



RUSKIN PARK NEWSLETTER

2 June 2023



RIISING TO THE CHALLENGE

Upcoming Dates

June

Wednesday 7 th	Foundation Excursion
Friday 9 th	Year 5 & 6 Gala Sports Day
Monday 12 th	King's Birthday Public Holiday
Friday 16 th	Subway Lunch
Thursday 22 nd	Disco
Wednesday 21 st	Reports available through Compass
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

Principal's Report

Family and Friends Network

Earlier in the week our Family and Friends team finalised some key details for two upcoming events. The first event, 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 this week for further details.

Ruskin Park Trivia Night- I strongly encourage you to mark Friday 11 August in your diary. We would love to see as many parents as possible join us for an evening full of fun, laughter and trivia. Further details, including how to register will be sent home to families in the very near future.

A sincere thank you to everyone involved in Family and Friends for preparing these special events. Please support them.



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.

Child safety and Wellbeing at Ruskin Park Primary School

The Victorian Government has announced new [Child Safe Standards](#) to further strengthen child safety across organisations, including schools. The new standards recognise the critical importance of families and the broader school community in maintaining and promoting child safety and wellbeing.

Ruskin Park Primary School has reviewed and updated our child safety policies and procedures to ensure they meet the requirements of the new standards. These are available to view on the school website at www.ruskinparkps.vic.edu.au and on Compass.

We are committed to continuous improvement in our approach to child safety and wellbeing and welcome feedback from families and members of our school community on ways we can further strengthen our child safety policies, procedures and practices.

If you have any suggestions, comments or questions, please contact Shannon Young at Shannon.young@education.vic.gov.au

Andrew Moore
Principal

Assistant Principal's Report



On Wednesday 31st May for our Curriculum Day, we began our Ruskin Park journey into URStrong which is a program centred around teaching children how to develop and maintain friendships but also looking at how friendships change over time and when there are friendship issues, is it from someone being 'mean on purpose' or is it a 'friendship fire.' As we are beginning to implement the program into our curriculum from the beginning of next term, I encourage you to have a look at the following video www.urstrong.com/language-of-friendship-intro and have a look around the website at www.urstrong.com. There are lots of resources and articles as well as free family memberships. To find that information head to the parent's section from the front page.

Shannon Young
Assistant Principal

Foundation

Wow, what a busy time it is at school at the moment. As Foundation students, we are increasing our ability to listen carefully, focus, follow instructions and work creatively. We are so proud of our Foundation students and the positivity and perseverance that we see each day.

Literacy

Focusing specifically each week on a couple of letters is certainly building our understanding of the alphabet. We are using this knowledge to support our word building in our reading and writing. It's great to see the students making connections and see their joy as they celebrate their reading and writing in class.

Through our reading, writing and science lessons we have been focusing on Non-Fiction texts relating to living things. We have read about and discussed a variety of animals, including reptiles, insects, birds and mammals. The students have enjoyed sorting pictures of them by discussing their different features, their habitats, and ways that they move and survive. In Writing, we have learnt that an information report looks very different to a story. We have been writing titles, drawing labelled diagrams, and writing facts about our living things. Amazing!

This has been a fabulous cross curricular unit of work that we also linked to our daily show and tell presentations. The students are displaying more confident speaking skills as well as trying to look at and engage their audience as they explain their knowledge. Thank you to our wonderful parents for helping support them with their practise at home.

We have a new show and tell focus for the end of this term then will begin our special VIP presentations next term. Watch out for information via Dojo very soon!

Next week we have a day at Melbourne Zoo. We are so looking forward to having an exciting day of learning with our animal friends! Please arrive promptly at 8.30am for an 8.45am departure with a drink and food in a small backpack. Don't forget your raincoat, just in case!

Numeracy

Time is certainly flying in Foundation. We are continuing to count and record our days in school in lots of different ways including using a number chart, tens frame, in word and numerical form and in tallies. So much maths learning just with our number of the day! We are looking forward to celebrating our 100 days of school in a few weeks.

Students have been revising their counting skills forwards and backwards from various starting points. We have been focusing on accurate counting through various manipulatives such as counters, unifix, beads, icy pole sticks etc. Students have been playing number maths games such as 'Get out of my house'! We have also revised 2D shape and had fun making Little Miss and Mr Men shapes and a background for them to live in!



Junior School

Year 1

It has been a busy, exciting and eventful few weeks in Year 1. Our students continue to strive to show and do their best learning. We can't believe it is already Week 6!

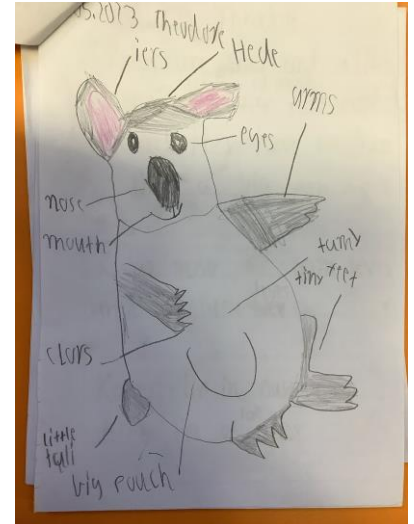
Wellbeing

In Wellbeing, students have been learning about pride and how to identify areas of strength. We explored a number of different scenarios within the school day where a student might be proud of something that they achieved. This included a range of academic and personal achievements. 'All the Ways to be Smart' by Davina Bell was a text that we have begun to explore during our Wellbeing sessions. Students were encouraged to think about and record what makes them special and smart in their own ways. The activity was a really wonderful opportunity for the students to build their confidence and self esteem and develop the idea that being 'smart' does not always have to relate to academic achievements.

Literacy


In Literacy we have continued to explicitly focus on information texts, with the unit coming to an end this week. We have continued to develop our understanding of information text features and started to learn about the reading strategy 'Determining Importance'. The students have been working on delving deeper into the idea of what the book is mostly about by using the information within the text to determine the main idea.

The students created their final information report on koalas this week. They were exposed to multiple sources of information and independently planned and created wonderful information reports that included facts about the appearance, diet and habitat of a koala. Students created wonderful diagrams of the koala that included amazing labels and details. They were very excited to show the knowledge and skills they developed over this unit. You might like to encourage your child to create their own information reports on a topic of interest at home, now that they are experts!




Our phonics focuses have included initial 'r' and initial 'l' blends as well as final 'sk' and 'st' blends. When reading with your child at home, see if you can spot some of our focus blends in the take home readers!

R Blends

br	
cr	
dr	
fr	
gr	
pr	
tr	

L Blends

bl	
cl	
fl	
gl	
pl	
sl	

sk
st



Maths

In Maths, we have been exploring Place Value. The students have learnt lots of games to develop and deepen their understanding of numbers and place value. We have had lots of fun using a range of different concrete materials to make and model a range of numbers and have had multiple opportunities to demonstrate our understanding and problem-solving skills through a variety of open-ended tasks. Check out our wonderful mathematicians below!



Year 2

We can't believe it is Week 6 already! With so much learning happening in Year 2, time is flying by. Check out some of our amazing learning that we've done this week!

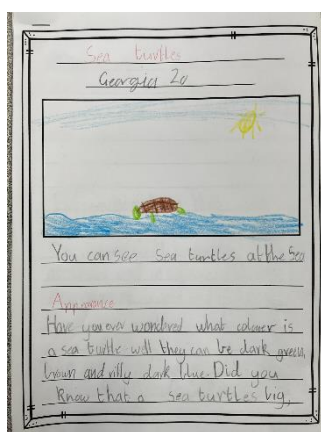
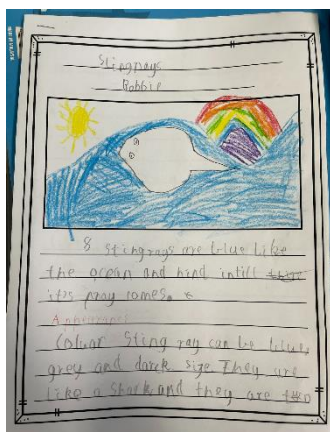
Wellbeing

In Wellbeing, we have had a focus on resilience and working as a team. We spoke about what resilience means to us and how we can show resilience at school, in the classroom and out in the yard during play times as well. We also discussed how important teamwork is and practised working together as a team, as we figured out how to untangle our circle without letting go of each other's hands, and playing teamwork games such as Land Mines, where the students had to navigate each other through landmines using only their voices (no sight!). The students worked so well together, giving each other very specific directions like 'take a diagonal step to the right', to help each other avoid the land mines!



Literacy

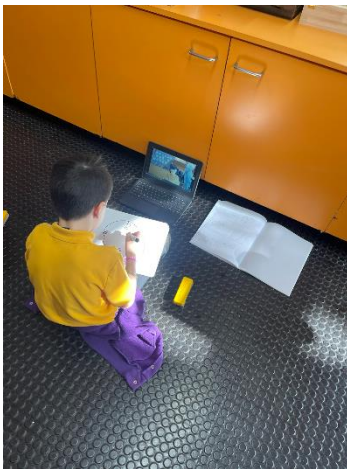
We are coming to the end of our Information Report unit and are becoming very familiar with the key details and main ideas in an information text and how to find and record these. In Reading, as we have been focusing on our Non-Fiction texts, we have been working hard to figure out the main idea of the text, and recording the key details included in the text to support this. In Writing, we have been using data charts to help us to record the important information on our animal fact sheets. Our data charts act as a plan for our information reports - we then draft our report, including our topic sentence, subheadings and paragraphs, before working towards publishing them.



In Spelling, we have been focusing on double consonants after a short vowel sound, such as in cliff. The students have had lots of practice searching for and recording our focus spelling pattern, writing down words they find in books that we read as a class, and even coming up with their own words and having a go at grouping them according to their double letter!

Maths

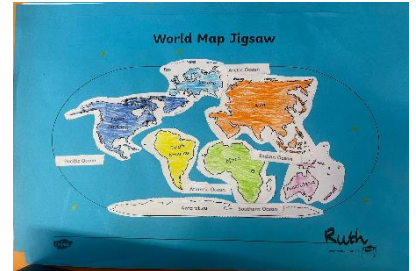
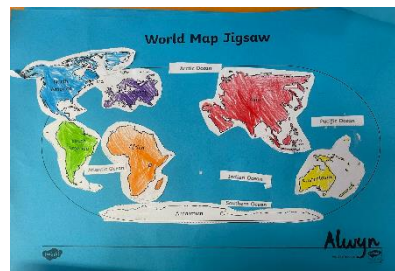
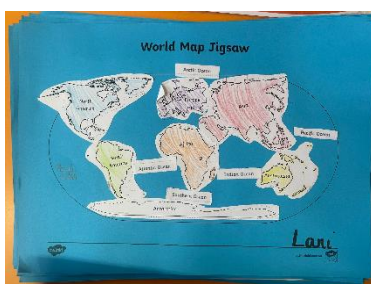
We consolidated all our learning about time this week, and the students had the opportunity to show off all their wonderful learning. Each student was armed with a whiteboard, a marker and a plan and recorded their own videos showcasing everything that they learnt or knew about time! Some examples include, what o'clock looks like on an analogue or digital clock which was coupled with a drawing on their whiteboards. The students loved being able to watch their and their peers' videos back and give each other feedback on how they went!

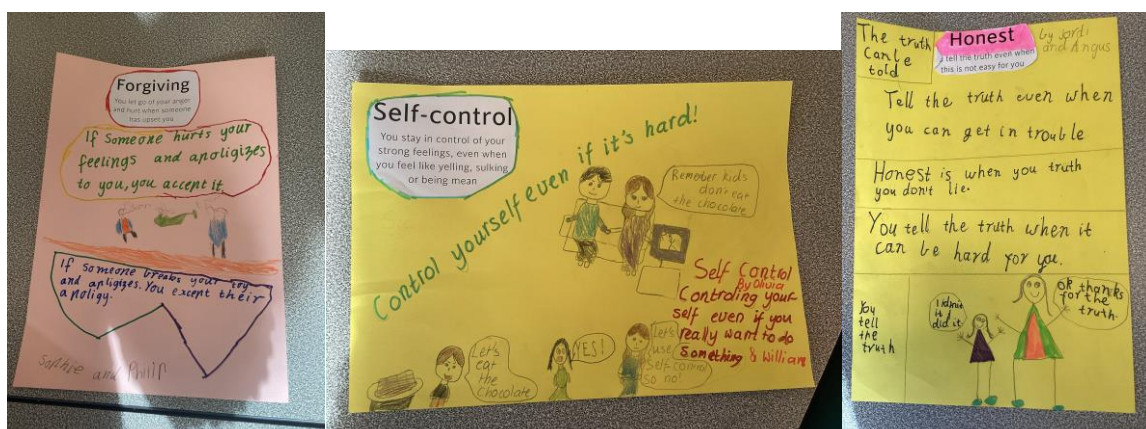


We then asked the students to show us the money...! In their table groups, the students were allocated \$2, and throughout the week agreed on things that could be bought in the classroom - such as a drink of water, a tissue, etc. and certain things such as being the first table organised earned them some money as a reward! This was to encourage conversations about money throughout the week, and to allow for students to practise their addition and subtraction skills using their money. We had lots of different activities throughout the week where we practised our addition and subtraction of Australian money through problem solving activities and working towards a target amount of money.

Geography

In Geography, students were learning about the continents and oceans around the world. We revised what a continent is, and we learnt about special terms such as axis and equator. We then ordered our seven continents from biggest to smallest and discussed the locations of continents and oceans by looking at a world map. Students then used an investigation sheet to ask any questions that they may have had about the continents and oceans around the world.





Year 3 Excursion

Just a friendly reminder to pay and consent to our excursion to IMAX and the Melbourne Museum which is on Tuesday 13th of June. We will be watching the Great Barrier Reef documentary in 3D at IMAX and will visit various exhibits in the Melbourne Museum.

Year 4

Reading

In Year Four, students have continued their focus on our fantasy unit through the Spiderwick Chronicles. In this, students continued to analyse Spiderwick Chronicles by comparing and contrasting the book and movie in terms of the characters, setting and plot. Students have continued to work hard on their goals through recording and expanding on their thinking within their reader's notebook. Furthermore, students analysed the features of a book talk by looking at some sample book talks and identifying features that they can add to their own amazing book talks.

Writing

Students have continued to explore our fantasy unit through following the writing process to plan, draft, edit and revise a fantasy story. Students revised the elements of a narrative such as a plot mountain, establishing main characters and fantasy settings as well as the features of a fantasy text, including magic, quests and creatures. Students have reflected on their favourite authors and books which has assisted them to create engaging book talks. They will be recording themselves reading their book talks which will be shared amongst their peers.

Check out some snippets of their book talks below.

Fing by David Walliams - Summary

Mr and Mrs Meek had a terrifying daughter named Myrtle. She got everything she wanted and nearly always when she wanted it. It was her birthday and she asked her parents for one more "fing". She spelt it it out and Mrs and Mr Meek went to the library and discovered it is the worst possible pet. But Myrtle still wants it, can Mr Meek make it to the deepest darkest jungliest jungle, to find Fing?

Felicity 4C

Matilda by Roald Dahl - Personal Comment

My favourite part of this book is when Miss Trunchbull grabbed a boy in the ear and stretched them firmly. The reason this is my favourite part is because it is hilarious that he stretched the ears of a little fellow and the boy was shocked that it was so sudden!

Nawl Pi 4C

Warriors: Into the Wild by Erin Hunter - Summary

A 'Normal' house cat named Rusty is always looking beyond his kittypet walls. However, one night in the forest Rusty is determined to explore the wilderness... But Rusty is introduced to a life Right under his nose. Little does he know that four clans of cats are wandering in the forest, day and night.. Will Rusty Learn the ways and the code of the clans? Or will they leave him in the forest to starve...

Olivia 4PB

Little Monsters by David Walliams- Recommendation

I recommend this book to people who feel like the odd one out. The beautiful moral of this book can inspire many young people, even the old ones. I think this wonderful book deserves a 5 star rating.

Anna 4PB

Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets - Summary

On a regular night at no. 4 Privet drive, Harry Potter gets a mysterious message from a house elf named Dobby. Dobby says that Harry must not go back to Hogwarts school of witchcraft and wizardry, Harry ignores Dobby's request, although when Harry gets to Hogwarts mysterious things happen! People are randomly becoming paralysed, The door to platform 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ suddenly closes and Harry hears mysterious voices saying 'kill' in a hissing voice! Will Harry find out what's happening?

Taz 4S

Maths

In Maths, students have been using a variety of strategies to solve addition and subtraction problems, such as doubles, near doubles, friends of 10 and split strategy. They have been exploring the connection between these processes and financial maths. Students have been enjoying open ended problem solving involving prioritising how they spend \$100 at Leisure Land and allocating the finance to create a mini city.

Wellbeing

In Year 4 we have been focusing on the value of Respect. We touched on this value in Term 1 but we feel it is important to revisit Respect as it is one of our school values. Students have been analysing what respect looks like, sounds like and feels like for both people involved. We have been reading texts such as "Recess Queen" by Alexis O'Neil and "How Rude!" by Clare Helen Welsh to identify how the character's look, sound and feel respected by other characters. In class the teachers are using a common language to assist students to identify if their behaviour is respectful by asking questions such as "Does that look respectful?", "Does that sound respectful?" and "Does that feel respectful for the other person involved?"

Senior School

Year 5

The Year 5 students had a great time visiting Croydon Library on a Wednesday afternoon excursion. Students were shown around the library and had fun finding their favourite genre books and locating the different computer games for hire. They walked through the Croydon Historical Museum, marvelling at the old photos, artefacts and stories shared by a local volunteer. We then had fun playing with Beebots, Ozobots and got creative with a music app used on iPads called Incredibox. Thanks to Croydon Library for having us!



Reading and Writing

Last week saw our documentary unit come to an end. Students continued working through the process of using iMovie to film their own documentary on the iPads, transforming their ideas from written scripts to videos that incorporated images, transitions, voice recordings, video clips and snippets of music. We are so proud of the enthusiasm each student approached the process with and look forward to continuing to share the final products in our classrooms.

This week, we kicked off our poetry unit in Writing by creating some Kennings poems. Having read some examples in our Reading sessions, students were familiar with the structure of the poem and were eager to create poems of their own to meet the noun + noun or noun + verb rule. We followed the guide of adding an '-er' or '-ing' to a range of nouns and verbs to create a rhythm in Kennings poems on a variety of topics. It was particularly fun being able to collaborate on some class poems in our mini lessons each day, from the quirks of animals to the well-known traits and mannerisms of characters we know and love (or perhaps don't, in the case of one controversial Hogwarts professor!) Can you work out the topic of our Kennings poems?

5O - Zoe	5P - Class poem	5R - Michaela
Fuzzy - cuddler	Robe-wearing,	Swift - soaring
Soft - comforter	Stern-talker,	Mountain - circling
Brown - bearer	Hallway-creeper,	Egg - nesting
Warm - listener	Potter-mistreater,	High - flying
Bed - Liver	Punishment-giver,	Alert - screecher
	Slytherin-favouring,	Hard - glarer
	Gryffindor-hating,	Cloud - slicer

	<i>Potions-master,</i> <i>Subject-stealer,</i> <i>Secret-carer,</i> <i>Secret-keeper,</i> <i>Kid-protector</i>	
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Maths

Over the past fortnight, we have been learning about time. We began our unit with a fun, hands-on activity where students worked in groups to make clocks using items such as sticky notes, unifix and counters. It was an interesting challenge for students to unpack their thinking about what features are on a clock and use concrete materials to try to represent this. Once the clocks were made, each group then practised making a range of different times by moving the position of the hands. With digital clocks surrounding us in today's technology driven world, it would be fantastic for students to practise telling time on an analogue clock or wrist watch at home. Challenge your child to think about the position of the minute and hour hand and perhaps ask them what the 24 hour version of the time would be (eg. if it's 6:30pm, we can say the time is 18:30 in 24 hour format). It's a great reminder for us adults to ensure we are leading by example and referring to analogue clocks to share our thinking out loud and give ourselves more of a challenge, too!

Year 6

REACH Workshop – Session Two

On Tuesday 23rd May the Year Six students had their second REACH workshop session. The main purpose of this session was teamwork and encouraging students to work together as a collective rather than individuals.

Students were given a task where they each had to make their way across a course and work together as a team to ensure all members successfully completed the course. Students were not allowed to make noises throughout the challenge and had to think of other methods to support team members to ensure they got through the course the correct way. If students spoke, snickered, moaned, etc. then the whole team would suffer a time penalty.

We were impressed with the way our students were able to identify what went wrong in the initial challenge and how they rectified it and worked together as a team for a common goal. We look forward to continuing this in our classrooms.

Our third REACH workshop will be in Term Three on Tuesday 18th July, followed by the fourth and final workshop in Term Four on Tuesday 24th October.

Year Six Warrnambool Tour

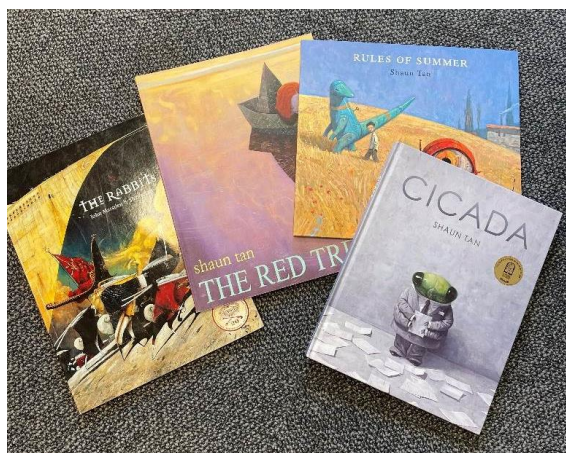
We are delighted to announce that we have confirmed our Year Six Warrnambool Tour. The camp will occur in Term Three, Week Nine, from Monday 4th September to Wednesday 6th September. We have many exciting activities locked in for the Year Six cohort, including visiting the Flagstaff Hill Maritime Museum and visiting the 12 Apostles.

Consent and payment for the event is available via Compass. 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.

In Mathematics, we have recently completed our area and length unit. The unit concluded with students designing their ideal backyards, which provided them with an opportunity to showcase their learning from the unit. Students were required to draft their backyard complete with specific measurements and labels. They then presented a final copy. Students used a wide range of shapes in their backyard design including rectangles, triangles, circles, trapeziums, etc. This required students to use formulas for these shapes, including Pi (π).

Following on from this unit, we have commenced our new unit on data representation and interpretation. In early stages we have explored how we pose questions, collate data and represent graphically. Students have learned how to create graphs appropriate to their data type, including column graphs, side by side bar graphs, dot plots and 'stem and leaf plots'.

In addition to this, students have been provided with data and graphs without titles or axis or numbers missing, encouraging them to think deeply about the information provided. Students have been encouraged to have mathematical discussions with each other, drawing upon their prior knowledge of data and graphs and applying this to problem solving questions. It has been fantastic to see the discussion and mathematical reasoning from this.



In Reading we have been busily working through our Author Study unit. Students have been learning about the work of the wonderful author and illustrator – Shaun Tan. As a class we have read through some of his award-winning books and watched small video clips of these. Students have then analysed the illustrations provided by Tan and explained the meaning of the texts. They have identified the theme, mood, and tone of a range of texts, using their sophisticated word banks to support them during this. Some of the texts we have studied include – Cicada, Rules of Summer, The Rabbits and The Red Tree.

In Writing we have complemented our author study unit through discussing these texts and using the sophisticated word bank to support us. Students have learnt how to provide summaries of what they've read and have focused on some of the texts from Shaun Tan. Through careful scaffolding students have written summaries which provide an insight into the book without giving away too much information. When you are summarising a text, it is important to: pull out the main ideas, use key words and phrases, use your own words, use connective words, and include details about illustrations, tone, themes, mood and symbols.

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

Lincoln	Morris	Olivia	Jayden	Jasmine	Gracie	Kelly	Frankie	Tristan
Simon	Kyron	Abel	Lorelei	Ashleigh				

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



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 Exp Fee** \$8.00 Daily Total \$80.00	Base Fee \$72.00 Exp Fee** \$35.00 Daily Total \$107.00	Base Fee \$72.00 Exp Fee** \$15.00 Daily Total \$87.00	Base Fee \$72.00 Exp Fee** \$31.00 Daily Total \$103.00	Base Fee \$72.00 Exp Fee** \$19.00 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 Exp Fee** \$8.00 Daily Total \$80.00	Base Fee \$72.00 Exp Fee** \$21.00 Daily Total \$93.00	Base Fee \$72.00 Exp Fee** \$40.00 Daily Total \$112.00	Base Fee \$72.00 Exp Fee** \$17.00 Daily Total \$89.00	Base Fee \$72.00 Exp Fee** \$12.00 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!