



RUSKIN PARK NEWSLETTER

16 June 2023



RIISING TO THE CHALLENGE

Upcoming Dates

June

Wednesday 21 st	Reports available through Compass
Thursday 22 nd	Disco
Friday 23 rd	Free Dress Day
Friday 23 rd	End of Term 2: 2:30pm dismissal

July

Monday 10 th	Term 3 Commences
Monday 17 th	Parent / Teacher Interviews
Wednesday 19 th	Parent / Teacher Interviews
Thursday 20 th	Yr 5 Super Speak Program commences
Friday 28 th	Subway Lunch

August

Monday 7 th	ICAS Competitions Commence
Friday 11 th	Sushi Lunch
Friday 11 th	Trivia Night
Monday 14 th	Curriculum Day
Friday 18 th	Yr 5 & 6 Hoop Time
Monday 21 st	Book Week Dress Up Day
Tuesday 22 nd	Book Week Incursion
Wednesday 23 rd	Yr 5 Camp Departs
Monday 28 th	Foundation to Yr 2 Swimming commences

Principal's Report

As we approach the end of a successful term, I would like to express my thanks to all members of the Ruskin Park community.

Term 2 has been filled with a number of excursions, incursions and extra-curricular activities that have complemented our classroom program. Each and every day I am impressed by the attitude, effort and determination on display by students and staff in our classrooms. I hope all our families and staff enjoy the final week of term and a well deserved holiday.

Student Reports

This is a particularly busy time of year as teachers are putting the final touches to students' end of semester reports. Considerable time and effort is taken to ensure parents and guardians are provided with an accurate account of how their child has progressed throughout the first six months of the year.

Reports will be available on Compass from Wednesday 21 June.

Parent Teacher Interviews

A reminder that Parent/Teacher Interviews are scheduled for Week 2 of next term. These interviews are a chance to meet with your child's teacher and discuss progress to date and also plans for the remainder of the year.

Bookings will open on Compass at 11am on Monday 10 July.

2024 Foundation Enrolments

As per the Department's timeline, Friday 28 July is the closing date for 2024 Foundation enrolments. Following this date, we will be allocating places for next year. If you have a younger sibling due to start school in 2024 could we please request that you collect an enrolment form from the office.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to make contact.

Staffing Update

For the duration of Term 3, our Assistant Principal, Shannon Young will be taking long service leave. I wish Shannon well as she travels through Australia with her family.

In her absence, Jennifer Clarke will be the Acting Assistant Principal.

Family and Friends Reminders

A reminder there are two events occurring in the final week of term. Our school disco will be held on Thursday 22 June. The Foundation to Year 3 disco will run from 4:30pm to 5:30pm. The Year 3 to Year 6 disco commences at 5:45pm and concludes at 6:45pm. Students in Year 3 can choose to attend the first or second session. Entry is \$5 per student and includes a glow stick and icy pole. Please see the notice that went home earlier in the term for further details.

Please also remember that Friday 23 June is a free dress day. Students are asked to bring a gold coin donation. Funds raised will be allocated to projects currently being finalised by school council. Stay tuned for further details.

End of Term Two

A reminder to families that the term concludes on Friday 23 June with an early **2:30pm dismissal**.

Andrew Moore
Principal

Foundation

Half way through the year and we are so impressed with our students. We would like to congratulate all the Foundation students on their achievements this term. It has been a busy term with many extra activities such as PMP, Zoo excursion, Education Week and open afternoons. Writing reports have given us an opportunity to reflect on the past semester with joy and great pride. Teachers have enjoyed seeing their students' wonderful achievements and growth.

Literacy

In Reading, we have continued our focus on nonfiction texts. We are continuously recapping the differences between fiction and nonfiction books, and some of the features that we might see like headings, photographs, labels, and diagrams. Students have been exposed to a variety of nonfiction texts and have worked on their comprehension by recalling four or more facts that they remember. If you have any nonfiction texts at home, it would be great for you to explore them with your child!



Students have absolutely loved Writing so far this term. The Foundation students have explored a variety of animals and insects and have learnt lots of new information about them. Last week, students got to put on their scientists' hats and observe, predict, and pose questions about interesting plant facts. Students worked hard to draw and label their plant observations, write various interesting facts about them, and write questions about what they wanted to know more about! We couldn't wait to research the answers to their questions and share our findings!

Maths

Over the last two weeks we have focused on addition for our Maths work. Students have been exploring strategies such as count all, counting on, using hands-on materials (counters and blocks) and 10s frames to assist in problem solving. Students have learned games using decks of cards and dice! Challenge your child at home to add toys, fruit or cutlery... Maths opportunities are everywhere!



Amazing Animals!

Foundation students have been hard at work creating their Amazing Animals Project. Students were challenged to design and create an animal and its habitat and the results have been remarkable. We will be sending home a presentation template for students to complete, so keep a lookout in your child's reader folder!



To further explore our science topic on living things, students have been planting seeds and predicting what and how they will grow. We are also investigating their needs for survival and observing any changes that occur in the process of caring for the seeds.

Zoo Excursion

Last week we had a day at Melbourne Zoo. The rain held off and the Foundation students were able to enjoy the excursion. We keenly observed the animals, their habitats and we showed good focusing skills as we experienced the zoo and in our Wildlife Explorer's session. Here are a few photos of the day.





School Holidays

Next Friday, 23rd June is the last day of Term 2 and students will be dismissed at 2.30pm on this day. We wish you all a happy and safe holiday and look forward to seeing you on the 10th of July.

Junior School

Year 1

It has been a jam packed term full of learning and excitement! We have had some wonderful experiences such as our Healesville Sanctuary Excursion, Education Week and the whole school athletics day, just to name a few. We are really looking forward to our school disco next Thursday. We hope the students have their dancing shoes ready to rock and roll! Just a reminder that it will be a 2:30 pm dismissal on the last day of Term 2 (23rd of June).

We can't believe that this term is coming to an end. We hope that you all have an amazing break and we look forward to seeing all the smiling faces returning for Term 3.

Wellbeing

You may have heard the words 'Friendship Ninja' being mentioned at home. It is something exciting that we have begun to explore during our Wellbeing sessions! The students have started to learn about 'Friendology' and the fact that in order to create healthy friendships, we need to first look inward and treat ourselves like a new best friend. We have been discovering our 'inner ninja' and exploring different ways that we can be kind to ourselves and others.



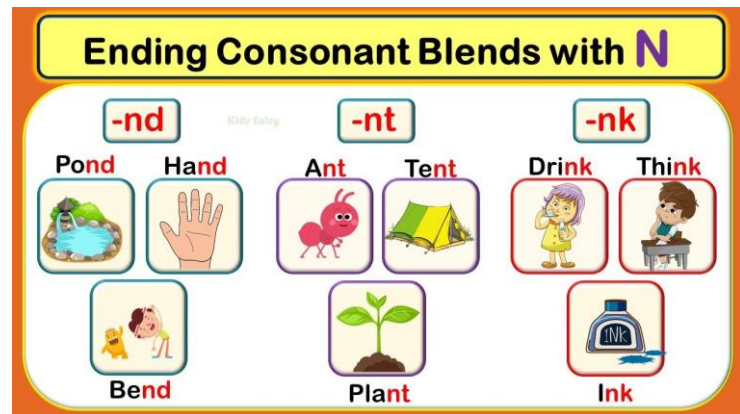
We have also been learning about personal strengths. The students were supported to identify three of their top personal strengths and discuss how they demonstrate their strengths to others. We discussed how students might use their strengths to be a good friend and family member. You might like to talk to your child at home about what their strengths are and how they are being a best friend to themselves.

Literacy

In Literacy we have been reading familiar texts such as 'The Very Cranky Bear' by Nick Bland and 'Pig the Pug' by Aaron Blabey. The students have been learning about what constitutes a narrative and what essential elements are included. The students have enjoyed finding and recording the OOH (interesting character/s), AHH (descriptive setting), UH-OH (exciting problem) and PHEW (solution).

Using familiar texts by Nick Bland and Aaron Blabey, students have had the opportunity to write amazing retells that include a little twist! Our stories started the same but had one or two elements that were different. It may have been a different solution, a different problem or even a character that has different inside character traits. We can't wait to publish some of our wonderful stories!

Our phonics focus has included final 'n' blends such as '-nd', '-nt' and '-nk'. When reading with your child at home, see if you can spot some of our focus blends in the take home readers! Some examples are below.

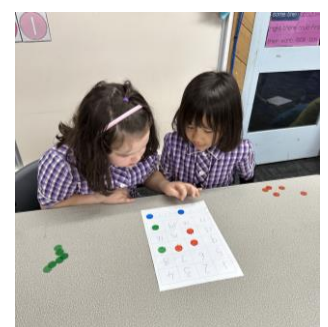


Maths

In Maths, we have been exploring data and graphing. The students had multiple opportunities to collect and represent data using a range of materials and in a variety of ways. We discussed questions that could be answered using data and some students were even able to create their own questions that could be answered using the graph that they created. Check out some of the amazing data collections that the students came up with below!



This week we have begun to explore addition and subtraction. The students were taught 'The Sum Game' where they were able to practise and develop their understanding of addition and had the opportunity to explain their thinking and strategies used. We started to explore how to create different numbers using a range of strategies and concrete materials.



Year 2

We have had so much fun in Year 2 this term! We have been incredibly impressed by the wonderful thinking and learning our students have been showing us. Thank you to our families for all your support with your continued commitment to home reading and consolidating our learning through spelling and maths homework.

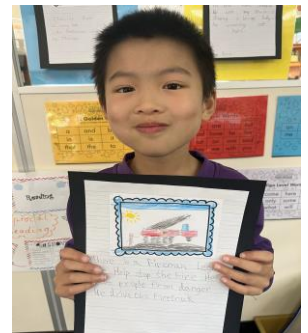
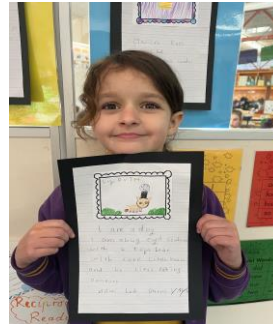
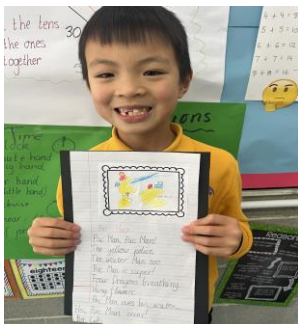
A reminder that there will be no formal homework in the final week of term, however please continue to read with your child each day.

Here are some of the things we have been learning at school.

Literacy

We have been exploring poetry over the last two weeks in both Reading and Writing and students have enjoyed looking at chants, such as 'A Pizza Hut' (which many families might be familiar with!). In Reading, we have been looking at identifying and recording the number of syllables in each line of a poem. We have also been identifying interesting words that authors use. We are now beginning to look at parts of speech, such as nouns, verbs and adjectives, and use them in our writing. In Writing, students have enjoyed writing their own 'Syllable Poems', which have the same number of syllables per line. We have also enjoyed writing and publishing a variety of poems in both written and digital forms.

In Spelling, we have continued to focus on double consonants after a short vowel sound and have looked at the spelling rules when adding suffixes such as -ed, -ing and -er. Students have enjoyed investigating spelling rules and writing both real and nonsense words based on these rules.



Maths

In Year 2 we have absolutely loved learning about money! Students have explored Australian coins and notes, learning different ways to count money and how to show the same amount of money in different ways. We have been blown away by the thinking our students have shown, and how they have explained their ideas and used their problems solving skills throughout this unit. They have shown different ways to record their thinking, such as using tables or pictures. Students have been earning 'pocket money' for their tables and have delighted in counting it regularly and deciding on ways to spend it in the classroom.

This week we are beginning to explore 2D shapes and students have been busy studying regular and irregular shapes and looking at their sides and corners to determine the names of each shape. They have explored and sorted a range of 2D shapes thinking about and describing their properties.



Wellbeing

In Wellbeing, we have continued to focus on resilience and working as a team. We have been practicing being resilient throughout our daily learning and working as a team through lots of fun games and stories. Students enjoyed holding hands in a circle and trying to pass a hula hoop around the circle without letting go of hands. It was delightful to hear the positive words of encouragement the students offered to each other throughout these activities.

We have also been discussing individual preferences, how we are all different, and how both boys and girls can enjoy doing different things.

Geography

In Geography, students continued to learn about and identify continents and oceans. We are beginning to think about the connections that we have to different places within Australia and around the world and have had lots of fun asking and researching questions about different places. Please remember to talk with your child about any connections that they may have to different places around the world.



Middle School

Year 3

Imax and Melbourne Museum Excursion

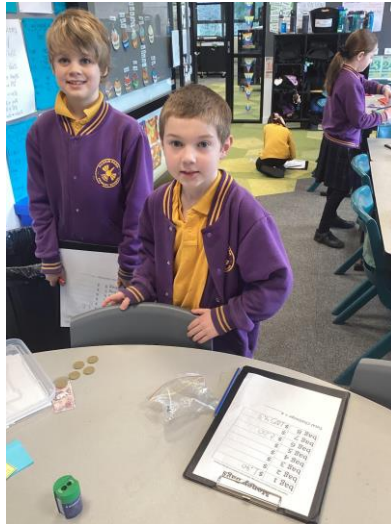
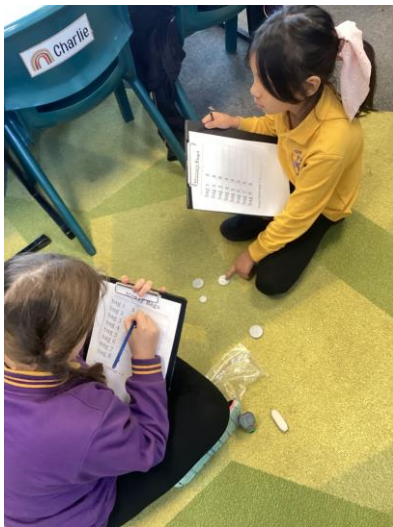
On Tuesday, our Year 3 students embarked on an incredible adventure to IMAX and the Melbourne Museum. They were treated to a captivating 3D documentary called "The Great Barrier Reef," which perfectly complemented their recent unit on Information Reports, where they delved into the fascinating world of Australian landmarks. The students thoroughly enjoyed immersing themselves in the documentary and were truly inspired by the wonders of the Great Barrier Reef. Following the film, they had the opportunity to explore the museum's diverse exhibits, further enriching their learning experience. It was a day filled with excitement, discovery, and a deeper appreciation for our country's remarkable heritage.





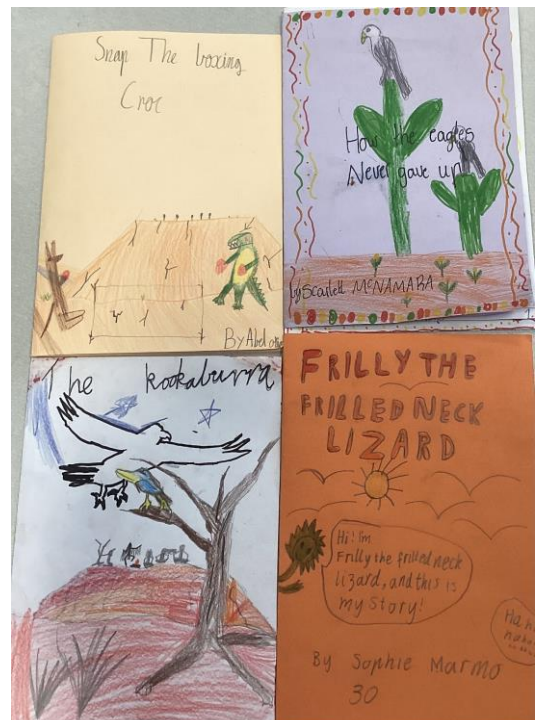
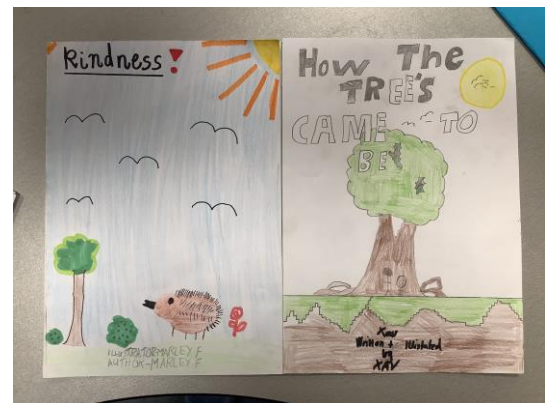
Money Unit

We have started learning about Australian money this term. Our Year 3 students have had a blast participating in a thrilling Money Bags scavenger hunt, where they've been tasked with adding up various collections of coins and notes. In addition, they've acquired valuable skills in adding supermarket products using dollars and cents, while also applying their understanding of the split strategy. Building on this foundation, our upcoming week holds another exciting activity as we set up a shop featuring a range of supermarket products. This hands-on experience will provide our students with the opportunity to learn about giving and receiving change.



Dreamtime Stories

We have been reading lots of Dreamtime Stories and learning about messages and morals. Students discovered invaluable life lessons, including the importance of not being greedy, listening to warnings and respecting the land we live on. Year 3's have been inspired by these teachings, and our students have been hard at work, diligently drafting and publishing their own stories, each with a moral. Here are some wonderful front covers. We eagerly await the final masterpieces and are excited to share them with other classes and celebrate the creativity and wisdom of our Year 3 cohort.



Year 4

It is hard to believe that we have just one more week left of term. It has been a busy couple of weeks in Year Four.

Literacy

We have recently finished creating our engaging and lively book talks and presented them as a class for feedback! It was wonderful to see the dedication and variety of engaging features that students implemented into their book talk presentations. In Reading, students have moved into our Dreamtime unit, in which we have read and listened to a variety of stories created by Gregg Dreise. Through this, students learnt about the value and importance of our Acknowledgements to Country and developed their understanding of the land we are so fortunate to live and learn on. Students have continued to explore some Dreamtime stories by analysing texts for their purpose, theme and moral.

In Writing, students had the opportunity to use their wonderful ideas in their Writer's Notebook to create a narrative writing piece. Students explored how they could create interesting and lively sentence starters to hook readers into their writing, as well as using descriptive language and connectives to link ideas together. Further to this, students explored how to accurately structure quotation marks in their writing to clearly identify character dialogue.

Numeracy

In Mathematics, students have continued to develop their knowledge of addition, subtraction and financial mathematics. Students were introduced to the game of 100 Laughs which they loved. We encourage you to ask your child how to play our fun game at home! Additionally, students explored investigations such as planning a day of fun at Leisure Land and building a new city. These investigations challenged students to plan events using a timeline, as well as outlining key expenses within the investigations and ensuring that they don't go over budget. Students have now moved into exploring transformations such as flips, slides and turns using 2D shapes, as well as creating their tessellations using their own shapes and imagination!



Wellbeing

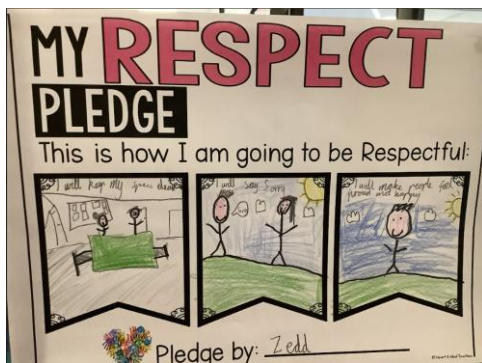
We have enjoyed learning and exploring more about our school value of Respect. Students have worked hard on identifying what respect looks like, sounds like, and feels like in a variety of contexts, such as in the classroom, the school yard and at home. In this, students have done a wonderful job of creating respect pledges that show how they will demonstrate what respect looks, sounds, and feels like. We will be reflecting on these pledges next week to see if we have accomplished them. Students also explored the 3 C's that underpin respect- Caring, Courtesy and Consideration.



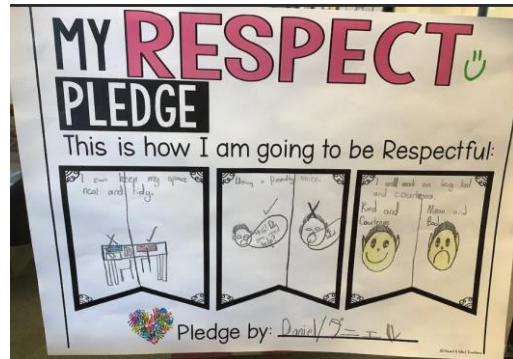
Hannah 4C



Lorelei 4C



Zedd 4C



David 4C

Senior School

Winter Sports Gala Day

On Friday 9th June we had our Winter Sports Gala Day for the Year 5/6 students. Students participated in a range of different sports including Aussie Rules, soccer, t-ball and netball.

We were pleased to see the way in which our students participated in their respective events. At all times they demonstrated sportsmanship and teamwork and followed the school values.

A special congratulations to the boys' soccer team which has progressed to Division after winning its grand final.



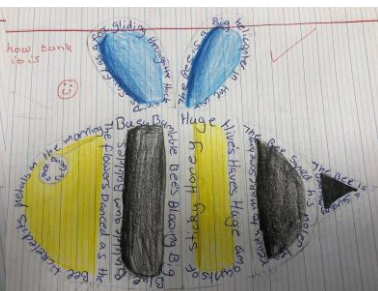
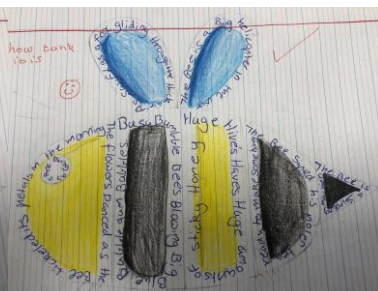
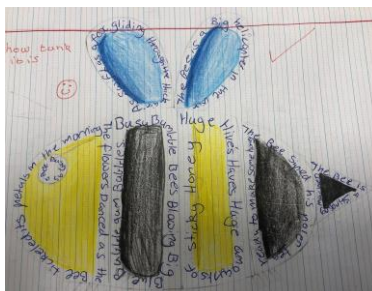
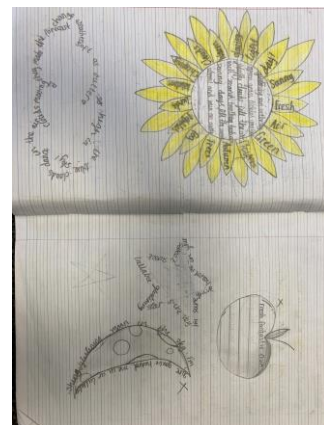
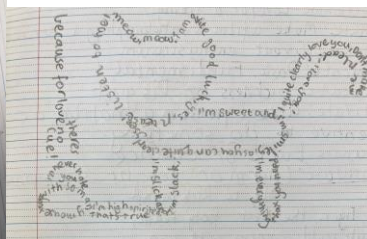
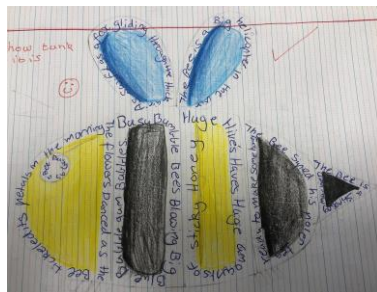


Year 5

Another 2 weeks have flown by, filled with lots of learning and growing. This week, we had an exciting opportunity to host a documentary screening, with some special guests joining us to view a few examples from each class. We are so proud of the work our students put in to create their documentaries and enjoyed showcasing some for our school leaders to see.

Reading and Writing

We have continued learning about poetry in Reading and Writing. We explored various poetic devices including rhyme, rhythm, figurative language, alliteration, sound and enjambment (where a sentence intentionally continues over a line). We've read and analysed several poems, including various shape poems and odes, and discussed our thoughts about the poem. We've enjoyed the creativity of writing our own poems, which although often short, are harder than they first appear. Here are some examples of shape poems, where the shape of the poem reflects the message or topic of the poem.



Maths

Over the past fortnight, we have been learning about patterns and algebra. Learning about algebra at first can be intimidating, but we practised using all the number clues in an equation to help solve the unknown quantities, or to balance an equation. Learning about patterns is a lot of fun, and at this level, their learning extends beyond creative patterns, to identifying and explaining the rules of growing patterns.

Year 5 Camp

We are very excited to have this event confirmed for Term 3, Week 7, August 23-25. Our camp to Sovereign Hill complements our History unit, where students will be learning about the colonisation of Australia, including the Gold Rush. It will be a great opportunity for students to immerse themselves in the time period of the Gold Rush through the Sovereign Hill Living Museum. As well as exploring the various places at Sovereign Hill, we will also be attending the Aura Sound and Light show and a Pantomime show. The event is published on Compass for parents/guardians to provide consent and payment.

Year 6

Year Six Warrnambool Tour

This is a friendly reminder that payment and consent for the Year Six Warrnambool Tour is due on Wednesday 21st June. You may choose to complete the payment in one transaction or pay half now and half next term. The camp will occur in Term Three, from Monday 4th September to Wednesday 6th September. We have many exciting activities locked in for the Year Six cohort, including visiting the Flagstaff Hill Maritime Museum and visiting the 12 Apostles. More information including 'what to bring' and medical forms will be distributed early Term Three. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher.

Mathematics

In Mathematics, students have continued working through the Statistics unit. In the past fortnight students have developed their skills in identifying the mode, median, range and mean of data sets. Students have continued to develop their skills in developing stem and leaf plots and calculating mode, median, range and mean from these data sets.

We have continued to perform a range of problem solving lessons across the unit, encouraging students to think deeply about their Maths and enter the 'zone of confusion'. Students have been encouraged to use a Growth Mindset when initially the task may seem difficult and approach the question using different strategies and using resources to support them. They have been encouraged to look for patterns in their data and to represent their findings in a method that is easy to communicate to their peers.

Literacy

In Reading, we have been continuing our author study on Shaun Tan. Students have studied a range of his famous picture books including Cicada, The Red Tree, The Rabbits and Rules of Summer. The past fortnight students have been studying the illustrations in Shaun Tan's texts and the link with the words used. They have carefully analysed the illustrations, noting the mood, the colours used, the faces of characters, etc.

Furthermore, students have compared and contrasted Shaun Tan's texts, identifying similarities between illustrations, themes, mood, etc. Students selected their two favourite Shaun Tan texts and carefully analysed the illustrations, symbolism and themes between the books, carefully explaining this in their Reader's Notebooks using evidence from the text, with some students creating Venn diagrams to display their thinking.

Students were also introduced to a new Shaun Tan text, 'Eric' which contained deep themes and again used symbolism. Students were required to infer, reading between the lines and using the illustrations provided to help them explain what happened to Eric.

In Writing, we have been developing students' skills in essay writing. Students are responding to the statement – 'Shaun Tan's Illustrations Say A Lot'. They are using evidence from Shaun Tan's famous picture books to support the essay statement. Students have selected which books they'd like to discuss in their essay and furthermore select specific illustrations, themes, symbols, moods, tone, etc. to explain that Shaun Tan's illustrations say a lot. Students are writing their essay using the TEEL structure – topic sentence, explanation, evidence and link. We look forward to sharing these essays with you all.

Other News

2023 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

Ruskin Park Primary School is once again providing students in Years 3 – 6 an opportunity to take part in ICAS. These assessments are designed to recognise excellence for high potential students. Assessments are available in Digital Technologies, English, Mathematics, Science, and Spelling. The assessments are conducted online at school. All participating students will receive a general overview of their performance. If you would like your child to take part in ICAS you will need to complete registration online by **Friday 21st July**. *Participation in ICAS is a parent choice and not compulsory. Please note the Year 5s will be on camp during the Spelling and Science assessment week.*

Access details for parent:

Parent Registration Link: <https://shop.icasassessments.com/pages/pps>

School Access Code: **XNS652**



These students have recently celebrated their birthdays

Lu Lu	Jordyn	James	Dominic	Vruksh	Luke	Dylan	Angus	Jacob
Steven	Christine							

School Vision

Every student at Ruskin Park Primary School is encouraged to develop their natural curiosity and imagination through new and engaging approaches to teaching. We believe a positive attitude toward learning in a friendly community promotes success today, tomorrow and into the future.

Our values are:

Respect

Honesty

Persistence

Resilience



RUSKIN PARK PRIMARY



7:00AM START
6:30PM END

PLEASE
ARRIVE BY 9AM
ON EXCURSION DAYS



IN-HOUSE



INCURSION



EXCURSION

MON • 26 th JUNE	TUE • 27 th JUNE	WED • 28 th JUNE	THU • 29 th JUNE	FRI • 30 th JUNE
MIGHTY MARVEL DAY	MOVIE - ELEMENTAL	TEAM CHEER	LASER TAG	SCHOOL OF WIZARDRY: POTIONS MAKING
Calling all young superheroes! It's time to discover your hidden powers and become the hero you've always dreamed of! Join us and let's unleash your inner strength with fun and exciting challenges.	Lights down, popcorn ready! TeamKids is off to see Elemental! The story introduces Ember, a fiery young woman, whose friendship with a go-with-the-flow guy named Wade challenges her beliefs about the world they live in. *PG Film	Get pumped up with TeamKids' high-energy cheer class! Dance like a pro and cheer like a fan with colourful pom poms.	Today you'll be on Team Kids as we take on fellow soldiers at the state-of-the-art Gamr Laser Tag arena! Join us for adrenaline-filled fun as we navigate the adventurous laser course before having some old school arcade fun!	Calling all Witches and Wizards! It's time to unravel the mysteries of magic and learn the tricks of the trade during this Potion Making Workshop! We'll conjure up slime and create Dragon's Milk fireworks!
Base Fee \$72.00	Base Fee \$72.00	Base Fee \$72.00	Base Fee \$72.00	Base Fee \$72.00
Exp Fee** \$8.00	Exp Fee** \$35.00	Exp Fee** \$15.00	Exp Fee** \$31.00	Exp Fee** \$19.00
Daily Total \$80.00	Daily Total \$107.00	Daily Total \$87.00	Daily Total \$103.00	Daily Total \$91.00
After Max CCS* \$12.00	After Max CCS* \$16.05	After Max CCS* \$13.05	After Max CCS* \$15.45	After Max CCS* \$13.65

MON • 3 rd JULY	TUE • 4 th JULY	WED • 5 th JULY	THU • 6 th JULY	FRI • 7 th JULY
NAIDOC WEEK	SCIENCE SLEUTHS	COLES HEALTHY KICKS HUB	LIFE SKILLS THROUGH PLAY	JUNGLE SAFARI DRAMA WORKSHOP
Today we acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which all TeamKids conduct their care. We pay our respects and we take the time to learn some more about Australia's rich Indigenous culture.	TeamKids are ready to have some explosive fun! Safe chemical reactions, interactive learning, and mind-blowing experiments like lava lamps and colour-changing cabbages. We can't wait to show you how cool science can be!	Ready to kick into action and have fun with your mates?! You're in luck! TeamKids has teamed up with AFL Max for a JAM PACKED clinic teaching all things healthy eating, mindfulness and exercise! Wear your footy colours.	Today we'll be participating in Beyond Technique Football School - Life Skills Through Play! We'll have coaches chat to us about confidence and good life skills, all while learning some epic football skills! Bring it on!	Come join in, a safari adventure is about to begin! Today TeamKids is venturing to the depths of the JUNGLE during this immersive drama experience!
Base Fee \$72.00	Base Fee \$72.00	Base Fee \$72.00	Base Fee \$72.00	Base Fee \$72.00
Exp Fee** \$8.00	Exp Fee** \$21.00	Exp Fee** \$40.00	Exp Fee** \$17.00	Exp Fee** \$12.00
Daily Total \$80.00	Daily Total \$93.00	Daily Total \$112.00	Daily Total \$89.00	Daily Total \$84.00
After Max CCS* \$12.00	After Max CCS* \$13.95	After Max CCS* \$16.80	After Max CCS* \$13.35	After Max CCS* \$12.60



*Child Care Subsidies may apply. \$5 Admin Fee per family. \$5 Late Fees apply within 7 days per child. Payment plans available. **Experience/Activity Fee. Programs may be subject to change. Third Party Payment Fees apply. See Terms and Conditions for cancellation policy



FIND A VENUE
teamkids.com.au/venues

CHOOSE YOUR ADVENTURE
Book Today!

TEAMKIDS.COM.AU

1300 035 000



EASTWOOD FREE KIDS OPEN DAY!

Bring the kids to give golf a try under
the supervision of PGA Professionals,
Alex Pitty and Peter Vassiliadis!

- Tuesday the 27th of June from 11:30am-12:30pm
- For kids that are new to golf or haven't tried before
- Fun and relaxed introduction to golf
- Soft Drink and Hot Chips in the Clubhouse afterwards
- Equipment provided
- 332 Liverpool Road, Kilsyth South



For further information or to book your kids in, please reach out to Alex via email
at: golfpro@eastwoodgolf.com.au