



### WHAT'S ON Dates to Note

#### Friday 16th August

Wear it Purple Day  
Assembly @2:40pm

#### Monday 19th August

Book Week

#### Friday 23rd August

Book Week Parade  
9:10am in the Gym

#### Thursday 29th August

Prep Native Animal Incursion

#### Friday 30th August

Assembly @2:40pm

#### Wednesday 4th September

Indigenous Literacy Day  
Book Swap

#### Thursday 5th September

Student Art Show  
Celebrating Learning  
Partnerships 11:00am– 6:45pm

#### Monday 9th-11th September

Year 6 Camp  
Warratah Beach Camp

#### Friday 13th September

Assembly @2:40pm

#### Monday 16th-17th September

Year 3 Camp  
Golden Valleys Adventure Camp

### School Council

Tuesday 20th August  
Tuesday 17th September

### Term 3 Dates

July 15th– September 20th



Dear families and friends,

I hope you are all well and enjoying the sunshine over the past fortnight. It definitely seems like the weather is improving. I also hope that you and your family are enjoying watching the Olympic Games, learning about new sports and cheering on our Aussie athletes.

#### 2024 NAPLAN Results

By now our Grade 3 and 5 students should have received their individual NAPLAN results for 2024. Students involved in this testing period can be very proud of themselves. Once again, our students performed exceptionally well in all areas of NAPLAN. We will be presenting these results at our next Education Sub Committee Meeting. Invites to this meeting have been sent to all families. Although this is just one test, we use this data to evaluate our school's progress and identify future whole school goals.

#### Olympic Games Celebrations

It was great to see so many parents, carers and visitors at our Olympic Games Opening Ceremony. Our students looked incredible in their country colours, taking part in a parade, torch relay and a number of spectacular student performances. This was such a fun whole school event, which no doubt generated even more excitement for the Olympics.

After the ceremony, students and staff took part in a round robin of tabloid sports in their multi-age country groups. Students were acknowledged for demonstrating the Olympic Values; Respect, Friendship and Excellence.

And to close such an amazing day, Olympic High Jump champion Tim Forsyth spoke to our students at our closing ceremony. He spoke about his road to the Olympics and his achievements. He also spoke to our students about how he developed resilience and handled the tough times in his career. I'm sure our students found his talk inspirational. I'd like to thank Tim for taking the time to visit RHCS and speak so brilliantly to our staff and students.

Speaking of Olympians, Georgia Bonora who represented Australia in gymnastics at the 2008 and 2012 Olympic Games will be heading to RHCS this Thursday to speak to our students about her experiences at this level of competition.





### **Lions Club Public Speaking Competition**

Last week, our team of public speakers competed at the Lions Club Public Speaking Competition at the Main Ridge Bowls Club. Under the expert coaching of Mr Merhtens, our students spoke clearly and confidently, reading their speeches in front of an audience and a panel of judges. Well done to all students involved. Congratulations to Kesia and Priya who both finished with the highest scores for their age group and will be progressing to the semi finals in Tooradin in a few weeks' time. Good luck! I'd like to thank Mr Merhtens for organising and coaching our competitors as well as the Lions Club for hosting this big event.

### **Respectful Relationships Presentation**

Thank you to those Red Hill parents who attended last week's Respectful Relationships, Human Sexuality and Body Safety Parent Seminar, hosted by Tyabb Railway Station Primary School. Vanessa Hamilton from Talking the Talk, provided all attendees with some important, albeit confronting at times, information and statistics as well as advice on how to have age appropriate conversations at home. If you missed this event, Vanessa makes some of her resources, including scripts to use with your children, available for free on her website: <https://www.talkingthetalksexed.com.au/resources>

### **Indigenous Children's Day**

To end last week, we celebrated National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day, marking this occasion with a flag raising ceremony, student speeches and a special story, read by Rhys Collins. Rhys read "The Time of Chaos" by Professor Carolyn Briggs and illustrated by the students at Balnarring Kindergarten. Thank you to all families who attended and a special thank you to our friends from Monterosso Childcare who joined us for this special occasion.



### **Student Free Day**

As you know, this Monday was a student free day. Staff were very excited to once again spend the day with Inquiry guru Shaz Bailey. Shaz challenged and provoked us all throughout the day as we looked at ways we can provide rich opportunities for student agency and how our Learner Assets can be further embedded into our teaching and learning. Shaz will return in a few week's time to work with our teams.



## **Book Week**

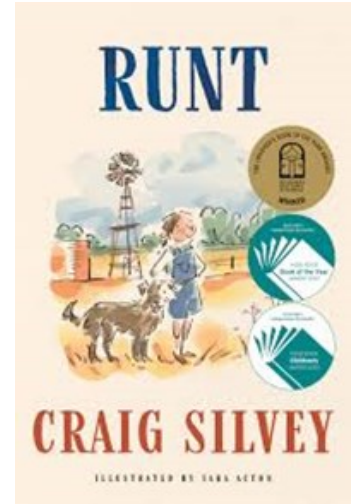
We will be celebrating Book Week From Monday the 19<sup>th</sup> to Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August this year. Lamont Books will be hosting a book fair and students will be taking part in Book Week activities in their classrooms all week. And of course, our week will end with a special Book Week dress up day and assembly. Please see the flyer on Clasdojo and in this newsletter for all of the details.

## **Dromana Drive In**

I may have let the secret out that we have booked out an entire screen at the Dromana Drive in for our school community on Friday the 30<sup>th</sup> of August. Dromana Drive In have organised a pre-release screening of the upcoming movie "Runt". I know many of our students have read this book and are looking forward to seeing the movie. More information, including how to purchase tickets will be sent out to our community very soon. Tickets will be limited, so please get in early to avoid disappointment.

## **Staff Car Park**

I would like to remind families that our staff car park is limited to staff, bus and contractor parking before and after school and during peak times. Our visitors car park is only accessible for very short stays and quick drop offs and pick-ups during the school day (between 9:15am and 3:15pm). If you are using the visitors car park, please enter the staff car park using the correct entrance and drive very carefully and slowly.



## **New outdoor furniture**

You may have seen our new outdoor furniture in our Lower Sandy Playground or my post on Clasdojo last week. However, I'd like to officially thank the team of VCAL students and Mr Mudge from Dromana Secondary College for designing, creating and delivering this purpose built furniture. I'm sure this furniture will get plenty of use for years to come.



See you all soon.

Warm regards,

*Gus Wettenhall*

**Principal**



## CLE UPDATE

### Teachers as Learners

As you would all know, this Monday we had a curriculum day at RHCS. Whilst students had an extra day at home, staff were working with Shaz Bailey, an educational consultant with significant experience and expertise in inquiry teaching and learning. Our staff spent the day exploring student agency and the

ways that we can encourage our students to develop the necessary skills to become lifelong learners. Throughout the day staff engaged in a range of learning tasks and had opportunity to work collaboratively with colleagues.

We delved into the importance of explicitly teaching students the skills necessary for inquiry learning. We spent time discussing our school's Learner Assets of Thinker, Collaborator, Self-Manager, Inquirer and Reflector and the role these play in helping our students to be agents of their own learning.

Despite being innately curious, students do not come to school equipped with the learning behaviours to allow them to dive into inquiry learning. As teachers we need to model and demonstrate and help our students to develop the skills required, assisting them to set goals to further develop them as lifelong learners.

We are excited to continue working with Shaz and will be welcoming her back to RHCS in two weeks time. When she returns, Shaz will be working with our different teams in planning time to help them further develop their skills as inquiry teachers.



### Celebrating Learning Partnership Conferences

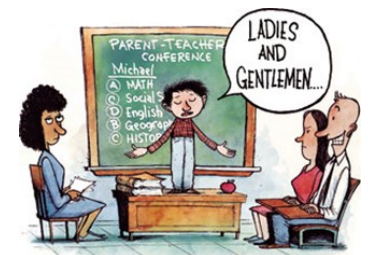
In Week 8 of this term, we will be holding "Celebrating Learning Partnership" conferences. These conferences, previously known at RHCS as Student Led conferences, will provide an opportunity for your child to lead a discussion and showcase their progression and learning for the year so far. Your child will be spending time in class in the next few weeks preparing for the "Celebrating Learning Partnership" conferences and both staff and students are excited to share with parents about the incredible learning happening in our classrooms.

#### Why have a Student Led Conference?

- To place the spotlight on the student as a learner.
- To enhance students' thinking, communication and presentation skills.
- To encourage students' ownership for sharing their learning.
- To develop conversations about student learning.
- To celebrate what has been happening in the classroom.

#### The ins and outs of the Celebrating Learning Partnership Conferences.

- Celebrating Learning Partnership Conferences will take place on Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> September. **(Regular classes will not operate on this day, as such students will not be attending school, except to attend their conference.)**
- These conferences involve both the student, parents/guardians and the teacher.
- Students are required to attend the conferences as they are responsible for leading the meeting (with support in the younger year levels).
- **Conferences will run for 40 minutes.** Families are requested to book a conference time for each student on that day through Compass. Booking information will be coming to you very soon. Conferences will be available for booking between 11am and 6:00pm.
- These conferences are carefully prepared and rehearsed by the students.
- The first 10 minutes of each conference is allocated to a sit-down conversation between the student, parents/guardians and the teacher. During this conversation students will have a conversation about their learning in a variety of areas. They will identify learning goals that they have achieved and goals that they are continuing to work on. Students will use their Learning Journal as a tool to help facilitate this discussion. In younger year levels the teacher will be working collaboratively with the student, helping and scaffolding them. In the higher year levels the students will take most of the responsibility.
- The next 30 minutes of each Student Led Conference involves the students, taking their parents/guardians around the classroom and explaining a range of learning tasks and work products they would like to share. This includes sharing a collection of work students have developed that reflects the learning they have been engaged in.
- Between 2 and 4 conferences will take place at once in each classroom.



We believe these conferences will be a fantastic extension of the 10-minute Strengthening Learning Partnership conferences that took place in Term 2. Staff and students are looking forward to sharing this time with you.

*Joanne Barnes*



## Bullying No Way National week of action

12-16 August 2024

Hello Parents / Carers,

Next week RHCS is participating in the Bullying No Way: National week of action, 12 to 16 August 2024.

Bullying No Way Week is a commitment being made by thousands of schools and supporters across the country. It provides an opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to bullying prevention. It gives us an opportunity to connect with students, staff and school communities to implement workable solutions to prevent bullying.

The new hero colour for the campaign is purple – symbolising peace, strength and empowerment to take a stand against bullying behaviour. **All students are invited to wear some purple to school on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> August.**

The theme for this year's campaign is 'Everyone belongs'. This theme highlights the importance of creating a sense of belonging and inclusion for students. We recognise bullying often thrives in environments where individuals feel marginalised or excluded, and it is our collective responsibility to ensure that every student feels valued and respected.

“Positive school climates that value diversity and inclusion can foster a sense of belonging and provide a protective factor against negative peer relationships and reduce bullying.” (Australian Education Research Organisation 2023). For more information about Bullying No Way Week and bullying prevention, visit the Bullying No Way website - [Bullying No Way](#)

During the week we will be engaging students in meaningful discussions and activities aimed at promoting empathy, understanding, and respect for diversity. We encourage parents and carers to take this opportunity to have open and honest conversations with their children about the impact of bullying and what they can do if they need support. You can visit the Bullying No Way website for tips around how to have this discussion - [Bullying No Way website](#)

You can access the school's bullying prevention policy on the school website <https://redhillcs.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/RHCS-Bullying-Prevention-Policy-2022.pdf> to learn more about our process for preventing and responding to bullying.

If you have concerns that your child is being bullied, please contact your child's teacher in the first instance. If you believe the behaviour constitutes a crime, or is a serious incident of cyberbullying, please refer to the Bullying No Way website for information on [how to report](#) to other authorities and [access wellbeing help](#) .

By working collaboratively within our community, we can collectively help reduce bullying.

Parents and carers play an important role in helping your child understand bullying and know how to respond to it.

If your child tells you about things at school, or you observe something in public that involves conflict or bullying, take the opportunity to talk about what bullying is. You can learn more about what defines bullying at [bullyingnoway.gov.au](http://bullyingnoway.gov.au).

Questions you could ask:

- What do you think bullying is?
- Have you seen it? How did you feel?
- Have you ever felt scared at school because of bullying?
- As well as me, who are the other adults you would talk to when it comes to things like bullying?
- Have you or your friends left other kids out on purpose? Do you think that was bullying? Why or why not?
- Have you ever tried to help someone who is being bullied? What happened? What would you do if it happens again?





Remind your child that bullying is never okay and discuss how they can respond safely if they experience or witness it.

Encourage them to seek help from a trusted adult and keep seeking support if needed.



By promoting open communication, we empower children to stand up against bullying and create a safer environment where everyone can feel that they belong.

For more information, visit [bullyingnoway.gov.au](http://bullyingnoway.gov.au).

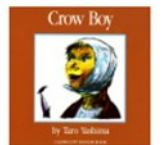
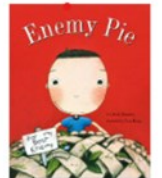
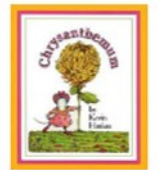
There are some images of books you could read with your child to help having open discussions at home. These books could also be found on You Tube for you to watch together.



You will never regret being kind.

**Sascha Wardlaw**

Assistant Principal



# 101 DAYS OF SCHOOL



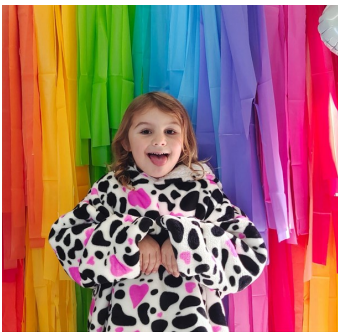
On Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August, we celebrated our littlest learners and how far they have come in just 101 days of school.

We started our morning with all the other prep classes up at the hall. There were many Dalmatian activities, counting to 101 and lots of dancing.

Then after recess we went on a bone hunt around the lower sandy, finding magic words on little bones hidden around the playground. We then did some Dalmatian themed maths rotations in the classroom.

After which we got to enjoy some sunshine having lunch with our buddies.

Then in the afternoon we sat back and relaxed watching the original 101 Dalmatian movie.





READING IS  
*magic*

## **RHSC Book Week 2024**

We are so excited to share with our school community the wonderful events RHCS will have on offer to celebrate Book Week.

Book Week will be taking place in Week 6  
Monday 19th August — Friday 23rd August

Lamont Books will be hosting our Book Fair. More information about times and location to come.

To finish the celebrations, we will be having our traditional  
**'Book Week Dress Up Day' on Friday 23rd August.**

Students and Staff are invited to dress in costume as their favourite book character for the day. Please start thinking about your costume.

