

**Respect  
Ambition  
Community  
Confidence**



**May 2026**

**5/6 Term 2 Newsletter**

### Dates Term 2

- 1<sup>st</sup> May – ISS Starts at Home vs Lower Plenty
- 8<sup>th</sup> May – ISS vs Eltham College (away)  
Year 7 2027 Applications Due
- 13<sup>th</sup> May – District Cross Country
- 14<sup>th</sup> May – Assembly  
Pirate Day Fundraiser
- 18<sup>th</sup> May – RPS Open Morning  
9:30 – 11:00am
- 22<sup>nd</sup> May - ISS vs St Thomas (away)
- 27<sup>th</sup> May – RPS Athletics @ Willinda Park
- 29<sup>th</sup> May –ISS vs Sherbourne (home)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Jun – Assembly  
Division Cross Country
- 5<sup>th</sup> Jun – Research Ridge
- 8<sup>th</sup> Jun – King’s Birthday
- 9<sup>th</sup> Jun – Curriculum Day (no school)
- 10<sup>th</sup> June – School Photos
- 12<sup>th</sup> Jun ISS vs Our Lady’s (Away)
- 18<sup>th</sup> Jun –Assembly
- 19<sup>th</sup> Jun – ISS vs Briar Hill (Home)
- 25<sup>th</sup> Jun – Community Maths Day
- 26<sup>th</sup> June – Assembly 1:30pm  
Term 2 ends 2.30pm
- 13<sup>th</sup> July – Term 3 Begins

### Term 1 Highlights – What a Fantastic Start!

**That’s a Wrap!** Term 1 certainly flew by quickly and it was packed to the brim with wonderful experiences which included settling into the Senior years, whole school events such as Swimming trials and events, NAPLAN, National Young Leaders Day (Year 6), Health and Human Relations. The learning gained throughout the topic ‘What makes you ...YOU!’ will continue to be a focus throughout the year - developing independence, resilience and responsibility for their own learning.

### Term 2

Welcome to Term 2. I hope you all had a fantastic Easter break and managed to enjoy some of the last of the sunshine!

This term is shaping up to be a busy and exciting one, with many fantastic learning experiences and opportunities for our Year 5/6 students with Research Ridge being the highlight. Please see below for a snapshot of the term ahead.

*The following staff will continue working closely with your child, providing many new, stimulating, and challenging experiences throughout the year.*

**5/6 Teachers** Miss Eliza Hegan & Ms Jocelyn Watts

**Specialists** Mr Mark O’Halloran (PE & Library)  
Ms Cath McLardy (Science & Technology)  
Ms Zoe Minnas (Art)



### School Production Update

Some of our Year 5/6 students have been hard at work behind the scenes, writing the script for our upcoming whole school production in Term 3. Auditions for acting roles will take place over the coming weeks, and excitement is definitely starting to build across the team. We can’t wait to see this creative project come to life!

**ENGLISH** The English program focuses on the development and extension of Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening skills and involves the students working both independently and in groups to build upon their individual skills.

### Reading

This term, students will continue to read independently to practise the strategies learned in class. They will engage with a mix of student-selected and teacher-selected texts.

Students will also refine their ability to choose a ‘Good Fit’ book and continue building their reading stamina.

The reading strategies we will be focusing on this term are Making Connections, Summarising, Analysing, Inferring, and Synthesising.

### Writing

This term, we have an exciting writing program ahead, with students applying their skills in a range of meaningful ways. Our focus will be on letter and diary writing, based on their experiences at Sovereign Hill and Research Ridge, as well as their research into the Victorian gold rush.

Students will continue to build their writing by using connectives, engaging sentence starters, and technical vocabulary related to early Australia. Year 5/6 students will also explore figurative language to make their writing more vivid and engaging.

### Mathematics

This term, students will take part in daily Math’s sessions, exploring new concepts through a range of engaging and differentiated activities. Our focus areas include fractions, decimals, addition, time, mapping and coordinates, and measurement (mass and capacity). Students will also have opportunities to apply their skills in real-life contexts to build confidence and deepen their understanding.

We encourage regular practice of times tables at home to support classroom learning. All students have access to Mathematics at school and at home, providing further opportunities to consolidate their numeracy skills.

## Integrated - Studies Eureka! Gold in Victoria

This term, our integrated unit is *Eureka! Gold in Victoria* (Humanities – History, Communication, Civics & Citizenship).

Students will explore how the gold rush shaped Australian society, economy, and culture.

They will learn about the discovery of gold in 1851, the arrival of people from around the world seeking fortune, and how this led to rapid growth and the transformation of small communities into busy towns.

Students will deepen their understanding of this important period through hands-on experiences, including visits to Sovereign Hill and participation in Research Ridge.

### Research Ridge

Research Ridge will be held on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June, and students are very excited for this upcoming event. This experience gives students the opportunity to step back in time and explore life on the Victorian goldfields in the 1850s.

Throughout the day, students will cook and eat food prepared on open fires, build their own shelters, create entertainment, and try their luck at looking for gold—hopefully striking it rich!

This engaging and hands-on experience supports a wide range of skills and plays an important role in bringing our unit to life.

### Research Ridge – Parent/Adult Helpers

We are seeking parent/adult helpers to support our Research Ridge Day.

We would greatly appreciate assistance with:

- helping to set up fires and supervise cooking activities
- providing cooking utensils, pots, and ingredients
- supplying items such as firewood, tarps, and shovels

Even if you are only able to drop in for a short time, your child will love seeing you there!

**Further details are in the notice that went home this week.**

### Home Learning

Home Learning will be handed out on **Friday** and due back on the following **Wednesday**. The aim of home learning is for students to take Personal Responsibility for their learning at home. Parents are asked to encourage their child to establish a Home Learning routine. Home Learning will begin this week (Week 3).

**Specialists Classes** Your child will be participating in the following specialist classes this year:

**Art** - This term, Grade 5/6 students will explore the elements of form, texture, repetition, and volume through a textile's unit. They will design and sketch their own fantasy "soft creatures" as they learn about soft sculpture. Students will investigate how artists use fabric, stuffing, and texture to create 3D artworks, and will look at the work of artists such as Yayoi Kusama and Stephanie Metz. They will also begin learning basic hand-sewing skills, including the safe use of needles and thread, as they bring their designs to life.

**Physical Education** – In PE, Year 5/6 students will continue to build on their skills and apply strategies across a range of sports, with a strong focus on preparing for the RPS House Athletics Carnival. They will refine techniques in key athletics events while developing teamwork, resilience, and leadership. Across all sessions, students will be encouraged to demonstrate positive sportsmanship and confidence, particularly during interschool sport.

**Library** – In library sessions this term, students are encouraged to borrow up to four books to enjoy both in the classroom and at home. We will be exploring and discussing a range of texts, while aiming to build their love of reading.

**Science** – This term, our Grade 5/6 students will explore the observable properties of matter and learn how scientists explain these properties using particle models. Students will investigate how solids, liquids, and gases behave, and how their behaviour can be understood by looking at the motion and arrangement of particles. They will also explore how mixtures and solutions are formed when two or more substances are combined, and how these can sometimes be separated again.



### Home – School Communication

#### With Classroom Teachers

Please feel free to contact me at any time to discuss your child's learning progress, or to share any questions, concerns, or celebrations throughout the year. I can be contacted via Compass email.

I kindly ask that you avoid catching me before 8:50am, as I am preparing for the school day. I am also unavailable after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays due to staff meetings and training.

#### With the School or Office

The following are the school's contact details:

1570 Main Road Research 3095

Tel: 9437 1917

[research.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:research.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

### Interschool Sport

We will begin Interschool Sport this week – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May. The students are playing in one of the following sports: Bat Tennis, AFL 9s, Netball and Soccer. The games are held on Friday afternoons from 12:30 – 2:00pm. (Leave school at 12 noon)

If you are able to come along and cheer Research, please do so, the kids would love to see you there.

### Year 7 2027 Applications Due – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2026

Please return completed applications to Research Primary school.

Any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Watts.

*Thank you for taking the time to read the 5/6's Term 2 Newsletter. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us, or email the school directly. We look forward to working successfully with you and your child this year.*

Kind Regards

**Jocelyn Watts & Eliza Hegan**

**"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."  
— Dr. Seuss**