



## WHAT'S ON Dates to Note

9<sup>th</sup> May

RHCS house cross country –  
Grades 3 – 6

11<sup>th</sup> May

RHCS house cross country –  
Grades Prep - 2

10<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> May

NAPLAN – Grade 3 and 5

11<sup>th</sup> May

Strengthening Learning Partnership  
Conferences

20<sup>th</sup> May

Art Red Hill Opening Night

1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> June

Grade 4 Camp

1<sup>st</sup> June

Grade 3 Excursion to the Melbourne  
Museum

## School Council Dates

Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> May

Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> June

## Term Dates

Term 2

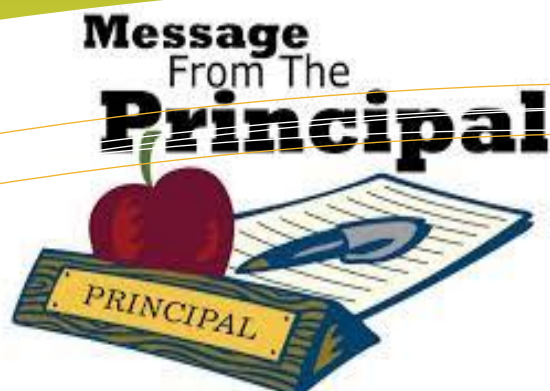
26<sup>th</sup> April – 24<sup>th</sup> June

Term 3

11<sup>th</sup> July – 16<sup>th</sup> September

Term 4

3<sup>rd</sup> October – 20<sup>th</sup> December



## From the Principal

Dear families and friends,

Hope you are all keeping well, warm and dry as this cold patch hovers over the hill.

Next week we have our House Cross Country at school. We invite all families to join in the fun and cheer on or help run this event, with the Grade 3-6's running on Monday and the P-2's on Wednesday.

Adding to the excitement this week is the wonderful news that Tom McGough competed at the Victorian Schools State Swimming Finals last Friday at the Melbourne Sport and Aquatic Centre. To make these finals is an amazing achievement in itself, but Tom finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state in the backstroke event. Well done and congratulations Tom, we are all so proud of you.



## this issue

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I would also like to congratulate our Grade 6 students, staff and helpers on an amazing three day camp down at Merricks Lodge last week. The weather was perfect and our campers enjoyed a range of exciting outdoor and water based activities. From all reports, everyone had a ball and as always behaviour was exceptional. A big thank you to our teachers, staff and parent helpers who organised and attended this camp. The next camp on the calendar is our Grade 4 camp to Munyung on the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June.





Art Red Hill is fast approaching with our Opening Night celebration on the 20<sup>th</sup> of May, followed by a virtual art show. Opening night will be the perfect opportunity to reconnect as a community after two difficult years. Great food, wine and entertainment is all planned alongside a selection of art sales and a virtual display. This is a night not to be missed. Tickets are limited, so we encourage anyone hoping to attend to purchase their tickets as soon as possible. Tickets sales and event information can be found on the Art Red Hill website:

<https://artredhill.redhillcs.vic.edu.au/>

Thank you so much to those families who have already sold their raffle tickets. If you are yet to sell your book, please do so and return your books before Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> of May. It's also not too late to grab another book of tickets to sell. Pop in to the office if you need more. As well as there being some fantastic prizes up for grabs, Art Red Hill is our major fundraiser for the year. This is a great opportunity to raise money to be used for school improvement.

NAPLAN starts next week for our Grade 3 and 5 students. This year, testing will take place online for the most part. I would like to wish our students well for this testing period. I want our students to know that all we want is for them to do their very best. If you have a child taking part, please make sure they get plenty of rest over the next two weeks so that they can perform to their potential. Please also make sure your child is at school on time throughout the duration of our testing window. Mindfulness can also be helpful on the morning of tests to help with any nerves and jitters. If you haven't made use of it yet, the Smiling Minds app is a great place to start. Good luck Grade 3 and 5!

This week we conducted our first Prep tour in over two years. It was so nice to finally show off our beautiful school to potential families in person. This means we are now accepting enrolments for 2023 Prep students. If you have a child starting Prep at Red Hill Consolidated School, submit your applications as soon as possible to help us with our planning and ability to offer positions to any out of zone applicants. If you know of any other families with a prep child starting next year, please remind them to book a tour or a place at our upcoming information night on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June.

As you may know, The Department of Education has now limited the banks that government schools can use for their banking. Unfortunately, this means that we can no longer bank with the Bendigo Bank. However, I would like to sincerely thank the Bendigo Bank for their ongoing support and generosity for honouring their existing commitments. As previously communicated, the Bendigo Bank has funded our laptop and iPad leases in the past and will continue to do so over the next two and a half years, despite this announcement from DET. This funding has allowed our students access to reliable and up to date technology when they need it.

As expected, with COVIDSafe restrictions easing, we are seeing a rise in COVID19 cases in our classrooms. Now more than ever it is important to keep up the regular rapid antigen testing and keep any students with COVID19 compatible symptoms at home. If your child does test positive, please let the school know as soon as possible. Please also remember that although household contacts can now attend school, parents must inform the school and those students (Grade 3 to 6) must wear masks when indoors. Thank you for all that you do to keep our community safe.

While we're on the topic of absences, we have noticed that a large number of students have unexplained absences. If your child is away for any reason, please log the absence on Compass. If you have the Compass app on your phone, this is a quick and easy job. This is the preferred method for recording absences. If you are having any difficulty setting up the app or logging in to Compass, please call our helpful office staff on 59892321.



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And finally, this week a few more dates for your calendars. Please make sure that you are aware that Friday the 10<sup>th</sup> of June is our third school council approved student free day for the year. We have also scheduled our common professional practice day on the 24<sup>th</sup> of June, which is the final day of Term 2. This is also a student free day. If you require care for your students on either of these dates, please utilise TheirCare. Bookings can be made by visiting their website: <https://theircare.com.au/> This will mean the final day of term will be Thursday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June. Students will be dismissed at the normal time. The other important date for your calendars is the 27<sup>th</sup> of May, which is the first day of Reconciliation Week. We plan on celebrating this week with a smoking ceremony and welcome to country, organised by our wonderful Reconciliation Action Plan team.

Kind regards,

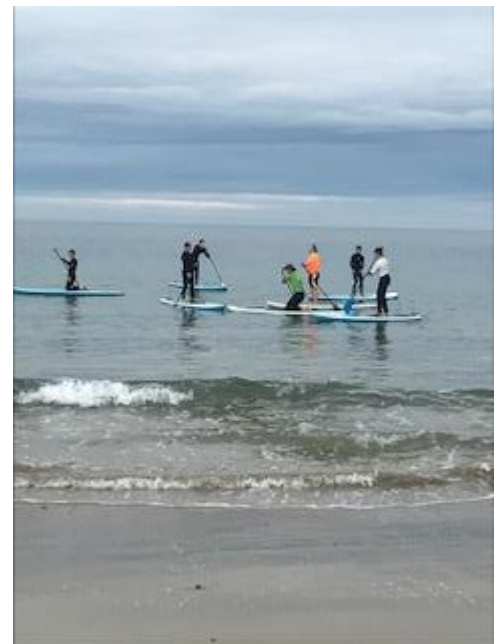
*Gus Wettenhall*

## **The Making of Memories**

By Charlotte 6C and Harriet 6M.

Our Grade 6 camp was a fantastic experience. The staff were all so supportive and kind, making sure we did our very best on every activity. We completed a variety of activities, some challenging and others we were used to, however they were all fun and our groups collaborated extremely well. We would love to thank the amazing Grade 6 teachers, all the parents and Mr. Drummond + Mrs. Briggs as well for making the experience a memory that will last a lifetime.

*Wishing this would never end  
Creating memories with our friends,  
Looking at the world from high  
18 meters in the sky,  
Waves crashing against the sand  
Telling us to come again,  
We promise you we won't be long  
As the world around us sings natures song.*









## CLE UPDATE

### Spelling @ RHCS

In line with our Contemporary Learning Experience at Red Hill Consolidated School, we implement an inquiry-based spelling approach where students are exposed to a range of strategies as well as explicitly taught skills when developing their knowledge and understanding of the English language. They participate in engaging investigations and explore various spelling patterns. They learn strategies to successfully apply spelling choices when writing and encoding newly encountered words. We recognise the importance of a strong phonics foundation, with the junior school heavily engrossed in phonics instruction. Across the school, students continue learning and playing with words, developing their ability to spell with accuracy. As students become more confident with the various graphemes (*the letter or combination of letters that represents a phoneme*), and begin exploring exciting new vocabulary, teachers introduce other spelling capabilities to build our learners word consciousness and understanding of language. The four spelling capabilities students are exposed to include:



<p><b>Phonological Knowledge</b> Knowledge of the sounds of language</p> <p>Symbol:</p>  <p>Example: Fishing = F- i- sh- i- ng</p>	<p><b>Etymological Knowledge</b> Knowledge of the history and origins of words</p> <p>Symbol:</p>  <p>Examples: Tele= far Telephone Telescope Telegraph</p>
<p><b>Morphemic Knowledge</b> Knowledge of how words are built and joined together.</p> <p>Symbol:</p>  <p>Example: Using root words, prefixes and suffixes.</p> <p><b>Prefix:</b> Mis <b>Root word:</b> take <b>Suffix:</b> able</p>	<p><b>Orthographic Knowledge</b> Knowledge of the visual and how words look. Does this look correct?</p> <p>Symbol:</p>  <p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Weekend or Wekend?</li><li>• Becoz or Because?</li><li>• Really, Rely or Realy</li></ul>

To further develop learners spelling skill set, teachers embed research-based strategies that utilise a range of tools to create a positive classroom culture and promote confidence when encoding. Some examples include, THRASS charts, co-constructed anchor charts and expertly chosen mentor texts. We want students to notice patterns and make connections between words, building their knowledge through collaboration and curiosity. Lesson sequences are created and adapted to suit the needs of the current learners providing a meaningful, student centred classroom for spelling success.

### Strengthening Learning Partnership Conferences

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May we will be holding our Strengthening Learning Partnership conferences. We are excited to meet with families and celebrate students' learning and achievements together. During our Learning Partnership conferences, teachers will be engaging students and parents in a discussion around the following five areas: Attitude to School, Strengths, Areas for improvement, Social development and Goals. If you have not yet booked an appointment you can do this on Compass until 3pm on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> May. We really look forward to these conferences and know they will be a valuable tool to continue to further develop learning partnerships between home and school.

# Wellbeing Newsletter May Term 2 2022

Welcome back to Term 2! We have now done a whole term of full time onsite schooling, the most uninterrupted term since 2019. I recently heard that Melbourne was the longest locked town city in the world... which might explain why mornings in households (particularly mine) are not running as smoothly as I vaguely remember they used to. It seems that charts and reminders are being employed in households where once they may not have featured. After a google search, I came across charts that might prove helpful for families. Having a visual routine, and a focus for discussion around the dining table, could provide stability that so many of us are craving - the thought that we can create a regular routine as we return to "normal" and begin to trust in predictable days again (may all our fingers be crossed).

To compliment these charts, you may want to introduce a get out the door song or a star chart to help reinforce positive choices and behaviour. It would be great to hear from any of our school community if they have new strategies in place that make the mornings easier.

One of our incredible educators, Meredith Hyams suggested the following about creating a healthy goodbye.

*Separation anxiety can happen to any child at any time, from their first day of school to half way through their final year. But there are ways you can help to make the goodbyes more successful. Create a goodbye ritual and stick to it. "One kiss, one cuddle and then I am going". Using the same routine each and every day reassures your child they are safe, secure and loved. A prolonged goodbye can heighten your child's anxiety, which is not much fun for you or your child. Trust that the teachers are experienced in dealing with anxious children and will be there to support your child, assisting them to settle into the day. During a quiet moment with your child, talk about their feelings. Acknowledge that it is ok to feel a little nervous about school or to miss Mum or Dad but that you will always be there at the end of their day.*

**morning routine**

**I'm going to wake up at**

:  AM

**Next, I'm going to:**

 Make my bed	 Go to the bathroom	 Brush my teeth/hair	 Get dressed
 Eat breakfast	 Take my vitamins and medicine	 Put on my shoes	 Grab my lunch and backpack

**evening routine**

**Before bed I'm going to:**

 Do my homework	 Have playtime	 Tidy up my room	 Pick out my clothes
 Take a bath	 Brush my teeth/hair	 Go to the bathroom	 Read a book

**I'm going to go to bed at**

:  PM

## Lunchtime Clubs

Our lunchtime clubs are looking a little different this term as we respond to the needs of our students. We are creating two daily lunchtime clubs - the library and also a computer club for students to enjoy together with a specialist club. The lunchtime clubs run the duration of lunch and provide interactions in a supported environment. These are announced at the beginning of each lunch and teachers have a copy of these. As the term progresses, we will evaluate these clubs with the help of our students to ascertain their effectiveness and popularity.



There is even a Clean up the Yard lunchtime club (well done Lyric, Evie and 3H students) on a Tuesday and Friday. An incredible group of students are leading the way with cleaning up the rubbish in our yard. We strive for a rubbish free environment and although we are getting a lot closer, the little rubbish angels are helping and greatly appreciated. Our school grounds are going to sparkle!

## Second Hand Uniforms

If any family is interested in second hand uniforms, please make use of our uniform contact person, Jemma Hastings. Please also ensure your children have labelled warm clothes (so many jumpers in lost property) and maybe a spare pair of socks for winter and with this incredible amount of rain that is forecast. There are also WARM new beanies are part of our uniform available through PWS. Mine is at the ready.

If you or your family are experiencing difficult circumstances or hardship, please do not hesitate to contact your classroom teacher or myself at [louise.kusel@education.vic.gov.au](mailto: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.



Private and confidential 24/7 phone and online counselling service for young people aged 5 - 25.



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



## RHCS RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN (RAP)

The Working Group has continued to meet this year and we are very close to finalising the RAP Actions. Our document will then be submitted to the Narragunnawali of Reconciliation Australia for approval and publication. Once our RAP is finalised we will begin aiming to meet the commitments documented around reconciliation.

So what have we been working on? Well we have very exciting news to share with our community today! We have a date and time for our Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony.

**Friday 27th May 2022 at 9:30am.**

A very big thank you to Red Hill Memorial Preschool and Monterosso Early Learning for joining us in fundraising for this event and to all of our families as well.

Parents and community members are invited to gather on the oval with students and both Red Hill Memorial Preschool and Monterosso Early Learning are joining us for this Traditional Ceremony.

We are very excited to be sharing this event with our community!

The ceremony is to celebrate the opening of our new learning space, to celebrate that we have embarked on creating a Reconciliation Action Plan for our community and the beginning of National Reconciliation Week (NRW). We look forward to welcoming Traditional owners of the Bunurong land that our school is on, to our school for this celebration.

Thank you all for your support and of course we welcome any one in our community to join us and become a part of the RAP Working Group. NEXT MEETING TONIGHT SEE CLASS DOJO FOR LINK

Please contact Caitlin Sullivan via email at [Caitlin.Sullivan@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Caitlin.Sullivan@education.vic.gov.au) or you can check out the Narragunnawali platform at <https://www.narragunnawali.org.au/>



The National Reconciliation Week 2022 theme, "Be Brave. Make Change." is a challenge to all Australians— individuals, families, communities, organisations and government—to Be Brave and tackle the unfinished business of reconciliation so we can Make Change for the benefit of all Australians.

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

### **WHAT IS NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK?**

The dates for NRW remain the same each year; 27 May to 3 June. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey— the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively.

Reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions of all Australians as we move forward, creating a nation strengthened by respectful relationships between the wider Australian community, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We all have a role to play when it comes to reconciliation, and in playing our part we collectively build relationships and communities that value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, histories, cultures, and futures.





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# Welcome to Country and Smoking ceremony

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THE BEGINNING OF RECONCILIATION WEEK, THE OPENING OF OUR NEW LEARNING SPACE AND OUR COMMUNITY RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN.

**FRIDAY 27TH MAY 2022**

**9:30AM**

**RED HILL CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL OVAL**