

This is how we Learn and Live!

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER • 3 June 2020 • TERM 2 WEEK 6



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

It certainly has been a challenging school year. I would like to extend my thanks to the staff and community for supporting the ongoing wellbeing of all students during these difficult times.

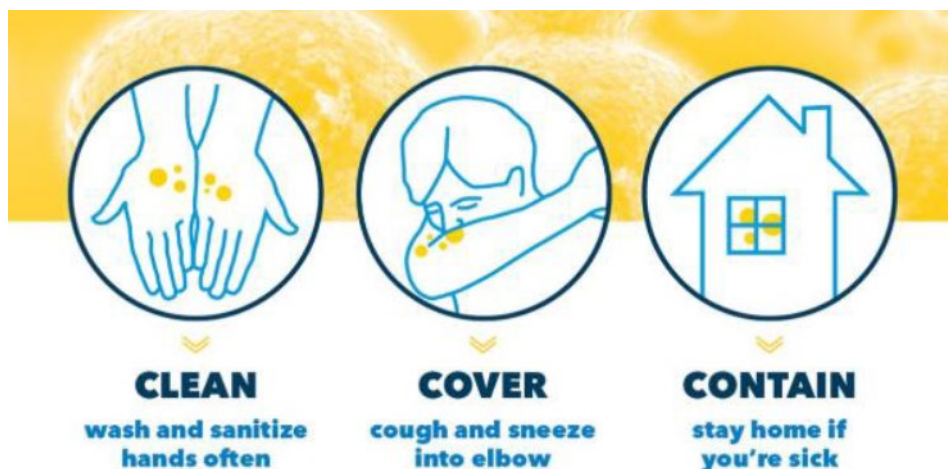
Thank you to all parents and carers who have been supportive of our new drop off and pick up procedures. It is wonderful to see students coming to school each day big smiles on their faces.

Parents please keep a distance

Parents and carers are reminded to keep a safe distance from one another at drop off and pick up times. We also kindly request that as soon as parents or carers have collected students, that they leave the site immediately and do not linger to have conversations. Teachers are unable to conduct interviews on site, however brief, in accordance with guidance from the NSW Department of Education.

No birthday cakes

Students who celebrate birthdays and would like to bring treats for classmates are asked not to bring cake products. In cases where cakes are brought to school, they will not be distributed to students. This is again a common sense approach to minimising risk. A small, individually wrapped and commercially produced alternative, such as a fun sized confectionary item is allowed.



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National Simultaneous Storytime

National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) is an annual campaign that aims to encourage more young Australians to read and enjoy books. Every year a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator, is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, pre-schools, childcare centres, family homes, bookshops and many other places around the country. Now in its 20th successful year, it is a colourful, vibrant, fun event that aims to promote the value of reading and literacy, using an Australian children's book that explores age-appropriate themes, and addresses key learning areas of the National Curriculum for Kindergarten to Year 6. Mrs Brown had the pleasure of recording a reading Whitney and Britney Chicken Divas written and illustrated by Linda Gifford for all students to enjoy.

Opportunity Class Placement 2021

Placement in an opportunity class will be based on the results of the Opportunity Class Placement Test. The Opportunity Class Placement Test will be held on Wednesday 16 September 2020. If you would like to have your child considered for Year 5 opportunity class entry in 2021, you need to apply soon via the internet using a valid email address (not the student's email address). Detailed instructions on how to apply online are available at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-5>. The application website will open on Tuesday 9 June 2020 and closes on Friday 26 June 2020. You must apply by the due date. There are no paper application forms. If you do not have internet access, you could apply at a public library. If you have a disability that prevents you from using a computer, you can contact the Team (ssu@det.nsw.edu.au). You must submit only ONE application for each student.

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Reconciliation Week and National Sorry Day 27 May – 3 June

This year during National Reconciliation Week, Reconciliation Australia invites all Australians to learn more about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories, to share that knowledge and help us grow as a nation. During Week 5, students acknowledged National Sorry Day, discussed the history, and continued effect of the forced removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from their families, communities and culture. We will also acknowledge National Reconciliation Week by celebrating the respectful relationships shared by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other Australians.

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data

Our staff are in the process of preparing and collecting data to submit for the annual Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The information collected covers information about Australian school students who receive an adjustment to address a disability. Nationally consistent information on students in Australian schools receiving adjustments for disability enables schools, education authorities, and governments to better understand the needs of students with a disability and how they can be best supported at school.

Annual School Report

The Annual Report for 2019 provides the community with an account of our achievements and operations throughout the year. It includes a detailed account of the progress the school has made to provide high quality educational opportunities for all students, as set out in the school plan. The report has now been finalised and can be found on our website in the 'About Our School' tab, under 'School Planning and Reporting'.

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Reports

We are currently adopting a revised approach to student assessment and reporting for Semester 1 reflecting the recent teaching and learning environment.

As such, we will be providing a simplified written report to parents/carers about student learning for Semester 1. This report will focus on the learning that has taken place so far this year. Encapsulating students' progress and achievement of the learning provided both at school and at home, as well as guidance moving into Semester 2. Reports will go home to parents and carers on Thursday 2 July.

Our parent-teacher interviews were held at the beginning of Term 2; however, parents may request a meeting with their child's teacher in Term 3 following the written reports.

2021 Kindergarten Information Sessions

Parents of students commencing Kindergarten in 2021 are invited to attend an Information Evening on Wednesday 22 2020 at either 9am or 6pm in the school hall.



Kindergarten 2021 Information Sessions

RIVERBANK PUBLIC SCHOOL

Wednesday 22 July 9:00am

or

Wednesday 22 July 6:00pm

These sessions are subject to restrictions under relevant Public Health Direction.

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New Primary School for the Alex Avenue Community

There has been a revision of the catchment areas for primary schools in the area with the 2021 opening of a new school for the Alex Avenue community. Please find included in this newsletter communication from the Department of Education. Principal contact details are provided.

The area affected for students currently enrolled at Riverbank Public School are those residing within and around Alex Avenue.

Please use the School Finder link to confirm your child's local primary and high school for 2021.

<https://my.education.nsw.gov.au/school-finder/index>

Two information sessions regarding the new primary school will be held on Tuesday 21 July 2020 at 9:30am or 6:00pm at Riverbank Public School.

Parents with students currently enrolled at Riverbank PS who now reside outside our catchment and would like a sibling to be enrolled at Riverbank in 2021 are welcome to complete an Out of Area application form. Our Out of Area panel will meet in Term 3 and you will be advised of the outcome of your application by the end of August.

Premier's Reading Challenge

We are encouraging all students to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC). This is a wonderful opportunity for you to interact with your child in a meaningful way and for them to experience a variety of quality literature throughout the year. The challenge is now open and runs until 30 August 2020. For further information, please refer to our library newsletter.

<https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

Have a lovely fortnight.

Mrs Elisa Baker
Relieving Principal

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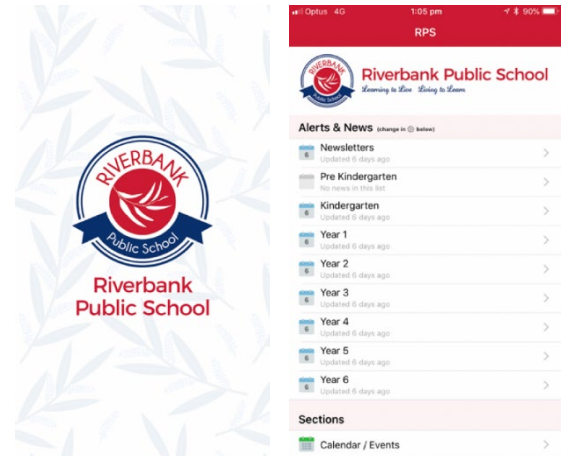


Parent Communication

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

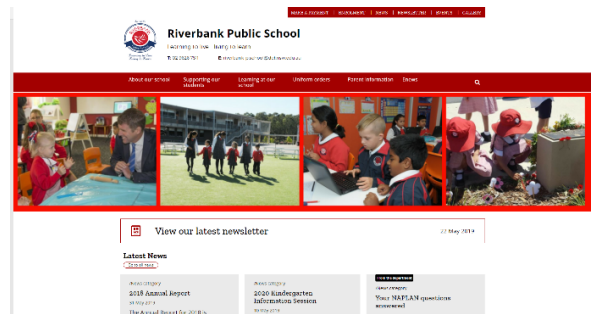
School Enews App

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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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.



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)

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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)



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



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.

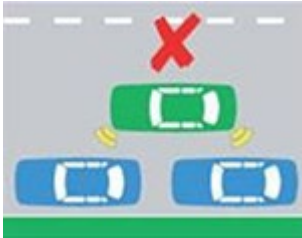
Penalty \$183 + 2 Demerit points (School Zone)

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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.

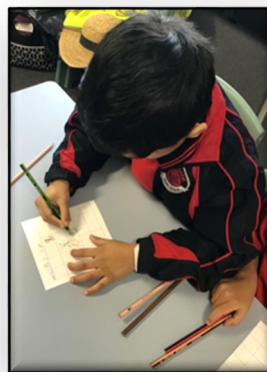
STEAM news...

Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Maths

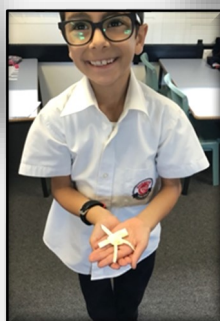
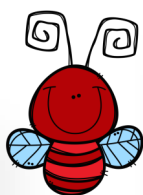
Kindy and Stage 1 STEAM

Kindy STEAM lessons have been down on the farm! The students interacted with a story about Farmer Brown's animals who asked for unusual things. This was a creative thinking activity that had horses on roller skates and pigs in swimming pools...

Kindergarten were very imaginative. For the next few weeks the students are creating their own farm designs, then they will write a code to make Farmer Blue Bot move around to feed the animals.



Stage 1 STEAM lessons have been about identifying insects by observing they have six legs and three body parts- head, thorax and abdomen. The students have been experimenting with paper design techniques and have been challenged to design and construct their favourite insect from one sheet of A4 paper. We have had some fabulous creations.



Olivia Wolff
K/1 STEAM teacher

STEAM news...

Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Maths

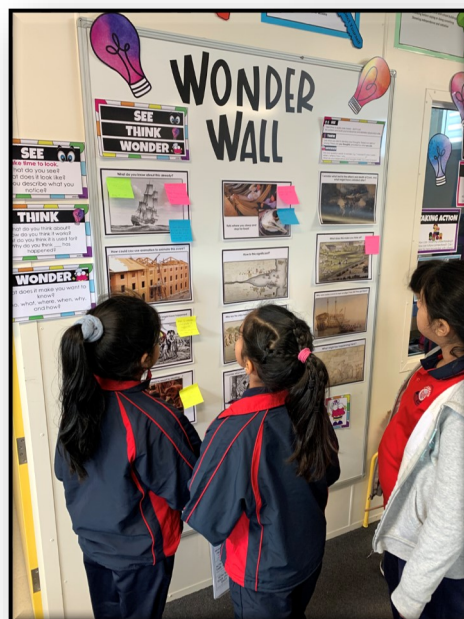
Stage 2 STEAM

It has been so great to have the students back in the STEAM classrooms again! Nothing beats the hands on, collaborative, vibrant environment of the classroom!

Students have dived right back in to learning with their animation inquiry projects focussing on First Contacts, exploring and the lives of convicts. They are busy planning their storyboards and designing props, backgrounds and sets ready to get started with the actual animation in the coming weeks. We are looking forward to seeing what they create to show their understanding of exploration and animation.



Extending and deepening knowledge through group collaboration and using the Wonder Wall.



Jodi Seward
ICT Coordinator/STEAM teacher



WHAT'S NEWS?

Welcome back everyone! Library is back and fully operational! We are following the health and safety guidelines from the Department of Education. When books are returned, they remain in quarantine for 24 hours before going back on the shelf. All students follow these procedures outlined here.

Please remember that all students in K-4 need to bring a Library bag to borrow. Students in 5-6 can borrow before and after school and during certain break times.

Taking Care in the Library



1. **Line up in one line**
2. **Return your books to the tub**
3. **Sanitise your hands when you enter**
4. **Choose your book for borrowing**
5. **Take your book to the teacher for scanning, make sure your book is facing up**
6. **Sanitise your hands on your way out**



National Simultaneous Storytime

Riverbank Students joined over 1 million kids from all over Australia to listen to Whitney and Britney Chicken Divas read by Mrs Brown!



Book Club



BOOK CLUB ISSUE 4 OUT NOW!

HOW TO ORDER

- Browse through online catalogue. (or hard copy sent home with K-2 students only)
- Place order through the LOOP (see below)
- Order should arrive at school in late June.
- Every Book Club order benefits our school!

DON'T FORGET!

SCHOLASTIC
Book Club
orders are due:
19th June

SCHOLASTIC
Book Club LOOP
for Parents

LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club
Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for parents.
To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit:
www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP

GET IT ON Google play | Download on the App Store

EVERY CHILD DESERVES A BOOK



Spotted before school... These three Stage 3 students borrowed before school and just couldn't wait to start reading! A Librarian's dream!!!

Happy Reading!

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



Artist impression of the new primary school for the Alex Avenue community

New primary school for the Alex Avenue community

Project update

May 2020

Investing in our schools

The NSW Government is investing \$6.7 billion over four years to deliver more than 190 new and upgraded schools to support communities across NSW. In addition, a record \$1.3 billion is being spent on school maintenance over five years. This is the largest investment in public education infrastructure in the history of NSW.

The NSW Department of Education is committed to delivering new and upgraded schools for communities across NSW. The delivery of these important projects is essential to the future learning needs of our students and supports growth in the local economy.

Project overview

A project is underway to deliver a new primary school on Farmland Drive, Schofields to support the growing community. The school will include:

- 19 new flexible learning spaces
- A library, hall, canteen and covered outdoor learning area (COLA)
- Administration and staff facilities.

The new school is designed to accommodate up to 500 students from K-6 and to allow for future expansion of up to 1000 students.

Progress summary

Modern construction techniques were used in the build, including constructing school buildings offsite. This reduces the impact to local residents and saves time when compared to traditional builds. The school is scheduled for completion in early 2021. Enrolments are now being accepted for Day 1, Term 1, 2021.

The State Significant Development (SSD) application for this project is being fast tracked by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. Once the SSD is approved, main works construction of the school can begin.

Message from the Principal

As the foundation Principal, I am excited by the design of the school and spaces that were developed to facilitate flexible learning. The collaborative planning process for the school has led to strong links to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people referenced throughout the design.

I am looking forward to welcoming everyone to this new and innovative teaching and learning environment. The school has modern spaces designed to support our students become successful learners. I am confident that the facilities will help students develop the knowledge and skills to become active and informed citizens of the 21st Century.

Tracy Anderson, Principal

Keeping you updated

We will keep you updated and provide more information about the construction timetable in the coming weeks. You can contact us using the information below.

For more information contact:

School Infrastructure NSW
Email: schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au
Phone: 1300 482 651
www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au

Frequently asked questions

When will main works construction begin?

Main works construction will begin as soon as planning approval is received from the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

Will street parking be impacted during construction?

The impact of our projects on the local community is considered throughout the planning phase. Street parking impacts will be minimised where possible and contractors are encouraged to park on site or car pool.

What steps will be taken to control noise and dust impacts?

The contractor will continue to implement dust and noise control measures. Dust and noise are minimised with hoarding, shade cloth and spraying water.

Will utility services be interrupted as part of construction?

SINSW co-ordinates upgrades or new supplies with local providers to minimise disruption. In the event that there will be any disruption to the local area, we will notify businesses and residents well in advance.

What will the construction hours be?

SINSW works with local councils and stakeholders to minimise the impact of construction works on the local community. This means that we comply with the local council's standard working hours. Adherence to these guidelines is often a condition of development approval for our projects.

How will traffic be managed?

Traffic management will be in place where required for the safety of the local community and workers. Traffic controllers will be used to manage entry and exit of vehicles to and from the construction site as necessary. Vehicles will give way to pedestrians at all times.

When will construction be complete?

The school is forecast to be completed in early 2021.

When will enrolments be accepted?

The school is now accepting enrolments for Day 1, Term 1, 2021. Enrolment packages are available for collection from Hambledon, Riverbank and Schofields Public Schools. Alternatively, you can download an application to enrol in a NSW Government school here: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/going-to-a-public-school/enrolment>

Complete and mail the form to Riverbank Public School:

Attention: Tracy Anderson
C- Riverbank Public School
25 Wentworth Avenue
THE PONDS NSW 2769

Enrolments will be undertaken in accordance with the NSW Department of Education guidelines. A student is able to enrol at the new primary school if their permanent and principal residence is located within the school catchment area.

To check your catchment area, go to <https://my.education.nsw.gov.au/school-finder>.

For enrolment enquiries, please contact the Principal, Tracey Anderson at tracey.anderson@det.nsw.edu.au

Will there be any changes to surrounding school enrolment boundaries?

If changes to school catchment boundaries / enrolment areas are needed, the Department of Education would work closely with school staff and communities to inform them and help them plan for any boundary realignments.

How will parents be involved in the upgrade project?

The NSW Department of Education is committed to working together with our school communities and other stakeholders to deliver the best possible learning facilities for students. There will be many opportunities for parents to view plans for the school project and provide feedback as the project progresses.