

Rylstone Review

Term 4, Week 9

Thursday, 8th December 2016

From the principal's desk...

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COMMUNICATION

Hopefully you have been receiving adequate communication to keep up to date with all the crazy goings on here at RPS these days! The staff have been at school at 7:30 each morning and are not leaving till after 6pm to ensure costumes, reports and end of year requirements are completed and the students have an enjoyable last few weeks at school. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the staff at RPS for the outstanding job they do. On top of being phenomenal teachers, they go above and beyond to ensure your children are given every possible opportunity for success. As I have mentioned before, I have taught at much larger schools that don't provide the students with the opportunities or learning environment that RPS does. Our staff are managing families and lives of their own, but when they are here, it is all about your children. Especially at this time of year, I would personally like to thank them, I feel privileged to work alongside them.

DRESS REHEARSAL

Went off without a hitch. Thank you to the parents and community members who came out to cheer us on! The children loved it.

VOLUNTEER MORNING TEA

After tomorrow's Presentation Assembly, a morning tea will be provided by the teachers to thank our fantastic volunteers. Thank you to those fabulous parents and grandparents who come and read, work in the garden, have been madly sewing costumes or are generally always here lending a hand. We appreciate and are grateful for all that you do!

PRESENTATION ASSEMBLY

Will begin at 9:30am in the school hall tomorrow. It is run along similar lines as a regular assembly, but all students get a certificate of some type. The announcement of the final four nominees for Captains / Prefects will be made at the end of the assembly.

YEAR 6 FAREWELL ASSEMBLY & DISCO

Will be held this Friday at the school hall. Year 5 will decorate and organise the evening. It will begin at



5:30pm. All students are welcome. Formalities will begin at approximately 7:15pm and the evening will end at 7:30pm.

PRESENTATION NIGHT

Tuesday 13th December is our long awaited Presentation Night. Doors will open at 5:30pm and the evening will begin at 6pm. All students are to wear their full summer school uniform. Formalities will run from 6pm to approximately 7pm. A light supper is being provided by the P&C and the performance itself should start at 7:30pm. The weather channel is predicting temps of 30 deg so pack plenty of water!

Please don't hesitate to contact me on jodee.murrie@det.nsw.edu.au or make an appointment at the office on Ph: 6379 1404
Jodee Burcher
Principal

Dates for your calendar...

DECEMBER

- 9th...Presentation Assembly and Volunteer morning tea
- 9th...Year 6 Farewell Disco
- 12th...Students at the hall all day
- 13th...Presentation Night
- 14th...Reports go home
- 15th...SRC Market Day
- 16th...Students last day, talent quest & Christmas themed dress up!

Look at us in our fabulous costumes!



P & C News

Reminders

Hamper donations can be left at the office.

Donations for our Christmas Hamper raffle will be gladly accepted. Donations can be left at the office up until Monday 12th December. The tickets for this raffle will be sold and drawn on Presentation Night, 13th December.

- Costume fee \$10 for student



Sport and Recreation's Swim and Survive lessons

Australian summers usually involve plenty of fun in and around the water, but no parent should forget how important it is to make sure children stay safe.

Sport and Recreation's Swim and Survive classes for preschoolers and school-aged children help youngsters learn important ways to be safe and enjoy our pools, rivers, beaches and lakes.

The intensive nine-day programs provide wonderful results, and are great fun as well. Plus, family discounts make our program affordable for all the children in the family.

Sport and Recreation runs Swim and Survive classes in pools throughout regional NSW.

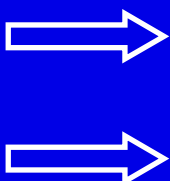
Our instructors are nationally qualified and screened for their suitability to work with children.

Prices for nine lessons are \$70 for school-aged children and \$50 for preschoolers (prices exclude pool entry fee).

For more information or to make a booking, visit sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/swimandsurvive or phone 13 13 02



SCHOOL TRIP SUBSIDY CHANGES



What's happening?

From 20 December 2016, the Private Vehicle Conveyance (PVC) subsidy will be progressively phased out and replaced with the new School Drive Subsidy.

This change will make it fairer for everyone who drives their children to school or to the nearest public transport location.

If you're a parent or guardian currently receiving the PVC subsidy, you can choose to stay on it or switch to the new School Drive Subsidy after 17 January 2017.

What are the main changes?

If you're driving one or more eligible students from the same household to the nearest public transport pick up point or to school, the new School Drive Subsidy will be paid 'per trip' (for the complete school trip). This 'per trip' payment is different from the current PVC subsidy, which is paid 'per student'.

Other differences include:

- A flat per kilometre rate (indexed annually to the cost of living) will apply under the School Drive Subsidy, unlike the flat payment per distance band in the current PVC subsidy.
- The requirement to do a special return trip each morning and afternoon will be removed.
- The 300km per trip payment cap will be removed.
- The limit of eight trips per year for distance education students to attend mini-schools during term time will be removed.
- The PVC subsidy rates will remain at 2017 levels in 2018 and beyond.
- Payments to third parties will stop (e.g. payments to a bus operator hired by parents from pooled PVC subsidy payments).

Note, you can't be on two schemes at the same time. If you add new students after 17 January 2017, all eligible students will automatically go onto the new School Drive Subsidy, including existing PVC subsidy students.

How do I check which scheme is better for me?

Check the comparison calculator at transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive

What do I need to do?

If you want to stay on the existing PVC subsidy, you don't need to do anything.

Assuming the school trip doesn't change, your payments will continue for all existing students until they leave school or until you need to re-apply because a student is moving up to Year 7 at high school.

If the school trip changes because you move homes or the student changes schools, you will need to re-apply under the new School Drive Subsidy.

Remember, you can't re-apply for the PVC subsidy after 20 December 2016, but you can switch to the new School Drive Subsidy at any time after 17 January 2017.

If you want to switch to the new School Drive Subsidy, apply online at transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive

Just like the PVC subsidy, payments will be made twice a year, around August and February, based on the student's school attendance for the preceding semester.

The online application process only takes about 10-15 minutes to complete.

If you don't have access to the internet, feel free to call **131 500** for assistance.

After you've applied and been approved for the School Drive Subsidy, payments will be made automatically into your bank account twice a year.

You won't have to re-apply until a student reaches the end of Year 6, or until you next update any details — such as a change of school, school trip or address.

What happens if I stay on PVC now but want to add a new child later?

For new eligible students, you can either:

- Add the new student into the new School Drive Subsidy and also switch the existing students to the new scheme, or
- Stay on the current PVC subsidy where existing students are covered, but not add any new students and not receive any additional subsidy.

What are the distance requirements under the School Drive Subsidy?

School year band	Minimum distance to school/TAFE	AND	Minimum distance to the nearest public transport pick up point (where available)
Infants and Primary students (Years K-6)	More than 1.6km straight line distance OR at least 2.3km walking distance		More than 1.6km straight line distance OR at least 2.9km walking distance
Secondary students (Years 7-12)	More than 2.0km straight line distance OR at least 2.9km walking distance		More than 2.0km straight line distance OR at least 2.9km walking distance
TAFE	More than 3.2km walking distance		More than 2.0km straight line distance OR at least 2.9km walking distance

You can read about these changes in more detail at transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive