



PRINCIPAL REPORT – WEEK 6 TERM 4 2019

Just prior to our lunch break on Tuesday 12 November, we conducted a whole school emergency lockdown drill to ensure our school processes are effectively and easily followed. This was a great opportunity to iron out any minor kinks in our emergency management procedures, test our sirens and familiarise our students with these arrangements. Alongside our staff, I was left very impressed with the attitude of our students and their respect towards this process. Over the coming weeks, we will also conduct on-site and off-site evacuation drills, providing us further opportunities to refine our emergency management plans. In the case of a real incident, please be reassured we will communicate with families as quickly as possible, using communication platforms appropriate for the situation. Naturally, it is always our first priority to ensure all students are safe and within adult care.

Leading into the bushfire season, the Department of Education and Training (DET) have provided one-off funding to schools on the Bushfire At Risk Register (BARR) to ensure they meet a level of preparedness, not dissimilar to the requirements of home and land owners in environments such as ours. For example, this includes the removal of flammable undergrowth, the establishment of a fuel reduced zone around buildings, pruning of trees overhanging buildings, separation of tree canopies, removal of dead trees and limbs, and clearing of gutters and drains. Over the next few weeks, works such as these will be completed at our school, allowing us to meet relevant DET and BARR requirements, and of course, providing a safer environment for our children during the bushfire season. I am highlighting these works as I am very mindful of the appreciation within our community of the natural environment that surrounds our school, so please be assured we will do our very best to balance our desire to maintain this whilst also meeting our relevant obligations.

Take care,

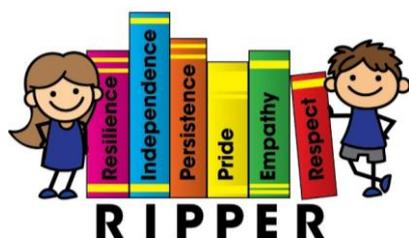
Joel Blythman

SCHOOL UNIFORM PURCHASES

If you are in need of any uniform items through the school, these will need to be purchased/paid for prior to 13th December as a stocktake needs to be done before the end of term. Please check with me before paying for an order, as stock is limited and may not be available until next year.

~ Karyn ~

RIPPER Student Awards - Week Ending 8th November 2019



Prep	Abraham Gipp	For improved independence during class routines.
1	Havana Wilson	For persistence to improve her writing.
2/3	Billy Kreun	For his great efforts in his Big Write and Word work.
3/4	Aemaeth Rhue	For his great effort in his Big Write and showing pride.
4/5	Roman Sturre	For displaying independence and pride in his work.
Music	Kate Edgar	For her great effort in taking a challenge to learn the melody of Waltzing Matilda on her flute.
	Abby Riddell	For always being supportive and helpful towards our "budding" recorder players.

DATES TO REMEMBER		
15 th Nov	Fri	Curriculum Day - Staff Professional Development - No students at school
19 th Nov	Tue	Years 3-6 Water Safety Awareness Program
		School Hot Dog Lunch orders due in by 9:00am
20 th Nov	Wed	Book Club Orders Due In
22 nd Nov	Fri	School Hot Dog Lunch Day
27 th - 29 th Nov	Wed - Fri	Years 5 & 6 Melbourne Camp
17 th Dec	Tue	End of Year School Concert
20 th Dec	Fri	End of Term 4 - 1:30pm dismissal

ICAS COMPETITION RESULTS

The **Science, Digital Technologies and Spelling** ICAS (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools) competitions were entered by a number of Year 2 to 6 students. This is an international competition and students excelling received awards as outlined below. –

- High Distinction **Certificate**: the top 1% of participants
- Distinction **Certificate**: the next 10% of participants
- Credit **Certificate**: the next 25% of participants
- Merit **Certificate**: the next 10% of participants
- Participation **Certificate**: for all remaining participants

Congratulations go to all students who entered and had a go. A special mention to Isobel McAllister with her exceptional result of a High Distinction, placing her in the top 1% of entrants. Certificates were presented at our Monday assembly. Results are as follows:

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES CERTIFICATES



Distinction	Credit	Participation
Year 4 Imogen McAllister Year 5 Isobel McAllister	Year 5 Kate Edgar Abby Riddell Year 6 Maddison Hodgson	Year 3 Jack Hodgson Roy Riseley Year 4 Deegan Borg William Edgar Natalie Piechota Daniel Riddell Year 5 Alice Den Houting Year 6 Jessica Pettifer

SCIENCE CERTIFICATES



High Distinction	Credit	Merit	Participation	
Year 5 Isobel McAllister	Year 2 Rohan Piechota Year 3 Imogen McAllister Year 4 Kate Edgar Heath Kamphuis Abby Riddell Year 5 Maddison Hodgson	Year 6 Jessica Pettifer Jessica Ruff	Year 2 Sian Coulthard Ceili Coulthard Year 3 Jack Ralph Roy Riseley Declan Kamphuis Jack Hodgson	Year 4 Deegan Borg William Edgar Natalie Piechota Daniel Riddell Year 5 Alice Den Houting Year 6 Isabell Gissara

SPELLING CERTIFICATES



Distinction	Credit	Merit	Participation	
Year 2 Sophie Wilhelm Year 5 Kate Edgar	Year 2 Rohan Piechota Year 3 Imogen McAllister Year 4 Brody Stevenson Year 5 Abby Riddell	Year 2 Ceili Coulthard	Year 2 Sian Coulthard Jace Summers Year 3 Imogen McAllister Jack Ralph	Year 4 William Edgar Natalie Piechota Daniel Riddell Year 5 Alice Den Houting Isobel McAllister Year 6 Jessica Pettifer

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT IN NUMERACY

As communicated in our previous newsletters, we have been providing handy tips and ways you can help your child develop numeracy skills. We present these tips and activities in two different categories, Birth – Year 2, and Year 3 – Year 6, alternating each edition. These aim to be fun, inexpensive, accessible and practical activities you can do with your child at home. Through these everyday activities, at home you can help your child develop their numeracy skills, such as calculating and using numbers, recognising patterns, and using language to develop mathematical understanding.

Research shows that families are the most significant influence on their children's learning, development, health, safety and wellbeing. Your family can play a key role in helping your child prepare for school, and then succeed when they reach school. So, give these activities a go and have some fun with numbers!

Regards,

Joel Blythman

Year 3 to Year 6:

Using playing cards

Playing with cards is always a fun activity, particularly on a rainy day or on holidays. You can:

1. Play matching number games like 'Snap' with playing cards.
2. Order the numbers on the cards from smallest to largest, or largest to smallest.

Playing shop

Playing shop helps ground your child's maths learning in the real world while also developing their social skills. One way to play shop is to create a mini-shop at home. Here are a few tips and activities:

3. Collect food and grocery items and label them with prices written on sticky notes, or prices cut out of shopping catalogues.
4. Talk about how we pay for items using coins, notes and cards.
5. Make paper money or use play money to buy and sell goods from the mini-shop.
6. Collect old receipts or price tags and use them in the mini-shop.
7. Notice the features of different coins, including their shapes and the animals and people shown. Discuss the differences. Create coin rubbings with pencils and paper.
8. Encourage your child to order food items by height (tallest to the shortest) or by cost (least expensive to most expensive).
9. Introduce kitchen scales to the mini-shop to weigh foods, such as a box of tea bags or a bag of rice, and order items by weight.

Playing games

Making maths fun and interactive by playing games will help engage your child. Here are some ideas:

10. Play 'I Spy' or other games to help your child identify shapes, numbers and patterns.

11. Board games are a fun way to involve the whole family with maths. Help your child when rolling dice to count, move, and stop after moving the number shown on the dice.
12. When using dice your child may count all the dots on the die face to determine the total number. Over time they will begin to recognise automatically the value on the die face without counting.
13. The Victorian Maths Challenge is a fun and engaging way for families to engage in real life mathematics and explore problems together: [Victorian Maths Challenge](#)
14. Play number games online with your child. Here is a short list of good websites to help begin your online search for resources:
 - [Home Page - FUSE - Department of Education & Training](#) (select Early Childhood or Primary Students tabs)
 - [Resources for Primary and Secondary Students - ABC Education](#)
 - [ICT Games Educational games for Infant and Junior school children](#)

Playing with shapes

Playing with shapes helps develop your child's awareness of different shapes. It also improves their hand-eye coordination.

Here are some tips and activities:

15. Jigsaw puzzles, tangrams or shape sorting toys help teach your child problem solving skills and spatial awareness.
16. Name and notice the similarities and differences between shapes. For example, shapes with curves, corners or edges.
17. Help your child draw shapes, cut them out and sort them into groups. Ask your child to explain why they have sorted the shapes this way.
18. Use cookie cutters to explore different shapes using playdough.
19. Encourage your child to identify shapes in their everyday life, such as a round ball, square window or hexagonal 'STOP' sign.
20. Making paper planes together combines many mathematical concepts, including angles, shapes, halving and symmetry.
21. Once complete, you can compare which plane flew the furthest and have fun measuring too.
22. Use building blocks to create a tower. Using the same number of blocks, ask your child to build another tower that's different to the first tower.