

This is how we Learn and Live!

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER • 5 February 2020 • TERM 1 WEEK 2



Calendar Dates

Term 1, 2020	
Week 3	Bell Times 8:45am – 2:45pm
Monday 10 February	Yrs 3 – 6 Swimming Carnival
Tuesday 11 February	5.30 – 6.45pm Year 5 Meet the Teacher 6.30 – 7.45pm Year 6 Meet the Teacher
Week 4	
Friday 21 February	PSSA Commences Leaders Induction Assembly 2pm
Sunday 23 February	P&C Welcome Picnic for new families 9am
Week 5	
Monday 24 February	5.30 – 6.30pm Kindergarten Meet the Teacher
Thursday 27 February	1.45pm Year 1 Assembly – 1MC
Friday 28 February	PSSA 1.45pm Year 3 Assembly – 3M
Week 6	
Tuesday 3 March	Ridges Swimming Carnival
Wednesday 4 March	Kindergarten and New Student Photos
Thursday 5 March	1.45pm Year 2 Assembly – 2FN
Friday 6 March	PSSA 12.00pm Stage 3 Assembly – 6B 1.45pm Year 4 Assembly – 4J
Week 7	
Thursday 12 March	Maria Locke Hub Welcome Ceremony 10am 1.45pm Year 1 Assembly – 1N
Friday 13 March	1.45pm Year 3 Assembly – 3J

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome back to all our Riverbank families and a special warm welcome to those students and their families who are joining our school community. We hope you enjoy a long and happy association with our school. We take pride in setting high expectations of our students who are the very centre of our structured learning environment. Our Restorative Practice philosophy provides a framework for building strong relationships, effective communication, personal and social responsibility and a sense of belonging.

Education in a changing world has a vital role to play in preparing students for successful, enriched lives. At Riverbank Public School, students are challenged, yet nurtured and work both independently and in groups to solve authentic problems. Learning includes partnerships with industries in order to develop skills in students of innovation, fair testing and experimentation. Students accumulate a strong repertoire of general capabilities including literacy, numeracy, creative and critical thinking, intercultural understanding, ethical understanding, information and communication technologies and personal and social capability.

Students, staff, parents and community members are encouraged to participate in all aspects of school life. Parents are valued as true partners in the education of their children, contributing their initiative, energy, time and expertise to the school. At Riverbank, all students have the opportunity to attain knowledge, skills, values and attitudes enabling them to be reflective, self-sufficient and self-motivated lifelong learners.

This year we have formed 64 mainstream classes and 3 support classes for students with special needs.

12 Early Stage 1 - Kindergarten

22 Stage 1 - Years 1 and 2

16 Stage 2 - Years 3 and 4

14 Stage 3 - Years 5 and 6

The first few days of a new school year are always a little hectic; as students learn new routines and parents are keen to find out what class their children are in and where they line up. I have been very impressed with how settled the students have been in their new classrooms.

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Our school times are 8.45am to 2.45pm.

Morning supervision 8.15am to 8.45am.

8.45am	Morning bell
10.15am	K-2 Recess
10.45am	3-6 Recess
12.45pm	K-2 Lunch
1.15pm	3-6 Lunch
2.45pm	Afternoon bell

Our main entry gate will be open from 8am to 9am and then from 2pm to 3pm. Between 9am and 2pm, there is an intercom at the main entry for parents to access the school. The High School now have their own gates on Wentworth Street, located near their car park.

Before and After school care will now have their own gates from 6.30am to 8.15am and then from 2.30pm to 6.30pm. This gate is the entrance the school used in 2019.

All students have a wonderful opportunity to participate in weekly Chess, Dance, Choir, Band, Music, Music tuition, Drama, ICT, Debating and PSSA sport programs. An overview of paid after school activities will be sent out on the school app this week.

Meet the Teacher information evening sessions will be held during weeks 2 & 3 and week 5 for Kindergarten. All sessions will commence in the school hall and these sessions are for parents only. Individual student learning will be discussed at parent - teacher interviews in Week 10.

Newsletters are published during even weeks and updates are sent out through our school app. Our Facebook page celebrates our weekly achievements.

Late Drop off and Early Pick Up - If you are picking up your child early, you must go to the school office and sign them out before you collect your child from the classroom. If a student is late coming to school, you must sign them in at the front office before they go to class. Students cannot sign themselves in or out of school.

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The school's Kiss and Ride area is within the "No Parking" zones and are located on Wentworth Street and Riverbank Drive. You are only allowed to stop your vehicle to set down or pick up passengers and must not stop for more than 2 minutes. The driver must not be more than 3 metres from the vehicle. Highway patrol will be regularly patrolling our perimeter. Thank you for ensuring the safety of all of our students when entering and leaving the premises.

Allergies - Anaphylaxis is a potentially life threatening, severe allergic reaction which occurs after exposure to an allergen (usually to foods, insects or medicines), to which a person is already extremely sensitive. We have a number of students at Riverbank Public School with anaphylaxis and similar allergic conditions and our staff undertake face-to-face and online training in providing an emergency response to this condition. The parents of our anaphylactic and allergic students work hard to educate their children about the risks of sharing food, as do our teachers.

As this is a potentially life-threatening condition, we ask that you please consider these students before sending high-risk products such as peanut butter, Nutella and seafood in school lunchboxes. Please talk to your child about the potential risks of sharing food and ask them to wash their hands after eating any nut-based or seafood products. Thank you for your understanding, our anaphylactic children and their families appreciate your support.

Practical help for parents and carers - Our new families in particular may be interested in accessing the useful information for parents and carers provided for 2020 here: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/practical-help-for-parents-and-carers>.

Working in Partnership - We recognise that in order to be successful, our children need support from both the home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities. We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she:

- Attends school daily and arrives on time, ready for the day's learning experience
- Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills
- Shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his/her school life
- Informs you if he/she needs additional support in any area or subject
- Knows that you expect him/her to do well at school

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Coronavirus

Current advice from the Australian Government Department of Health for parents and affected staff is:

- People who have been in contact with any confirmed Novel Coronavirus cases must be isolated in their home for 14 days following exposure;
- Returned travellers who have been in Hubei Province of China must be isolated in their home for 14 days after leaving Hubei Province, other than for seeking individual medical care.
- Students currently excluded from school are those who:
 - over the last 14 days has visited the province of Hubei in central China. They should not return to school or child care services for a period of 14 days after leaving China, as the coronavirus' incubation period can be as long as two weeks, or
 - are under medical assessment, or
 - have been diagnosed with the Novel Coronavirus, or
 - have had close contact with a confirmed case of the Novel Coronavirus. The Ministry of Health has processes in place to identify any close contacts of cases confirmed in Australia.

In addition, The NSW Ministry of Health and NSW Department of Education have recommended that:

Any student who was in China, including Hong Kong but excluding the province of Hubei over the past 14 days is recommended not attend school or child care services for a period of 14 days after leaving Hubei Province, as the Novel Coronavirus' incubation period can be as long as two weeks.

Students who returned to Australia more than 14 days ago and have shown no symptoms are able to return to school this week. There has been a small number of cases of confirmed Novel Coronavirus in New South Wales. The Ministry of Health has processes in place to identify any close contacts of cases confirmed in Australia. Advice about not attending school would be provided to these close contacts by the Ministry of Health. Consistent with current guidelines, students who are unwell with respiratory illness should remain at home until symptoms resolve. In accordance with our current practice, if any child becomes unwell we will implement our infection control guidelines and follow the advice provided by the Ministry of Health as appropriate.

We will continue to monitor the situation closely and take advice received from NSW Ministry of Health and NSW Department of Education to ensure we are responding to the situation appropriately.

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Bolong 'aia Maria Locke Innovation and Inquiry Hub

Please save the date Thursday 12 March 10am – 11am invitation in this week's newsletter

Did you know that one of the options to name the school was Maria Locke? The community were provided with two names in October 2014 and elected Riverbank PS. From there, I made a commitment with the community to name our Innovation and Learning Hub after Maria Locke.

In 2020, our Library will be relocating to a ground floor classroom. In line with our new build, we have nominated to create the library space into an Innovation and Inquiry Hub for classes to collaboratively work together in flexible learning spaces. This does not mean that the Library is not continuing. The space will be different, but the love of reading and borrowing will continue to thrive.

Our new Innovation and Inquiry Hub is named after a significant Darug lady Bolong 'aia Maria Locke (1808-1878). The naming of the space after Maria, aims to further connect our school community with the Darug history and culture of our local area. Maria Locke was the daughter of Yarramundi, 'Chief of the Richmond Tribes'. The family belonged to the Boorooberongal clan of the Darug people.

Maria was an inspirational leader for the Darug nation. She was educated in the colonies and was the first Aboriginal to win an academic award for excellence. Maria's education later allowed her to partition for land rights and she was granted significant tracts of land in Liverpool and the Blacktown area, which was unprecedented for the times.

Last week we were very fortunate to have two lovely Darug ladies, Leanne Mulgo Watson and Erin Wilkins come to our school to paint a Yarning Circle. A Yarning Circle is the age-old way Aboriginal people have shared their stories and culture. When people come to the Circle, they have an opportunity to speak and learn in a safe, collaborative environment.

The following quote from Leanne illustrates the significance of the Yarning Circle to Aboriginal culture:

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‘In our culture we have yarning circles. In a circle, we are all equal, this is a place where many decisions are made and the culture is shared and kept strong. Fire is also a big part of our culture. It is used for life, ceremonies and caring for country. The smoke is there when we are born during life and it is what sends us back to the dreamtime.’

At Riverbank, we regularly participate in Circle Time activities as part of our Restorative Practice. Learning in the Circle is strongly embedded in our school culture, which works beautifully with the Aboriginal way of learning in the Yarning Circle. The new Yarning Circle provides a beautiful and culturally significant entrance to our Bolong’uia Maria Locke Innovation and Inquiry Hub with Leanne’s totem animal kutukulung (turtle) to lead the way.

My thanks to Mrs Griffiths and Mrs Brace for working with the Elders over the course of 2019 in preparation for our Bolong’uia Maria Locke Innovation and Inquiry Hub. We will be holding a significant naming ceremony on Thursday 12 March at 10am. Everyone is welcome to attend.

If you have changed your phone number, address or other details over the holidays please let us know so we can contact you if/when needed. An updated student details form is included below. Please complete and return to the office if any of your details have recently changed.

At Riverbank, we value open communication channels in our school. You are more than welcome to make an appointment to meet with me by contacting the School Administration Staff. Alternatively, I am in the playground most mornings and afternoons and I always welcome feedback.

Finally, I would like to welcome 26 new staff to Riverbank PS this year. We are extremely fortunate to have vibrant, inspiring educators and support staff. I have included a list of all staff in this newsletter.

Our Riverbank Information Booklet link:

<https://riverbank-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/parent-information/parent-information-booklet.html>

Best wishes for an exciting year ahead.

Mrs Jeanie Brown
Principal

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Leaders

It gives me great pleasure to announce our 2020 school leadership team:

School Captains

Natalie Wong

Rishi Sahasrabuddhe

School Vice-Captain

Nethra Srinivasan

Arjun Bhandari

Prefects

Tanvi Narayan

Isaac Clements

Prisha Shah

Paarth Sharma

Lily McGuinness

Viraj Thakur

Maher Mann

Manish Lal

House and Vice Captains

Boyce

Captains

Oliver Bennion and Sanah Wilson

Vice-Captains

Elif Lin and Dilkeet Bajwa

Piddington

Captains

Evie Roberts and Cael Larino

Vice-Captains

Punima Rana and Kai Winters

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Tomah

Captains

Kylan Horky and Summer Debrincat

Vice-Captains

Lachlan Debrincat and Sarayu Parvatam

York

Captains

Riley Drennan and Alyssa Dahu

Vice-Captains

Seth Williams-Ross and Alissa Haasbroek

Library Prefects

Madeline Parsons

Shua Gade

Mitali Garg

Hoda Akbari

Suhanee Patel

Svana Patel

Harmandeep Kaur

Aarchi Dhobi

Bradley Ward

Anshul Iyer

David McCann

Aayan Chokshi

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Executive

Principal - Mrs Jeanie Brown

Deputy Principal - Mrs Elisa Baker

Deputy Principal - Mr Grant Rimmer

Deputy Principal - Mrs Stephanie Lambert

Deputy Principal (Relieving) - Mr Angus Lamont

Assistant Principals

Years K to 2

Ms Catherine Wing (Kindergarten)

Mrs Jessica Muir - Relieving (Year 1)

Mrs Leah Felton - Relieving (Year 2)

Years 3 to 6

Mrs Kate Martin - Relieving (Year 3)

Mrs Jessica Beard (Year 4)

Mr Ben Cain (Year 5)

Mrs Sue Rozanc - Relieving (Year 6)

Support Classes

Mrs Melissa Brace - Relieving

Assistant Principals Instructional Leaders

K-2 Miss Ashleigh Edwards

Stage 2 Ms Leah Jones

Kindergarten classroom teachers

KC Ms Catherine Wing and Ms Suzie Margiotta

KW Mrs Lorrinda Winthrop

KS Mrs Nicole Slater

KHM Mrs Sarah Henman and Mrs Jessica Mathews

KT Miss Carly Tyburski

KP Miss Paige Collard

KE Miss Emily Nagle

KM Miss Alexandra McAlister

KL Ms Shirley Lie

KN Ms Noni Saunders

KB Miss Emma Brown

KK Miss Jane Kim

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Year 1 & 2 classroom teachers

1MC Mrs Jessica Muir and Mrs Jordana Cooper

1F Mrs Flora Liu and Ms Suzie Margiotta

1T Ms Thi Do

1A Miss Alysha McDonald

1W Miss Anita Wu

1N Mrs Nikki Moroney

1B Mrs Lauren Baracz

1D Miss Katie Davis

1L Miss Louise Dalton

1M Miss Michelle Matthews

2FN Mrs Leah Felton and Ms Kristen Nicholson

2B Mrs Katelyn Bird

2J Mrs Jaz Kement

2W Miss Carly Waller

2K Mrs Kirsten Smoth

2H Miss Lisa Harvey

2G Ms Gemma Wade

2A Miss Ashley Campbell

2C Mr Wallace Chan

2M Ms Stephanie Maher

2D Ms Ashleigh Wickens

2S Ms Samantha Sesar

Year 3 & 4 classroom teachers

3M Mrs Kate Martin

3K Miss Madeleine Keogh

3I Miss Danijela Ignjatovic

3J Mrs Larissa Jacobsen

3W Mrs Louise Worrall

3R Miss Amy Renshaw

3D Mrs Jacintha Dasi

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4J Mrs Jessica Beard
4O Mrs Jennifer Oldman
4B Mrs Sanjukta Banerji
4D Miss Ashley Dennis
4M Miss Serina Molnar
4C Mr Sean Conroy
4L Mr Peter Lawrence
4W Mrs Katie Wallis

Support teaching staff

K-3B Mrs Mel Brace
3-5J Ms Samantha Jones
5-6G Mrs Barbra Govender

Years 5 & 6 classroom teachers

5S Mrs Sue Rozanc and Ms Ruby Sallan
5B Mrs Debra Blackshaw
5G Mrs Gina Griffiths
5R Ms Claire Rich
5D Ms Danielle Green
5V Mr Michael Vincent
5L Mr Nathan Lee
5N Mr Nick Gray

6B Mr Ben Cain and Mrs Rebecca Byrnes
6M Miss Georgia Maher
6R Mrs Eileen Rees
6K Mrs Kylie Redman
6C Mr Luke Currie

Release from face to face (RFF) teaching staff

STEAM - Mrs Jodi Seward, Ms Nicole Gabriel and Mrs Olivia Wolff
Library - Mrs Jennifer Kennedy, Mrs Juanita Beasley, Mrs Sandra Sou Sou
Classroom RFF - Mrs Julia Trovato, Mrs Natalie Ignacz, Mrs Ruby Sallan

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Educational Support teachers

Mrs Konny Georgakopoulous Assistant Principal (Rel)

Ms Aimen Tahir

Mrs Leda Khaliqi

Ms Amy Bray

Mrs Jessica Meakins

Ms Mary Willis

Ms Kylie O'Brien

Mrs Sharna MacMasters

Ms Magda da Cruz Miklik

Mrs Cassie Roberts

Administration

Business Manager - Mrs Jenny Newton

School Administration Manager - Mrs Jill Arundel

School Counsellor - Ms Karalee Binstadt and Mrs Jocelyn Cole

General Assistant - Mr Garry Charters

General Assistant- Mr Ross Gerardis

School Administrative Officer - Mrs Joanne Smith

School Administrative Officer - Mrs Kylie Davoren

School Administrative Officer - Mrs Melissa Nesbitt

School Administrative Officer - Mrs Kristie Edwards

School Administrative Officer - Mrs Kim Ormsby

School Administrative Officer - Mrs Leslee Bartle

School Learning Support Officers

Mrs Marianne Finadri

Mrs Belinda Sarina

Mrs Jenny Wardell

Mrs Michelle McDonald

Mrs Kerrie Langley

Mrs Rhiannon Smith

Ms Trish Simpson

Miss Cassie Talintyre

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RPS Medical Procedures

To our new and existing families please take note of the following medical procedures for our school.

Prescribed Medication:

When a medical practitioner has prescribed medication that must be administered during the school day, parents/carers must:

- notify the school
- provide up to date information as required
- supply the medication and any 'consumables' necessary for its administration in a timely way
- complete the Riverbank Public School Medical Permission Note (please see the office for a copy of this note).

The administration of prescribed medication in schools is carried out by staff who volunteer and who are trained. Students must not carry medication unless there is a written agreement between the school and the student's parents/carers.

Individual Health Care Plans:

An individual health care plan must be developed for:

- severe asthma, type 1 diabetes, epilepsy and anaphylaxis
- any student who is diagnosed as having a condition that may require an emergency response
- any student who requires the administration of health care procedures

If your child has any health conditions and does not already have an existing individual health care plan, please contact the office to collect the required forms.

If your child has an adrenaline auto injector (EpiPen) prescribed by a medical practitioner, an [Action Plan for Anaphylaxis](#) must be completed. If the school does not have a current, Action Plan for Anaphylaxis please have your child's doctor complete one immediately.

If your child has allergic reactions where no adrenaline autoinjector is prescribed by a medical practitioner, an [Action Plan For Allergic Reactions](#) must be completed. If the school does not have a current Action Plan for Allergic Reactions please have your child's doctor complete one immediately.

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If your child has been prescribed by a medical practitioner as having asthma, an [Asthma Action Plan](#) is required. If the school does not have a current Asthma Action Plan please have your child's doctor complete one immediately.

Canteen

The Riverbank PS Canteen is happy to announce that they are now using Cashless for all recess and lunch orders as of Term 1, 2020.

The Cashless app makes school life easier for parents, who can order and pay for recess and lunch for their kids from the Cashless website and app. Just go to www.cashless.school or download our mobile apps to get started! Please see attached flyer for more information.

2020 Assembly times

Kindergarten assemblies will commence in Term 2

Year 1 – 1.45pm Thursday odd term weeks commencing week 5

Year 2 – 1.45pm Thursday even term weeks commencing week 6

Year 3 – 1.45pm Friday odd term weeks commencing week 5

Year 4 – 1.45pm Friday even term weeks commencing week 6

Stage 3 – 12.00pm Friday even term weeks commencing week 6

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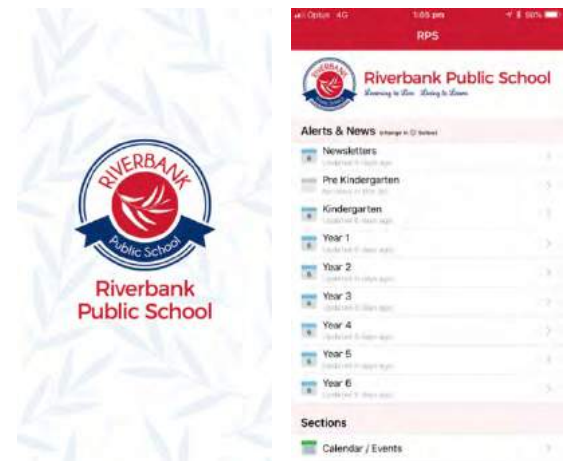


Parent Communication

We use a variety of platforms to communicate information about upcoming events and highlight the great things that happen at Riverbank Public School.

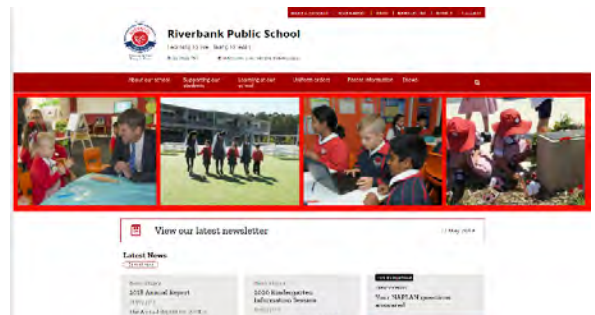
School Enews App

Important notifications are posted and emailed on the School Enews App. School Enews is a free app available for all mobile devices. Just download the app from the App Store or Play Store by searching for Riverbank Public School. Please ensure that push notifications alerts are turned on so that you can receive information as soon as it is distributed.



School Website

Our school website is updated frequently. Some notes such as the Canteen Price List, Uniform Shop and our newsletter are all available online. Our school website is <https://riverbank-p.schools.nsw.gov.au>



Facebook

Riverbank Public School has its own Facebook page where we celebrate student's achievements. Parents are unable to post any news items, but can comment on reports and photos. The page is designed to keep the community up to date regarding all the wonderful things that happen at Riverbank Public School.



Twitter

In addition to Facebook, Riverbank Public School use Twitter to share events as they happen throughout the school. You can follow us on Twitter [@RiverbankPublic](https://twitter.com/RiverbankPublic).



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Restorative Practices

Restorative Practices form the relational basis for Quality Teaching and Learning at Riverbank Public School. Our Restorative Practice Framework, because of its explicit nature, offers a common language and practice capable of fostering healthy relationships.

Student achievement is enhanced through Restorative values being embedded as a way of being and learning together. Our approach fosters individual responsibility and helps develop empathy. Inappropriate behaviour or choices and mistakes can be viewed as an opportunity for insight, learning and development in both the academic and social domains.

The explicit framework is inextricably linked to the Quality Teaching Framework and includes the following sets of questions to be asked by children, teachers and parents.

When Things Go Wrong.....When Someone Has Been Hurt

- What happened?
- What were you thinking of at the time?
- What have you thought about since?
- Who has been affected by what you have done? In what way?
- What do you think you may do to make things right?
- What did you think when you realised what happened?
- What impact has this incident had on you and others?
- What has been the hardest thing for you?
- What do you think needs to happen to make things right?

The process is empowering as it takes students from the past to the present and gives them hope for the future. It empowers them to make things right and heal any harm that has been done.

A restorative classroom setting is one that values dialogue through an inclusive approach where everyone expects to be heard and through this participatory process, students develop the capacity to learn that emotions are an important and legitimate expression of healthy dialogue. This process helps students to deal with conflict, tensions and difference in respectful ways that engender trust and foster healthy relationships.

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School Motto

The school's motto, 'Learning to Live, Living to Learn', reinforces a broad and enriching curriculum, which not only focuses on the development of literacy and numeracy skills but also on the social and emotional wellbeing of the students whilst respecting a culturally diverse community.

Riverbank Public School Code of Behaviour

- We share the voice space by listening actively to others and expressing ourselves confidently.
- We follow instructions by being in the right place, at the right time, doing the right thing.
- We use build-ups by saying encouraging, affirming things to others.
- We keep our hands, feet and objects to ourselves so that everyone is safe.
- We own our own behaviour because we choose how we behave.

Our Help Increase the Peace (HIP) Keys – School Rules:

Our school values will incorporate the 'Help Increase the Peace Keys' to promote a harmonious, nurturing and challenging living and learning environment.



The HIP program offers a whole school approach to building relationships through communication, co-operation, trust building and conflict resolution.

YELLOW KEY

Care for Others

GREEN KEY

Think Before Reacting

BLUE KEY

Respect Yourself

RED KEY

Work Together for a Non Violent Way

BLACK KEY

Expect the Best

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Sport Update

Swimming Carnival

Our school swimming carnival is on Monday 10 February at Riverstone Swimming Centre. Permission notes have been sent home in class welcome packs. Please return the medical, consent form, and finalise payments by Wednesday 5 February. No money or payments will be accepted after this date.

Summer PSSA

2020 Summer PSSA commences on Friday 21 February.

This week, students in grades 3-6 have been able to nominate the sport they would like to trial for. Trials will take place over the next week.

We wish all students who would like to trial for a Summer PSSA sport the best of luck. Riverbank participates in Cricket, Softball/T-ball, NRL Tag and AFL for Summer PSSA.

Permission to walk to Peel Reserve

Riverbank students have a great opportunity to use nearby Peel Reserve for various events throughout the school year.

Could you please ensure that your child's permission note to walk to Peel Reserve is completed and handed in to their class teacher. This permission was in the class welcome pack handed out to each student last week.

Jarad Lonsdale
Sports Organiser

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Creative and Practical Arts (CAPA)

Welcome back for what is set to be an exciting year for CAPA 2020 with auditions taking place for School Spectacular and Synergy Dance. We are in the end stages of finalising all CAPA group opportunities for our students. Sign-ups and auditions have begun this week for some groups and will continue throughout week 3. Auditions will take place on various days at recess and lunch and class teachers will be reminding children what is on daily. Once groups are formed, your child will bring home a permission note with all relevant information.

Music Tuition

Music is a wonderful means of developing learning and concentration skills in children, benefiting all areas of their education. They become more centered within themselves, regaining some of the things TV and video games take out. Music helps children develop the ability to work independently, increases self-discipline, improves self-esteem and confidence and gives them a life-long skill. Group lessons / rehearsals also give children the opportunity to enjoy learning and playing together.

At Riverbank Public School, we continue to employ the services of Primary Music Institute (PMI) to deliver high quality music tuition to our students. PMI have developed a continually innovative curriculum – incorporating technology, modern music and structured learning plans. They offer exceptional parent support through an online parent portal and phone/email support team who ensure all information is available for parents. Keyboard allows the easiest and most direct access to a real understanding of music theory i.e. how composers put music together.

Beginning on a keyboard is a very affordable way for parents to let their children try 'piano lessons' without committing themselves to investing in a piano before they are sure the child is going to continue.

Lesson Structure - Price per week

Small group lessons: \$20.50

Pair lessons: \$25.50

Private lessons: \$34.50

More information can be found at <https://www.primarymusicinstitute.com.au/>

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Parents in NSW can now use their \$100 Creative Kids voucher with PMI each year! The NSW Government is helping kids get creative with the new Creative Kids program. Parents, guardians and carers can apply for a voucher with a value of up to \$100 per calendar year for each student aged 4.5 to 18 years old enrolled in school.



Instrumental Music Lessons
On School Campus!



Small Group & Private Lessons

- Primary Music Institute offer instrumental music lessons right here on school campus!
- To find out all about the music lessons please visit PMI's website. You can check which instruments are available, get up to date program details and apply for lessons online
- Please **ENROL TODAY** via PMI's website
- Lessons are held once per week on school campus – with lessons typically outside school hours
- Only \$20.50 per child per small group lesson (max 3 students for 30 minutes)
- Our small group lessons provide a fun and affordable opportunity to learn instrumental music
- Private lessons (1-on-1) and pair lessons (max 2 students) are also available
- Instrumental music can improve your child's school results – including for reading, maths, coordination, IQ, abstract reasoning, performance confidence... and is great fun!

P: 1300 362 824

E: admin@primarymusicinstitute.com.au

www.primarymusicinstitute.com.au

Band

We are excited to have PMI introduce a training band to Riverbank in 2020. We will be offering flute, clarinet and percussion instruments. Keep your eyes out for more information in the coming weeks.

Guitar Tuition

We continue to offer guitar tuition through Mitchell Grace. If you are interested in guitar tuition, please see the staff in our office.

Danielle Green

CAPA coordinator

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School Banking

School banking will resume on Tuesday 12 February. We would love more volunteers so please contact Kate McPherson via the Riverbank Public School Parents Group Facebook page if you can assist on Tuesdays or for any other banking queries. A representative from the Commonwealth Bank will be present at the Welcome Picnic.



Mobile Phones

At Riverbank Public School, students may only bring mobile phones to school if there is a need for them to be able to contact their parents either before arriving at school or in the afternoon after leaving school. Upon arrival at school, the phone is to be checked in at the office if the student is in Year 3 or 4, and placed in the mobile phone box for Years 5 and 6, where it will be turned off and kept securely for the day. It is the student's responsibility to collect the phone at the end of the day.

In the event that a student has a mobile phone at school that has not been checked in, the phone will be taken from the child and the parent/caregiver contacted.

This is how we Learn and Live!

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER • 5 February 2020 • TERM 1 WEEK 2



Dropping Off and Picking Up students

A 'Kiss and Ride Zone' or 'Drop-off and Pick-up' area utilises existing 'No Parking' zones around schools. In these areas, drivers may stop to drop off or pick up children, however **No Parking** rules apply:

- Maximum stop time is 2 minutes
- Driver must remain in or within 3 metres of the vehicle
- Vehicle must not be left unattended

Additional safety tips for school zones:

- Always drop-off or pick-up your child from the designated area, following the school's procedures
- Make sure children use the footpath-side door when getting in and out of a car
- Make sure the hand brake is applied when the vehicle is stationary
- Never double park
- Never park across a pedestrian crossing
- Never undertake a U-turn in close proximity to the school.

Safety Tips for Students:

- Stay buckled up until the vehicle has stopped in the 'Drop-off and Pick-up' area
- Make sure your school bag and other items are in a safe position, e.g. on the floor
- Be ready to get out of the car with your belongings when the car has stopped and you have unbuckled your seatbelt
- Always get in and out of the backseat of the vehicle through the safety door - the rear footpath-side door.

This is how we Learn and Live!

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER • 5 February 2020 • TERM 1 WEEK 2



No Stopping

What does it mean? You cannot stop in this area FOR ANY REASON (including queuing or waiting for space).

Why is it there? Keeps clear sight lines between drivers and children/pedestrians.

Penalty \$330 + 2 Demerit Points (School Zone)



No Parking

What does it mean? You can stop in a NO PARKING zone for a maximum of two minutes to drop off and pick up passengers. If no spaces are available, you cannot queue on the road way or in any other zones while waiting for a space. You will need to drive away and park elsewhere, only returning when there is space to pull up. You must stay within three metres of your vehicle at all times.

Why is it there? To provide a safe place for children/pedestrian set down and pick up.

Penalty \$183 + 2 Demerit points (School Zone)

This is how we Learn and Live!

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER • 5 February 2020 • TERM 1 WEEK 2



Bus Zone

What does it mean? You must not stop or park in a bus zone for any reason (including queuing or waiting for a space) unless you are driving a bus.

Why is it there? To provide a safe place for large buses to set down and pick up school children.

Penalty \$330 + 2 Demerit Points (School Zone)

Pedestrian Crossings



You must not stop within 20 metres before a pedestrian crossing or 10 metres after a crossing unless there is a control sign permitting parking.

Why is it there? To ensure that children can be clearly seen by vehicles approaching the crossing.

Penalty \$439 + 2 Demerit Points (School Zone)

Footpaths, Driveways and Nature Strips

This is how we Learn and Live!

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER • 5 February 2020 • TERM 1 WEEK 2



You must not stop on any footpath or nature strip, or even a driveway crossing a footpath or nature strip FOR ANY REASON.

Why is it there? You could easily run over a child or force pedestrians onto the road to get around you.

Penalty \$183 + 2 Demerit points (School Zone)

Double Parking



You must not stop on the road adjacent to another vehicle at any time even to drop off or pick up passengers.

Why is it there? Double parking forces other cars to go around you causing traffic congestion and reduces the view of drivers and children crossing the road.

Penalty \$330 Demerit points (School Zone)

The school is very fortunate to have dedicated volunteers who assist in the safe pick-up of students in this area. Please follow any instruction given to you by these volunteers in order to keep the children safe.



CHANGE OF DETAILS

Eldest child's details:

Surname: _____ First Name: _____ Class: _____

Note: Change of address must be accompanied by proof of address such as a electricity/gas bill, lease agreement etc. (Drivers Licence is not an acceptable proof of address)

Mother's Address: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (M) _____ (W) _____

Email: _____

Father's Address: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (M) _____ (W) _____

Email: _____

Emergency Contact:

1. Name: _____ Phone: _____

2. Name: _____ Phone: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____



Principal: Mrs Jenny Weal
Deputy Principal: Mr James Laird
Deputy Principal: Mr Phil Scandizzo
Deputy Principal: Mr Brad Cook
Rel. Dep. Principal: Mr Andrew Fitzgerald

3 February 2020

OPEN NIGHT 2020

ATTENTION: YEAR 5 & 6 STUDENTS

Dear Parents & Carers,

The Ponds High School Open Night will be held on Tuesday 18 February from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

The evening will begin with an information session in the school hall. This will include a general overview of the school and systems including BYOD, Learning Support and GATs programs.

The Ponds High School students will lead tours of the school and introduce the subjects on offer. You will have the opportunity to ask teachers and students questions about the school and their experiences.

Looking forward to meeting you on Tuesday 18 February.

Yours sincerely,

Jenny Weal

Principal

The Ponds High School



Off the Shelf

LIBRARY
NEWSLETTER
T1W2/2020

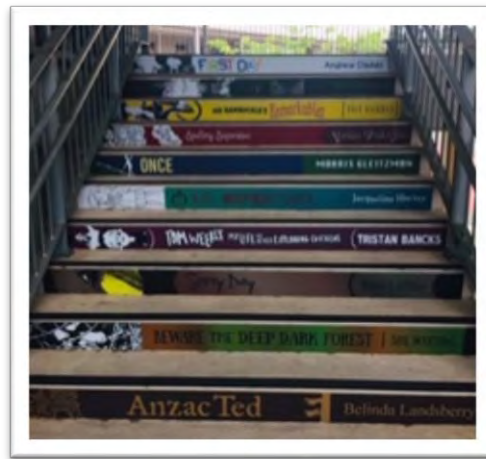
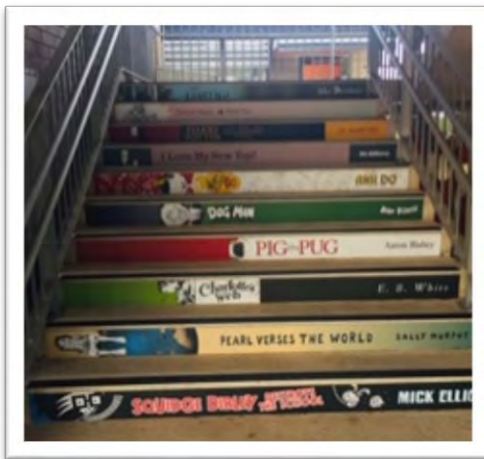
WHAT'S NEWS?

Welcome to Riverbank Library! It's the place to be!

We are very excited to inform you that we are in a new location! You can find us on the ground floor, next to the amazing Book Staircase (the old KI classroom).

Speaking of the Book Staircase, have you seen it yet? Are you wondering how these books were selected to make it to the Riverbank Hall of Fame Book Staircase? Well, here's how!

1. The author has visited Riverbank Public School
2. A very popular book/author in the Library
3. A Mrs Brown favourite!



Make sure you have a look soon!

Our main purpose in the Library is to foster a love of reading! We do this through having a diverse collection of books, modelling good reading and giving students' choice in what they borrow. It is important to note that when your child brings a Library book home, they may not necessarily be able to read it. This is ok! We encourage them to choose a book that appeals to them – pages that they want to turn. Engage in the reading experience with your child!

You may wish to ask your child:

Why did you choose this book? What do you think this book is about? Who wrote this book?

Why do you think the author wrote a book like this?

Read together in turns, model reading to them or simply look through the book together.

Share the enjoyment and help develop their passion for reading!



Off the Shelf

LIBRARY
NEWSLETTER
T1W2/2020

OVERDUE BOOKS

Thank you for returning your books from last year. However, we still have 150 books overdue from 2019. Please return as soon as possible, including if your child has moved on to High School.

BORROWING

Your child will need a Library bag to borrow. Please ensure it is clearly labelled with your child's name and class. Library bags are available from the online uniform shop for \$12.

<https://cowanlewis.com.au/product/library-bag-22/>

Your child is also welcome to borrow/return on their non Library day; before school from 8.30am or after school until 3pm. If they are in Kindergarten or Stage 1 they must be accompanied by an adult.



Library Bag
\$12.00

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3K 4D 4R 4O 1A 1MC 1W 1F 2S 2B 2K 2G 2W	3M 4C 4J 4M 4L 1M 1T 1B 1N 1D	3R 3J 4W 4B 3-5J 5-6G 2J 2FN KK KB	3D 3I 3W 2A 2H K-3B KN KHM KW KT KP	1L 2C 2M 2D KL KC KS KE KM

Stage 3 classes will be spread across the week, varying days and times

We have some new faces in the Library, but not new faces to the students!

Ms Kennedy – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Mrs Beazley – Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

Mrs Sousou – Monday – Friday

Mrs Byrnes - Monday

We look forward to seeing you all soon! Happy Reading!

Library Team Ms Kennedy, Mrs Beazley, Mrs Sousou and Mrs Byrnes.

STEAM news...

Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Maths

We are very excited for our 2020 year of STEAM! This year, for the first time, we will see STEAM implemented across the school for the whole year. This means that all of our students will engage in a range of activities and challenges throughout the year which will incorporate coding and robotics, engineering and design challenges, 3D design and prototyping, green screen videoing and much more.

We are also very lucky to have our hands on a STEM.T4L tablet robotics kit for Term 1. This Department of Education initiative allows schools access to equipment to use with students in innovative ways in all areas of the curriculum and further enabling us to implement the concepts of STEAM in more engaging and exciting ways.

Our tablet robotics kit will be heavily utilised this term, so you should expect to hear all about 'Dash', the 'BeeBots', and the 'BlueBots' from your excited little computer programmers soon.



"Dash"



"BeeBot"



"BlueBot"

Through the use of these and our existing robots, students will be learning the basics of coding and developing an understanding of how a computer follows a set of clear instructions (algorithms). We can't wait to see the students engaged with these wonderful learning experiences.

STEAM clubs...

Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Maths

Riverbank offers students opportunities in many areas to engage them and extend their learning. So, this year again, we will be offering a range of STEAM clubs at recess and lunch times. The students participating in the clubs will rotate each term allowing us to accommodate as many students in our school as possible.

The clubs will include:

1. **STEAM clubs** –participating students of all grades will have the opportunity to complete a variety of design and engineering challenges; and
2. **Coding clubs** –participating students will engage in coding activities using Dash, BeeBots, BlueBots and LEGO WeDo 2.0 to understand/extend their knowledge of coding and *algorithms*—a series of *clear, precise and ordered instructions* needed to complete a task.

The first week has seen our K-4 students engaged in some 'growth mindset' activities regarding the benefits of making mistakes, overcoming obstacles, tackling challenges and perfection. Students had the opportunity to create something beautiful from an 'oops' (a mistake) after hearing the story 'Beautiful Oops' by Barney Saltzberg. They embraced the idea that they WILL make mistakes in STEAM, in reading, in writing.....in life, and not to be overcome by them and give up, but to persevere no matter how many times they may fail, and realise that with every fail comes a snippet of new knowledge! Mistakes are the best way to learn!


Here are some creations they made from scribbles, tears, stains and splats!



Torn pieces of paper can be masterpieces!



We look forward to a very exciting year ahead!



To welcome our new families to Riverbank your P&C would like to invite you to our:

P&C Welcome Picnic

Where: Riverbank Public School

When: Sunday 23rd February 2020

Time: 9am to 10:30am

Please bring a picnic blanket and enjoy getting to know other families.

We will provide tea, coffee and water on the day.

We will also be holding a cake stall to help kick start our fundraising for the year.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Although we would like for the whole school to come please note that due to large school numbers this invitation is for Kindergarten and new families who have joined us in 2020 only.



Riverbank Public School Welcome to Cashless!



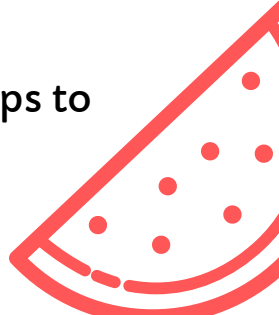
The Riverbank Public Canteen is happy to announce that we are now using Cashless for all recess and lunch orders as of Term 1, 2020

What is Cashless?

The Cashless app makes school life easier for parents, starting with the canteen. Parents can order and pay for recess and lunch for their kids from the Cashless website and app. Simple!

How do I get started?

Just go to www.cashless.school or download our mobile apps to get started!



How much does it cost?

Your first 3 orders do not incur any fees, so feel free to try it out!

After that there is a simple low fee of \$5 per child per term. We don't like hidden fees either, so this covers all transactions, top ups & purchases.

What do I do with my Flexischools account?

Simply contact Flexischools to advise you are closing your account and you would like your remaining funds refunded.



Bolongaia

Maria Locke Innovation and Inquiry Hub



You are invited to the official opening and naming ceremony of the Riverbank Public School Innovation and Inquiry Hub.



The opening will begin with a Cleansing Ceremony followed by a traditional Welcome to Country by Darug Elders and our local Aboriginal community leaders.

Join Riverbank Public School and our Aboriginal community, as together we officially open and activate our Innovation and Inquiry Hub.

12th March 10am

25 Wentworth St, The Ponds





Small Group & Private Lessons

- Primary Music Institute offer instrumental music lessons right here on school campus!
- To find out all about the music lessons please visit PMI's website. You can check which instruments are available, get up to date program details and apply for lessons online
- Please **ENROL TODAY** via PMI's website
- Lessons are held once per week on school campus – with lessons typically outside school hours
- Only \$20.50 per child per small group lesson (max 3 students for 30 minutes)
- Our small group lessons provide a fun and affordable opportunity to learn instrumental music
- Private lessons (1-on-1) and pair lessons (max 2 students) are also available
- Instrumental music can improve your child's school results – including for reading, maths, coordination, IQ, abstract reasoning, performance confidence... and is great fun!

P: 1300 362 824

E: admin@primarymusicinstitute.com.au

www.primarymusicinstitute.com.au



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- Interactive Learning through Music and Movement
- Creative Activities and Educational Games
- First Aid and CPR Licensed
- Anaphylaxis & Asthma Certificate
- Child Protection Certificate



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