



# RPSnews

**Number 1**

February 5 2009

**Richmond Primary School**

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## Dates to Remember

### February

**5** School Council - Call for nominations

**10** Grade One - Two  
Parent Information Evening - 7pm

**11** Grade Three - Six  
Parent Information Evening - 7pm

**12** School Council - Nominations close 4pm  
Family BBQ Night - Barkley Gardens

**17** Grade One - Two  
Parent Teacher Night

**18** Prep  
Parent Information Session - 7pm

**19** Grade Three - Six  
Parent Teacher Night

**25** Prep  
Parent Teacher Night

### March

**2** Preps begin full weeks

**3** School Council Meeting 6pm

**9** Labour Day Holiday

**10** Whole School Swimming Program  
Begins 10 March - Finish 20 March

**30** Grade 5/6 Camp -  
Depart 30 March - Return 3 April

### April

**3** Term 1 ends - 2:30pm

**20** Term 2 commences

## PRINCIPALS REPORT

# Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the new school year. I hope everyone enjoyed their holiday and are ready for a fantastic 2009.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome new families to Richmond Primary School. I am confident that you will find our school a positive and enjoyable learning environment for your child/children. I look forward to getting to know you and your child/children over the year.

We also have a number of new staff members joining us this year; Lisa Marsden, Anne Macvean, Riley Minns, Natalie Jensen and Chris Lamb. We are fortunate to have found such fantastic teachers to join our team. They bring a diverse range of skills and experiences to Richmond Primary School. I wish them all the best for the year.

The general purpose and art room building works have been extremely successful. Both areas are operational and are great spaces for student learning. Many thanks go to the School Council and parent community members who were involved in this project. Without your time and effort this project could not have happened. A number of additional work also took place over the holidays:

- Installation of interactive whiteboards in all classrooms
- Removal of withdrawal rooms in area 1 & 2 creating new teaching spaces
- Laptops in area 2 and new desktop computers in area 1

These changes will assist us in working towards achieving our 2009 goal of improving student outcomes. High quality teaching spaces and resources greatly support teachers in delivering quality curriculum and programs.

Our enrolment is currently 235 students. We have 12 grades this year, with four grades being located in each area. To ensure that all students have access to specialist classes, lunchtime is now from 1:00pm-1:45pm (rather than beginning at 12:30pm). Recess will be from 11:00-11:30am. This time change gives us the flexibility to offer 6x45minute specialist sessions per day.

We have a number of important events taking place over the coming weeks; all of which are listed in the newsletter calendar to assist you with your planning. The school website ([www.richmondps.vic.edu.au](http://www.richmondps.vic.edu.au)) also hosts a wealth of information.

I look forward to catching up with you over the term. Kind Regards **Megan**

# School Council Elections 2008

There are 6 parent positions available for this year's Council. If you would like to nominate for a position on the Council (2 years) please come and see me to discuss the role and to collect a nomination form. Nominations close on Thursday 12th February at 4pm.

## What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

## Who is on the school council?

There are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child's school.
- A mandated elected DEECD employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

- An optional Community member category. Its members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

The term of office for members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

## Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

## How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in February or March each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant. In view of this, you might seriously consider:

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

## Do I need special experience to be on school council?

No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in

partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

## What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March. For parents, this notice will probably be given to your child so you may need to check with them whether it has been sent home. If you decide to stand for election, you will need to arrange for someone to nominate and second you as a candidate in either the Parent category or DoE employee category. Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted in the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

## Remember

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do.
- Consider standing for election to council this year.
- Be sure to vote in the elections.

Please contact me if you require further information. **Megan**

## Schedule 4 - Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Richmond Primary School. Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged at the school office by 4 pm on Thursday 12th February. The ballot will close at 4 pm on Thursday 26th February. If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school. Megan Smith - Principal

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows –

Membership category	Term of office	Number of positions
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2009 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2010.	6
DEECD employee member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2009 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2010.	2

## Notes:

1. "Electorate of the school" means the DEECD employee electorate of the school and the Parent electorate of the school. 2. "Parent electorate of the school" means all persons (except the principal) who are parents of students of the school, other than those who are DEECD employees and who opt or are deemed to opt in accordance with clause 22 to be members of the DEECD employee electorate of the school. 3. "DEECD employee electorate of the school" means the principal of the school and – (c) DEECD employees engaged in work at and for the school (other than those who are parents of students of the school and who neither opt nor are deemed to opt in accordance with clause 22 to be members of the DEECD employee electorate of the school); and (d) other DEECD employees who are parents of students of the school and who opt or are deemed to opt in accordance with clause 22 to be members of the DEECD employee electorate of the school. 4. "DEECD employee" - (a) means a person employed for eight hours or more per week in either an ongoing capacity or for a fixed term of at least 90 days - (i) under the Teaching Service Act 1981; or (ii) under the Public Sector Management and Employment Act 1998; or (iii) by a school council of a State school; or (iv) under section 5 or 5A of the Education Act 1958; or (v) under more than one of the paragraphs (i) to (iv) above, and (b) does not mean a person employed under a contract for service or the employees or the contracted personnel of such a person. 5. Votes may be posted to the principal or placed in the ballot box at the school on any day up to the closure of the ballot. Further details on how votes may be lodged will be provided when ballot papers are sent to the electorate of the school.

## 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 generally not pay for any loss or damage to such property.

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

## School injuries and insurance

Parents and guardians are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. Most medical costs will be refundable by Medicare. If you are a member of an ambulance or health insurance fund, you may also be able to claim transport or other expenses from the fund.

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold accident insurance for school students.

# THANK YOU

A big thankyou to the parents and children who watered the garden over the long, dry school holiday break. Although the garden is looking a tad 'crispy' after the hot week just passed, without your dedication many plants would not have made it! So thank you! **Nick**

## BBQ FAMILY BBQ EVENING

The Richmond Primary School annual family BBQ is here.

**WHEN:** Thursday 12th February

**WHERE:** Barkly Gardens

**TIME:** 6pm

**BYO everything!**

Come along, join in the fun, catch up with other members of the school community and welcome all our new families.

## New faces at RPS



Chris



Lisa



Riley



Natalie



Anne

### SCHOOL CAPTAIN'S 2009

Name: Ella Walsh, 11  
 Started RPS: in Prep (2003)  
 Favourite subject: Art  
 Favourite food: Bruschetta  
 Favourite book: Inkheart, Cordelia Funk  
 Hobbies: Reading, playing tennis and netball.  
 I'll make a good school captain because I can help anyone who needs it and will set a great example for all of the little kids.

Name: Noah Korkolis, 10 now, 11 in April  
 Started RPS: Prep (2003)  
 Favourite subject: Sport  
 Favourite food: Lasagne  
 Favourite book: CHERUB: The Recruit, by Robert Muchamore  
 Hobbies: Cricket, Warhammer, Reading  
 I'll make a good school captain because I am willing to help the school in every way I can.



## General Information:

### Parent Contributions

Thank you to those families who have already paid this year's school fees in advance. Early payment assists greatly in budget planning for the year and the payment of stationery, books, art supplies, computer consumables and sporting equipment that will be used every day by your child. A reminder that a discount still applies to payments made by Friday 27th February.

### Parent Contact Information

Parent contact information must be updated annually. Please make sure that you have provided the school with the correct contact numbers so that we can ring you if there is a need.

### General Consent Forms

You will soon receive an envelope with a number of forms for your attention. Please go through these forms with your children, in particular the computer usage form. These forms need to be returned to the school by Friday 13th February.

### Education Maintenance Allowance

Applications are now available for Parents/ Guardians who are eligible for EMA assistance this year. If you are unsure whether you meet the criteria, you can check with Centrelink, look at the EMA website, or just ask Jane in the Office. Applications must be in by 27th February - no late applications will be accepted.

## Parent Information Night

These evenings are carefully planned by the teachers and will outline what your child will be doing this year and explain what the expectations are for your child. Please make every effort to attend. All information sessions will begin at 7:00pm. Session dates and locations >

- Preps - Wednesday 18th February in Area 2
- Grade 1/2K, 1/2N, 1/2L and 1/2J - Tuesday 10th February in Area 2
- Grade 3/4T, Grade 3/4R and 3/4C - Wednesday 11th February in Area 2
- Grade 5/ER - Wednesday 18th February in Area 3

Please complete and return the form below to your classroom teacher by Monday 9th February if you require childcare on the evening.

## Parent Information Night

I require care for the following children (must be aged 3 and over);

Child 1	Child 2	Child 3	
Age	Age	Age	
Date requiring care (please tick):	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday 10th Feb	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday 11th Feb	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday 18th Feb

Parent Name

Parent Signature

# Uke4Kids 09

We at Uke4Kids hope the Richmond PS community had an enjoyable, safe and relaxing break - and hope there were many occasions for fun making through music. 2008 saw a wonderful beginning of the involvement of Uke4Kids in providing musical instrument learning opportunities for students, and is returning in 2009 with more fun and learning on the way.

2009 will see Uke4Kids continuing to provide fun and affordable instrumental tuition, using the ukulele to students at Richmond PS. The program will build on the confidence the students have already developed with new songs, chords, rhythms and techniques. There will be performance opportunities through the year for those who wish to strut their stuff! If your child has been learning with us this year, we look forward to your child's continued participation and enjoyment of music through our program and building on the skills already mastered. New students will enjoy learning how to play pop songs and traditional songs, reading song charts, ukulele techniques, up to 8 chords and how to Sing and Play - at the same time!

Some benefits

- Relatively inexpensive - an average of \$60 per term - For only \$25 kids get to own their instrument
- Great beginning instrument for later guitar playing, and also wonderful in its own right - Did we say its FUN!!

We have kept our pricing structure at 2008 levels, in recognition of the challenging economic times we face, and in keeping with our ethos of making instrumental music tuition as accessible to children as possible.

This year classes will be held AFTER SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAYS. Classes will recommence February 18

If your child/children would like to learn Ukulele, you can collect an enrolment form from the office or by emailing us and we send you one.

Please respond as quickly as possible. A phone call or email will do and payment can follow.

Best Wishes

Yanai Morris & Dassana - Directors Uke4Kids 0413 038 387 / 0418 356 574 info@uke4kids.com

## School Music Program

Learn keyboard, guitar at Richmond Primary School

Come and join in the fun of learning to play keyboard, guitar, at the school. Creative Music for Schools conducts a School Music Program of private or small group classes each week here at the school aiming to give children an excellent grounding in music. Children will learn to read music and play their chosen instrument. Lessons can be started at any time during the school year. Tuition costs from \$13.40 per lesson (payable per term) and enrolments are now being accepted for term 1. Interested parents should call Swee during business hours on 9818 2333 for more information or visit our web site [www.creativemusic.com.au](http://www.creativemusic.com.au)

## Parents: Are you thinking about returning to work or study?

### What Next-Career Planning for Parents

Identify your current skills, knowledge, interests, values, and possibilities for the future. Explore career and life options and develop personal goals and plans. Gain assistance to apply for work or study. Develop self esteem, assertiveness, stress and time management skills and how to present confidently.

### Course details

South Melbourne or Oakleigh- one day p.w. (9.45am-2.45pm) for 10 weeks. No classes in school holidays. You must apply now for courses starting in term 2.

### No cost for eligible parents

This course is fully funded by the State Government. You need to be a parent, have been at home caring for a child, not currently working more than 6.5 hours per week and have not had more than four months paid work or the part-time equivalent, or been undertaking accredited education or training, in the past two years. You must also be a permanent resident of Australia, and have not previously had a State Government PRTE or PRTW training grant.

Phone AEIC 9895 1666 or 0448 448 461 or email [soliver@aeic.asn.au](mailto:soliver@aeic.asn.au)



# SECOND NATURE FITNESS

Because health and fitness should be second nature!

**Daniela Accary Personal Health and Fitness Trainer**

**Cert. III in Fitness (Gym Instructor) Cert. IV in Personal Training**

**Certificate in Group Fitness**

So it's that time again to block some time out for you and join the Fitness Groups which Start back the 5th February 2009.

**Is this what the New Year means to you?**

**N** = New Body, New Fitness Level  
**E** = Every Day Matters  
**W** = Willing to Commit

**Y** = Yes, I can Do It  
**E** = Eager To Succeed  
**A** = Able to Achieve  
**R** = Ready in 2009

So Join the fitness groups at Barkly Gardens Richmond, all fitness levels welcome !!!!

Class Description:

**Strength and Cardio Group**  
(Accary Calorie Burner)

A fun class works on improving overall strength cardiovascular fitness whilst burning calories.

**Pilates and Stretching**  
(Accary Core Fitness)

Mat based class. Pilates creates a strong, lean, balanced body. This reduces the risk of injury and helps to eliminate nagging aches and pains

### Strength and Cardio Group

Monday 2 February - 9.30am  
8 weeks - \$120  
(excludes Labour Day 9 March)

### Pilates and Stretching

Monday 2 February - 10.30am  
8 weeks - \$120  
(excludes Labour Day 9 March)

### Strength and Cardio Group

Thursday 5 February - 9.30am  
9 weeks - \$135

### Pilates and Stretching

Thursday 5 February - 10.30am  
9 weeks - \$135

Discounts:

2 classes per week - \$230  
3 classes per week - \$350  
10% donated to Richmond PS

Contact:

Daniela 0412 200 996

[daniela@secondnaturefitness.com](mailto:daniela@secondnaturefitness.com)

# HOCKING STUART

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