point these actions out and ask the child what the character could do differently to be a better friend.

5. Model Being Good to Others – Part of being well liked and being a good friend is being kind. Demonstrate kindness by saying nice things about and to others whether they are the grocery store employee or your neighbour. Point out when a co-worker does something thoughtful and how this makes you feel about them. If your child is sympathetic or says something complimentary, tell them their actions made you happy.

6. Do Not Force Friendships – Just like adults, children get along better with some peers than others. Teaching children to be kind and to include everyone in activities is important, but they do not have to be best friends with everyone.

Source: Sandbox Learning

www.sandbox-learning.com/FileLib/Helping_Children_Develop_Friendships.pdf



Every week, we pose a quiz question based on the name of one of our wonderful students.

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:

I don't think you'd use this Area 2 student to grow rice in!

Last week's clue:

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

Answer:

EDAN Davidson Gr 1/2J
The town is Eden, on the NSW south coast.

Winner:

Phoebe Georgakas Gr4
I hear the fishing is great there, Phoebe!

Student of the week

Prep



Mia Lee for being focussed in class and a special helper.

Jude Rowlands for his great writing and excellent imagination.

Angela Nguyen for her beautiful writing and her excellent skill at making things.

Will Stevens for fabulous focus on learning. Will has become skilled at keeping his eye on the main game - well done!

Aymen Ahmed for settling so quickly and naturally into his new class, and for showing concern for his new classmates.

GRADE

1
2

Maribel Cousins for trying really hard not to be distracted by others and getting her work finished!

Cordelia King for the unbelievable quality of work you continue to produce, always challenging yourself and your maturity. Thanks especially for always being willing to help anyone in need (your teacher included!).
Congrats Cordi!

GRADE

3
4

Hannah Robotham for her wonderfully wicked and dark reworking of the traditional tale of 'Snow White' in 'Sun Black and the 9 Midgets'. Very entertaining reading, Well done!

GRADE

5
6

Charlotte Morton for being a responsible and caring class member.

PE/Perf Arts



Lilian Leerson for her determination to overcome obstacles in PE, and her efforts to 'get inside' her characters in the Grade 6 play.

Dear Awesome Tracey,

- **Thank-you so much for your magnificent, awesome and great organising and ideas.**
- **We all love everything (Well, at least I do). Taskworks, Professor Bunsen, Woodworks, Science day and 2 more incursions coming up are FANTASTIC!!!!**
- **I hope you had great days doing all those things.**
- **On Science Day one of my favourite activities was YOURS!**
- **I hope you liked what I made!**

• **From Hannah C.**

• **PS: Expect a little surprise soon.**

Dear Parents and Carers

Our Program was invited to take part in a Questionnaire for OSCAR Magazine, which is distributed throughout Victoria to other OSHC and Child Care Services. Below is a copy of the article. Thank-you to all the children who participated in the questionnaire, unfortunately not everyone's answers were chosen to go in.

What Children Like About OSHC?

The following article shows the responses to a questionnaire given to children at two OSHC services: Richmond Primary OSHC (RPS) an inner Melbourne school and Rolling Hills Primary OSHC (RH) situated in the Yarra Ranges.

Community Child Care Victoria provided a questionnaire to these two OSHC services and asked the coordinators, Mia from Richmond Primary OSHC and Nicole from Rolling Hills Primary OSHC to interview some of the children and find out why they enjoy going to OSHC. Some of the questions that were on the questionnaire were: Why do children enjoy coming to OSHC? What activities interest them and what would they like to do more of? What do they think about the OSHC staff?

The children interviewed from Richmond OSHC are Jacob aged nine and a half, Gracie aged seven, Dougal aged nine, Nikita aged eight and Remy aged seven.

Jacob's really enjoys the art experiences and his favourite thing to do is play games, making Wanted posters and doing science experiments. Gracie likes arts and crafts, reading books and loves sewing. She would like to watch more movies at OSHC. Dougal enjoys making things like badges, planes and fake money. He likes playing table tennis and loves drawing. He would also like to make more cubby houses. Nikita enjoys cooking, drawing, sewing, reading and also likes playing Connect Four and Monopoly. Nikita would like to learn more about computer skills. Remy likes making aeroplanes, cooking and likes coming to After Care to make friends.

The children from Rolling Hills OSHC are Rachel aged nine, Jessica aged nine, Lachlan aged ten, Liam aged ten, Jemma aged six, Justine aged ten, Madison aged eleven

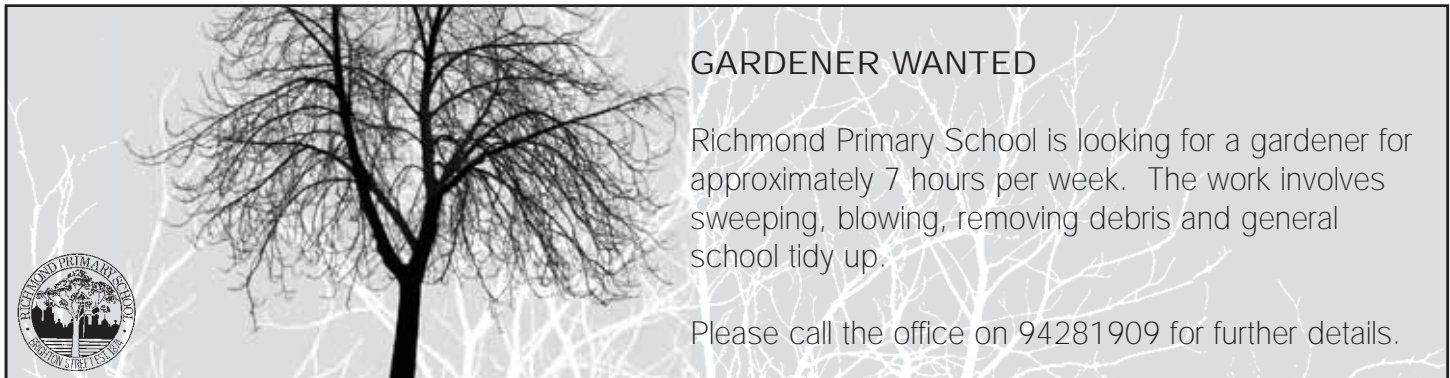
Rachel and Jessica enjoy playing dead fish, painting and being on the computer in Before Care. Rachel likes playing with her friends, building cubby houses and keeping herself warm in front of the heater. Lachlan enjoys playing ping pong, computers and reading. Liam enjoys the craft experiences and playing. Samuel likes bead making and the computer. Jemma likes making cubby houses, playing with paper and string.

At the moment, the most popular experiences are indoor ones as the weather is getting colder and inclement, I am sure that in Summer the experiences would focus more on the outdoors. Cubby houses, table tennis and computers seemed to be popular experiences at both services, also, arts and crafts too. When asked what the children would like to do more of, the answers were: Watch more movies, more cubby houses, cooking, computers, and craft.

It was interesting to see what the children wrote about the staff at the services which was all positive. Statements included: Awesome; they are creative; full of surprises; nice, caring and fun; great; very nice and helpful; fantastic; and finally Samuel suggested that staff are awesome and thinks the school principal should declare a holiday in honour of them. Wouldn't that be wonderful! From this it is easy to see that children need staff to care for them, be nice to them, be helpful and have fun with them.

The exercise was a useful tool in gathering ideas, finding out the likes and dislikes of the children and gaining very valuable feedback from the children. This is always helpful when planning for future programs and is an important component for running a quality service.

Regards **Mia**



GARDENER WANTED

Richmond Primary School is looking for a gardener for approximately 7 hours per week. The work involves sweeping, blowing, removing debris and general school tidy up.

Please call the office on 94281909 for further details.



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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