

RED HILL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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'Wassa Wassa performing at St Bede's Primary School.'



Red Hill School is a Nut Free Environment



5th July 2024



ACT
Government
Education

Red Hill
SCHOOL

Open hearts · Inquiring minds



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Fee code for Voluntary Contributions is VOL CONS

Leadership Team

Dear Parents and Carers,

When seeking feedback at the last P&C meeting I discovered that some parents are experiencing problems accessing the new Parent Portal. We have since identified that at least one of the problems is related to the *Sentral for Parents* mobile app which has not yet been rolled out. However, by the end of term three, all ACT public schools **will** have access to the app. If you are experiencing any other problem with the Parent Portal, please contact Jo Hastings in the front office. She has helped quite a few portal users already so can often answer your questions quickly. If not, she will contact the technical team and get back to you as soon as possible.

Parents have also provided feedback on the number of times families have been asked to fill out medical forms for camps and excursions this year. This is certainly something that we will endeavour to streamline because we know it is incredibly frustrating to be asked to fill out the same information over and over again. As a general rule parents and carers should only need to fill out medical forms for the first excursion of each year. If you have updated your child's medical details during the calendar year you do not need to fill out another medical form.

The exceptions are that:

- your child's health needs have changed, and/or
- your child is attending an aquatic activity e.g., swimming carnival or school camp (because of the Education Directorate policies related to these events).

When we rolled out Toddle this year to replace Seesaw, we did not open the parent comment feature because teachers are unable to monitor posts. Parents have let us know that they miss this interactive feature, so we intend opening up Toddle for parent and carer comments from the start of next term. Please remember to only use the Toddle comment feature to celebrate your children's achievements and contribute to reflection on their learning goals. If you have a concern or question or you need to explain an absence, please use the *Sentral* Parent Portal or email the front office or relevant teacher.

Term 3

Next term is really jam packed. We will send a calendar out with the next newsletter but here is a brief heads up.

Parents and carers are welcome to attend the carnival and we very much hope you will join us at the Book Week Fair and morning tea. The profits from this year's Book Fair will go towards setting up a dyslexia friendly section in

our library, for which we have already started purchasing books. We will also be using some of our library trust funds to contribute to this wonderful idea that came from a parent.

Please think about attending the Trivia Night and supporting the Book Week Walkathon, both of which are run by the school’s P&C to raise funds and connect community. Did you know that your child can use Athletics free of charge thanks to the hard work of our P&C and your contributions?

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
Monday 22 nd July PUPIL FREE DAY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23rd to 24th July African Dance (4-6) • 24th July SIEV X (Year 6) • 26th July St. Clare’s Performance (Year 6) • 26th July P&C Trivia 	30 th July Athletics Carnival (2-6)	5 th to 7 th August Year 4 Camp	12 th to 16 th August School Photos 14 th to 16 th August Kindergarten Health Screening	19 th to 23 rd August Book Week Fair 23 rd August Book Week Parade/ Walkathon Grandparents Morning Tea

This Term

The last few weeks were very busy with increasing staffing shortages caused by winter illnesses and teachers writing end of semester reports. We also received a sudden announcement that both of our preschools were to be visited for reassessment. Red Hill Preschool was assessed two weeks ago, and Griffith Preschool this week. The visits involved the assessor observing four days of practice in classrooms and interviewing all key staff. We were also required to collate evidence to demonstrate achievement of the seven quality areas of the National Quality Standards for Early Childhood Settings.

A few weeks ago, we also had an external EDU school improvement panel visit our classrooms during maths teaching time. We received glowing feedback about the pedagogical approaches that teachers were using in classrooms and the high levels of student engagement in every classroom. The visitors were also impressed by:

- students’ ability to speak about their learning (making links to learning intentions, success criteria & units of inquiry),
- students’ use of mathematical language, and the ways in which they could verbalise their mathematical thinking and the strategies that they use,
- the learning that was visible on classroom walls,

- teachers' collaboration to plan learning experiences and link the program of inquiry to the new Australian mathematics curriculum,
- teachers' efforts to creatively engage students in mathematical concepts and show their own engagement in mathematics,
- intentional teaching and explicit lessons,
- teachers actively identifying areas of practice to improve on and using peer coaching to support this, and
- the leadership commitment to supporting this work and being instructional leaders.

Whilst improvement of numeracy learning outcomes is a strategic priority, it is always important that we pay attention to literacy. Over the last twelve months we have been ensuring that the changes in the Australian Curriculum for English are being implemented in classrooms. One school action has been the increased use of decodable 'readers' for the early childhood years, which previously had only been used in our intervention program. We committed \$10,000 this year to purchase more 'decodables' for the junior school which are being used in the classroom and at home. We have almost completed this procurement project.

I will write more about literacy in the next newsletter, in light of the recent Literacy and Numeracy Report recommendations.

I would also like to let you know that we have just sadly farewelled Sam Harris. Sam has won a twelve month executive teacher role at Gordon Primary and will be replaced by Angus Middleton on 4H.

In closing I wish you all well over the winter holiday break and thank you for working with the staff to support our students.

Kind regards

Louise Owens (Principal)



Dear parents and carers,

As the term and the semester comes to a close, I would like to express my thanks to our wonderful staff that support your children every day, not only by looking after their academic needs, but more importantly helping them to become independent, caring young people who can make a difference in the world. How is this possible you might ask? Through the amazing IB Primary Years Program (PYP) that your children are exposed to every minute that they are at school. We are proud of the difference that this program makes in the lives of our students, and I would like to give you a small insight into what your children have accomplished this semester.

Throughout the semester, we have investigated many units of inquiry in each grade level, helping your children build knowledge, skills and conceptual understanding about a huge variety of real world issues. Preschool and

kindergarten have explored how important it is to build relationships with others, how to be good friends and how sharing simple interests can help us connect and develop new relationships. All of this taking place through exploratory play, where there are many connections to be made.

Year 1, amongst other units, have been out in the school environment developing their scientific skills of prediction, observation and drawing conclusions by looking at how seasonal changes impact the playground.

Year 2 have investigated the many ways that people can learn, plunging themselves into the 'Learning Pit' and coming up out of the pit smarter and more able to problem solve.

Year 3 have become wellbeing experts, while investigating how our bodies and minds are affected by healthy food, sleep, movement and hydration.

Year 4 now know what governance is and how it applies to many different forms of government around the world and they understand that a democracy can also look different to ours.

Year 5 have delved into how our bodies change and grow throughout our lives and that these processes are natural and part of the human experience.

Year 6 have become budding scientists, developing their understanding of the many forms of science that exist.

“Could our children possibly be learning these things at a level that they truly understand?”, you might ask. My answer would be “Absolutely!” The PYP expects nothing less from our students. If you would like to know more about what your children have discovered, learnt and taken action on, ask them.

You will see some of this learning reflected in the reports that were emailed home yesterday. Please take the time to ask your children about what they enjoyed most about learning this term, while celebrating them as learners. What they tell you might surprise you.

It is a pleasure and a privilege to be working at Red Hill where the expectations are high and the students' ability to reach these are higher. I look forward to helping our collaborative planning teams design and implement more rich learning experiences next term.

Deb Lawrence (PYP Coordinator and Deputy P-3)

PLANNING FOR A TRANSITION IN 2025 FOR CHILDREN WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DELAY, DISABILITY AND DIVERSE LEARNING NEEDS

Parents and carers are invited to an online session on **Thursday 1 August from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm** to discuss planning and supporting their child's transition to a new school or program in 2025. The session will provide parents and carers of children with developmental delay, disability, and diverse learning needs, information and practical suggestions to support their child's move to a new school or setting. The session will be relevant for children commencing preschool through to college at any ACT public school. Parents and carers can register and send any questions to DisabilityEducation@act.gov.au including the school year their child will commence in 2025.

ONLINE SAFETY TIPS FOR FAMILIES

Your family's digital diet is important

Negative content online can leave everyone feeling overwhelmed. Encourage your family to be mindful of how they spend their screen time by:

- Choosing to put their devices away for a bit
- Reporting inappropriate content, even if they are not the target
- Trading negative online spaces for positive ones
- Converting passive online activities into active ones

Visit esafety.gov.au/report for more information.

**Online Safety
Education Team**



Red Hill Play-Pod

Dear Red Hill Community,

We are seeking donations of open-ended items that can be enjoyed by children of all ages in our play pod space, which provides resources for student to play with during recess and lunch. It is not structured play, so we are looking for items that children can use to play and explore freely. Open-ended materials provide opportunities for creative and imaginative play, decision making and problem solving. They allow children to become innovators, designers, explorers, artists, and collaborators.

Please see below for some suggestions of items that we are hoping to add to our resources. Any donations can be delivered to Mrs Dunlop in the KD classroom (the first classroom, near the front office) before or after school.

Wish list items	Examples of items we are unable to accept
<ul style="list-style-type: none">-play silks / scarves / lengths of fabric / blankets / sheets-dolls, doll house and doll house items-blocks-kitchen items (play food, plates, spoons, cooking utensils etc)-loose parts (recycled and repurposed items such as bottle lids, containers, fabric scraps, wooden offcuts)-cars-plastic and wooden cable spools-small world play items such as people and animal figurines-puppets, felt story boards-sand pit toys / buckets-dress up items (items of clothing)-small tires (such as those from a ride on mower or bicycle)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-items that have one set purpose or way to play with, for example a ball run-items that are broken or missing parts-items with sharp edges or made of timber that splinters easily

Limelight T-Shirts

Dear Parents,

We would greatly appreciate your support!

If you happen to have a 'Step into the Limelight' T-Shirt at home that's unused and would be willing to donate it, please bring it to school for 1J.

Your contribution will help make our 2024 production even more significant.

Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity!

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Juliette.



Uniform Shop

Ordering Online

The Red Hill School P&C Association uses Flexischools for uniform shop sales.

<https://www.flexischools.com.au/>

It is a cashless online ordering system which streamlines payment, ordering and processing of purchases and events. Quick and easy, it can be accessed 24/7 on PC, Mac, or mobile app.

School uniform orders for existing students will be delivered to your child's classroom. Otherwise, orders can be collected from the front office.

Ordering in person

Opening hours Wednesday 8.30 to 10:00am and Friday 2.30 to 4.00pm. We prefer payment by credit card, but we can accept cash.

With COVID continuing to present a risk we prefer that orders are made online where possible.

Secondhand requests can be emailed through to the shop manager.

Donations can be placed in the purple bin in the front office foyer.

Lost property collected around the school is placed in the big blue bin outside of the uniform shop.

Due to the amount of lost property and the shortage of staff, labeled items will no longer be returned to classrooms. Instead, the items in the blue bin will be sorted and then placed in the adjoining blue and white cupboards for students to look through and collect any of their property that they find."



Red Hill School OVER THE COUNTER SALES

Milo Cookie	\$0.50
Pappadum (Garlic or Plain)	\$0.50
Popcorn	\$1.00
Frozen Quelch Stick	\$1.00
Frozen Juice Cup	\$2.00
Jelly Cup or Custard Cup	\$2.00
Banana Bread	\$2.00
Berry Muffin	\$2.00
Jelly & Custard Cup	\$2.50
Fluffy Choc Mousse	\$2.50
Plain Milk	\$2.50
Twisted Frozen Yogurt	\$3.00
Plain Milk with flavoured Sipahh Straw	\$3.50

OPEN TIMES FROM TUESDAY TO FRIDAY -

10.30am - 10.45am

11.15am - 11.40am

1.10pm - 1.30pm

Please bring exact change if possible

Community News

DENDY CANBERRA

FAMILY SAVER

\$6* **KIDS TICKETS**
FOR CLUB DENDY MEMBERS
\$8 FOR NON-MEMBERS

\$15* **PREMIUM LOUNGE KIDS TICKETS**
FOR CLUB DENDY MEMBERS
\$20 FOR NON-MEMBERS



MONDAY JULY 1 – FRIDAY JULY 19

ONLY VALID FOR DESPICABLE ME 4 AND INSIDE OUT 2 SESSIONS
MONDAY-FRIDAY BEFORE 5PM

Booking Fees Apply for online bookings. Not valid for special events, or in conjunction with any other offer. Premium Lounge is a licensed venue; anyone under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Kids tickets are applicable for children 14 years and under. Offer ends July 19th.

dendy.com.au

A FAMILY TRADITION



Pictureplate
Tablemat
Calendar
Pencil case
Clocks
Water bottles
Mousepad
Tote bag
Ceramic & plastic mugs

"Love these keepsake plates. Look forward to doing another set next year!" - Heidi

"The smiles and looks on the children's faces when they see what they have created is priceless!" - Anthea

"I still have my plates from 38 years ago and I love them and now my kids have a good collection already!" - Anne

Picture products

CANBERRA YOUTH THEATRE

Hey Red Hill!

Canberra Youth Theatre is coming back to Red Hill Primary School for Term 3 with their In-school Drama Workshops for young artists in school years 1-6 on Tuesdays.

Our Workshops create a space for young people to connect, collaborate and belong. Whether our young artists are considering pursuing a professional career in the arts, or simply want to make new friends and have fun, Canberra Youth Theatre is a safe, inclusive space for all young people to be creative, share their voice, and explore their passion! Our dedicated and trained Workshop Artists facilitate skill building in voice, body, collaboration and imagination, in fun-filled weekly workshops - right at your child's school.

Enrolments are open now for Term 3, book your spot via the Canberra Youth Theatre website.

...
RED HILL Workshops
3.20pm - 4.20pm
School Years 1-6

LET'S DANCE!

Come and experience
the joy of dance at
Lisa Clark Dance Centre.

- Preschool Ballet
- Ballet
- Jazz
- Tap
- Contemporary
- Lyrical
- Musical Theatre

LET US KNOW YOUR
SCHOOL AT THE TIME
OF ENROLLING TO
RECEIVE \$20 OFF.*

**FREE TRIAL
CLASSES**

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*Applicable to approved schools for advertising purposes.

LDC
LISA CLARK DANCE CENTRE

