Respect
Ambition
Community
Confidence





Research Primary School

October 2026

5/6 Term 4 Newsletter

Dates Term 4

5th Oct Term 4 begins!

8th Oct Assembly

9th Oct Playground Excursion

28th Oct Whole school photo & Yr 6

29th Oct Assembly

2nd Nov Curriculum Day - no students

3rd Nov Melbourne Cup

6th Nov Community Day

12th Nov Assembly

18th Nov Keyboard Concert

24th Nov Yr 5 Captain speeches

26th Nov 5/6 Incursion "Navigating the Digital World 9:30am-1pm

1st Dec Captain Interviews 9am-12:30am

3rd Dec Assembly

8th Dec Step Up Day & Yr 7 Orientation Step Up day

10th Dec Yr 6 Graduation

14th Dec Yr 6 Silent Disco

16th Dec 5/6 Funfields

18th Dec Final Assembly
Farewell Yr 6 & Christmas Carols
Term 4 Ends 1.30pm

Term 3 - *What a Term!*
Term 3 has been an action-packed whirlwind of learning, teamwork, and memorable experiences. Students worked together with enthusiasm during the 3-6 Camp Week away experience. These three days were a huge success, as students were confronted with facing fears like the low ropes course, surviving in the bush, canoeing and ultimately being away from home! And, of course, there was plenty of laughter (and a little sneaky fun!) with knick-knocking along the way.

Another highlight was the 5/6 Bushfire Expo where they worked tirelessly to develop a solution to a problem they identified in pairs. The expo was a massive success, and it was great to see so many families supporting their child. The famous Hoop Time Day was also an unforgettable memory for all students who participated. I think it's safe to say that our students at RPS came away with more basketball experience than they started off with. It was fantastic term full of creativity, collaboration, and memories we'll never forget!

Term 4 - Making the Most of Our Last Term!
It's hard to believe we're already in Term 4 — where has the year gone! For our Year 6 students, this is their final term of primary school before beginning the exciting journey into secondary school. This term is filled with engaging learning experiences, special events, and memorable opportunities. Highlights will include an excursion to the creative and imaginative playgrounds in our local area, Year 5 Captain's speeches, Year 6 Graduation, and the much-anticipated Funfields trip at the end of the year!

The following staff will continue working closely with your child, providing many new, stimulating, and challenging experiences in our specialist areas: Ms Zoe Minnis, (Art), Cath (Science) and Mark O'Halloran (PE & Library).



Writing
This term, students will continue to develop their writing skills through narrative and persuasive texts. They'll explore how to plan, draft and edit their work to create engaging stories and persuasive Shark Tank Pitches. In narratives, students will focus on building strong characters, creating tension, and using descriptive language to bring their writing to life. While in Persuasive writing, they'll learn to organise ideas effectively and include persuasive devices that help to engage their reader and take their writing to the next level! Year 5 students will put their persuasive writing skills into practice as they prepare their captain's speeches, while Year 6 students will reflect on their primary school journey as they write their graduation speeches.



Reading
In Reading, Year 5/6 students will continue to build their reading stamina through regular independent reading. They will develop key comprehension skills, including making connections, analysing, critiquing and inferring across a range of genres. Through an author study of Chris Van Allsburg, students will explore the themes and messages within his texts and examine how authors use imagery, vocabulary and figurative language to engage the reader and shape meaning. Students will also reflect on their reading preferences and strategies, setting personal goals to continue developing as confident and thoughtful readers.



Mathematics
This term, students will build on their skills in subtraction, multiplication and division, while further developing their understanding of fractions, decimals and percentages. They will apply their knowledge of the four operations, number facts and times tables to solve increasingly complex problems. *(Please continue to encourage your child to practise their times tables regularly at home.)*
Year 5/6 students will also collect, represent and interpret data, while exploring chance and the probability of different events occurring.

Integrated Studies
This term, our Inquiry unit, **'Dream Playground'** (Design and Technologies, Personal and Social Capability, and Critical and Creative Thinking), will see students explore the process of designing a safe, inclusive and engaging playground.
Students will investigate five different play styles: **physical, social, imaginative, sensory and exploratory play**, considering how each can be incorporated into an effective playground design. They will then apply the design process to develop their own playground, creating a **2D bird's-eye plan** before constructing a **3D model** from their design.

To support their learning, students have taken part in an excursion to the local parks in our area including Wonguim Wilam Playspace, Ruffey Lake Park and Eltham North Adventure playground. This experience will inspire the creation of the 5/6s final project which will be a 3D model of their architecturally designed playground space.

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

Art - This term in Art, Year 5/6 students will review elements of art, including colour, value, shape and space. Inspired by the still life artwork of Lucy Culliton, students will create a bird's-eye view of a plate of fruit, using patterns and shadows to create form. They will also explore Bernadette Twomey's abstract botanical artworks, using colour, shape and detail to create their own botanical pieces, including small details within the negative space. Students will finish the term by decorating their own Christmas tree ornaments. (Ms M)

Library - In Term 4, our Year 5/6 students will explore a wide variety of books, share their reading preferences and reflect on their reading experiences. They will have opportunities to broaden their reading interests and build their reading stamina. Students will be encouraged to borrow books to read in the classroom and at home. (Mr O)

Physical Education - In Term 4, our Year 5/6 students will build on their skills through lacrosse, European handball, tennis and cricket. They will focus on refining their techniques, applying game strategies and working collaboratively in teams. Students will also continue to develop their sportsmanship, leadership and ability to demonstrate fairness, respect and responsibility during competition. (Mr O)

Science – Circuits and Energy
This term, our Year 5/6 students will explore electricity, energy and electrical circuits. They will investigate different forms of energy and how energy can be transferred and transformed, build and modify simple circuits, and test materials as conductors or insulators. Students will also explore coding and robotics, before designing and creating their own working electrical system. (Cath McLardy)

YEAR 6 GRADUATION 2026
THURSDAY 10TH DECEMBER
6:00 for a 6:30pm start



Year 5 Captain's Speeches – Tuesday 24th November, 2026
Year 5 Captain's speeches delivered from 9am-11pm. Parents welcome to come to watch.

Funfields
The much anticipated, annual end of year excursion is once again at Funfields, Whittlesea on **Wednesday 16th December.** More details later.

Wellbeing
Wellbeing continues to be an important focus for our Year 5/6 students. This term, students will explore friendships, coping strategies and teamwork to strengthen our Year 5/6 community. They will also focus on respectful relationships, inclusive language and actions, gender stereotypes, equality of opportunity and peer pressure. Students will participate in a cyber safety incursion, *Navigating the Digital World*, focusing on staying safe and making responsible choices online.

Home – School Communication
With Classroom Teachers
Feel free to reach out at any time to discuss your child's learning progress, as well as any questions, concerns, or successes you'd like to share throughout the year. I can be emailed through Compass online. Please try to avoid catching me after 8.50am in the morning as I am busy preparing for the day. Also, I am unavailable after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays due to staff 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



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 in week 3 and finish in week 9.

That's a snapshot of Term 4 — a busy but enjoyable finish to the year! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.
Regards
Jocelyn Watts and Eliza Hegan
"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn." - Benjamin Franklin