RRISK Day for Year 11

This will be held on Monday 25th November at Southern Cross University. All Year 11 students are expected to attend. An outline of the day is below.

Risk-taking in adolescence it is an essential part of learning and personal development. Every healthy adolescent takes risks as he or she grows towards independence. Most researchers agree that if there is no risk there is no growth. A common problem for some young people is their inability to evaluate the potential risks and consequences of everyday behaviour. Thrill seeking, speeding, the desire to impress one’s friends; feelings of invincibility and the search for new experiences are all motivating forces that drive many teenagers. As a result they are over represented in every category of risk taking resulting in injury and trauma.

The RRISK Program aims to reduce risk-taking behaviour associated with alcohol and drug use, driving and partying amongst Year 11 students in the North and Mid North Coast of NSW. RRISK is relevant to the social life, developmental stage and concerns of adolescents. It extends the school based drug education and road safety curriculum by providing opportunities for senior high school students to develop knowledge, attitudes and skills to reduce risk taking and develop safer celebrating strategies.

Tim Laverty  
Head Teacher PDHPE

OUTSTANDING SUBJECT FEES FOR 2013

It would be appreciated if families could pay outstanding subject fees at your earliest convenience. Money paid as subject contributions goes directly to the relevant subject area and is used to provide consumables used by the students such as wood, photo developing and paper, food items, fabric and cotton, seed and fertiliser, computer ink and paper, CDs and DVDs, music and guitar strings just to name a few. Practical subjects are expensive to run and we rely heavily on the money provided by the payment of these parent contributions. Government funding alone is not adequate to enable us to run the wide variety of innovative opportunities that the practical subjects offer at our school.

EFTPOS facilities are available at the Office, and parents and carers can telephone the Office to make Credit Card payments. Support by all parents and carers in this matter will be greatly appreciated by our staff and our students in particular.

Please phone the School Office on 66213456 if you would like to discuss this matter.

Margaret Bugden,  
School Admin Manager

Thank you to local businesses  
CONNECT Work Placement and the school would like to thank the following businesses for their ongoing support in taking vocational students to assist them in fulfilling the work placement component of their VET course.

- Caroona Goonellabah (Hosp)  
- Caroona Marima Nursing Home  
- Gloria Jeans Coffees - Lismore  
- Harvey's Eating Place  
- Luv a Coffee  
- Mecca Café  
- Nev Smith Plastering Pty Limited  
- Pickled Pepper Bistro  
- Scott McKinnon Electrical  
- Steve's Bakery & Cake Shop  
- Taste at 8 Café  
- Caroona Jarmen Hostel Goonellabah  
- Coffee Shots  
- Goanna Bakery & Café  
- Henry's Bakery Café  
- Mary G's  
- MS & NJ Nicholls Dairy Farm  
- Palate at the Gallery  
- Red Dove Café (Lismore Regional Mission)  
- St Josephs Aged Care Facility  
- Subway - Lismore  
- Tommys Restaurant
## Bring Your Own Device to School (BYOD) Device Requirements Advice

Bring your own device (BYOD) where students bring their own device for the purposes of learning will be implemented at RRHS in 2014. The device may be a laptop or tablet device and must meet minimum requirements as shown below:

### Software Capabilities

Note: all laptops and tablets can access a free web-based service Google Drive/Apps that students can use to meet all requirements below.

Virus protection should be on all devices.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Device</th>
<th>Operating System</th>
<th>Wireless &amp; Battery</th>
<th>Web Browser</th>
<th>Word Processing</th>
<th>Presentation</th>
<th>Spreadsheet</th>
<th>PDF Reader</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laptop-Windows</td>
<td>Microsoft Windows 7 or newer</td>
<td>Internet Explorer 10 or newer</td>
<td>Internet Explorer 10 or newer</td>
<td>Microsoft Word</td>
<td>Microsoft Powerpoint</td>
<td>Microsoft Excel</td>
<td>Adobe Reader</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laptop-MacBook</td>
<td>Apple MacOS X 10.6 or newer</td>
<td>Safari</td>
<td>Safari</td>
<td>Microsoft Word</td>
<td>Microsoft Powerpoint</td>
<td>Microsoft Excel</td>
<td>Adobe Reader</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tablet-Android</td>
<td>Android 4.0 or newer</td>
<td>Chrome</td>
<td>Chrome</td>
<td>Office Suite Pro</td>
<td>Office Suite Pro</td>
<td>Office Suite Pro</td>
<td>OfficeSuite Pro Adobe Reader app</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tablet-iPad</td>
<td>Apple iOS 6 or newer</td>
<td>Safari</td>
<td>Safari</td>
<td>Apple Pages</td>
<td>Keynote</td>
<td>Numbers</td>
<td>iBooks Adobe Reader app</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Note:

The Department and the school do not endorse any particular brands or devices and parents are advised to carefully consider all their options for purchase and lease/rent-to-buy. Smaller tablet devices may be half the price of a larger sized laptop. Purchase of a brand new device is not essential as students may already have a device or may be able to acquire a second-hand device that is suitable. In fact, many students are already bringing their own devices and connecting to the school network.

Students currently in Years 9, 10 and 11 who have been issued with a netbook will continue to be supported until they finish their Year 12 requirement. However, if students wish they may prefer to bring their own device as outlined above.

We are committed to our obligations as a public education institution to deliver the same learning outcomes to all our students no matter their families' financial means. We have developed an Equity Policy to operate alongside our BYOD Policy to support students who may through financial or other hardship be unable to purchase/bring their own device.

BYOD is a personal education tool and as such the Department/school cannot supply support for faulty devices (software/hardware). The Department advises that accidental loss and damage insurance should be considered.

BYOD regarding students with additional needs: The school is planning to purchase software Texthelp Read&Write 11 Gold to assist students to read, write, organise, study, research and be numerate. It can be used across the curriculum. It also helps achieve greater independence and move towards becoming lifelong learners. Students will be able to install this software on their BYOD devices through the school next year.

For further queries please contact Ms Paula Moverley, Computer Coordinator or Mr Brad Redden, TSO.

A presentation to parents on BYOD will be given at the P&C meeting on Wednesday 13th November.
Dear Parents and Caregivers

The front of the school (Lake Street) is a very busy place before school as a result of the school buses stopping to drop our students to start their school day. I have noticed during this busy time while I am out the front doing my regular bus duty that there a lot of parents who also drop off their children mostly on the other side of the road (due to restrictions from the buses). These individual drop offs are causing me some concern as I notice some children having to weave across the road in front of buses and other cars. For the safety of all our students I am asking parents who need to drop off their children to school if they could do so at the back of the school. This will assist in making the bus drop off area less busy and safer for all. A big thank you!

In the near future Lismore Council will be installing pedestrian lights at either end of Lake Street. I am sure when these lights are installed pedestrian access will become safer and easier. Included in this newsletter is some initial information about the Department’s new Bring Your Own Device Policy. To support this new approach there will be a mandatory, annual $10 Technology Fee to support the school’s Wi-Fi infrastructure. Please read the information about this carefully because it contains advice about the range of devices suitable to bring to school to support your children’s learning.

This week the Senior Executive Team at the school has been completing the draft budget for 2014. As we were doing this we realised just how much financial support our school P&C has given to the school over the last year. Big thanks to our wonderful group of parents.

Senior Student attendance

Unfortunately we are having an ever increasing number of Year 11 students who are leaving the school grounds without permission during the school day. As a result students are sometimes missing or late for lessons while they are away from the school they are not in the care of the school. As I have been saying to our Year 11 students, they are a very talented group of students who are not achieving to the level to which they are capable. I would really appreciate your help in discussing this matter with your children so that all our students give themselves the very best opportunity for their HSC.

Have a great weekend.

Mr Dave Harvey
Principal

From the Deputy

Year 5 Experience Days

Over the past few weeks we have been working with our colleagues across our 27 partner primary schools to present an opportunity for all current Year 5 students, who live within the Richmond River High School drawing area, to attend an ‘experience day’ at Richmond River High School.

This is the third year we have conducted a program for Year 5 students who, along with their families, will need to make a decision early next term as to which high school they are going to attend as Year 7 students in 2015. This process also involves the students and their families attending the school’s annual Open Night, also conducted next term. Attendance at one of our ‘experience days’ will allow Year 5 students to attend sample lessons in Science, Art, Drama, Industrial Arts, PE, Maths and Music. The day also includes peer support activities, conducted by Mr Yates, who will be the Year 7 Advisor in 2015, supported by Year 10 Peer Leaders. The Year 10 Peer Leaders will accompany the Year 5 students throughout the day. The SRC will also put on a sausage sizzle at lunch time.

Our intention is to give all of these students a substantial “taste” of what learning looks and feels like at our school, enabling them to make a choice of high school that is informed and which will ensure a smooth transition from primary to high school. These students are the future of our school and we hope they will find their experience day at Richmond River High School both enjoyable and useful.

Any Year 5 student who lives within the Richmond River High School drawing area who has not heard about our experience days through their current primary school, and who would like to attend will be most welcome and their parents or carers should contact the school.

Positive Behaviour for Learning

An important part of our PBL program is the posting of signage in class and around the school which reminds students of the positive behaviour expected at Richmond River High School at all times. The signs identify what ‘respectful’, ‘responsible’, ‘honest’ and ‘safe’ behaviour looks like in classrooms, in the playground, and while moving between different parts of the school.

All signage is clearly identifiable as it features the ‘river journey’ motif with which all students will now be familiar as it forms the basis of PBL teaching every morning during daily year meetings.

Next week, our focus for teaching PBL during year meetings will be on being respectful outside of the classroom. In particular, students will be asked to consider the ways in which all personal conflicts or disagreements can be resolved respectfully, and the importance of not using offensive language. It is important to note that student conflicts can now be complicated due to the access which students now have to social media. Accordingly, it is important that all parents and carers are extremely proactive in monitoring the ways in which the young people under their care make use of social media.

Further, our school has a ‘zero tolerance’ approach to students using offensive language, which invariably reflects a lack of respect for those within earshot of the person using the language, let alone the teaching and learning which is our core business at Richmond River High School. I certainly hope that students reflect on our PBL discussions next week, and that all students and their families have an enjoyable weekend.

Mr Michael Hensley
Deputy Principal

Richmond River High School
Telephone: 6621 3456
www.richmondri-h.schools.nsw.edu.au
Canteen: 6621 4890

Year 12 News

- There is a mandatory Formal practice for students on the 15th of November (the day of the formal) at the Workers Club at 9.00 a.m. It is very important that all students attend.
- If any parents or carers are available to assist in decorating the Workers Club auditorium in preparation for the formal on Friday the 15/11 can you please contact Mrs Helliwell at the school.

Thankyou, Mrs Helliwell

Being

RRRHS
Is:
R esponsible
Res ectful
H onest
S afe
P&C Meeting
At our next P & C Meeting on Wednesday 13th November at 6:00 p.m. we will be required to endorse the continuation of the chaplaincy program. As part of the ongoing Federal funding of the Chaplaincy position, community consultation and backing is required. At the beginning of this meeting Michelle Atherton our school chaplain will be attending to answer any questions you may have. Everyone is most welcome.

Tania Harvey, P&C President

TAFE courses for 2014 are available now at Ballina, Wollongbar, Lismore, Casino and Kingscliff Campuses

Courses are available in the following industries:
Community Services - Children’s Services, Mental Health, Fitness & Nursing
Construction – Carpentry & Plumbing
Creative Industries – Performance Costumes, Fashion Design & Technology
Hair & Beauty - Massage, Nail Technology & Hairdressing
Primary Industries & Natural Resources – Agriculture & Horticulture
Maritime -
Tourism, Hospitality & Events – Events Management, Aviation, Cookery

Please note: these are only a few of the courses on offer and the full list can be found on our website

If you would like to discover your pathway to your studies with TAFE, you can 1) book in a free session with our careers advisor on (02) 6681 8900  2) Search www.northcoast.tafensw.edu.au or 3) call Ballina TAFE on (02) 6681 8900 to hear about the courses TAFE offers and those that are on offer in your area.

Year 7 - Reward Excursion
The Year 7 reward excursion to Sea World is taking place on Tuesday 3rd December.
If you are planning on attending, notes and payment are due asap.
Payment closes: 28/11/2013

Ms Day