



RIVERBANK PUBLIC SCHOOL

25 Wentworth Street THE PONDS NSW 2769

Ph: 9626 7511 Fax: 9626 1001

Website: www.riverbank-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Email: riverbank-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Stage 3 Update

Welcome back to Term 4. We have a busy term planned with lots of events. It is an exciting time of the year for Stage 3 as we farewell our Year 6 students and go through the process of electing our new leaders from Year 5.

Curriculum

Stage 3 will continue experiencing a variety of teachers and teaching strategies as part of the middle schools' program with the aim of providing a smooth transition to high school. Geography, Science and Visual Arts will be taught as specialist subjects. The following teachers have collaboratively planned innovative and engaging lessons for the subjects.

Geography	Science	Visual Arts
Mrs Redman	Mr Cain	Mr Vincent
Mrs Beard	Mr Lee	Miss Maher
Mrs Neldner	Mr Lamont	Mr Lonsdale

English

This term, our English unit will incorporate reading, writing, grammar and speaking and listening activities with stimulus including an informative text about 'Mother Teresa and the text 'Marianthe's Story: Painted Words and Spoken Memories' by Alike. Students will develop their comprehension strategies through modelled and guided reading sessions.

Mathematics

Stage 3 students attend Maths Groups four days a week. Our Mathematics curriculum will focus on:

Week	Concepts	Week	Concepts
1	Whole Number, Data	6	Problem Solving
2	Addition and Subtraction, Data	7	Problem Solving
3	Multiplication and Division, Mass	8	Problem Solving
4	Patterns and Algebra, Time	9	Revision, Refinement and Consolidation of Key Concepts
5	Position	10	Revision, Refinement and Consolidation of Key Concepts

Geography

Students will continue studying 'A Diverse and Connected World' during Term 4 for Geography lessons. The lessons will allow students to compare different cultural groups and the importance of intercultural understanding, including the way indigenous people know their land through story and song, speaking of the landscape, landform, birds, animals and plants.

Science

The Term 4 topic for Science is 'Change Detectives'. Students will become detectives who identify and explain physical and chemical changes in everyday materials. They will work collaboratively to identify changes to materials by designing and performing fair tests where one variable is changed.

Robotics and Library

During Term 4, Stage 3 students will be attending Robotics classes with Ms Jones. Students will be exploring the engineering process through building and programming basic robots. Students will be working in teams to solve problems, build and program robots.

Stage 3 Timetable	Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Library	6V, 5L, 5R	5B, 5C, 6M, 5/6L	6L, 6N	
Robotics		6V, 5L, 6L	6M, 5/6L, 5R, 6N	5B, 5C

This term in the library, students will have the opportunity to visit and make purchases at our **Book Fair in Week 3**. All purchases earn rewards for the library to acquire more resources.

Library lessons will include aspects related to their class programs in English, where they are learning to use persuasive techniques in writing. Students will use the platform of debating as a model for employing these new skills. They will also develop their knowledge and understanding of significant events, such as Grandparents' Day, Diwali and Remembrance Day .

Library borrowing will continue as it has in previous terms but will finish in Week 6. **ALL books will need to be returned by Week 8**, as the library will be closed throughout Weeks 9 & 10 for an end of year stocktake.

Visual Arts

In Term 4 for Visual Arts, Stage 3 will be looking at the concept 'Waste as Art' with a focus on sculptures. At the beginning of the unit students will research some artists who use waste and integrate it into their art and further explore the concepts of sustainability and recycling. Students will then begin to plan their own sculpture using both waste from home and waste found within the school setting. At the end of the term these sculptures will be placed around the school for a 'Sculptures by the Sea' inspired event where students can walk around and look at the artworks and read about what each sculpture represents.

PDHPE

The Term 4 PDHPE theory focus is on 'Considered Choices'. Students will be given the opportunity to analyse the processes involved and factors to consider when making decisions that concern their health and wellbeing. All Stage 3 will be participating in a fitness lesson each Wednesday morning. Students also participate in weekly sport's lessons on Friday mornings or attend the PSSA competition games. It is important students wear their sports uniform each Wednesday and Friday.

Brewongle Excursion

As part of the Geography unit 'A diverse and connected world' studied during Semester 2, students in Stage 3 will be attending an excursion to Brewongle Environmental Education centre. Students will experience a day of connecting to Country through 'oral mapping', a unique geographical skill that has been handed down from generation to generation in many Indigenous cultures, including the local Darug culture. Students will develop their understanding of connections both to the local and global environments by comparing and contrasting local Aboriginal ways of being, knowing and doing with the ways of other Indigenous cultures in the Asia Pacific rim. This excursion is based around the Inquiry Question: *How do Indigenous Australian connections to place influence and affect perceptions of Country?*

Year 6 Events

Year 6 students attending The Ponds High School will have an orientation day on December 4. There has been regular communication throughout the year between the primary and high school teachers to assist with students transitioning to high school. Mrs Tania Thomas the Transition Coordinator will be talking to Riverbank students on October 17 about their transition to high school. For the Celebration of Learning Day, Year 6 students will be going to the Ultimate Family Fun Centre for some trampolining fun. There will be a special Year 6 final assembly on December 19 to farewell the 2018 cohort of students. More information will be sent home about each event throughout the term.

Year 6 Dinner and baby photo

Our **Year 6 Dinner** will be held at The Novotel Hotel on Thursday December 6. Notes and invitations will be sent home over the coming weeks. It is a very exciting time for our Year 6 students. If you are a Year 6 parent and you would like to be on the decorating committee, our first meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 23 starting at 3:15pm in 6N's classroom. We would also like all Year 6 students to bring in a copy of a baby photo of themselves with their name clearly written on the back. We would appreciate all photos to be brought in by the end of Week 2 in Term 4.

Excellence Assembly

Riverbank's Excellence Assembly will be on the 12 December in Week 9. The school will be celebrating the achievements of selected students in each class.

Communication

If you have concerns or information to share please do not hesitate to contact your child's teachers by calling the office on 9626 7511 or sending an email addressed to the teacher at the school email account, riverbank-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

Kind regards,
Stage 3 Teachers