



# THE RIPPER TIMES

Weekly Newsletter of Traralgon South Primary School

## PRINCIPAL REPORT...

### School Attendance:

As we begin to develop a stronger school routine at the beginning of the year, I would like to remind our school community about the importance of attendance, and the cumulative impact absenteeism, late arrivals and early departures has on student learning. Naturally, this message needs to be balanced with the stricter interpretation of illnesses we are required to consider in the current COVID-19 climate. However, as can be seen in the table below, 10 minutes here, 20 minutes there, or a day or two away from school has a significant impact on time away from the classroom, making it harder for your child to access the learning when they are present as they will have likely missed key elements of a learning sequence.

#### 1 or 2 days off school a week does not seem like much but...

If your child misses...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling, that is...
1 day per fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Almost 1 ½ years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years of school
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Almost 8 years

#### How about being a little bit late each day?

He/she is only missing just...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling, that is...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Almost 1 ½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ a year
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40 minutes per week	Over 2 ½ weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
30 minutes per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years

**EVERY DAY COUNTS – If you want your child to be successful at school then, YES, attendance does matter!**

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## School Photos:

Our school photos for 2021 will again be taken by John Ansell Photography, with these booked for Monday 29 March. Envelopes will be sent home with all students today, each providing individual access codes and detailing the photo packages available to purchase.

For families who would like sibling photos to be taken, a separate envelope is required. If you would like one, these can be collected from the General Office. Additionally, spare unnamed envelopes can also be provided should you misplace the original.

All envelopes, for both individual and sibling photos, must be brought to school on 29 March.

## Reminder (re) 2021 Parent Payment Charges:

Please be reminded about the payment of 2021 school fees, due by 26 February 2021. This one-off \$160 payment allows classroom teachers to purchase all classroom consumable and essential student learning items for your child for the entire year, offering fantastic value at less than \$1/day. We also invite families to consider making voluntary contributions to our school, with this amount left to your discretion.

Full details of our Parent Payment Policy can be found on our website at [https://www.traralgonsthps.vic.edu.au/uploads/1/0/8/4/10847507/parent\\_payments\\_policy\\_oct\\_2020.pdf](https://www.traralgonsthps.vic.edu.au/uploads/1/0/8/4/10847507/parent_payments_policy_oct_2020.pdf), inclusive of payment methods and financial support options available for families.

Take care

Joel Blythman

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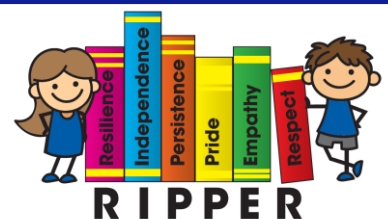
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## DATES TO REMEMBER...

<b>Prior to 26<sup>th</sup> February</b>		School Materials Charges Due - Full details go to the documents tab or policies tab on our school website.
<b>10<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Wednesday	Book Club Online Loop Orders Close
<b>5<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Friday	Conveyance Allowance Applications Close
<b>8<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Monday	Labour Day Public Holiday
<b>10<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Wednesday	House Sports - Information and permission form sent home today.
<b>17<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Wednesday	District Sports - note change of date
<b>29<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Monday	School Photos

### Conveyance Allowance

You may be eligible to receive conveyance allowance for transporting your child to and from school. To be eligible to receive conveyance allowance, a student must:

- Be school age
- Reside more than 4.8km by the shortest route from the nearest school attended or bus stop,
- Be enrolled at the nearest government primary or secondary school, or at the nearest appropriate registered non-government school.

If you believe you are eligible to receive conveyance allowance, please contact the school to complete an application. If you have claimed this in the past you do not need to fill in another claim form. Applications close 5<sup>th</sup> March.

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## Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) Applications

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you have a valid means-tested concession card, such as a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible. There is also a special consideration category for asylum seeker and refugee families.

Payment amounts this year are \$125 for eligible primary school students. Payments are made direct to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

If you applied for CSEF through our school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year, unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

If you would like to apply for the first time, please contact the school office and ask for an application form.

You can also download the form, and find out more about the program and eligibility, on the Department of Education and Training's [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund web page](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx).  
<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

Check with the school office if you are unsure, and please return completed forms to the school office as soon as possible.

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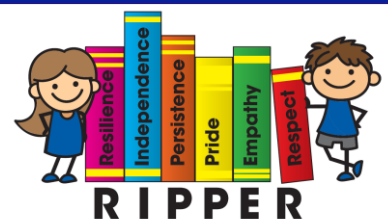
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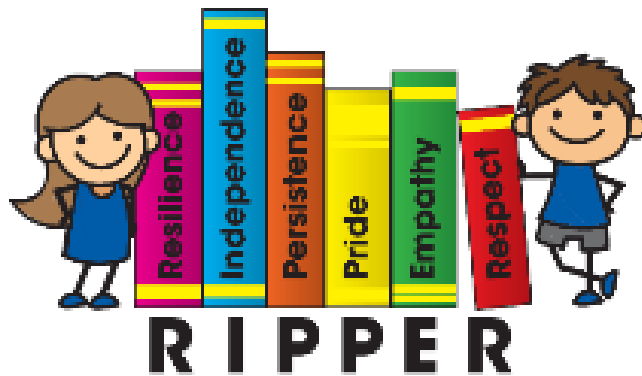




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## RIPPER STUDENT AWARDS...



<b>Prep/1</b>	Amelia Bald	For a great start to school and consistently displaying the RIPPER values.
<b>Grade 1/2</b>	Lola Phelan	For showing independence and joining in discussions.
<b>Grade 2/3</b>	Errol Faul	For being organised and starting the year well.
<b>Grade 4/5</b>	Danielle Game	For her consistent contributions to classroom learning and ideas.
<b>Grade 5/6</b>	Tayla Leviston	For her consistent effort in all her work and her ability to listen and follow instructions.
<b>Art/Music</b>	Caitlyn Dalrymple	For taking a great deal of pride in her "chameleon" drawing, especially with the shape of her reptile.
<b>PE</b>	Jordan Bantick	For showing persistence during all PE classes.

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