Ringwood Heights Primary School - No 4911

Heights Happenings

14 May 2026

No. 07

60 Summit Crescent
Ringwood 3134
Principal: Kim Bride

Ph. 9870 3050

Outside School Hours Care
Kelly Club - 0412 525 359

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.

2026 Diary

May

Fri 15	• Fire Ed - Preps Incur
Tue 19	• District Cross Country
Wed 20	• LT3 Healesville Sanctuary Excursion
Thur 21	• Free Dress Fundraiser • Open Afternoon Commences 2pm
Fri 22	• Walk Safely to School
Wed 27	• Story Time Session 9 to 9.30am

June

Mon 1	• Community Catch up • Junior School Swim Program commences
Thur 4	• LT3 & LT4 Golf Ses.
Mon 8	• King's Birthday Holiday
Thur 11	• LT3 & LT4 Golf Ses.
Wed 17	• Special Lunch Day
Thur 18	• LT3 & LT4 Golf Ses.
Wed 24	• 3 Way Conferences Student Free Day • Story Time Session 9 to 9.30am
Fri 26	• PJ Day & Disco Grade 6 fundraiser • Last Day of Term

Uniform Shop Opening Hours

Monday:	**8.30-9am**
Wednesday:	**3.15-3.45pm**

Next week is Education week and we have planned an open afternoon on Thursday 21. Please find attached a flyer which is your invitation to attend from 2pm to join the students in their wellbeing groups and from 3pm for parents to start gathering around the BBQ whilst students return to their classrooms and prepare for the 3.30 bell. From 3.30 students can join you for a sausage and/or juice box up until about 4pm!

Thank you to our PCG and volunteers who are coming in to help with the cooking and serving. Please note that we ask for a gold coin donation for the sausage which will support Food Bank and State Schools Relief.

The theme this year is, "Showcasing your School" so on Thursday we showcase the community and some of our key wellbeing programs. Here is a brief synopsis of each program running on Thursday afternoon. Please see the flyer on where to find your child/children on the day and note the preferred space and the *weather alternative if required.

Buddies

Our Buddies Program pairs each Prep student with a Year 5 buddy, supporting a positive transition to school. With a friendly, familiar face to guide them, Preps quickly build confidence, feel safe, and develop a strong sense of belonging in their new environment. For Year 5 students, the program fosters leadership, empathy, and responsibility as they support their younger peers. These cross-age connections strengthen relationships across the school and help create a caring, inclusive community where every child feels known, valued, and supported.

Positive Peers

Our Positive Peers Program pairs Year 1 students with Year 6 leaders, and Year 2 students with Year 4 mentors across a school term, creating supportive cross-age connections. Aligned with the Personal and Social Capability of the Victorian Curriculum, the program focuses on building practical skills for everyday interactions. Through shared activities and guided discussions, students develop strategies for emotional regulation, communication, and conflict resolution. The program remains responsive to student needs, providing support where it's most helpful. These partnerships build confidence, strengthen relationships, and contribute to a calm, respectful, and inclusive school community.

Peer Support

Peer Support is a cross-age program in which Year 6 Peer Support Leaders facilitate weekly *'Building Strengths'* sessions with small groups of Year 3 students. These sessions focus on building relationships, fostering gratitude, managing friendship fires, understanding the Zones of Regulation, developing effective coping strategies and forgiveness. Peer Support Leaders attend weekly training sessions to prepare themselves to lead the program effectively and support the younger students with confidence.

Kim Bride
Principal

Celebrating our ES staff

Education Support staff appreciation day is the 16th of May. As a staff, we are grateful for the contribution our ES staff make on a daily basis. From administrative genius and caring first aid in the office, to supporting the learning in classrooms and attending to needs in the yard, our school literally wouldn't function without our ES superstars. Thank you to each of them - Kath, Michelle, Carolyn, Sarah, Chantelle, Kaye and Celine. We really value all of your hard work!

Wellbeing @ RHPS

Attached to this newsletter is some information about local food relief services and community meals. We are really fortunate in Maroondah to have access to numerous support services. Please take a look to see if any of the available options may suit the needs of your family.

Jude Ridley
Wellbeing Leader

Save the date!

National Walk Safely to School Day
Friday 22 May 2025

National Walk Safely to School Day encourages families to think about their daily travel habits and find simple ways to include more walking as part of a healthy, active lifestyle. While walking all the way to school may not be possible for every family, even a short walk can make a big difference.

You can help your child build healthy walking habits by:

- Walking part or all of the way to school together
- Parking a few blocks away if you need to drive, then walking the rest of the journey

Regular walking supports both physical and mental wellbeing, and it's a great opportunity to teach children how to stay safe around roads and traffic.

Start planning your family's Walk Safely to School Day adventure for **Friday 22 May 2025.**

For more information, visit www.walk.com.au

Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge 2026

Stories to discover. Stories to tell.

Ringwood Heights PS will once again be participating in the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge. This year's theme is 'Stories to discover. Stories to tell.'

Families are invited to register for the Challenge by completing this Google Form: https://forms.gle/zz7dcrhfXcdZpQJC8. Registration is due by **Wednesday 27th May**.

(If you need assistance with registering, please speak to your child's classroom teacher.
Please note, it is up to families to log the books read during the Premiers' Reading Challenge on the VPRC website: https://vprc.eduweb.vic.gov.au/home.
For further information about the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge, please visit https://www.vic.gov.au/premiers-reading-challenge.)

The Challenge is for all Victorian children from birth to Year 10 in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition, but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by **4th September 2026** (during Term 3).

Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or experience 30 books with their parents and teachers. Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read 15 books.

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and former Premiers.

Happy reading, everyone!

Michelle Freeman
Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge Super Coordinator

Junior School

Celebrating Mother's and Other's Day in the Junior School

Sully: On Friday all of JRC went to the Mother's Day Stall. There were so many gifts to choose from. On Tuesday, we invited mums to come to our class. My mum came. We showed our mums our magnets.

Reuben: I loved the gifts at the Mother's Day Stall. On Tuesday I was so happy that my mum came to visit on Mother's and Other's Day. We read a book together and I showed my mum around the room. I felt happy having mum with me.

Essie: We went to the Mother's Day stall on Friday. My mum always tucks me into bed and she is so beautiful. I made a gift card for mum and a flower. JHK made a book for our mums.

Sage: We made a card for our mums. We put a picture that says Happy Mother's Day or a picture that our mum would like. I bought mum some new socks and glittery perfume.

Ted: We made cards, magnets and pastel drawings for our mums for Mother's Day. Our cards were about memories. My memory was about my mum making pancakes. Her pancakes are the best!

Sam: Something that I really liked about Mother's Day was that it was a big, ongoing project. We had to do a lot of stuff in a lot of time and the subjects that we used were Reader's Workshop, Writer's Workshop and Visual Art.

Harvey: On Mother's Day we went out for breakfast, but I got a burger instead of breakfast! My Mum was very happy when she woke up. I delivered her my card and some presents, and I love her very much.

Jude T: I love my Mum very much and I hope she had a really good Mother's Day. I hope all of her Mother's Day's are good!

Felix: I hope you had a good day on Mother's Day, Mum! I love going bike riding with you, and you are very kind.

Evie: I had the best time when it was Mother's Day. My Mummy loved my card! My Mummy is very special and very kind to me.

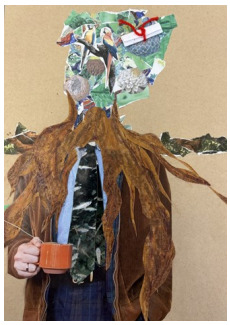
Learning Team 3

C+AARP

At Ringwood Heights PS, our LT3 students are lucky to be involved in C+AARP (Child + Adult Artist Response Project) with Melbourne University each year. Both our students and the adult students at Melbourne University produce a collage around a common theme that links with our Big Question. This year's theme connected to being our best selves together. Our brief this year was a fantastic one, and was also a chance for us to tune in and enjoy our own leafy environment at Ringwood Heights PS.

Our first artworks involved the LT3 and Melbourne University students designing either a tree or human with collage. Students wrote their own artist statements to explain their artistic choices and the various features they included. Creatively we all wrote messages to our human and trees from our future selves and hid them in our artwork.

Did you know that there are many, many different people and many, many different species of trees in the world? People and trees are living beings that have shared a power to impact the world in positive ways and be their best selves when they work together. We and our artist partner were our best selves by working creatively together to speculate on what a hybrid living thing (human + tree) might look like? Here are a few of our amazing finished products for you to enjoy!



Learning Team 4

BQT Reflections

This year, our Learning Team 4 students have been exploring the inquiry process through our Big Question ***'How and why do people inquire?'***

As part of this exploration, students chose a renewable energy source to inquire into as part of a team. This team then spent time planning a lesson, using the inquiry process, in which to teach the class about their renewable energy source. Students have spent the last two weeks being both teachers and learners, as they explored the inquiry process and renewable energy sources in tandem.

The quality of their lessons have been amazing, with students utilising a range of resources to engage their classmates and ensure they tapped into and built on their classmates' prior knowledge.

Here are some of their reflections:

- 'We collaborated well together by supporting each other' - **Kasie**
- 'I enjoyed making the video. I learnt I am a good actor!' - **Clover**
- 'I learnt that I work better when I have people I know working with me and saying nice things' - **Lexie**
- 'Our group collaborated amazingly because the audience loved it, showing us that our teamwork was a success!' - **William**
- 'I learnt that I am very confident when talking in front of the class' - **Harvey**

Splash of blue or yellow Day!

The Year 6 students have decided to fundraise for two charities that support our school community - Food Bank and State Schools Relief.

On Thursday May 21st, students are asked to bring a gold coin donation, wear free dress with a splash of blue (to support Food Bank) or yellow (to support State Schools Relief) to show their support for these two amazing charities:

- Food Bank: Food Bank feeds people who are doing it tough, right across Victoria. They supply food for our Breakfast Club and help other charities and individuals in need.
- State Schools Relief: State Schools Relief assists families affected by domestic violence, emergencies like bushfires, flooding, illnesses and more.

Thank you so much for your support in helping us raise money for these worthy charities.

By Lexie and Chloe 4DC

Parent Community Group

Mother's and Other's Day Stall Thank you

We hope everyone had a lovely Mother's Day. A huge thank you to the families who donated beautiful gifts, and to the volunteers who set-up and helped students with their purchases: Tanya, Jade, Melanie, Rachel, Maree, Bianca, Meg, Chrissy, Estelle, Catherine and Sarah. We would also like to thank grade 6 leaders Goldie and Mia for your assistance on the day.

Mother's and Other's Event

We hope everyone enjoyed the wonderful morning in classrooms last week, sharing special words and artwork to celebrate all our Mother's and Other's! A huge thank you to our teaching staff for supporting the event and working with the students to create some exceptional items to treasure.

Tony's Pie Drive

We're pleased to let you know that the Parent Community Group have organised another Pie Drive with Tony's Pies of Essendon! Last year was a great success, thanks to your orders. We know how much these delicious baked goods are enjoyed each year, and how disappointed many of you were who have previously missed the cut-off date.

The last day to order is midnight, Saturday 30th May. Your ordered goods will be freshly baked and delivered to the school on Tuesday 2nd June.

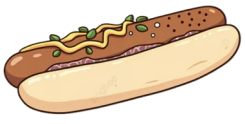
When ordering, please complete the field "ordering on behalf of" by specifying the name and class of the child you'd like the pies delivered to on the afternoon of Tuesday 2nd June. Price lists and additional information have been sent home with students.

Jump onto the website now to put your orders in to make sure you don't miss out! **https://tonyspiedrives.com.au/fundraiser/ringwood-heights-primary-school**

You are welcome to share this link with friends and family too - it's a fundraiser for the school, so the more orders we get, the more our school benefits!

Bunnings Ringwood BBQ Fundraiser Saturday 27th June

Please save the date for our upcoming Bunnings BBQ held on the immediate first weekend of the school holidays. We are hoping that there will be lots of people out and about at Bunnings preparing for some holiday projects, who are keen for a sausage or two.



Look out for a separate Compass post over the next week with link to sign up to assist – we will be requiring volunteers who can spare a couple of hours on the day to make this event a success.

Pizza and Doughnut's special lunch day

Keep an eye out for order forms coming home with students over the next few weeks for the special lunch day on Wednesday 17th June.

Election Day Fun Day preparations Second hand book donations

Our major RHPS fundraiser for the year will be the Election Day Fun Day, to be held at RHPS on the day of the Victorian State Election – Saturday 28th November. After the success of the event we held in 2025 for the Federal Election, we are commencing planning and preparation to make this years event bigger and better. More information will be shared over the coming weeks and Terms, with us being especially busy in Term 4.

Next PCG meeting

Our next PCG meeting will be held the first week back for Term 3 on -

Tuesday 14th July, at 7.30pm.

Please pop this one in the calendar – it will be the beginning of lots of the planning for our major Election Day fundraiser and we would love to see lots of faces there. Everyone is welcome!

COMMUNITY NOTICES