Dear Parents and Friends,

Aren’t we lucky with this beautiful weather we are having? I hope this means we will have a mild winter. We have settled back into routines for Term 2 with the addition of our gymnastics program. Our students are currently sitting their NAPLAN tests as I write this and we wish them well. We have two new babies – Mrs Williams having a baby boy, Oscar Flynn and Mrs Kassis having a baby girl, Sienna Eve. We are very excited for them both and hear all is going well. Mrs Cameron is finishing up with us for a short time this week as she goes on maternity leave. We wish her all the best in the coming weeks and look forward to another “Ironbark Ridge” baby. Ms Amelia Weekley will replace Mrs Cameron whilst she is on leave.

Volunteers
I would like to say “thanks a million” to all the volunteers in our school during National Volunteer week. I know some will be joining Leigh and I for morning tea on Thursday at the Parkway Diner. I just want you to know that your support is appreciated here at school and if you volunteer elsewhere I’m sure you are appreciated there as well.

P&C
We had a great P&C meeting last week with many new ideas and initiatives being spoken about. I enjoy having a chat with Leigh about school issues and how the P&C and school can work together to ensure Ironbark Ridge continues to be an amazing place for all our kids.

The P&C continues to support the school with purchase approvals for new signage around the school, resources for teachers, furniture for classrooms and subscriptions to World Book encyclopedia. As well as this the P&C have committed to ongoing support for purchasing readers and technology costs. We thank you for this support and for the support of all our parents.

Technology
We expect the first roll-out of 30 iPads for our K-2 students and netbooks for our Yr 3-6 students to happen next week. This is a new way of teaching and learning for our staff and students. I hope that we will see benefits in terms of learning and engagement in the near future. We have another set of iPads on order to be used in Yrs 3-6 when they arrive.
Sporting News
Winter PSSA sport has now commenced and we wish all our teams good luck in the coming weeks. We know they will represent our school well, both in skill and sportsmanship. Noah C. from 6 Daintree represented Sydney West at the State Carnival. The team played 7 games and won 5 out of 7 making it to the semi-finals. Noah tells me it was a great experience meeting new people and of course, playing lots of basketball.

Our school cross-country carnival will be held next Tuesday. Good luck to all our students – put on those running shoes.

Disco
Our exciting school disco is coming next Wednesday night. I believe this is the event to attend and look forward to it being an amazing night.

Have a wonderful fortnight,

Anne Forbes
Principal
Deputy Principal’s Report

OC Class online applications
Just a quick reminder that online applications for Year 5 OC Class in 2014 are due to be completed by this Friday, 17th May. Also please send back the pink ‘Intention to Apply’ slip to the school office. Thanks.

Walk Safely to School Day – Friday 24th May
As part of our ongoing focus on healthy, active lifestyles we are promoting the annual ‘Walk Safely to School Day… held next Friday, 24th May. Although a one-off event it is designed to get us thinking about simple changes we can make to our daily lives that will contribute to better health and safety for ourselves, our children, our community and our planet.

Mothers’ Day
Second only in importance to Fathers’ Day (LOL!), last Sunday was hopefully an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the amazing job our mums do for us all. I sincerely hope all Ironbark Ridge Public School mums had a wonderful day and experienced some fun and pampering from their families. Thank you for everything you do for our students!

Arrival at school by 9am
Being on time for school in the morning is important to the learning of all students. I’d suggest it is beneficial to all students to be at school by about 8.50am in order to have time to ‘mentally arrive’ and settle in for the day with routines such as chatting to friends, listening at morning lines, ‘tuning in’ to the school environment, etc. This allows learning time to be more efficiently and effectively used once lessons begin shortly after. We all know how distracted we are when we arrive late for an appointment…

Please ensure your children are at school by 9am at the latest.

Earn & Learn

We are currently involved in collecting stickers as part of the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Last year as a result of your wonderful assistance we were able to claim a number of great resources for learning in our school. Examples are shown in the photos and include literacy and numeracy teaching equipment as well as educational play resources for use in the school’s outstanding Ridgy-Didge Buddies playground program.

Please don’t change your shopping habits but remember that if you do collect some stickers to put them on a sticker sheet and ‘post’ them in the special box in the school office foyer.

What a vibrant, positive school community we have to support the learning of our students here at Ironbark Ridge!

Nick Thomson
Deputy Principal
K Walkabout: Lachlan, Raymond, Chelsea
K Budgies: Annalise, Kay Jay, Liam LH., Sahil
1/2 Cassowary: Latiesha, Ethan, Felicity, Liam, Jaymes
2 Kingfisher: Thea, Shalin, Samya, Justin
2 Bilbies: Jessica, Charli-Rose, James, Rachel
3 Surfers Paradise: Gabriel, Holly, Lachlan, Abi, Joel
4 Sturt: Lachlan, Josh, Lily, Emma, Isabella
5 Herons: Jarrod, Sara, Catherine, Menuja, Ahmed
5/6 Speedos: Taj, Charlotte, Matthew, Ben
5/6 Magpies: Evie, Josh, Olivia, AJ

Chinese: 1/2 Cassowary

**KINDY CAPERS:**

Many thanks to all parents who have sent along small pieces of cut fruit for children to enjoy during fruit break. Please ensure that fruit is ready to be eaten and doesn’t require any preparation. Students need to be able to enjoy their fruit or vegetables while they are working without learning being interrupted.

Kindy students are now into the second group of phonemes (r l d b f h i u) and camera words in the Synthetic Phonics Reading and Writing Program. We know that many of you are enjoying practising reading and writing your child’s sight words and phonemes.

This term home reading has started for Early Stage 1. Please return readers in folders provided on days allocated by class teachers as follows:

- KD and KB readers will be sent home on Mondays and will need to be returned on Fridays.
- KBB readers will be sent home on Fridays and returned on Thursdays.
- KW readers will be sent home on Wednesdays and returned on Tuesdays.

Home readers should be read each day by students and some support may be required from parents. Comprehending is not just about reading and students need to respond to books in a variety of written and spoken ways. To enhance your child’s comprehension please:

- Read each book to students, then get them to read it with you. Finally ask your child to read it back to you.
- As well each week, on a few days ask students to copy a sentence from the book with correct grammar and punctuation.
- Copy this sentence onto a paper strip, cut it up and ask students to reassemble it.
- On alternate days parents should dictate this sentence to students and get them to write it without looking at it.
- Children should also identify and write sound, sight and camera words found in their reader.

Sport clothes will need to be worn on Friday this term by all Kindy students. The K-2 Cross Country Carnival will be held on Tuesday 22nd May 2013 commencing at 1130am on the school oval. Parents and caregivers are invited to come along and cheer on their children. Please ensure that each student brings a water bottle and hat on the day. Sport uniforms and house coloured shirts should also be worn.
Child protection legislation requires that adults visiting school premises observe strict protocols. If you are visiting classes to help with class programs please sign in at the office, collect a visitors pass and lanyard and sign out before you leave school grounds. Also whenever on the school grounds before school, during school and after school parents must not approach other people’s children for any reason. Hope you have a safe and happy weekend!

The Early Stage 1 Team

CHINESE NEWS:

Nǐmen hǎo! 你好
Kindy and Year 1 students are getting very creative learning all their colours and practising their numbers to ten. The other Stages have been looking at the Chinese Zodiac and its 12 year cycle. The students have been learning about the Emperor’s need to keep track of time and his creation of the lunar calendar using the animals of the zodiac to name each year. They have discovered their own sign and the character traits that are believed to belong to people born in each year. This cultural aspect of our learning has given students the opportunity to learn lots of vocabulary including the names of animals and the use of pronouns and possessives when describing family members and their zodiac sign. You might ask your child to tell you which sign they are born under? They might even be able to tell you yours!

STAGE 1 SNIPPETS:

Stage 1 students have been enjoying a busy start back to Term 2. Students have begun the gymnastics program provided by the ‘Be Skilled, Be Fit’ team and are learning to use the springboard and trampette to vault. They are also working on the ‘motorbike’ landing, which we are sure they will be happy to demonstrate at home! Students are also keeping fit by putting in some practise for the upcoming cross country, building up their stamina by completing laps around the school oval. Please remember to wear sports uniform on Monday for gymnastics and also on Tuesdays and Thursdays for fitness.

We also had the opportunity to participate in Drum Beats last week where we took a rhythmical trip around the world. We all used our voices, bodies and drums to create some awesome sounds. A great time was had by all.

As well as our regular library slots on Tuesdays for Year 1 and Fridays for Year 2 (including 1/2C), the term continues to be filled with lots of exciting activities including our new topics ‘Shelters’ in HSIE and ‘All Mixed Up’ in Science. Stage 1 have some busy weeks ahead!
Stage 1 Teachers

**PSSA SPORT:**

**Week 3** 17.5.2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NETBALL</strong></td>
<td>Commercial Road, Kellyville. Court 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NEWCOMBE BALL</strong></td>
<td>Rouse Hill P.S. (must be at School at 8.45am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RUGBY LEAGUE</strong></td>
<td>Kellyville Park, Memorial Ave., Kellyville (must be at School at 8.45am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BOY’S SOCCER</strong></td>
<td>Schofields Park, Schofields (must be at School at 8.45am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GIRL’S SOCCER</strong></td>
<td>Paterson Reserve, Torbert Ave., Quakers Hill, Field 1 (must be at School at 8.45am)</td>
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**Week 4** 24.5.2013

<table>
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<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NETBALL</strong></td>
<td>Commercial Road, Kellyville. Court 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NEWCOMBE BALL</strong></td>
<td>John Palmer P.S. (must be at School at 8.45am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RUGBY LEAGUE</strong></td>
<td>Kellyville Park, Memorial Ave., Kellyville (must be at School at 8.45am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BOY’S SOCCER</strong></td>
<td>Schofields Park, Schofields (must be at School at 8.45am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GIRL’S SOCCER</strong></td>
<td>Paterson Reserve, Torbert Ave., Quakers Hill, Field 2 (must be at School at 8.45am)</td>
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**Be Skilled, Be Fit – Gymnastics program**

We are in the second week of this excellent program. Below is a brief overview of the skills taught so far.

- Early Stage 1: Running & jumping, safe landings, movement across/through an area
- Stage 1: Balance points, area movement, jumps and safe landings
- Stage 2: Jumps over and onto vault, more advanced jumps, safety landings
- Stage 3: High box & vault, more complex jumps, safety landings

Students will be moving onto learning cartwheels and rolls soon, followed by beam and bars skills in the latter part of the program.

Mrs Nahirny
Congratulations to the Year 1 Dance Group ‘Funky Town’ and the Year 2 Dance Group ‘Rio’ for being selected to dance at the Sydney West Dance Festival.

Refer to Year 1 and Year 2 notes on the Website for more information.

Tickets are now available through Ticketek and T-shirt purchases need to be paid by Tuesday 7th May. Check the information flyer for further details.

**TICKETS NOW ON SALE**

**Prices**

**Evening Performances:**

Adult $25   Concession/Child $15

**Matinee Performances:**

Adult $10   Concession/Child $5

Tickets are available from [www.ticketek.com.au](http://www.ticketek.com.au)

For school group bookings please contact Ticketek

*Evening Performance arrival time is 6.30pm*  
*Matinee Performance arrival time for 10am is 9.00am*  
*Matinee Performance arrival time for 12.30pm is 11.45am*

The following item(s) from your school have been programmed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>PERFORMANCE DATE</th>
<th>PERFORMANCE TIME</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FUNKY TOWN</td>
<td>MONDAY 3RD JUNE</td>
<td>EVENING</td>
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<tr>
<td>FUNKY TOWN</td>
<td>FRIDAY 7TH JUNE</td>
<td>MORNING</td>
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<tr>
<td>RIO</td>
<td>THURSDAY 6TH JUNE</td>
<td>EVENING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIO</td>
<td>FRIDAY 7TH JUNE</td>
<td>MORNING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
S.R.C. DISCO

The S.R.C. Disco will be held next week on Wednesday 22nd May.
To add to the fun the S.R.C. have voted for the theme of Pyjamas or Fun Nightwear!
K-2 Disco 5.00pm-6.15pm
3-6 Disco 6.30-8.00pm.

The cost of each ticket is $10.00 or a family ticket of $25.00. Cost includes glo-sticks, a light refreshment and a lucky door ticket. Mitch will be our DJ for the evening and the Disco will be fully supervised by our teaching staff.

We would love to see as many children as possible attend our disco, it’s a fun time and it is one of our major S.R.C. fundraisers.

The wonderful Mrs Critchley will be pre-selling the disco tickets from Friday afternoon (outside the office). She will also be selling tickets on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 8.45am-9.00am and also on these afternoons from 3.00-3.30pm. Alternatively, disco ticket money can be placed in the box at the front office and tickets will be distributed in the class rolls.

Hope to see you there!!

Mrs Walker and Mrs Nahirny
S.R.C. Co-ordinators

ADMINISTRATION NEWS:

Please remember to put all notes with money in a sealed envelope. As you can imagine, the volume of money coming into the office makes it difficult if it is not in an envelope. Notes and payments should be handed into the office or placed in the Green Box on the reception counter, before school each day.

Thank you
Admin. Staff

SCHOOL BANKING DAY REMINDER:

Don’t forget that Friday is School Banking day and students should bring in their weekly deposit. For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token. The first token will be received upon the first deposit at school. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can then be redeemed for a range of great, exclusive reward items in recognition of their continued savings behaviour.

Thank you for supporting the School Banking program.

P&C PRESIDENTS NEWS

Hi, my name is Leigh Kostiainen your P&C President for 2013. I have 2 boys at Ironbark, Nathan is in 6D and Cameron in 1N. We love being at IRPS.

I am very fortunate to be joining our P&C at this particular time, because we have all positions on our executive and sub committees filled. There are a lot of new people on the committees this year which brings fresh ideas, but most importantly we still have our veterans of the P&C in various roles.

Our Canteen Queen’s will be implementing an online rostering service by the end of term to make booking your canteen shifts easier. They are also introducing Canteen Orientation days to help parents who feel unsure about volunteering to find out what is involved and to meet some of the team.
And our fundraising team are full steam ahead with the successful completion of Paver sales and a Bunnings BBQ last term and Mothers Day stall so for this term. We are in the middle of Woolworths Earn & Learn, the numbers are way down on last year so we need everyone to get to Woollies and collect more stickers. And with winter just around the corner we are eagerly awaiting the launch of our annual Pie Drive mmmm.

This term the P&C have purchased ‘Comprehension Resource’ books for all of our teachers as well as an additional class room chair for most of them, making getting down to the kids level during group time a lot easier. I have been told there was jubilation when the teachers were told about these purchases by the P&C. We also purchased new signage for the entrance of the school as well as updating the house signage in the school hall. There is also a new school emblem for the hall. You will be seeing them very soon.

Further to that we have committed to contribute $3000 per semester each for new readers and iPads/netbooks making us one of the best resourced schools in the region by the end of this year. It truly is a great feeling to know our P&C can make such a huge contribution towards our schools literacy and technology resources. Of course we couldn't do anything at all without you. So thank you.

Leigh Kostiainen
P&C President

National Volunteers Week

It was a wonderful morning as we celebrated our awesome volunteers during National Volunteers weeks. There were 15 volunteers who joined Principal Anne Forbes and I at the Parkway Diner for gorgeous strawberry tarts, cakes, scones and little sandwiches, and endless tea and coffee. Many of our volunteers work full time as well and couldn't join us, rest assured we will meet up after hours next time. Many thanks to the P&C for paying for this great event.

Leigh Kostiainen, The Prez
FUNDRAISING NEWS:

MOTHERS DAY STALL
Thank you to Jane Moog and her helpers for running the Mother’s Day stall. We hope all the mum’s enjoyed their presents.

COOKBOOKS
IRPS cookbooks are available on flexischools for $20. They make a great gift and even better, they are made up by recipes from IRPS families. Order forms are also available below.

PIES
Never fear the Pies are back. Sharyn will be providing more information in a few weeks’ time but the pies are definitely back this term!!!

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS:
COMMUNITY NOTICES:

Escaped Cockatiel - Rouse Hill area

Percy is a much loved family pet who escaped on Monday, 13 May. He is only 8 months old and was hand raised so is very friendly. He is white with grey markings on his wings and can fly very well as his wings were not clipped. He also has an ID leg band.

If found or if anyone has seen Percy, please phone 0418 462 103 or 0418 448 175. Any information would be greatly appreciated.

A reward is offered if Percy is found.
UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN SYDNEY
PENRITH OBSERVATORY

Astronomy Night for Mums & Kids
The UWS Penrith Observatory is running a special astronomy night for Mums & Kids on Saturday, 18 May from 7pm. The evening will include a special presentation for Mums & Kids, a 3D astronomy movie, a tour of the dome area and observing of the night sky through the University’s computerised telescopes.

Cost: $15 adult, $10 child/concession and $40 family.
Bookings are essential: Book online: www.uws.edu.au/observatory, What’s On
Enquiries: Phone (02)4736 0135 or email r.mccourt@uws.edu.au
Free English classes in Castle Hill
The Northern Sydney Institute, part of TAFE NSW, is starting free Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) classes in Castle Hill. New migrants may be eligible for 510 hours of free English lessons and childcare. Please contact the Hornsby AMEP Office on 9472 1995 or email amep.nsi@tafensw.edu.au for more information.

The Northern Sydney Institute delivers AMEP services on behalf of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship. The AMEP is a Commonwealth Government program. For more information about AMEP, visit www.immi.gov.au/amep or www.nsi.edu.au/amep.
Cracker Carnival

It's back!

Fireworks @ 7.50 pm

Rides

Prepaid rides pass $20 or $25 on the day

Yum!

Hot food + live entertainment

Fun!

Side show alley! + raffle

Entry $2

Friday 24th May 2013
4 pm - 8 pm

Kellyville Public School
Cracker Carnival
Windsor Road Kellyville
The Rotary Club of Rouse Hill invites you to attend their 23rd
"Used Office Furniture Sale"

Saturday, 18th May and Sunday, 19th May, 2013

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (rain or shine)
in the
THE MEAN FIDDLER PARKING LOT
corner of
Windsor and Commercial Roads
ROUSE HILL

Items for sale include: dining table, 15 Dell Computer monitors ($30 each); filing cabinets; office chairs; reception chairs; desk chairs; cabinets; bookcases; tables; desks; cupboards; under desk files; data files; stationery cupboards; tables, etc.

Proceeds are supporting our
Rotary Charities: SOS
Sustain Our Students
Breakfasts and uniforms for local high school students

Details contact Vicki on: 0425 206 777 or
Join in the fun at the Rouse Hill Billy Cart Derby & Family Festival

What’s Happening?
Build your own push Billy Cart and race it as a team along the Billy Cart track at Rouse Hill Town Centre.

Great prizes, lots of carnival fun at the Family Festival

To register for the race simply complete the entry form online at www.billycartderby.com.au download your cart construction guidelines & start building your cart!
SEASONS for Growth

.... To help young people (6 to 12 years) to understand and express experiences of significant change, loss and grief

This 8 week program held in small groups, assists young people to:

- Understand and talk about the normal range of emotions experienced during major change, grief and loss.
- Build positive relationships with family and friends.
- Participate in a caring and confidential network of peers and adults.
- Explore the skills needed for resiliency.
- Revise current beliefs and plan for a realistic and hope-filled future.

Date & Time:

Wednesday 4 – 5pm (children aged 6 – 8 years)
May 29, Jun 5, 12, 19, 26, Jul 17, 24, 31, Aug 7 – 2013

Thursday 4 – 5pm (children aged 9 – 10 years)
May 30, Jun 6, 13, 20, 27, Jul 25, Aug 1, 8 & 22 – 2013

Venue:
Interrelate Family Centre
Suite 423, Level 4, 14 Lexington Drive
BELLA VISTA

Cost:
$50 per child – includes Booklet and Afternoon tea

To Register: 8882 7850

www.interrelate.org.au
1300 736 966
DISCLAIMER:
Ironbark Ridge Public School newsletter contains paid advertisements which assist with the cost of publication. The publication of such advertisements does not imply endorsement of any product or service by the NSW Department of Education and Communities or Ironbark Ridge Public School.

- 7pm Group Training @St Andrews Primary
- 7pm Aquafit @Glenwood
- 7am Saturday Boxfit @Marayong
- 9.30am Ladies Group Training @Glenwood
- Personal Training
- Nutrition Planning

Contact Kathryn Wahby
Ph: 0422 264 970
E: kathryn@b2bpt.com.au
W: www.b2bpt.com.au
Find us on Facebook

FREE for first timers