SPORTS STUDIES STUDENTS VOLUNTEER AT THE NORTHERN RIVERS PSSA SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Seventeen sports studies students from across Years 9 and 10 went to the Lismore Memorial Baths on the 28th of February to be time keepers and officials at the Regional carnival for primary schools. The carnival gathered participants from as far a field as Yamba, Woodenbong and everywhere in between. The Richmond River students represented the school with pride and should be congratulated on their efforts.

Mr B Miller, Teacher

Year 8 girls Volunteer for Our Kids

Six girls from Year 8 volunteered their time Thursday afternoon to help Rebekka Batista from Our Kids with the preparations for the Sampson Challenge on the weekend. Our Kids is a Lismore charity which provides medical equipment and financial support to the children's ward of the Base Hospital. Megan Marchant, Eden Silalahi, Bree Buckley, Emma Mustard, Mollie Scarrabelotti and Georgia Marr represented the schools exceptionally, packing show bags for competitors and labelling drink bottles.

Ms J Thomson, Year 8 Year Advisor

Social - “Disney”
Thursday 14th March
Lismore Workers Club 6 - 9 p.m. $6.00 entry

Expectations for behaviour at the school social:
• School rules apply
• Drug and alcohol free
• Footwear - no thongs - shoes must be on the whole night
• Appropriate clothing
• School on show
• Bags and clothing outside
• No drink bottles inside - water available inside
• No glassware
• No breakage of glow sticks – pay for damage
• Right money and ID cards in first
• Hand will be stamped
• No-one allowed to leave the social
• Arriving late - note to warn staff and parent to bring you to the door
• Leaving early - only if collected by parents
• Excluded from social - owing detentions overdue, roomed or suspended this term
• Once in the hall no-one allowed to get things from bags or go to the toilet until all students are admitted into the hall
• If not at school that day cannot attend the social.
Music Opportunities

North Coast Region Music Camp Lake Ainsworth Saturday 18th to Tuesday 21st May 2013. Nominations close Monday 4th March. Cost is $290. See the music staff for a nomination form.

Lismore Performing Arts Festival as part of Public Education week 29 July to 2 August. Nominations for performances please see the music staff. Nominees will need to undergo an audition for inclusion into this festival.

The Arts Unit – opportunities include applications for STATE WIND BAND and THE SCHOOLS SPECTACULAR. Go to https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/ for more information.

Bangalow Choral Festival featuring the Idea of North is on the 11-12 May.

Sharon McKay
Relieving Head Teacher CAPA

PDHPE NEWS and ASSIGNMENTS

Year 11 Crossroads
Next Tuesday the 5th of March Year 11 will begin the Crossroads program with Miss Thomson, Mr Laverty, Mr French and Mrs Turner on “Changing Relationships”.

Crossroads aims to support senior students as they address issues related to identity, independence and the changing responsibilities they face. In Crossroads, students have the opportunity to develop knowledge, understandings and skills to enable them to make informed decisions about issues which are pertinent to them.

We remind all parents and caregivers that notes must be signed and returned to the front office before Tuesday the 5th of March. There is no cost.

PDHPE Assignments Term 1 2013
Students across Years 7-10 have assignments this term in PDHPE. Please take note of the following topics and due dates. All tasks can now be found on the school website.

Year 7 - All About Me Scrapbook (Due Monday 18th of March)
Year 8 - Cannabis Research Presentation (Due 25th of March)
Year 9 - Body Image ICT Task (Part 1 Due 18th Feb, Part 2 Due 4th of March, Part 3 Due 3rd of April)
Year 10 - It's My Party Moodle (Part 1 Due 11th Feb, Part 2 Due 25th of Feb, Part 3 Due 11th of March, Part 4 Due 25th of March)

A reminder that all assignments are due to the PDHPE staffroom by 9 a.m. on the due date or alternatively uploaded and submitted online by 9 a.m. on the due date.

Ms J Thomson,
Health and Physical Education Teacher

A huge thankyou to Boral Concrete Lismore for there kind donation of the concrete to the school agricultural facilities which has provided us with all-weather stockyards.

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BORAL
From the Principal

It has certainly been an interesting start to the year, I must say I am beginning to wonder what will be thrown at us next week! The sewerage system is now fixed and should remain that way until the next inundation. As you may have noticed McKenzie Park is now the proud owner of a very large ditch, apparently there has been part of an old stormwater system uncovered that no-one knew existed. Thank you for your understanding and support of our need to close the school to students, unfortunately it was totally unavoidable.

There are a number of issues raising their head with small sections of the student body at the moment. I have had reported to me that facebook accounts have been hacked by what appears to be either adults or young adults. These accounts have been quite badly corrupted and in some cases pornographic material uploaded, please take the time to discuss this with your child/young person and if possible check their account with them. If you discover the account has been hacked please contact Lismore Police as this is an extremely serious matter.

There has also been a spate of partial truancy amongst a small section of the student cohort. This year we have in place tighter structures around truancy and uniform and it is much more unlikely that a student will successfully truant a lesson without being noticed.

Finally, by now all student electives, timetables and study patterns should be firmly in place, a great deal of work has gone into this, and, as a school of over 900 students this will always be slightly problematic. Again, thank you for your patience as we have worked to sort this out.

Mary-Jane Pell, Relieving Principal

From the Deputies

It has been a somewhat interrupted start to the year and it has been pleasing to see that most students have coped well. I can’t believe that it is already March, the year is already moving at pace. Our Year 12 students should now realise that their Half Yearly exams are in two weeks time, commencing on the 18th March. In addition, Art, Drama, Music, Extension English, and some DT students are expected to demonstrate that they have made progress on Major Works, Projects or Performances. Our HSC teachers are experienced and passionate about the subject they teach, many are experienced in HSC Marking. It is important that students attend all of their timetabled lessons and act on the advice of their teachers.

I have had the pleasure of spending some time visiting some Year 7 classes recently. This week I’d like to congratulate the students in 7F who have been writing Poems with Mrs Ryan. Their approach to learning and the effort they are making is pleasing. Well done 7F!

All good schools constantly strive to improve. One of our priorities this year is a renewed focus on teaching and learning, which is particularly important with the National Curriculum kicking off in 2014 for several subjects. Our students can contribute to improved teaching and learning by remembering to conduct themselves in a manner which does not interfere with the learning of others: be RRHS (Respectful, Responsible, Honest and Safe).

Thanks for making the effort with the Uniform RRHS! It looks great.

Peter Howes, Acting Deputy Principal

As parents will be aware there is a new national curriculum being rolled out over the next few years. What does this mean to students at RRHS?

The new national curriculum is an attempt to standardise what we teach and when we teach it across Australia, so that students who move from state to state in their schooling years are not disadvantaged, and to ensure that standards across Australia are high and consistent.

For the most part much of the new syllabus looks very much like the old syllabi. The main difference is in its underpinning philosophies. Two of the more important ideas are:

- That depth beats breadth. That is, that students achieve better outcomes if they achieve mastery in a few areas of learning rather than learning a little about a lot of areas of learning.
- that students must be prepared to be 21st Century learners. And to do this we must focus on 7 skills that students desperately need.

These 7 skills are:
- Problem solving and critical thinking
- Collaboration with others
- Agility and adaptability
- Initiative and Entrepreneurship
- Effective written and oral communication
- Accessing and analysing information
- Curiosity and imagination.

Work is already underway and pleasing progress being made to insure that the transition in the next few years is seamless.

Brett Price, Acting Deputy Principal

Vaccinations for Years 7 and 9 were conducted yesterday. Students need to be complimented on their mature behaviour during what can be an anxious time for them.

There were a number of students who were away with sport, sickness or who hadn’t returned their forms, these students will have their vaccinations at the next scheduled visit which is the 2nd and 3rd of May. It is not too late to participate in the vaccination program, so just return the forms or if you need new ones please ring me and I will arrange to get the forms to students.

Mrs L. Seccombe

- Safe
- R
- Respectful
- Responsible
- Honest
- Curiosity and imagination.
P&C News

It is the beginning of a new school year, which means we will be having our AGM on 13th March at 6 p.m. in the upstairs common room. All positions will be vacated. We will be needing a new President, 2 Vice Presidents, Treasurer and Secretary. Full support will be given to the new committee members. P&C involvement means you get to have a say in your child’s school and education. The P&C, through the canteen, donates up to $25,000 each year to enrich the education of your children. We only meet once a month for a couple of hours excluding school holidays. Please come and give us your support.

Uniforms

Lowes Menswear at Lismore Square is our new uniform supplier.

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.

RUGBY SIGN ON

8th March
From 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. at the Clubhouse
For more information contact:
Ian Barrett 0412 730 956 or James Donaldson 0488 284 418

P & C AGM Meeting
6.00 - 7.30 p.m.
Wednesday
13th March 2013

RRHS - Week 6

Monday 04/03/2013
• U15’s Touch Football at Woodenbong

Tuesday 05/03/2013
• Year 7 Gifted and Talented Workshop
• Year 11 Crossroads

Wednesday 06/03/2013

Thursday 07/03/2013
• Year 6 Open Night 5 p.m. - 7.30 p.m. in the MPU
• North Coast Swimming Carnival at Coffs Harbour
• Open Netball at Casino

Friday 08/03/2013
• Blood Bank
• History Extension Excursion to Coffs Harbour

CANTEEN ROSTER - Week 6

Monday 04/03/2013
Sandra Small, Jeff Greaves and Debb Richards

Tuesday 05/03/2013
Toni Woodland, Des Harris and Jeff Greaves

Wednesday 06/03/2013
Kelly Wilson

Thursday 07/03/2013
Meryl Condon

Friday 08/03/2013
Kelly Wilson

Canteen volunteers are needed. If you can help please phone Kathy Claydon on 6621 4890.