

ISSUE

13

29<sup>th</sup> August  
2022

SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER

# Red Hill C.S.



## WHAT'S ON Dates to Note

Father's Day Stall  
2<sup>nd</sup> September

Celebrating Learning Partnership  
Conferences  
6<sup>th</sup> September

Student Free Day  
16<sup>th</sup> September

## School Council Dates

Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> October

Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> November

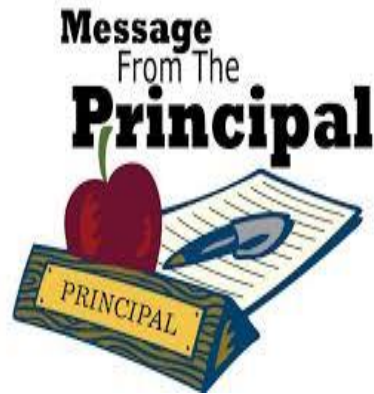
## Term Dates

### 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,

We're almost at the end of another exciting, amazing and busy fortnight up at Red Hill Consolidated School, including a fun filled Book Week and Wear It Purple day. We also held an information session about the potential introduction of a Bring Your Own Device trial for our 2023 Grade 4 students. Thank you to those families and staff members who attended. We will be in touch with all families in this cohort when we have more information to share.

### EXCITING RAP NEWS!

I am so excited to announce that the Red Hill Consolidated School's Reconciliation Action Plan has been approved and published by Reconciliation Australia. This is such a significant milestone for our school and fortifies our commitment to reconciliation. I would like to thank and acknowledge the outstanding work of our RAP Working Group, in particular Caitlin Sullivan and Meredith Hyams.



## this issue

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Book Week is always one of the most exciting weeks at Red Hill Consolidated School and this year is no exception. In fact, this year will be the first physical Book Week parade for many of our students. Our book fair has once again been very popular and successful and our lucky students were treated to a visit by Katrina Lehman, author of a number of popular children's books such as "Izzy and Frank" and "Wren" which are in our school library. Katrina ran workshops for all students explaining where she gets her ideas, the writing process and the role of the author and illustrator. A BIG thank you to Katrina for sharing her skills, knowledge and talents with our little authors. Thank you also to everyone at home for your help at home pulling together a Book Week Costume, the students looked AMAZING. I would also like to thank the incredible Mrs. Dempster and Ms de Geus for organising all of our Book Week festivities.

Don't forget that the Parent/Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey is now open. This is an annual survey offered by the Department of Education and Training that is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behavior, and student engagement. We encourage all families to participate in this survey. Last time I checked, 10% of families have completed this survey. We would love it if ALL families completed this survey. Details on how to access the Opinion Survey were emailed to all families last week. This survey is open until Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> of September.

Unfortunately, I have recently received reports from parents about some unsafe behaviour during our pick up and drop off times, with one very close call taking place last week. I know that our traffic and parking conditions can be frustrating, but the safety of our students and community must come first. Please drive carefully and slowly at all times and follow all road rules and parking signs. I would also like to point out that our Gymnasium Driveway must not be accessed. Families using TheirCare may use this driveway before and after hours, but please drive slowly.

I did notice that the pathway between school and the Red Hill shops has recently been asphalted. With the weather slowly improving, I encourage all families to consider using the ample parking at Endeavour Fern Gully (opposite the Red Hill Reserve) and walk to school. This is short, ten minute walk with no road crossings. As well as being a healthy and mindful way for students to start and/or end the day, it also helps you avoid the traffic chaos and helps reduce congestion around our school during peak times. Win – win!

Please make sure the upcoming Think U Know presentation on Wednesday the 31<sup>st</sup> of August is on your calendar.



This will be an invaluable session for ALL parents and will cover a range of topics to help keep our children safe when online as well as offer suggestions to keep the lines of communication open with your young ones.

Speaking of online safety, we are currently reviewing our Mobile Phone Policy. I would like to remind parents to be aware of this policy **IF** it is necessary for your child to have a phone at school. As outlined in this policy, students who do bring a mobile phone (or any device capable of sending and receiving text messages and/or accessing the

Internet, including iPads, iPods, android tablets and smart watches) to school, must switch them off and store them in a lockbox throughout the day. In the case of an emergency or change in pick up arrangements, parents should call the office on 59892321. Bus travellers must leave phones and devices in their school bag during bus travel. The full policy is available at: <https://redhillcs.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/RHCS-Mobile-Phones-Policy-Nov-2019.pdf> I have asked all teachers from Grades 3 to 6 to discuss this policy with their students and ensure this process is followed.

As well as our Think U Know presentation next week, Project Rokit are coming to town. Project Rokit are a team of passionate young people who develop presentations and workshops to address a range of social issues such as cyber bullying, and bullying. Our Grade 3 and 4 students will take part in the BELONG workshop, which aims to unite students to build inclusive school communities, with strategies and empathy to combat social exclusion and increase awareness of diverse perspectives. Our Grade 5 and 6 children will take part in the Project Rokit UNITE workshop, which will help build a shared understanding of what bullying is and how it impacts those targeted. Students are empowered with strategies to promote a culture of taking action to support each other. For more information about Project Rokit and their programs, please visit <https://projectrokit.com.au>



Next Friday is also our Fathers' and Special Persons Day Stall. I would like to thank Kathryn Eagles and her team of helpers in advance for organising and running this day.

And finally this week, please ensure sure you make a booking for our Celebrating Learning Partnerships Day on Tuesday the 6<sup>th</sup> of September. This is an important opportunity for you to sit with your child and child's teacher to discuss all things learning and set future goals. As well as these conferences, we staff will set up activities in the classroom. We have also organised two Respectful Relationships presentations run by guest presenter Paul Zappa and a treasure hunt. For more details on the day and information on how to book, please check the Compass notification and email. As always, if you are having any difficulties with Compass, please call the office.

See you all very soon.

*Gus Wettenhall*



## CLE UPDATE

Last week at Red Hill Consolidated School we celebrated Book Week. This was a great opportunity to get our learners excited about literature and reading. During the week students participated in a range of activities that championed reading and writing. Book Week started for me with a visit from two students from Grade 2, Emma and Charli. These two amazing learners are very passionate about reading and love books. They sold handmade bracelets at the local footy and instead of spending the money at the canteen they wanted to donate it to Mrs. Barnes book fund!! Emma, Charli and I had a private shopping session at the Book Fair and had lots of fun choosing some new books for their classroom library. During Book Week each class had the opportunity to visit the Book Fair, with many of our students walking away with at least one brand new book to enjoy. Not only did our students get the opportunity to purchase some fantastic titles but as a school we are able to spend 30% of the total sales on great books for our classrooms and school library



Our students also spent a session with a local author, Katrina Lehman. Katrina shared her books "Wren" and "Izzy and Frank" with our students and talked about where she took inspiration from. She also educated the students about what was involved in being an author and talked through the process of creating a book. After the session with Katrina, our learners were buzzing about writing. Their excitement got me thinking about how children acquire the skill of writing.

We learn to write by writing and children love to write! At Red Hill, children are encouraged to select topics that express their ideas and interests. It is difficult (sometimes impossible) to write about unfamiliar topics or topics that are irrelevant to our life experiences. Before writing, talking about a topic is a good place to collect thoughts and ideas. In our classrooms, children explore writing as a process from drafts to published pieces. Children are encouraged to write for real purposes and utilise a range of different text types such as recipes, factual texts, notes, report writing, narratives and poetry. They are also taught to consider how to appeal to different audiences.

As parents you can play a big part in encouraging your child to think of themselves as a 'writer'.

- Encourage children to write, write, write! Provide many opportunities such as writing the shopping list, sending letters and cards to friends and relations, writing emails, keeping a diary, publishing personal stories, labelling photos in the family album, and leaving notes. Writing should be relevant and meaningful rather than writing for the sake of writing.
- Give children opportunities to read their stories aloud (while you sit back and listen). Listen with a focus on the message they express. Comment on what they have done well, for example: 'I enjoyed how you used interesting words such as X, Y, Z.' 'The character you created seems so real. I can imagine how he looks.' Leave comments about spelling, punctuation, and grammar to another time — they are important if and when it is to be published.
- Draw children's attention to how writing is presented, for example, on brochures, billboards, books, and electronic media — these are models of writing for real purposes.
- Create a community of writers. Provide a quiet place for writing with lots of writing materials. Leave notes for each other, write poems for your children, and send messages in lunch containers. Play writing games, for example, one person writes the beginning, another the middle and the other the end of a family story. Write together.

Over the next few weeks, I would love to share some of our learners' writing through our newsletter. If your child has a piece they are really excited about, please email it to me and I will share it with our school community.



Finally on Friday we had our special Book Week assembly, which saw students and staff dressing up as their favourite book characters. From Grandma Poss to Captain Underpants, we had an enormous range of different characters represented.



However, in the scramble for costumes, which can add to the work of already stressed parents and carers, the point of Book Week – for kids to fall in love with reading – can get lost. In fact, a vast body of research shows what's crucial to building a love of reading is allowing children the time and freedom to read what interests them.

I'm not saying the Book Week costume is pointless; dressing up as your favourite book character is a great way to celebrate reading, particularly when all students and teachers take part. Some children will use their Book Week costume to play around

with the fictional character and interact in role. Others will discover new characters and pick up new books based on a friend's costume.

However, what really matters is not the costume, but falling in love with reading. Research shows reading for pleasure improves young people's overall reading skills, as well as test outcomes. Creating a culture of reading in school can help children fall in love with reading, where children read books they choose themselves for their own pleasure.

At Red Hill Consolidated we endeavour to facilitate daily reading experiences for all students. Providing time for sustained, self-selected reading is important, as many children do not read for pleasure outside school time. Finding a book they love, with help from another child, a teacher, or librarian, can help a child to develop the habit of reading.

As a parent you can also help your child fall in love with reading. Below are some easy ideas for helping to develop a passion for reading:

- Encourage your child's reading of fiction and let them choose books for themselves.
- Facilitate trips to the library if you can and spend time with them selecting what interests them.
- Don't judge your kids on what they love, and don't force your kids to read what you deem a "worthy" book. Rather than judging, enjoy their pleasures and invite them to share their books with you.
- Share your own reading with them and make it visible to them.

It's a small action, but anything you can do to help establish a culture of reading in the family helps establish reading for pleasure as a normalised behaviour. Just let your kid read what they want and enjoy it together!

*"A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies . . . The man who never reads lives only one."*

*George RR Martin*



## Wellbeing Newsletter



Hello everyone!

Our **Acts of Kindness** campaign is off to a wonderful beginning. We have had yet more students reach their 50 Acts of Kindness and receive a certificate at our school assembly. Well done to all our kind learners and thank you for sharing the kindness culture.

### Project Rokit is landing on the 2ND SEPTEMBER

<https://projectrokit.com.au/>

We are so pleased to have Project Rokit coming to the school delivering workshops that are designed to allow students to learn about difficult concepts in a fun way, building empathy, self-awareness and resilience by creating spaces where students can safely reflect on past behaviour, explore shared experience and find new ways to foster belonging.

#### BELONG:

The Grade 3 & 4 will be involved with the BELONG workshop, which unites students to build inclusive school communities, with strategies and empathy to combat social exclusion and increase awareness of diverse perspectives. At the end of the workshop, students have:

- Examined the idea of 'what's normal?' and built an understanding of strength in diversity
- Built empathy for those who experience social exclusion and are motivated to create a united and welcoming school community
- Demonstrate allyship through co-designing strategies to build inclusion within their school community.

## UNITE:

The Grade 5 & 6 students will participate in the UNITE workshop, which builds a shared understanding of what bullying is and how it impacts those targeted. Students are empowered with strategies to promote a culture of taking action to support each other.

At the end of the workshop, students have:

- A shared understanding of what bullying is and demonstrated their ability to identify various (cyber)bullying situations
- Grown insight into the emotional impacts for peers who are routinely excluded, bullied or discriminated against
- Collectively generated a kit of strategies to challenge (cyber) bullying and support those targeted.

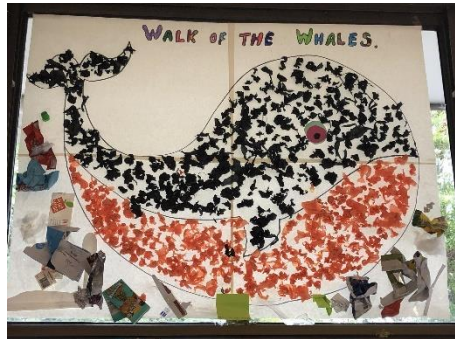


<https://www.ruok.org.au/>

While children can't be expected to fix someone's problems, they can be encouraged to listen to what their friend is saying, show they care and tell a teacher, school counsellor or trusted adult if they are worried about their friend. This video shows them how to do that. They might even begin a conversation with Are You OK? when they hope you'll ask them back...

Wondering how to follow up at home... consider these questions...

Who are your trusted adults at school? Who are your trusted adults out of school? Who can you turn to when you need help?



### Wonderful Work in Grade One!

There so many lovely working collaborations in the Grade 1 area! Well done on reminding us to have fun and care for our environment.

Thank you Grade 1H and 1B for the wonderful work.

If you or your family are experiencing difficult circumstances or hardship,

please do not hesitate to contact your classroom teacher or myself.

[louise.kusel@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:louise.kusel@education.vic.gov.au) or 59892321



Take great care of yourself and your loved ones and in a world where you can

anything, be kind! And always remember to ask yourself and your loved ones...what went well today?

Louise Kusel – Wellbeing Coordinator.





## Hello everyone

Wow this term has gone quickly!

We have only three weeks left before our action-packed holiday program begins. Please remember to book in early at either our Dromana or Rye based programs as the spots fill up quick.

Over the past few weeks down in Theircare we have been reflecting over some of our favourite activities. As the weather has been quite wet, we have been unable to go outside, creating an opportunity to explore new indoor based games. The children have been enjoying Night at the Museum, Charades, Celebrity Heads and Silent Ball. We make sure to have a group game in both the mornings and afternoons, encouraging students from across the different age groups to socialize with each other.

Over the past two weeks our themes have been Science week and Book week. During science week the children got to explore many different experiments such as giant bubbles, bubble painting, lava lamps and we attempted to create a layered rainbow. Unfortunately, the children learned about trial and error in science as this experiment did not successfully create a layered rainbow, the children persevered and created more lava lamps.

This past week we have been exploring books and authors, the children have been creating book covers, character masks, character role plays and bookmarks. These activities prompted conversations about different authors and what their favourite books are. For this week we have introduced a large array of new stories into our own little library, encouraging the children to read and try out new authors.

As we progress into the last few weeks of term, we will be focussing on creating play spaces and activities that have been derived from our favourites throughout the term!

If you have any questions about our sessions, activities or general inquiries please contact us on the number below during service hours.  
Mariah – Theircare Coordinator



## Details & Calendar Info

### Pupil Free Days:

6:30am to 6:30pm

### Before School Care:

6:30 - 8:45am

Price before CCS: \$23.89

### After School Care:

3:30 - 6:30pm

## Reminder

This is a reminder for all families to double check their bookings for both before and after school care. You will receive an email confirming the booking, if you haven't received the email please go back and double check as the booking may not have been completed.

## Contact Details

Service phone:  
0419 205 469

Service Email:  
redhill@theircare.com.au

Theircare:  
1300072410.

Theircare email:  
info@theircare.com.au

# Where kids love to be!

The logo for Red Hill Basketball Club is centered at the top. It consists of the words "RED HILL" in a large, bold, red sans-serif font, stacked above the word "BASKETBALL" in a smaller, bold, red sans-serif font. Both lines of text are contained within a black rectangular box with a thin white border.

# **RED HILL BASKETBALL**

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a basketball court. A basketball is positioned in the center, slightly out of focus, resting on the wooden floor. The court lines are visible, and the lighting creates a warm, slightly blurred atmosphere.

## **ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PLAYING BASKETBALL?**

Red Hill Basketball Club is accepting new players for the Summer Season which starts October 5th 2022.

If your child is keen to play, no matter their ability, please send an expression of interest to us via [basketballredhill@gmail.com](mailto:basketballredhill@gmail.com) no later than September 5th.



The communities of  
Red Hill, Main Ridge and Arthurs Seat  
are invited to the launch of **Red Hill Repower**



**SUNDAY 25 SEPTEMBER**

MECHANIC'S HALL 11.30-1.00

If we want to do our part to make a switch to a renewable energy future, there are five questions we need to consider over the next few years:

- Renewable energy use or not?
- Electric heating or not?
- Electric hot water or not?
- Electric cooking or not?
- Electric transport or not?

Repower is a not-for-profit community initiative which aims to accelerate the decarbonisation of the Mornington Peninsula in an equitable way.

The new Red Hill 'satellite' group of Repower MP wants to hear from locals about the challenges, potential solutions and current initiatives that are specific to our region's switch from fossil fuel to clean, renewable energy.

A key 2030 group mission is to cut energy-derived carbon emissions by 70%.

A short term focus campaign for the group is to increase the number of hinterland properties converting to clean solar energy, and further investigate battery installation/technology.

At the September 25 launch, Repower Red Hill aims to create a network of engaged local residents who believe in taking responsibility to 'do our bit'.

The group wants to hear from locals interested in joining a Steering Committee to guide activities, educational campaigns and events.

**Red Hill 3937 Decarbonisation Dashboard**



Red Hill is generating just 7% of its postcode potential for solar generation. As one of its projects, **Red Hill Repower** aims to increase solar installs from 24.8% (2021) to achieve, and improve, on the national target of 43% by 2030.

(Figures: Snapshot/United Energy)

Register your interest: <https://events.humanitix.com/repower-hill-ridge-and-seat-community-meeting>

Learn more about Repower Mornington Peninsula: [www.repowermornpen.org.au](http://www.repowermornpen.org.au)

Email foundation group members with any questions: [redhill@repowermornpen.org.au](mailto:redhill@repowermornpen.org.au)