

RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

WEEK 7 • TERM 1 • 2025

Providing quality education where all can reach their potential as a life-long learner.

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PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

What a wonderful start it has been to 2025 here at Richmond High School. Students have returned with a renewed focus to learn and belong, and staff are busy supporting both student learning and wellbeing with new initiatives and spaces around the school.

Our newest learners - Year 7, have settled in well to the routines and changes that high school brings. They are engaged and active learners and have been making great new connections with new friends and staff over the last few weeks.

All other years have settled back into their learning routines and are making great progress in their courses. Year 12 have been particularly focused on their learning and are almost halfway through their HSC formal lessons. Towards the end of Term 1, Year 12 will receive their Half Yearly report which will provide students and parents with a good indication of their HSC progress.

Both Year 7 and Year 11 will receive interim check-in reports during Term 1. This provides valuable information for parents to support students with their entry to Stage 4 and 6.

On Wednesday evening April 2nd this term we will be holding a whole school parent teacher evening. This is new event on our school calendar and is a chance for us to connect with parents early in the year. Successful education relies on strong school and home partnerships and this early connection will provide both staff and carers with valuable information to support your child's learning.

You will receive more details regarding this event in the following weeks ahead.

Our new spaces have been launched in the school and they have been very successful. Our Wellbeing Hub is very busy in the mornings with Breakfast Club running three days a week and recess and lunch times are also buzzing with activity and connection.

The HSC hub is here to support Year 12 students before school, break times and study periods and many have been accessing the help provided by staff in this space.

This is year our staff have been working on the Explicit Teaching of routines, content and skills in every classroom to provide consistency across the school. We will be focussing on renewed literacy strategies for reading and writing in every classroom.

We have also created new systems and processes for excursions, payments and student attendance. Our attendance data has improved significantly with individual students improving their daily attendance.

This has all contributed to a very settled and happy school and your children are thriving with these new opportunities. I look forward to the rest of the rest of the term and will be back in touch with a Term 1 wrap up in Week 11.

**Kind regards,
Hayley**

DEPUTY BROWN'S UPDATE

Year 12 have hit the ground running, showing the maturity and focus we expect from our school leaders. Students are well into the second assessment period of the year and can reach out to our teachers and support staff for additional support if necessary. Please encourage your Year 12 child to be open and communicative with their teachers during this time of the year!

I continue to be impressed by Year 10. An overwhelming majority of students are getting on with it, working collaboratively with staff and peers. Their laudable behaviour creates a springboard for the group where ambitious projects and vocational pathways are readily available. We hope our Year 10 students have high expectations for their own success and take up the wide-ranging opportunities our school has to offer.

Year 8 are coming to school ready to learn each and every day. Perhaps the best-dressed of all grades, they are an exuberant bunch who are willing to give things a go. Healthy experimentation and resilience are themes for this year. Assessment booklets have been given to the group; if you can work with your child on balancing the responsibilities of a teenager to school, family and social commitments they should reap the benefits in later years.

Warm regards,
Alex Brown
Deputy Principal (rel) – Years 8, 10, and 12



DEPUTY MIDDLETON'S UPDATE

I'm happy to share our attendance rate from week 4 this term was at 87.1% which is 5.5% higher than this time last year. We want to emphasise the critical role that regular attendance plays in your child's educational success and this data shows we are on the right path. Consistent attendance not only enhances academic performance but also fosters social connections and a sense of belonging within the school community. Thank you for your cooperation as we work to improve attendance and promote a positive learning environment for all!

We are excited to invite you to our upcoming Parent-Teacher Night on Wednesday April 2nd. This is a valuable opportunity to meet with your child's teachers, discuss their progress, and gain insights into how you can support their learning at home. We believe that collaboration between parents and educators is key to fostering a positive and productive educational environment.

Prior to Parent-Teacher Night, on Friday March 28th, we will be distributing Year 12 Half Yearly student reports that reflect your child's achievements and areas for growth. These will also be emailed to parents & carers and published on the parent portal. These reports are designed to provide a comprehensive overview of their academic journey. We encourage you to review these reports closely and discuss them with your child, celebrating successes and setting goals for improvement.

Year 7 and 11 Interim Reports will be distributed on Thursday March 27th. These will also be emailed to parents & carers and published on the parent portal. These reports provide an early snapshot of your child's academic progress and engagement in their first year of high school or Preliminary HSC studies. This is an excellent opportunity to set goals for the remainder of the year and ensure a successful transition into high school or senior studies.

To streamline our communication and keep you informed, we utilise SchoolBytes as our digital platform for permission notes and announcements. Make sure you are connected to SchoolBytes to access important information regarding upcoming events. If you haven't registered yet, please do so to stay updated.

**Warm regards,
Beth Middleton
DP Administration (rel)**



DEPUTY MCALARY'S UPDATE

It has been wonderful getting to know our new students and their families and reconnecting with our existing students. We are fortunate to welcome Mr Thomas Kelly, as relieving Head Teacher Support this year. He has a wealth of knowledge and experience in supporting students with disabilities and additional needs. We are currently reviewing our personalised planning and support processes. Classroom teachers will be reaching out in the coming weeks to arrange times to meet with students and their families to finalise plans to support the needs of students.

Just a reminder that students in Years 7 and 9 will commence Naplan from Wednesday, 12th March. Students need to ensure they bring their laptop already charged and wired headphones or earphones to complete the tests. Airpods and Bluetooth headphones are not accepted.

Finally, Yellow Ladybugs is a non-government organisation that celebrates the diversity of autistic girls, women and gender diverse individuals. It provides opportunities for connection and has resources to support autistic girls and their families. If interested, more information can be found at yellowladybugs.com.au

Warm regards,
Jess McAlary
DP Inclusion



DEPUTY MURKINS' UPDATE

I would like to begin by congratulating our students and families for starting the year off on such a positive note. We have seen a significant improvement in attendance this term compared to last year, and I have been most impressed with how our students present themselves in their uniforms. Attending school every day is crucial for academic progress, social development, and overall success. Every lesson counts, and regular attendance helps students stay on track with their learning. Additionally, wearing the correct school uniform fosters a sense of pride and unity within our school community. I encourage all students to continue to uphold this high standard and commitment to a positive and respectful learning environment.

In Week 3, we held our annual Swimming Carnival, which was also one of our best attended to date. It was a fantastic event filled with school spirit, enthusiasm, and impressive performances. It was wonderful to see so many students (and staff!) participating, cheering on their peers, and embracing the day's activities. A huge thank you to the staff and students who made this event such a great success!

Just a reminder that the NAPLAN assessments for our Year 7 and 9 students will take place in Weeks 7 and 8. These tests provide valuable insight into student learning and progress, helping us tailor our teaching strategies to better support their development. I encourage all students to approach the tests with confidence and to do their best.

And for parents and carers of our Year 7 and 11 students, interim reports will be distributed in Week 9. These reports provide an early indication of student progress and areas for improvement. I encourage parents to take the time to discuss these reports with their child and reach out to teachers if they have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring our students have a productive and successful term!

**Warm regards,
Peter Murkins
Deputy Principal – Years 7, 9, and 11**



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

2025 marks the introduction of Richmond High School's new School Improvement Plan. The plan consists of 6 key areas that our staff and students will focus on throughout the next couple of years. These key areas were identified through whole-school collaboration and agreed upon by all staff.

The School Improvement Plan (or SIP) is a working document that details the steps our school will take to improve learning outcomes, and the achievement and growth of all students. To ensure continuous improvement, the SIP reflects where our school is at and how it will further improve learning, teaching and leading.

1

Increase Reading Proficiency

A holistic approach to reading improvement, utilizing explicit teaching and targeted intervention.



2

Increase HSC Results

A whole school approach to teaching extended writing skills.



3

Increase Student Attendance

A whole school approach to student belonging.



4

Increase Student Belonging

Targeted wellbeing interventions.



5

Increase Assessment Achievement Data

High quality explicit teaching and assessment practices.



6

Increase Learning Time

High Expectations pathways for all learners



POSITIVE PAWS



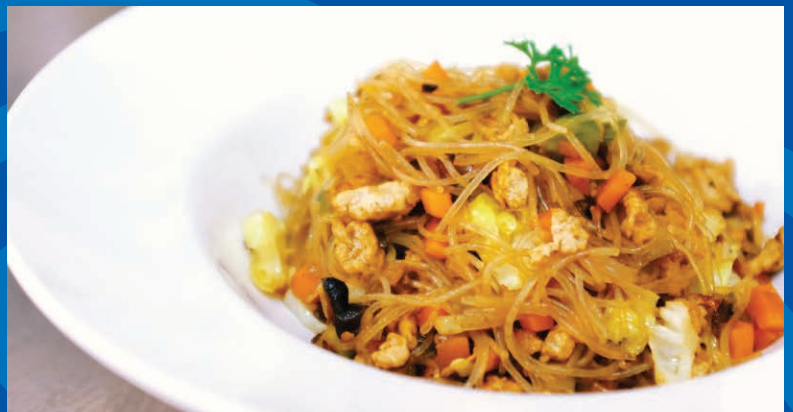
This term, a small group of students had the privilege of attending the Positive Paws Program at the Guide Dog Training Centre in Glossodia. The program focuses on working with young puppies, with the aim of developing their confidence through positive experience. Students play an important role in helping to develop pups into confident dogs that have a sound temperament, are ready to learn and suited to Guide Dog work. Our current group of students have excelled in the program, displaying patience, kindness and a willingness to get involved.



THE LUNCH CLUB



This year, RHS Hospitality students are offering a new school service in the form of 'Lunch Club'. In association with Peppercorn Services and under the guidance of Hospitality Teacher Mrs Vaz, our students are bringing a high-quality restaurant experience to local Senior citizens. The Lunch Club is operated on-site, utilizing Richmond High School's Trade Training Centre and features an evolving 2 course meal, drinks and live music. The service is offered to over 65 year-olds registered with 'My Aged Care' and will run intermittently throughout the year.



RHS VOLLEYBALL TEAMS



Richmond High School's boys volleyball team displayed outstanding skill and sportsmanship against Kellyville High School, winning the exhibition 2-0.

Our girls team continued the success with a 2-1 win against Melonba High School. Both teams now have their sights on their next opponents; Mitchell High School (boys) and James Ruse (girls).



SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Our annual swimming carnival was a fantastic day filled with excitement, friendly competition, and school spirit. With almost 500 students in attendance, the atmosphere was electric as we witnessed an incredible six new school swimming records being set! Grose House took home the overall victory, showcasing outstanding talent in the pool. Despite a brief delay due to thunder and lightning, the energy never wavered, and students had a blast — especially during the ever-popular novelty boat races. Staff also got in on the action, with Mr. Ryan and Ms. Rawlings sharing the honours in a thrilling tie for the Staff Richy Trophy. A huge thank you to everyone who participated and helped make the day so memorable.

House Points

Evans	163
Grose	213
Macquarie	32
Phillip	139

Upcoming Carnivals

Zone Swimming Carnival
10th March

RHS Cross Country
28th March

RHS Athletics Carnival
2nd May

Age Group Champions

	Boys	Girls
U12	Tadhg Johns	Cristal Thukral
U13	Tyson Duffy	Tahlia Chapman
U14	Oliver Johns	Mackenzie Griffiths
U15	Ethan Kinnel	Hannah Salt
U16	Lukas Cook	Shiona Vassallo
17+	Troy Geleedst	Amberley Greentree

New RHS Records

Tahlia Chapman (U13 Girls)	
50m Freestyle	30.20 old record 31.11
50m Breaststroke	39.21 old record 39.46
Tadhg Johns (U12 Boys)	
50 Freestyle	31.00 old record 32.65
100 Freestyle	1:09.90 old record 1:15.00
50 Butterfly	35.37 old record 37.96
50 Backstroke	35.37 old record 37.71

iSTEM

iSTEM took three teams to Xavier College on 21st Feb to compete in the Rotary Pitch for Purpose Innovation Challenge. The students needed to solve a problem related to sustainability and the environment, with the intention that Rotary could put their idea into action. Two of our teams were successful in making it to the finals, where they will present their ideas at the Rotary District Conference later this month.



SOCCER & BASKETBALL



Congratulations to the Richmond High School boys soccer team, who beat Hawkesbury 6-2 in the CHS knockout game.

Well done to the students who made it to the Open Boys and Girls RHS Mac Cup Basketball teams. Thankyou to coaches Jordan Innins and Mr Austin for guiding our teams throughout the term.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2025

On Wednesday 5th March, Richmond High School had the privilege of attending Crowne Plaza Windsor to part take in the community event organised by HCOS. With the days themes set around mindset, movement and manifesting kindness, the students heard from inspiring female speakers about mindset and animal therapy, heard from a talented country music singer who was only 17 years old, enjoyed activities and were memorised by a belly dancing display where the students were provided the opportunity to join in. A great day was had by all.



NSW ALL SCHOOLS TRIATHLON

The NSW All Schools Triathlon was held at Sydney International Regatta Centre during February. Richmond High was represented well, with 5 students (Noah Kinnel, Lukas Cook, Amberley Greentree, Addison Greentree & Tahlia Chapman) competing in the individual All School Triathlon and backing up the next day in the teams events. All RHS students who attended the event displayed high effort and outstanding skills, with Tahlia Chapman claiming our top result of 2nd place in CHS U14 Girls. Well done to all our triathlon participants.



HSC HUB INFORMATION

Teacher Introduction

Exciting news, Year 12! The HSC Hub is up and running at Richmond High School.

The HSC hub is your space to seek support with assessments, study skills and exam preparation to help you feel confident in your HSC year.

To introduce myself, I'm Mrs. Harris and I will be your dedicated HSC Hub teacher. I'm here to support you throughout your HSC journey, helping you maximise your performance and achieve your best results.

What the HSC Hub Can Help You With

The HSC Hub can assist you with essay and paragraph structuring to refine your overall writing, strengthen your analysis and effectively integrate evidence. This is a designated space for you to also seek assessment support through one-on-one feedback and small subject-relevant groups. In these sessions, we will focus on breaking down HSC-style questions, implementing teacher feedback, integrating evidence and scaffold responses. We also provide workshops on exam techniques and NESA verbs to equip you with the skills to master short and extended HSC-style questions to maximise your results.



Managing Attendance

In your study periods, it is essential for you to regularly attend the HSC Hub. Our goal is to boost your HSC performance results and increase your productivity during your timetabled study periods. In the HSC Hub, you will also develop the skills to significantly strengthen your writing skills, prepare for formal assessments with tailored one-on-one support and effectively manage the workload to reduce stress.



When & Where

Upstairs in the Hive!

The booking system has been posted to your Google Classroom for one-on-one personalised support. The final year of school is really challenging and we're here to help you achieve your short and long-term goals! Make the most of this fantastic new resource by regularly attending and booking a one-on-one session!



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



Wednesday

19.02.2025

05.03.2025

19.03.2025

INTRODUCING

The Lunch Club

Unique dining experience held at Richmond High School's Trade Training Centre by hospitality students.

Come and enjoy a yummy lunch and a chat!



Entry Fee: \$20.00



Transport: \$10.00



11:45 AM - 1:45 PM

140 Lennox Street, Richmond NSW 2753



Book Now: (02) 4504 7022

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

NEW DROP IN

AGES 12-17

2025



**FREE
FOOD**

*

**CREATIVE
STUFF**

*

**SOCIAL
+ MORE!**



THURSDAYS
3-5PM **STARTS
13TH FEB**

@ RICHMOND NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE
(behind Richmond oval grandstand)

**RICHMOND
YOUTH
CENTRE**

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