Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful

DATES FOR THE DIARY

March

5th Scripture commences  7th PSSA  20th Stage 2 Taronga Zoo  Harmony Day

CURRENT NOTES

-PSSA  -HIP HOP  Taronga Zoo  Western Sydney Debating Day

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Dear Parents and Friends,

It has been wonderful to see so many faces around the school. There were a lot of families who attended our welcome to Kindy breakfast last week. It was lovely to meet parents in this informal way. We hope to hold a second breakfast shortly for our “other” new parents in the school.

Our condolences go out to the school community at Pitt Town PS and to the family of Bridget Wright after the tragic accident on the 21st February. We have sent flowers to the school on behalf of our school community and offered them our support if they need it. I can assure you that the trees in our playground have been checked and Spotless will be sending out an arborist to assess all our trees. As we are a new school we don’t have the issue of any old, large trees that may cause a problem.

I was lucky enough to spend the day with all our “fish” at the Ridges Carnival on Wednesday. Our school broke the most records but I believe was narrowly defeated in winning the carnival. We were the stars of the carnival whilst I would say the other school was the quiet achiever. Congratulations to all our children for their team spirit, their responsible behaviour and their fantastic efforts. A comment was also made to me, by another teacher, who loved the obvious team spirit of our parents. All of our children were cheered and congratulated. It was lovely to watch and be a part of. Thank you to Mrs Paton for all her hard work ensuring our students could shine on the day.

School Fees
You will shortly receive an invoice for the yearly school fees. After some discussion with parents on the P&C it was decided that I should explain more fully why we have these fees given that many see Public Education as free. In fact Public Education is free but this only maintains a certain level of educational experiences for our children. In order to maintain the level of experiences currently at this school we need your support. The General Contributions, which is a voluntary fee, and the Equipment Levy support us in all that we do. It helps us pay for our 21st Century learning initiative where students have access to technology within the classroom; it helps supply the beautiful books that we study in English and the subscriptions to Bug Club; the equipment for Mathematics and sport; participation in sporting events (there is a cost to the school for these events); paints and art materials for our creative work; expensive kits and programs that are used to support children when they experience a problem with their learning; the books and paper in the everyday classroom; our main photocopier purchased last year; rewards and awards for fantastic effort and work and to supplement our utilities bills so we have green playgrounds and air conditioned classrooms. Even some of our staffing costs are supplemented by the school - we don’t split classes if our casual budget from the department runs over. I could go on with the things we would have to do without if we didn’t have your support by paying these fees. The Equipment Levy is put specifically towards the cost of classroom equipment i.e. books and
paper to write on and so on. Yes the DEC gives us a base level funding but it does not cover the running costs of a school like Ironbark Ridge. So the bottom line is we need to encourage all families to pay these fees so we can continue to provide the type of educational setting you want for your children. One parent compared it to the cost of a cup of coffee at McDonalds and felt it was good value. We are adding, at parental request, a donations box on this invoice where if you are so inclined you can add an extra donation. This is entirely up to you but I can assure you we use our money wisely.

As always, if you have difficulties paying the fees we are happy for you to pay them off as you can afford to, an option some of our families use. Whatever is paid towards the fees is deducted as you go and taken off the next invoice. In extreme circumstances, come and have a chat so we know and can support you.

**Staffing**
We welcome Alyse McDonald and Karin Stace who are working with us this term. We hope they enjoy their time at Ironbark Ridge.

**School Website**
I am currently working on bringing our school website up to date. I hope to replace the old pictures with new ones in the next week or so and update the notes in the system. One of the changes I have made is to put activities into the calendar. This is an interactive calendar so if you mouse over the activity further information will come up. You are able to print these calendars or you can access a .pdf version in the whole school notes section. Just a reminder you need to go to the website or app for the school newsletter.

**Car Parks**
Parents are not able to use either our staff carpark or the pre-school carpark to drop students at school. Our carpark is very busy and only has enough spaces for staff, and the preschool is a private organization not connected to the school. I ask that you be considerate and abide by this request for the safety of students. I am aware that parking on the street can be difficult but the carparks cannot be the answer.

Hope you have a wonderful fortnight,
Anne Forbes
Principal

**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

**Individual and Collective**
As I pass through classroom across our great school each week, sometimes teaching, at other times observing and supporting the great work of our teaching staff, I am seeing an impressive phenomena. Your children are individuals, with specific skills, talents, interests and needs. Yet every classroom of individuals is already forming a class identity and a sense of community! Teachers work extremely hard at the start of each year… it seems desperately at times! They plan routines, displays, instructional material, organisational structures, and set specific, explicit expectations for behaviour, the level and quality of work, neatness and effort. It is this expert leadership of the classroom community that builds a positive working relationship between students and the teacher, between students and students… and later in the year reaps rewards for the learning of each individual. So focusing on the whole class will enable teachers to more effectively meet the individual needs of each and every student in their class.

Congratulations to all students and their teachers on all your hard work so far. It can be a stressful (yet exciting) time of the year for all in the family!

**NRL Anti-bullying talk**
We were visited on Monday this week by a couple of young Parramatta Eels players along with representatives from ‘The String Movement’. Students watched a short video and listened to the players talk about the harmful effects of bullying behaviours. It was great to note the deep understanding our older students have about bullying being repeated intentional behaviours to hurt or scare another person. Cyber-bullying was briefly touched upon and will be more comprehensively discussed during the year with our older students. Some of our younger students may view single incidents of negative comments or arguments as bullying behaviours and we will discuss the difference and develop their understanding as the year progresses. To see information about ‘The String Movement’ go to their website: http://thestringmovement.com
Traffic incidents
Dropping students to school and picking them up can be a frustrating exercise for some. Unfortunately a few parents have recently been seen putting their own children at risk through irresponsible behaviours.

1. No students are to exit a car until that car is parked. Stopping briefly at the school crossing is not parking! The practice of allowing students to exit or enter a car while it is waiting for pedestrians on the crossing is extremely dangerous to your children and other cars. Do not do it.

2. The school crossing is the only place students are to cross Ironbark Ridge Rd outside the school. To call a student across the road to your car is extremely dangerous – a child was almost run over last week outside our school. Do not do it.

3. As adults we must model the behaviour we want our children to choose… so use the crossing in the correct manner and our children will learn and be safe.

4. The school’s delivery exit next to the Hall and oval is not at any stage to be used for pedestrian access when dropping off or picking up students. Thank you.

PBL @ Ironbark Ridge
Our school’s Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) program is well underway for 2014 and it is pleasing to see so many students earning ‘Bidgeree Awards’ and giving themselves the chance to win a canteen voucher to the value of $5. Thank you to our fabulous canteen for providing this incentive to our students! Our ‘Safe, Responsible, Respectful’ frog is appearing in classrooms and the playground reminding us all of our expected behaviours. Do you discuss your own children’s behaviours using this framework? It can be very powerful when you link in with the school’s programs such as PBL.

The creative spark in all of us...
Ironbark Ridge has an impressive tradition of excellence in dance, drama, debating, public speaking and other creative, extra-curricular pursuits. Each year we offer opportunities for students to be involved in expressing this side of their personality. If these activities are of interest, particularly for younger students, please talk to your children and encourage them to try out and participate whenever possible! Not everyone can achieve a place, so also discuss ways of dealing with the disappointment of missing out! Such situations can provide us as parents with excellent opportunities to work on the skills of resilience and positive thinking.

Fundamental Movement Skills
PSSA weekly interschool sports have commenced for the year and as a result we are also now into class sport programs. Our focus is on trying to develop the Fundamental Movement Skills required to be successful participants in a whole range of sports. There are 12 skills we teach explicitly while also developing knowledge of sport rules and strategies. The 12 FMSs are:

- Sprint run
- Hop
- Skip
- Static balance
- Side gallop
- Vertical jump
- Leap
- Kick
- Catch
- Two-hand strike
- Overarm throw
- Dodge

Practice these at home to build confidence and skill.

Student Banking
Student banking has begun for the year. I spoke to all classes last Friday about being responsible bankers and bringing their bank books to the office themselves before 9am on Friday mornings. Please encourage your child to take responsibility for this task.

Chef Thomson’s recipe review
The Thomson family enjoyed a Pizza-fest & DVD night at home last weekend, with children and adults (including Grandma) collaboratively cooking three different pizzas from the ‘Favourites’ Ironbark Ridge Cookbook (see pages 84-85). Thanks to the Edwards family for the recipes for Tandoori, Nacho and Aussie Gourmet pizzas. The making was half the fun, but all three proved highly successful!

Ratings: Tandoori 8/10, Aussie Gourmet 7/10, Nacho 9/10

NB: The term ‘Chef’ is used without authority in this column.

Nick Thomson
Deputy Principal
When things go wrong at school

Every parent wants the best for their children, and that includes having great experiences at school.

Despite best teaching practice things do go wrong at school. Most kids experience learning difficulties from time to time. Conflict and peer rejection are a normal part of school-life. The developmental nature of childhood means that there will always be some turbulence, particularly around key transition ages, such as the start of adolescence.

During these times young people frequently experience a dip in their learning as well as significant relationship difficulties. Kids will often come home from school with grievances, and call on their parents for assistance.

Your approach as a parent when your child has difficulty at school makes huge difference to their resilience, and their future relationships with teachers and peers.

Here’s a six point checklist to help you stay focused and be effective if your child experiences difficulty at school.

1. Stay calm and rational
   It’s natural as a parent to protect, or defend your children, particularly when you think that they’ve come in for some unfair or poor treatment. But acting when you are full of emotion is not always smart. Rather than getting on the phone straight away to organise a meeting at school, take your time to think through how you might assist your child.

2. Get the all facts
   Once you’ve calmed down, then get the facts about the situation. Kids are faulty observers and often only see one side of a story when there’s a problem with a teacher or a fellow student. They sometimes can’t see that perhaps they may have contributed inadvertently to a dispute at school, or perhaps said something that may have upset someone. It’s the job of parents to help kids process what happens in an incident, so that all the facts emerge and understand their place in any problem. Ask good questions to help the full story emerge.

3. Assess whether to go to school or not
   Kids, like adults, like to vent and will benefit from having told their side of a story to trusted source. Often problems can be dealt with at home, simply by talking through an issue, and giving kids some common sense tips to help them cope.

   If your child has a recurring problem that he can’t solve himself, or you think adult intervention maybe needed to sort out a relationship issue with a teacher or peer, then consider meeting with your child’s teacher.

4. Go through the right channels
   Approach the school calmly, going through the school office, or directly to your child’s teacher if that is the usual protocol. If you have already established a relationship with the teacher concerned, then it’s often easier to approach them directly.

5. Look for solutions rather than blame
   Parent-teacher meetings usually get nowhere when either party blames the other. State the problem as you see it and view your child’s teacher as an ally, not a foe. “I’m really worried about Jeremy. He’s been acting strangely lately and I need some help...” is the type of approach that will elicit a helpful response. Talk about your concerns and keep the discussion focused firmly on what’s best for your child. Listen to your teacher’s viewpoint, valuing a different perspective.

6. Stay in touch
   Be realistic with your expectations, remembering that some problems can’t be solved to your satisfaction, nor will they be resolved straight away. Be prepared to work alongside your child’s teacher over the long-term, which means you need to keep communicating with each other.

Parenting is easy when things are going well, but testing when your children struggle or experience difficulty. Stepping back and taking a long-term, reflective view is often the best approach when your child experiences difficulty at school.
## WEEK 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Participants</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K BULAWAYO</td>
<td>Max, Paige, Coby, Eden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K LONDON</td>
<td>Spencer, Andie, Aidan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 BRISBANE</td>
<td>To be awarded Week 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 JASPER</td>
<td>Abigail, Lucas, Oliver, Ava</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 KANSAS</td>
<td>Matthew, Natasha, Kirsten, Daniel, Chelsea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 BARCELONA</td>
<td>Ansh, Declan, Akash, Sarah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 COPENHAGEN</td>
<td>Tara, Hiral, Anlu, Bronte, William</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 JUNEAU</td>
<td>Lachlan, Halle, Charlotte, Ethan, Kyle, Arden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 NEW YORK</td>
<td>Nikki, Layne, Caleb, Piper, Kye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6 PRAGUE</td>
<td>Lorrriza, Sarah, Tye, Selena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHINESE</td>
<td>Kindy Bulawayo</td>
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KINDY CAPERS:

It was fantastic to see so many Kindy families attend our ‘Welcome to Kindy’ BBQ last Friday morning. We hope you all enjoyed your breakfast and were able to meet some of our amazing staff who helped prepare, cook and serve. A special thanks to those staff members and to our P&C president Leigh Kostiainen for the terrific job you did! We also hope you took the opportunity to meet and introduce yourselves to other Kindy families.

Homework has started this week. On Monday all students were given a list of the Term 1 sight words as well as their homework sheet. We encourage you to focus on 5 sight words at a time, reading and writing them. Once your child has mastered those words you should introduce another 3 at a time whilst still revisiting the words they already know. The sight word homework sheet needs to be brought in and returned to your child’s teacher every Friday. The sheet does not need to be glued into a book.

On Friday this week your child will be bringing home a note explaining how to access and use Bug Club. Their login and password will also be sent home. Bug Club books will be allocated to your child by their teacher, once a week.

School assemblies occur every Wednesday afternoon and begin at 2pm. Kindy Bulawayo and Kindy London will attend assemblies on odd weeks of the term. Kindy Dublin and Kindy Toronto will attend assemblies on even weeks of the term. All Kindy classes will have the opportunity to host the assembly but this will not be occurring until late in Term 3 and early in Term 4.

This week our Kindy students were able to borrow a book from the Library for the first time. We encourage all of the students to bring their library bag in every Tuesday to return their book and borrow another one for the week.

We kindly ask parents to ensure that all of their child’s belongings are clearly labelled with their name and to occasionally check to see if the labelling has worn off. If it has please re-label their belongings. We have found a number of items with no names on them and this makes it very difficult to find which child owns them.

Each Kindy class has commenced their ‘Star of the Week’. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to share and talk about the special items they have brought in and for their peers to listen carefully and learn all about their classmates.

We hope you all have a wonderful fortnight!

The ES1 Team.

STAGE 1 SNIPPETS

It was great to meet so many of the parents of Stage 1 last week. We trust the information provided was helpful.

We are well and truly getting on with our learning with our weeks full of endless fun and engaging activities. Just a reminder, that if any books have not yet been returned, could they come back as soon as possible. Many thanks for all your efforts in covering them.

Our weeks are now so busy:

- Learning our new dance moves with Mitch during our cool “Hip Hopping” sessions on Mondays. (Sport uniform to be worn.)
- Discovering and learning all about the library and computers and exploring all the wonderful books we can borrow on Tuesdays;
- Attending our assemblies on alternate Wednesdays;
- Developing our fundamental movement skills for sport on Thursday ready to be Australia’s future Olympians. (Sport uniform to be worn.)
- Fridays we get to have a bit of a breather, with some Year 2 classes getting their Library fix today. Whew!
The Year 1 classes have commenced their Buddy Reading program with their 5/6 Buddy class. This is a valuable program that provides additional reading practice for the Year 1 students and mentoring skills for the older students. The two classes get together for 10-15 minutes 2 times a week and this assists with developing fluency of reading and reinforces recognition of high frequency words. The Year 2 classes will be commencing their Buddy Reading program over the next few weeks.

Minibeasts is proving to be a popular topic and the students are well engaged in looking for specimens in the playground. So far we have found spiders, ants, stick insects, ladybugs, butterflies and lots and lots of worms. We wonder what have they found in their own backyards?

Homework will commence in Week 6, going home on Thursdays and due back in class the following Tuesday. A note and guide to Home Readers will be sent home which needs to be read, signed and returned prior to the books being sent home.

Remember, it is the early bird who catches the worm!

Till next time!
Stage 1 Teachers.

STAGE 2 SNIPPETS

We had a fantastic turnout to the Stage 2 Parent Information evening last Tuesday night. It was great to see so many parents eager to be informed about the Stage 2 teaching and learning programs planned for this year.

Thank you to all of the Stage 2 students and parents who have promptly covered all school books with contact and returned them ready to work in.

We are eagerly awaiting our exciting excursion to Taronga Zoo. Notes have now gone home and all money and permission notes should be returned to the office by Monday 17th March at the latest.

The first homework task of ‘Chinese Cooking’ should be completed by Friday Week 6. We encourage the Stage 2 students to be imaginative and most of all to have fun creating their cooking video. Due to Occupational Health and Safety we do not require the food to be brought into school, they can just tell us how yummy their food was.

Regards,
Stage 2 Teachers

STAGE 3 SNIPPETS:

Stage 3 students have continued the fast-paced start to the year. They have been involved in many fun learning experiences in the classroom including the growing of rice, discussing features of characterisation in a number of texts, and all are hard at work becoming experts in their chosen aspect of a particular Asian country. All are fantastic 21st Century learning tasks!

Hip hop has now started and the students are loving the chance to learn new dance skills. Students have also been visited by a number of Parramatta Eels NRL players to discuss anti-bullying and measures that they can put in place to stop this from occurring at school and in cyber space. A number of prizes were handed out and the students enjoyed participating in this event.

Stage 3 debating team has been formed. After very tough competition, 2 teams of 5 were formed and they will be attending a Debating Training Day on Tuesday 25th March at Rouse Hill Public.

Mr Kelly and a number of ex-Ironbark Ridge students who now attend Rouse Hill High School, visited Stage 3. These students gave a presentation on the opportunities available at Rouse Hill HS and discussed the differences between high school and primary school, before answering questions from our Stage 3 students. Our students felt more confident about the prospect of high school after this visit!
Please remember that homework for this term is based on an aspect of a particular Asian country that your child has chosen to study. Students will need to think about how they will present this information creatively in an ‘expo’ style format. Students have seen examples of what an ‘expo’ looks like. They should now be thinking about how they will present their information and what materials they need. Parents will be invited to attend their child’s class expo. More information on this will follow.

Finally, thank you for the wonderful turnout that we had at ‘Meet the Teacher’ evening. It was lovely to meet so many parents and discuss the plans that we have for this year. To the parents who were unable to make it, we look forward to meeting you throughout the year.

The Stage 3 teachers
Mrs De Jager, Ms Hoggan, Miss Dalli, Miss Mc Gill, Mrs Sayer, Mr Pengelly

CHINESE NEWS

Nǐmen hǎo! 你们好
This week Miss Deng, our visiting Chinese Teacher Volunteer, will begin Tai Chi lessons at lunch straight after eating time. Students from grades 3-6 are invited to participate but they must be in their sports uniform. There is no cost for these lessons. We will be running calligraphy lessons later in the year.

For those of you who missed last week’s newsletter, I am interested in taking a small group of Year 5 and 6 students to China in 2015, but before we approach the Department of Education for permission I need to know if anyone is interested in sending their children along. There will be a selection process but at this stage I am just looking for an expression of interest from parents – the children are all interested of course! The trip will be for about 10 days and the cost will be approximately $2500 – this includes travel, accommodation, food, entry to exhibits and spending money. If you think your child would enjoy the independence of travelling overseas and learning more about China and its customs then please email me at linda.barbaro@det.nsw.edu.au We are unsure about numbers and parent involvement at this stage, however, if you think you might be interested in attending please let me know in your email.

Also a reminder, that this term we will be running our Wednesday afternoon Chinese classes with Lim Lăoshī. Anyone interested in joining should contact me via email linda.barbaro@det.nsw.edu.au . Classes are open to beginners of all ages K-6.

Mrs Przyrembel – Chinese Teacher K-6

PSSA SPORT: TERM 1
WEEK 5 – 27th FEBRUARY 2014
NO PSSA SPORT THIS WEEK

WEEK 6 – 7TH MARCH 2014

CRICKET: Hills Centenary Park, Withers Road, Rouse Hill
OZ TAG: Russell Reserve (renamed from Second Ponds Oval) Withers Road, Rouse Hill
SOFTBALL/T-BALL: Hills Centenary Park, Withers Road, Rouse Hill
AFL: Wrights Reserve, Quakers Hill
RIDGES ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

On Wednesday, 26th February, 39 students represented Ironbark Ridge Public School at the Ridges Zone Swimming Carnival, held at Blacktown Aquatic Centre. The students swam exceptionally well and as usual, their behaviour was impeccable. A number of swimmers swam up to eight races; well done on your great stamina. Many swimmers gained places in their events and a number of students gained a place the 50 metres Freestyle Finals. The support shown to each other was outstanding. It was an absolute pleasure being team managers. The students looked fantastic in our new caps and we were easily visible in the water. Overall Ironbark Ridge PS was placed second behind Rouse Hill PS. We would like thank all the parents for their wonderful support.

Outstanding results include:

Open Boys 100m Freestyle - Mikey L - 1st (New Record) Josh H - 2nd
8 Years Girls 50m Freestyle - Lucy F - 1st
9 Years Boys 50m Freestyle - Preston A - 1st
10 Years Boys 50m Freestyle - Liam G - 3rd
10 Years Girls 50m Freestyle - Veronica F - 1st
11 Years Boys 50m Freestyle - Mikey L - 1st (New Record)
11 Years Girls 50m Freestyle - Ashley B - 3rd
12 Years Boys 50m Freestyle - Josh - 1st (New Record) Deniel - 2nd

Junior 50m Boys Backstroke: Cameron V - 3rd
Junior 50m Girls Backstroke: Veronica F - 1st
11 Years Boys Backstroke: Mikey L - 1st (New Record)
12 Years Boys 50m Backstroke: Josh H - 1st (New Record) Deniel H - 2nd Dylan G - 3rd

Junior 50m Girls Breaststroke: Veronica F - 1st
11 Years Boys 50m Breaststroke - Mikey L - 2nd
12 Years Boys 50m Breaststroke - Deniel H - 1st Josh H - 2nd Dylan G - 3rd

Junior Boys 50m Butterfly - Preston A - 2nd
Junior Girls 50m Butterfly - Veronica F - 2nd
11 Years Boys 50m Butterfly: Mikey L - 1st (New Record)
12 Years Boys 50m Butterfly: Josh H - 1st (New Record) Deniel H - 2nd Dylan G - 3rd

Junior Girls 200m Medley - Veronica F - 2nd
Senior Boys 200m Medley - Mikey L - 1st (New Record) Josh H - 2nd Deniel - 3rd

Junior Boys 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay - 2nd
Cameron, David, Liam, Preston
Junior Girls 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay - 2nd
Kristiana, Ezelle, Tori, Veronica
Senior Boys 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay - 1st
Dylan G, Deniel H, Joshua H, Mikey L - 1st (New Record)

Approximately fourteen swimmers from Ironbark Ridge PS will represent The Ridges Zone at the Sydney West Regional Swimming Carnival which is being held on Thursday 20th March. Congratulations to all swimmers.

Thanks Judy Paton and Tracy Sayer
Team Managers
SPORTS REPORT

Congratulations to all of our students who represented Ironbark Ridge at the Ridges Zone carnival at Blacktown on Wednesday 26th February. We are so proud of all of you! It was great to see so many parents, grandparents etc there to support Ironbark.

Each week coaches will be looking at the students playing in teams and select one Junior and Senior player for Sports Achievement. Well done to all of our PSSA teams in Round 1.

Round 1 PSSA

- **AFL** –
  Seniors lost to Rouse Hill 86 – 14. Senior Sport Achievement is Liam V for showing initiative.
  Juniors lost to Rouse Hill 60 – 6. Junior Sports Achievement is Chloe P for good defending skills.

- **Cricket** –
  Seniors won against John Palmer. Senior Sport Achievement is Ben C for great captaincy skills.
  Juniors won against John Palmer. Junior Sports Achievement is Kye T for great sportsmanship.

- **Oztag** –
  Seniors lost to Rouse Hill 32-4. Senior Sport Achievement is Kiara H for good sportsmanship.
  Juniors won against Rouse Hill 24-20. Junior Sports Achievement is Jay I for great skills.
**Softball and T-ball –**
Seniors lost to Kellyville Ridge 29-27. Senior Sport Achievement is Genevieve V for displaying a positive attitude.
Juniors lost to Kellyville Ridge 11-1. Junior Sports Achievement is Holly HJ for leadership and encouraging new team members.

Open Rugby League trials were held last week. Jay I, Nick D, Lachlan W, Riley A, Tye L and Makkai L all attended. Congratulations to Riley A, Tye L and Makkai L who were selected to play in the combined Ridges/Hawkesbury team.

Tamara Nahirny and Mark Pengelly
PD/H/PE Coordinators

**MUSIC**
Welcome to all students and parents. 2014 looks set to be a bumper year for music at IRPS.
There have been a record number of applications for music lessons and we would like to thank you for your patience as we sort through all of these. If your child has not yet commenced lessons please do not worry – all students will be on the timetable for Week 6.
Please note that you will also be receiving the term invoices next week – thank you in advance for attending to these promptly.
Please feel free to contact me via email stella@talatimusic.com.au or mobile 0422 109 397.
Happy music making!
Mr & Mrs Talati

**ADMINISTRATION NEWS:**
Just a reminder to all parents that we are now processing EFTPOS payments. We cannot process EFTPOS payments after 1.00pm. All monies should be put in an envelope in the green box at the office each morning on arrival at school. No monies are to go to the classroom teacher.

**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.

**HEAD LICE**
A case of pediculosis (head lice) as been detected at school. You should check your child’s hair to ensure they are free of lice. Should you find any evidence you will need to treat your child’s hair with products that are available from pharmacies.
P&C NEWS & FUNDRAISING

From The Desk Of The Prez
We had a fabulous productive February meeting with a huge turn-out of new members. It is so appreciated to see your new faces, especially because you will be here for many years to come and getting involved in any way that you can manage really does make your time more enjoyable. And you always make new friends whenever you do.

Our streets around the school have become increasingly busy over the last couple of years. The limitation on parking and the rush to get kids into school on time cause accidents. Both the crossing guard and myself were nearly hit by cars in the last 2 weeks, so it is important that no matter how busy you are, do not rush around the school and always give way. In addition when picking children up from school please either meet them on the school side of the road or next to the school crossing if you are waiting on the other side of the road. A young child was almost run over when running across the road to where their parent was waiting last Friday.

Keep an eye on our refurbished Parent Notice Board in it’s new home outside the Uniform Shop. I will be updating it with info for you.

P&C AGM - Wed 12 March 2014, 7pm
School Library
Our Annual General Meeting is on 12 March where all current committee positions will become vacant and nominees will be voted into the roles of the office bearers and committees for the rest of 2014. This year both of our Vice Presidents, Fundraising Coordinator and Canteen Rostering Coordinator have either left the school or have returned to full time work. So this is a great opportunity for fresh new victims ... oh I mean fresh new faces ;) to join the P&C Executive and committees.

YOU MUST BE A FINANCIAL MEMBER AS AT 12 FEB 2014 TO BE ABLE TO NOMINATE OR BE NOMINATED. You can check with the P&C Secretary or Treasurer if you are not sure.

Leigh :)

Nominate Yourself
Come Along & Vote
Wed 12 March 7pm School Library
CANTEEN

OPENING HOURS -
Monday - 9.00am to 3.00pm
Wednesday - 9.00am to 3.00pm
Friday - 9.00am to 3.00pm

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO ENSURE WE CAN DELIVER THE BEST RELIABLE SERVICE TO YOUR KIDS EVERY WEEK ... BOOK TODAY!

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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 5</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>26th Feb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3 x people 12.45-2.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 6</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>5th March</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>1 x (Exp) 8.45-2.45</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 7</strong></td>
<td>10th March</td>
<td></td>
<td>14th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 x people 8.45-10.45</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 x person 8.45-10.45</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 x people 10.45-12.45</td>
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<td>1 x person 10.45-12.45</td>
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<td>2 x people 12.45-2.45</td>
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<td>1 x person 12.45-2.45</td>
</tr>
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NEW CANTEEN MENU

| Build-Your-Own Ridgey Didge Burger Chicken or Beef | Munch & Crunch Salad Tub $1.50 | Munch & Crunch Fruit Salad Tub $1.50 |

Available Now on FlexiSchools

Canteen Training Day
Pop into the Canteen on Friday 7 March or Wednesday 12 March to discover how the canteen runs... you will be impressed at how easy and fun it is.

UNIFORM SHOP

OPENING HOURS -
Monday - 8.30am to 9.30am
Wednesday - 2.00pm to 3.00pm
Friday - 2.00pm to 3.00pm

ON SALE: All house coloured items are selling at cost and won't be restocked to make room for core items. Get your sunglasses, zinc sticks, sport house bags, banners and more, cheap while you can. Flexischools is your best option for order and collect at the uniform shop or from KT OOSH.

Out of stock items: expected mid term.
Dresses sizes 6 & 10
Short Sleeve Polo sizes 6, 8, 10 & 12
Long Sleeve Polo sizes 4 & 6
Short Sleeve Sport Polo size 12
Bomber Jacket size 6
FUNDRAISING

MEGA OUTDOOR FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT - Sat 29 March

$25 / Family
$5 / Grandparent

MEGA FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT FUNDRAISER
THE SOCIAL EVENT OF 2014
Tickets On Sale Soon
PAVERS PAVERS PAVERS PAVERS PAVERS!!

Our very special “Walk of Fame” Pavers Fundraiser is BACK!

Cement your child’s time at Ironbark with a special paver, whether commemorating a start in Kindy, Finishing Year 6, an SRC rep or a School Leader – whatever the reason, this is a great way to “set it in stone”.

Purchase a ‘single’ paver, or perhaps a ‘Family’ paver!

Please return your order slip and payment in an envelope marked “Walk of Fame Paver” to the office by: **Friday March 21st**

Payments can be made by Flexischools, Cash or Cheque. If paying by Flexischools, please still return order slip to office.

Any questions, please email Monica on: calderwood3@bigpond.com

Double Family Paver $60.00  Single Paver $3

STUDENT BANKING

My name is Mishelle Young and I am excited to be helping out with the student banking this year along with Trish Aldred whom you may all know through the Uniform Shop. We are looking forward to teaching our kids about savings and helping them earn wonderful prizes this year. Remember it’s not too late if you want to open up an account for your child, just pop down to your local CBA Branch and they can open it up on the spot for you. All you need is 2 forms of ID for yourself and your child.

For those that have accounts please remember to drop off your bank wallets to the office every Friday morning. To ensure that your child’s money doesn’t fall out I suggest putting their coins in a small ziplock bag with their name and class and then putting it into their banking wallet. Please email the ‘Dynamic Duo’ at StudentBanking@irpspc.com if you are still waiting for your book to arrive.
Get The
Ironbark Ridge App
Available On All Phones

Search for Ironbark in your favourite app store

What Can You Do With It?

Newsletters  Sick Notes
Events Dates  Flexischools
Notes Due  Pop-Up Alerts
Venue Maps

Active SCHOOL APPS
COMMUNITY NOTICES:

Bollywood Dancing for Kids and All

Come and learn this dance in a relaxed and fun atmosphere

- Kids classes held separately.
- Classes held at Glenwood.
- First lesson is free !!!

If you are interested, please call Meena on 88832892 or 0403434009

The Australian Hotel & Brewery

TOUR DE HILLS
BICYCLE CLASSIC 2014
CASTLE HILL ROTARY

CHARITY CYCLING EVENT: SUNDAY MARCH 2, 2014

Grab your bike and come along to the 19th Tour de Hills Bicycle Classic.
Four routes to choose from, including a family-friendly 15km, and all rides
start and finish at the Australian Brewery in Rouse Hill.
Register before the event via the website tourdehills.com.au.
Help raise $60,000 for community groups while having a great day out!
Organised by the Rotary Club of Castle Hill.

WWW.TOURDEHILLS.COM.AU
KELLYVILLE ROUSE HILL MAGPIES

Have fun, learn new skills and make friends playing Australia’s favourite game!

Kellyville Rouse Hill Magpies are on the lookout for boys and girls with ages ranging from Auskick (5 to 8), juniors (9 to 12) and youth (13 to 17).

Contact: Lara Goode
Email: registrar@krhjfc.com.au
Web: www.krhjfc.com.au

Register online at www.krhjfc.com.au
BENEDICTINE MONASTERY ARCADIA

49TH ANNUAL COUNTRY FAIR

proudly supported by Castle Hill RSL Club 77 Castle St, Castle Hill  (02) 9658 4800

MAJOR RAFFLE PRIZES
1st: $1000 travel voucher or computer goods
2nd: $150 shopping voucher
3rd: $75 shopping voucher

• COUNTRY SETTING • FAMILY DAY
• MASS TO BEGIN 10.00AM • FETE TO BEGIN 10.30AM
RAIN OR SHINE - TELEPHONE 02 9653 1159
www.benedictine.org.au/go/countryfair

9th March 2014
121 Arcadia Road, Arcadia
(02) 9653 1159

• Plants
• Sweets
• BBQ
• Choc. Wheel
• Cakes
• Fancy Goods
• Heaps of kids stuff
• Raffles
• White Elephant
• Hot/Cold Drinks
• Farm Produce
• Jumping Castle
• Pony Rides
• Merry-go-round
• Tours of the Monastery
11.00am / 12.00pm / 1.00pm / 2.00pm
DISCLAIMER:
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DANCE on Q

Classes Monday to Saturday for students 2-18 years old

Located at the Wrights Road Reserve Community Centre, Castle Hill

PETITE PERFORMERS
- Boys & Girls 2-6 years
- Combines Song, Jazz, Hip Hop, Tap & Ballet
- Fun colourful props
- Morning & Afternoon classes

JUNIOR - SENIOR
- Boys & Girls 5-18 years
- Jazz, Tap, Ballet, Contemporary and JFH (Jazz*Funk*Hip Hop)
- ACR0 (Acrobatics)

0422 611 518
info@danceonq.com.au
www.danceonq.com.au
Holiday Tennis Camp!

Keep your child active and engaged this school break

- Effective and fun coaching and match play
- April 22nd to 24th (Tues – Thurs), 9am to 3pm
- $80 for the full camp, family discounts ($75pp). $30p/day
- Trophies and BBQ lunch on Thursday
- Excellent facility in Kellyville, weekly coaching available

For more info or to book, phone Lara on: 0432 839 467