Tuesday 6 December 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 6 December</td>
<td>Year 7 2017 Government Schools Orientation Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 7 December</td>
<td>Grade 6 Graduation Evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 9 December</td>
<td>New grades 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 13 December</td>
<td>Parents Group Special Lunch</td>
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<td>Tuesday 20 December</td>
<td>Last Assembly 12.45pm, Term 4 finishes 1.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 1st February '17</td>
<td>Term 1 2017 starts 9am Grades 1 – 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 2nd February '17</td>
<td>Preps 2017 start, 9.30-3pm</td>
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CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Monday 12 December 5.30pm – 7pm
School Oval, BYO Picnic Tea & Drinks
(No other food or drinks will be available)
Bring a chair or rug and listen to carols performed by each class and by our School Christmas Choir.
Students need to be accompanied by an adult and can wear free dress with a Christmas theme.
We would love a few volunteers from 9am to help with setting up the stage

END OF YEAR
This Friday the children will bring home their Student Reports for end of the year as well as their very comprehensive Learning Journals. The reports and learning journals are best read together; as they give a very good overview of the child’s learning throughout the year. Thank you and well done to the teachers for their great efforts in once again preparing such comprehensive overviews of the children’s learning. The student reports are based on the new Victorian Curriculum F-10, so will not have ‘progress’ dots shown as in previous years. Also, the junior classes will see ‘Foundation’ level on their reports, Foundation is the general term around Australia now for the first year of school.

Students will meet their new teachers where possible on Friday and will move to their new rooms for 2017. We also welcome our new teachers for next year, Mr Mark O’Halloran who joins us from Watsonia North PS, Ms Larissa Salter who some of you will know, a new graduate teacher, and for two days a week in Phys Ed, Mr Christopher Kent from Healesville PS and Yarra Junction PS. The staff do a marvellous job arranging class groups for the following year and I thank them for their time and energy in what is a very complex procedure. Welcome to our new families who have joined us at RPS this year and the families new to RPS joining us in Preps.

Grade 6 Graduation will take place this Wednesday at Eltham High School from 5.30pm. The students will be meeting at Eltham High at 9am for a rehearsal then travelling back to school on the local bus. A huge thank you to Jacqui Kratofil and her fabulous team of parents for the marvellous job of making the evening happen. Thank you also to the grade 6 teachers Ms Brooke Ampfe and Mrs Julie Minarelli for their work with the children throughout the year.

Most of our grade 6s attended their year 7 Orientation Day today with students next year attending St Helena SC (13), Eltham High School (15), CLC (4), Templestowe College (1), Diamond Valley College (1) Eltham College (1), Parade College (1), Balwyn High (1), Marcellin (1) & Whitefriars (2). We wish them all the very best.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING
While the staff have been busy with their class responsibilities, student reports, learning journals, new grades and the like, they have also been very active in their own professional learning. Our VCOP writing day 2 training was very successful for all staff; many staff participated in the Nillumbik Schools Network ‘smorgasbord’ selection of a variety of curriculum training, both as participants and presenters, and several staff have attended some very informative Autism Spectrum Disorder staff training, some over several weeks after school, which they found very practical and useful. I would like to commend the staff for giving their time to their professional learning, always an important part of catering for individual student needs.
SCHOOL PAYMENTS
Grade 5 & 6 students who have not paid for Funfields will not be able to attend the excursion, and grades 2, 3, and 4 students who have not paid for Taskworks will also not be able to attend the excursion, so please settle any outstanding accounts. Please contact the school office tomorrow if you are unsure. Some families also owe for other excursions and activities from throughout the year, please finalise these accounts this week, including Grd 6 Graduation, Grds 2-4 Balance Gym, Prep-1 Swimming, Prep-1 Queen Victoria Market and the upcoming grade 5 and 6 Leadership incursions.

The money owing to school once again exceeds **$8,000 in outstanding debts**, so if families could please clear all amounts owing this week that would be most appreciated. Families who owe 'large' amounts to RPS (please see your recently mailed statements) are strongly encouraged to set up a regular weekly direct deposit payment plan through their bank, to the school official account, over summer, to clear all 2016 outstanding debts **before** school starts up again in 2017.

**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. 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

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.

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**.

Art: Lillian 1S  Bo 23C
Claudia 45S  Shiloh 45S  Jed 56A  Caylem 56A  Angus 23C
Chris 23C  Morris 23C  Kaeden 56M  Alysia 56M  Jade 34W
Zen 34W  Mathias 34W  Aslan 1S  Jim PB  Maddie PB

GRADE 2, 3 AND 4 END OF YEAR EXCURSION - TASKWORKS

To celebrate the end of a fantastic year the children in grades 2, 3 and 4 will be attending Taskworks activity centre this Thursday, 8th December. Taskworks is a hands on activity centre for school offering fun, hands-on activities which promote teamwork, creativity, communication, initiative and also link to the Victorian Curriculum. The students will work through six different activities including robot building, cable maze and the stomp-a-stump. The bus will depart school at 9am sharp. The students are to wear their school uniform and bring their school bag with their lunch, snack and water bottle. We are very excited and think this will be a fun day and a wonderful learning experience!

CHICKENS IN THE BER

There was much excitement in the BER Building last week when the eggs and baby chickens arrived. All of the eggs have now hatched and the chickens are growing fast.
**LITTLE EINSTEIN DAY**

Yesterday Research Primary had many little Einstein’s, scientists, inventors and even Stephen Hawking visit. It was wonderful to see everyone dressed up as a finale to our unit on Actions and Reactions. The students were amazed to learn that Einstein was thought to be ‘stupid’ and that he didn’t really enjoy school. He loved to use his imagination …"Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world." Thanks to the parents for supporting our Little Einstein Day.  

*Grade 2/3/4 Team*

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**CHOIR**

The Christmas Choir will be performing at Greensborough Plaza this Thursday afternoon on the main stage at 2pm, following their performance at St Vincent Care Eltham at 12 noon. Well done to all the students, and our fabulous choir teacher Michelle, and a huge thank you to our marvellous transporting and supportive parents. Not all the choir will be able to attend Thursday due to their excursion to Taskworks; however there will be a group of about a dozen performing. The whole choir’s next performance will be at our Carols evening on 12 December.

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**GRADE 6 2016 NEWS**

**GRADE 6 PHOTO BOOK**

Jacqui and Emel are gathering photos for the Grade 6 photobook. 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 from Jackie in the office. There are 3 USB sticks available, however you can put the photos on your own labelled USB which will be returned to you once downloaded. 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*

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**RESEARCH PRIMARY SCHOOL FETE 6th MAY 2017**

**WHITE ELEPHANT STALL**

There will be a collection morning for the Fete White Elephant Stall this Friday 9 December between 9am – 10am. Donations of unwanted goods can be brought to the gates under the Grade 5/6 classroom. We will accept homewares, cookware, ceramic & glass items, soft furnishings, cushions, bikes, scooters, prams, toys, games & puzzles (labelled as complete in bags), small furniture, artwork, jewellery, unused toiletries, clean children’s clothing and footwear (no holes or stains), hats & bags.

We cannot accept electrical goods, adult clothing or any damaged, incomplete or soiled items.  

*Jacqui Robinson*

**BOOK STALL FETE 2017**

I have started collecting books for the book stall at next year’s Fete. If you have books you no longer need please leave them in the reading area of the Prep / 1 Building (left of the entrance door). We DO NOT need magazines, encyclopedias, school text books or Reader Digest condensed books. Thank you.  

*Joy Pagon*
GUMNUT BABIES 100

Yesterday, December 5, was the centenary of the publication of the classic Australian children's book Gumnut Babies. May Gibbs came to Australia with her family in 1881 and as a child became enchanted with the Australian bush. She studied art in the UK and produced postcards depicting gumnut babies in uniform to support Australia's role in WWI. May wrote over fifteen books about gumnut babies including the famous Tales of Snugglepot and Cuddlepie published in 1918.

Joy Pagon

PARENTS GROUP

PARENTS GROUP UPCOMING EVENTS
13 Dec Parents Group special lunch 20 Dec Christmas Raffle drawn

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

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE
In our Christmas Raffle this year you’ll again have the chance to win some fabulous prizes; 1st Guitar, Bag & Amp, 2nd Skatzer Party Voucher (up to $200), 3rd Hardrock Climbing Voucher (up to $100) and many of our famous Parents Group Hampers. We would like to make up some of our famous hampers to be part of our raffle prizes so we are asking, next time you’re in your local supermarket or store, please pick up an item or two to contribute, such as: food, alcohol, books, cards, toys, giftware or stationery. Hamper items need to be bought in to the office by Friday 9th December.

Raffle tickets have been sent home today and we would love the completed stubs, with money to be returned by Thursday 15th December (to help the office out with finalising their end of year!). The raffle winners will be announced at the assembly on the last day of school, Tuesday 20th December. Once again, thank you for your support.

CANTEEN ROSTER & NEWS

SPECIAL LUNCH DAY
Our last special lunch for the year is on Tuesday 13 December, a festive BBQ. Children will come up to the canteen to collect their lunch hot off the bbq, this way if they choose a hamburger (beef) or veggie burger they can also choose to add lettuce and sauce themselves. Orders should have been placed, if you still need to return yours then please do so immediately, thank you. Please return order form and money by Monday 5 December.

We still require some volunteers to assist with the BBQ; please let me know if you are able to help

** Festive Christmas chocolate treat will be substituted with a candy cane. **

Michaela 0414 456 605

CANTEEN HELP
If anyone is available to do the vacant shifts (marked with an asterisk on the roster) please contact Jacqui Robinson (0414 362 275) or call the office.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>CANTEEN ROSTER</th>
<th>Tuesday 6 December</th>
<th>Thursday 8 December</th>
<th>Friday 9 December</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Afterschool Sales</td>
<td>Afterschool Sales</td>
<td>9-11.30 Penny L</td>
<td>9-11.30 Jacqui R</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.30-4pm</td>
<td>3.30-4pm</td>
<td>11.30-1.50 ********</td>
<td>11.30-1.50 Pauline M</td>
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<td>11.30-1.50 Carolyn S</td>
<td>11.30-1.50 Rochelle M</td>
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<tr>
<th>Monday 12 December</th>
<th>Tuesday 13 December</th>
<th>Thursday 15 December</th>
<th>Friday 16 December</th>
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<tr>
<td>12.30 – 1.30pm</td>
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<td>Afterschool Sales</td>
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<th>Monday 19 December</th>
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<tr>
<td>Canteen Closed</td>
<td>Last day of Term 4 Canteen Closed</td>
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**SCHOOL BANKING NEWS**

**STUDENT SCHOOL BANKING**

Our school banking day is Friday. Please place your child’s banking book and money in their classroom grey banking bag first thing in the morning and ensure that any money is securely placed in the velcro pocket of their banking book. Thank you.

Rebecca 0433 439 962

If your child would like to join the program and open their very own bank account please go online to: [https://www.commbank.com.au/personal/accounts/savings-accounts/youthsaver/apply-online.html](https://www.commbank.com.au/personal/accounts/savings-accounts/youthsaver/apply-online.html)

**OSHClub BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE AT RPS**

This week at OSHClub we all had so much fun expressing ourselves through drawing. Throughout the whole week children were engaged in drawing pictures and becoming creative with their designs. It was so fantastic to watch children improve on their confidence in drawing this week. Children have also been working on creating gods eyes; these are looking fantastic hanging up in the room. Along with drawing, children also started to get into the festive season and began to decorate the room. We are super excited to start making Christmas craft creations, so for the remainder of the term our passive activities will be based around the festive season.

We would like to remind you to please bring a spare hat for your child if they plan to attend the program at all this term. It has been requested that they keep their school hats in the classroom, so if your children excels in an outside environment they will need to have a hat ready to go. If you have any questions about the service or any general inquiries please pop down and see us, we love meeting new families.

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.

OSHClub Head Office: 03 8564 9000
OSHC Coordinator: Serren
OSH Assistant: Emily

<table>
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<tr>
<th>This week’s program</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Before School Activities</strong></td>
<td>Christmas wreath &amp; silent ball</td>
<td>Reindeer headband &amp; dancing</td>
<td>Pokémon Christmas crafts &amp; clap ball</td>
<td>Christmas cards &amp; heads down thumbs up</td>
<td>Christmas star &amp; downball</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>After School Activities</strong></td>
<td>Christmas paper chains &amp; Numbers basketball</td>
<td>Christmas trees &amp; dancing</td>
<td>Christmas decofoam baubles &amp; scarecrow tiggy</td>
<td>Paper angels &amp; 2 square</td>
<td>Felt Christmas ornaments &amp; Christmas painting</td>
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Thunderstorms have been linked to epidemics of asthma, especially at the end of Spring, when grasses are flowering.

An asthma attack can be life threatening. Anyone experiencing wheezing, chest tightness and difficulty breathing should call 000. Anyone with a known history of asthma is at risk of experiencing an exacerbation of their usual symptoms at this time. In addition, people who do not usually experience symptoms of asthma but have a history of allergies may be at increased risk.

The common signs of asthma are difficulty in breathing (gasping for air), chest tightness and wheezing. If a child's condition is deteriorating, parents or guardians should seek urgent care. Signs of rapid deterioration include little or no relief from a reliever inhaler, inability to speak comfortably, or lips turning blue.

People with asthma should continue to use their usual medications. Where possible, stay inside when the weather is windy with high pollen counts or dust.

**Actions required**

If a child is experiencing symptoms, notify their parents immediately (if you require advice, call Nurse on Call in the first instance, 1300 606 024).

If the child’s symptoms include wheezing, chest tightness and difficulty breathing, call 000.

For any child having an asthma attack, follow the instructions in their Asthma Care Plan (required for any child who has asthma, under the Department’s asthma policy). If an Asthma Care Plan is not available, follow the four-step asthma first aid, which is:

1. Sit the person upright and give reassurance – do not leave them alone.
2. Without delay, give the person four separate puffs of their blue/grey reliever medication (such as Airomir, Asmol, Bricanyl or Ventolin). If using a puffer (like Ventolin or Asmol), this should be taken one puff at a time through a spacer. Ask the person to take four breaths from the spacer after each puff of medication.
3. Wait four minutes. If there is little or no improvement, repeat steps 2 and 3.
4. If there is still no improvement, call 000 for an ambulance immediately. Repeat steps 2 and 3 continuously while waiting for the ambulance to arrive.

**For more information and resources in supporting asthma sufferers, see:**

- Asthma Australia
- Better Health Channel
- School Policy and Advisory Guide: Asthma attacks treatment

**Dr Jenny Proimos, Principal Medical Advisor, Early Childhood and School Education Group**

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**CHILDREN’S NATIVITY PHOTOS**

A photo opportunity to reflect the true meaning of Christmas! St. Margaret’s Church in Eltham is providing a nativity scene and costumes for children to dress up as the biblical characters who form part of the nativity story. Bring along your children and grandchildren for a treasured photo opportunity and let family and friends know. There will also be other Christmas activities available for children including Christmas crafts and a chance to help decorate our Christmas tree. For further information please contact Keren on 0438 220 878.

**When:** Friday 16th December (3-6pm) and Sunday 18th December (11.30am-1.30pm)

**Where:** St Margaret’s Church Hall, Pitt St, ELTHAM

**Cost:** FREE

**BYO CAMERA OR MOBILE PHONE**

**RAINING SPIRIT DOJO**

Raining Spirit Dojo teaches eclectic modern Ju Jutsu Martial Arts, which is a beautiful melding of traditional Japanese Martial Arts, yoga, weaponry study, breath work, fitness, anatomy and physiology and streetwise self-defence, with a focus on spiritual and emotional growth. We run Kids, Teens and Adult classes every week - the aim being that each student feels confident, self-assured, the ability to treat self and others with respect, love, compassion and acceptance. To see and experience what we do, come have x3 free trial classes. Bookings through the website [www.rainingspiritdojo.com.au](http://www.rainingspiritdojo.com.au) or phone the Dojo 0413 035 440. Located in Research and Hurstbridge.

**CHRISTMAS FAMILY NIGHT BUNNINGS ELTHAM**


**Bunnings Eltham**
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TENNIS COACHING

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