



Ripplebrook Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Issue: 6 Date: 1st December 2020

DATES TO REMEMBER

November 2020

Monday 30th Whole School Swimming Program
Monday 30th November – Friday 4th December

December 2020

Mon 7th – Thurs 10th Parent Teacher Interviews – Phone/On-Site
Tuesday 8th Whole School State Wide Transition Day
Wednesday 9th SSG Meetings – Webex/On-Site
Friday 11th Grade 6 Big Day Out – Gumbuya World
Wednesday 16th School Christmas Concert
More details to come.
Wednesday 16th Student Reports will be released on Compass
Thursday 17th Last Day of Term 4
Dismissal – 3:15pm
Friday 18th Student Free Day
Staff Hand Over

Save the Date 2021

Friday 5th March Student Free Day – SWPBS Staff Professional Development

From the Principal ...

It is with a mixture of emotions that I inform our RPS school community that I will not be returning in the role of Acting Principal for the 2021 school year. Instead I will be returning to my base school at Leongatha Primary School, where I will have the opportunity to be closer to my family as well as watch my own eldest child begin his schooling life in Grade Prep next year.

I do however take with me a wide range of treasured memories from my time as part of this wonderful school community. I will genuinely miss the students, staff and parents of our school, and would like to take the opportunity to express my sincerest thank you to you all for your amazing efforts over the course of what has turned out to be a year like no other.

Our School Values - Be Responsible - Be Respectful - Be Resilient - Be Safe - Be an a Active Learner



The support, sense of inclusion and friendships that I have been afforded during this time will be long remembered, and I will always be proud to think of myself as having contributed in a small way to the fabric of the Ripplebrook Primary School.

It has been announced that Mrs Liz Alderson will be continuing on in her role as Acting Principal of Loch Primary School for 2021 and this coupled with my departure, sees the Department of Education currently advertising for a replacement to take over the Acting Principal position at RPS for the 2021 school year.

We shall notify the school community of the successful applicant as soon as a decision has been made.

Goodbye Sensei Booth

Sadly we must say goodbye to Lois Booth, who will not be returning for the upcoming academic year.

We have been very lucky to have Lois running our Japanese program for the past 2 years. Teaching a second language to young children is no easy task, yet Sensei's noticeable passion and enthusiasm for the Japanese program has allowed all children to become immersed in the Japanese language and culture.

We thank Sensei for her commitment to RPS and wish her all the best for her future endeavours. You will be sorely missed.

Classroom Teachers 2021

We have organised our teacher teams for 2021 which are listed below. I would like to stress that a lot of thought and effort have gone into the placement of these teams, and we have made every effort to cater for the academic and emotional needs of our student cohorts.

Grade Prep/1/2	Grade 3/4	Grade 5/6
Eleanor Rees Marc Miller	Simon Mackenzie Paula Scanlon	Sam Cornell Courtney Baker

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews and Student Support Group meetings will be held next week - Week 10. Due to the easing of COVID restrictions, face to face conferences are allowed to be held. If you would like to change your scheduled meeting from a phone or WebEx conference to a face to face meeting, please contact Melissa in the office. The time of your interview is unable to be changed.

Thank you to Melissa for coordinating the timetabling for these conferences



Reports

Reports will be made available to families via Compass on Wednesday December 16 (Week 11) following our Christmas concert.

Reports will again be in a streamlined format in accordance with Department regulations, although they will contain progression point reporting of achievement for Reading, Writing and Mathematics. Should you have any problems accessing your reports on Compass, please don't hesitate to contact Melissa in the office for help.

Christmas Concert

The Christmas Concert will take place on Wednesday 16 December from 5:30pm - 7:00pm. We are very excited that with the recent change to COVID restrictions, parents will now be allowed to attend our Christmas Concert. Further details will be available closer to the date.

End of School Year – Thursday 17th December

Wednesday 16th December will be the last day of classroom instruction, concluding with the Christmas Concert. **Thursday 17th December is our last official day for school for 2020.** There will be no classroom instruction taking place on this day. This will be a day for cleaning, tidying, grounds maintenance, furniture moving etc. and any student onsite will be assisting with this.

Save the Date - Proposed Curriculum Day 2021

The proposed curriculum day for Term 1 2021 is to take place on Friday March 5th and will focus on introducing the School Wide Positive Behaviour Support program to staff.

This curriculum day has been proposed and approved twice already for varying dates for 2020, but unfortunately COVID restrictions have knocked it on the head each time.

Cheers,

Jack Hughes

State Wide Transition Day

As a result of the most recently eased restrictions within the school environment, next week's state-wide transition session (Tuesday 8th December) can go ahead. This means that our 'flying start' students are able to join their Prep/1/2 class for the day and each year level of students will move up to their class cohort with the opportunity to spend time in their new classroom with their 2021 classroom teacher and aide.



Whole School Swimming Program

The whole school swimming program has begun. Monday was a smooth start to the program with the students being broken into two groups. Monday's weather was magnificent. Hopefully the balance of the week will be kind to us.

Please remember to send your children with a complete packed lunch, as we are not able to provide additional items or access to cutlery or cups while we are out and about. Students will depart the school for the swimming pool at 11:45am and will return to the school at approximately 3pm.

Parent Payment Forms

Several weeks ago forms went home giving family's information regarding the school fees for 2021 and a breakdown of the items that the charges accounted for. There is still a large number of these forms outstanding and I am asking that they please be returned at your earliest convenience. If you are not looking to attend Ripplebrook PS next year could you please advise the office. All information will be held in the strictest confidence.

Parent Opinion Survey

Thank you to all the families that completed the annual parent opinion survey. Unfortunately we only had a 43% uptake this year. We understand that the survey can be time consuming and often worded in confusing ways, but we really do appreciate families that make this time available to input their thoughts as this guides our processes when considering programs and resources for curriculum and policy. Please remember that at any other time throughout the year we value your thoughts and opinions.

Student Leadership Roles 2021

Congratulation to students that have completed their speech for a potential leadership role in 2021. Students have voted and the results will be tallied and roles announced at our Christmas concert on Wednesday 16th December. Good luck to all students that have applied for positions.

Grade 6 Graduation Big Day Out

This year we are taking our grade 6 students to Gumbuya World as a congratulatory graduation event. Mr Mackenzie, Mr Hughes and Ms Scanlon will meet current grade 6 students at Gumbuya World at 10:00am on Friday 11th December to enjoy a day of excitement and adventure. Information and Permission forms for this event will go home with students today. There is no charge for this event and we ask that you promptly return your forms to school by this Friday (4th December) to allow for us time to lodge lunch options. If you have any concerns regarding this event, please contact the office to discuss.