



Term 4, Week 4

## PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

**Welcome back!** So great to have all our students back. For now parents and carers must remain offsite until the Department updates its operational guidelines. Anyone coming in for preschool drop offs/pick up or to visit the office or for an appointment must sign in using the QR code. You can see an overview of our Covid Safety Plan below.

Thank you for your support during the remote learning period. It was a very difficult time for you - we understand this and working with our families closely was the best way to support students and our parents and carers. I am sure you will agree that teachers and staff went to great lengths to make sure students have high quality learning to complete at home, with support via regular phone calls and Seesaw.

Information keeps changing about what would happen if we have a Covid case on the school site. I think its best to hope this does not occur but if it does, I will share information at the time so it is correct.

### Riverwood PS Covid Safety Plan

Here is an overview of the plans we have in place to keep everyone safe from Covid.

#### Coming Into School

- Anyone coming to school must be completely well with no signs of illness before coming into school – please stay home and get tested if you have any Covid-19 symptoms (including fever, sore throat, runny nose, cough, headache).
- Any student or staff member showing symptoms will be sent home.
- Unfortunately, parents and carers are not allowed into the school for now. There are a few exceptions:

- Preschool parents who must drop off and collect children to preschool must sign in using the QR code at preschool. Please show the green tick to an educator.
- If you need to purchase a uniform you may come into the office. You will need to sign in using the QR code at the gate and show the green tick to the camera.
- If a meeting with a member of staff is needed, you need to make an appointment first. You must sign in using the QR code at the gate and show the green tick to the camera when you come in for your appointment.

#### Drop Off and Pick Ups

- We need to do this a bit better than we have done and avoid crowding around the gate.
- Everyone needs to be 1.5 metres apart from each other on the footpath – not on the road. You can wait on the other side of Union Street.
- You can wait away from the gate and once people move, you can come closer.
- Please follow instructions from staff. They will ask you to move if you are not following the advice mentioned here.
- We will be calling students to the front gate on the microphone.

#### Important things across the school day:

- Students are strongly encouraged to bring and wear a mask.
- All staff members will be wearing masks. All staff members are vaccinated.
- Students will not mingle across their groups inside or outside.
- All classrooms will be well ventilated.
- We have carbon dioxide monitors in rooms helping teachers to monitor the quality of air inside classrooms.

- Students will be washing hands across the day and follow strong hygiene routines.
- Students will not be sharing resources.
- Extra cleaning will happen across the school day.
- We will try and encourage social distancing.

#### Updates:

- Our regular after school program is on hold for now - taekwondo will be on Fridays for all grades. Sydney FC will be doing 4 weeks of soccer on Tuesdays. A frisbee program for K-6 will also start soon on Thursdays for 4 weeks. Our music program with The Song Room will also commence in Week 5. All these amazing programs for our students - at no cost to our families!
- Maria our speech therapist resumed her program last week - great to get this support happening.
- Miss Maria our learning support officer has returned to RPS to finish the year off back with us - welcome back!
- We have a new social worker joining us for Wednesdays - welcome to Hana.
- Ms Kennedy's leave continues and Mrs McWaters will be on K/1K for now.
- Our playground upgrade is now complete and the temporary fencing will soon be moved.
- We have had around 8 students leave during the remote learning period and we have about the same number of new students - welcome to our new students and families!

#### ROAD AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

- **Illegally stopping in the bus stops** - you should know that the fine for stopping at the bus stop is \$344 and the loss of 2 demerit points. The biggest problem with people who stop in the bus stops is that it makes the area at the front of the school very unsafe.
- **Seat belts** - Just a reminder that everyone in a car is required to wear a seat belt. Younger children must also be in the correct child seat and be belted in. The fine is \$344 and the loss of 3 demerit points.
- **Breaking the law** - just a reminder that the council officers and police are patrolling the area around the school and will be issuing fines. Once they take your photo - you will receive the fine in the mail.
- **Repeat Offenders** - Again some parents/carers continue to make unsafe decisions. Staff members will be providing you with a flyer when you are being unsafe, which explains the fine for the offence. We take student safety seriously and are ready to help educate you about how unsafe it is to break the parking and road laws. As well as how expensive the fines are. **I don't want it to take the death or serious injury of a pedestrian for everyone to take this issue more seriously.**

- **Crossing upgrade** - very soon work will start to upgrade our crossing. There will also be fencing installed on Union St and Pennsylvania Rd which will stop people unsafely crossing the road as it will mean people will have to use the crossing to cross the street.
- **Construction work opposite the school** - the site across from the school is going to be cleared very soon. An apartment complex is being build there with 51 apartments. This will have a fairly big impact during construction, with large trucks moving in and out, as well as less parking spaces being available in the area with all the construction workers parking nearby. We are working closely with the council, owners of the site and the workers to ensure things are as safe as possible.

[https://riverwoodps.schoolzineplus.com/\\_file/media/2237/school\\_safety\\_brochure\\_primary.pdf](https://riverwoodps.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/2237/school_safety_brochure_primary.pdf)

**PBL FOCUS** - we are looking at all of our expectations as we settle back into school:

1. Follow instructions
2. Don't use words to hurt others
3. Be safe
4. Be a learner
5. Care for others, ourselves and our resources.

#### TELL THEM FROM ME SURVEY

This term, our students in years 4, 5, & 6 are taking part in the Tell Them From Me student survey. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help them improve. The survey is completed online and is run by an independent research company. Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. This survey will help our school to improve student wellbeing and engagement. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. If you do not want your child to take part in the survey, please contact the school office on 91538757.

#### UNIFORMS

Just a reminder that all students should be in full school uniform - this includes school hats. Some students have school hats but are wanting to wear their cool fashionable hats - this is not allowed unfortunately.

As some students have grown and may have lost their hats - there will be a sale for the next 2 weeks. All uniform items will be 25% off.

We will be flexible this week only with uniforms. If students do not come in full uniform from next week, parents/carers will be contacted. Thanks for your support in ensuring your children leave for school in the correct uniform. Students need to hear this from both us at school, and you.

#### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2021-2024

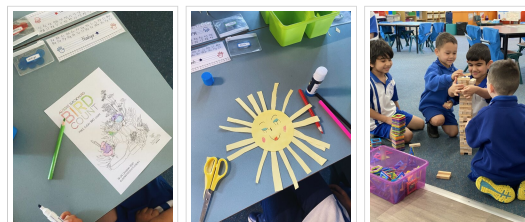
During lockdown we have been hard at work implementing key initiatives from our School Improvement Plan. We have also produced a copy of our Plan as an image - which shows our key improvement areas for the next 3 years. We are hoping that restrictions can lift soon and we can have families more involved in the important work we have to do, to make our school even better!



As always please do not hesitate to discuss any matters with me. My email address is [anne.davis8@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:anne.davis8@det.nsw.edu.au) or you can call the office to make an appointment to see me.

Miss Davis  
Principal

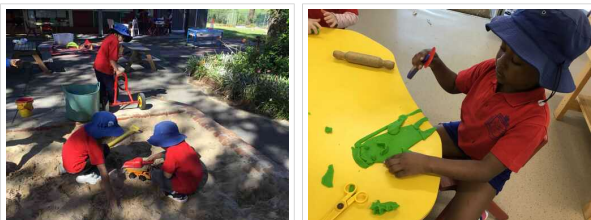
KC are so excited to be back learning and playing in our beautiful school! We have spent the past two weeks readjusting to our old routines and getting to know each other again by spending lots of time talking, playing, reading, and drawing. KC have enjoyed spending time outside in nature, including taking care of our school garden and spending an afternoon bird watching. We have been working on our fine motor skills in the classroom by doing different craft activities, and on our gross motor skills by participating in Taekwondo sessions on the playground!



## P1 NEWS

After lockdown it has been lovely spending time together, we are enjoying lots of conversations and play together. We have been playing with dough, art/craft experiences, science experiments, lots of physical play and having FUN!!

Being able to reconnect with the children and families in person has been fabulous and watching the children reconnect with their friends puts a smile on everyone's face.



## KC NEWS

## K/1K NEWS

What have K/1K been up to?

We have enjoyed writing letters to each other and posting them in our class mail box. Every day, a 'postman' is chosen to deliver the mail. We have even been writing thank you letters to our friends, and putting stamps on our letters!

We went for a nature walk and counted all the birds we can see for the Citizen Science Project, to help scientists count all the birds in Australia. Did you know that the Rainbow Lorikeet is the most common bird in NSW? We drew these fantastic Rainbow Lorikeets.



## 1/2N NEWS

The 1/2N classroom has been full of smiling faces since our return on the 18<sup>th</sup> of October. We have been enjoying reconnecting with friends and getting back into our classroom routines including eating our meals together under the trees. Inspired by 'National bird week', we went bird watching to track which species we have at our

school – we saw about 30 birds of about 10 different types! We have been getting back into our InitialLit literacy learning, building maths fluency through games, creating a papier-mâché bird nest in art, and learning about how strong feelings look on our faces during Second Step. Finally, we had a blast with Taekwondo on Friday – we will be learning to punch and kick over the next few weeks.

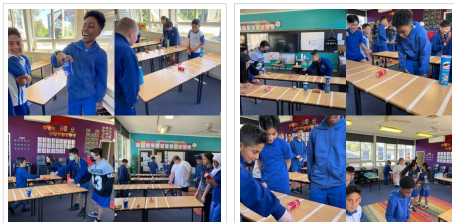
Perhaps most of all, we have enjoyed a new 'gratitude circle' each afternoon, sharing what our favourite moment was and recording it in our special book.

We are so excited for making more fun memories with our friends this term.



## 4/5/6E NEWS

Students in 4.5.6E have eased their way back into school nicely after lockdown. Our first day back was full of fun and games. Students participated in a few challenges where they had the opportunity to collect some rewards along the way. 4.5.6E also made their very own glitter jars using just clear craft glue, water and a variety of coloured glitter. Learning at school and in the classroom has also commenced for Term 4. For English, we are learning about Living Things and Adaptations of people, animals and plants.



It's so great to see you all back at school. Remember to sign in with the School's QR code any time you need to come into the office to see us.

## OFFICE NEWS

**ALL UNIFORM IS 25% OFF!**

T-shirts = \$13.50, Shorts = \$7.50, Skorts = \$11, Hats = \$6, Jumpers = \$15, Jackets = \$16.50, Preschool t-shirts = \$11

## HEALTHY SNIPPETS!

[https://riverwoodps.schoolzineplus.com/\\_file/media/2278/how\\_does\\_sunscreen\\_work\\_sunsmart\\_snippet\\_t3w6.pdf](https://riverwoodps.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/2278/how_does_sunscreen_work_sunsmart_snippet_t3w6.pdf)  
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