

RIPPLEBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue: 6 Date: 14th August 2025



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Term 3 starts with a bang!

Although we have only been back at school for a few weeks, we have already had a busy start to the term, NAIDOC Week, Schools' Tree Day, Book Week dress up and activities, Book Fair, Special Persons' Day and Science Week.

Prep Enrolments

Our 2026 Prep enrolments continue to rise and school tours have been held for a number of prospective families. Our Flying Start transition program will begin later in Term 3 on Wednesdays (half-day) and Fridays. This will run for about 14 weeks up until December.

Mid-Year Census

Our Mid-Year census on August 1st had 43 students enrolled and we currently have 6 confirmed Preps for 2026. Our Flying Start transition days start towards the end of this month and we hope to add to our growing small school community. A number of school tours in the past weeks may also provide new families. At this stage 3 classrooms will be operating next year.

Tree Day

Schools' Tree Day was a success with each student onsite either planting a small native shrub or grass or assisting with planting a larger tree. These will add to our school grounds and gardens and help provide shade and groundcover as they grow. Murphy's Nursery and Urban Tree Growers provided us with a wide variety of plants for the day.



Sporting Schools - Badminton

Students have been enjoying Badminton as part of Sporting Schools coaching sessions and the weather has been suitable for outdoor racquet and shuttlecock practice. The nets are being used daily and some friendly competition has started.

Your child/children have just completed a four week program through the school, and if they are interested in continuing to play, please contact your local Club.

Ellinbank Badminton Club, 18 Community Place Ellinbank.
Louise Young 0418531445

Drouin Badminton Club, Sinclair street Drouin
Paul Young 0427314144

Labertouche Badminton Club 440 Labertouche road
Labertouche Sandra Ottrey 0438582921

Warragul Badminton Club Galloway Street Warragul
Lisa Board 0412335727

KEY DATES

August

Friday	22 nd	VicSpell
Monday	25 th	School Council
Wednesday	27 th	Flying Start Begins
Friday	29 th	Wear it Purple Day

September

Friday	5 th	Father's Day Stall
Friday	19 th	Last Day of Term 3

October

Monday	6 th	Frist Day of Term 4
Monday	27 th	Swimming Week Begins



THUMBS UP



To the Brooks family for donating the potatoes for Family and Friends Day!



To the Brooks family, Bonnie and the staff for all their help with the special hot lunch on Family and Friends Day!



To Urban Tree Growers and Murphy's Nursery for our plants for School's Tree Day.



To Chris Dunne for filling in the carpark potholes with road-base rock and flattening the entrance for safe vehicle access.

RIPPLEBROOK OSHC INITIAL ASSESSMENT

Last week we had our initial Assessment and Rating for our OSHC service. Ms Scanlon has completed a huge amount of training, documentation, displays and resources in readiness for this process and we look forward to the report from DET. After only being open for just over 12 months, the School Council is continuing to look at the best practice for families to be able to access and use high-quality after-school care.

Nigel Kilpatrick
Principal

ENROLMENTS

We have a number of Prep enquiries and school tours for 2026. Education Week and Open Day helped us showcase what our small but growing school can offer.

We offer opportunity, a wide curriculum and extra-curricular activities, wellbeing support, and small class sizes with a more personal approach, however, there is always room for improvement.

If you have a child starting school in 2026, or if you are considering Ripplebrook Primary School for your child in 2026 you can arrange a school tour and pick up an Enrolment Pack at our school office or call us on 5627 6278.

Please share this information with families beyond our school.



Mr Baker is happy to organise this and answer any questions you may have regarding enrolments

SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORTS (SWPBS)

In previous newsletters we shared our School Wide Positive Behaviour Supports which align with our school values of Safety, Respect, Responsibility, Resilience and being an Active Learner.

These are constantly referred to and discussed with students and we hope similar conversations are happening at home so that we are all working together to improve attitudes, behaviours and day-to-day expectations of being part of our school community (and society in general).

The Kindness cards issued by the Junior School Council are a great way to acknowledge students who are demonstrating many of our values in their interactions with others.

	AT ALL TIMES	CLASSROOM	YARD	
BE SAFE 	Keep hands and feet to self (personal space)	Move around the room carefully (walking feet)	Using equipment appropriately.	Go to
	Ask for help to resolve conflict	Line up outside classrooms	Climb up stairs and then down slide.	
	Walk on concrete areas		Use trolley to move cubby building equipment.	
BE RESPECTFUL 	Wear shoes outside (laces tied/Velcro fastened)			
	Follow directions from school staff and visitors.	Speak to others in a friendly manner.	Take turns with sports equipment and on playground.	Use t
	Use manners and cooperating	Actively listen to others who are speaking	Include others in games.	Ke
	Think before acting and speaking.			Quiet

RIPPLEBROOK SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our next School Council meetings will be on the following dates.

Term 3

Monday 25th August School Council.

Term 4

Monday 27th October School Council

Monday 24th November School Council.

Monday 8th December School Council

These meetings take place in the school library from 6:00 pm.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Ripplebrook Primary School Assemblies happen several times a term. Our two School Captains usually lead these Assemblies.

This is a chance to come together as a school community to celebrate our students' achievements.

Our Assemblies for Term 3 are listed below.

Friday 15th August

Friday 29th August

Friday 12th September

Assembly usually takes place on the school basketball court from 2:45 pm

BEFORE SCHOOL SUPERVISION

Breakfast Club is a combination of early school arrival supervision and an opportunity to begin the day with a wholesome and nutritious breakfast. Ripplebrook Primary School offers this opportunity at no cost to families.

Breakfast Club doors open at 8:00 am.

A parent or carer **MUST** sign students in every day they attend.

Breakfast Club doors close at 8:30 am.

Students are not permitted to enter Breakfast Club after 8:30 am. Students are welcome to arrive at school from this time but there must be an understanding that the schoolyard is not supervised until 8:45 am and students are still the responsibility of parents.



COMPASS PARENT PORTAL

If you are having concerns logging on to the portal for the first time or if you have misplaced your login details, please contact Amanda or Mr Baker in the office for assistance.

The Compass Parent Portal can be accessed by the following link:

<https://ripplebrookps-vic.compass.education/login.aspx>

ATTENDANCE & ABSENCE

As a School we use Compass, to monitor student attendance. In the case of a child/ren being absent from school, it is most important that the school is notified.

Parents/Carers need to contact the school office (5627 6278) on or before the first day of your child/ren's absence by 9.45 am or log on to Compass to record the absence and continue this process until they return to school.

When students have not arrived at school and the school's administration staff have not received written or verbal notification, an SMS notification will be sent out at 10:00 am to parents/carers seeking explanations of their child's absence. We kindly request that you contact the school ASAP in response to this message.

UNEXPLAINED ABSENCE LETTERS

Unexplained absence letters are sent home to families regularly. Please sign and return these for accurate records.

OFFICE NEWS

Note for our families, just a reminder that the office is usually only manned most days of the week. If you need additional copies of any forms or notices that have gone home, please contact your classroom staff or check on Compass.

Please make sure all notices come with your child to their room or are handed into the office. Also, if we can't answer your call at the time, please leave a message as we do check the voicemail on a regular basis throughout the day and we will get back to you as soon as we can. For an emergency call the school mobile on 0428 276 279

GRADE LEVEL	EVENT	COST DUE	PERMISSION DUE
All	Families who returned signed 2025 Voluntary Curriculum Contributions	\$ 61.70	Term 1
All	Families who returned signed 2025 Voluntary Curriculum Contributions	\$ 56.10	Term 2 & 3

OFFICE HOURS FOR TERM 3 2025

Our school office will be manned most days out of the week this term with Amanda and Mr Baker working in the office over the week.

Amanda will be in on Mondays and Tuesdays and alternating Thursday and Fridays from 9 am to 4 pm for anything financial-related and general office matters.

Mr Baker will be in on most afternoons from 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm for general office inquiries.

If the office is closed on a day the phone will be going through to the 2/3 classroom.

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

Just a reminder that School Newsletters come out on Thursdays (hopefully!) at the end of each month.

Copies of the school newsletter are electronically sent out on Compass.

You can also find a copy of the newsletter on the school website and Facebook page. A hard copy of the newsletter is provided to the eldest student in the family if it was requested by families.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL BUSINESS MANAGER

Parent Payment Policy 2025

2025 Parent Payment Policy letters have been sent home earlier this term.

A merchant facility has been installed at RPS, payments can now be made at the office by card if this is a preferred option. Other payment options are BPay, Direct Deposit or Cash.

If you need to discuss payments, please call Amanda McLaughlin, our School Business Manager, she is in on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays.

If you need help or have questions regarding the School Saver Bonus please come and speak to Mr Baker or Amanda

Business Manager
Amanda McLaughlin



OFFICE NEWS

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSION FUND

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you have a valid means-tested concession card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. Means-tested concession cards must be valid on the first day of Term 1, 2025 (Tuesday 28 January 2025) or Term 2, 2025 (Tuesday 22 April 2025).

A student aged 16 years and over who is considered a mature minor and holds a valid concession card is also eligible to apply.

Eligible families will receive a payment of \$154 per year for primary school students. The funds will be paid directly to the school to be used towards camps, sports and excursion costs for the benefit of your child.

If you applied for CSEF through our school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year, unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

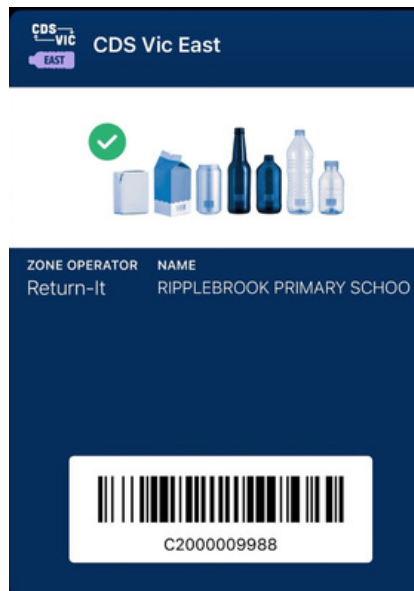
If you would like to apply for the first time, please contact the school office on 03 5627 6278 and ask for an application form. Please return completed application forms to the school office as soon as possible.

*Business Manager
Amanda McLaughlin*



VICTORIA CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME

Ripplebrook Primary School is now a registered organisation for the Return-It Recycling scheme. If you would like to donate some or all of your 10c returns to the school, please use the code C2000009988.



OUR SCHOOL LIBRARY NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Our library needs your help! If you can spare an hour or two to help in our school library, Mr Baker would really appreciate the help.

He is looking for help with covering books, tidying and sorting the shelves and general tasks around the library.

Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday afternoons are preferable but can be other days if this works better for the individual.

If you are able to help out, please speak to Mr Baker to arrange times that work.



MEAL DEAL

Hot lunch is prepared by Ms Scanlon and a parent helper each Friday.

The cost is \$7 per student for lunch and a treat. All money and orders need to be in on a Wednesday morning (students normally bring these in their Stickybeaks reusable bags which are available for \$10 from the office) and put in their lunch order tub that will be in their classroom so it can be counted for catering purposes.



Please note from time to time the Hot Lunch menu can change from what is originally planned, but we will endeavour to let you know asap if this happens.

Date	Lunch	Treat	Parent Helper
15/8	Very mild chicken curry pasta	Rice crispy caramel square	Bonnie
22/8	Spaghetti Lasagne	Coconut rough slice	Sarah
29/8	Sausage roll	Jaffle biscoff brownie	Beth
5/9	Sushi 1 x Tuna and 1 x Teriyaki chicken hand roll	Ice cream sandwich	Erin
12/9	No Hot Lunch		

Ms. Scanlon is looking for parents to help with Hot Lunch this year, if you would like to help her with this, please let Paula know. You will need to make sure you have a valid WWCC and that we have a copy of it.

MENTAL HEALTH IN PRIMARY SCHOOL



Respectful Relationships and TRP

This term, our lessons in continue to focus on helping your child recognise and celebrate personal strengths—qualities like being helpful, kind, patient, hardworking, and friendly—and to use these strengths as meaningful ways to show respect to others. Drawing from Aboriginal perspectives, students are exploring how different families care for one another and for Country, deepening their appreciation for the diverse forms families can take. We are learning about gratitude, encouraging students to notice and give thanks for what they have, which promotes emotional wellbeing, optimism, and stronger connections in the classroom and beyond. We will be working on building a clear understanding of what “permission” and “consent” mean and practising how to ask for, offer, or respectfully decline consent when it comes to personal space or belongings. Respect and inclusivity will be a major focus with students learning about differences in families, gender, and names, and practising using respectful, gender-inclusive language and attitudes.

What you can do at home to build Family Gratitude

One of the simplest yet most powerful habits you can nurture at home is gratitude. Research shows that regularly practising gratitude can boost happiness, strengthen family connections, and support emotional wellbeing. While sitting around the dinner table, invite each family member to share three things from their day that they are grateful for.

Junior School Council

It was fantastic to see all the wild and wonderful hairstyles on the last day of Term2—your donations were greatly appreciated! Our Junior School Council raised an impressive \$80.65 for Shave for a Cure. Thank you to everyone who contributed.



Survey

We're also grateful to all the parents and carers who participated in the Parent/Carer Mental Health Literacy survey. Your valuable input is much appreciated—thank you!

Mrs Robyn Smith
Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader (MHWL)

