



# On The Grapevine

## A quality education in a caring, innovative environment

November 2017 (Issue 1)

### Fortnight in Review

I would like to start off on an extremely sombre note and offer our sincere thoughts and condolences to the Banksia Road Public School community, who earlier this week suffered the unimaginable loss of two 8-year old students at their school. As you can imagine, it will be an incredibly difficult time for all the students, staff, parents and wider community for a long time to come. Our thoughts and offers of support have been conveyed to the school.

Over the past fortnight, we have, yet again, been fortunate enough to have many wonderful experiences here at Rydalmere East. Last night, several students' videos were shown at the Cumberland Community Connection CoSFest evening and what an impressive event it was. The Red Carpet event was held at Cumberland High School, which was looking simply fantastic after the facilities upgrade had been completed. I mentioned all the students who made it through to the final in last fortnight's Grapevine; however, the big news to report is that 2/3M's video titled 'Heather Fell in the Water' won the Junior Primary Category. What an amazing achievement! They're all looking forward to their celebratory pizza party.

All the films, not just from our school were simply sensational. It really was a great show of what public education can offer, particularly when we form partnerships and work together. A big thanks and well done to all students and teachers who supported this project, particularly Miss O'Flaherty who co-ordinated the competition from our end. Extended thanks to Mechel Pikoulas, Jude Edwards, Clarinda Brown and all the staff at Cumberland High School for getting this premiere event up and running.



Jack and Rafael on the CoSFest Red Carpet



Miss Monardo and some of the 2/3M stars

We had a visit from John Alexander, MP for Bennelong, who was completing a 100km around the local electorate to raise awareness and money for Leukaemia research. John played table tennis against some of our Bennelong Cup Table Tennis players, and it was great to see some of our students get a few points off him (which he was disappointed about). Just goes to show, we have some very talented players at our school. You can donate to JA's cause by visiting this website link <https://www.everydayhero.com.au/event/Bennelong100>

Today, we held our Remembrance Day Service. Ninety nine years ago tomorrow, the armistice that ended World War One came into force. We take this opportunity to remember the soldiers who fought in and also died in World War 1, but also to pay our respects to all service men and women who have served or are currently serving in our defence forces. I would like to particularly extend these respect and thanks to our many defence force families who are currently serving. Thanks to all those who came to our service.

Whilst on the topic of Defence, as you will all be aware by now, today is Mrs Blamires' last day at Rydalmere East Public School. Mrs Blamires, or Becky as known to many of you, has done a wonderful job as our Defence School Transition Aide, as well as our Community Liaison



Officer. The Blamires family is making the big move to America for the next couple of years and whilst we will miss Becky dearly, we wish her all the very best in the next step of her family's exciting journey together.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Mrs Donna Flanagan who has been successfully appointed in the role as our new Defence School Transition Aide. Donna is extremely excited to be here, and I am sure you will get to meet her shortly. Please join me in welcoming Donna.

### ***Kindergarten Orientation Day***

This Wednesday from 9:30 - 11:00am, is our Kindergarten Orientation Session. It still isn't too late to enrol, so if you know anyone in our area is looking to come to Kindergarten next year, make sure you let them know about the Orientation information session on Wednesday. As mentioned, the day will start at 9:30am. Our 2018 Kindergarten students will have activities set up with our teachers and support staff, whilst mums and dads will move in to Mrs Brown's room next door for some further information about school life at Rydalmere East. The uniform shop will be down there, as well as our new DSTA Donna, members of the P&C and other staff at REPS. Tea and coffee will also be provided. We look forward to catching up with next year's kindergarten students at this event.

### ***Carpark Safety***

Can I please ask that when you are collecting your children from school, that you do not walk through our carpark? I understand this looks like a convenient route, however, it is extremely dangerous. Please use the paths provided to help me keep everyone in our school as safe as possible. Thanks in advance with this.



### ***Eastwood Rotary Leadership Night***

Earlier this week, Miss O'Flaherty and Miss Morrison accompanied Sienna and Jacob and their families to the Rotary Club of Eastwood-Gladesville Primary Leadership Award night. These photos show Sienna and Jacob with John Alexander MP, Rotary President Robert Erskine and Geoff Lee MP. They were recognised for their outstanding leadership skills. Congratulations to Sienna and Jacob.



### ***What's on over the next fortnight?***

Lots of exciting things are happening at Rydalmere East Public School over the next fortnight. In addition to Kindergarten Orientation, we will be hosting some visits for new students to our support classes who will be beginning in 2018. Our Primary students will be heading off to Marsden High for a sporting gala day on Thursday 16 November. The day after this, we will be visited by some ladies from the Women's NRL who are also in the middle of their Women's Rugby League World Cup campaign. In Week 7, children from our support classes who are performing in the School Spectacular will be attending their final rehearsals, as they prepare for their big performances on Friday 24 and Saturday 25 November at Qudos Bank Arena at Homebush.

### ***PBL and Peer support***

Our Week 3 Positive Behaviour focussed on being respectful by caring for our school grounds.

Congratulations to these students who were observed following this expectation.

Luke D, Billie, Daniel A, Jayden, Ceyda, Mahdi and Sisca.



Our Week 4 Positive Behaviour focussed on being safe by lining up safely and correctly. These students will be congratulated and photographed for the next Grapevine edition due to the sudden and severe storm last Monday that interrupted our assembly.

### ***Student Wellbeing***

Congratulations to the following students on achieving these awards:

Silver Level 1:	Rohan
Silver Level 3:	Farshad
Bronze Level 2:	Keira
Bronze Level 3:	Jaylah

### **PBL Expectations**

This fortnight we are focussing on

- Being responsible by keeping our playground clean and tidy
- Being Respectful by returning equipment and treating school property with respect.

**Congratulations to Our Ozzie Mozzie Award Winners:**



Emelia	Thomas C	Jaxson	Olivia E
Lucas M	Lacey	Mehdi	Isaac L

Have a great fortnight!

*Mr Carters*

Principal Relieving  
10 November 2017

### ***Dates for your diary***

13 November	Selective High School 2019 applications close
15 November	Kindergarten Orientation Day 9:30-11:00
16 November	Marsden Gala Day
16 November	Assembly 1:55pm in the hall
24 November	School Spectacular 7:30pm
27 November	P&C meeting 6:30pm
11 December	Preschool Orientation Day
13 December	Reports sent home
15 December	Last day for staff and students



Springtime is a great time to garden at REPS.



Footsteps Dance lessons in the hall

## *P&C news*

### **REPS P&C Christmas Raffle**

REPS P&C are holding a Christmas raffle at the end of term to raise funds for the school. The prizes will be boxes of both luxury and useful gifts.

We need donations for the gift boxes!

Each class has been given a theme and asked to collect items to make up a gift box. Items must be new and unused.

The themes are:

*Kitchen/Baking* – for example: muffin tray, wooden spoons, mixing bowl, storage containers

*Spa/pamper products* – bubble bath, bath bombs, face mask, moisturiser, nail polish

*Return to school* – coloured pencils, notebooks, gluesticks, drink bottles, lunch box

*Toys and Games* – board games, cards, cuddly toys (3/4S)

*Sports equipment* – balls, skipping ropes, hoola hoops, cones (5M)

*Arts and Crafts* – pens, paints, drawing pads, art kits (

*Coffee/Tea Lovers* – fancy tea, fancy coffee, biscuits, mugs, spoons

*Pantry Fillers* – non perishable (long shelf life) food, storage containers

*Baby/Preschool* - toys and books suitable for younger children (preschool)

There is an additional un-themed collection box in the school office and you may donate to any of the themes if you like.

The class who collects the most gifts wins a prize!

Deadline for donations: Friday 24 November 2017

*Louise Wills*

On behalf of REPS P&C

## ***OOSH news***

Dear families

Thankyou to the families who helped us with being able to create gift boxes for children in need. With the help of our families and children we were able to create three very full boxes to send off to children in Africa. This was a team effort with Mrs Blamires helping us to fill and send them off.

Our next project will be making some boxes for Christmas so we can send these away to our defence force. We are asking for any donations such as

*Toiletries:* Deodorant (non-aerosol), shaving cream ( non aerosol), small bottles of talcum powder, disposable razors, shower gel, lip balm.

*Food:* Instant noodles, lollies, biscuits, small tinned consumables, non perishable foods.

*Other ideas:* Magazines, puzzle books, socks, letters of support.

Anything would be greatly appreciated. You can drop them into the hall where we have a collection box.

We have till 30 November so please feel free to donate anything you can.

I will be away next week so Jodie will be helping cover. I look forward to seeing all my families back in a week's time ready to finish off the term.

Kind regards

*Melissa Fletcher*

Helping Hands Network Rydalmere East  
(Phone 0475 823 785)

## ***Operation Christmas Child***

Well done to Charli who invited Helping Hands families to contribute to the Christmas Child appeal. Her efforts resulted in Helping Hands sending three shoeboxes of gifts for children living in poverty overseas. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

*Becky Blamires*

Defence School Transition Aide

