



RUSKIN PARK NEWSLETTER

8 December 2023



RIISING TO THE CHALLENGE

Upcoming Dates

December

Monday 11th Moving Up Day
Tuesday 12th Yr 6 High School Transition
Wednesday 13th Yr 6 Graduation
Thursday 14th Foundation Graduation
Monday 18th Year 6 Excursion

December

Tuesday 19th Year 5 Excursion
Wednesday 20th End of Term 4 (1:30pm)

January

Tuesday 30th Term 1: Students return for 2024

Principal's Report

Christmas Concert

Yesterday's concert proved to be a wonderful event with students and families engaged in a celebration of the festive season.

Every child had the opportunity to take to the stage and perform before a captivated audience. Please don't underestimate what a significant achievement this is for any child or adult. However, it is like many things in life, the more we do something the better we become at it.

Led by Mr Nunis, Ms Quass and the staff, our students performed with great energy and should be proud of their efforts.

Thank you also to Mrs Wright and Mrs Wait for their efforts in preparing the Art Show. I hope our families enjoyed the opportunity to view what the students have been up to throughout the year. There were wonderful pieces on display.

Last night was a fun way to celebrate the year.

Moving Up Day

On Monday 11 December students will have an opportunity to meet their 2024 teacher and classmates. Teachers have taken great care when placing students in their new classes, giving consideration to many factors, including academic, social and any personal needs. It promises to be an exciting day.

Parent Helper Morning Tea

We truly value the support of our parents and community helpers and without you many of the opportunities our students experience would not be possible. Examples include but are not limited to, assisting with classroom reading, Mother's and Father's Day stalls, selling icy poles, footy day or the colour run, volunteering at BBQs etc.

Today's morning tea was an opportunity for staff to say thank you to parents for the support provided to us. To those who were unable to attend, a sincere thank you for your assistance in 2023.

End of Year Reports

As we approach the end of year, teachers are busy completing final student assessments and adding the last touches to school reports. I would like to acknowledge the staff and thank them for the many hours that have been spent writing and editing reports. I trust that you will find them informative and that they provide a clear picture of your child's achievements and areas to focus on in the future.

The reports are scheduled to be published via Compass on Wednesday 13 December.

Final Day of Term 4- Wednesday 20 December

A reminder students will finish at 1:30pm on Wednesday 20 December. There will be a final assembly at 9am on this day.

As this is the final newsletter for 2023, it is an opportune time to acknowledge the efforts of our students and staff. We have a dedicated team that consistently go 'above and beyond' in order to provide the best learning environment for your children. They take great pride in our students' successes and work hard to create caring, yet academically challenging classrooms. Our students also deserve credit for the manner in which they embrace the learning opportunities presented. Their enthusiasm and desire to improve are to be commended.

To our parent community, thank you for your continued support. The partnership between home and school continues to be strong and is a significant factor in our success as a school.

To our departing Year 6 students, we wish you every success and happiness as you commence Secondary School. To our other families, have a wonderful and safe holiday and we look forward to seeing you back at school on Tuesday 30 January 2024.

Andrew Moore
Principal

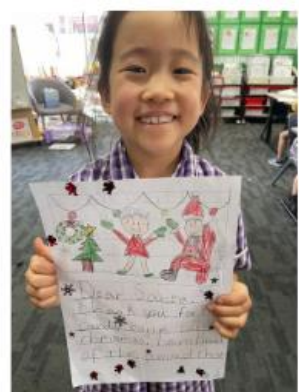
Foundation

Wow, what an amazing fortnight! We have been busy little elves down here in Foundation from writing letters to our buddies to practising hard for the Christmas Concert. It's hard to believe that we were just starting our learning journey together 11 months ago. The 2023 Foundation team feels so incredibly lucky that we have been able to be a part of your child's schooling journey, and we wish them all the best for Year 1! We know they'll absolutely love it and we can't wait to see what they achieve moving forward. We wish you all a safe and happy holiday.

Literacy

In Reading, students have been engaging in a variety of texts and reflecting on the story in their own ways. We have been encouraging students to take more control with how they view texts and to record more personal ideas. They have been able to choose options like their favourite part, identifying the main idea, discussing the beginning, middle and end, posing questions and wonderings and more!

In Writing, we have been writing lots of letters. Students wrote letters to Santa, where they reflected on their first year of school. We sent these off in a special school letterbox and we are patiently waiting to see if we get a reply! We don't ask Santa for presents at school, we leave that to families to do at home if they are so inclined.



Numeracy

Students have been honing all their maths skills they have acquired this year and putting them into practise making and playing maths games. Lots of skills including addition, subtraction, skip counting, subitising, estimating and strategy are being explored during these Maths gaming sessions... So exciting!

Christmas Concert

We were so excited to come together and celebrate at the Christmas Concert with our gorgeous students and families. Thank you to all the parents/guardians that attended the evening. Your little ones looked every bit the part and were very excited to share the beautiful singing and actions that they rehearsed for the past two weeks. We are so proud of the teamwork that went into learning and performing 'All I want for Christmas is my two front Teeth' and for their amazing confidence!

Upcoming Events

Graduation

Just a reminder that our Foundation Graduation will occur on Thursday 14th of December from 9.15 - 11.00. All parents are welcome to attend and are encouraged to come along and celebrate this special occasion with us.

Class Party

We will be holding our class party on the 15th of December. Please send a special party lunch box for **your child only**. Please still include a sandwich or a different lunch food that is enough to sustain them throughout the day. Please remember that due to allergies, do not send any nuts or nut products in your child's lunchbox.

Junior School

Year 1

Another wonderful few weeks of learning in Year 1! Our students are working hard to achieve their learning goals in preparation for Year 2. We can't believe how fast this term is going.

This week we had our amazing Christmas Concert. It was fantastic to see the look of surprise when the Year 1 masterpiece was revealed! We were so proud of all the students giving it a go, even if they were feeling a bit nervous.

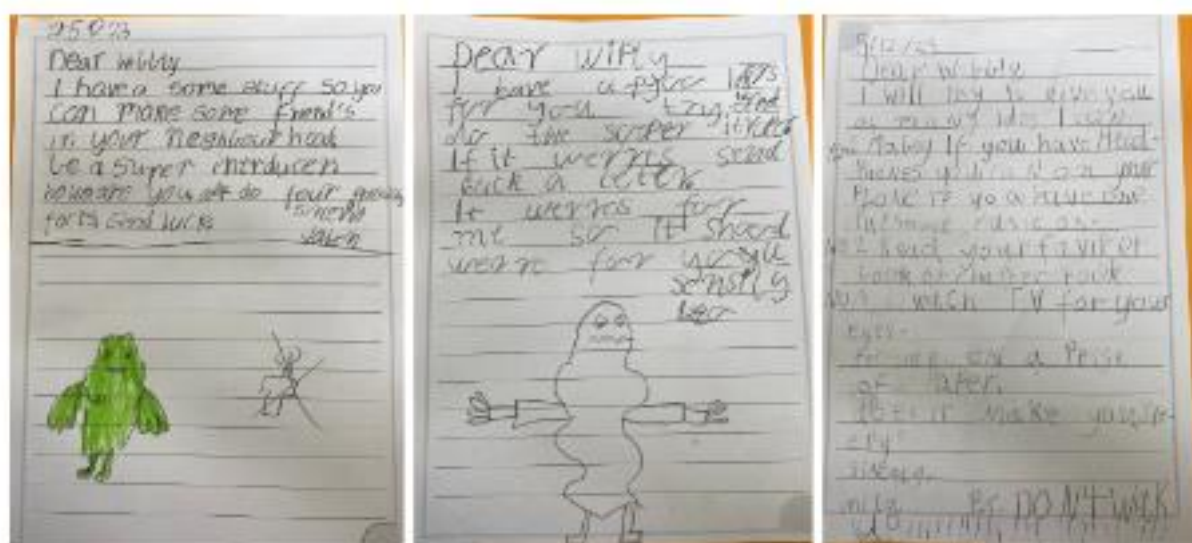
A big congratulations to our Year 1 end of year award recipients! Caitlin Allen received the Community Award for always ensuring that the people around her feel happy and included, as well as being an outstanding friend to not only the students in 1J but to the entire Year 1 community. Flynn Lane received the Academic Award for always putting in his personal best and achieving amazing academic results. Ella Misson received the Determination Award for always demonstrating persistence and determination in and out of the classroom and always trying her best. The Year 1 teachers could not be more proud!

On Monday next week we have the Moving Up Day where the students will get to meet their Year 2 teacher and their new classmates!

Wellbeing

In Wellbeing we have been continuing to explore and develop our understanding of our school values and how to manage our emotions. Over the last fortnight we have been working explicitly on how to manage stress with the help of our friend 'Mr Wibbly'. Our Literacy focus of Transactional Texts was incorporated into Wellbeing this week

when the students were given the opportunity to write a letter to Mr Wibbly with some strategies that he could use to help manage his stress in a positive way.



Literacy

In Literacy, we have continued to explore transactional texts. We have read a variety of different texts where students were able to identify the purpose and tone of a letter. We explored and discussed what makes a friendly letter, formal letter or a grouchy letter.

The students chose the name of one of their classmates and did a fantastic job at planning, drafting and publishing their letters. Check out some of the amazing, published pieces below.

Greetings Ivy,

I can't believe that we have a elf on the shelf. Guess what? I have 2 elf on the shelf. Guess what they did on Friday? They made a zipline out of sting. What is your favourite color? My favourite color is pink. Can I guess your favourite color? OK. Is it pink? No wait purple? What is your favourite sport? Let me guess. Tenense? Yay. What is your favourite Food? My favourite food is spargetti.

Sincerely

Caitlin.

Dear Luke,

It's me I raliy didn't want to wright to some one so I m happy to be wrighting to you qowesn do you have a pet?

Also whats you, r farit coar?

Do you have a subly coz I do form

Harper

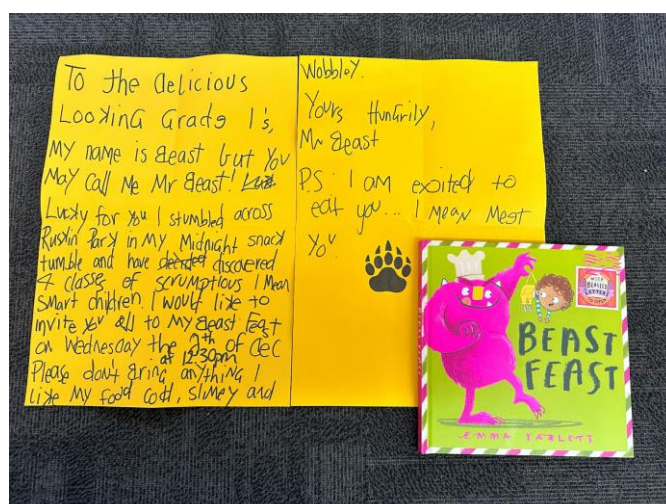
Dear Seth,

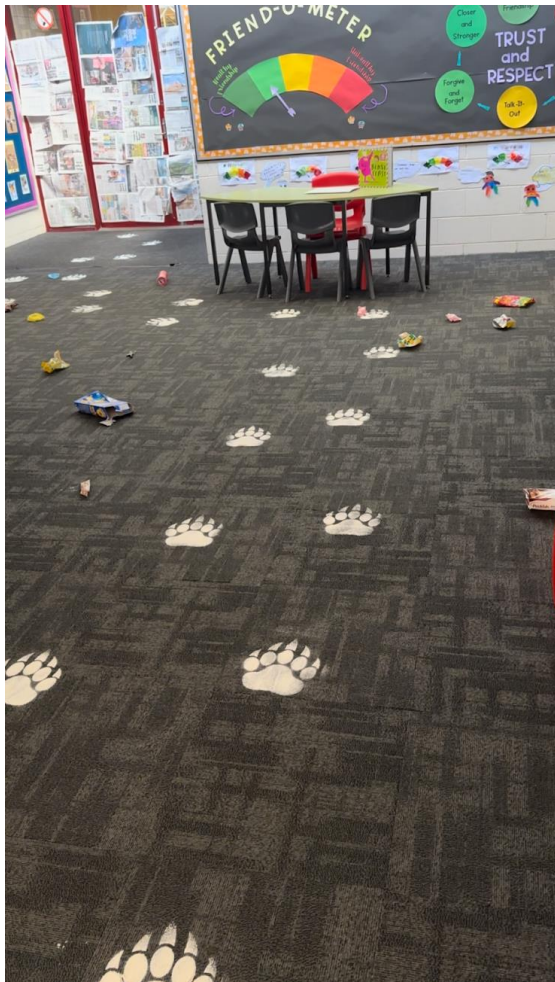
We meet again what is your favourite animal? Mine is a Dog. Do you like balloons? I do and why would you ride a moter bike if your ONLY 6 YEARS that's CRAZY and where was your elf on the shelf today or do you not have a elf on the shelf.

Your best friend,

Theodore

We created a theatrical experience for our students on Wednesday where a monster had visited us. This created drama and got the students excited about writing a letter back to the monster. The students had to write a letter following the taught letter structure, persuading the beast to not eat them. We concluded this activity with a 'beast feast' where the students got to enjoy some jelly and worms. Check out the 'beast setting' below.





6/12/23
Dear Mr Beast,
You can't eat us! We have
shoes which have touched
spiders, cobwebs, mud, dirt and squashed
insects! We aren't very tasty! If
you eat us our points will
be lost for 10 years till
we come out! We can't be
your friend if you eat us! You
I am very good at being a

good friend because I am
kind.
From,
Mia



Maths

We continue to revise and consolidate our automatic recall of addition and subtraction facts to 20. This includes doubles and near doubles but our focus has been primarily on automation (without using our fingers!) This has seen us rolling dice, using rulers and number lines and working with counters and blocks to model our thinking.

We also continued to develop our understanding of place value. The students had multiple opportunities to work on their skills and understanding of numbers through playing engaging games, problem solving tasks and hands-on manipulatives. Check out our amazing mathematicians below!





Wellbeing

In Wellbeing, we focused on having lots of conversations in the lead up to the sleepover, talking about any worries that we may have had staying at school and what to expect. We made sure to keep our plans (and our guest) a surprise and the students had so much fun. We played lots of games and had a delicious sausage sizzle for dinner, before we were surprised with Luigi Zucchini. Their minds were blown watching all his magic tricks, and some even tried to figure out how he did them! We then watched the movie Luca while we had hot chocolate and a biscuit before going off to bed to get some well earned rest.



We also used every opportunity that we could to practise for the Christmas concert to make sure we were ready, and didn't the students do such a great job performing their song? Here are some photos from our performance.



Digi Tech

The students have come a long way in being able to independently log into Google Classroom and have loved being able to practise their typing skills as they continue to publish their Multi Genre writing. The students are working through publishing their narrative, persuasive piece and an information report on their topic, as well as decorating their Google Slides once complete, using pictures, colours and different fonts.

Reminders

A notice for our class party went home today with a type of food or drink to bring for our class party! The notice outlines that you don't need to bring enough food to feed 21 children, just enough for 5 or 6 children. We're very excited to be able to celebrate our fantastic year with the students!

Middle School

Year 3

The end of the year is quickly approaching and it's hard to fathom that we now have less than two weeks left with our current classes! Reflecting on the year gone by, it's essential to acknowledge the remarkable achievements and growth that has taken place within our learning community. Each milestone, big or small, contributes to the collective success we celebrate together. In Year Three, festive cheer has taken on a magical form with the arrival of Christmas elves. The students eagerly anticipate discovering the delightful shenanigans these mischievous elves are up to each day.

As we navigate these final weeks, please support your children in returning any remaining library books and home readers that may still be at home. We will begin to send home exercise books from the classroom over the next week to lighten the load on the final day.

Literacy

This fortnight the students have been continuing their 'Reader's Theatre' unit. The students have finished turning picture story books into scripts and even published them on the computer. During reading sessions, the students have begun to read each other's scripts in groups and are performing them in class.

The Year Threes have continued to work on making connections while reading with the focus being on text to text and text to self connections. Their connections are starting to become deeper and they are including more information as to how the two texts connect to each other. We encourage you to continue working with your child at home by asking them to make some text to self and text to text connections while reading each night.

The Very Cranky Bear

Scene: Four friends have wandered into a cave when they wake up a bear.

Characters: Narrator, Bear, Zebra, Lion, Sheep, Moose.

Narrator: In the Jingle, Jangle, Jungle on a cold and rainy day four good friends came out to play.

Lion: That's an ace I win!

Zebra: Again! You have to be cheating!

Sheep: Calm down everybody.

Who Is Best Pizza Or Taco!

Scene: Neighbourhood and a waterpark

Characters: Narrator Hamburger Hot Dog Pizza Taco

Narrator: Two freinds play named Pizza and Taco.

Taco: Handshake time!

Pizza: Are you sure? We will be laughed at!

Taco: Look on the bright side. We will still be friends.

Pizza: Ok fine I will.

Narrator: So they did their weird handshake.

Hamburger: HA! HA! You're so funny!

Hot dog: Yeah!

Taco: Don't feel bad Pizza, you're the best.

Pizza: I'm the best!

Taco: No, I'm the best! I have added ingredients!

Pizza: I have pepper and different types!

Narrator: They got into a fight about who is best. So they go to the water park to see who does the best slides to see who is best.

Pizza: Backseis I'm the best at backsies!

Narrator: So they did backsies, and of course Pizza won.

Some of the student comments about our 'Reader's Theatre' unit include:

- I liked getting to know all the characters and reading the script with other people. I also liked choosing my character. (Poppy)
- That we get to choose our own story and what it's about. We also got to read different types of scripts. (Olivia)

- I like it because the scripts are funny and you get to share them with the class. (Grace)
- I liked reading them aloud and using different voices for different characters. (Jacob)
- I like reading scripts because they are different from the other texts that we normally read. (Jax)

Maths

In Maths the Year Three students have been revising subtraction. We have been practising our instant recall of one digit subtraction problems by playing different partner games using dice, cards and dominoes. Students have also revised the different strategies that they can use to solve subtraction problems including the split strategy and the jump strategy.

This week we have been exploring lines of symmetry. We have created our own Christmas bauble designs. Some students did this with one line of symmetry and others challenged themselves with two lines of symmetry. Students have also used mirrors to view symmetry using reflection.

Digitech

This term the students have thoroughly enjoyed working on their coding skills by using the I pads to code the Spheros to move, light up and make sounds. Students used their skills to tell multiple stories using the Spheros, which included stories about haunted houses, friendships and basketball games. The students also used special mats to expand on their skills to get the Spheros to either follow lines to get from one point to another or getting the Spheros into a goal.



Class Parties

A note has gone home about our class parties which will be held on Friday 15th December. Students have been asked to either bring an item that is sweet, savoury or a drink. Please let us know if you have any questions about what to bring on the day. We are looking forward to celebrating with all the students.

Year 4

Literacy

In Reading, students have been focusing on making connections between different texts. They have been identifying similarities and differences between non-fiction texts and thinking about why there may be differences in the information. In Writing, students have swapped their thinking from writing fiction texts to writing non-fiction texts. The Year 4s have been using their selected topic (eg. Egypt) to write a nonfiction piece about that topic. Students have explored information reports, procedural and persuasive texts and discussed the different ways each of these can be published. At the conclusion of their non-fiction piece, students began publishing their fiction and non-fiction texts using a variety of methods.

Maths

Students have been revising the four operations by playing a variety of engaging games. The students have loved playing snakes and ladders, with a bit of a twist, and thinking about what strategy they can use so that they can be the first person to 100. Students have also enjoyed planning a summer vacation for a family of four to the beach. They had to consider what type of transportation, accommodation, food, activities and souvenirs they will be purchasing and how they will stay within their budget.

Buddies

We had a fantastic day meeting our buddies on Tuesday. It was a morning full of emotion, not only because the Year 4 students were nervous but also because our special buddies were feeling some big emotions too. We did an amazing job preparing our buddy bags full of wonderful things for our buddies to use, such as a puzzle and a book. The Year 4 students did a wonderful job looking after their special person and introducing themselves to the grown up picking up their buddy. They are definitely looking forward to spending more time together next year.

Well done to all the students, we are extremely proud of the time and effort that went into creating your special buddy bag and the way you welcomed your buddies to Ruskin Park Primary School.



OSHC Breakfast

The Year Four teachers were extremely fortunate to be invited to join some of the Year Fours for breakfast at OSHC last week. What a fantastic way to start the day! The students were quick to welcome us and provide us with some tasty pancakes. They helped to ensure that our day got off to a terrific start. Thank you to Sharyn and her team at OSHC for inviting us and a big thank you to the students who made us breakfast. YUM!



Class Parties

A note has gone home about our class parties which will be held on Friday 15th December. Students have been asked to either bring an item that is sweet, savoury or a drink. Please let us know if you have any questions about what to bring on the day. We are looking forward to celebrating with all the students.

Senior School

Year 5

It's definitely looking a lot like Christmas in Year 5! Our classrooms have been decorated with Christmas trees and paper chains over the last two weeks, with students writing positive affirmations on paper chains and sharing them with each other daily. We have also had lots of fun making Christmas cards with our Foundation buddies. We wrote many thoughtful messages to our friends and family on handmade Christmas cards that included reindeer, gingerbread men, Christmas trees and snow globes.



We have several upcoming events in Year 5 including...

- Class parties on Friday 15th December
- Celebration picnic on Tuesday 19th December
- Year 6 jackets sent home on Wednesday 20th December

Thank you to everyone who attended the Christmas concert and Art Show on Thursday night. The Year 5s were very proud to show off their amazing works of art that were displayed around the new building to their friends and family. The Year 5 students sang 'Revvin' Up the Reindeer' beautifully and looked great in their Christmas colours. We hope you all enjoyed the night!



Literacy

This fortnight, students have applied their knowledge of multimodal texts to continue analysing them in Reading lessons. We have explored new types of multimodal texts including a podcast, newspaper article, musical song and a website. For each type of text, students were asked to think about the intended purpose and audience, as well as the impact of the different features. Students have also revised comprehension skills and strategies to ensure they refer

to the text for evidence. After analysing a range of short texts, students answered multiple choice questions to reflect their understanding of the text on a literal and inferential level.

In Writing, students have completed infographics on topics of their own choice using the program Canva. Students were prompted to reflect on how their choices when designing an infographic suited their topic, purpose and audience. We have enjoyed seeing how students have experimented with visual modes including colour palettes and graphics, as well as the organisation of their information to engage the reader. Students have then had freedom to create a different type of multimodal text this week. It has been wonderful to see such a variety of multimodal texts in the classrooms, including podcasts, videos, posters and digital creations such as slides, to name a few.

Maths

Last week we revisited the concepts of chance and fractions, aiming to develop a stronger understanding of how chance outcomes can be represented as fractions. Students investigated the possible outcomes in a range of new and familiar games, then worked to represent the values as fractions. In a fun adaptation of Snakes and Ladders, students were able to identify fractions to represent the colours of the squares, odd and even numbers, how many snakes or ladders were on the game board and more. We were so impressed to see how they collected data while they played the games, and then successfully created fractions to represent their findings.

This week, students have again participated in a range of game based learning opportunities to revise various aspects of Number and Place Value. Skills we have been practising applying have included multiples, factors, prime numbers and division. It has been wonderful to see another week of rich learning amidst so many fun games and discussions between students in Maths this week.



Year 6

Digital Technologies

In Digital Technologies students have been enjoying programming and coding their mBots to follow a range of extensive commands. Some of these commands have included following a line around a classroom, a figure eight, managing the speeds and angles of turns, flashing lights and sounds, and many more.

Students have been using an app on the iPad to program and code their mBots, developing their skills in coding and learning to problem solve along the way. One significant problem from building the robots revolved around the connection ports for the directions of the mBot, with some students' robots turning left when it was meant to turn right and backwards when it was meant to move forwards. Students were required to problem solve and rectify the issue, at times removing parts of the mBot and reconnecting wires to different ports.

Literacy

In Reading, students have continued developing their skills and confidence in presenting a script to an audience. They have worked on developing the pace, expression and volume in their voices with the aim of engaging their

audience. Students have been allocated scripts about myths and legends and have been provided with time to rehearse independently and as a group, before presenting their script to the class.

In Writing, students have been working in teams of three to develop their own script on a chosen topic. In their small teams they brainstormed ideas and created characters for their script. Following the structure for script writing students developed a script that required them to provide a moral or message for the audience. In the last two weeks students will rehearse and then perform these scripts to the class.

Graduation

A final reminder that our upcoming Year 6 Graduation is at the Dorset Gardens Hotel in the function rooms on Wednesday 13th December.

Times:

- 5:30pm arrival with photos in the garden behind the function room
- 6:00pm formal ceremony commences
- 7:15pm ceremony concludes and students farewell parents/guardians
- 7:30pm students and staff dinner and dessert
- 8:30pm student disco
- 9:30pm students to be collected from the function room

In the evening the Year 6 student memory books will be on display, providing families and students an opportunity to browse through each other's memory books.

It is important that we stick to the timeline for the event to ensure the students have sufficient time for the disco. Each student can have two guests attend the Graduation to help celebrate them on their Graduation. Due to the number of students and room capacity, we are limited with guests per student, so please stick to the limits. If you have any questions, please contact your child's classroom teacher.

Thank You

We thank you for the ongoing support across a busy year of schooling in Year 6. For departing families, we wish you all the best in the future and thank you for your support across the years. Have a safe and enjoyable Christmas.



OSHC News

Last Day of Term

On the last day of Term 4 – Friday 20th December 2023 after school care will commence at 1.30pm. We have a fun afternoon planned with lots of games and a special afternoon tea.

We hope everyone has a really enjoyable Christmas and a safe and happy holiday. Best wishes for 2024.

OSHC Educator Team



These students have recently celebrated their birthdays

Mae	Zach	Chloe	Finn	Steven	Lucas	Hadley	Aaron	Amelia
Addison	Taz	Hannah	Jenny	Dan	Amity	Piper	Daniel	

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

Donate **GIFTS** and **FOOD** here



Listed below are some items you might like to donate this Christmas.

FOOD

What to donate:

- Non-perishable items
- Supermarket gift cards
- Special Christmas items
- Food to suit kids & the elderly

GIFTS

What to donate:

- Gifts for all ages
- Gift cards
- Unwrapped gifts
- New items only

Nobody should struggle alone this Christmas



**CHRISTMAS
APPEAL**

PRO TOUCH
TENNIS ACADEMY

TENNIS

COACHING

At Ruskin Park Primary School

Thursday morning's - 8:00 - 8:45am

Ruskin Park indoor basketball court

Start Date: Thursday 8th February 2024

Bookings are essential. Contact us via
below details to secure your place for
Term 1, 2024.

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SKILLS ACQUISITION PHASE CURRICULUM
INCORPORATING 4 CORE SKILLS, FIRST
TOUCH, RUNNING WITH THE BALL,
STRIKING THE BALL, AND 1V1'S.
TRAINING X 2/WEEEEK. GAMES ON SUNDAYS

- ⚽ KICKERS PROGRAM - 4 TO 6 YEARS OLD
- ⚽ MINIROOS- COMPETITIVE LEAGUES - 6-11 YRS OLD
- ⚽ JUNIORS - COMPETITIVE LEAGUES, 12 AND UP
- ⚽ SENIORS - SENIORS, RESERVES AND THIRDS TEAM

DORSET RECREATION RESERVE, JENKINS LANE, CROYDON