



Heights Happenings

06 Feb 2025

No. 01

60 Summit Crescent
Ringwood 3134
Principal: Kim Bride

Ph. 9870 3050
Fax 9879 6616

Outside School Hours Care
Mobile 0417 768 636

Email :ringwoodheights@oshcampaustralia.com.au

Web: ringwoodheights.vic.edu.au Email: ringwood.heights.ps@education.vic.gov.au

We would like to acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people who are the Traditional Custodians of this Land and Waters and pay respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.



2025 Diary

February

- Thur 13 • LT4 Public Speaking
- Thur 20 • LT3 Incursion
• LT4 Public Speaking
- Mon 24 • Dental Van Week
- Tues 25 • Parent Info Night
LT3 - 5.45pm
LT4 - 6.30pm
- Thur 27 • LT4 Public Speaking
• District Swimming
• Parent Info Night
Junior School (P - 2)
5.45pm

March

- Thur 6 • LT4 Public Speaking
- Mon 10 • Labour Day
Holiday
- Thur 13 • LT4 Public Speaking
- Fri 14 • LT4 Summer Gala



Log in details are below:

<https://schools.happyfamilies.com.au/login/ringwood>

PASSWORD: happyrhps

Uniform Shop

Opening Hours

Monday: 8.30-9am

Wednesday: 3.15-3.45pm

Welcome Back

Welcome back for the 2025 school year. We have had a somewhat hot, but very settled start to the new year welcoming 220 children.

I would like to extend a very special welcome to the many new students and families who have begun their Primary School journey with us here at Ringwood Heights Primary School. Our new Prep students have commenced school with much joy and excitement.

Along with our new students and families we also welcomed back Ms Morgan, Mrs Read, Mrs Harvey and Mrs Cunningham alongside new teachers; Mrs Hallam and Mrs King. We also have some new Education Support staff; Sarah, Celine and Chantelle. Welcome to the team!

“Getting to know you Chats” will be offered during the week of February 17. The online booking information and process will be distributed via Compass shortly and will be open from Tuesday 11 February from 9am until Monday 17 at 9am allowing you to make appointments with your child’s teacher. These scheduled 10-minute chats on site are offered for parents of children who are new to a particular teacher, or who would like to touch base with their child’s teacher to update or provide information that will support their learning. The information may include their interests, special qualities, learning style, medical concerns or other general information that will support the teacher in getting to know your child.

These chats are not to answer questions regarding the class program – this is covered at the Information Sessions in Week 5 – see details below (Feb 25th or 27th)

Our Parent Information sessions this year will focus on communicating with parents the expectations we have of students at each Learning Level, ways you can help your child at home and outline the curriculum for 2025.

The dates for these evenings are:

Tuesday 25th February

LT3 @ (5.45pm)

LT4 @ (6.30pm)

Thursday 27th February

Junior School

(P-2) @ (5.45pm)

The teachers will communicate these dates, times and provide further reminders closer to the dates.

Staffing

Team Leaders

Specialists
Prep
Junior School
Year 3 & 4
Year 5 & 6

Zena Goodman
Georgia Schumann
Jess Morgan
Alex Clark
Dalal Nehme

Specialists

(Performing Arts P-6)	Mr Harry Gore
(Physical Education P-6) (Term 1)	Mrs Clark on Friday & Mr Gibney on Tuesday
(Auslan P-6)	Mrs Laura King
(Library P-6)	Mrs Karen Trease
(Visual Art P-6)	Mrs Zena Goodman
Health and Wellbeing Leader	Mrs Jude Ridley

Junior Team (X 4)

(JS)	Ms Georgia Schumann
(JH)	Mrs Donna Hey
(JMH)	Ms Jess Morgan & Mrs Ali Harvey
(JRC)	Mrs Donna Ramage & Mrs Vicki Cunningham

Learning Team 3 (X 3)

(3CB)	Mrs Alex Clark & Ms Katherine Butcher
(3F)	Mrs Michelle Freeman
(3S)	Mrs Mel Shackelford

Learning Team 4 (X 3)

(4N)	Ms Dalal Nehme
(4H)	Mrs Bronte Hallam
(4DR)	Mrs Hayley Davison & Mrs Eliza Read

Office Staff

Kathryn Hands - Business Manager
Michelle Stringer
Carolyn Manning

Education Support

Mary Clarke	Chantelle Swan
Jocelyn Lyons	Celine Cai
Rebecca Hayes	Sarah Palumbo
Kristie McDiarmid	

Assistant Principals

Mr James Lumsden
Mrs Jo Parry (Wed, Thurs)

Communication :

Compass / Email/ Website/Instagram

We currently use **Compass** as our main form of communication. Regular notifications and reminders will be posted and will include all excursions, activities at school, reminders and the newsletter. Please be reminded about the use of the ‘absences’ form to alert teachers of your child’s absences.

The **newsletter** is compiled fortnightly on a Thursday and then posted to Compass and will contain regular features such as News from the Principal, Parents Club and OSHClub and Learning Team news and activities.

Please find us on Instagram which has regular snapshots of happenings at school that we will share with you.

If at any stage information is missing from Compass please alert the office staff who will very happily ensure that information is always as up to date as possible.

The **Parent Payment Information** was sent home yesterday in hard copy and on Compass. You may utilise either Compass or the paper copy to make these contributions.

**Kim Bride
Principal**

Office News

Parent Payments 2025

School Fees & Contributions



Please note that the Parent Payment advice for 2025 will be communicated to parents this year as both a hard copy attached and online via the Compass Parent Portal.

Parent Contributions will be our first use of Compass Pay, giving parents the opportunity to start utilising Compass to make all school payments this year.

We understand that this is a change on how you have made payments in the past and we know that change can be a bit daunting. We wanted to make sure that the first time we use Compass Pay we also give parents/carers the option of making their payments via the hard copy attached if that is preferred.

You will notice payment amounts under each category, these are suggested amounts and you can overwrite this with the amount you would like to pay, which can be under or over the suggested amount. You can also do your own payment plan in Compass by paying an amount then revisiting this section in the future to make another payment, so you can set your own instalments. A copy of the Compass billing Parent guide will be in this week’s newsletter to take you through the steps for paying contributions.

We really do hope that you will take this as an opportunity to use Compass this way, as going forward all your child’s camps/sports/excursions etc will be online with Compass. This will also be a good chance for us in the office to see it in action and we can tweak any changes needed as we also learn how the Compass Pay system works.

If you are not receiving the Compass mobile push notifications, please go into the Compass App settings on your phone and turn on the notifications setting. Hopefully you are all receiving Compass email notifications, let us know if you aren’t. Thanks for your understanding and patience while we navigate getting everything set up in Compass this year.



School Council

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the broad direction of a school, in accordance with Ministerial Order 1280 Constitution of Government School Councils, and the Education and Training Reform Act 2006. In doing this, a school council may directly influence the quality of education for students.

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills and a range of experiences and knowledge that can help inform and shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

Essentially at Ringwood Heights, each school councillor belongs to a sub committee through which discussions, decisions and directions are discussed and these are then brought to the School Council Body to be confirmed or discussed further. Meetings are scheduled 8 times per year on a Tuesday.

Thinking about it? If you are keen to participate and contribute and you are not sure of the expectations or commitment required please come in and have a chat.

School Council Elections 2025 a call for nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council for Ringwood Heights Primary School. All government schools in Victoria have a School Council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of the school within centrally provided guidelines.

There are 3 possible categories of membership:

- * A mandated elected parent category,
- * A mandated elected Department employee category. The principal is automatically one of these members,
- * An optional Community member category. Its members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences

The Notice of Election and call for nominations for School Council is included with this newsletter. Interested members of Ringwood Heights Primary School community are asked to consider nominating for vacancies on School Council for the next two year period. All you need is the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

Vacancies:

- * 4 parent members of council
- * 2 Department of Education and

Nomination forms for the vacancies on School Council are available from the Office. If you are interested and cannot come to the school to collect forms, we would be pleased to receive a telephone call from you requesting a form and we can send it home with your eldest child.

Please note that nominations must be in by

4.00pm on Friday 14 February.

In the event that there are more nominations received than there are vacancies, a ballot will be conducted with the ballot closing at 4.00pm on Friday 28 February.

If you are interested in becoming a School Councillor or require further information about the process, please contact me.

**Kim Bride
Principal**

FORM 2: NOTICE OF ELECTION AND CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

(Formerly **Schedule 4:** Notice of Election and Call for Nomination)

An election is to be conducted for members of the school council of

Ringwood Heights Primary School

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on:

14/02/2025

The ballot (if required) will close at 4.00 pm on:

28/02/2025

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted by the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	TERM OF OFFICE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2025 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of poll in 2024	4
School employee member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2027 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of poll in 2024	2

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.



Principal

Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum. CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- * \$154 for primary school students

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- * **new student enrolments:** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- * **changed family circumstances:** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

Junior School

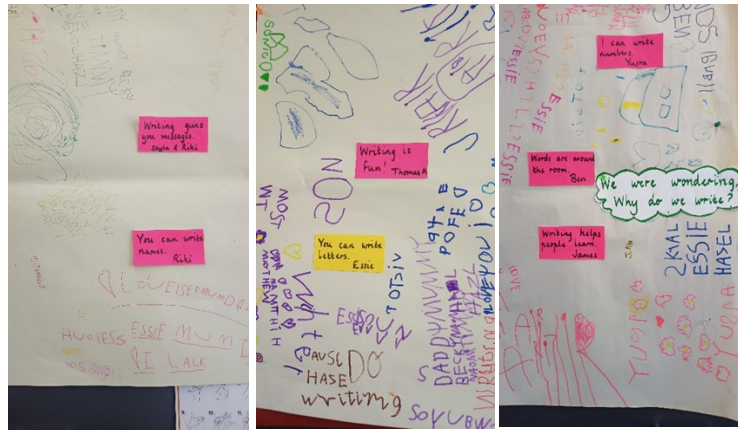
Our First Week of School!

The first week of school for our Foundation children has been filled with excitement, curiosity, and a sense of adventure. Our young learners are quickly settling into their new environment, making new friends and meeting their Year 5 Buddies. Our classrooms are being transformed with vibrant displays of student work and new, engaging learning experiences.

This week we have started to wonder about lots of different things including, Why do we write? Here is what some of the students in JH were thinking:

- * **Thomas M-** Writing is fun!
- * **Essie-** You can write letters.
- * **Yusra-** You can write numbers.
- * **Ben-** Words are around the room.

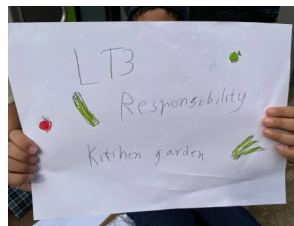
- * **James-** Writing helps people learn.
- * **Skyla and Riki-** Writing gives you messages.
- * **Riki-** You can write names.



Learning Team 3

Responsibility: Kitchen Garden

At assembly on Monday, students were reminded about two of our LT3 responsibilities: recycling and compost. Our third responsibility is taking care of the Kitchen Garden. This involves watering, weeding, planting and harvesting and growing our skills in the garden.



This week, 3F have been busy in the Kitchen Garden. Produce harvested was on offer on the LT3 deck on Wednesday afternoon- beans, tomatoes and a couple of zucchinis. We look forward to

growing and sharing so much more with our school community as our garden flourishes under our care. (Please note, time in the garden is weather dependent, and harvesting will vary depending on the season. Keep your eye on the LT3 deck at pick up time to see if the stall is out.)

Eliana: I enjoyed picking the tomatoes. Then I did some watering.

William and Caleb: We found spiders, a skink, a slug, a cockroach, slaters and worms. They live in the garden. When we were weeding, we also found a grub.

Threya: Gardening is really calming and relaxing because you can just breathe the fresh air and dig stuff.



Learning Team 4

It has been a settled start for Learning Team 4 students as we begin tuning in to our Big Question, ‘How can I drive my own learning?’. Students have collaborated and thought deeply to come to a shared understanding for why we come to school:

- * 4N: We come to school to **learn life skills** so that we can **thrive** and have a **happy and successful life** and feel optimistic about our **future**.
- * 4H: We come to school to **prepare ourselves for our future lives** so we can learn to **navigate and understand the world**.
- * 4DR: We go to school to **learn life lessons** so we can make smart decisions in order to be **successful and safe** so we can **enjoy our life to the fullest**.

Leadership is an important part of being an LT4 student. Year 5s are excited to have begun working with their Prep buddies and Year 6s are in the process of applying for leadership positions within the school. We look forward to hearing their speeches and reading their application letters.

We also reflected on our first few days of school: I appreciate the support from my classmates who treated me so well and welcomed me – **Jaden**

I was surprised when I found out that struggling is important for learning - **Anaya**

I am grateful that we get buddies and a lot more responsibility – **Ashton**

I appreciate my friends being so nice to me – **Sophie**

I am grateful for school and friends – **Daniyal**

I am grateful for having a great education – **Ashlee**

COMMUNITY NOTICES

CALLING ALL U8-U12 BOYS & GIRLS
LET'S GET TOGETHER



SUNDAY 16TH FEBRUARY
9:30-10:30AM @ DOMENEY RESERVE
FOLLOWED BY A SAUSAGE SIZZLE

WHETHER YOU'RE A SEASONED PLAYER OR NEW TO THE GAME,
JOIN US FOR A FUN MORNING OF DRILLS & SKILLS

BRING A FRIEND, YOUR DRINK BOTTLE & WEAR RUNNERS

MERCH POP-UP STORE OPEN
WWW.SHARKSJFC.ORG.AU

LET'S PLAY- SEASON 2025

U10 BOYS

LET'S
PLAY
PLAY
PLAY

**PLAYERS
NEEDED!**

REGISTER

JOIN NOW: REGISTRAR@ERJFC.COM.AU




RINGWOOD
PROPERTY OF THE CLUB

MIXED GENDER GROUPS
GIRLS ONLY GROUPS
NEURODIVERSE INCLUSIVE

Aged 5 to 12 years

**RINGWOOD
AUSKICK
2025**

Fridays 5-6pm
JUBILEE OVAL
GREENWOOD AVE,
RINGWOOD

02 May - 27 Jun 2025

@ringwoodauskick
Ringwood Auskick
ringwoodauskick@gmail.com

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