Richmond River High School - A Caring School of Excellence

Excellent opportunities
Innovative programs
Quality teaching
Student success

Year 12 Graduation Formal

Richmond River High School
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Year 12 finally completed their high school education on Friday with their graduation formal. All the students were immaculate and all looked pleased to have completed their formal schooling. Good luck and well done Year 12. You will be missed.
Review of the Richmond River High School Discipline Policy and Procedures

Next year our school will be conducting a comprehensive review of our Discipline and Student Wellbeing Policy which is followed by all faculties. Our aim will be to reinforce high expectations of student behaviour and achievement and to have community input into any changes to our policies that are deemed necessary for improved student outcomes and wellbeing. These aims are in line with our three year School Improvement Plan (2012 – 2014) and will lay the foundations for a significant body of work to be completed by our leadership team next year.

The first and certainly one of the most important steps in this process, is to establish our base line data, or “starting point”. Accordingly, between now and the end of the year, all teaching staff will be surveyed, along with student focus groups from all year groups who will be representative of all ability levels. Significantly for our parents and carers, this consultation process will also include phone calls to parents of students from all year groups, randomly selected, with a view to gaining a realistic representation of parent and carer views regarding our current assessment policy.

As this is a very extensive policy that involves many aspects, a few of these are listed below:

- Student discipline policy and procedures
- Attendance
- Positive Behaviour for Learning,
- Student support
- Procedures for dealing with bullying
- Student leadership
- Senior student expectations

Given that it is not possible to conduct a phone interview with all of our parents, any family that is not contacted during next week is invited to respond to the survey questions, reproduced below, and return their responses either via the school’s email, or to Mrs Bugden or Mrs Marchant in our Front Office.


- How effectively does RRHS support the welfare and wellbeing of your child?
- How effectively does the school communicate with you about the discipline and wellbeing policy and your own child’s behaviour?
- What is the impact of student’s poor behaviour on your child’s learning?
- How well does the school provide individualised support to meet the welfare and discipline needs of your child?
- What are the most effective ways to communicate with parents concerning the discipline policy and individual children’s needs?
- How approachable are the staff at the school in discussing issues around discipline, child wellbeing and child support?
- Are you aware of the school’s systems and procedures for supporting children at risk, that is children with additional needs or children with poor behaviour?
- Do you know the purpose of the CASTLE and SAM room procedures?
- Does the school’s use of the CASTLE and SAM room procedures contribute to better child behaviour?
- Does the school’s use of the suspension procedures contribute to better child behaviour?
- Does the school explicitly teach children appropriate behaviour expectations?
- Does your child feel safe and cared for at RRHS?
- Do you feel that staff know your child and can acknowledge their interests, strengths and areas of need?

Mrs Di Williamson
Deputy Principal
From the Principal
Dear Parents and Caregivers
Lions Youth of the Year Public Speaking
I would like to congratulate Josie Coles and Amy Feain for their participation in the Lions Youth of the Year Public Speaking competition. Both Josie and Amy received a commendation for their speeches. Well done!

Year 12 Formal
The Year 12 Formal last Friday was an outstanding success. This was my first Richmond River Year 12 formal and I was so impressed with the sophistication of the night. While I did not have the privilege of meeting our outgoing students when most of them arrived in Year 7 and hence to see them grow and mature I can confirm that on last Friday night we were saying farewell to an amazing group of mature young women and men and all of them looked like they were ready to take on the world beyond school. No matter what areas these young women and men will move into we wish them the very best. I hope that their further studies are rewarding, their work environments are satisfying and their personal lives are enriching.

Safe pick up in the afternoons
I would like to remind all our parents and caregivers who pick up their children in the afternoon that we would really appreciate them picking up at the back of the school in Alexandria Parade. The front of the school is overly busy and congested with the buses and I am concerned about the number of children who are running across the road to be picked up or whose parents are picking their children up in and around the bus bay area. Your support in this matter is appreciated.

Reward Excursions and other events
The end of the school year is fast approaching and I know teachers have been very busy in preparing student reports. You will receive your student reports in Week 10. During Week 9 we are running our reward excursions for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. This is a great opportunity for us as a school to acknowledge the high level of attitude and achievements of our students and every student who attends is to be congratulated for their efforts.

School Fees
We are currently in the process of developing the school’s budget for next year. This is ever challenging in light of maintaining all the wonderful learning opportunities provided at Richmond River. For this reason, it is really important that the school receives the full quota of school and specific course contributions from parents and caregivers in order to ensure full access to those courses needing high cost materials. I would really appreciate if you have any outstanding contributions you could pay them as soon as possible.

Formal assemblies
We have a scheduled formal assembly for Years 7, 8 and 9 on Thursday 12th December and one for Years 10 and 11 on Tuesday 10th December. These assemblies are very important events in the school calendar and we want all our students to attend these important events. On these days we will not be allowing senior students to sign out of the school during their study periods.

Mr Dave Harvey
Principal

From the Deputies
School Social
This term’s Social will be held on Thursday next week (28th November), from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at the Lismore Worker’s Club – the theme is “What you want to be when you grow up”. Tickets are $6.00 and students should be at the Worker’s Club before 6:00 p.m. with the correct money and their student ID card. Students will not be permitted if they are not wearing appropriate footwear.

Additionally, any student who owes any lunch detentions or who has been placed in the SAM Room or has been suspended since the last Social (Thursday 5th September) will not be allowed to attend this term’s Social. Students who are absent from school on the day of the Social are also not allowed to attend.

A list of students not allowed to attend will be posted outside the Deputy’s office from recess on Wednesday. It is the responsibility of all students wanting to attend the Social to check that they are not on the list.

Parents and carers are asked to ensure that transport arrangements home for their son or daughter are organised for 9:00 p.m. promptly, in order to avoid having students and staff waiting around on Keen Street.

Mrs D Williamson
Deputy Principal

Social
“What you want to be when you grow up”
Thursday 28th November
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 is 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.

RRHS
Is:
Responsible
Respectful
Honest
Safe
Monday 25/11/2013
- White Card Course at RRHS
- Year 11 RRISK Day at Southern Cross University

Tuesday 26/11/2013
- Years 10/11 Barista Course at Wollongbar TAFE 9.30 a.m. - 2.30 p.m.

Wednesday 27/11/2013
- Sports Awards Formal Assembly 12.15 p.m. in the MPU
- Social 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. at Lismore Workers Club

Thursday 28/11/2013
- Year 11 Textiles Excursion to Trinity 9.30 a.m. - 12.15 p.m.

Friday 29/11/2013
- Year 7 - Reward Excursion to Sea World is taking place on Tuesday 3rd December.
- Year 8 Reward Excursion to Dreamworld on Monday 2nd December.
- Year 9 Reward Excursion to a venue to be announced on Wednesday 4th December.
- Year 10 Reward Excursion to Dreamworld on Thursday 5th December.

P & C Meeting
6.00 - 7.30 p.m.
Wednesday
11th December 2013

River Idol is Back!
Many of you who have had older students graduate from our school and even those parents who are ex students will fondly remember River Idol. 2013 sees the return of the talent quest which is truly a part of the tradition of Richmond River. For those unfamiliar with the concept, the style of the show is not much different from Australia's Got Talent.

Students have the opportunity to perform solo or in groups to showcase their skill. Examples of acts include music performances, dance, drama acts, feats of strength, stand up comedy, hip hop, and more! All items must be appropriate for a school audience. Students need to register their event at the CAPA staffroom before Monday 2nd December. Performers will need to bring their own instruments if required. Microphones, guitar amps, leads and a drum kit will all be supplied by the school.

River Idol will be held on Tuesday 17th December, periods 6 and 7 in the MPU.

Students will need to audition earlier in the day to get through to the grand final after lunch.

Surprise guest judges will give each act some feedback and at the end of the concert the King/s and Queen/s of The River will be announced and have the fantastic honour of winning the first River Idol to be held for a long time.