Tuesday 13 December 2016

Tuesday 20 December
Tuesday 31 January '17
Tuesday 31 January '17
Wednesday 1st February '17
Thursday 2nd February '17

Last Assembly 12.45pm, Term 4 finishes 1.30pm
9am – 2pm collect stationary bags & uniform orders
New Preps Play Day 10.30am onwards school grounds
Term 1 2017 starts 9am Grades 1 – 6
Preps 2017 start, 9.30 - 3pm
9.45am New Prep Parents Tears & Tissues refreshments, Gym

CAROLS
It was terrific to see the great turn out at our Carols @ Twilight last night, thank you so much for making the effort. It was lovely to see families from our school community come together to catch up and to take just a little time to celebrate the end of another school year. A special thank you to Julie Minarelli for making it all happen, the staff for their preparation of the children, the children for their talented singing and thank you to everyone for your marvellous contribution.

GREAT LEARNING AT RPS
A huge thank you to all our wonderful parents, friends and the staff who work with the students in our many active and engaging learning activities here at RPS which over the year have included; Mrs Sargood grades 2-4, Health and Human Relations in the 5/6s, Hippo on the Roof excursion with the Preps and Grade 1s, Grades 2-4 Hands On Science, swimming, Balance Gym, Choir, music at assembly (it was great to see some of our younger students bravely get up to perform at assembly), Grade 2 Night Experience, Grade 6 Graduation as well as the whole school excursion to Scienceworks, lots of engaging and stimulating learning.

The extra-curricular programs run alongside the very strong core literacy and numeracy programs we conduct here at RPS, with our rigorous Numeracy Zones program from grades 2-6, the Soundwaves Spelling, Reading Eggs to extend and challenge the children, Mathletics which can extend and encourage maths learning into the home and our targeted Reading Groups programs which also includes the very high expectation CARS and STARS Comprehension skills program.

Much of the data the Education Dept collects looks at how well schools build on the learning of students, and that data backs up our own RPS data which indicates we have very strong ongoing success with our rigorous learning programs, challenging all students to do their best and to build upon their previous knowledge along their learning journey.

This week also sees the 2017 teacher teams involved in detailed planning for next year. The planning ensures consistency across the classes and with our very successful numeracy zones operating again next year, the opportunity for children to work with a wide range of students and a variety of teachers.
GRADE 6 GRADUATION
Our Grade 6 students had a marvellous night at their Graduation last Wednesday at Eltham High School Centre. It was a wonderful way to mark the end of their primary school years. Thank you to Julie Minarelli and Brooke Ampfea for their energy and guidance of the students throughout the year and in helping them celebrate their graduation. Thank you to Jacqui Kratofil and the fabulous team of parents who put the evening together to ensure such a great night.

FINAL ASSEMBLY
Our final assembly, where we say farewell to this year’s Grade 6 as well as staff and families leaving the school, will take place in the gym next Tuesday, starting at 12.45pm, with school finishing for the year at 1.30pm. The Parents Group Christmas raffle be drawn at midday and winners announced at assembly.

PARENT PAYMENTS 2017, NEW SCHOOL BOOKS AND SCHOOL UNIFORMS
2017 Parent Payment letters have been posted home as many families prefer to pay this year and we certainly appreciate the early payment, thank you to everyone who has paid. Included with this year’s letter are the new Department of Education ‘parent payment’ guidelines.

We would like parents to pick up their children’s individual bags of stationery on Tuesday 31 January 2017, from the office between 9am – 2pm. School uniform orders will also be ready for pick up that day.

Geoff Whyte, Principal

VALUES AWARDS
Congratulations to our Values Awards winners which reflect our RPS Values of Respect, Excellence, Sense of Fun, Equality, Achievement, Responsibility, Co-operation and Honesty.

Japanese: Abbey 34W  Jacqui 64A
Maia 45S  Timothy 45S  James 45S  Logan 23K  Aislyn 23K
Harvey PB  Michaela 1S  Zac 1S  Jessica 1S  Nathan 1S
Lucy 1S  Sarah 23C  Lachie 23C

RPS bank account details
ANZ Eltham  Account Name: Research Primary School Council Official Account
BSB: 013 308  Account Number: 254090034
Please ensure you use a detailed description as a reference, so we can identify your deposit.
JAPANESE NEWS

Grade 5 and 6 students participated in "Change the World with Onigiri (rice balls)" for World Food Day Campaign 2016. When an onigiri photo is posted on the internet, school meals are delivered to children in need through the Table For Two organisation. What a great idea! The students at RPS enjoyed making onigiri and their photos helped other children.  

Mori Sensei

SPORT & PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS

P 2 SPORTS DAY

Last Friday Preps – 2s participated in their sports day. The students were in groups of 8 and played several games including; egg & spoon race, duck duck goose & various ball games, concentrating on their fine motor skills. The day finished off with relay races and icy poles. Thank you so much to Andrea, Avril, Jaana and the Grade 6 Sport Captains who helped on the day. Fun was had by everyone.  

Nicole Martin

CHOIR

The Christmas Choir performed at Greensborough Plaza last Thursday afternoon on the main stage following their performance at St Vincent Care, Eitham. Well done to all the students, fabulous work Michelle and a huge thank you to our marvellous transporting and supportive parents.

CHESS NEWS

Congratulations RPS on coming 4th in the Interschool Northern Star Chess Tournament at Kangaroo Ground Primary School earlier this month. Thank you to Natalie and Leesa for supervising all our children and to Tomoko, Natalie, Deb and Leesa for transporting to and from the event.

Aristea
GRADE 6 PHOTO BOOK
If you would like to add to the school collection of photos, particularly group photos, you can do this by adding to the USB sticks held at the office. If your child hasn’t attended RPS from Prep, you can add individual photos of your child for the years they were not present at RPS.

If you would like to contribute to the book, it would be appreciated if this could be done ASAP.

Emel Hassan 0459 242 098 & Jacqui Kratofil 0402 522 860

GRADE 6 GRADUATION

I would like to thank the Grade 6 Graduation committee for their hard work getting this Year’s Graduation organised. From invitations, decorations, photos, cupcakes and food, to clean up, lots of people did a great job.

Thanks to those who helped out on the day as well. Special thanks to the Grade 5 parents, plus Jasmine and Casey who helped out magnificently in the kitchen and with clean up on the night. Kudos to our office ladies who went above and beyond with their assistance.

Geoff and the teachers are to be congratulated on the ceremony, which was fantastic.

Lastly a big shout out to Carpet One in Bolton St, Eltham for donating the use of a special red carpet for the kids to enter on.

Jacqui Kratofil

LIBRARY NEWS

Many thanks once again to Jenni Welch for her work in submitting the orders for Book Club this year. I am going off on extended long service leave next year and I wish everyone well for 2017.

Joy Pagon

STATISTICS FOR THE LIBRARY

After extensive weeding of resources this year we removed 1,503 items, 251 new items were added leaving the library with a total of 10105 items. 3,769 items were borrowed in 2016. Since the library system was installed on 8/2/2007: 5,062 items have been added with 5,100 removed and a whopping 64,691 items borrowed. Happy Christmas

Joy Pagon

YARRA PLENTY REGIONAL LIBRARY

YPRL would like to invite students to participate in this year’s Summer Reading Club!

The Summer Reading Club is an incentive to keep children reading over the school break. Not only is it a fantastic opportunity to encourage your child to continue to read for leisure, it’s a way of keeping them engaged and entertained over the summer holidays.

Each child who joins the club will receive a starter pack containing activities and a reading log. Children will receive additional prizes when visiting the library throughout the holidays, based on the number of books they have read. Each completed reading log, a total of ten books, will give them one entry in the draw for a chance to win a ‘Roar and Snore’ overnight stay at the zoo for a family of four!

This year’s theme is ‘Mammoth Reads’ and Eltham Library will be hosting a range of fun, free activities including craft and entertainment throughout the school holidays.

You can register for Summer Reading Club online at https://www.yprl.vic.gov.au/summer-reading-club/ or simply visit a branch to register and pick up your starter pack.

For more information on Summer Reading Club events, please contact Eltham Library on 9439 9266.
ANOTHER AMAZING YEAR
2016 has been another amazing and successful year for Parents Group with a number of fundraising events that have provided both great funds for the school and opportunities to socialise with the school community. Events have included 3 raffles, Children’s special lunches, Election Day bbq and cake stall, disco, Gigliola shopping evenings, crazy hair day, photo shoot, open day, Mother’s and Father's Day stall, canteen, teachers lunch, 5c frenzy, Book Club, Entertainment Books and school banking.

Funds raised from these events have contributed to the purchase of some new wet day timetable games for the classrooms, plants for our vegie gardens and garden beds, playground mulch to help keep our children safe, we have been able to top up our sports borrowing equipment this term and also purchase a couple of sets of PE Gear ready to start 2017. All in all a fabulous help to the school, thank you so much to everyone who has supported our Parents Group fundraising.

Thank you to the following coordinators and their amazing helpers:
Aristea Porfiri - entertainment books, Nicolle Dent - mangoes and Mother’s and Father’s Day stalls, Jacqui Kratofil - Mother’s and Father’s Day stalls, Nadene Humphries – Secretary, Leah Donato - Vice President, Rebecca McDermott - treasurer and school banking, Jenni Welch - book club, Michaela Fullerton – special, lunches, Katie Carr - school sign, Mel Fidanza- photo shoot, Carolyn Melocco - Gigliola shopping evening Jacqui Robinson - schedule for canteen, Sarah Green and Tomoko Nakamura – uniform, Penny Love and her band of helpers – Canteen, Emma Cunningham - School Council rep, Sharon Northey - 5c frenzy. Thank you to all the amazing helpers who have supported Parents Group this year, the list is too long to mention individually, no job has been too small or big for them and we appreciate all the support. Thank you to Jackie and Carol in the office and to all the teachers for their support and cooperation. RPS is an amazing school community and we are fortunate to have so much support. Looking forward to an exciting 2017 fete year.

Rachel Brown and Michelle Walker-Fox, Co-Presidents Parents Group

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE
Don't forget to send back your raffle tickets by Thursday 15th December (to help the office out with finalising their end of year!) for Tuesday's draw. Be in it to win it: 1st Guitar, Bag & Amp, 2nd Skatzer Party Voucher (up to $200), 3rd Hardrock Climbing Voucher (up to $100) and many famous Parents Group Hampers - We are still gratefully accepting donations for the raffle so please leave items at the office. Once again, thank you for your support.

MINI PHOTO SESSION FUNDRAISER
If you are still to choose your photos from the mini photo session please do so ASAP so these can be supplied by the end of the school year. If you select any extra photos, payment will need to be made before photos are supplied. Payment can be made direct to Mel or left at the school office. Thank you.

Mel Fidanza, Images By Mel

SCHOOL FETE 2017

MYSTERY JARS
It's time to now start saving your empty jars for the fabulous Mystery Jar stall at next years fete. Just give them a good wash, remove the label and keep aside. There will be a prize for the class that donates the most filled Mystery Jars.

LEGO DONATION
Do you have any Lego at home that's no longer used? If so, we need donations of Lego for the guessing competition. Every donation, big or small does help. Please leave at the office.

Sharon Northey

CANTEEN ROSTER & NEWS

SPECIAL LUNCH DAY
Thank you to everyone who was able to help, at this very busy time of year, at the Festive BBQ Special Lunch today. The children enjoyed their BBQ lunch.
**Canteen Roster**

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<th>Tuesday 13 December</th>
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<td>Afterschool Sales</td>
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<td>Pauline M</td>
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<td>11.30-1.50 Rochelle M</td>
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<td>Monday 19 December</td>
<td>Canteen Closed</td>
<td>Last day of Term 4</td>
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**School Banking News**

**Student School Banking**

There will be **no** school banking this week. School banking will resume next year, Friday 10 February 2017. Have a fantastic break.  
**Rebecca 0433 439 962**

If your child would like to join the program and open their very own bank account please go online to:  

**OSHClubs Before and After School Care at RPS**

This week at the program we have been very festive! Children have been participating in many different Christmas art and craft projects. We have made Christmas chains, letters to Santa box, 3D Santa and lots of glitter Christmas inspired pictures. It is fantastic to see all children expressing their Christmas spirit at the program. The room is looking fantastic; so many beautiful pieces of Christmas craft are hanging up on display. We are looking forward to all the Christmas creations this week too!

We also spent some lovely time outside this week. Children loved playing tennis, down ball and tiggy. Please ensure that your children have a hat that they can wear at the program for both before and after school care.

We hope that everyone has a fantastic week and we hope to see you at the program soon 😊

Warm regards, Serren and Emily

All families must be enrolled to attend the program and remember enrolment is free!! Please create an account online at [www.oshclub.com.au](http://www.oshclub.com.au), all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account.

**Before School Care:**  
Fee $6.34 to $9.85 (Full fee $19.70)    7.00am to 8.50am

**After School Care:**  
Fee $6.98 to $12.73 (Full fee $25.45)  3:30pm to 6:30pm

For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.
This week’s program

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<tr>
<td>Before School Activities</td>
<td>Christmas stockings &amp; basketball court</td>
<td>Playdough &amp; dancing</td>
<td>Decorate Santa &amp; wink murder</td>
<td>Christmas pine cones &amp; silent ball</td>
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<td>After School Activities</td>
<td>Wooden Christmas decorations &amp; Playground play</td>
<td>Christmas tree craft &amp; dancing</td>
<td>Decofoam Christmas baubles &amp; tricky tiggy</td>
<td>Paddle pop stick star ornaments &amp; Yum Yum balls</td>
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<td>Christmas hama bead ornaments &amp; Cricket</td>
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OSH program phone: 0427 793 936
OSH Club Head Office: 03 8564 9000
OSH Coordinator: Serren
OSH Assistant: Emily

COMMUNITY NEWS

HAYDEN’S HELPING HANDS
Member for Eltham Vicki Ward MP is opening her door to become a drop off point for an important cause which relies upon the generosity of local community donations.

The Eltham electorate office is currently collecting on behalf of Hayden’s Helping Hands; an important charity established a couple of years ago by very special local boy Hayden Rujak. On a family holiday to New York a few years ago at age 8 Hayden was struck by the number of homeless people he saw sleeping in Central Park and has worked hard ever since to improve the lot of Melbourne’s own rough sleepers at Enterprise Park. For nearly two years now this extraordinary boy and his amazing family have collected donated goods and personally distributed care packages to our homeless.

Donations of non-perishable foodstuffs, nappies, sanitary napkins, toilet paper, first aid supplies, and pet food are all items which will be gratefully received at Vicki’s office, and passed along to the Rujak family to be packaged up and distributed.

Electorate Office of Vicki Ward MP at 718 Main Road, Eltham

2nd ELTHAM SEA SCOUT, JOEY SCOUT MOB PREPARE FOR ADVENTURE IN 2017
Do you know how to cook chocolate spiders? Can you build monsters from scrap recyclable items? Where else can you explore out about nature and grow plants? You need to join Joey Scouts.

A recent parent testimonial stated ‘Being part of the Joey community has been a wonderful experience. My children have really grown with their own confidence, built wonderful friendships and found sensible independence. The activities are very broad and anyone can enjoy them. It’s lovely to be part of the community and see the kids learning new things all the time in real life situations. There is a lot of learning without them even realising they are learning’

We welcome boys and girls to join us at 2nd Eltham Sea Scouts on Wednesday evenings from 5.30pm-6.30pm. Joey Scouts are aged 6 - 7½. All enquiries welcome. Talk to Kelpie (Simone) on 0409 950 250 or email 2ndelthamgroup@gmail.com

ELTHAM JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB
Registration day Sunday 5th February 2017. New players wanted, boys & girls 7 – 17yrs. For enquiries please contact the club on 0434 506 270 or email rego@elthamjfc.com.au
ELTHAM PANTHERS JUNIOR NETBALL CLUB
Winter season starts 25 February 2017
Are you interested in playing netball? Come along and join our fun and exciting club. Join in on one of our U9, U11, U13, U15, U17 and open. Saturday games and Thursday training at Cnr Foot & Anderson Streets, Templestowe. For further information please contact Jo 0491 126 876 or email panthersjuniornetballclub@gamil.com