



On The Grapevine

A quality education in a caring, innovative environment

September 2012 (Issue 1)

New website

Visit our revamped website at www.rydalmere-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Our new brochures are currently being printed and will be delivered to our local residents. We have had a request from the schools promotions directorate to be able to use it as an outstanding example.

Joint project for all weather shelter

Our application for the joint funding for the construction of an all-weather shelter in the main playground has been successful. We will receive \$60,000 to match school and community contributions. All voluntary contributions received in the last two years, a total \$3853 have been allocated for this project. The P&C have donated \$10,000 and the school will allocate the rest of the funds from the school budget. I will keep you updated about draft drawings/plans for the shelter being on display for comments and suggestions from the community.

Sydney West PSSA

Congratulations to all our athletes who represented our school at the Zone carnival. Emilio, Jon, Fraser and Ethan were successful in moving to the next level and competing as zone representatives at the Sydney West PSSA. Well done boys!

A letter from the Queen

There was great excitement in 3H this week when a letter arrived from the Queen's Lady in Waiting, Jennifer Gordon-Lennox, expressing the Queen's gratitude for the best wishes sent from the children on the occasion of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. We will frame and display the correspondence in the office foyer.

Silver Award!

Congratulations to these students for achieving the following awards:

Principal's Bronze award Level 3: Maeve Barber

Principal's Bronze award Level 2: Brendan 1/2K

Principal's Bronze award Level 1: Shania and Amira

Fantastic parents!

So many parents work tirelessly to support our school in so many ways. Thank you to the following parents:

Fiona Mitchell: for managing the school athletics track and field teams at the zone carnivals. Ensuring all our athletes are in the right place at the right time requires excellent organisational skills and much patience. Special mention of Melinda Matthews, for her assistance on these days.

Anne- Marie Hewkins: for collecting and counting the Woolworths Earn and Learn Cards and making sure they were submitted by the due date. There were over 1500 cards and we are very excited about the resources we will be able to select with our 'points'.

Carol Piper: for organising donations for the BBQ lunch at the K-2 athletics carnival.

Adam Ford and Barnaby Smith: chief barbeque chefs at the K-2 athletics carnival.

Suzanne Barber: for all the behind the scenes organisation for the P&C fundraisers to ensure their success. The monies raised from these fundraisers are always channelled back into school projects through the P&C donations.

All our parents: for helping in so many ways, such as manning stalls for fundraising activities, supporting school and P&C fundraisers, helping in classrooms and volunteering for the canteen.

Olympic flag display

Our office foyer is a burst of colour thanks to 5/6L and their display of flags of countries that participated at the London Olympics.



Everyone's responsibility

A reminder to all parents that anyone can put the pedestrian flags out in the mornings & afternoons. The flags are in tubes near each gate.

School Photos

School photos will be taken on 17 and 18 October. Envelopes will be handed out next term. Prices for photo packs range from \$30 to \$37.

Mr Mitchell King will be Relieving Principal on Fridays until the end of Week 6 next term as I am taking some part-time leave. This is a wonderful opportunity to continue to build leadership capacity in the school. A big welcome to Mrs Bronwyn Brooks who will teach 1/2K while Mr King is in the Office. There is no cost to the school if I take 11 days and Friday is the least disruptive day for the students. I will be back full time by week 7, just in time for the hectic end of year activities and events!

Keryn Hinchcliffe

Principal

7 September 2012

Dates For Your Diary

7 September	Mini Kindy
12 September	Celebrating the Arts rehearsal at Parramatta Riverside Theatre
12 September	Celebrating the Arts concert 6.30-9.30pm
14 September	Mini Kindy
20 September	Assembly and afternoon coffee
21 September	Mini Kindy
21 September	Last day for term 3
8 October	Staff and Students return for Term 4
17-18 October	School photos



Congratulations to Our Ozzie Mozzie Award Winners:



Jacob B	Sarah
Kevin	Jennifer
Tom	

Another Fabulous Subscription Provided for the Students of REPS



We have recently purchased an online subscription from 'The Computer School', a company that specialises in easy-access online computer education.

Students can instantly access (24/7), numerous comprehensive, computer training tutorials. The tutorials are full colour, easy-to-follow screen-shots with step-by-step instructions covering an extensive and varied range of topics and software products such as:

COMPUTER BASICS - INTERNET RESEARCH- WINDOWS 7 –MS WORD 2010 – MS POWERPOINT 2010 – MS EXCEL 2010... and many more.

All you need to do is follow the instructions below:

- Use your internet browser to locate www.thecomputerschool.net
- From the drop down menu in the 'Log-in Box' - Select 'Skills Index'
- Log in using - **Username and Password**

Please encourage your child/ren to log on and use this exciting new resource.

Daria Ivanek

Zone Athletics Carnival 2012

Congratulations to all students who qualified to compete in the Zone Track and Field Athletics Carnivals. We sent our largest team for many years and there were many fine performances. I would like to thank all the parents who assisted in transporting the students to Barton Park for the Field events. Thank you also to Melinda for helping Fiona organise and manage the track team on the Track event day.

I would like to say a very special thank you to Fiona Mitchell who has happily, willingly and consistently helped at these events over many years. Fiona's daughter, Olivia will be going to high school next year so we will certainly miss having her expertise, patience and management skills with the children. Thank you, Fiona! You have been amazing!



Many students performed remarkably well and four of our students have qualified to compete in the Sydney West PSSA Athletics Carnival which will be held at Blacktown Olympic Park on Wednesday, 12 September.

Our Junior Boys relay team

Congratulations and good luck to these students who will compete in the following events:

Fraser G – Jnr 200m track (2nd at Zone)

Jon A – Jnr shot put (1st at Zone), Jnr long Jump (2nd at Zone)

Emilio G – 11yr long jump (2nd at Zone)

Ethan G – 11yr high jump (1st at Zone)

These boys competed in many events at both track and field. After counting their individual scores overall (dependent on their performance in each event), Jon A ranked 3rd (Jnr Boys), Fraser G ranked 7th (Jnr Boys), Ethan G ranked 6th (11yr Boys) and Emilio G ranked 11th (11yr Boys). Fantastic results!

Other notably good performances include: Olivia B (3rd 12yr high jump), Fraser G (4th Jnr high jump, 8th 800m), Ethan G (4th 11yr long jump, 7th 200m track), Mikaela B (6th 11yr long jump) and Jon A (7th 10yr 100m dash, 8th 200m track).

Angelique Brown

Infants Athletics Carnival

Thank you to all of the parents and friends who came along to support the Infants children at our Athletics Carnival on Wednesday 29 August. It was a great day and we were lucky to have such beautiful weather.

The students participated in age races and also had fun in the novelty events. Congratulations to all of the winning students who received an award. A special thankyou to Carol Piper for organising a great lunch for our students on the day. The sausages, poppers and ice blocks were well deserved by all the competitors.

Jay Razon

Gardening Club/School Commitment

Our vegetable gardens are presently thriving with an abundance of healthy plants in various stages of growth. We also have a citrus tree garden, plus a passionfruit vine that is sharing a climbing frame with some colourful, pretty sweet peas. The bromeliads (frog plants) are becoming increasingly established and hopefully we have created a safe haven for the local frog community. Many children participate in gardening activities including harvesting, planting, watering, fertilising, composting, mulching and weeding. The castings and worm juice from the worm farm are being used to organically fertilise the gardens.

Through Primary's 'School Commitment' and Gardening Club which is held on



Thursday mornings before school, students have become increasingly confident and knowledgeable. They are proud, motivated and have become more independent, displaying initiative to carry out gardening tasks, with a decreasing need for teacher guidance. These are definitely valuable skills for their future!

Angelique Brown

Our harvest of beetroot, turnips and lettuce

Fire Brigade visit

Thank you to the Rydalmere Fire Brigade who visited our school last week to show the Infants and Preschool students their fire engine. Students were excited to hear the siren blast and had great fun using the fire hose.

'They also told us to *Get down low and go, go, go* when there is a fire so that you don't breathe the smoke.' Jade H and Lilli 1/2K



Trying out the fire hose

Premier's Reading Challenge

Congratulations to Amilia G, Christopher M, Jayden M, Brendan M, Alexander M, Maeve B, Matthew Y, Ryan L, Jack B and Ayesha M. These students have successfully completed the 2011/2012 Premier's Reading Challenge.

The 2012/2013 Premier's Reading Challenge has now begun. This is a wonderful opportunity that motivates children to read and enjoy great books. Please nurture your child's love of reading by encouraging them to take on the 'Challenge'. Students can log in at 'PRC' online. Any enquiries, please speak to Mrs Brown.

Healthy habits

While we can't entirely shield our children from illness there are ways we can help them boost their immune systems and become more health conscious. Listen to these tips from Dr Martine Walker, a city GP who specialises in family health and has two primary school-aged children of her own.

Go to: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/keeping-your-kids-healthy>

P&C

Election Day, Saturday 8 September at the Ermington Community Hall, River Road
(note there is no voting at REPS this year).

We will need volunteers to bake some biscuits, cakes & slices + to help sizzle the sausages & sell cakes on the day.

Cakes etc can be delivered to the school canteen on Friday 7/9 or directly to the Community Hall on the Saturday morning.

For more information contact Suzanne Barber mbl. 0400 474 797, email. psbarber@ozemail.com.au or Carol Piper Mbl. 0406 730 995. Thank you for your support.

Next P&C meeting is Monday 5 November at 6.30pm in the Library.

Flyers available from the front office

- Mad Hatter's Fun Day 28 September
- Parramatta Council Spring Activities Guide
- Ermington United Netball Registration 13 October