Zone Swimming

On Tuesday 24th of February, students from Richmond River High school competed at the Northern Rivers Zone Swimming Championships. Stand out performances on the day were from the following students:

Rattanawadi Bowyer  12 years
1st 100m Freestyle
2nd 100m Breaststroke
2nd 100m Backstroke
2nd 100m Butterfly

Samuel Gibson  15 years
2nd 200m Freestyle
3rd 100m Freestyle
4th 100m Breaststroke
2nd 100m Backstroke
3rd 50m Freestyle

Nathan Blanksby  15 years
2nd 100m Backstroke
2nd 100m Breaststroke

Hayden Blanksby  17 years
1st 100m Breaststroke
1st 200m Freestyle
4th 50m Freestyle
4th 100m Freestyle

A special mention to Madeline Nilon who was the overall age champion for 17 years girls. Her results were:
1st 200m Freestyle
1st 100m Freestyle
1st 100m Breaststroke
1st 100m Backstroke
1st 50m Freestyle
1st 100m Butterfly

and to Michaela Cameron who was the overall age champion for 16 years girls. Her results were:
1st 100m Freestyle
1st 100m Backstroke
2nd 100m Breaststroke
2nd 50m Freestyle

Several students also came to the carnival as officials. We would like to thank them for their time and effort at the carnival. Good luck to those students who will be competing at the Regional swimming championships on the 5th of March, 2015.

Miss Birney, Mr Scarrabelotti
STUDENT ADVENTURE

In 2013 Troy Fredericks (currently in Year 12) attended TAFE at Ballina and studied Certificate II in Transport and Distribution (Coastal Maritime Operations - Coxswain). He studied after school on Tuesday and Wednesday nights from 4:30-9:00 p.m. as well as attending school full time completing Year 10. In 2014 Troy was informed that he was being presented an award for NSW Ballina Maritime TAFE Student of the Year. Along with the award on the night Troy was given the opportunity to be part of a crew taking a vessel “MV Island Trader” from Port Macquarie to Lord Howe Island and also the return journey. Troy was able to learn about the operation of the vessel first hand, navigation, skippering the vessel out of Port Macquarie Harbour, operating autopilot, engineering, reading weather maps and tidal charts. He was on the boat from Saturday 3rd January until late on Thursday 8th January. Troy spent 2 days with the crew unloading the vessel of much needed supplies for Lord Howe Island which included food provisions, aviation fuel, gas bottles, a van, water tanks, gravel for roads, building materials, clothing, mail, diesel and petrol. The boat is the only cargo vessel that travels to the island and provides a life line for the inhabitants. This opportunity and experience has changed Troy’s life. His eyes have been opened to what is out there and the possibilities of life on the water working on ships and luxury vessels. Troy now has his boat licence, jet ski licence, marine radio operator’s certificate of proficiency, Certificate of Competency General Purpose Hand NC and hopes one day to become a qualified dive instructor.

SWIMMING SUCCESS

Madeline Nilon and Hayden Blanksby have been swimming up a storm over the summer swimming season. Both students train in Lismore and are involved in open water swimming. Hayden travels up to Bond University twice a week to train for “open water” swimming with the likes of Kye Hurst (Ironman), members of the Australian Swimming Team and a Japanese Olympian. Both students are finding the open water swimming more challenging and interesting. Mental toughness and resilience plays a huge part in the success of open water swimmers. A few weeks ago both swimmers competed in the Shaws Bay 1.7 km swim and both came first in their open events. This year they have also flown to Perth to compete in the National Open Water Swimming competition. To be selected to compete at this level is amazing. Hayden came 6th in the 16 year old male division, only 7 secs behind the leader and Madeline in 20th position in her age division. Madeline also travelled to Sydney last weekend to compete in the NSW Country Championship where she competed in 6 events, achieving personal bests in both the 50m butterfly and the 50m backstroke.

Mrs Williamson
Deputy Principal
From the Principal
Dear Parents and Carers
As a school we are in the process of beginning the work associated with the school’s new plan and strategic directions. Just some of the many areas that we will be focused on this year include:

- tailoring more individualised approaches for students with identified needs
- increasing opportunities for parents and carers to be involved in our school
- providing increased opportunities for students transitioning from school to work
- providing further opportunities to enhance 21 Century technology learning skills
- enhancing individual student study skills and
- developing an assessment schedule across grades that is communicated with and understood by parents.

As a result of the timetabling issues the school faced earlier in the year we have done whatever we can to assist with individual student class changes. However as at the beginning of next week (Week 6) we will no longer be in a position to make any further class changes.

Just over a week ago the Captains and Principals across the Rivers College had their photographs taken as an obvious representation of the three secondary schools working closely together. This year is the official start of the Rivers College. Each school, including Richmond River is now a campus of the Rivers College.

I hope you all have a great weekend.

Dave Harvey
Principal

From the Deputies
On Monday all year groups will be undertaking a briefing on the school discipline policy, the flood policy, emergency evacuation and gain other important information. The briefings are mandatory and will be delivered by both Deputies, Mrs Williamson and Mr Howes. Following each briefing the students will move to the MPU to engage with a Mindfulness session where they will undertake a workshop around how Mindfulness is used at RRHS. For those who are unfamiliar with Mindfulness, it is a technique which allows students to become more effective at school and in their lives as a whole. Major corporations and sporting teams now engage with Mindfulness because of its efficacy.

Our Positive Behaviour for Learning theme this week is ‘Responsible Around the School’. This centres on school behaviour and citizenship. Some key elements include ‘treat others as I want to be treated – nice or nothing’, being in class on time, placing rubbish in the bin and following teachers instructions.

Peter Howes
Deputy Principal
Employment Pathways Program
This year sees the EPP (Employment Pathways Program) revamped with ten new students involved from Year 11. It is an exciting opportunity for these students to achieve their HSC, gain valuable industry experience and a TAFE qualification. Students will attend school two days, TAFE for one day completing two subjects and participate in a work place two days a week. Students are choosing a variety of different industries and are looking towards a bright future.

P&C News - AGM MEETING
It is the beginning of a new school year, which means we will be having our AGM on 16th 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.

Thanking you for your help.
Tania Harvey,
P&C President

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS/CARERS
You can now purchase school uniforms online from Lowes.
It is free delivery for orders over $100 and you can exchange sizes at the shop if needed. The Link is - www.lowes.com.au/Campuscategories.aspx?depid=305

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 6621 4890.

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

P & C Meeting
6.00 - 7.30 p.m.
Monday
16th March 2015

Canteen Roster - Term 1 Week 6
Monday 02/03/2015
Carrie-anne Drew
Tuesday 03/03/2015
Des Harris
Wednesday 04/03/2015
Meryl Condon
Thursday 05/03/2015
Kelly Wilson
Friday 06/03/2015
Lee-anne Gibson and Kelly Wilson
Canteen volunteers are needed. If you can help please phone Kathy Claydon on 6621 4890.

RRHS - Term 1 Week 6
Monday 02/03/2015
Tuesday 03/03/2015
• Open Boys Rugby Union Trials
Wednesday 04/03/2015
Thursday 05/03/2015
• North Coast Regional Swimming
• Year 6-7 Open Night 5 p.m. - 7.30 p.m.
Friday 06/03/2015
An Invitation To Our

YEAR 6-7 2016
OPEN NIGHT EXPO

Thursday 5th March 2015
5.00 -7.30 pm
Make Online Payments

It is now possible for parents to make online payments to the school for amounts owing for students, via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Payments can be made using either a Visa or MasterCard credit or debit card. The payment page is accessed from the front page of the school's website by selecting $ Make a payment.

Items that can be paid include voluntary school contributions, subject contributions, excursions, sales to students and creative and practical arts activities (these include band, drama and dance). There is also a category called 'Other', this is to cover items not covered in the previous headings, 'other' can be used to make a complete payment of a school invoice.

When you access the $ Make a payment you must enter:

• the students name and class and reference number

OR

• the students name and date of birth.

These details are entered each time you make a payment as student information is not held within the payment system. There is also the option to enter the Student Registration Number and Invoice number if you are aware of them.

This is a secure payment system hosted by Westpac to ensure that your credit/debit card details are captured in a secure manner, these details are not passed back to the school. You have the ability to check and change any details of the payment before the payment is processed. Receipts can be emailed and/or printed.

Details of the payments are passed daily to the school where they will be receipted against your child's account. As a receipt has been issued from the payment page a further receipt will not be issued by the school.

Please ensure that if you use this method to pay for Excursions that you tick the appropriate box on the permission note.

For any enquiries regarding the Online Payment process please contact the School Administration Office on 66213456.
NSW Schools Physical Activity and Nutrition Survey 2015

Dear Parents,

Some of you may have heard about the Schools Physical Activity and Nutrition Survey (SPANS) and involves over 100 schools in NSW. I am delighted to announce that our school has been invited to participate. This is a great opportunity for our students to be involved in helping health professionals better understand children’s lifestyles such as their physical activity, fitness, food habits and movement skills. A team of specially trained teachers will collect the information on almost 8,000 students from Years K, 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10. The survey is being managed by a research team from the University of Sydney.

Students in selected classes in Years 8 and 10 will bring home information about the study and a consent form. Please read carefully the information statement: if you agree to allow your child to participate, please complete the consent form and send it back to school as soon as possible.

The survey will take place at our school on the Tuesday 3rd March 2015.

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LISMORE THISTLES SOCCER CLUB 2015 JUNIOR SIGN ON

Lismore Thistles Soccer Club’s Junior Sign-on Days will be held at Thistles Park, Military Road, East Lismore, from 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. on each Saturday February 2015.

All current and new players are welcome and we have junior teams from Grade 6 to Grade 16 (5 to 16 years).

- Non-competitive teams (small sided games) from Grade 6 to Grade 11.
- Competitive team competition from Grade 12 through to Grade 16 (boys and girls).

Full fees are required to be paid at Sign On or by agreement on the day – however a minimum of 50% of the fees are to be paid at Sign On and the remainder no later than Thursday 30th April 2015.

For further information, contact Wayne on 0401 069242. lismorethistlessc@ffnc.net.au www.lismorethistles.com.au

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School Photos 2015

Richmond River High School photographs will take place on Tuesday 10th March.

Photos will include a year photograph and individual student photographs. There will be time organised for family groups, and special groups such as SRC.

A ‘catch up’ photo day for individual student photographs will take place on Monday 16th March 2015.

Students and parents/carers are reminded that these photographs are official school photographs used not only to celebrate the year but for official school procedures. As such it is required that all students dress in full school uniform with minimal jewellery on the day. Your support on this matter is much appreciated.

Mr Dave Hanley
Co-ordinator
Nominations are now open for the 2015 NSW Training Awards!

The 2015 NSW Training Awards conducted by State Training Services recognises outstanding achievement in the vocational education and training sector.

The Awards honour and reward the achievements of students, trainers/teachers, training organisations, large and small employers.

Applications are now invited for:
* Apprentice
* Trainee
* Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student
* Vocational Student
* School Based Apprentice/Trainee
* VET in Schools Student
* VET Trainer/Teacher Award
* Large and Small Employer Awards
* Industry Collaboration Award
* Large and Small Registered Training Provider Awards

go to:
www.training.nsw.gov.au/training_awards
to complete your online application

The 2015 North Coast Training Awards Ceremony will be held at the Byron Theatre, Byron Bay, on Friday 12 June 2015.

Please support the awards by nominating or assisting a nomination for learners and organisations.

Please forward this email to any organisation and learners who may be interested in nominating.

There are still sponsorship opportunities available, please call Kerrin Freudenstein on 02 66487330 for further information.

BE RECOGNISED FOR YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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

This term, our school is taking part in the Tell Them From Me student survey. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help them improve. The survey is completed online and is run by an independent research company, The Learning Bar, which specialises in school-based surveys.

Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will be suppressed. The survey typically takes less than 30 minutes to complete and will be administered by the school during normal school hours. Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days.

As well as schools getting student feedback, the Department of Education and Communities, through the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE), will have access to data from across the State and will run a research project to look at state-wide patterns of student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. The research will look at how these things impact on student outcomes, including academic performance. Individual students and schools will not be identified in any CESE publications, and all information will be handled in accordance with the relevant privacy legislation. Students’ personal information will not be disclosed by the Department to any other person or body other than as required by law.

This research will help schools in New South Wales to better understand how to improve student wellbeing and engagement. It will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish to. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next one. Your child can stop the survey at any time.

If you do not want your child to take part in the survey, please complete the attached form and return it to your child's school by Tuesday 10 March.


Dr Jenny Donovan
General Manager Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation

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**Tell Them From Me Student Feedback Survey**

If you do not want your child to participate in the student feedback survey, please sign this form and return it to your school by Tuesday 10 March 2015.

I (print name) ................................................................. DO NOT give consent

for my child/children (print name/s) .................................................................

of roll class/es ................. to participate in the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey.

Signed......................................................... Date.............................