



# Red Hill Consolidated School



8th August, 2019

## SCHOOL VISION

Through the Contemporary Learning Experience framework we will provide a rich learning environment that is student centred, technology enriched, question driven, skills based and contextually relevant. We will promote creativity and provide every opportunity for students to



### Thursday, 15 August

Yr 1 African Drumming Incursion

### Monday, 19 August

Yr 1 Bollywood Incursion

### Wednesday, 21 August

Yr 6 CERES Park Excursion

### Friday, 23 August

Year 2 Cultural Performance –  
Assembly 9.00am

### Monday 26 –Thursday 29 August

Book Week/Book Fair

### Thursday, 29 August

Yr 4 Multicultural Excursion

### Friday, 30 August

Fathers Day Breakfast  
Navy Band Visit

### Wednesday, 4 September

District Athletics

### Thursday, 5 September

Student Led Conferences

### Monday, 9 September

Prep Sage Garden Activity

### School Council Meeting

### Tuesday, 20 August

Education—6.30pm

School Council 7pm in Staffroom

### Tuesday, 17 September

Education—6.30pm

School Council—7pm in Staffroom

### Term Dates

#### Term 3

July 16 to September 20

2.30pm finish

last day of term school

#### Term 4

October 7 to December 20

Dear families and friends,

It's currently full steam ahead up at Red Hill Consolidated School, so I'll launch straight into the news this week. Firstly, if you were one of the randomly selected families who received an invitation to take part in our school's **Parent Opinion Survey**, I hope that you can take the time to participate. The survey only takes 10-15 minutes to complete and will provide us with valuable feedback that will be used to assist our future planning. Currently, only 44 of the 185 families who received this invite have completed the survey. It is a DET requirement for a school of our size to have 85 completed responses. The survey remains open until Sunday the 11th of August. Thankyou to those families who have already completed this survey.

Our **School Review** officially begins next week with our Validation Day on Wednesday the 14th of August. All Victorian schools are reviewed every four years and this is a valuable opportunity to reflect on previous goals and implementation strategies, celebrate achievements and milestones as well as identify areas for improvement, which will be used to set goals for our next Strategic Plan. This process also involves an audit our school's policies and procedures. Our review panel will consist of our reviewer, our Senior Education Improvement Leader, two challenge partners, Joanne Barnes, Nicky Heffernan, our School Council President, Naomi Douglas and myself. A big part of the Validation Day will be visiting classrooms to help provide our panel with a deeper understanding of our approach to teaching and learning. Our school reviewer will also be talking to staff members and students throughout the day as well as analysing our whole school achievement data. By the end of this Validation Day, the panel will have set the focus questions or terms of reference for the rest of our review process. I will keep you updated with this process in future newsletters.

Last week our Grade 4 team were treated to an engaging presentation by **Lionel Lauch from Living Culture**. Lionel shared his knowledge of Indigenous culture and way of life as well as teach our students and teachers how to throw a spear. This incursion helped our Grade 4 students with their Learning Exploration, understanding what life in Australia was like before European settlement.

The students and teachers really enjoyed this experience and learned a great deal about our country's First People.



## 2020 Arrangements

Although it is only August, we are already beginning to make initial plans for 2020. If you already know that your child will not be attending Red Hill Consolidated School next year for any reason, we would appreciate you informing us in writing as soon as possible. Knowing this early helps us enormously with our projections, development of class structures and planning for next year.




## Before School

We still have a large number of students arriving at school well before 8:45am, some as early as 8:00am. Mornings at Red Hill can be very cold and even wet at this time of the year and these students are not supervised. If you need to get off early in the mornings, please utilise our out of hours care providers, Camp Australia. Please find more information on Camp Australia, including their programs and contact details in this newsletter.



## Future Newsletters

 As you are aware, Red Hill Consolidated School went paperless with our school reports for the first time last semester, drastically reducing our impact on the environment as well as the time taken to print, compile and envelope. We are aiming to do the same with our newsletters next term. Newsletters are easily accessible from our school website and via the Sentral mobile phone app. We also plan to have a small number of newsletters available for collection from the front office. Most neighbouring schools have already gone paperless with their newsletters and this will further reduce our school's ecological footprint, as well as cost and time taken to print and distribute newsletters.

If you haven't visited our school's website lately, I encourage you to spend a few minutes to check it out (<https://redhillcs.vic.edu.au/>). Our School Life section is updated fortnightly, showing our community a glimpse of what is happening at each level and in specialist classes. We have also recently added many of our updated policies, other resources and information that you might find handy. Our school newsletters, upcoming events and important dates can all be found on our home page. I would like to sincerely thank Liz Ruth and Chloe Russell for their ongoing work on our school's website.

As mentioned in the last edition of our newsletter, Gratitude is the wellbeing focus of Term 3. Regularly practicing gratitude is one simple strategy to develop a more positive outlook and resilience. In this week's newsletter I would like to express my gratitude for our wonderful and hardworking administration team. We have a great team of ladies in the front office who really do work non stop to keep our school running smoothly, all the time with a smile on their face. Big or small, no job is too much trouble for this amazing team. Thankyou Jackie, Louisa, Maria, Carmel and of course Louise in first aid.



## Parking Around the School

Parent's picking up their children on Tuesday afternoon this week may have noticed parking attendants and police observing our traffic conditions. I also spent some time with a representative from the shire discussing and watching the challenges we face during pick up times. We will continue to work with the Shire on a solution to our traffic problems and further visits will be scheduled. However, I was quite shocked at some of the dangerous behaviours of drivers. Many cars were parked illegally and dangerously and I witnessed several cars jump the queue for our pick up lane and others perform dangerous u-turns. I was also alarmed to see a number of children being called across our busy roads, less than fifty meters from our crossing. I urge you to remain patient during pick ups and drop offs and ensure you follow all road rules and abide by all parking signs. In addition, please encourage your child to use the school crossing.



## Book Week

Finally this week, **Book Week** is fast approaching. Our special Book Week Assembly will take place on the 26th of August, so make sure you are thinking about costumes nice and early.

We are also asking children to wear something purple to school on Thursday the 15th of August to raise awareness for epilepsy.



Have a wonderful week.

**Be kind, be grateful and be mindful! - Gus Wettenhall**



**At Camp Australia we provide a safe and supportive service for Children to play, connect, learn and thrive. At Red Hill we run a 100% Compliant Service.**

**Before School Care hours 7.00 am til 8.45 am.**

**After School Care hours 3.30 pm til 6.30 pm**

**A Healthy breakfast is offered each morning, and in the afternoon we have an array of fruits and a second snack. Second snack is varied from, healthy savoury platters to cakes, muffins, cookies etc.**

**Each of our programs is tailored to the needs of the school, and the individual interests of children who attend. As children's interests change when they grow, our programs also consider the ages of all the children attending our care. That way we can better support them in achieving their learning outcomes.**

**Our OSHC program gives children the opportunity to choose between station areas depending on their age and interests:**

- arts and crafts**
- imaginative play**
- cooking**
- construction**
- music and dance**
- environmental**
- project inquiry**

**Each day is different, though we always start with a roll call and welcome.**

**The children have shown a great interest in our universe, Why do we have stars? Why do we have planets? This week the children will be finishing off their planet mobile, stars and telescopes. Other activities for this week, construction activities, and group games, outdoor play, ball games, hoola hoops etc. including Children's Choice and Spontaneous Interests.**

**Next week is Science Week, a science lab in the OSHC room and many hands on Scientists.**

**Children will be encouraged to participate in an activity that interests them to help support this event. Other activities will also be offered throughout the week.**

**If you want to find out more about Camp Australia OSHC, search [www.campastralia.com.au](http://www.campastralia.com.au)**

**Jillian Co-ordinator for Camp Australia**



## Contemporary Learning Experience Update

This week I was lucky enough to be invited to the Red Hill Consolidated heat of the Lions Club Public Speaking competition. During the evening the students participating astounded me with their confidence and clarity as they spoke. They stood in front of a large group and spoke for 3 minutes, often without notes or prompts, and each of them captivated the audience with their presentation. We had 14 students participating and each of them should be congratulated. Well done to Freddy, Georgia, Grace, Cass, Molly, Charlotte, Caitlin, Fenella, Ada, Rylan, Kye, Eliza, Lola and Sophie. Special thanks to Mr. James Graham and Ms. Lucy Welsh who helped the students prepare for the competition.



I was very glad that I was not one of the judges as it would have been an incredibly tough decision to choose winners as each and every child did an amazing job! However, on the night the judges deemed that Georgia and Lola should proceed to the next stage in the competition. They also highly commended Charlotte and Rylan.

On the evening I spoke to parents and many commented on the fact that they would never have had the confidence to stand and speak in front of an audience at such a young age. Upon reflection I thought the same of myself and that got me thinking about how is the learning experience now allowing for our students to develop such strong speaking skills?

In days of yesteryear, classrooms were not a place where students were encouraged to speak. A popular quote amongst grown-ups was “Children should be seen and not heard!” However current research highlights the importance of developing classroom cultures where conversation and dialogue is essential. But why are conversations so important? Here are some of the many benefits of classrooms that have conversation as a key component of the teaching and learning process:

- Conversations engage learners.
- Conversations allow us to engage the children in their own learning.
- Engaging children in conversations and listening to their ideas gives them a voice in our classrooms.
- Conversations show we value and respect children’s thinking and learning.
- Children feel more connected to and therefore participate more fully in all kinds of learning experiences.
- Talking allows ideas and vocabulary to grow.
- When children listen to others their thinking grows.
- Participation in substantive conversations gives children the opportunities to practise and use skills in questioning, reflecting, planning, evaluating and to make connections to essential skills for learning.
- Conversations allow children to develop a view of themselves and people who have positive contributions to make to the world.
- Children find more purpose in learning experiences that explore their own ideas about things through conversations.
- Children are motivated, through conversations, to search and find answers to their questions to build their own understanding.
- Teachers benefit from conversations by increasing insight into children’s understandings, ideas and confusions.
- Teachers use this knowledge to help plan an engaging and challenging learning environment for the children in their class.

Conversation isn’t just important in the classroom but also at home.

Our challenge is to find time to have these meaningful, insightful conversations with our children daily.

*Nicky Heffernan & Jo Barnes*





# SCIENCE IN THE PARK

SUNDAY 11 AUGUST 2019  
10AM-4PM

Coolart Wetlands and Homestead  
Lord Somers Road, Somers VIC 3927

Free hands-on science activities for all ages to celebrate National Science Week

## Q&A WITH NASA SCIENTIST, DARLENE LIM

Renowned NASA geobiologist Dr Darlene Lim will talk about her research in extreme earth environments and participate in a live Q&A. Dr Lim leads several research programs focused on blending field science research with the development of capabilities and concepts for future human spaceflight into deep space and Mars.

## ART-SCIENCE EXHIBITION

The 'Mission Control' exhibition will run at the Coolart Homestead, featuring artworks from research students at Swinburne's Centre for Astrophysics and Supercomputing, and artists from Mount Burnett Observatory.

## ECO TOURS AND HANDS-ON SCIENCE ACTIVITIES

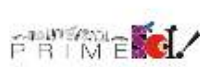
A number of local science organisations will be there too - including Parks Victoria, EPA Victoria and Birdlife Mornington Peninsula - sharing information on their latest projects.

## FREE SHUTTLE BUS (NEW!)

A free shuttle bus will run throughout the day to take visitors to and from their cars in the Somers area.

It's certainly a day for all nature enthusiasts, young and old.

→ [SWI.NU/NATSCIWK2019](http://SWI.NU/NATSCIWK2019)



We'll be celebrating National Science Week at your Outside School Hours Care

# national science week 2019

with Camp Australia



12th - 16th August

National Science Week is Australia's annual celebration of science and technology. Join us for more missions, more science, more fun!

**Book now so you don't miss out!**

Visit [www.campastralia.com.au](http://www.campastralia.com.au) and book your session now. You must register to attend. Registration is free.

Safety • Meaningful • Innovative • Leadership • Education  
1300 105 343 [www.campastralia.com.au](http://www.campastralia.com.au)



Find us on Facebook  
Red Hill Basketball Club  
@redhillbasketballclub

Email: [basketballredhill@gmail.com](mailto:basketballredhill@gmail.com)

## Are you interested in playing basketball next season????

The Red Hill Basketball Club is excited to announce that we will be running free weekly training sessions for boys & girls in Prep and Grade 1 (those not currently in a team) who are interested in joining the 2019/2020 summer basketball season.

Sessions will run each Tuesday after school @ 3.30pm - 4.30pm in the school gym from Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> August until the end of Term 3.

RHBC coaches along with u14 players will introduce kids to the basics of the game, rules and everything they need to know prior to playing their first season.

There is absolutely no pressure or commitment to join a team. Just come down after school and join in the fun.

We will also have members of the committee there to answer any questions parents may have.

Please bring a drink bottle, runners, a basketball (if you have one, but no problem if you don't) and most importantly your positive attitude.

We look forward to seeing you on 6<sup>th</sup> August and be ready to have lots of FUN!!!!

\*\*\*For ANY players from Grade 2 up looking to play (and not currently in a team) you can also come see a member of the committee at these training sessions or email us with your information.\*\*\*

Any questions please email us at [basketballredhill@gmail.com](mailto:basketballredhill@gmail.com).



7pm till late • Flinders Yacht Club • Foreshore Road Flinders  
Melbourne's finest soul live 'The Shackmen' feat. Kylie Auld  
Silent & Live Auctions • Live cooking & local wine with chef Bernard McCarthy  
Tickets \$75 include food & drink via [www.flinderspreschool.org.au/BNO](http://www.flinderspreschool.org.au/BNO)  
Flinders Big Night Out is proudly hosted by Flinders Preschool parents. All profits raised make our local Preschool the best it can be. Visit us at [www.flinderspreschool.org.au](http://www.flinderspreschool.org.au)