



WHAT'S ON Dates to Note

Tuesday, 1st March

Year 1 Incurtion – Mrs. Sargood

Wednesday, 2nd March

District Swimming

Tuesday, 8th March

School Photos

Friday, 11th March

Curriculum Day (student free)

Wednesday, 23rd March

Year 3 excursion – Mock Orchards

27th-29th April

Grade 6 Camp

School Council Dates

Tuesday, 22nd March
AGM

Term Dates

Term 1

1st February – 8th April

Term 2

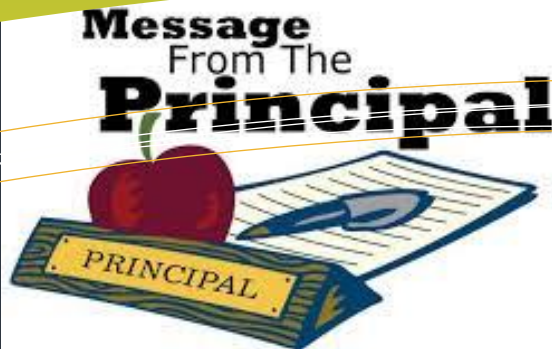
26th April – 24th June

Term 3

11th July – 16th September

Term 4

3rd October – 20th December



From the Principal

Dear families and friends,

I hope you are all well and enjoying the final week of summer. This week I am writing my newsletter from home as a household close contact. Like many Red Hill Consolidated families, we have been in isolation for a week after my daughter tested positive. Fortunately, her symptoms were very mild and only lasted a few days, and no one else has tested positive so far. I would like to thank all of our families for their diligence with regular Rapid Antigen Testing and isolating. I know this can be very disruptive and difficult, but it is making our school a safer place. Our confirmed cases amongst students remains low, with 7 active cases across the school. Your support, along with the COVIDSafe measures in place at school are keeping these transmissions much lower than anticipated.

This week I attended the South East Victorian Principals Forum (virtually of course). The theme across the day was adaptability, a skill that we have all embraced and developed over the course of the past 18 months.

We have asked our students to be incredibly adaptable over this time, as we switched in and out of extended periods of lockdowns and between remote learning and on-site learning. At the time, some of our students thrived, while others coped with these changes. No surprise, schools across the state are reporting that this has taken a measurable toll on our students, and many students are only now showing signs of wear and tear. One presenter at this week's conference referred to our students as having a lack of match fitness, which I would agree with. Many of our students become fatigued throughout the day and week as a result of last

this issue

Principal's Report **P.1-3**

CLE update **P.4**

Wellbeing News **P.5-6**

year's disruptions. As we all know, students don't make the best decisions when they are tired and often find it difficult to regulate. Our teachers are doing a wonderful job of supporting students to develop their emotional regulation and relationships with others and we have brought in a number of targeted programs to directly address these needs. However, for most of our learners there is no better way to develop their "match fitness" than to be at school. Getting back to a regular routine and attending school (when well or not required to isolate) has never been more important. To help us out, please ensure your children are getting to bed early, especially during the week. It is recommended by the Sleep Health Foundation that all primary age children should get between 9 and 11 hours of sleep every night. For more information about sleep, including a long list of fact sheets on a range of sleep related topics, visit:

<https://www.sleephealthfoundation.org.au/>





This week the team from Resilient Youth trained many of our Grade 5 students to become Play Leaders. Our Play Leaders will be leaders in our school grounds at recess and lunchtimes and will be responsible for promoting positive play and helping younger students in the playground. They have been taught a range of playground games that they will teach to others and have received training in supporting other students to play with and include others. This will be a valuable program running every day and a meaningful opportunity for our Grade 5 students to develop their leadership skills. Well done to all involved.

Speaking of leadership, this week our Grade 6 Leaders and Captains were presented with their badges. Our local Member of Parliament, Chris Brayne spoke with our students about leadership and presented badges in front of peers, teachers and parents. I would like to officially congratulate and announce Harriet, Charlotte, Poppy and Cass as our School Captains for 2022. I look forward to working with these captains and the long list of Grade 6 student leaders throughout the year. Congratulations!



I wanted to bring to your attention two important policies in this week's newsletter. The first being the RHCS Mobile Phone Policy. If your child does need a mobile phone at school, it must be turned off and stored in secure storage with your child's teacher during school hours. We encourage families to discuss if a mobile phone is needed at school. We ask that students only bring a mobile phone if it is absolutely essential. Students will not have access to their phones, nor are they permitted to use their phone during school hours.



I would also like to take the opportunity to remind all families of the Department of Education's Privacy Policy. Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy (<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/schoolsprivacypolicy.aspx#link10>). Please take time to remind yourself of our school's collection notice, found on our website: <https://redhillcs.vic.edu.au/policies/>.

For more information about privacy, refer to: <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/Schools-Privacy-Policy-information-for-parents.aspx>

Unfortunately, I have no news to report this week regarding our parking. However, I would like to remind everyone of the little things we can all do to help reduce congestion around our school during peak times. Firstly, please limit your time at our school. With very few car spaces, we ask that you safely drop your child/ren to school and then move away, freeing up the space for the next parent or carer. Our school is supervised from 8:45am in the morning until 3:45pm in the afternoon. Often, dropping off early and picking up late within this time frame is the quietest time to drop and collect your children. We also encourage active travel, especially in the warmer months. If you can ride or walk to school safely, please do so. We are also able to use the parking at Endeavour Fern Gully, across the road from the Red Hill Reserve. It is a short, safe and beautiful walk to and from school from this alternative parking. And finally, if your child is a registered bus traveller, please use the bus services as much as possible. Thank you for your cooperation.

Our building project continues to progress rapidly as we approach completion. At our most recent site meeting we discussed our plans to move in to our new building. It is hard to believe that we are finally at this stage of the project. The finishing touches are taking place over the next few weeks and we will be taking delivery of our new furniture late March. It looks like we are all set and on pace for our Grade 2 students to move in to start Term 2. How exciting!



Finally, this week I would like to extend a heartfelt thankyou and farewell to one of our longest serving instrumental music teachers, Berni Briglia. Berni has been involved with Red Hill Consolidated School for 32 years, teaching many students and staff piano over this time. Many of Berni's students had considerable success with their AMEB music exams. Most of those children were awarded honours or high credits. Some students even went on to study Music and Composition at university. Best wishes with the future Berni.

Have a fantastic weekend!

Gus Wettenhall

Principal

ONLINE BOOKING

Your school has decided school photos will only be available to order online this year.

Choose your own **FREE** background

18
backgrounds to choose from

The benefits of being online...

- No need for envelopes to be returned to the school office
- No cash on school grounds or children's bags
- Easy order tracking and record keeping
- 18 different backgrounds to choose from - no additional cost

Red Hill Consolidated School - 2022

www.leadingimage.com.au

Access Key
858GLYN2

INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY PHOTOS CAN BE ORDERED WITH THE SAME ACCESS KEY

To order your school photos:

1 Go to www.leadingimage.com.au





Contemporary Learning Experience Update

Next week we will have the first “Learning Partnership” events for 2022. Staff will be holding information sessions that will give teams a chance to outline expectations for the year level, introduce parents to the members of the team, highlight any special events coming up in 2022 and start to build the line of communication between school and home. Below you will see a timetable of when these meetings are scheduled:

	Tuesday 1/3	Wednesday 2/3	Thursday 3/3
5:15pm	Grade 1	Grade 2	Prep
5:45pm	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 6
6:30pm	Grade 5	Specialists	

In 2022 we will be holding a number of events that are designed to develop and enhance the learning partnerships between home and school. Very early in Term 2 we will hold “Strengthening Learning Partnership” conferences that will see learners, teachers and parents discussing learning progress, setting learning goals and planning how to meet those goals. In Term 3 we will hold student-led conferences, which will be rebranded as “Celebrating Learning Partnership” conferences. These conferences will see our learners leading conversations about their learning journey and sharing with their family and teacher about how they learn best. We also hope to run some further information sessions throughout the year, helping parents to understand the teaching and learning that happens at Red Hill and empowering them to support learning at home.

As a school we believe that our students achieve better when we have established strong family-school partnerships. But what are family-school partnerships? Family-school partnerships are collaborative relationships and activities involving school staff, parents and other family members of students at a school. Effective partnerships are based on mutual trust and respect, and shared responsibility for the education of the children and young people at the school.

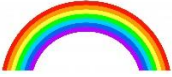
Why are family-school partnerships important? Families are the first educators of their children and they continue to influence their children’s learning and development during the school years and long afterwards. Schools have an important responsibility in helping to nurture and teach future generations and families to trust schools to provide educational foundations for their children’s future. At the same time, schools need to recognise the primary role of the family in education. This is why it is important for families and schools to work together in partnership. Research demonstrates that effective schools have high levels of parental and community involvement. This involvement is strongly related to improved student learning, attendance and behaviour. Family involvement can have a major impact on student learning, regardless of the social or cultural background of the family. Family involvement in schools is therefore central to high quality education and is part of the core business of schools.

The aim of the Family-School Partnerships Framework is to encourage sustainable and effective partnerships between all members of the school community, including teachers, families, and students. These partnerships should:

- view each partner as making equally valuable contributions, while respecting different contributions;
- respect student needs and preferences;
- address barriers to involvement in schools by families, in particular Indigenous families, and actively help previously uninvolved families to become involved;
- create better programs, opportunities and learning for students;
- give families appropriate opportunities to contribute to school decision-making and governance; and
- contribute to professional satisfaction for principals and teachers.

Developing family-school partnerships may not always be easy. It requires commitment and time. However, the results of this effort will be significant. Schools that engage families in their children’s learning are tapping in to a rich source of information and expertise and can help build communities. If you have ideas on how we can further strengthen the bonds between home and school please get in touch with me, either by phone or email. I look forward to hearing from our families!

Jo Barnes



Hello everyone! I hope the last days of Summer bring lots of happy times your way.

The following list is a great collection of questions to ask at the end of the day that may spark more of a response than “I don’t know!” or “I can’t remember!” or “Nothing!!” when you ask your children, “How was your day?”

Questions for the end of the school day....

- What is something kind you did for someone else today?
- What made you laugh today?
- What is something that frustrated you today?
- What is something you wish you had done differently today?
- On a scale of 1-10, with 10 being the best day ever, how would you rate your day? Why?
- What goal do you have for tomorrow?
- What was the best part of your day?
- What is a problem you had today? How did you solve it?
- What is something you learned today that you want to remember tomorrow?
- How did you and your friends treat each other today?
- If you could travel back in time to the beginning of the school day, what advice would you give yourself?
- Were you able to finish all of your work today? Why or why not?
- Describe one of the activities you did in class today.
- Did you learn something new today you would like to teach me?

Respectful Relationships, Rights and Resilience

Respectful Relationships is a social and emotional learning program that is embedded within our school. It supports schools and early childhood settings to promote and model respect, positive attitudes and behaviours. It teaches our children how to build healthy relationships, resilience and confidence. The Royal Commission heard a range of evidence from experts in the field that made clear that for there to be a reduction in rates of violence in the long-term, attitudes and behaviours must change, and school-based programs and culture can drive this change for young people.

As a Respectful Relationship school, we are committed to:

- Promoting equal and respectful relations between all people
- Promoting non- violent social norms and reduce the effects of exposure to violence
- Promote access to resources and systems of support

Lunchtime Clubs

Our Lunchtime Clubs are already up and running! Please encourage your child to seek out the lunchtime activities should they be needing a quieter space to play or need some support with friendship issues.

Playleaders Training - by Tully Dynes

On Monday, the first morning of the fourth week of Term 1, all the newly appointed Playleaders filed to Miss Kusel's office for further instructions. We were buzzing with excitement for our first (and last) Playleader training.

Miss Kusel told us we would be instructed by two people, Scott and Maurice, and that we would spend the day in the gym. When we arrived at the gym we were greeted by two jolly men. As soon as they had introduced themselves as Scott and Maurice, they did ask us not to make any rude jokes about Scott Morrison please. We got into a circle to play the *Name Game*.

After that, we played more games including *In the Water*, *Out of the Water*, *Poison* and *Cat & Mouse*. While we were having fun, we kept in mind that we would have to teach these games to younger children.

After recess, we focused on learning new games to play with younger children. After lunch, 1H & 1B came into the gym to play games with the playleaders so we had to be ready. We all got into groups of 5 and we had cards with new games to learn and once we had done three cards, we got a table to fill in with the games we would play and who would lead them.

After lunch, the Grade 1's were directed to a group where they started to play games. Half of the group went outside to the oval to play more active games. The saying was proven correct, time flies when you are having fun. In the blink of an eye, the half hour was done and the session ended with some words of thanks and the Grade 1's left.

We ended the day with a survey, at the end of the survey there was a question- What could Scott and Maurice have done better? I can confidently say that everyone wrote nothing!



We would like to give a huge thank you to the **Red Hill Lions Club** for their generous donation so that our 30 Playleaders could be involved with such a great program. We look forward to working with students throughout the school!

Student Voice Team

What a wonderful privilege it is to announce the Student Voice Team for 2022. Well done to our elected representatives who will work with all learners in our school to ensure that student voice is heard and our learners' suggestions and opinions matter and help to shape our school culture. Congratulations! At our next whole school assembly, we will introduce all these amazing young leaders.

If you or your family are experiencing difficult circumstances or hardship and you would like to discuss how the school can help to support your children, please do not hesitate your classroom teacher or me on louise.kusel@education.vic.gov.au

Take great care of yourself and your loved ones and, in a world where you can anything, be kind!

Louise Kusel – Wellbeing Coordinator.

