Laptop Computers in 2013

Over the last four years we have been providing laptop computers to students in Year 9 courtesy of the Federal Government Digital Revolution program. This program is coming to an end in 2013 and as a school we are planning for the future.

One of the choices we need to make concerns the use of the last allocation of laptops to be provided to the school in 2013. Because it is the last allocation schools have been provided with two choices. We can distribute the laptop computers to Year 9 students as we have in previous years or we can keep the laptops at school and make them available in classes to Year 9 students and other students from Year 7 and 8.

When the Digital Education program was started our school was also provided with a full time Technical Support Officer to manage the large number of devices that were anticipated to be in operation. As the Digital Education program comes to a conclusion funding for this position is also being withdrawn so we may not have the same level of technical support available, and this is something we must take into consideration.

Presently we are looking at options and considering which one offers the best compromise between availability to students and sustainability.

We would appreciate your feedback and any ideas or suggestions can be passed onto Ms Moverley, Computer Coordinator, who is coordinating the work of our technology team.

Ms Moverley, Computer Coordinator

Year 8 Beach Trek

Notes have gone out to all Year 8 students regarding the Year 8 Grand Beach Trek between Byron Bay and Lennox Head from the 20th to the 22nd of March this year. The cost is now $45 payable to the front office with the completed permission notes before 25th of February.

The note will be available from the school website by next week.

Ms Thomson, Year Adviser

2013 Flood Clean-Up

Please note that the Swimming Carnival is on Tuesday February 12th.

It is a compulsory part of the curriculum and all students should attend.
RICHMOND RIVER HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY 2013

Rationale:
We need all stakeholders (students, staff, parents and carers) to play their part in ensuring that Richmond River High School is a uniform school. (This was agreed to by our school community on 23/11/99).

A. Excursions:
The teacher in charge of organising an excursion should discuss the suitable clothing to be worn by students when seeking approval from the Principal to run an excursion.
Students will not be allowed to participate on a school excursion if they fail to wear the specified uniform.
Students who are not allowed to go on an excursion due to failure to follow the above uniform procedures may not receive a refund if the excursion costs are not covered.

B. Formal Assembly Awards:
Students to receive an award/certificate at a Formal Assembly must be wearing full school uniform.
Students who fail to comply with this procedure will receive their recognition at another appropriate time.
Students who wish to speak to the school at an Assembly or perform in front of an Assembly must be in uniform or ask another student dressed appropriately to take their place.

C. Student and Parent/Carer Responsibility:
Students with the support of their parents and carers are expected to exercise their full responsibilities prior to school each day for wearing of the school uniform.
Parents/carers should provide a written explanation when their student is out of uniform due to unforeseen reasons.

In cases of financial hardship, parents/carers may apply for Student Assistance to help with the purchase of uniform items.

Procedures:
Students who do not meet uniform requirements on a given day must bring an explanatory note from their parents or carers, and present this to Front Office staff before 9:00.
Students who do not meet uniform requirements and who have not presented an explanatory note are identified during Daily Year Meetings. A first offence will see students being counseled and then sent to the Library for a uniform pass and a change of clothes if necessary. Repeat offenders will be issued with a lunch detention and may be referred to the Deputy Principal for further intervention.

School uniforms as shown below will be supplied by Lowes located in the Lismore Square, Lismore.

Please note: Stripes or large designs are not permitted on shorts or long pants which should be plain black.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GIRLS Junior School Uniform</th>
<th>BOYS Junior School Uniform</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• White or grey Richmond River logo polo shirt</td>
<td>• White or grey Richmond River logo polo shirt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Black skirt (with logo) as supplied by Lowes</td>
<td>• Plain black shorts of an appropriate length or long pants as supplied by Lowes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Plain black mid thigh length shorts or long pants as supplied by Lowes (Tights are not acceptable)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Senior School Uniform</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• White or grey Richmond River logo polo shirt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• White buttoned senior shirt (and tie on formal occasions)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Black skirt as supplied by Lowes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Plain mid thigh length black shorts or long pants as supplied by Lowes (Tights are not acceptable)</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport Uniform Junior</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Red polo shirt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Plain black mid thigh length shorts or black sport shorts as supplied by Lowes (Tights are not acceptable)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Special note: Students are required to change for PE lessons and change back to regular school uniform for remaining lessons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Winter Uniform Junior and Senior</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• White or grey Richmond River logo polo shirt</td>
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<tr>
<td>• White buttoned senior shirt (and tie on formal occasions)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Plain black slacks or black jeans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Black skirt as supplied by Lowes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Plain mid thigh length black shorts as supplied by Lowes (Tights are not acceptable)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Red Richmond River woollen jumper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Red Richmond River jacket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Red Richmond River sloppy joe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Plain black stockings (optional)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Years 11/12 designed school jumper</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please Note: Changes to Work Health and Safety laws (2012) require all students working in a Technology practical classroom to wear sturdy leather shoes. Vans, Converse and other canvas shoes are no longer acceptable.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SAT/SUN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FEB 3B</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12 SWIMMING CARNIVAL</td>
<td>13 P&amp;C MEETING</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEB 4A</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19 YEAR 7 Gifted and Talented Workshop</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22 BLOOD BANK</td>
<td>23/24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEB/MAR 5B</td>
<td>25 OPEN NETBALL</td>
<td>26 ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL, MACLEAN NC VOLLEYBALL</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28 YEAR 7 VACCINATIONS ZONE HOCKEY</td>
<td>1 YEAR 9 VACCINATIONS ZONE BASKETBALL</td>
<td>02/03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEB/MAR 6A</td>
<td>4 TOUCH FOOTBALL</td>
<td>5 GIFTED &amp; TALENTED WORKSHOP OPEN BOYS SOCCER</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7 NORTH COAST SWIMMING YEAR 6 OPEN NIGHT</td>
<td>8 INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY OPEN RUGBY LEAGUE BLOOD BANK</td>
<td>9/10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAR 7B</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12 SCHOOL PHOTOS</td>
<td>13 SRC INDUCTION ASSEMBLY</td>
<td>14 OPEN RUGBY UNION</td>
<td>15 BLOOD BANK</td>
<td>16/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAR 8A</td>
<td>18 YEAR 12 EXAMS SCHOOL PHOTOS CATCH-UP</td>
<td>19 YEAR 12 EXAMS</td>
<td>20 YEAR 12 EXAMS</td>
<td>21 YEAR 12 EXAMS YEAR 8 BEACH TREK</td>
<td>22 YEAR 12 EXAMS YEAR 8 BEACH TREK AFL – BALLINA BLOOD BANK</td>
<td>23/24</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAR 9B</td>
<td>25 YEAR 12 EXAMS</td>
<td>26 YEAR 12 EXAMS YEAR 7 PARENT/TEACHER NIGHT</td>
<td>27 YEAR 12 EXAMS</td>
<td>28 YEAR 12 EXAMS</td>
<td>29 GOOD FRIDAY</td>
<td>30/31</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAR/ APR 10A</td>
<td>1 EASTER MONDAY</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6/7</td>
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<tr>
<td>APR 11B</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12 CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL LAST DAY OF TERM 1</td>
<td>13/14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sport Selection Notes**

PLEASE RETURN ALL SPORTS SELECTION NOTES TO THE FRONT OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

**Swimming Carnival Permission Notes**

PLEASE RETURN ALL SWIMMING CARNIVAL PERMISSION NOTES TO THE FRONT OFFICE BY MONDAY 11TH FEBRUARY.
From the Principal
Greetings to all the parents, carers and students of Richmond River High School, after a very wet start, welcome to the 2013 academic year. My name is Mary-Jane Pell and my substantive position is Principal at Nimbin Central School. I am currently “on loan” to Richmond River High School for Term 1, 2013. I have been a Principal since 2003 and I am in the delightful position of experiencing the Principalship across a broad range of sites, enjoying both Primary and Central Schools as well as the High School setting.
Richmond River High School is currently deeply immersed in a cycle of change, not only with leadership but quite broadly across the life of the school. It is critical during these stages of growth to remember that we as schools, flex, bend and mould to meet the demands and needs of our students, our staff and the broader education community. We explore issues and seek the best way to meet identified needs. Some of those big changes we are currently becoming familiar with are; timetable changes with seniors timetabled to timing of sport, changes to the way the day starts for junior students with a year meeting each morning and changes to the process by which new students enter their programs of study. I can absolutely assure you there will be hiccups along the way because no worthwhile, consultative change can occur without them, especially in a bureaucratic institution of this size. However, I can also assure you that we will work through the hiccups systematically and in a timely manner to ensure we have the best processes and practices in place. I would like to acknowledge the dedication, hard work and absolute commitment to Richmond River High School demonstrated by both Michael Hensley and Peter Howes in their roles as Deputy Principal and Deputy Principal (reliaving). Supported by the executive team, they have managed to capably steer the school through a difficult time and I believe everyone is looking forward to a strong and productive 2013. I am looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible over the coming term, it’s going to be a good one!

Mary-Jane Pell, Acting Principal

Daily Year Meetings
It has been great to see our students returning to begin the new school year in such a positive and “ready for learning” mood. In particular, the vast majority of students have been ready for class and are wearing their uniforms with pride. We are aiming to support all of our students in having a great start to each day through our Daily Year Meetings, beginning on Monday, with a strong focus on positive behaviour for learning and student welfare.

The primary purpose driving our Daily Year Meetings is to use mandated role call time to set a positive tone for the day. This will be done through students becoming familiar with the self calming and self focussing practices of “Mindfulness’. At Richmond River High School we are lucky enough to have Mr Paul Hurley on staff, who is a leading practitioner of Mindfulness. Indeed, Mr Hurley is in demand in schools across our region who are interested in introducing similar programs for their staff and students. Further, Mr Hurley has presented at State Principal’s and Deputy Principal’s conferences to great acclaim. The purpose of Mindfulness is to empower students to allow themselves to become focussed on their own growth and learning, rather than other distracting issues. A more detailed synopsis of Mindfulness will be presented in a future edition of “River Views”.

This positive start to the school day will also be reinforced by our explicit teaching of the positive behaviours we expect of all students at Richmond River High School. A team of our teachers have worked on a revamped approach to positive behaviour for learning which combines our traditional expectation that all students “be RRHS” (Respectful, Responsible, Honest & Safe) with the concept of “guiding stars” as students progress from Year 7 through to Year 12. This concept has been based on the input from student surveys conducted last year. A more detailed presentation of our revised Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) will be available in a future edition of “River Views”. The Daily Year Meetings will also provide an opportunity for our staff to follow up on students who are not meeting expectations in terms of uniform or who may choose to “skip” classes during the course of the day. Please refer to the separate section of this week’s “River Views” which outlines the Richmond River High School uniform expectations. All students are well aware this will be strictly enforced as from Monday. Further, students will also be aware that if they “truant” classes there will be an immediate consequence the following day once class rolls have been reconciled with our whole day attendance records. Whether for uniform or truancy, students will be issued with a letter of concern to take home to parents, along with a lunch detention which must be completed on the day of issue. Repeated instances of uniform non compliance or truancy will result in more serious consequences, which may include a parental interview.

Overall, we are confident that Daily Year Meetings will provide students with a positive start to their day at school, along with the certainty that all students will need to “step up” and be proud members of our school community.

Michael Hensley
Deputy Principal

I have been very pleased with the way our Year 7 have settled into school this week. This is always a daunting time of schooling for many new Year 7 as they enter High School, particularly those who have come from small Primary Schools. I have spoken to many of the students and they are genuinely nice young people with the right attitude to learning. Keep up the good work Year 7!

Most of the students have started the year off on the right foot looking great in school uniform. In this edition of the newsletter is a reminder of our uniform requirements. If a student is not in uniform on any particular day they will require a note from a parent/carer. Students out of uniform without a note will be placed on detention and parents will be informed. All students out of uniform will be provided with a loan uniform for the day. The uniform is available from Lowes at the Square.

Well done also to our Seniors who have started their early morning 8.30am Period 1 Classes this week. It’s great to see so many of you getting to school on time. Any senior students who are unable to arrive by 8.30am for their period 1 classes due to bus arrival time MUST fill out the Late Arrival Form provided to all students this week, letting us know of their regular arrival time.

From Monday our students in both Y11 and 12 now have the privilege of late arrival or early leave up to two times per week if they have free periods before recess or after lunch. Year 11 and 12 are to return their completed forms to the Front Office.

Peter Howes
Relieving Deputy Principal

Swimming Carnival - Tuesday 12th February at Lismore Memorial Baths.
All students are expected to attend this day and cheer even if they are not going to swim. Richmond River has a reputation of students who are willing to get involved and have a go.
There will be novelty races for students who are not strong or competitive swimmers. Students get points for their house for entering events and further points if they are awarded a place. Thanks to Mr Dixon and the PE staff for their organisation of the day. Please remember to be “sunsmart” - hat, sunscreen, cover-up with a long sleeved shirt, sunglasses and staying in the shade. Make sure you wear your house colours, or dress up as your house theme...be sunsafe and have fun.
The house colours are as follows:
Kewell - Red
Gilchrist - Green
Freeman - Blue
Thomas - Yellow

Richmond River High School Telephone: 6621 3456 www.richmondri-h.schools.nsw.edu.au Canteen: 6621 4890
Richmond River HS SRC
In 2012 Richmond River SRC played a very active role in the school community. We ran an extremely successful Valentine’s Day stall. We organised 4 school socials, one per term, choosing the theme and selling merchandise. We participated in the Daffodil Day fundraiser for cancer. We also played a major role in the organisation and running of R U OK day, to help raise the awareness of youth suicide, depression or mental illnesses. We can make a difference, so that is why we chose to take on this initiative. In October we attended a Grip Leadership conference at Tweed Heads and hosted the District SRC meeting where all schools in our region attended.
We have sponsored and assisted many students for various events. We sponsored:
The RRHS softball team, for their travel as they made it to the finals.
Our senior and junior debating and team because they were the regional champions, and required sponsorship to progress further.
We sponsored students to attend the World Vision Leaders Convention on the Gold Coast.
We assisted a group of students from the Global Citizenship group, and holding a stall at the local lantern parade.
Much other personal sponsorship for students who achieved success in their individual activities and needed a monitory contribution.
A very rewarding activity we participated in was to purchase and give flowers to patients at Lismore Base Hospital in memory of Mrs Campton.
The major projects that we are currently working on include:
A school fete in association with the P&C. To raise both school spirit and our community recognition.
Our school radio.
We have streamlined SRC election process. This also includes reviewing our current constitution.
The RRHS merit and awards process.
Being part of the SRC is a very rewarding experience where you have the opportunity to have a voice and to make a difference to school life. I urge all future leaders to nominate and become involved.
Nomination forms are available from the front office or Year Advisors. Nominations for the 2013 SRC close Friday 15/02/2013.
K Varley
SRC Coordinator

P&C News
Welcome back to school. Hope everyone had a great holiday. The first P&C Meeting for 2013 will be on 13 February 2013 at 6 p.m. All welcome.

Uniforms
Lowes Menswear at Lismore Square is our new uniform supplier.

Richmond River Carnival
On March 16 2013, the P&C along with the Student Representative Council are planning to hold our first Carnival. The reason behind us doing fundraising is to start and build funds towards air conditioning the MPU – which the last quote was around $125,000. As you can see this is a huge amount of money and if we don’t start to raise funds now, our students, staff and guests will continue to swelter when we hold anything in the MPU.
At the P&C meeting on Wednesday 13 February we will be discussing the carnival. If you have any ideas or would like to contribute in anyway please attend the meeting, if you can’t attend but would like to contribute or would like to be on the Carnival Committee please call Kathy in the school canteen 6621 4890.
Thanking you for your help.
Tania Harvey
P&C President

RRHS PHOTOGRAPHS 2013
Richmond River High will be hosting school photographs on Tuesday, March 12th 2013.
New legislation requires parental permission for photographs of students to be taken and photographs of students to be displayed. If you do not wish your student to be photographed in a group photo to be distributed to all students in that year, please contact the school and register your position.
Organisational requirements for a successful photographing day are as follows. All students:
• must be in full school uniform for the photographs.
• must return their envelopes on the day regardless of whether they are purchasing photos or not. Spare envelopes will be available for students who didn’t receive individually coded envelopes.
• family photographs will be available.
• photographs of groups such as SRC, LEOs and Equity Group will be available at lunch-time on Tuesday. Consult your group organiser for details.
• will present for individual photo to receive a 2013 student ID card. If you have any concerns regarding the school photographs on Tuesday 12th March, contact the school on 6621 3456.

RRHS - Week 3
Tuesday 12/02/2013
• Swimming carnival

Wednesday 13/02/2013
• P & C Meeting

CANTENE ROSTER - Week 3

Monday 11/02/2013
Teah Fort & Debb Richards

Tuesday 12/02/2013
Swimming Carnival

Wednesday 13/02/2013
Mel Freier

Thursday 14/02/2013
Kelly Wilson

Friday 15/02/2013
Kelly Wilson
Canteen volunteers are needed. If you can help please phone Kathy Claydon on 6621 4890.
Upcoming workshops for Parents & Carers of Students with a disability and for students on the Autism spectrum.

Families of students with disability and/or Autism are encouraged to participate in these valuable information opportunities. (The second 2 workshops deal specifically with students on the autism spectrum.). You can contact the presenters directly or pick up a flyer from the front office or contact the Head Teacher Welfare, Louise Savins. Thank you.

After school – what then? A workshop for families who are planning for life after school for students with developmental disability (yrs 9, 10, 11 & 12). The workshop will cover how state and commonwealth systems provide post school support for young people with a disability, as well as non-government service providers who are approved to support school leavers. Run by ‘Family Advocacy’ Lismore 28th February – 9 am – 2.30. Cost is $15 and covers morning tea, lunch and resources. For more information and registration call 1800 620 588.

Creating community connections – Wednesday 6th March 10am – 12 noon. The 'WEBINAR' is interactive and will cover strategies for bringing more people into the life of a person with disability. It can be accessed by computer and/or phone. It is a free webinar however numbers are limited to 20 and you must book to ensure a place. Phone 1800774 764 or email info@resourcingfamilies.org.au for more information.

Free 2 day workshop and information sessions for parents and carers of school aged students on the autism spectrum. Dates: - 5th and 6th of March, 9am – 4.30 (3.30 on the Wednesday) Invercauld House Conference & Function Centre. 161 Invercauld Rd, Lismore. Further information on 1300 881 971. Online registration 3 days prior to dates is available at www.positivepartnerships.com.au

Autism spectrum disorders: meeting the challenge of effective school support. A practical 2 day seminar for staff, Parents/carers, therapists and service providers, presented by Dr. Lee Sturgeon (clinical Psychologist specialising in Autism Spectrum Disorders). Wed 3rd (3-12 years focus) and Thur 4th (13 – 18 years focus) of April – Ballina RSL Club. www.herrocheventys@bigpond.com or 02 433 22 589 or 02 4333 9916.

Mrs Savins, Head Teacher Welfare