Principals Report
Welcome Back
I hope everyone had a fabulous Christmas and New Year. On behalf of the staff at RPS, I extend a warm welcome to all new families and their children. It has been a fantastic start to 2015 and I thank all parents for sending their children to school so well prepared for a new year of learning!
I also welcome our 41 delightful Kindy students who started school yesterday following their Best Start Assessment. I look forward to sharing their educational journey with you.

2015 Teachers and Classes
Our class groups are:

KB  Miss Bower
KS  Mrs Scanes
1H  Mrs Hemming
1/2S Mrs Sharrock
2N  Mrs Hill
3/4S Miss Schupfer
3/4W Mrs Waldron
3/4C Mrs Cross
5/6J Mrs Jolley
5/6G Mr Grimley

Mrs Shaw will continue in the role of Reading Recovery and Release from Face to Face Teacher. Mrs Fidock continues in the LAST position, Mrs Thompson is also providing release from face to face teaching while Mrs Wade steers the Library ship. Mr Peard continues in his role as Relieving Principal at Capertee PS.
We warmly welcome Miss Rachel Schupfer to our school and hope she enjoys her time with us.

RPS Swimming Carnival
Our swimming carnival was held Monday. As usual, the day ran very smoothly thanks to the organisation of Mrs Shaw and the help she received on the day from staff and parents. A number of records were broken at the carnival:

- Emilee Curran 11 yrs 50m freestyle, backstroke and breaststroke, 100m freestyle
- Emily Browne 10 yrs 50m freestyle and backstroke
- Nikki Browne 9 yrs freestyle

School Planning
At the end of last year, staff and the P&C worked together to develop outcome statements to assist us with our 2015 to 2017 School Plan. These outcome statements are attached to this newsletter. Could you please take some time to read it and then provide feedback by Friday, 6th February 2015.

Anaphylaxis
Some of our students have anaphylaxis. One of the ways in which we can minimise the risk of severe allergic reaction is by asking all families to avoid packing peanut or nut spreads as part of their children’s healthy food choices at school. Another way is to explain to your children the seriousness of an anaphylactic attack and the need to not share their food with others. Thank you for your support in this area.

Parent Teacher Information Sessions
We are holding parent teacher information sessions on Parent Teacher Meetings with your child’s class teachers on Tuesday, 17th February after school. The timetable is as follows:

- 3:30pm - 5/6 G and 5/6J
- 3:30 – 4pm  3/4C, 3/4 S and 3/4W
- 4 – 4:30pm  1H, 1/2S and 2N
- 4:30 – 5pm   KB and KS

Arriving at and Departing from School
School begins at 9.00am each day. Teachers are on duty from 8.30am and children should not be dropped to school before this time as the playground is unsupervised. Please ensure this is adhered to for the safety of all of our children. If your child arrives after 9am, please come to the office with them to sign in at the office. School finishes at 3.00pm. Only bus students use the gate on the Nelson St exit and are supervised while waiting and boarding their bus.
Children who are picked up or walk home leave school from the Godfrey street top gate. I remind parents that it is important to be on time to pick up your child/children. If for some reason you are unable to be at school by pick up time, please let your child and the school know so they can wait for you in the quadrangle.

On most days, I go to the top gate to assist students leaving the school. If parents have not arrived to pick up their child/children by the time I leave the area, I ask them to come and wait at the front office. However there are times when I am not able to go to the front gate. Therefore, it is most important that parents please ensure they inform their child/children before children come to school in the morning where they need to go after school, and how they are getting home. This will ensure that children do not get distressed in the afternoon and wait for you in the school grounds.

It is Department regulation that only staff vehicles are allowed within school grounds unless given permission from the Principal.

Riding Bikes and Scooters
A reminder to parents and children that if they ride a bike or scooter to school they must wear a correctly fitting helmet, fastened with a strap. Children under ten should not ride unsupervised and must be accompanied by an adult.

Class Shield
This week, we encourage children to be kind, considerate and helpful towards others, particularly our new Kindergarten students.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Week 2
3/2 Kindergarten First Day
6/2 Whole School Assembly 12pm

Week 3
9/2 Peter Harvey to meet school leaders
12/2 9.15am Kinders & school captains photos
13/2 Whole School Assembly 12pm

Week 4
17/2 P&C Meeting school library 7pm
Parent Teacher Information meetings
20/2 Whole School Assembly 12pm
District Swimming Carnival

PRINCIPALS RECOGNITION
I would like to thank Mrs Shaw for her organisation of a very successful swimming carnival Monday. I also thank staff for assisting on the day. A special thanks to our parent helpers. Without you, we would’ve been unable to fill the positions required to run the carnival.

Working together as partners in the education of your child.
Meryl Tremain

STUDENTS LEADING THE WAY
Swimming Carnival
Monday saw another exciting swimming carnival run in perfect weather. As always the enthusiasm, behaviour and commitment of our students was excellent and our new Sports Captains began their year of leadership in fine style. We had a HUGE year of record breaking – unprecedented in my time at the school. Emilee Curran broke records in the following events: 100m Freestyle, 50m Freestyle, 50m Breaststroke, and 50m Backstroke and the inaugural 11yrs IM. An outstanding effort Emilee. Our other “superfish” the Browne sisters also bagged a number of records. Big sister Emily smashed her way through the record in the 50m Freestyle, the 50m Backstroke, and due to a change in categories at District she has become the inaugural holder of the Junior IM record. Not to be outdone younger sister Nikki broke the record set by Emily last year in the 9 yrs 50m Freestyle. Congratulations girls – amazing work. I must also thank the tireless band of helpers who put their hands up to help out each year. There would not be a carnival without you, and you have my most sincere thanks.
Carole Shaw
Organiser

LIBRARY NEWS
Welcome back to another exciting year in the library. Each student will receive a note this week outlining library policies and student needs. Attached is a small card you can place on your fridge to help remind your child what day they have library and to remember to bring their bag. It is going to be another fun year with Book Fair in early March - more details to come soon. I look forward to teaching your child and your continued support for this learning environment.
Nichole Wade
Teacher Librarian

P&C INFORMATION

Save the date!
This year’s school fete will be on Friday 13th March from 4pm until 7pm. We will be having a “spooky” themed fancy dress with prizes.
School Planning
Towards the end of 2014, staff and the P&C worked together to develop agreed outcomes for our students to assist us in our 2015 to 2017 School Plan. Could you please take some time to read the 3 outcome statements and then provide feedback.

Outcomes:
- Students will develop personal values and attributes, such as honesty, respect, resilience, empathy and accept responsibility for their actions
- Students will be motivated to embrace educational opportunities and make informed decisions to build foundations for future success
- Students will be encouraged to become responsible citizens at local and global levels with understanding and knowledge of cultural differences.

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<th>What you think could be changed and why</th>
<th>Any other comments</th>
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Please include your name here if you would like us to contact you to discuss your feedback

Thankyou for your feedback
Meryl Tremain