



RICHLANDS EAST STATE SCHOOL

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Tuesday 23 Feb, 2016



Dear Families

All families are aware by now that this week we farewell our much loved and respected Chaplain Naomi. Naomi has been the Richlands East Chaplain for over 8 years and during this time has seen and led a great deal of positive change within our school and community. Last week Naomi gave me a list of all the community organisations who she has links with. This list went on for over 5 pages which shows the dedication and love she has for our school. Naomi has led the inclusion of Breakfast Club, 2nd bite initiative, Too Solid Award organisation, Kindness Club and the list goes on.

It goes without saying that educators and those who choose the path of working with children and in schools, community groups, day cares etc do so because of their love for young people and their desire to make a positive difference in the lives of many. Naomi is a person who has that passion in her heart and I will go as far as saying that she has that passion in her soul.

Richlands East community will miss Naomi very much, however we can also be excited about the next chapter in her life. We wish you good luck and good travels in whatever journey your life takes, Naomi. Thank you for everything.

All families are invited to a special parade on Friday 26th February, 9.15am in the MPH.

At this time we do not have a replacement Chaplain, however Scripture Union is working on this.



Community Liaison Officer – Indigenous

This week we welcome our new Community Liaison Officer – Indigenous to our school. Welcome Justine Woods. Justine will be called a CLO and will share a working space with our Chaplain and Chris our Circles of Care Support Worker. Their room is located in F Block. The CLO will provide a valuable service linking our indigenous community with school and outside support agencies. She will run lunch time activities, organise guest speakers, lead the Murri Parent group meetings, Murri Art clubs and be our organiser of events such as Too Solid Awards etc. The CLO will work with Aunty Teresa who is in our school one day per week providing a valuable service to our students. Once Justine has settled in we will host our first meet and greet and Murri Parent meeting.

Hear and Say Screening

This Thursday and Friday the Prep and Year 1 students will have their hearing tested. Sorry, no late permission slips can be accepted.

20 classes at Richlands East

I would like to thank the staff who provided assistance in the creation of a 20th class at Richlands. This class was necessary as we grew in student numbers. At the moment we have 487 students at our school. The 20th classroom is located in the once named 'Community Room'. As far as Education Queensland is concerned this room is a classroom. We welcome Mr Shannon to our staff and he will be teaching year 3/4.



Behaviour

Unfortunately there has been a spike in students being unkind to one another. I will not call this 'bullying' as bullying is persistent behaviour from one or many persons towards another person. Bullying is ongoing. These incidents are isolated between various students. We have spoken to all students involved and told the whole school that we will not tolerate this type of behaviour and there is no place for it in our school. We expect better behaviour from students and expect that they make sure other students in our school feel safe and happy when coming to school.

New Behaviour expectation

Attached to this newsletter is a new policy at the school. Students will not be able to attend excursions or sport if they have visited the Eagle's Nest, time away class or the office for three times in a 5 week period. Children who have been suspended are also not allowed to attend excursions or sport. Children enjoy these activities and we will make sure that everyone including staff are safe whilst they are on out of school excursions. Please read the attached policy and if you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Planning Days

This week and next your child's teacher will be away from class and working together. Teachers will work with other staff to look closely at the curriculum lessons and how your children are doing with their reading. The day means that teachers will have discussions about your children and what they need to achieve even greater results at school.

Attendance

Congratulations 2G and 5/6M for the most improved attendance for week 4. Eldon and Edward will enjoy their time in these classrooms.

WEEK 4

Overall attendance – 94.5% (passed our goal of 93% - keep up the great attendance)

Prep – 93.8%

Yr1 – 90.2%

Yr2 – 95.9% (most improved year level from week 3 to week 5 with 2G the most improved class)

Yr3 – 95.1%

Yr4 – 97.3% (super star year level)

Yr5 – 93.8% (most improved year level from week 3 to week 5 with 5/6M the most improved class)

Yr6 – 96.0%



These figures are amazing. Keep up the great attendance. We want to see your lovely children every single day.

Kim Schembri
Principal



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STUDENT ATTENDANCE AT EXCURSIONS

The staff at Richlands East State School organise many events, activities and excursions for your children to enjoy. Most are based on the curriculum students are learning, however some are purely for fun.

These excursions are planned specifically for learning and fun and staff must follow very strict health and safety guidelines. It is very important to us that we take special care of each of your children, as they are very important to both you and us.

From time to time, students find it hard to follow our school rules whilst they are at school and this is challenging for us because we want them to experience the fun of an outside school activity, however we have our safety and the safety of all other students as our highest priority.

As a result, Richlands East State School has developed the following guidelines for student participation at all outside of school events, activities and excursions.

Activities include: all classroom excursions (curriculum or fun), swimming lessons, camp, visits to community events outside the school, interschool sport, and representing Richlands at any outside school event.

Activities do not include: high school transition days and year six graduation.

GUIDELINES

Students who have been sent to Eagles Nest, Time Away Class or Office Referrals - If your child is sent to Eagle's Nest, time away class or the office for a major behaviour three times in one five week period then they will not be able to participate in any of the activities listed within that five week time.

Students who have been suspended - students who have been suspended will return to school on a Positive Behaviour Learning Plan. This plan will state whether a student can attend any future activities.

Students on a Positive Behaviour Learning Plan - this plan will state whether a student can attend and future activities.

Students whose behaviour at a previous excursion/sport day was challenging or unsafe and they are not on a Positive Behaviour Learning Plan - the class teacher and either the Principal, Deputy or Head of Student Services will make a decision as to the student's attendance at future activities. If students display major behaviour while representing RESS at sport, parents will be phoned and asked to collect students. Students will miss sport the next week.

Refunds - Families who have paid for excursions and their child can no longer attend, will receive a full refund.

Who decides whether your child attends an excursion or activity?

Our school has guidelines which assist us to make the right decision that will keep everyone safe whilst outside of school. The administration (Principal, Deputy, Head of Student Services, EAL/D Teacher) along with your child's teacher are the only staff who will make these decisions.

Teachers and administration staff will keep records of your child's major behaviours and these will be used to inform our decisions.



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STUDENT ATTENDANCE AT REWARDS DAYS

The Richlands East State School *Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students* is a document which sets out our school rules and expectations and how we celebrate students who follow our school expectations, deal with those who break our school expectations and support those students who find it difficult to follow the school expectations.

A big part of this plan is our behaviour philosophy - we are a *Positive Behaviour for Learning* school (this was called *School Wide Positive Behaviour School*). This means that we look closely at the behaviour of our students and use this to ensure we are implementing the best possible approaches for dealing with challenging behaviours.

An important part of the *Positive Behaviour for Learning* plan is the acknowledgement of students who follow our school rules and are respectful, responsible and resilient. We want to say thank you to these students for their tremendous efforts in making our school a wonderful place to learn and work.

Did you know that over 90% of our students attend each rewards day; and every student has the ability to attend and participate in every rewards day? The choice is theirs!

How do we acknowledge our students great behaviour whilst at school.

Every 5 weeks!

TERM 1	TERM 2	TERM 3	TERM 4
Week 5 - Ice cream cone and sprinkles/chocolate sauce.	Week 5 - Sausage Sizzle.	Week 5 - Sausage Sizzle.	Week 5 - Ice cream cone and sprinkles/chocolate sauce.
Week 9 - Rotational Activities	Week 10 - Blow Up Soccer Field	Week 10 - Circus Skills	Week 10 - Giant water slide.

Student who cannot attend our Rewards Day?

Every student can choose to follow our school expectations and be invited to our Rewards Day. Students who do not choose to follow our school expectations are unable to participate.

Students who are:

- Sent to 'time away class' by their class teacher
- Sent to 'Eagles Nest' because of a major playground issue
- Office Referral
- Suspended

Will NOT participate in Rewards Day.

What happens if my child misses a Rewards Day?

We will continue to support students who find following our school rules and expectations a challenge. After each Rewards Day they 'start fresh' and are able to attend the next Rewards Day.

Who decides whether my child attends a Rewards Day?

Our school has a strong behaviour management program and all information is collected so we can make the right decision. The administration (Principal, Deputy, EAL/D Teacher and Head of Student Services) along with your child's teacher are the only staff who will make these decisions.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

19 Feb-11 Mar	Inala District Interschool Sport, every Friday. Rugby, Netball, Soccer.
Thurs 25 Feb	**DUE DATE** Year 6 Senior shirt money, \$35.20 No late orders will be accepted.
Fri 26 Feb	Miss Naomi's farewell Assembly, 9.15am, MPH, All welcome
25-26 Feb	Hearing tests for participating students in Prep and Grade 1,
Wed 2 March	School Captain Badge Ceremony, MPH, 9.15am, All welcome
16 March	P&C Meeting (AGM) 9am in the Multipurpose Hall, All welcome
Every Week	
Mondays	Playgroup 8.45-11am, Richlands East State School, MPH
Tuesdays	Free food give away, donated from Coles. Multipurpose Hall, 2.45pm
Wednesdays	School Banking, 9am, Office
Mon-Thurs	Breakfast Club 8.10am, Multipurpose Hall
Fridays	Parent Cooking, MPH, 9-10.30
Fridays	Years P-3 Assembly - 1.45 pm, Activities Hall (except Friday afternoon sport days) Years 4-7 Assembly - 2.15 pm, Activities Hall (except Friday afternoon sport days)

Meet the Staff

This week we meet Ms Sharmaine Delaney one of our lovely teacher Aides. Sharmaine has been working at Richlands East State School for 18 years.

Family: I have a 26 year old son

Hobbies: I love to travel and play chess. I have a chess club going at Richlands East State School every Thursday at 2nd break in the library. Come and join me, kids!

On the weekends I help out in a soup kitchen and love to do Karaoke.

Through the week I enjoy tennis, square dancing and I am a backup singer in a band.



News from the Culture Room

(Happy New Year)
Chúc mừng năm mới

Ms Hall's class welcomed our Chinese New Year celebrations with a loud bang!

This year is the year of the MONKEY. People born in the year of the monkey are skillful and intelligent. They are cheerful and energetic and have good leadership qualities. However, they are also seen as crafty or sometimes restless. If you are born in 2016, 2004, 1992, 1980, 1968 or 1956 you were born in the year of the Monkey. Do you recognise the students who were part of the Lion Dance? Well done 6K and Ms Hall.

Harmony Day is also fast approaching at the end of Term 1. We are always looking for helpers who may be interested in showcasing their cultural dance on the day. If you think you can help with a student or adult performance, please let us know as soon as possible. Looking forward to seeing you,

Elsa D'Amore and Marion Herath
English as an Additional Language Teachers



Spelling Mastery books

There are Spelling Mastery books available for purchase at our office for \$20.

The Spelling Mastery classes have commenced this week, so if your child is in year 1-year 6, it is essential that you purchase this book ASAP.

