



RIVERBANK PUBLIC SCHOOL

Learning to Live • Living to Learn

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER • 9 FEBRUARY • TERM 1 WEEK 3

IMPORTANT DATES

2022 Term 1

Week 3

9 February 2022

Kindergarten First Day of School

Week 4

15 February

Meet the Teacher Recordings

Stage 2 Sports in Schools Commences

18 February

Year 6 Leaders Induction Assembly (recorded)

Week 5

22 February

Stage 2 Sports in School

23 February

Wellbeing – Restoration Framework K-6 Parent Workshop Recording

Week 6

1 March

Parent Workshop K-6 – Visible Learning Recording

Stage 2 Sports in Schools

2 March

P & C Meeting 6pm Online

Zone Swimming Carnival

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.

The staff and I have enjoyed welcoming 150 new students in years 1-6 and 230 Kindergarten students.

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 as well as personal and social responsibilities. 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 81 mainstream classes and 3 inclusive education classes.

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.

Our school times are 8.45am to 2.45pm

Morning supervision in classrooms 8.15am to 8.45am

8.45am	Morning bell
9.45am	K-2 Recess
10.15am	Stage 2 Recess
10.45am	Stage 3 Recess
12.15pm	K-2 Lunch
12.45pm	Stage 2 Lunch
1.15pm	Stage 3 Lunch
2.45pm	Afternoon bell

Our main entry gate will be open from 8.15am to 8.45am. During 8.45am and 2.45pm, there is an intercom at the main entry for parents to access the school. The High School have their own gates on Wentworth Street, located near their car park. After consultation with the P&C and in line with current COVID guidelines, we are continuing with no parents on site in the morning, with students to be dropped off at our school gates.

Afternoon Staggered pick-up times:

- 2.20pm Kindergarten Yellow Front Gate
- 2.30pm Year 1 Top Carpark Gate 3
- 2.30pm Year 2 Yellow Front Gate
- 2.40pm Year 3 Top Carpark Gate 3
- 2.40pm Year 4 High School Gate 6
- 2.40pm Year 5 & 6 Yellow Front Gate
- 2.45pm Siblings

Notification of Positive COVID-19 or Isolation

As we start the school year many students are already in isolation due to testing positive to COVID-19 or because they are a household contact. If you have already informed the school that your child is a close contact or is COVID-19 positive and are in isolation, thank you. Please note you will still need to use the Service NSW App to register the positive test result. If your child is isolating because they are a close contact then they are expected to do learning from home. If your child is at home with COVID-19 and is unwell they are not expected to do any schoolwork as they rest and recuperate. However, we realise some children, while they test positive with COVID-19, may have no symptoms and may wish to complete Learning From Home. Students participating in Learning From Home can access the Department's 2022 Digital Learning Packs. Please email your child's teacher and they will send you the link.

Simply follow the links to your child's current grade (e.g. Year One). There is a very short video explaining how to use the packs. Students are to start with the "Kangaroo Pack". Each pack contains 5 days of learning activities. Please complete the work for the corresponding day of the week and work through the activities.

2022 Teachers

Our 2022 School Information Booklet is now available on our school website.

Principal - Mrs Jeanie Brown

Deputy Principal - Mr Grant Rimmer

Deputy Principal - Mrs Stephanie Lambert

Deputy Principal (Relieving) - Mr Ben Cain

Deputy Principal (Relieving) - Mrs Angela Hannigan

Assistant Principals

Mrs Konny Georgakopoulous – Educational Support

Years K to 2

Miss Catherine Wing (Kindergarten)

Mrs Danielle Green (Year 1)

Mrs Jessica Muir (Year 2)

Years 3 to 6

Mrs Kate Martin - Relieving (Year 3)

Mrs Gina Griffiths (Year 4)

Mrs Jessica Beard (Year 5)

Mr Nathan Lee – Relieving (Year 6)

Inclusive Education Assistant Principal Ms Sam Jones

Kindergarten Teachers

KA Miss Claudia Allen
KB Miss Katrina Bonovas
KD Mrs Louise Dalton
KE Mrs Erin Wilson
KF Ms Genevieve Farrar
KJA Mrs Elizabeth Jones & Mrs Sylvia Aboui
KM Mrs Karyn McDonald
KMH Mrs Suzie Margiotta & Mrs Sarah Henman
KP Ms Deborah Pearce
KS Mrs Samantha Sesar
KW Mrs Lorrinda Winthrop & Mrs Juanita Beazley

Year 1 & 2 Teachers

1A Miss April Michelutti
1D Mrs Jodi Seward
1E Miss Emily Nagle
1G Miss Rebecca Gray
1H Mrs Harpreet Kaur
1J Mrs Nikki Jelley
1K Miss Jane Kim
1L Mrs Flora Liu & Mrs Magda Miklik
1M Miss Alexandra McAlister
1N Mrs Nicole Slater
1T Miss Nadine Kimble
2BL Mrs Lauren Baracz & Mrs Claire Lamont
2C Mr Lachlan Ceh
2D Mrs Thi Do
2J Mrs Jaz Kement
2K Miss Katharine Sparkes
2L Mrs Louise Worrall
2M Miss Serina Molnar
2N Mrs Leda Khaliqi
2P Miss Debra Pearson
2R Mrs Cassie Roberts
2S Miss Stephanie Maher
2V Mrs Vinish Pather
2W Miss Jessica Wehrmann

Year 3 & 4 Teachers

3B Miss Charlotte-Rose Neill
3C Mrs Paige Collard
3D Miss Katie Davis
3G Mrs Georgia Copperfield
3H Miss Emily Hodgetts
3I Mrs Ashton Ili
3M Miss Michelle Matthews
3N Miss Jacqueline Nguyen
3S Miss Madison Single
3W Miss Ashleigh Wickens
3/4V Mr Michael Vincent
4A Mrs Anna Loder
4B Mrs Sanjukta Banerji
4BW Mrs Shara Bollard & Mrs Courtney Warren
4C Miss Cheyenne Lloyd
4D Mrs Danijela Vasic
4E Mrs Eileen Rees
4J Mrs Jacintha Dasi
4L Mr Jarad Lonsdale
4O Ms Jennifer Oldman
4R Miss Rohita Rajah
4S Mrs Kirsten Smoth
4W Miss Gemma Wade

Years 5 & 6 Teachers

5D Miss Gina Dowsing
5E Miss Sam Evans
5G Miss Georgia Gunton
5H Mrs Hannah Russell
5J Mrs Larissa Jacobsen
5K Miss Madeleine Keogh
5L Mr Peter Lawrence
5R Miss Amy Renshaw
5S Miss Shubhika Dubey
5W Mr Wallace Chan
5/6C Mr Luke Currie
6B Mrs Debra Blackshaw
6D Miss Ashley Dennis
6F Mr Cameron Findley
6G Miss Aastha Garg
6H Miss Hayley Mobsby
6K Miss Georgia Kennedy

6M Miss Rebecca Monty
6N Mr Nicholas Gray
6S Miss Noni Saunders
6T Miss Therese Cusi

Inclusive Education Classes

K-4J Sam Jones and Mrs Natalie Ignacz
K-4R Mrs Francesca Ronquillo
5-6F Ms Mirna Farah

Educational Support Teachers

Mrs Konny Georgakopoulous, Mrs Amy Bray, Mrs Leda Khaliqi, Mrs Mary Willis, Mr Sean Conroy and Mrs Magda da Cruz Miklik

Release from Face to Face (RFF) Teaching Staff

STEAM - Ms Claire Rich and Mr Anthony Dewhurst **Library** - Ms Jennifer Kennedy
Classroom RFF Mrs Sandra Sousou, Mrs Claire Lamont, Ms Claire Rich, Ms Mila Cucilovic, Mrs Rebecca Byrnes, Mrs Juanita Beazley, Mrs Natalie Ignacz, Mrs Amelia Weekly, Mrs Laura Woodbury, Mrs Sue-Ellen Waller, Mrs Aimen Tahir and Mrs Sharna MacMasters

School Counsellors

Ms Mel Ozluk, Ms Penny Vella and Ms Anna Jakymyn

Administration

Administration Business Manager - Mrs Jenny Newton
School Administration Manager - Mrs Jill Arundel
General Assistant - Mr Garry Charters and Mr Ross Gerardis
School Administrative Officer - Mrs Joanne Smith
School Administrative Officer - Mrs Kylie Davoren
School Administrative Officer - Ms Leslee Bartle
School Administrative Officer - Mrs Kim Ormsby
School Administrative Officer - Ms Sue Reed
School Administrative Officer - Mrs Jenny Jenkins

School Learning Support Officers

Mrs Marianne Finadri
Ms Belinda Sarina
Mrs Jenny Wardell
Mrs Michelle McDonald
Mrs Kerrie Langley
Mrs Rhiannon Smith
Miss Cassie Talintyre
Miss Abigail Workman

Term 1 Invoices

2022 school invoices will be sent out each term. The Term 1 invoice will be sent next week.

Meet the Teacher Information Session

Meet the Teacher information online presentations will be sent out on our school app next Tuesday 15 February. Individual student learning will be discussed at parent - student - teacher interviews in Week 9.

Communication

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

Rapid Antigen Test Kits for Weeks 4 & 5

All schools now have permission to send the **4 Rapid Antigen Test Kits** home with students.

The RAT Kits will be placed in your child's school bag next Friday 11 February.

Children will be marked off on a class roll once they receive the kits and any students absent from school on this day can collect their kits from my office the following week.

We are not allocated extra RAT Kits.

Keeping our Students Safe

We have commenced 2022 with a layered approach to COVID-smart measures that have been developed in partnership with NSW Health to help to minimise transmissions at school. The health and wellbeing of our students and staff remain our priority, and these measures are designed to help to keep our school open and our students learning in the classroom.

These key measures include:

- Rapid antigen test (RAT) kits will be provided to all students to help monitor your child's health and minimise transmission of COVID-19 across our school.
- Wearing of surgical masks indoors is required for all staff and students in Year 7 and above and strongly recommended for all primary students. Masks will be provided by the school if required.
- Only fully vaccinated visitors essential to delivering and supporting learning or wellbeing can come on a school site.
- Students will be kept in their year groups on school grounds, with staggered pick-ups, break times, playground and canteen access to minimise the spread of COVID-19 across cohorts.
- We will continue to use good hygiene, enhanced cleaning, good air flow and ventilation in learning spaces, as well as physical distancing practices.

Every fortnight in our newsletter we publish roads traffic guidelines to educate students and parents about local council regulations. We request parents follow these rules to ensure the safety of students. On several occasions staff and parents have had damage to their cars while parked without drivers leaving their details. Please be careful.

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 your child can leave. If a student is late arriving 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.

The school's Kiss and Drop 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 our students when entering and leaving the premises.

Bike and Scooter Safety

Always wear a helmet when you ride or skate

All bicycle and scooter riders are required by law to wear an approved helmet that is securely fitted and fastened. We are observing an increased number of students now riding bikes and scooters with their helmets. Thank you to our school community for ensuring students are riding safely to and from school.

Community Engagement Videos

Please visit the school website to view our five amazing Community Engagement Videos. <https://riverbank-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

Parent Engagement Term 1 Calendar

I have included the school's term 1 calendar in this newsletter that highlights all school events. This year I have introduced a parent engagement overview calendar that incorporates all key workshops, interviews and events that parents are welcome to attend whether by zoom or on site.

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 2022 here:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/practical-help-for-parents-and-carers>

Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to our students who participated in the swimming carnival. All students displayed brilliant sportsmanship, effort and resilience. Well done to our House and Vice Captains for leading their teams. Congratulations to those students who will be representing RPS at the Ridges Zone Carnival on Wednesday 2 March. A huge thank you to all the parents and carers who supported the event. I would also like to acknowledge the hard work of Mr Lawrence, Miss Evans and their team for coordinating a successful carnival. Ribbons will be presented at the conclusion of our Induction Assembly next Friday.

The top 3 fastest heat times determined the place ribbons. The winning house will be announced and all place ribbons will be given to students at the conclusion of the Year 6 Leadership Induction Assembly on Friday 18 February.

A full list of placegetters will appear in the next newsletter.

Four records were broken on the day:

Estella B (4R) - Junior Girls 200m Individual Medley – 4:23.66 (previous record 4:35.63 set in 2018)

Estella B (4R) – 10 years 50m Freestyle – 44.03 (previous record 46.00)

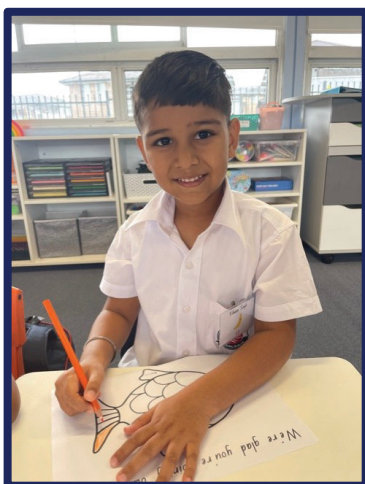
Estella B (4R) – Junior 50m Butterfly – 57.74 (previous record 1:02.88)

Piper M (4R) – 9 years 50m Freestyle – 48.63 (previous record 49.53)

Congratulations girls!

First Day of Kindergarten

A very warm welcome to our Kindergarten students. Congratulations on an exceptional first few days of “Big School”. Thank you to our Year 6 students for supporting Kindergarten as they arrive at school each morning.



Sport Uniform Days

Kindergarten: Tuesday and Thursday

Stage 1: Monday and Thursday

Stage 2: Tuesday and Friday

Stage 3: Wednesday and Friday

After school Activities

Our After School Activities will commence next Monday 14 February. More information regarding these programs run by outside agencies have been included in this newsletter.

Birthday Buckets

As part of meeting guidelines set by The NSW Department of Education and keeping students safe in response to COVID-19, parents and carers can purchase BIRTHDAY BUCKETS from the canteen. Any families wishing for their child to celebrate their birthday at school can order a Birthday Bucket through the canteen website. This needs to be placed at least 24 hours prior to the day required. We prefer no lollies be sent to school.

Leaders Induction Assembly

Our School Leader Induction Assembly will be held on Friday 18 February at 1.45pm. The livestream link will be sent out to the community via the school app.

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

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 at the front gate duty most mornings and afternoons and I always welcome feedback.

Best wishes for an exciting year ahead.

Mrs Jeanie Brown

Principal

2022 School Leadership - It gives me great pleasure to announce our 2022 School Leadership

Team:

School Captains

Holly Wilson

Luca Wang

School Vice Captains

Krishna Patel

Jordan Spice

Prefects

Cosmo Traini

Grace Quan

Sienna Green

Eva Bryant

Georgie Parker

Aarna Jain

Moksh Gupta

Ethan Rai

Ekansh Sharma

Naren Rajaparthi

House Captains and Vice Captains

Boyce

Captains

Kayla Reid

Lennox Thomas

Vice Captains

Linda Arul Thangadurai

Deakin Smith

Piddington

Captains

Leila Woodward

Rayyan Sayed

Vice Captains

Prisha Duggal

Hashvith Chalasani

Jett Guzman

Tomah

Captains

Madeline Mitchell

Marcus Kokaua

Vice Captains

Marina Naziry

Casey Gambrill

York

Captains

Snigdha Panta

Pratham Singh

Vice Captains

Alaysha Nabil

Joshua Summers

Library Prefects

Tegan Hyde

Shenova Wasalage

Jiya Darji

Himani Ramisetty

Veda Barmallu

Mehar Kaur Saini

Melissa Vithanage

Jiya Patel

Najah Aziz

Jasmita Kanteti

Vihaan Maghu

Siddhanth Ashok Kumar

Jay Bhatia

Aadi Rajpal

Suraj Dave

Attendance Road Map



100%
PERFECT

At school everyday!

You will achieve personal excellence



98%

IMPRESSIVE

Equates to 4 school days off each year



96%
GOOD

Equates to 8 school days off each year



95%

NEARLY THERE

Equates to 10 school days off each year



94%
ON THE WAY

Equates to 12 school days off each year



92%

NEEDS TO IMPROVE

Equates to 16 days off each year



90%
DANGER ZONE – EDUCATIONALLY AT RISK

Equates to 1 month off school each year



88%

SEVERE IMPACT

Equates to over a month off school each year



80%
EXTREME IMPACT

Equates to 2 months off each year



below 80%

DESTRUCTIVE

Highly challenging to access any learning



Based on 195 learning days per year

In the gate by half past 8

Parents, we are seeing over 100 students arrive late to school every day. Students are required to be at school before the morning bell and in their class lines by 8.45am. Thank you for your ongoing support.

NSW Department of Education

Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to...



Learn



Make friends



Build skills through fun

education.nsw.gov.au



Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

1 day per **fortnight** = **4** weeks  = Over **1** year missed

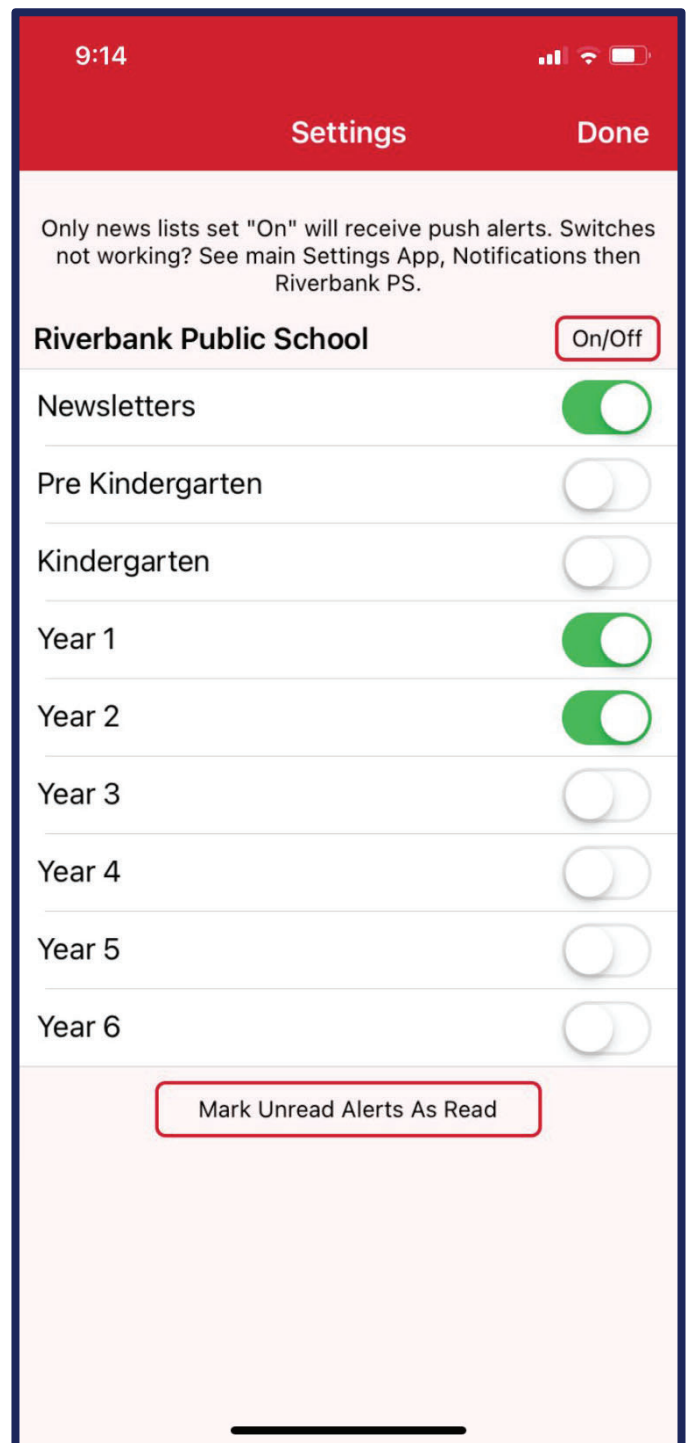
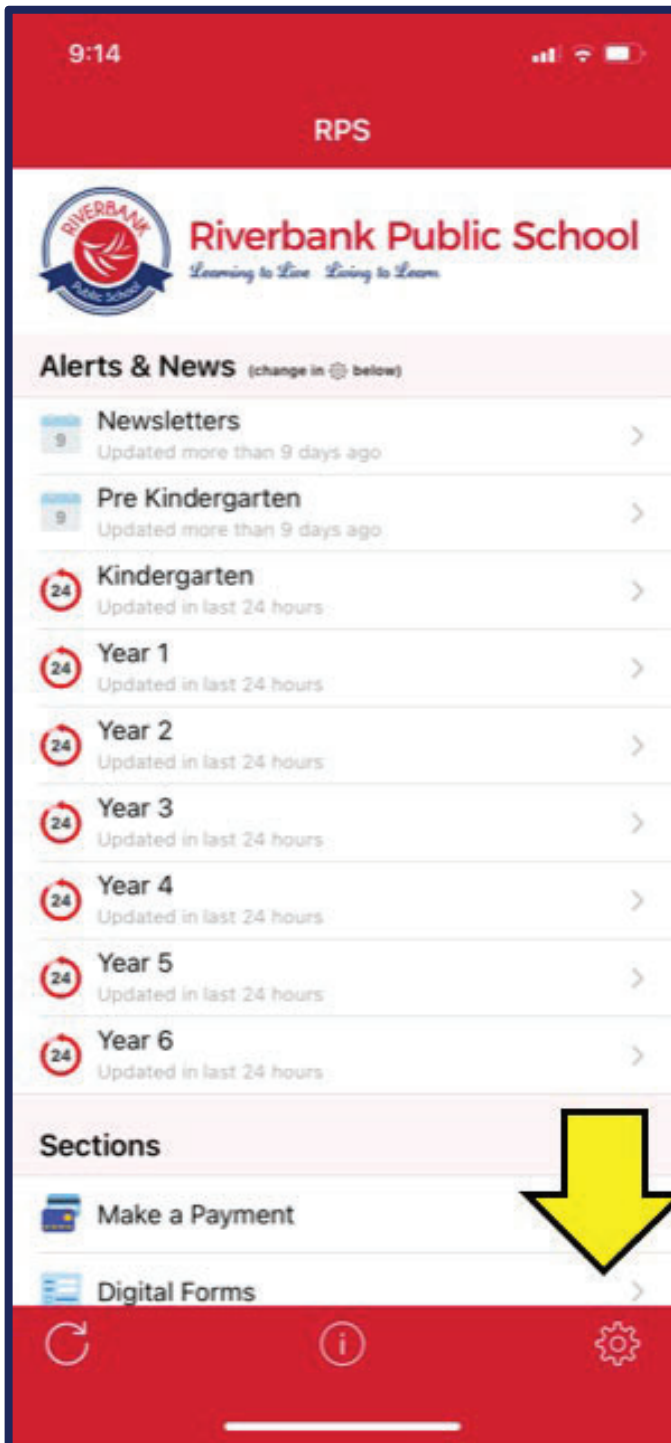
1 day per **week** = **8** weeks  = Over **2.5** years missed

education.nsw.gov.au

School App Tip

Did you know that you can tailor the push alerts that you receive from our school app to the grade/stage your child is in?

Select the cog wheel on the bottom right hand corner and select Newsletters and the grade/stage your child is in to ensure that all relevant communication is received.

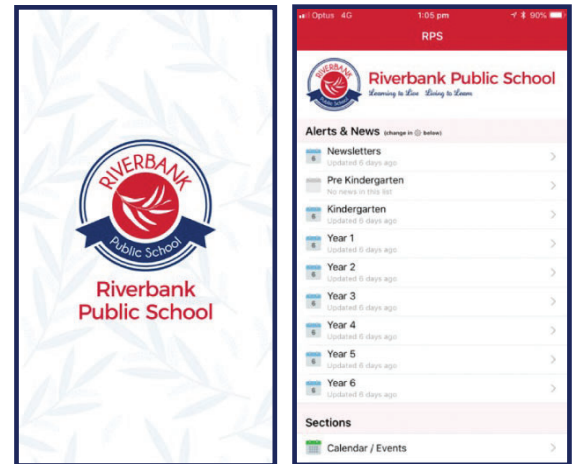


Parent Communication

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

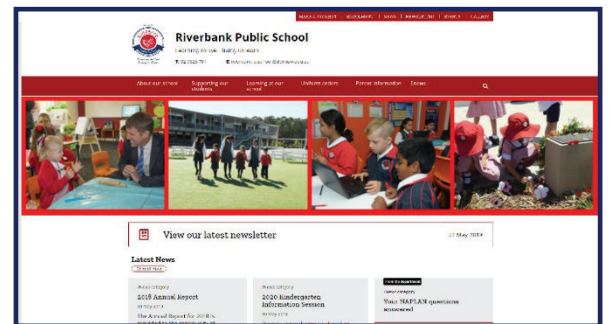
School Enews App

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).



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.

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

Sport Houses

There are Four Sports Houses that reflect the wonderful view the school has of the Blue Mountains.



Team Name	Named After	Famous For	Team Colour
PIDDINGTON	Mount Piddington	One of the highest peaks and is very famous for rock climbing.	BLUE (for the abundance of Eucalypts that give the mountains their blue colour)
TOMAH	Mount Tomah	Is very famous not only for its height but the Botanical Gardens.	GREEN (for the gardens)
BOYCE	Mount Boyce	Is almost the highest point in the mountains and is famous for a major Bureau of Meteorology station.	RED (for the flowering red natives: Waratah, Lambertia or Mountain Devil and Red Grevillia)
YORK	Mount York	Is very famous because it is where Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth first saw the western plains.	YELLOW (for the viewing of the western plains by the explorers)

RPS Medical Procedures

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.

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.

Lost Property

Our lost property tubs are located outside the staffroom and are checked daily by staff. Lost property which is labelled will be returned to students the following day.

Please ensure that all uniforms, lunchboxes and water bottles are labelled with your child's name.



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)

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

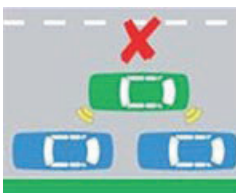


You must not stop on any footpath or nature strip, or even a driveway crossing a footpath or nature strip FOR ANY REASON.

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)

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.



RIVERBANK PUBLIC SCHOOL



EMAIL GUIDELINES

Riverbank Public School recognises that electronic mail (email) is a valuable communication tool that is widely used across our society. In 2022, staff members are providing their class parents with their email accounts to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of parent/teacher communication.

EMAIL PROTOCOLS

When using email to correspond with staff, parents are asked to be mindful of the following:

- Contentious, emotional or highly confidential issues are always best discussed face to face. Use email to set up the meeting only.

GUIDELINES FOR EMAILS INITIATED BY PARENTS

Please be mindful of the following:

- Most teachers prefer to speak directly to individual parents in person or via telephone and use email mainly for setting up meetings or for issuing reminders. Please note that some teachers read their email messages in the morning before school and some read them at the end of the day.
- Teachers have many children in their care. Please be aware of the potential for a very large number of emails that your child's teacher may receive in any one week. For these reasons, please remember that if you choose to send an email message to a staff member, you will receive a timely response within 1-2 school days. Furthermore, it may not be via return email.
- Teachers will respond between 8-4pm but not on weekends or in school holidays.
- Please ensure your child's name is in the subject box.
- For urgent messages or requests, please contact the school office.

Term 1 Riverbank Public School - Parent Engagement

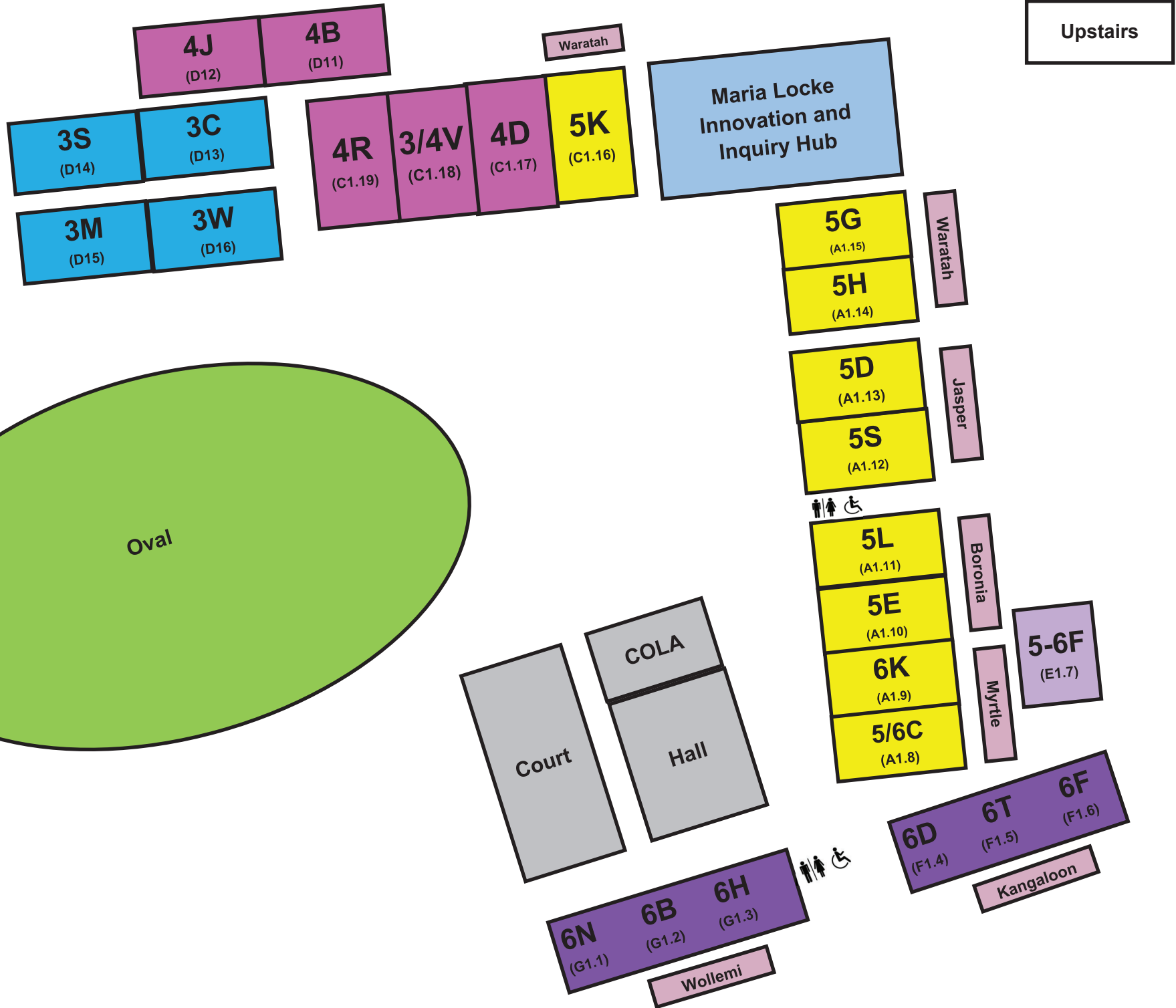
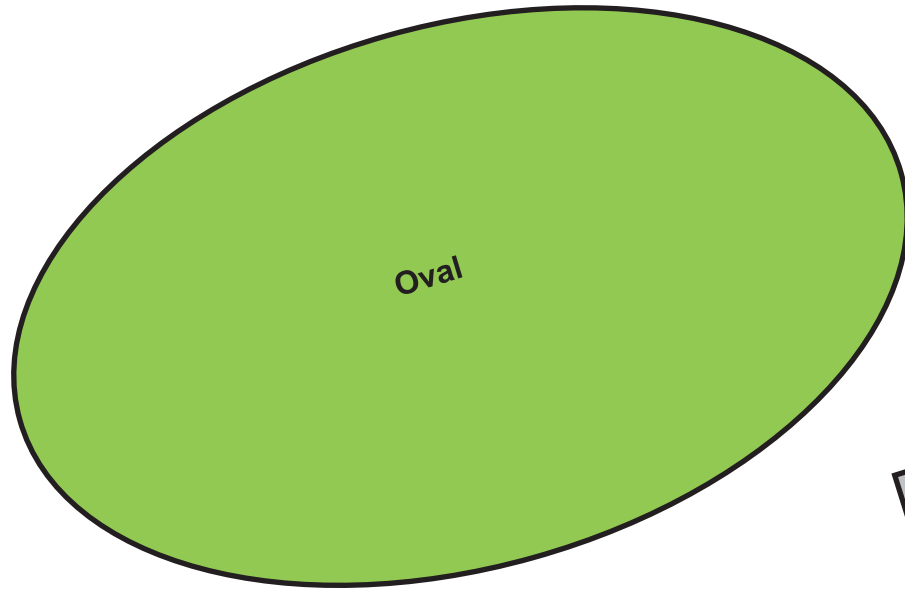
2022

Term One	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT SUN
1					28 January Staff Development Day	29 30 Jan
2	31 January Staff Development Day	1 February Year 1-6 students return Kindergarten Best Start	2 February Kindergarten Best Start	3 February Kindergarten Best Start	4 February Kindergarten Best Start	5 6 Feb
3	7 February Kindergarten Transition	8 February Kindergarten Transition Year 2-6 Swimming Carnival	9 February Kindergarten First Day of School	10 February	11 February	12 13 Feb
4	14 February	15 February Meet the Teacher Recordings	16 February	17 February	18 February Year 6 Leaders Induction Assembly (recorded)	19 20 Feb
5	21 February	22 February	23 February Wellbeing – Restorative Framework K-6 Parent Workshop recording	24 February	25 February	26 27 Feb
6	28 February	1 March Parent Workshop K-6 – Visible Learning recording	2 March P & C Meeting 6pm online Zone Swimming Carnival	3 March	4 March	5 6 Mar
7	7 March	8 March	9 March NAPLAN/OC Parent Workshop recording	10 March	11 March	12 13 Mar
8	14 March	15 March	16 March	17 March Parent Workshop K-6 -Educational Support/EaLD recording Harmony Day	18 March	19 20 Mar Welcome Picnic
9	21 March	22 March	23 March	24 March	25 March	26 27 Mar
10	28 March K-6 Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews TBC	29 March K-6 Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews TBC	30 March K-6 Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews TBC	31 March K-6 Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews TBC	1 April K-6 Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews TBC	2 3 Apr
11	4 April 3-6 Cross Country	5 April K-2 Cross Country Parent Workshop Kindergarten Literacy and Numeracy recording	6 April Go Blue for Autism Day	7 April ANZAC Service	8 April K-2 Easter Hat Parade Year 6 Easter Egg Fundraiser Last Day Term 1	9 10 April
Hols	11 April	12 April	13 April	14 April	15 April Good Friday	16 17 Apr
Hols	18 April Easter Monday	19 April	20 April	21 April	22 April	23 24 Apr



Ground





2022 CANTEEN MENU

Hot Food

Corn on the Cob	\$1.20
Garlic Bread	\$2.00
Party Pie	2 for \$3.00
Hot Cheese Roll	\$3.00
Chicken Nuggets	4 for \$3.20
	6 for \$4.80
Cheese & Broccoli Bites	4 for \$3.20
	6 for \$4.80
Hot Dog w/ Sauce	\$3.50
Mini Dim Sim Cup	\$3.50
Chicken or Vegetable	
Sausage Roll	\$3.60
Spinach & Ricotta Roll	\$3.80
Hot Chicken Roll	\$4.00
Traveller Pie	\$4.20
Beef or Chicken	

Burgers

No changes or substitutions are available.

Chicken Burger	\$4.60
Lettuce & Mayo	
Beef/Salad Burger	\$4.60
Lettuce, Tomato & BBQ Sauce	
Cheese Burger	\$4.60
Beef, Cheese & BBQ Sauce	
Veggie Burger	\$4.80
Lettuce & Mayo	

Pasta & Rice

Macaroni & Cheese	\$4.80
Butter Chicken & Rice	\$4.80
Beef or Vegetable Lasagne	\$4.80
BBQ Pork & Ham Fried Rice	\$4.80

Hot Wraps

Chicken Tender w/ Lettuce & Mayo	\$5.20
Toasted Ham/Cheese	\$5.00

Bento Box \$5.50

Your choice of Chicken Breast Slice, Corn Cob or Boiled Egg
PLUS 1/2 Sandwich, Mini Muffins, Sliced Fruit, and Popcorn

Build Your Own Sub Roll

Sub rolls baked fresh everyday!

\$5.50

Includes:

One (1) choice of meat, and any fillings or sauces.

1. Choose a Meat:

Chicken Breast, Ham, Tuna, Meatballs or Roast Beef

2. Choose Fillings:

Carrot, Cheese, Tomato, Lettuce, Cucumber or Beetroot.

3. Choose Sauce/Dressing:

Caesar, Garlic Aioli, Sweet Chilli, Tomato, BBQ, Mayo or Sweet Mustard.

Sandwiches & Wraps

All sandwiches made on wholemeal bread

Upgrade Wrap	\$0.80
Vegemite, Jam or Cheese	\$2.50
Tuna or Egg	\$3.20
Ham, Chicken or Roast Beef	\$4.00
Salad Sandwich	\$4.00
Lettuce, Tomato, Cucumber, Beetroot & Carrot	
Salad w/ Tuna or Ham	\$4.50
Salad w/ Chicken or Roast Beef	\$4.80
Extras (including Toasting)	\$0.60
Cheese, Avocado, Sprouts	

Sushi

Available Tues, Wed, & Thurs

Chicken & Cucumber	\$3.80
Tuna & Cucumber	\$3.80
Chicken Terriyaki	\$3.80
Veggie Sushi	\$3.80

ORDER ONLINE!

For online weekly specials, detailed menus and to order online, please visit spriggyschools.com.au

Lunch order cut off is 9am



Salads

Garden Salad	\$4.50
Lettuce, Tomato, Cucumber, Beetroot & Carrot	
w/ Ham or Tuna	\$5.20
Chicken Caetser Salad	\$5.50
Greek Salad	\$5.50
Extras	\$0.60
Cheese, Avocado, Sprouts, Egg or Capsicum	

Drinks

Bottled Water 600ml	\$2.00
Plain Milk 300ml	\$2.00
Juice Popper	\$2.40
Flavoured Milk 300ml (3 Flavours)	\$2.60
Juice Bomb Sparkling Juice	\$2.80
Up 'n' Go	\$2.80

Please note that while we take great care to ensure the correct flavour drink/ice block is provided, some substitutions may occur due to circumstances out of our control

Cold Treats

Quelch Fruit Stick	\$1.00
Frozen Juice Cup	\$1.50
Snap Stix Ice Block	\$1.50
Icy Mony	\$1.50
Moosie Pouch	\$1.50
Juicee Tube	\$1.50
Lemonade on a Stick	\$1.50

All cold treats are to be collected from the canteen by returning brown lunch bag

Snacks

Pizza Muffic (Recess Only)	\$1.00
Laughing Cow Cheese	\$1.00
Carrot Sticks	\$1.00
Piece of Fruit	\$1.20
Boiled Egg	\$1.00
Popcorn	\$1.50
Custard Cup	\$1.50
Fruit Salad	Small \$3.00
	Large \$4.00
Dip Snack Box	\$3.50
Banana Bread Slice	\$3.00
Red Rock Crisps	\$2.00
Grainwaves	\$2.00



Classroom Catering supports a focus on everyday healthy food & drink options and is fully compliant with the NSW Healthy School Canteen food & drink benchmarks.



Year 7 2023

School Information

Welcome from the Principal



I would like to extend to you a warm welcome to The Ponds High School. The Ponds High School has been open for seven years. I ask you to see the potential that is emerging. Our team is working tirelessly to build a culture and environment that aims to give all students the best opportunity to reach their potential in a caring, safe, supportive and technologically advanced environment.

Choosing the right secondary school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will make. Parents need to be comfortable their child is given every opportunity to succeed. Whether it is academically, in the creative and performing arts or on the sporting field. Our school offers such opportunities. The facilities at our school are modern, and the staff are motivated, experienced and caring. They are supportive of one another and our students in both wellbeing and the curriculum.

Commencing Year 7 is an exciting time. Students will be provided with an enormous range of new experiences including a variety of specialist teachers rather than the one class teacher they have had in primary school, and a varied curriculum (including a focus on STEM and many electives) that includes everything from traditional to practical subjects.

As well as being an exciting time, starting Year 7 can be a little daunting. Students will find they are in a cohort that is larger than their primary school and the size of the school grounds may take some getting use to. However, students and parents should be reassured that The Ponds High School has an effective wellbeing system and a range of positive programs that allows everyone to be integrated into the life of the school.

With a primary school on-site, we have growing opportunities for leadership and support as our students work with and guide primary school students. We are looking forward to continue to develop these positive relationships with Riverbank Public School, and indeed with our local primary schools.

I hope you make the most of your time at our innovative and exciting secondary school which offers a multitude of opportunities for your child.

Yours sincerely,

Jenny Weal

Principal

Dear Year 6 students,

Welcome to The Ponds High School. Your first few weeks might feel out of place. You might feel excited yet overwhelmed about the massive journey ahead, but don't worry, we completely understand as we have all been through it. You'll be introduced to new things like timetables, getting homework from most subjects every day, different teachers, new subjects and many students making their way around the school. Keep in mind that you have the whole school community behind you, ready to help you in any way possible.

Our school provides you with the knowledge you need to grow, the motivation you need to achieve and the energy you need to be inspired. You will make some of your fondest memories at high school. You will get to soak up all of the culture and diversity our school opportunities provide, in meeting new friends, Multicultural Day and Gala Day. Your first day at school will be jam packed and we hope you're looking forward to it. Get ready to make the most of everything!

Our school offers a wide range of activities which cater for everybody. We have a diverse range of extra-curricular activities which we encourage you to join. You might find yourself in one of The Ponds High School clubs. The Debating Team or Social Justice might be the way to go if you want to expand and challenge yourself. These are just some of the various extra-curricular activities offered at The Ponds High School.

During your time at our high school, you will grow and learn to achieve your potential. The 5Ps (Prompt, Prepared, Positive, Polite and Productive) form the basis of our value system at TPHS. You might face speed bumps or obstacles, but this road will assist you to become responsible students in the school community. Eventually, you will blossom into great individuals who will be assets to society, as well as The Ponds High School.

I hope you are excited and ready for the adventure of high school.

Good luck, we can't wait to meet you next year!

Best wishes,

Year 7 student (2021)

Why THE PONDS High School?

The Ponds High School, opened in 2015 as a co-educational, comprehensive secondary school with an on-site primary school. The school has approximately 1900 students from a variety of different backgrounds and caters for a diverse population through the enrichment program, many electives and targeted learning assistance programs. The school is quickly expanding both in size and in the number of extra curricular activities offered.

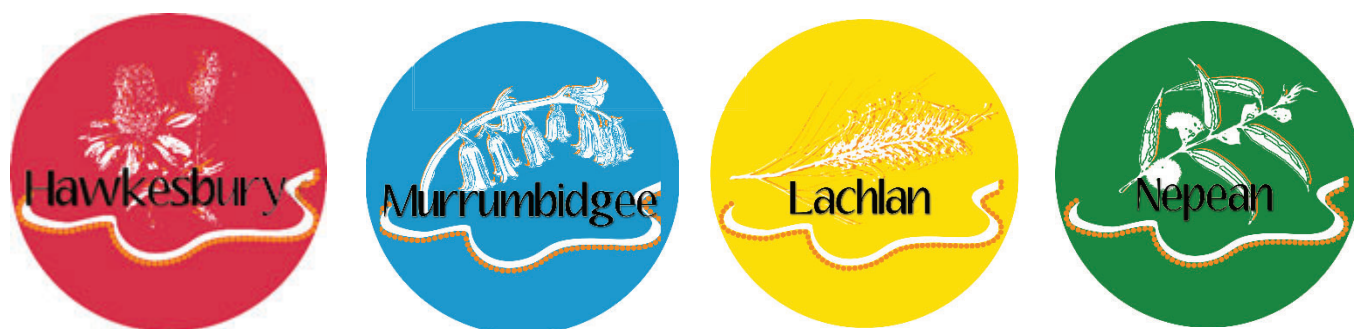
Students should expect to find an area of interest in the creative and performing arts, speaking and debating, the sporting arena and also the opportunity to participate in multicultural celebrations and leadership opportunities. The facilities are up to date and state of the art. A wireless network facilitates student learning through the 'Bring Your Own Device' (BYOD) program and Canvas online learning platform. Students at The Ponds High School are supported by an active wellbeing team where teachers take part in ongoing professional learning linked to student achievement and wellbeing. Participation and engagement are key components for all members of the community of The Ponds High School

Year 7 and 8 Curriculum

The Ponds High School offers an extensive curriculum that has technology integrated into all courses of study.

- Students in Years 7 and 8 follow a fixed curriculum which includes English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Technology, PD/Health/PE, Language (Japanese), Music, Drama and Computing Skills.
- Years 9 and 10 students study the core courses of English, Mathematics, Science, PD/Health/PE, History and Geography and then have a wide choice of elective courses that build toward the Record of School Achievement (RoSA).

House System



Year 7 students from 2015 decided on the names for our houses.

The houses include:

HAWKESBURY - **red** for the many banksias grown along the Hawkesbury river.

MURRIMBIDGEE - **blue** for the Bluebells, the floral emblem of the ACT that grow in that area.

LACHLAN - **yellow** for the wattles and grevillea that grow in lower central NSW.

NEPEAN - **green** for the eucalypt, the symbol of our school.

The house system at The Ponds High School combines sport and cultural events and activities building a fun, inclusive and competitive environment. Students receive points for participation and representation in school events. We have enrolled students in the Premier's Sporting challenge where students compete individually and as a house to determine the champion house overall.

Sport at The Ponds High School

Students at The Ponds High School participate in integrated, recreation and grade sport, and a separate PDHPE program. We are part of the Zone program and play sports against other schools in The Macquarie Zone. Unlike primary school, students bring their PE uniform to school and get changed at school for PDHPE. In Year 8, students have a dedicated sports day where they wear uniform all day. However, it is essential that students who have Science or TAS have leather school shoes in compliance with DoE Health & Safety requirements.

Other sporting events/activities include:

- A strong house system for our three school carnivals: swimming, cross country and athletics
- Lunch time sporting clubs
- Knockout teams catering for a large variety of sports
- Gala days for students in Years 7 and 8
- Student eligibility for zone, regional and combined high schools (CHS) selection

Cultural Opportunities

Students are actively encouraged to participate in debating and public speaking – areas of development that provide vital confidence to students for school and post school life.

The school has a performance band, dance groups and vocal group. Students have the opportunity to learn an instrument without the need to travel to and from their homes after school.

We have a sister school in Japan of whom we host students. Japanese elective students from TPHS have also travelled to Japan.

We are looking forward to our Multicultural day later in the year which celebrates the diversity of students at The Ponds High School.

Student Wellbeing, Leadership and Support

A comprehensive wellbeing program is a great strength of The Ponds High School providing a clear awards scheme, fair but firm consequences for inappropriate behaviour and a strong student support network which incorporates programs for students. Other features include a Pastoral Care program, and an innovative and inclusive student leadership program that ensures many students in the school have a leadership role and share in building a positive culture.

At The Ponds High School, we have an experienced and exceptional Wellbeing Team (Year Advisors) who oversee, support and guide the wellbeing needs of the students. The school has a Counsellor, a Student Support Officer, a Learning Support Team and strong links with student services at Nirimba to ensure programs and systems are well supported. Student Wellbeing is a regular part of staff professional learning.

Cognitive learning

An important part of learning is understanding how and why people learn the way that they do. Students will be introduced to activities designed to increase their understanding of different ways of learning, studying and note taking. This program will become an important aspect of teaching and learning across the school.

Class Placement

Students will be placed in a core class. They will be with the same students in their core class for English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Drama, PDHPE and Language. Each class will have a mixture of students from the different primary schools. Year 7 students will be in different classes for Visual Arts and Technology. Two or three core classes will be mixed together to form these classes.

THE PONDS HIGH SCHOOL ENRICHMENT CLASS in Year 7 and 8

In order to provide the appropriate opportunity, stimulation and experiences to develop the potential of gifted and talented students, there are Stage 4 classes that cater specifically for students who are talented in literacy and numeracy. These classes are provided with a range of challenging enrichment and extension opportunities that are academically rigorous and intellectually stimulating. There is currently one class in Year 7 and one class in Year 8. Students are in the Enrichment class for English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Language, Drama and PDHPE, and are in mixed ability groups for Music, Visual Arts and Technology. Beyond Stage 4, the curriculum is differentiated in a variety of ways to best meet the needs of gifted and talented students.

Students need to make a separate application for the Year 7 Enrichment class and are assessed for placement using multiple criteria to ensure that the selection process is fair and reliable. This includes a parent support statement, Year 5 NAPLAN Test results, academic reports, academic awards, information provided by the primary school directly to our school, and the HPGE entrance examination which will be held in late March 2021. During Year 7, if there is a vacancy in the Enrichment class, placement will be by class teacher referrals only.

Placement in the Year 8 Enrichment class is by class teacher referrals based on a student's performance throughout Year 7. There is no entrance test or application process. Student placement in both the Year 7 and 8 Enrichment classes are reviewed at the end of each semester.

By meeting the educational, cultural, social and emotional needs of students, we encourage high achievement, originality, problem-solving, higher order thinking skills and creativity in all students from Years 7 to 12.

Stage 4 Subjects – Year 7 and 8

Computing Skills

Computer skills is an essential part of the TAS Curriculum, not only because students need to know how to use the technology tools effectively they have on their device, but also because they need to learn how to organise themselves in a digital environment. Year 7 students study Computing Skills for one period a week and in Year 8, one period per fortnight. Students learn about the safety and ethical issues related to multimedia technology and participate in competency-based programs that develop skills to create, work with and modify documents and files. They use a range of computer software including word processing, spreadsheets, databases, graphics, internet, intranet and multimedia.

Drama

Students study two periods over two weeks. In Year 7 and 8, students study voice and movement, puppetry and characterisation, improvisation, working with scripts, mime and drama games.

English

Students engage in studying a variety of texts from a range of cultures and perspectives, including Indigenous and Asian perspectives. Units of learning focus on an area of study in order to allow students to make connections between texts. Themes and issues in these texts allow students to participate in activities that develop skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing and representing. The use of explicit literacy strategies is a key component of English at The Ponds High School.

There are opportunities for students to become involved in extra-curricular activities, such as public speaking and debating.

Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE)

Students engage in a variety of subjects including the Humanities and Social Sciences. In the junior years, Geography allows students to develop an enjoyment of and an interest in the interaction of the physical and human environments. Students develop geographic knowledge, understanding, skills, values and attitudes in order to engage in the community as informed and active citizens. In History, students examine events, people and societies from ancient, medieval and modern times, including twentieth century Australia.

Languages

All students in Year 7 study Japanese. They learn a number of skills including language skills and interpersonal communication skills. Students also have opportunities to learn about Japanese culture. The Japanese program may offer opportunities for students to travel to Japan in later years where they will have the opportunity to visit students in our sister school in Sapporo, or to accommodate Japanese 'buddies' in Australia.

Students can participate in the Japan Club that runs during Lunchtime. In this club, students have further opportunity to develop their language skills through extension activities. They also participate in a large variety of cultural activities such as Japanese paper craft, Sumie (ink art), watching Japanese movies, singing Japanese songs, origami and food tasting.



Mathematics

At The Ponds High School, the Mathematics staff are committed to providing the best learning environment for students to ensure engagement and success in Mathematics. To promote deeper thinking and higher levels of application, lessons use a Flipped Classroom approach.

In essence, “flipping the classroom” means that students gain first exposure to new material outside of class, usually via reading notes, interactive websites or lecture videos, and then use class time to complete the more difficult work of assimilating knowledge, perhaps through problem-solving, discussion, or debates.

At The Ponds High School, students will be required to complete daily “Prep” and learn the material at home, then come to school and have class time to work on problems where the teacher and fellow students are available to answer questions. The Prep will be a mixture of utilising HOTmaths, powerpoints and instructional videos. Students are given a Prep booklet at the beginning of each topic. They can then plan when they will complete required homework around out of school commitments. This teaching technique addresses the typical Maths classroom problem: students passively listen to the lecture, begin the homework (only getting to the easy ones), go home and get stuck. Instead, students are able to tackle the "difficult" part of learning the problems in the classroom where there is immediate help available from the teacher and peers.

Research has shown that utilising the Flipped Classroom Approach in Mathematics, students take greater responsibility for their learning, interact meaningfully and often with their teacher and peers, and by getting and giving frequent feedback, they acquire a deeper understanding of the content and how to use it.

Music

In Year 7, students study sound sources, getting the beat, instruments of the orchestra and Australian music. The instrumental focus is keyboards and the glockenspiel. In Year 8 Music students look at African music, Folk and the Blues, and then embark upon an exploration through various forms of Popular Music. The instrumental focus is guitar.

PDHPE

Students study eight periods over a two-week cycle in Year 7 and seven periods per cycle in Year 8. In the theory component, Year 7 students study bullying and harassment, including cyber bullying and safety, child protection, smoking awareness, nutrition, body image, self-esteem, and growth and development. The Year 8 theory program covers information on drugs, disease, discrimination, pregnancy and child birth, road safety and risk taking, and a healthy lifestyle. Over Year 7 and 8, students will participate in a range of sporting activities including netball, soccer, touch football, basketball, Australian rules football, cricket, gymnastics, dance, athletics and swimming. Fitness is an integral part of all units. Sport is integrated into PDHPE lessons.

Science

Students undertake Science as a core subject. They are given the opportunity to learn through hands on activities, often by discovery, with fun and engaging practical activities. Students develop analytical skills, as well as developing numeracy and scientific literacy skills. Our students at The Ponds High School see the relevance of Science to the wider world.

Visual Arts

The Year 7 Visual Arts course is the first of a two-year module that forms Stage 4 Visual Arts. Students participate in 3 lessons of Visual Arts per fortnight.

Visual Arts offers students the opportunity to develop a broad range of skills through the practice of making and studying art.

Art making Students produce artworks using their immediate world as a source of ideas. They learn about different techniques and approaches to making art that can be used to both express their ideas and appeal to audiences. Students create artworks in a variety of forms, including drawing, painting, ceramics, printmaking, photography and computer-generated imagery.

Art studying (art historical and critical studies) Students learn about the practice of artists and how they respond to their world. They engage in the practice of art historians and critics, gaining knowledge and skills which enable them to respond to artworks through discussion and written texts.

Extra-Curricular Activities

There are a number of extracurricular activities students can participate in. However, it is the student's responsibility to contact the teacher in charge or KLA to find out specific participation requirements and details. Extracurricular activities operate at different times during the year and include:

- Dance Ensembles
- Drama Ensemble
- Debating & public speaking
- Games Club
- Homework Club
- Japan Club
- Multicultural Day
- Band, Ukulele group (PUGS) and Guitar group



Year 7 Camp – Term 1

All Year 7 students are expected to attend the Year 7 Camp



This camp aims to give students an educational experience and an opportunity to get to know each other in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. Year 7 students also participate in a range of team building activities. The camp lasts for three days and two nights. Activities include cooperative games, a ropes course, swimming, canoeing, abseiling, archery and a series of Peer Support activities. Night activities are organised for both evenings.

School Uniform



The school uniform has been devised and approved by the school community. All students are required to wear the correct uniform at all times. The school also expects students to wear black leather shiny, business-conventional type, lace-up styled shoes. They must cover the top of the foot and have a small heel. The PE uniform is worn by both girls and boys during designated PE lessons and during sport. Uniforms are available from Cowan & Lewis and can be picked up from school or delivered to your home.

Library



Innovative spaces which include flexible furniture, interactive technology stations, a brainstorming space where students can record their ideas, eBooks and resources for use on students' devices, as well as a student services centre, ensures space is available for the needs of our students.

Internet - <http://www.theponds-h.schools.nsw.edu.au>

The Ponds High School website contains a range of information about the school and its community. You will be able to view school newsletters, read P&C meeting minutes and locate educational resources and links provided by classroom teachers. Additionally, students of The Ponds High School will have access to their timetable, surveys, and online subject and sports selections.



DoE Portal Login

All students joining The Ponds High School from DoE primary schools, private schools, interstate or international schools will receive a DoE login. This will allow students to access the internet at school and provide every student with a DoE e-mail account.

A screenshot of the DoE Portal Login Page. The page has a blue header with the text "Portal Login Page" and "The NSW Department of Education and Communities portal". Below the header, there is a section for "For school students, TAFE students and all staff." which says "Allows you to access the internet, intranet, email and DEC applications and services from anywhere." There is a "Log In" button. Below that, there is a section for "New staff portal users" which says "Staff who are now using the new staff portal should go to staff.det.nsw.edu.au". There is another "Log In" button. Below that, there is a section for "New student portal users" which says "All school students need to go to the new student portal at student.det.nsw.edu.au. When the new portal is ready for TAFE students, it will be announced here." There is a "Log In" button. On the right side of the page, there is a "Log In" section with a "DEC User ID (e.g. jane.citizen)" field, a "Password" field, and a "Log In" button. Below the "Log In" button, there is a link "Forgot your DEC user ID or password?" and a note "Use your secret questions and answers to reset your password here."

Starting High School Video



The DoE has produced two short videos about starting high school. There is also a lot of printed information available on the NSW Public Schools website (NSW Government: Education and Training). Go to 'Starting High School'.

Video Link: <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/gotoschool/highschool/index.php>

Wellbeing and Discipline Policy

At The Ponds High School, we see good discipline as fundamental to achieving the priorities of:

- providing quality education
- raising educational standards and achievement
- taking responsibility for the care and safety of the students in our care
- developing self-directed, responsible, resilient and tolerant students who achieve their full potential within a caring school.

The Ponds High School implement structures that encourage students to:

- be self-directed and resilient
- accept responsibility for their actions
- understand their behaviour
- make informed choices
- respect the rights of others
- meet accepted standards of behaviour
- respect the property of others
- comply with DoE welfare and discipline guidelines

At one level, discipline relates to the expectations of students' behaviour and at another level is concerned with the broader issue of relationships within the school community. Parents and staff share the responsibility for shaping young people's understanding and attitudes about acceptable behaviour.

Parents specifically are responsible for caring for their children, ensuring that they attend school in uniform and for their behaviour outside school hours and as they travel to and from school. Teachers are responsible for providing effective learning, wellbeing programs, caring for students and reporting on students' learning and behaviour.

Students are responsible for their own behaviour, for complying with this policy and for maximising the opportunities offered by the school.

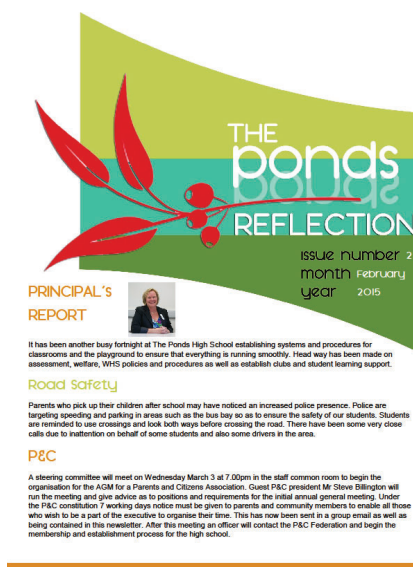
grounds and facilities. Donations to the Building Fund are tax deductible.

How can I find out what is happening with the P&C?

The P&C have a page on the school website, containing previous meeting minutes, news and upcoming dates, contact details of the P&C Executive and other relevant information. Go to **The Ponds High School** website for more information (<http://www.theponds-h.schools.nsw.edu.au>).

School Newsletter

TPHS Newsletter is **emailed** home each fortnight. It is important for you to receive this regular contact from the school so that you can keep informed about upcoming events at the school. It is important for you to set up your email account to enable attachments to be received. Please notify the school immediately if you change your email address. To open The Ponds High School Newsletter, you will need the latest version of Adobe Acrobat and Adobe flash player. Our school newsletter is also available on 'The Ponds High School' App.



Semester Reports

Parents will receive all reports via the **Parent Portal**. Please notify the school immediately if your details change. The Year 7 interim report is a brief report emailed in late March. This report will let you know how your child has adjusted to the routines and expectations of high school. There are no marks or grades on this report. Detailed reports are emailed home twice a year at the end of each semester. Each of your child's teachers will provide information about their progress. These reports are intended to inform you about your child's progress over the semester period. Reports will not be issued before the date the reports are uploaded on to the Parent Portal.

Parent Teacher Night

There is a Parent Teacher night for Year 7 held in April. Parent teacher interviews will be from 3.30pm to 7.30pm and it is essential that you book interview times as soon as students receive information about the online interview booking system. Teachers are limited in the number of slots available for interviews so the sooner you book an interview the more likely you are to arrange a suitable time.

Enrolment Procedure for Year 7 2023

DoE public schools are committed to an education for students that is based around the principles of:

- Extensive curriculum opportunities
- Quality teaching and learning
- High academic outcomes
- Strong values
- Excellent student support

Local area enrolment

Every local school has to reserve enough places within their school for local area students. To find out whether you are eligible for enrolment at The Ponds High School visit our website under the 'enrolment' tab then go to 'local enrolment area' and click on 'school finder', enter your address and it will show your local high school. If in doubt check with our office staff.

Parents will be asked to provide multiple documents to prove they live in the school's catchment area. Parents are also reminded that it is a criminal offence to provide misleading information on a statutory declaration. It is not legal to provide a relative or friend's address as proof of evidence and the school is under obligation to pass any questionable documentation to the police for investigation. In the event that statements made in your application later prove to be false or misleading, any decision made as a result of this application may be reversed.

Non-local area enrolment

Expressions of interest (EOI) for non-local placements are examined by an enrolment panel. It is highly unlikely any out of area enrolment applications will be accepted. This is due to pressure to accommodate in-area placements.

Important dates for 2022

From 23 February 2022

Parents can download the **Year 7, 2022 Enrichment Class Application** form from TPHS website – go to ‘Learning at our school’ then ‘High Potential & Gifted Education’ (**HPGE**) tab



By 11 March 2022

DoE primary schools issue parents or caregivers with the ***Expression of Interest for Placement in Year 7*** at a NSW Government Secondary School



By 15 March 2022

Parents of students applying for the **Year 7 enrichment class (HPGE)** must return the completed application, support material and payment



By 18 March 2022

DoE Year 6 students’ parents or caregivers complete the ***Expression of Interest for Placement in Year 7*** form and return it to their child’s primary school.

Non-government Year 6 students’ parents or caregivers complete the ***Expression of Interest for Placement in Year 7*** form and return it to TPHS



19 March 2022

Year 7, 2023 HPGE test to be held at TPHS at 9:30am – 11:30am



25 May 2022

TPHS Enrolment Committee meets and reviews all applications.

The TPHS Enrolment Committee uses the criteria stated in Section C of the ***Expression of Interest for Placement in Year 7*** form for non-local enrolments.



31 May 2022

Students applying for the Year 7 Enrichment class will be notified of placement in the class



By 1 June 2022

Successful and unsuccessful applicants for Year 7 enrolment will be notified by mail.

Parents or caregivers of successful applicants will be sent an

Application to Enrol in a NSW Government School form



By 24 June 2022

Parents or caregivers confirm enrolment at TPHS by returning the

Application to Enrol in a NSW Government School form



By 2 September 2022

The Ponds High School Acceptance Letter will be sent to parents or caregivers confirming enrolment into Year 7, 2023



By 5 September 2022

HPGE Information Evening 5:30pm – 6:15pm in

Library



By 4 November 2022

Orientation Day packages will be sent to parents or caregivers



29 November 2022

Year 6 into 7 Orientation Day at TPHS (8:45am – 12.30pm)

ALL students AND parents/caregivers are expected to attend

What forms do I need to fill in?

If you attend a Department of Education School or a **non-government school** you must complete the ***Expression of Interest for Placement in Year 7*** form which you should receive from your primary school. If you attend a DoE school you must return this form to your primary school by 18 March 2022. If you attend a non-Government school you must return this form to The Ponds High School by 18 March 2022.

If you are a non-local applicant, you **MUST** complete Section C

You can attach additional information.

You can collect this form from any DoE primary school or download it from the NSW Public Schools website at <http://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/going-to-a-public-school/enrolment/high-school-enrolment>

By 15 March 2022, parents applying for the Year 7 ENRICHMENT class need to return the **Enrichment Class Application** form.

You will be required to complete an ***Application to Enrol***. This form must be returned to The Ponds High School by **24 June 2022**.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the Application to Enrol and feel you have not been treated fairly or that the result is unreasonable, you may lodge an appeal. The appeal should be made in writing to the principal.

What happens if your rental agreement expires before the end of 2022?

If your rental agreement expires before the end of 2022 you will be required to provide proof of residence in December 2022.

What happens if you move out of the local area?

Local area enrolments who move out of the area before the end of 2022 will have to reapply as a non-local enrolment and their new application will be assessed by The Ponds High School Enrolment Committee. This may result in a reversal of the original decision to accept your child at TPHS.

If you move out of the local area within the first 12 months of starting at TPHS, your child's placement at this school will be reviewed and it may result in your child having to leave this school and enrol at their local high school.

Anaphylaxis, Allergic Reactions and Asthma

Students with anaphylaxis, allergic reactions or asthma will be required to submit an ASCIA plan or Asthma Action Plan. This must be completed by your child's medical practitioner (doctor) and must include a photograph of your child. This form must be returned on your child's first day at school. Parents/caregivers must also provide the school with an epi pen if their child is anaphylactic

Who to contact if you want more information about enrolling at The Ponds High School?

Enrolment Officer: Mrs Joy Reid

This involves:

- collating enrolment applications
- distributing enrolment packages which contain the Application to Enrol form and information package.
- application for the Year 7 enrichment class
- coordinating the Year 6 Orientation Day at TPHS which will be held on Tuesday, 29 November 2022 (8:45am – 12.30pm). You will be advised of this date when you receive confirmation of enrolment letter in September.

The enrolment officer works closely with the transition officer and principal to ensure the needs of students are met. They work together to determine the most appropriate class placement of students in their core and practical classes.

The Year Advisers and/or Head Teacher Stage 4 should be the **first people contacted** if you have any questions or concerns related to enrolment, curriculum, discipline or welfare.

Key personnel who may be able to help you with specific enrolment enquiries include:

Mrs Joy Reid - Enrolment Officer

Processes all enrolment applications and maintains records

Mrs Rachel Jack - Head Teacher Stage 4

Coordinates Year 7 and 8 wellbeing and administration

Ms Lara Jane - HPGE Coordinator

Coordinates the HPGE class entrance examination and student placements in the HPGE class

Ms Kate Blissett - Head Teacher Student Wellbeing (Years 7-10)

Coordinates whole-school student wellbeing programs and supports Year Advisers

Ms Lainie Shimell, Ms Priti Mann & Ms Catherine Pearce - Learning Support Teachers

Coordinate programs for students with intellectual, emotional and/or physical disabilities

Mr Sargon Odisho & Ms Sally-Anne Rusden - School Counsellors

Provide counselling services and psychological assessments

Ms Naomi Vaughan – Student Support Officer

Provides students and families with information and access to support services



BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AT RIVERBANK

TERM 1, 2022

The following activities are run by outside providers after school:

Monday

Guitar – Room D41 (morning) Call Mitch 0401731281 between 6:30-9pm

Engineering and Robotics (afternoon) – Rooms D42 and D43

<https://nwsydney.young-engineers.com.au/registration>

Mandarin Creativity Workshop (afternoon) – Room A9 <https://www.sydneychinese.org.au/enrolform/>

Phone: 0491 164 230

Tuesday

Guitar – Room D41 (morning)

Electronics (afternoon) – Rooms D44 and D45

<https://nwsydney.young-engineers.com.au/registration>

Sports Program (afternoon) - www.sportsfoundationaustralia.com.au or sportsfoundationaustralia@gmail.com 0433669333 Collected from Riverbank with activity run at The Ponds High School

Primary Music Institute (afternoon) - admin@primarymusicinstitute.com.au 1300 362 824 – B13

Wednesday

Guitar – Room D41 (morning)

Primary Music Institute (afternoon) - admin@primarymusicinstitute.com.au 1300 362 824 – B13

Thursday

Guitar – Room D41 (morning)

Chess (afternoon) – Rooms D31, D32

Enrol at: <https://sydneyacademyofchess.com.au/> Phone: 97451170

Mandarin Foundation and Beginner Classes (afternoon) – Rooms C16 and C17

<https://www.sydneychinese.org.au/enrolform/> Phone: 0491 164 230

Primary Music Institute - admin@primarymusicinstitute.com.au 1300 362 824 – B13

Friday

Guitar – Room D41 (morning only)

Engineering & Robotics (afternoon) – Rooms D35, D36

<https://nwsydney.young-engineers.com.au/registration>

Sports Program (afternoon) - www.sportsfoundationaustralia.com.au or sportsfoundationaustralia@gmail.com 0433669333 Collected from Riverbank with activity run at The Ponds High School

SCHOOL ZONE OFFENCES

WHAT ARE YOU RISKING? *



Children are small, harder to see, behave unpredictably and are extremely vulnerable. They need **YOU** to take extra care when driving and parking around school zones.



NO PARKING

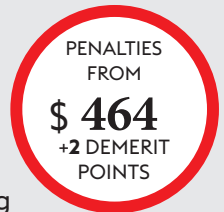
No waiting. You have **2 minutes** to drop-off or pick-up.

You must stay within **3 metres** of your vehicle.



PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

1. In a queue of traffic, **no part of your vehicle can stop** on a pedestrian crossing.
2. Do not let **your child in or out of a vehicle** at a pedestrian crossing as this is a No Stopping zone.



NO STOPPING

You must **not stop** on a length of road with a **no stopping** sign.

The first **10 metres** from an **intersection** is a no stopping zone.

Yellow kerb lines are also a No Stopping zone.



DRIVEWAYS & FOOTPATHS

Do not park on or across a driveway or footpath.



BUS ZONE

Only a public bus can stop in a bus zone.



U TURNS

U turns are **illegal** on or near a **pedestrian crossing** and across a **double white line**.



MOBILE PHONES

Extra fines apply for using a mobile phone in a school zone.



May be subject to Double Demerits

DOUBLE PARKING

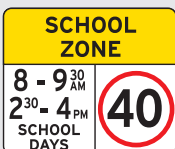
Double parking is illegal and is very dangerous in a school zone.



*Fines current as of 11 November 2020.

Fines and demerit points are subject to change. For more information check out the NSW Centre for Road Safety website.

SPEEDING OFFENCES



40km/h is the limit.

Children are vulnerable, so slow down in school zones.



May be subject to Double Demerits



PENRITH
CITY COUNCIL



Blacktown
City Council

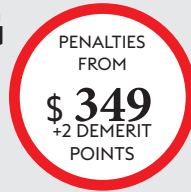
SCHOOL ZONE OFFENCES

WHAT ARE YOU RISKING?



NO STOPPING

You must **not stop** on a length of road with a **no stopping** sign.



NO PARKING

2 minutes to drop-off or pick-up, stay within **3 metres** of vehicle.



BUS ZONE

Only a public bus can stop in a designated bus zone.



Help keep our children **safe**





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Young Engineers provides practical application of STEM. We aim to ignite students' passion for Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics through hands-on workshops. Weekly sessions demonstrate scientific and coding concepts using Lego® prototypes.

Riverbank Public School

Term 1 2022

Year	Program Name	Time	Fee	Date	Day	Book online at
1 - 2	Build - Up	3:00 - 4:15pm	\$200	14/2-4/4	MON	www.trybooking.com/BVRCU
3 - 6	Engineering & Robotics	3:00 - 4:15pm	\$200	14/2-4/4	MON	www.trybooking.com/BVRCU
2 - 6	Electronics	3:00 - 4:00pm	\$200	15/2-5/4	TUE	www.trybooking.com/BWLDE
1 - 2	Build - Up	3:00 - 4:15pm	\$200	18/2-8/4	FRI	www.trybooking.com/BVIWM
3 - 6	Engineering & Robotics	3:00 - 4:15pm	\$200	18/2-8/4	FRI	www.trybooking.com/BVIWM

APPROVED - CREATIVE KIDS SERVICE PROVIDER!

Use Creative Kids voucher to avail rebate of \$100. Please go to service.nsw.gov.au for more details.



Engineering & Robotics Program provides theoretical knowledge in software and mechanical engineering combined with mathematics and physics.

Electronics: Our electronic kits are specifically designed to minimise assembly time which creates more opportunity to explore the learning's behind how each experiment works. Learn to build circuits in the classroom.

For more information
please call 0416 100 089

infonwsydney@young-engineers.com.au
www.nwsydney.young-engineers.com.au

Build-Up Program is designed for little children where they start from learning the basics of building Lego Models including improving them and end up building models independently with a friend and enjoying group game.

4-in-1 Communication Classes

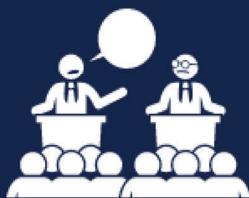


Combining public speaking, creative writing, debating and drama activities.

Kids have fun, gain confidence and learn new skills that set them up for life!



After-school classes at The Ponds High School on Tuesdays, or see website for many other locations and times.



WWW.TALENTCLUBAUS.COM.AU

DEC/JAN HOLIDAY SPORTS CAMP

The Ponds



HALF DAY 8: 30-12 pm \$35 a day or
200 for 6 days or 12 days \$380

Sports: Soccer, Cricket, and Basketball

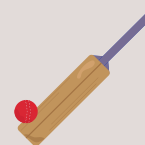
ADVANCED CRICKET COACHING @ THE PONDS

Venue: The Ponds, SCHOFIELDS, PENDLE HILL

What: Intermediate to Advanced cricket lessons. Ongoing feedback, video analysis & most advanced cricket ball machine used.

Focus Areas: Batting, bowling, fielding, wicket keeping, building overall skills
Head Coach SANJIV DUBEY

ICC LEVEL 3 COACH , ASSIST HEAD COACH IN PREMIER CRICKET



RPS and QHP School Afterschool Sports

When: Every Monday, TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

Where: The Ponds

What: Soccer, Basketball, Cricket core skills

Skills Taught: catching, throwing, kicking, hitting, bowling, batting, dribbling, ball judgment, balance, dodging, sprinting, skipping, coordination and concentration.

Timings: 3:45 to 5:15 pm

Term Fee for : \$175

Register now!

0433669334 OR 0433669333

sportsfoundationaustralia@gmail.com



After School Language Class & Creativity Workshop

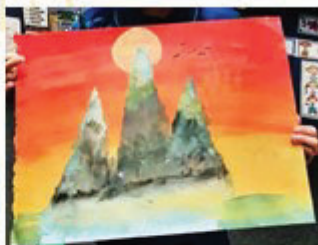
Fun & creative way to master Chinese language and culture



\$22 Language Class
\$28 Creativity Workshop
(\$45 if enrol for both classes)

Learn Chinese through culture and activities

Creativity workshop



North Kellyville Public School

Language Class: Monday

Creativity Workshop: Wednesday

Time: 3:00-5:30pm

Beaumont Hills Public School

Language Class: Wednesday

Creativity Workshop: Friday

Time: 3:00-5:30pm

William Clarke College

Language Class: Monday & Wednesday

Time: 3:00-5:30pm

Riverbank Public School

Language Class: Thursday

Time: 2:45-5:15pm

Kings Langley Public School

Language Class: Friday

Creativity Workshop: Tuesday

Time: 3:00-5:30pm

Saturday Chinese Classes

North Kellyville Public School

1:00-3:00pm for Native Speaker

3:15-5:15pm for Non-native Speaker

Online 1-on-2 Chinese Program

Also available

Sydney Northwest Chinese School

Website: www.sydneychinese.org.au/

Email: snwchinese@gmail.com

0491 164 230



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- Enhances visualization and imagination.
- Memory strengthening.

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