From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers

School Social

Next week we are holding another school social. Since the last social we have been looking into any possible safety issues around the school socials. One point of concern has been the drop off at the beginning of the social and the pick up by parents at the end of the social.

At the beginning of the social

As a result I am asking all parents to personally drop off their children to the social directly into the care of one of our teachers at the entrance to the Club. This will ensure that every student arrives safely under the supervision of a parent.

At the end of the social

At the end of the social we will endeavour to disperse the students two year groups at a time starting with Years 7 and 8 students at around 8:50 p.m. followed by students in Years 9 and 10 at 8:55 p.m. and then Years 11 and 12 students at 9 p.m. It is paramount that each parent picks up their child from the social from the entrance to the Club.

Students are not to leave the premises without a parent. This is particularly important so that all our students leave the social with a parent by their side. In other words students are not to cross the road and meet parents in the car park or somewhere else near the Club. This process is to ensure that every student leaves the social in the care of their parent.

Parent Survey

Based on the feedback from the parent, student and staff forums held recently I am attaching a link to a survey for parents to complete. The focus of the survey will be to further unpack some of the points raised by parents, students and staff. The information you provide through this survey will guide the priorities of the school for the next three years. We really appreciate giving up your time in completing this survey.

Survey link: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SURVPAR](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SURVPAR)

Dave Harvey
Principal
ON A ROLL...

On Wednesday the 10th of June our capable Senior Debating team argued in the affirmative ‘that we should require individuals consent to publish their image’. It was a very interesting process as it was completed through video-conferencing, via a split screen, so the opposing team and the adjudicator were both visible. The team managed to overcome their difficulties of a time delayed feed, and missing our regular second speaker, with a very close win.

This was the first of the inter-regional debates as the team (Amy Feain, Ruby Mueller, Montana Hancock and Brendan Read) move one step closer to the Sydney final. The opposing team, Bulahdelah offered an interesting perspective stating that the publishing of photos should be allowed if it is a benefit to society. They cited examples, such as Osama Bin Laden and Ivan Milat, one a terrorist, the other a serial killer, whose photos were frequently published without their authority in the interest of protecting further danger to citizens. They purported that it was this media coverage that made it easier to capture them. They further stated, using the example of Maddie McCann, that it is essential in the search for missing children and people in general to use images without necessarily gaining their consent. Their last point involved referred to Shakespeare, who is now dead, but society regularly uses his picture and it is not possible to gain consent.

Amy addressed this issue stating that any copyright is null and void after 70 years thus making it possible to use. Further, Ruby stated that younger children have their parents’ consent to publish as they are legally unable to sign contracts until they are 18. Especially in the case of Maddie McCann, as her parents were often seen on television with pictures of Maddie begging the community for information which implies consent. Our team’s case was predicated on the idea that the advance of technology has made the use of photos without consent a volatile situation. It can lead to misrepresentation, slander, harassment and criminals being able to find people – especially dangerous to children. This has led to a negative effect on society as people tax the legal system fighting for their rights or the health system as they cope with the physical and emotional damage such knowledge can lead to.

It was the skills of rebutting that just pipped Bulahdelah at the winning post which means the team now face off against Murwillumbah next Monday.

Ms Galea
Debating Coach

Personal Interest Projects – Year 8

During PIP lessons this week we have been looking at a timeline for completion of the projects. Students broke their project into stages, and developed a timeline for completion of their project at home. We also looked at who could help with their project. Parents and carers please discuss with your child their project, projects need to be completed by Week 3 Term 3, if you have any queries please call me.

Mrs Seccombe
Teacher-Librarian
**Science and Engineering Challenge**

On Thursday, 12th June, 31 Year 10 students attended the Science and Engineering Challenge at SCU. There were a few nerves but plenty of excitement for the challenges that lay ahead. Our students were split into eight groups to compete in their own unique challenges.

Four groups were given full day activities that included building a bridge that was strong but lightweight, an ecologically-friendly house that could withstand the worst that nature could provide, a Mars Rover that could go anywhere and a chair that could support a 4 kg doll being dropped on it from height.

The other four groups completed two half day activities that included connecting a city with electricity, designing the most efficient method for distributing water, building a tower impervious to earthquakes and building a transport network that connects regional centres.

Over the day, I was able to visit each group and see how they were travelling. It was hard to not become excited as students were smiling, laughing and booming with pride as they explained how they overcame a particular problem.

We had solid results throughout the day. Our Mars Rover and Doll’s chair took out first place. Our ecologically friendly house took out third. While our electricity network teams and bridge builders took out second. The rest of the groups produced solid results and achieved valuable points towards our school’s total.

After all points were tallied, Richmond River collected a total of 1152 out of a possible 1600 points. This total was a brilliant result that put us in second place, five points behind winner Lindisfarne Anglican College.

Our students were excellent representatives of our school at the challenge, demonstrating academic brilliance, excellent problem solving skills, school pride and unequalled enthusiasm. It was truly a pleasure to be part of this excellent achievement.

*Mr Yates*  
*Science Teacher*

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**BLOOD BANK**

This week’s blood donors; heading off to the Blood Bank.

If you are a donor at the Blood Bank you can join our Red Club group and add to our tally of lives saved, when you next donate.

At Richmond River High School we have a proud tradition of helping those in need. We are organising an excursion every fortnight on Friday week A for students over 16 years of age who would like to make a difference and donate. Unfortunately this year the rules have been changed, students less than 18 years of age are only allowed to give once a year.

If you are interested in donating please see me in the HSIE staffroom during a break. Thank you to this week’s donors, Aidan Moynihan, Bowen Kelly, Lily Mercer, Zoe Bertuzzi and Eve Ivan.

*Michelle Atherton*  
*(Chaplain)*

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**Payment Schedule**

**Year 11 Perisher/Blue Cow Snow Trip**

**PRICE:** $960  
SNOWBOARDERS and  
SKIERS

- May 6th: $150  
- May 20th: $150  
- June 3rd: $150

June 17th: remaining balance paid prior to going, to be confirmed with final numbers.

**Note:** June 27th is the last day of Term 2 prior to school holidays, we leave at the end of the first week back in Term 3 and all monies must be finalised before the holidays.
French Cultural Experience

Today Year 7 had the pleasure of practising their French speaking skills by ordering crepes and ice cream from the Les Petites Crepe van. Our students spoke with the owners and asked questions and learned more about the country of France. The crepes and ice-creams were very delicious!!!

Ms Lishman
LOTE Teacher
Regional Cross Country

On Friday the 6th of June a large number of students journeyed down to Kempsey Race Club to compete in the regional cross country carnival. Perfect conditions on the day and a relatively flat course saw Patrick Ivers and Ruby Gerrish (Year 12), Liam Bertuzzi (Year 9) and Jake Petty (Year 8) excel to the next level of competition where they will be representing the North Coast region at the state carnival in Sydney.

An excellent effort was displayed by all students who competed and they should be congratulated on their achievements.

Mr B Fox

Year 10 into 11 Subject Selection Evening

Tuesday 17th June 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

A parent and student information evening will be held at RRHS next Tuesday to allow parents to find out vital information about student’s subject selection for 2015. The evening will include:

1. Information re positive subject selection - Mr Harvey
2. The Board of Studies Rules around qualifying for a HSC and ATAR (For University Entry) - Mr Tyson
3. The RRHS Subject selection process - Mr Brett Price.

This section of the evening will take about 20 minutes followed by time to talk to individual Head Teachers to gain advice on subjects and also levels of study applicable to your student’s ability.

Each Key Curriculum Area will have a section of the MPU allocated to them with information about each subject taught within their area and expert teacher advice.

Mr Gooley our Careers Advisor and Mr Eden Weir will be also at the event to give information and advice about TAFE and School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships.

Please come along with your Year 10 students and bring the curriculum booklets and TAFE information sheets with you on the night.

Di Williamson
Deputy Principal
From the Deputy Principal

Senior Student Engagement with Study
During our recent parent and student consultative forums, both groups indicated that they would like to see a greater focus across our school in creating a culture of academic “hard work”, particularly among senior students. This week, we were again visited by a representative from ‘Elevate Education’ with a view to “upskilling” students in Years 11 & 12 as they face the challenges of multiple assessment tasks and upcoming exams.

Year 12 were introduced to a range of exam study techniques which high achieving HSC students in recent years have found to be successful through the ‘Memory and Mnemonic’ presentation. This will prove particularly useful with the approach of their final ‘in school’ exams early next term. Meanwhile, Year 11 were presented the ‘Time Management’ workshop, providing them with a range of highly practical strategies to ensure they are able to balance all of their commitments and achieve academic success as they move deeper into their senior studies.

It is important that students and parents are aware that all of the content presented by ‘Elevate Education’ is based on their own research into what has worked for high achieving HSC students. All of the presenters themselves are recently graduated high achieving HSC students currently studying at University.

Further, all of the material presented during these workshops is ‘unpacked’ in a more individualised manner through our ongoing fortnightly mentor lessons for both Years 11 and 12 students.

Respectful Relationships
Students who participated in their recent forum, along with teachers who participated in similar forums, highlighted the importance of positive relationships between students and their teachers. Our teachers reflected on the professional pride and satisfaction they felt when going the “extra yard” to help students with their work, with their relationships. Teachers felt this was an important part of the make up of our school.

Equally, students appreciated the approach of their teachers and felt supported by this approach. It is important that all students come to school each day with a positive approach to learning, and a positive approach to the way in which they work with teachers and other students.

Student Facilities
In the recent forums, students and parents indicated the importance of having a clean playground and clean toilets. Our cleaners have indicated this week that some students who use some areas of the playground could make a greater effort to use the many bins which are provided.

While teachers on playground duty make every effort to encourage students to respect their shared playground and use bins responsibly, I would encourage all students to both use the bins themselves and encourage their peers to do so. A similar approach would help in keeping our toilets both clean and open for use.

School Social
It’s that time of the term again. Our school social will be held at the Lismore Worker’s Club from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Thursday evening next week. The social provides a great opportunity for our students to enjoy themselves in a safe environment, provided by our staff who volunteer their time to supervise.

All students are reminded that they are not permitted to attend the social if they have been placed in the SAM Room or have been suspended since the last social (Tuesday March 25th, Week 9 of last Term). Any student who owes lunch detentions or is absent on the day of the social is also not allowed to attend.

Parents and carers are asked to ensure they have made arrangements for their son or daughter to be picked up at 9:00 p.m., allowing supervising teachers who have volunteered their time to also go home.

Uniform Issues
The recent student and parent forums also confirmed the strong support across our school community for our school’s uniform. With the arrival of colder weather, students and their families are reminded that our uniform includes either the official red school jumper (available at Lowes in Lismore Square), or, failing that, plain red or grey jumpers are acceptable. Tights are not part of our uniform.

Students who are unavoidably out of uniform will need to bring an explanatory note from home, which they will need to give to Mrs Seccombe in the Library in order to receive a uniform pass for the day. This must take place before Roll Call / Morning Meetings.

Have a great weekend.
Michael Hensley
Deputy Principal

Being RRHS
Is: Responsible Respectful Honest Safe
RRHS - Term 2 Week 8

Monday 16/06/2014

Tuesday 17/06/2014
- Year 10 into 11 Subject Selection Evening at 6.00 p.m. in the MPU

Wednesday 18/06/2014
- Beautiful Girls Graduation
- Year 12 Primary Industries Quad Bike Course

Thursday 19/06/2014
- School Social 6.00 p.m. at the Lismore Workers Club
- Year 11 Biology and E&ES Woody Head Excursion
- Year 12 Hospitality Restaurant Assessment Task

Friday 20/06/2014
- ‘Primex’ at Casino, Years 9-12 Agriculture and Primary Industries
- TAFE TVET Taster
- Zone Athletics
- Year 12 Titration Competition at Southern Cross University, Year 12

SCHOOL BAND REPORT
CAPA is pleased to announce that the school band is up and running with 7 students, comprising a rhythm section as well as trumpet, clarinet and saxophone.
Mr Murray is available for tuition on the trumpet, saxophone, trombone and clarinet.
If you have any unwanted or damaged brass or woodwind instruments could you please consider donating them to the school.

Mr Murray
Music Teacher

The official Richmond River High School Facebook page is here:
RRHS Facebook Page
The web address is: www.facebook.com/richmondriverhigh

Attention all Parents and Carers
Our newsletter the ‘River Views’ is published every Friday and is uploaded onto our website:
www.richmondri-h.schools.nsw.edu.au
and emailed to parents whom we have received their email addresses.
We do not provide paper copies unless specifically requested by parents and the students need to come up to the front office to collect a paper copy at 3.15 p.m. on Friday afternoons.
If you would like a copy emailed to you then please contact the front office on 66 213 456.