

Richmond High School Richmond Agricultural College NEWSLETTER

Term 1, Week 9 28th March 2024

WELCOME BACK 2024

Today we held our first whole school assembly for 2024 - a sea of blue (Yr 7-10) and white uniforms (Yr 11-12)! It was great to see all students at Richmond High proud in their school uniform. At this assembly we established school expectations and celebrated the return to school for 2024.



TO SCHOOL FOR 2024

8:35am School day commences 10:45am Recess 1:15pm Lunch



LAPTOP AND CHARGER EVERY DAY!



Richmond Rotary 20th Sam Pearce Memorial Scholarship awarded to Viktoriia Butenko



SCHOOL REPRESENTATION

Year 11 students Amberley G and Savannah B, along with Vice Captain Nicholas C, proudly represented Richmond High School at the Lions Youth of the Year ceremony. Participants had to answer two improv questions:

What makes the Hawkesbury unique to its neighbouring council areas? and Aside from climate change, what are two challenges their generation will face over the next ten years?

Their chosen topics were unique and they all spoke convincingly.

Amberley spoke about Australian Native Bees. Savannah the benefits physical exercise and **Nicholas** the problem with F1.



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Principal's Report

Firstly, I would like to welcome all our Year 7 students, all new students 8-12 and families to the Richmond Agricultural College learning community. So far this Year 7 have wasted no time settling with the help of our very successful peer support program lead by our Head Teacher Welfare Mrs Profilio. Around the school It has been wonderful to visit Year 7 classes as they learnt how to use a Bunsen burner in Science, became familiar with our TAS facilities and have begun to put learning goals in place for the 2024 school year. I encourage all Year 7 students to continue to engage in school life and uphold our school values of being respectful, safe, positive learners as you progress. It was wonderful to meet so many parents at our Year 7 BBQ. I very much look forward to reconnecting with you again and all parents and careers at our annual Parent Teacher Evening in week 11 of this term.

From the Principal's perspective Term 1 has involved celebrating with lots of student success in a variety of areas including leadership, academics, creative arts and sporting. In student Leadership we had three of our students represent our school at Lions Youth of the Year Awards where they presented their ideas for the future on topics that they are passionate about.

We have inducted our SRC members for 2024 at one of our first assemblies and I meet with our Senior Leaders for a morning tea to hand them their official school jackets and celebrate their leadership roles.



In academics Viktoriia Butenko received her Rotary Scholarship prize at our annual Rotary dinner where Sue Veigel, Viktoriia's HSC Visual Arts Teacher, talked about the process that was taken to create a Major Project such as this one at the highest standard.



Viktoriia's major project will be exhibited in Cowra as a part of the HSC Art express regional gallery tour.



This term also we have at assembly given out PISA (testing) awards to Year 11 students, we celebrated numeracy across our school at our annual PI Day and Year 9 was asked to give Mr Brown and myself feedback regarding their schooling experience and ways that we can improve student engagement. Students have also attended university showcase events, careers opportunities and participated in work experience so far this year.

In week 5 we had external Principals and their Instructional Rounds Teams come into our school and observe lessons across all faculties.

The general feedback about our learning community was that Richmond High School had a very strong positive learning culture, led by staff who demonstrated excellent student teacher relationships. In all lessons students where witnessed engaged in their learning. Our next steps will be outlined in our school improvement plan as our teaching team looks at ways we can further improve student engagement with their learning through action research.

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In sporting events this term we started with an exceptional swimming carnival run by Mr Ryan and our PDHPE faculty. Mr Ryan also organised our Zone Swimming carnival where many of our students were successful for regional competition.



I would like to congratulate Shantae C, Akshaya M, Tahlia C and Alyssa H for being selected for State in the U12 girls 4 x 50 freestyle swimming relay. This is awesome news! Tahlia qualified for several events and was awarded age champion at both Zone & Sydney West. Well done girls.



You can read and see more about the swimming in our Sports Report. Other sporting events that students have represented our school in include Triathlons, Marathons, Equestrian events and knockout competitions in Netball, Cricket, Soccer and Touch football to name a few. I encourage all students to participate in sport as the educational research shows if young people do, their mental health is improved.

Ms Angela Heath
Relieving Principal

HEADSPACE HAWKESBURY OPENING

In exciting news for all of our youth across the Hawkesbury, Headspace Hawkesbury has been opened, positioned behind Coles in Richmond.

I would like to congratulate Jacinta Payne who has been an ambassador for this space.









Jacinta represented our school and youth at the opening of this space by cutting the cake and talking with distinguished guests on the day about youth issues in our broader community.

SENIOR EXECUTIVE STAFFING UPDATE

At the end of 2023 we had some significant staffing changes in our Senior Executive team where Mr Bellavia took a permanent Deputy Principal role at Campbelltown performing Arts and Mrs Jeffery returned to Katoomba High School. I would like to thank them both for their work in 2023. This year we welcome our newly Substantive Deputy Principal Mr Peter Murkins who joins us from Arthur Phillip High School with many years' experiences replacing Mr Phil Gordan who accepted a position at Dunheved High School in term 4.

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Due to the creation of two Mental Health support classes, we qualified for a Deputy Principal Inclusion with Mrs Jessica McAlary from Cambridge Park successful in gaining this position. Mrs McAlary also comes with a wealth of experience and has been quick to form positive relationships with students, staff and families.

Last week Mr Cliff Ralph officially retired. We thank him for his work at Richmond High School throughout the years and wish him all the best in this retirement. As a result, the principal position will be advertised in the coming weeks.

I hope all families have a lovely easter long weekend, I look forward to what unfolds in the last two weeks of Term 1, 2024.

Deputy Principal's Report

I have enjoyed my first 8 weeks at Richmond High School and have enjoyed meeting and getting to know lots of friendly students, parents and staff.

I have really enjoyed visiting classrooms, particularly Year 7 and seeing the great things that are happening in there. The school is very lucky to have amazing teachers and staff!

I am very happy to be saying goodbye to the very warm weather and as the temperature starts to cool down, students need to be wearing our school jumper and/or jacket. It is important that students wear their uniform and they are reminded that hoodies are not permitted for safety reasons.

I would like to thank Mrs Pedersen and staff from the HIVE for their organisation and running of NAPLAN that occurred in Weeks 7 and 8. The data from these tests is useful to identify student's strengths and areas where they may need additional support. Teachers use this data to support the students in their classrooms.

Enjoy the rest of the term!

Mr Jessica McAlary

Deputy Principal

Principal's Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have recently achieved **Principal Awards**. They will be formally recognised soon with their awards. These awards are recognition for the pursuit of excellence through both classroom and school based extra curricular activities such as outstanding school reports, positive behaviour, participation, citizenship or class effort.

Well done to:

Shaylea Jakobsson (Year 9) Skye McKinnon (Year 9) Alexander Chapman (Year 9) Sophia Pattison (Year 11) Jacinta Payne x 3 (Year 12) Adithya Abhilash (Year 9) Elizabeth Jim George (Year 9)

Banned Items Reminder

At Richmond High School and Richmond Agricultural College, we pride ourselves on providing learning environments that are safe for all students. Parents and Carers I thank you in advance for supporting our school polices. Please see below a visual about what these items are.



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SWIMMING CARNIVAL SUCCESS

On Friday 10th February we held our annual Swimming Carnival.

The sun was shining, students were dressed in house colours and participation rates were high!





Our winning house this year was:

GROSE! Followed by: Evans Phillip Macquarie



A special CONGRATULATIONS to Year 7 student Tahlia C who broke 3 x long standing records on the day!





WELL DONE to our 2024 Swimming Age Champions:

12 Years: Noah K & Tahlia C 13 Years: Oliver J & Mackenzie G 14 Years: Ethan K & Hannah S 15 Years: Lukas C & Shiona V 16 Years: Troy G & Caitlin I

17+ Years: Solomon L & Amberley G





School Opal Card:

Students!

Please ensure you Tap On and Tap Off!



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YEAR 7 WELCOME BBQ

Thank you to all of the families who attended our annual Year 7 Welcome BBQ this afternoon. Students were able to introduce their parents and carers to their class teachers, strengthen school-home connections and share their learning experiences since transitioning to high school. Well done to our SRC students who cooked a delicious BBQ and provided service with a smile to all.



EXPLORING HISTORY

Year 11 and 12 Ancient History classes recently took a trip to the Golden Age of Egypt, exploring the Ramses II exhibition at the Australian Museum to support their Stage 6 Egyptian studies. Artefacts on display included sarcophagi, mummified animal remains, royal masks and intricate jewellery.







Students also took advantage of the beautiful Hyde Park, as well as a visit to St Mary's Cathedral.

Ms Bow | History Teacher





JNR & SNR SPORTS

Novy RHS Sports Shorts Novy RHS Sports Trackponts Novy RHS Soft Shell Jacket RHS Microfibre Jacket RHS Sloppy Joe Page 7 28th March 2024

SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING

Year 11 Food Technology students learnt precision cutting as part of their first practical lesson.

Their julienne vegetables were prepared on Thursday ready to go into their Curry Chicken Noodle stir fry today!





Mrs Parsons | Head Teacher TAS

Year 11 Hospitality students have been working hard on their practical skills in their sandwiches unit. Keep an eye out for more of their amazing efforts!





Miss Werner | TAS Teacher

Year 11 Hospitality students successfully catered their very first function today. They did an amazing job and learnt some valuable new work ready skills.

Service with a smile at Richmond High!





Miss Werner | Hospitality Teacher

Our Year 11 Hospitality students tried their hand at making focaccia art. Check out their wonderful creations... they tasted as good as they looked!





Miss Werner | TAS teacher



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PEER SUPPORT

Our Peer Support program for 2024 is now completed! Facilitated by our wonderful Year 11 and 12 Peer Support leaders, groups meet for weekly sessions over the course of Term 1.

We hope our Year 7 students enjoy this opportunity to learn more about high school, develop relationships and explore topics related to wellbeing.

Mrs Profilio | Head Teacher Welfare







MOBILITY PROGRAM - Stage 6 Support Unit

On Wednesdays during Weeks 2-6 of Term 1, selected students from Stage 6 participated in the Support Unit Travel Training program. Students travelled by bus and train to Windsor and Blacktown where they visited Blacktown TAFE, Windsor Library and The Hawkesbury Regional Museum.

Ms Price & Ms Fauvette





Blind Taste Testing in Stage 5 Commerce

As part of the Consumer and Financial Decisions Unit, Commerce students tasted brand name and generic brand versions of 3 different food and drink items. Students made judgement calls on which they liked better without the added bias of the packaging.

This was an activity to get the class to start thinking about the tactics that companies use to persuade us to buy one product over another despite massive price differences (even over 300% in the case of the Coca Cola).





Mrs Micallef | HSIE Teacher

HIGH FIVE FOR HIGH SCHOOL

Richmond High School hosted close to 200 Year 6 students from our local feeder Primary schools. Students experienced a range of practical 'mini lessons' from a variety of subjects including Food Technology, Industrial Arts (Wood), Drama, Sport and Language.

Our SRC students: Arwen, Lucas, Paige, Shaylea, Zaria, Aidan, Lukas and Tyler were wonderful ambassadors of our school, organising and leading groups of visiting staff and students to their various mini lessons.

Thank you to everyone involved - an enjoyable experience for all!

Mrs Wright | Year 7 2024 Advisor



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SPORTING SUCCESS

Our boys' Touch Football team put on a scintillating performance, thrashing Girraween High School in the 1st round of the CHS knockout competition. RHS won 10 - 6! Congratulations to our team and a big thank you to Mr Ryan for officiating the game.



Mr Joseph | PDHPE Teacher

SPORTING SUCCESS

On Monday the Richmond High School open girls netball team travelled to Katoomba High School for the first round of the knockout Macquarie Cup. A skilful and competitive performance by our players saw Richmond come away with a convincing 36-7 win! Congratulations to all of the girls in the team, we now move on to Round 2 of this competition.



Ms Bezzina and Ms Lawford | Coaches

Interschools Equestrian

Two photos of Asha and Kalina representing Richmond High at recent interschools. They had a great day!







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COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY

Introducing ACA – People Outdoors! The Australian Camps Association is bringing its People Outdoors program to New South Wales this year! For more than 30 years the People Outdoors program has been providing supported camps for kids, teens and adults living with disability in Victoria and it's exciting that it's coming to NSW in 2024. The first Kids and Teens Camp will be held Friday 5 – Sunday 7 April 2024 at Camp Yarramundi, Yarramundi NSW.

So, if you or someone you know is living with disability and would like to experience camp, then please reach out to the team at ACA – People Outdoors on 03 9863 6824 or visit – www.peopleoutdoors.org.au





For more information and to register your interest https://

form.jotform.com/232541850374051

Sydney Needs Foster Carers

In our community, there are children and young people facing challenges, unable to reside with their families. There is a pressing need for foster carers in NSW, and individuals like you can make a difference.

Foster care isn't always a long-term commitment. There is also a need for short-term, respite and crisis carers. Whether you can offer long-term support and stability or assist during emergencies, every act of care is valuable and impactful.

We'll be with you at every step

Start the conversation today on 1800 084 954 or visit www.challengecommunity.org.au



Learn More





Foster Care

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Learning Difficulties Coalition of NSW Inc.

BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT AND PARENTING TIPS

for kids with ADHD and learning difficulties

TUESDAY 26TH MARCH 7.30PM - 8.15PM



PRESENTER: ANDREW GREENFIELD CHILD AND EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST / LDC VICE-PRESIDENT

With a focus on positive behaviour support and nurturing mental well-being in children, this parent talk will offer invaluable guidance and strategies for navigating the challenges of parenting children and adolescents with neurodevelopmental disorders including ADHD and learning difficulties. Andrew will discuss parenting styles and how to make your instructions and parenting as effective as possible. The parent talk will be interactive and questions and interaction will be encouraged.

REGISTER ONLINE OR CONTACT THE OFFICE



02 9806 9960



info@ldc.org.au



www.ldc.org.au

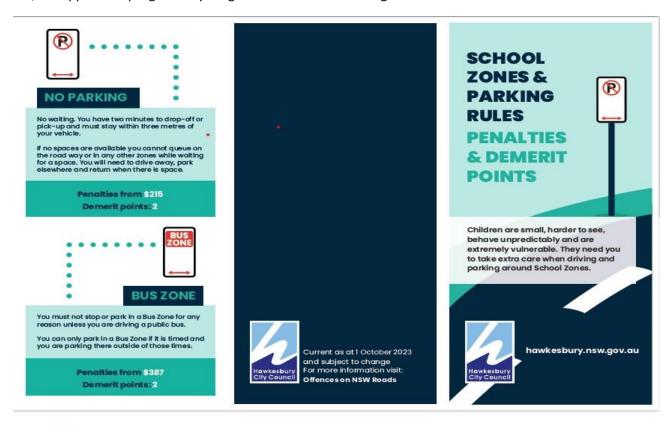


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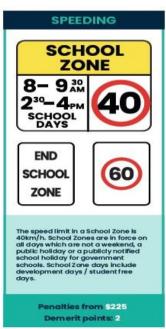
Safe Steps to Solo Driving



Youthsafe is excited to announce its latest online safety training initiative, "Safer Steps to Solo Driving". Still in prototype form it has been developed, with investment from a Transport for NSW's Community Road Safety Grant, to support the progress of young learner drivers becoming low risk solo drivers.









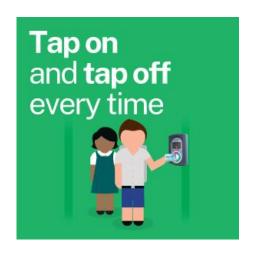
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Primary schools can now book Busways' free <u>Bus Safety</u> <u>Education</u> sessions in 2024 (Term 1 to 3). Click on <u>this</u> link to book now or read our promotion arriving 8 February.



Students are to tap on and tap off every time they travel on a bus .





Did you know, last year 60% of complaints about vaping on buses were about school students vaping? Vaping is now banned on NSW public transport!

INFORMATION LINKS FOR SCHOOL BUS SERVICES

*** Timetable information - busways.com.au or transportnsw.info

*** Opal card applications - <u>School Student Travel</u> <u>Scheme</u>



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RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL P&C NOTICEBOARD



COMMITTEE

President

Darin McLean

Vice President

Karen Worrell (temporary)

Secretary

Jody Warren

Treasurer

Vacant

Held in the Common Room (via Front Office) Follow our Facebook page for updates: Richmond High School NSW P&C Association

New members always welcome! Email: richmondhighschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au

