



Heights Happenings

05 Sept 2024

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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.



2024 Diary

September

- Fri 6 • SEDA Clinic Whole School
- Fire Safety Incursion Preps
- **MOVIE NIGHT**
Session 1, 4.30pm start
Session 2, 6.30pm start
- Tues 10 • Book Fair Opens (more details to come)
- Wed 11 • Books to Life Inc Whole School
- Tues 17 • **PUPIL FREE DAY**
- Wed 18 • ThinkUKnow Presentation 6-7pm
- Fri 20 • Last Day Term 2.30pm Finish

October

- Mon 7 • Term 4 begins
- LT3 Swimming starts
- Fri 25 • 2025 Prep Transition Session



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

It's been an eventful and busy few weeks since the last newsletter!

A big thank you to Sarah Marsh, Parents Club and all those who volunteered and helped to make our Father's Day Stall a successful community event. It was great to hear from so many students how they were planning on showing a special person in their life how grateful they are of them. We hope all dads, grandparents and special people had a great day on Sunday.

On Monday, staff and students at school showed amazing flexibility and managed the challenge of no power for the majority of the day with ease. While it was still windy throughout the day our learners were calm, focused and adaptable - making the best of an inconvenience with the support of all staff at school. We were very lucky to not have any damage around the yard, just lots of debris to tidy up throughout the week!

On Wednesday, we had the pleasure of welcoming a range of visitors invited into our Junior School classrooms to be interviewed and share their stories from the past. This visit highlights the importance of schools as community places, with so many of our younger learners enthralled by the information, objects and stories that our visitors brought in. A highlight for me was seeing the way in which our learners engaged with the visitors. They were polite, confident and curious.

A thank you to all those students who have been wearing their hats outdoors this week. Another reminder to those who have yet to bring a suitable hat to school;

HATS are BACK! Students

without an appropriate hat (legionnaire or broad brimmed) will be asked to sit in a shaded area for their safety and protection.

Prep Families - Primary School Nursing Program

This week information for families with Prep students will come out on Compass regarding the School Entrant Health Questionnaire (SEHQ). We have also attached this information to this newsletter. The nurse will be **attending Ringwood Heights Primary School in the week of the 7th October.**

The Primary School Nursing Program is a free health and wellbeing service offered to all Victorian students in their first year of school. The program aims to assist with the early identification of children with potential health, wellbeing or development concerns which may impact on their education and offers screening which may include: Hearing Vision Speech Dental Motor Skills Behaviour and social skills The Primary School Nurse also provides advice, information and referrals to other health and support services.

This year the program questionnaire and consent is available online. If you have a prep child we encourage to use the QR code or link below:



<https://students.educationapps.vic.gov.au/sehq/s/>

**James Lumsden
Acting Principal**



Fishy Stories WRITING CHALLENGE 2024

FISHY STORIES PRESENTS ITS WRITING CHALLENGE FOR 2024!

The Writing Challenge is open to students from Grade One to Year 8 from across Australia and encourages imagination and creativity.

An exciting change this year is the inclusion of picture stories as part of the writing challenge!

Twenty stories will be selected from entries and performed at the Fish Creek Children's Festival of Stories in November 2024.



TO ENTER OR FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR 2024 WRITING CHALLENGE, SCAN HERE!

Writing Challenge opening date:
8 July 2024

Writing Challenge closing date:
14 September 2024



Fishy Stories
FISH CREEK CHILDREN'S
FESTIVAL OF STORIES



SAVE THE DATE!

FISHY STORIES FESTIVAL 17 NOVEMBER 2024

PERFORMANCES
WORKSHOPS

ENTERTAINMENT
WRITING CHALLENGE

FIND OUT MORE AT FISHYSTORIES.ORG

School Saving Bonus

In Term 4, 2024, families with a child enrolled in a government school from Prep to Year 12 in 2025 will receive the one-off \$400 School Saving Bonus.

The \$400 School Saving Bonus provides families with support for education-related costs, such as school activities and/or school uniforms and textbooks.

The School Saving Bonus is not available for full-fee international students, home schooled students, TAFE students and students attending kindergarten in 2025.

Actions for parents and carers

Before 18 October 2024, the Department of Education is asking parents and carers to:

- **Complete enrolment:** If your child, or children are changing government school for Term 1 2025, or starting Prep or Year 7 in 2025. For more information, read about [Enrolling in School](#).
- **Check your contact information:** Ensure your email address and phone number is up to date with us. You can check this information in the **Update My Details section in Compass** (Open in browser if using a phone, then tap the settings [cog] icon) or by emailing the school office on ringwood.heights.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

We need to ensure your contact information is up to date as the Department of Education will email you twice:

- in October, to verify your email address
- in November, with your \$400 School Saving Bonus.

Please check your junk mail regularly to make sure you do not miss an important email.

To learn more about the School Saving Bonus, download the [School Saving Bonus Information sheet for government school parents and carers](#) or visit vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus.

School Movie Night

Do you love watching movies? Do you love hanging out with your family and friends? Then you should come to our RHPS Family Movie Night! It is tomorrow, Friday 6th September, in the stadium. You can select either the earlier session at 4:30pm, or the later session at 6pm. Grab your movie snacks, your adult and your picnic blanket and join us!



SAVE THE DATE

RHPS Clothing Swap & Sip

Friday 25 October 6-8:30pm in the Art Studio

Donation Details: Spring clean your wardrobes and donate women's and children's clothing or accessories in excellent condition which can be dropped into the office from the start of Term 4!



Invite your friends and family and join us for a night of thrifting, fundraising and good vibes.

If you can assist with the event or can lend any clothing racks or hangers please contact Jade Dunne 0432 631 344 or Sarah Palumbo 0405 207 558.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Prep Dinner

Prep family parent and carers

Make sure you book a babysitter for Friday 13th September! We will be having dinner together at The Grand Hotel in Warrandyte at 7:30pm. Please RSVP to Penny (0412 182 016) for booking purposes.

We look forward to seeing all the Prep adults there

Community catch up

All parents and carers are warmly welcome to stay around after Monday's assembly (9th September) for a chat and a hot drink.



Junior School Museum Open Afternoon

We are excited to invite you to our Museum open afternoon on Wednesday the 18th of September, 3 - 4pm.

After visiting the Melbourne Museum earlier in the term, the Junior School students felt inspired to create their own museum with artefacts that they have

brought in from home! Alongside their artefacts, the students have created factual posters to provide the audience with information about their special objects.

The Junior School students' Museum will be held in their classrooms, and we invite you to come anytime from 3pm. We will leave our classroom open for visitors until 4pm.

We look forward to seeing you then!

The Junior School's special visitors

"We invited some of our special people to school yesterday to ask them questions and learn about their past. This helps us with our Big Question "How does it change?". My Nanna brought in some things from her past like a stamp album, and swap cards. She also brought in photographs of her class when she was in Year 1. I noticed that they didn't have to wear school uniforms and the photo was brown but now our photos are colourful" – **Riley, JS**

"I invited my Grandma and Grumpy to school. My Grandma was a nurse, and then she retired and is now a Grandma. She brought in a stethoscope to show us. My Grumpy makes lots of things made out of metal. He showed us a photograph of when he was young making a funnel, and he's still working on it now! I learnt from Grumpy that more things used to be made out of metal in the past" – **Lucy, JS**

"My Nanna Pam rode a horse to school when she was young! And that's different now because we use a car to get to school. When Nanna Pam was at school, she did writing and reading just like me! She told us that cars used to be really round in the past, but now they are not so round and they are all different shapes" – **Juniper, JS**

"My Grandad and my Mummy came to school yesterday. I asked my Grandad 'How has your life changed?' and he said that there were no TVs or pencils, and he had to use radios and ink! But now there are TV's and pencils" – **Chloe, JS**

"I asked my Mum to come to school so I could ask her some questions to learn what she was like when she was little. I wanted to know what cars used to be like inside, and she said that they were soft and comfy. She said that the steering wheels were hard but you could put covers over the steering wheels! I loved having my Mum come to school" – **Sage, JS**

"My Mum came to school and she showed me some writing that she did to her friends and they did writing back. Her letters were interesting because some of them had stickers on them. Thank you Mum for coming yesterday! I love you" – **Amara, JS**

Learning Team 3 Descriptive Writing

Lately, during Writer's Workshop, LT3 has had a big focus on descriptive writing.

We have been focusing on story elements such as: including noun groups and similes to add interesting description, using the senses to paint a clear picture for the reader, and balancing out the amount of dialogue and action we include in our pieces.

We have realised that too much talking can be *extremely* boring for readers to read! In a recent writing challenge, called "*The Path*", we were challenged to write a short description of two characters going on a journey, and put all of these story elements into practice. Here are some examples - we hope you enjoy them!

Lachie (3CE):

Noah and I stood there shivering at the dark path ahead of us.

"Do we have to do this?" Noah pleaded.

"Yes," I said. "Now come on, let's go".

I could almost feel the thunder rumbling up in the sky as we walked.

Every time I looked up the trees morphed into black monsters.

"Boom." Suddenly the lightning struck a tree.

"Move!" I shouted.

As soon as the tree hit the ground, it felt like we had been hit by an earthquake.

As I looked up in the sky, I saw a magpie. His eyes had a glimpse of hope like everything will work out in the end.

Noah (3CE):

I kept wondering to myself. Wondering to myself about this whimsical forest in front of my eyes. I couldn't tell if this was a dream or if it was reality.

In my own time, I decided to enter the mysterious forest. Walking through the forest felt like a whole other universe, but it was also very creepy. I had a feeling I was being watched, but what if this was an abandoned forest?

As I got deeper in the forest, the noise of the devilish laughs got louder and louder.

The gravity was disappearing and it felt like every second in the breeze, the air got colder and colder. The cold air was more severe than the breath of a freezer.

Alana (3RL):

Red lingering dust flies in the hot dry air. Chloe and I stood there overheating. The only thing I wanted was cold water. I could tell Chloe felt the same. Another painful step on the hot ground. Feet scorched and burnt. I was about to stop but Chloe reminded me what we were doing this for.

We hobbled along with slow steps feeling the worst I

had ever, ever felt. The trail would not stop for us so we had to push on for the good cause. We weren't going to die, were we?

Azalea (3RL):

“Quick, hide! They might see us!” I whisper to Violet, as I hurriedly pull her off the path and into the wilderness. The bleached, creaking branches above us make an eerie tunnel, although we are both too excited to care. But we couldn't be careless; the adults would stop us!

The dried, yellow and orange leaves crackled and crunched violently under our shoes as if hoping for a longer life, but to no avail; and the rough and bumpy tree trunks had a bibe of hidden kindness, concealed for a reason that was yet to be found.

Learning Team 4

**Report of the
Advanced Presentation Skills Debating
“Grand Finale”
on Thursday 29th August 2024**

Congratulations to all the level four students who graduated from the Advanced Presentation Skills Debating program. We held three separate debating classes and were delighted to have so many parents, carers and grandparents attend to witness the debating skills of these very capable students.

The topics for the Grand Finale were as follows:

4N “That Australians shop for Australian made products where ever possible.”

4B “That artificial colours and additives should be banned from food.”

4DG “That Public Transport Victoria (PTV) should follow Brisbane in reducing public transport fares to a 50 cent flat rate across all zones.”

All debaters were very well prepared, demonstrated excellent teamwork and had interesting research and facts. The delivery from all of these speakers was strong and persuasive. What I liked best were the effective rebuttals and the inclusion of humor. We all appreciated not only the amount of teamwork of the students, but also how they make formal arguments **FUN!**

As we did every week, the students voted for the best debating speakers and best “Off the Cuff” speakers with the following results.

	4N	4B	4DG
Best Debating Speaker	James Kellar	Maisy Lithgow and Ben Rennison	Asha Poupos
Best “Off the Cuff” Speaker	Harrison Wood	Miles Young	Sage Horn
Most Improved Speaker	Callum Chivers	Jean Stuchbery	Alex Kim and Alyssa Magor (both strong debating speakers)



I would like to acknowledge the amount of work the teachers put in behind the scenes. A huge thank you to Ms Nehme, Mrs Davison, Mrs Shackelford and Mr Gore. I am sure the students impressed and made you very proud.

I cannot finish without thanking all the parents who supported the students' work, discussing many varied debating topics and encouraging them to do their best.

I finished the day feeling very proud of every student's work and feeling appreciated. Thank you for all of your efforts level four, and thank you for your very kind feedback. I hope this training stands you in good stead for the future.

**Sandra de Geest
Advanced Presentation Skills**

Athletics day

Last Wednesday all of senior school went to Proclamation Park for our annual House Athletics Day. Some of the events we competed in were:

- Discus
- Long jump
- Shot Put
- 100 metre sprint

- 200 metre sprint
- High jump
- Triple jump
- Optional 800 metre.

The weather was very windy, so windy that we couldn't do hurdles. Everyone put in an amazing effort. All participants earned points for their house throughout the day for competing and placing. Here are the results:

- 1st place - Acacia - 482 points
 - 2nd place - Hakea - 473 points
 - 3rd place - Waratah - 362 points
 - 4th place - Hovea - 317 points
- Well done team Acacia!

We wish all the students competing at District Athletics on Tuesday 10th of September, the best of luck. All in all it was an amazing day. A big thank you to Mrs Dean for organising, the staff for their support and to all the parent helpers who braved the elements to run events.

Thanks amazing parent helpers!

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Sam Beveridge | Emma Taylor |
| Ashlea O'Hea | Amy Lewis |
| Nick Veliades | Kelly Hill |
| Bec Evans | Priya Kellar |
| Ali Trehwella | |

By Freya and Zoe (3CE)

Student Reflections:

Ollie 4DG: My highlight was high jump because it was a lot of fun. It was great competing for my house.

Sienna 4B: I felt really cold because I didn't bring a blanket while waiting for my events, but it was really fun once I got out onto the track.

Harrison 4DG: I enjoyed the 200-metre sprint. It felt really good to run against the wind.

Archer 4N: I think I did really well. I was against some of the older kids in grade 6 and I never gave up.

Parents' Club

Father's Day Stall



We hope all the dads and grandpas enjoyed their special treats on Father's Day. A big thank you to all the helpers who volunteered their time and/or donated gifts:-

Andrea Halden, Rana Darby,

Georgia Allan, Tanya Kluka, Maree Morton, Jade Dunne, Amy Singe, Estelle Michaelides, Sarah Marsh and the senior school leaders.

Special Lunch Day – Footy Foods

Special lunch day is on Thursday 19 September. Order forms with cash payment are due back today, Thursday 5 September. If you can help serve on the day, please fill in the slip and hand into the office.



Upcoming Events:-

- * Special Lunch Day Footy Foods – Thursday 19 Sept

COMMUNITY NOTICES