

The Link

A fortnightly publication of Rydalmere Public School



Term 3: Issue 13

5 September 2011

DATES TO REMEMBER

7.9.11	Carbon Kids Year 5 excursion to Gibberagong Nature Reserve, featuring "chook cam"
5.9.11 & 8.9.11	Pre- School Speech Therapy & Occupational Therapy workshops 2.20pm (Preschool parents)
12.9.11	NAPLAN results sent home
12.9.11	'Celebrating The Arts' - Parramatta Riverside Theatre
12.9 - 23.9.11	School Swimming Scheme at Ryde Aquatic Centre
22.9.11	Dress rehearsal for Creativity Night at Ermington Hall 9.00am – 11.00am
22.9.11	RPS Creativity Night "The Stars Perform" - Ermington Community Hall - 7pm
23.9.11	Last day for Term 3 students break for holidays
24.09.11	P& C Working Bee to "pull-out" canteen kitchen 8.00am-1.00pm
10.10.11	Students return for term 4

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome to our fourth edition of The Link for the term, as we move into week 8 of our ten week term 3.

Music at School

Students are fine tuning and adding the finishing touches to their acts as they continue to prepare some amazing projects for Creativity Night. The concert at Ermington Community Hall will begin at 7.00pm sharp. Tickets will be on sale from the front office prior to the evening and there is no interval, with the night expected to finish by 8.30pm. A note will go home later this week advising if your child needs to prepare their class item costume. We look forward to another successful musical evening with parents attending to see an unforgettable performance of the children.

P&C Meeting

The next **day meeting** for the P&C is scheduled for Thursday 15 September at 1.30pm in the community room. We will be discussing the **Spring Fair scheduled for Friday 4 November** from 2.30-7.30pm. Looking forward to seeing you there!

If anyone would like to assist on a stall please let your child's teacher know. We need volunteers for the BBQ & Tattoos and Face Painting stalls.

Canteen Working Bee

Many thanks to Kylie Bales (Ella & Caden's mum) and the rest of the Canteen Committee who approached Rachel at North Parramatta and Lucy at Auburn Bunnings stores, to donate our new kitchen sink and flatpack cupboards. This generous donation will greatly assist us for our parent working bee, to be held on the first Saturday of the holidays, **Saturday 24 September from 8.00am until 1.00pm**, finishing with a sausage sizzle. We intend to assemble the cupboards and demolish and remove the old cupboards and install the new sink and cupboards. We will hire a skip to get rid of the rubbish, and as the saying goes, "many hands make light work".

If you are able to offer a bit of your time on this day, please let Mr Daly know.

Athletics Carnival

Congratulations to our Zone Athletics carnival team members who represented the school at the Zone Athletics Carnival in the field & track events. Those students who put in great performances were:

1/2M – Michelle S,
2/3A - Summa R, Alison M, Stephanie B, Michael G,
Patrick R, David E, William R, Sergio K,
4/5R - Ulita W, Shakiya S, Alia A, Nalin M, Tamara
L, Stephanie G, Christopher F, Levi M, Andrew K,
Alex V,
5/6M - Claudine F, Tamika M, Alina A, Marjan S,
Stephanie E, Megan A, Daniel J, Nicky G, Nick L,
Nicholas N, Daniel S, Adam J

Child Protection Lessons

Children are undertaking child protection lessons from the approved PE, Health & PD curriculum this term with their class teacher. They are held for 30 minutes each Friday where students discuss a different topic each week about how they can develop self-protective behaviours. Last week students learned about rights and responsibilities, relationships, trust and sources of power. I would encourage you to discuss these concepts with your children as a follow-up.

Carbon Kids at Gibberagong Update

This Wednesday, 7 September Year 5 students along with Mrs Moloney and Mrs McDonald are going to Gibberagong Environmental Education Centre in the Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park, Bobbin Head, to present a “hands on” Workshop/Expo about how we manage the chickens in our school

Students have spent valuable time preparing for this event and we wish them all the best. Thanks to all parents that sent their left over egg shells into school. Recycling in action!

Year 5 Students Video Conferencing

Year 5 students will be facilitating a video conference with schools across the state where they will present power-points and videos, practise organising camera positions and presentation techniques in the connected classroom.

The video conference will be on the morning of Wednesday 19 October. This is a very exciting and challenging project, which will help the students of Year 5 develop communication, cooperation, organisational and leadership skills for the future.

Celebrating the Arts

Children continue to prepare for the concert on the night of Monday 12 September at Parramatta Riverside Theatre. Children will perform in the Mass Choir, and Year 1/2M, who are performing the award winning item about our chickens, “It takes 28 days for an Egg to Hatch” should be a great finishing item.

Creativity Night – *new dress rehearsal date*

The dress rehearsal will now be on the morning of the concert day on Thursday 22 September. Students will travel to and from Ermington by bus, costing \$5.00.

Please support the evening by sending the money in with the permission note.

Children need to be seated at the front of the hall with their class, in preparation for their item, by 6.45pm at the latest, for a 7.00pm sharp start for the concert. Doors open at 6.30 as seats are not numbered, guests can choose where they sit.

Monday Playgroup for 0-5 year old Toddlers

Don't forget about our playgroup for 0-5 year olds each Monday in the school hall from 9.30-11.30. This is a great way to get involved in our school community and meet parents of other 0-5 year olds. A gold coin donation assists in the running of the morning, and parents take it in turns on a roster to set up and run the activities. Why not come along and have some educational fun with your toddler? See our website for links to the Playgroup Newsletter for more information.

Preschool Therapies Project

Thanks to Kamila & JoJo, our Sydney University Speech Therapy and Occupational Therapy practicum students who continue to work in our preschool, building the capacity of Mrs Finlayson, Mrs Green and Mrs McKay to improve the educational outcomes of our students. The afternoon practical workshops for parents of preschool children that are being held this Monday and Thursday afternoon from 2.20pm-2.50pm should be very informative. JoJo and Kamila have already done some training with the teachers at their weekly training and development meetings.

Preschool offers for 2012

Congratulations to all 2012 children who have been offered a position in our preschool in 2012. The 40 positions were much sought after, and we welcome those families that were successful to our school community. You have been notified of the orientation day and this will be an informative way to learn about our preschool. See you then!

Kindergarten 2012 Enrolment and Transition Program

Enrolments are now being accepted for our kindergarten class for 2012. At Rydalmere Public School a small Kindergarten class size along with our excellent literacy and numeracy, environmental and technology programs ensures children receive an excellent introduction at the beginning of their school life.

The transition program, coordinated by Mrs Aldred, beginning on **26 October – Orientation Morning** and a series of 4 **Mini Kindy** sessions- (2nd/ 9th/ 16th and 23rd November) is a wonderfully supportive way to introduce your child to “Big School”.

Please register at the front office, or by telephoning the school to ensure enrolment at our wonderful school.

Paint Parra Read Day at Ermington Shops

Congratulations to all year 5/6M and KA students who attended Parramatta councils Paint Parra Read last Tuesday. The senior students were very responsible, and should be commended for their caring of the kindergarten children, keeping them safe on the walk to Ermington shops.

On our arrival at Ermington library we met Redsee, a dinosaur mascot, part of Parramatta Council's project to encourage students to read.

After hearing a story in the library, we then divided into three groups led by Mrs Aldred and Mr Daly and Mrs James, resplendent in their red and white overalls, and visited the Commonwealth and Westpac Banks where the bank managers read the children a story and talked to the children about the skills needed to work in a bank, and about opportunities for careers in lots of different roles in our community

At Woolworth's supermarket, the manager also read a story, and then provided a FREE beautifully fresh fruit morning tea of watermelon, strawberries and grapes, plus a fruit juice for all students. After morning tea, a magician performed a very entertaining magic show provided by Parramatta council, complete with two white doves which flew out of a flat picture frame! and student assistant Maya from kindergarten, pulled a live white rabbit out of a bucket. Students then returned by foot to school, carrying their individual helium balloons, led at the front of the queue along Victoria Road by Mrs Aldred carrying another 30 helium balloons. A wonderful site it was!

All students are encouraged to think about joining Ermington library, a valuable free resource in our community.

Year 6 student's recount of the day

On the 30 August 2011, Year 5/6M and KA walked to Ermington library for Paint Parra Read excursion. When we arrived at the library we got into groups and then walked to Woolworths, Westpac or the Commonwealth Bank.

Someone from each shop or bank read us a book, and if we were lucky enough we got a gift. After that we walked to the Ermington Hall beside the library. When we arrived at the hall we had fruit and a drink.

After we had a snack we sat down and an Aboriginal man came and did the welcome to country. Then an amazing magician came and he put on a show. Later, a lady came and we all sat in a circle and played a game. Some of us got a photo with Redsee.

After that everyone got a bag and a balloon then walked back to school. It was a fantastic day.

Written by: Megan, Jasmine and Jamie



Circus Quirkus

Many thanks to The Rotary Club of Ryde, which kindly donated tickets for Circus Quirkus which was held at Blacktown Workers Club on Sunday 28 August, 2011, from 11.00am to 5.00pm. If you attended, we hope you had a great time!

NAPLAN

NAPLAN Results of students in years 3 and 5 who undertook the National literacy and numeracy assessments earlier this year will be arriving at school on Friday 9 September, and will be sent home the following week

School Learn to Swim Classes.

Fifty students in K-6 begin the Swimming Scheme Program operating at the heated and enclosed Ryde Aquatic Centre next week, in weeks 9 and 10 of Term 3 (12-23 September). There are still a couple of positions left. If you wish your child to be involved please contact the front office.

This is a great low cost way to set your child up to be confident and safe in the water. Thanks to Mrs Martelli for her hard work in organising the program and timetable.

Garden and Chicken news

Delicious eggs for sale

If you would like half a dozen eggs from our chickens for \$2, please put your name down at the front office.

Well done to all children in their continued conscientious application to the Peer Support Group roster of feeding, watering and putting away of the chickens each afternoon and thanks to the boys from 5/6M who clean the chicken coup each week. Our daffodils near the front office that the children planted in tubs all those months ago look fantastically healthy.

Many thanks to all those students who continue to give up their lunch time to water and weed our gardens. Their co-operation skills and enthusiasm continues to grow.

SRC (Students Representative Council) News

The SRC met with Mr Daly last week and discussed the completion of the Peace and Reconciliation Totem poles in our playground. The idea is that students come up with some key values to our school, which will then be painted onto the poles. Suggestions so far include Peace, Loyalty, Honesty, Freedom, Safety, Happiness, Trust, Love, Respect, Truth, & Responsibility. The class representatives will discuss with their classmates and vote on the key words to go on the poles.

The SRC also suggested that we should trial all students having the opportunity to play on the equipment every day at lunch time, rather than one class each day. This is a good way to see if children can practice our school rule of "Be Safe". We will keep you updated as to how they go!

Our student leaders have some other ideas in mind for our next meeting. This is another great example of Rydalmere Public School students displaying great leadership in action. Well done!

Thursday Lunch time Oz Tag Competitions.

Students in years 3-6 are busy organising their seven a side team for the Thursday lunchtime Oz Tag competition that begins this week. It will be great to see which teams are able to work together best to showcase their skills and win the round robin, to continue over the next three weeks.

C4E (Centre for Excellence) News

The two gifted and talented video conferences the year 4-6 group has been undertaking this term with Westmead PS, Oatlands PS and Parramatta North PS continues to pick up pace, with this week Parramatta North PS presenting.

In past video conferences, students have collaborated together to learn about great mathematicians from history and analysed and solved some of their mathematical conundrums. This is an excellent way for local public schools to collaborate together where technology assists in our learning across the Parramatta learning community.

Rydalmere students Theresa L, Nevin Z, William O, Zohal H, and Alex V, are working on their presentation in week 10. Congratulations and keep up the hard work, girls and boys!

School Website

Why not take the opportunity to have a look at our website, which now also has a dedicated page for each class in the school. There are some great new photos, which teachers update regularly, of what has been happening recently at school.

If you have misplaced any permission notes, you can download them from our website, which can be found at:

www.rydalmere-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Curriculum changes delayed in NSW

The implementation of national curriculum changes in English, Maths, Science Geography and History for K-10 students will be delayed for NSW schools. The NSW Education minister, Adrian Piccoli, said more time was needed to ensure high standards were maintained.

NSW schools can begin the planning phase for the new National Curriculum by 2013, with the curriculum moving to the classroom teaching phase from 2014.

Free app for homework and study

Do you struggle to understand your child's homework? Does your child need to practice their spelling and times tables? Are you looking for inspiration for projects and assignments? The free School A to Z app is an essential tool for every parent of school-aged children.

Containing a range of fun applications including English, Maths, a spelling bee, times-tables, technology A-Z and assignment starters, it's great for parents *and* students. Download it for free at:

www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/about/mobile-applications

If you wish to discuss any matters regarding your child's education, please don't hesitate to contact me. Until next time,
Regards,

Rick Daly
Principal

New Technology Tools For Your Child

All students will see that their student portal change with a new look, enhanced features and a new URL. Four new student portals have been developed to support the different needs of students: K-Year 2, Years 3-6, Years 7-12 and TAFE.

It is anticipated the new portal for K-2 and Years 3-6 will be available early in Term 3. From that time, students will access their student portal, from home and at school, from a new URL:

<http://student.det.nsw.edu.au> whether or not they have access to the new student portal.

Students will be able to search, access and organise information for school tasks via their student portal on computers used at home or at school, at any time. The new student portal will have timetable and calendar portlets for students to add their own details. Students will also be able to make their portal look the way they want by changing the colour scheme and rearranging, opening or closing portlets.



Attention Parents: Come and join the party!

Fitness for adults. Great cardio workout if you're looking to shed a few extra kilos, while toning up. No experience required, suits all levels of skill and fitness!

RYDALMERE PUBLIC SCHOOL HALL

6.30PM WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

CALL, TEXT OR EMAIL TO REGISTER

KAREN 0423 688 088 jk.bates@hotmail.com

Cost \$10 per class
Classes start 6th April.

Dr Shoe

Please note that Dr Shoe will be at school on Friday 16 September for sales of school shoes. He will be waiting under the shelter outside the Library.

Assembly Awards 12 August, 2011

Merit Certificates:	Maya W, Haidyn B, Tahlita S, Oscar P, Alison M, Andrew D, Zohal H
Homework Awards:	Souhayb N, Maddison S, Suzanne F, Jordan S, Sergio K, Nigeen A, Tomoka T, Rebecca C
Sports Awards:	Connor S, Elijah S, Madeena A, Michelle S, Alisa A, Patrick R, Ulita W, Shakiya S
PBL:	Madison F, Nour D, Summa R, Nalin M
PRC:	Adam F, Ella B, Michael G, Lucy M

*Yates Avenue Public School*s

Spring Fair

Yates Avenue Public School is having a fun-filled Spring Fair on the 17th September from 10 – 4. There will be great rides for all ages, including the just available Water Walkers, games, 2nd hand Book Stall, Cakes Stall, White Elephant stall, to name just a few. Free Entertainment all day plus many other displays. And if you get a bit peckish there will be a BBQ with Sausages and Steak Sandwiches all day and a Souvlaki stand plus an Ice-cream Cone Stand.

Come along and join us for a fun filled day in the sun at Yates Avenue Public School, Yates Ave, DUNDAS

MindQuest 2011

Glenwood High School

Cnr Forman Avenue and Glenwood Park Ave

Glenwood 2768

Saturday 29 & Sunday 30 October 2011 9.30am – 3.30pm

On Saturday 29 & Sunday 30 October 2011, the fifty ninth *MindQuest* program will be held for gifted and talented primary students from Years 1-6 at Glenwood HS. These include gifted and talented students gifted underachievers, and students with well above average ability with a special interest. Students will have an opportunity to participate in over **36 exciting, fast paced courses in the two day program**. They include courses in chemistry, earth sciences, drama, lego robotics, chemistry and much more. Most of these highly successful courses have been run in the past and students' evaluations suggest that they have been challenged and enriched by the experience. The cost of the weekend is \$160 (including GST).

Glenwood HS is in the Baulkham Hills area close to the M7 and is easy to get to from most parts of Sydney. See Mrs Aitkin for a brochure.

Closing Date: Last day of Term 3 Friday 23 September 2011

EXCITING NEWS

TAFE

ADULT LITERACY CLASSES

are now being held at Rydalmere Public School



Free help with reading, writing, spelling, maths and computer skills are now available to adults in a relaxed and supportive environment.

Our free classes are for adults who want to start with the basics

- ❖ To return to work
- ❖ To get a job
- ❖ To start a new course
- ❖ To become more confident
- ❖ To help children with their schoolwork

Why not join our small classes on **Wednesdays and Fridays, 10.00 am – 12 noon**, during the school terms, in the **Administration Centre** of Rydalmere Public School.

Phone or SMS Helen (teacher) on 0412771244

The Building Site



Over the last few weeks our block area has become a building site. We have been adding items to enhance the play in this area in response to the children's play such as tools and hard hats.

Each morning site foreman Thomas puts on his hard hat and begins working. As other workers arrive Thomas ensures that they put on their hard hat.

We noticed that the children had begun to build a wall to block access to the block area. Workers were permitted to enter but adults were told "You can't come in. It's not safe." We then added traffic cones to allow them to block off unsafe areas.

We decided to add levels with marked measurements to the play area for the children to explore measurement and levelling.

Last week Thomas brought in a sign to add to the area. We talked about what the sign meant and after some discussion they decided it meant we must wear boots in the building area.

EYLF LINKS:

OUTCOME 1: CHILDREN HAVE A STRONG SENSE OF IDENTITY; Children develop knowledgeable and confident self-identities.

OUTCOME 4: CHILDREN ARE CONFIDENT AND INVOLVED LEARNERS; Children transfer and adapt what they have learned from one context to another.

OUTCOME 5: CHILDREN ARE EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATORS. Children begin to understand how symbols and pattern systems work.



Have you seen the ad on TV for preschool education?

<http://www.preschoolsnsw.org.au/>

JULY TO OCTOBER 2011 TERM 3		
PROGRAM	OUTLINE	DATE & TIME
Nutritional Family Meals on a budget. Child minding for non school aged infants Bookings are essential. To register please contact: Rita Chemouni 0448 825 219	Parramatta Mission, Women & Children's Services This program will provide parents with information and skills in preparing nutritional family meals on a budget. Location: 9 Albert Street, North Parramatta	Monday's <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30am to 12:30pm Commences 25th July Finishes 12th September
TAFE certificate 1 in IT No child minding available Bookings are essential as there are limited spaces. To register, please contact: Alison Cremin 0402 895 287	Richmond TAFE Outreach This program is for women 18 years and over and will equip women with basic IT skills. Location: 9 Albert Street, North Parramatta	Tuesday's <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am to 1pm Commences 26th July Finishes 27th September Information Session 19th July 12 noon – 1pm
Playgroup Bookings are essential. To register, please contact: Rita Chemouni 0448 825 219	Parramatta Mission, Women & Children's Service's This playgroup allows parents and their children the opportunity to play and develop age appropriate skills in a supported environment. This playgroup also allows parents and children to meet and greet other parents and children in the local area. Location: Rydalmere Public School Access to parking: John Street, Rydalmere	Thursday's <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am to 12pm Commences 28th July Finishes 22nd September
Nutrition for 2 -5 year old Child Minding available Bookings are essential. To register and book child minding please contact: Rita Chemouni 0448 825 219	Parramatta Mission, Women & Children's Service's This seminar will provide parents with information on the nutritional requirements for the development of children aged 2 to 5 years of age. Location: Rydalmere Public School Access to parking: John Street, Rydalmere	Thursday's <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am to 12pm 22nd September
Wiggly Giggly Playgroup Bookings are essential. To register, please contact: Rita Chemouni 0448 825 219	Parramatta Mission, Women & Children's Service's This playgroup allows parents and their children the opportunity to play and develop age appropriate skills in a supported environment. This playgroup also allows parents and children to meet and greet other parents and children in the local area. Location: 9 Albert Street, Parramatta	Friday's <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10.30am to 12.30pm Commences 29th July Finishes 23rd September
There are limited child minding places for all programs and therefore priority will be given to early registrations. Please contact Rita Chemouni: 0448-825-219		



FREE family fun day event for History Week at Parramatta Park

Colonial Kids Down at the Dairy

When: Sunday 11 September

Time: 10 am to 4 pm

Where: Parramatta Park, Salter's Field (Salter's Field is in the centre of the park)

Refreshments available

Join in this FREE family day where you can get right into the fun of colonial times. This year there will be a Colonial Market and *The Garrison* re-enactment group will be onsite to provide living history demonstrations including camp fire cooking, butter churning, wood turning with a pole lathe, music and dance and much, much, more.

There are fun activities for kids such as traditional colonial and aboriginal games. They can train to be a Macquarie era soldier with *The Garrison* or find out about life as a convict and may earn a "*ticket of leave*" through a treasure hunt. There will be sowing and planting demonstrations using colonial food crops that can be taken home and enjoyed once they mature, scarecrow making and even a fairy dell.

Media Contact: Chris Levins 8833 5002

www.parrapark.com.au

Photographs available on request



Family Relationships Early Intervention Service

DADS AND KIDS

a special program for dads who have limited time with their children

Discover more about...
how to manage your access visit,
how to manage frustrations when dealing with authorities,
help with your child's emotional development,
healthcare and nutrition,
'fun' things to do, and more.



Mon 26th Sept - Fri 8th Oct

Holiday Hangout @ Parramatta Library

SONG WRITING WORKSHOP

Get lyrical with this song writing workshop in collaboration with 3 soundbed Music Production.

When? 27th September 2011
Where? Retro Room,
Parramatta Library
Time? 10am-1pm
Cost? Free
Booking? Yes

Snacks will be provided

BATTLE STRATEGY GAMES WITH GAMES WORKSHOP PARRAMATTA

Learn more about table top strategy games with Games Workshop Parramatta, paint your own miniature warriors and battle with friends.

When? 28th September 2011
Where? Retro Room,
Parramatta Library
Time? 2:30-4:30
Cost? Free
Booking? Yes

Pizza will be provided

ANIME SCREENING MOVIE AFTERNOON

New release Anime movie screening in the Library.

When? Friday 7th October 2011
Where? Darug Room,
Parramatta Library
Time? 3:30-5:30
Cost? Free
Booking? No

Popcorn will be provided.

PARRAMATTA

27 Great South Australia Blvd
Sydney NSW 2150

Phone: 02 969 0000
Fax: 02 969 0011



Living with Teenagers

Fathers' Workshops

*A FREE 6 week workshop
program for fathers
to communicate effectively
with their teens*



- Topics include:**
- ♦ Dealing with teen defiance
 - ♦ Effective communication skills with your teens about changes in their lives
 - ♦ Self-esteem and building confidence

When: Every Tuesday evening from 5.30—7 pm

Dates: 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th October & 1st, 8th November 2011

Where: Parramatta City Library—Retro Room
1B Civic Place, Parramatta

Limited Places—so be quick!
Participants must attend all 6 workshops
A certificate of attendance will be given to participants

For bookings & more information—contact Farid at Fathers' Support Service on (02) 9781 3350 or email ffarid@burnside.org.au



The workshop program will be run by
UnitingCare Burnside Fathers' Support Service
in partnership with Parramatta City Library

