Ringwood Heights Primary School – No 4911

Heights Happenings

17 September 2026

No 15

60 Summit Crescent Ph. 9870 3050 Outside School Hours Care
Ringwood 3134 Kelly Club - 0412 525 359
Principal: Kim Bride

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

September

Fri 18 • Last Day Term 2.30pm Finish

October

Mon 5 • Term 4 Starts
• Community Catch Up morning
• LT3 Swimming Commences

Thu 8 • Division Aths

Wed 14 • LT4 Girls & Mixed Cricket Finals

Fri 16 • LT4 STRIDE Inc

Fri 23 • 2027 Prep Transition 2.30pm - 3.15pm

November

Tue 3 • Melb Cup Day Holiday

Wed 4 • LT4 Boys Netball Gala Day

Fri 6 • 2027 Prep Transition 2.30pm - 3.15pm
• Yr 6 Dance Lesson

Uniform Shop Opening Hours

Monday: 8.30-9am

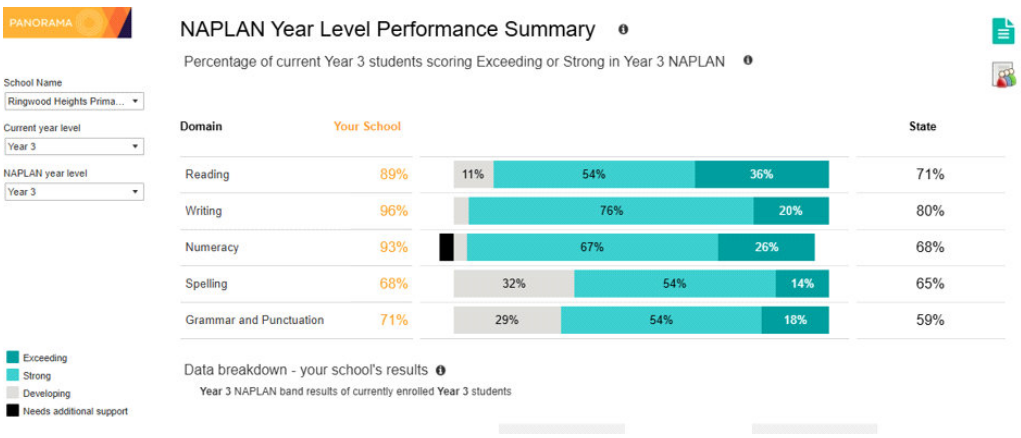
Wednesday: 3.15-3.45pm

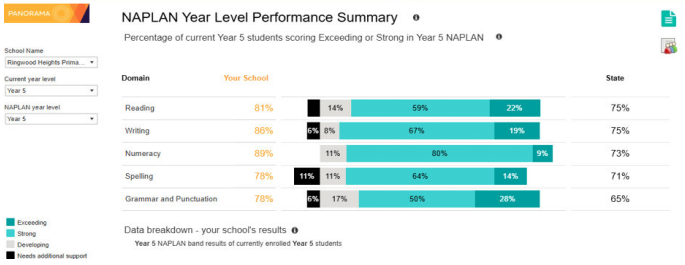
Hello to all our RHPS parents and carers,

It's hard to believe we are already heading towards the end of another term at RHPS! Congratulations to all our students on a wonderful Term 3. Every one of our students has had opportunities to grow and thrive in their learning, both in and out of the classroom. A great example of this has been the Book Fair this week. Thank you to Ms Butcher for organising this for our school and continuing the development, imagination and curiosity of reading.

A massive thank you to our PCG group who organised a great SWAP and SIP night last Friday. It has been a massive term for our PCG group, and we continue to be so appreciative of all their work to make our school and more connected place. A reminder that the next big-ticket item is Election Day on Saturday 28th November. If you can volunteer some time to support this event, please speak to one of our PCG members.

In the last newsletter, l shared with our community the wonderful Numeracy results from the 2026 NAPLAN. In this edition I wanted to share with you our outstanding Literacy results. As a school, we continue to exceed expectations across the state across all domains. This is not by chance but through a strong desire to ensure students get the best opportunities to access learn across the school.





Our learning teams are already mapping out the learning for Term 4, ensuring we maintain momentum and make the most of the final term of 2026. There is still plenty of learning ahead, and we are looking forward to finishing the year strongly!

Learning means having a GO

I attended a Principal Network meeting a few weeks ago, that reinforced the idea for both schools and families: **students can't learn if they don't try**. It was described as two barriers to learning, a *culture of opting out*, where students avoid something because it feels difficult or uncomfortable, and a *culture of perfectionism*, where students are reluctant to try unless they know they will get it right. While these may look different, both can lead to the same outcome: students choosing not to have a go.

Learning requires students to take risks, attempt something new and sometimes get things wrong. Rather than removing challenge, our role is to support children to work through it. Mistakes are not something to fear or hide; they are opportunities to investigate, correct our thinking and improve. Something I hear a lot is, **practice doesn't make perfect — practice makes progress.** This connects strongly with us here at RHPS as we want our students to develop the attributes that help them become increasingly confident and capable learners, where persistence, effort and responding positively to challenge are so important. Being a great learner doesn't mean always getting things right. It means being prepared to participate, ask questions, have a go, learn from feedback and keep going when learning becomes challenging.

This is an important message we can reinforce together at school and at home: **don't aim for perfect, aim for progress.** Every time our students have a go, make a mistake, try again and improve, they are not only learning the content in front of them; they are developing the learning habits that will support them well beyond the classroom.

As communicated through Compass this week, works will be starting over the term holidays, upgrading our Junior Toilets with the expected works continuing for approximately 10 weeks. This is an important improvement to our school facilities, and we look forward to providing our students with upgraded and improved toilet facilities when the project is completed.

For the safety of our students, families and community, **no families or students are to enter the school grounds this coming weekend (Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th September)** while these works are being undertaken. This includes the playground and other outdoor areas. Families are welcome to use outdoor spaces from Monday 21st September. Kelly Club will continue as normal over the term break.

As we begin to plan for 2027, we are starting to confirm numbers within year levels and are more able to accurately plan for staffing. If you have not yet confirmed your Foundation sibling for 2027, this is a must as we are finalising our enrolments in this year level to plan for transition in Term 4. If you are moving to a new location in 2027, we also need to be aware of this. Student numbers affect staffing numbers and the balance of both is important.

Finally, thank you for your continuous support of our school. I am so grateful for the work of our dedicated staff, the engagement of our students each day and the home school partnership our school has built over such an extended period. Working in our school each day is an absolute privilege because I see so many good things happening, and our students always have smiles on their faces. I hope that all our families get some time together to enjoy life away from the school routines and can come back refreshed for Term 4!

Marcus Abney-Hastings
Acting Principal

Wellbeing @ RHPS

We have completed the Maroondah Lift Project! Here are the summaries of the last two sessions.

Session 9: Serve - Giving is Living
At an emotional level, you reap what you sow. Scientific studies and personal experiences confirm that humans have an inbuilt desire to **contribute** and **serve**, and doing so is emotionally uplifting. Giving really is living!

Session 10: Truly Flourish By Finding Meaning
We need to feel that we **matter** and this can be achieved by belonging to and serving something **bigger than ourselves**, as well as through transcendent experiences and story-telling. The narrative that our lives tell can be meaningful when we spend our lives on things that truly matter, and that positively impact others.

What a rich resource the project was, reminding us that **simple, timeless truths** are really worth prioritising. As a way to conclude the learning, our staff voted on the session that most resonated with us as educators and reflected the wellbeing needs of our students. Here are the results…

1. **Your Limbo is Listening - Speak Positively.** The words we tell ourselves directly impact our mood. A simple shift in the way we speak to ourselves can significantly shift our wellbeing for good!
2. **Look to the Positive - Feelings Follow Your Focus.** These reflective questions have the power to boost your mood each day: What am I grateful for? What went well today? What am I looking forward to?
3. **Serve - Giving is Living.** Serving is an active way to consider the needs of others. The wellbeing lift can be felt by you and those around you!

I wonder which session your family found most relevant?

Discovery Childcare Centre visit

On Tuesday 8th September, three students from 3BE visited the 3-year-old group of children at Discovery, Ringwood. Lillian, Reuben and Maisie used ukulele, hand actions and story-telling to share the song, "Incy Wincy Spider." The kinder children responded beautifully and were delighted to join in as we all sang together at the end of the visit. A really big thank you to Reuben's mum, Shiree, for coming along with us - her time and librarian skills were greatly appreciated!

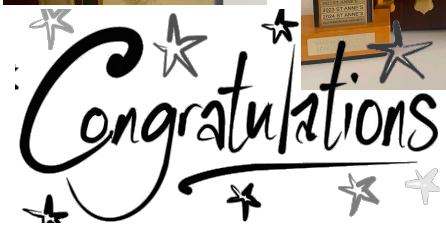
Jude Ridley
Wellbeing Leader

District Athletics

On Tuesday last week we competed in District Athletics. The schools that participated on the day were Ainslie Parklands, Yarra Road, Bayswater North, Mullum, St Annes, Our Ladies, Croydon, St Richards, and Marlborough, and of course we did as well!

All competitors earned points on the day for their school.

Our school won both the track and field trophies! This means we won the overall trophy as well.



We are so excited to bring the trophies back to our school for a second year in row.

We would like to give a massive thank you to Mrs Clark, Mrs Davison and Mrs Shackleford for their organisation and support on the day.

A massive shout out to Ali Trewhella for assisting at the girls discus event, and thank you also to the families who came to cheer us on.

Good luck to all our competitors who will be competing in Division Athletics early next term.

GO RINGERS!!

By Nia and Lexie

Junior School

Term 3 Highlights

Carl (JRC): We have done lots of fun things this term which we have reflected on. My favourite part of the term was going on the excursion to Rippon Lea. It was really good fun learning about the old games they

played and finding the creatures around the big gardens.

Willow (JRC): My favourite part of the term has been Performing Arts. We had music notes on a piece of paper and we used the notes to make a song using the iPads and the apps "Melody maker" and "Beat maker".

Norah (JRC): I have enjoyed doing Wonder Workshop. It has been lots of fun being with my friends and working on a numeracy game. I have been making a time game where you need to guess the time on the clocks. If you get three guesses in a row correct you win the game.

Liv (JS): My favourite thing in the Term was PE because you get to try new things and I get to be with my friends. I learnt how to play basketball.

Emma (JS): I loved Art because we made fake feathers. My first step was drawing the feather. Then we colour it in, then we cut it out. Then we cut a fringe on the feather. I loved it because it was so creative.

Becky (JF): Writing poetry was my highlight because I liked how we got to do our own poems. We got to choose which poem type to write and we wrote them and published them and recorded ourselves reading them on Seesaw. My poem was about spring and it was a shape or concrete poem. When we published we got to add colours.

Henry (JF): My highlight from Term 3 was when the grandparents came in and we interviewed them. We interviewed them so we could learn what life was like in the past. I found out that in the olden days desks at school were in rows and columns and they were only for one person each. That's different to now because now we have different-shaped tables and they are in groups so we can work together.

Ella (JHK): My highlight for Term 3 is the visitors we had that came into school. Kathy, from the Deaf community, visited us for Auslan. I liked meeting a Deaf person because we got to understand the real purpose of an interpreter. I also enjoyed P.E and the basketball clinic. I really enjoyed the Term 3 learning and I'm looking forward to the fun things we will do in Junior School next term.

Essie (JHK): I really liked when we first met Kathy. It was good to see her signing. It was beautiful to see how she signed and I like meeting Deaf people and learning their games, like stepping stones. Writing narratives has also been fun because I have been writing about a little chicken. My story has a beautiful house with stairs and beautiful front covers. It has a beginning, middle and end.

Riki (JHK): My highlight for this term was BQT. Our big question was How do we learn from the past? I enjoyed, when we got to listen to Mrs King's record player. I liked the bird sounds and the noises we listened to for visualising in Reading and it was funny when Mrs King accidentally played it in fast mode.

Learning Team 3

End of Term Reflection

Quinn : Writers Workshop
In LT3 Writer's Workshop this term we began with perspective writing, then we went on to biography writing, and finished the term with autobiography writing.

Some of the things we have done spanning a lot of our writing sessions are that we have used writing seeds and lots of different writing strategies individually. We have used strategies also that involve collaborating with a partner. We also like to use adjectives and lots of other descriptive writing features.

Ivy : iTime
My favourite subject is iTime because I like how we get a big choice of what we learn about. iTime is when we choose a topic or person to research. We then sort the information we have collected and we have to pick a learning asset and a goal that we would like to work on. Some examples that I have done are:

- I made a book on capybaras.
- I made a climate change diagram,
- And I made a poster about Albert Einstein.

We are currently working on an iTime relating to our Big Question. How can we ensure the change to the senior school is a positive one for our current Year 2 students? We interviewed the year 2 students and have been sorting out our research data. We have some exciting plans that we will share with the year 2's soon. Watch this space!

Andie- BQT
Hi my name is Andie, my favorite part of term 3 was BQT. Our big question is How and Why do Communities Change? In BQT recently we have been making slides, videos & posters for authentic purposes to assist the Ringwood Heights community with change. I made slides about how to use a chromebook.

Ivan: iTime
Hello, my name is Ivan.
My favourite subject this term has also been iTime.

This term we have chosen new questions and topics to learn about. We came up with a question and used books, websites and primary sources to find an answer.
This iTime my question was about Chinese words and what they mean.
Lots of people in our class learned about creating things using coding. They used Spritelab and Scratch to create animations and games.

Chloe: Numeracy
Hi my name is Chloe,
This term I have enjoyed numeracy. We learnt about bus stop division, vertical addition and vertical subtraction.
We also learnt about time, money and fractions.
My favourite part was when we did vertical addition and vertical subtraction.
Using it, you can add and minus large numbers easily. You need to add each column together. Don't forget to move any tens to the next column!

Zolal: District Athletics
My favourite part of Term 3 was District Athletics last week, as it was my first time, I had so much fun running 100m and doing relay with my team. I hope that next time I get to have the same opportunity and if I do I'll try my best like always. It has been a busy and exciting term, we hope everyone has safe and happy holidays!

Learning Team 4

Report of the Advanced Presentation Skills Debating "Grand Finale" on Thursday 3rd September 2026

Congratulations to all the LT4 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 if Australia is going to operate data centres, we will need to transition to Nuclear Power."

4DC

"That Australians need to drastically reduce the amount of clothes they buy and purchase more sustainable materials."

4H

"That Skittles should be banned in Australia."

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

Best Debating Speaker

4N	Isaac Furlong
4DC	Anaya Singh
4H	Georgie Cottrell

Best "Off the Cuff" Speaker

4N	Ned Thompson
4DC	Caleb Ingram
4H	Sofia Dafoulis and Zoe Poupos (tie)

Most Improved Speaker

4N	Bonnie Lewis
4DC	Immy Trewhella
4H	Stella Hall

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 Caccioppoli and Mrs Hallam. I am sure the students impressed and made you very proud. Thank you to Mr Abney-Hastings, Mr Lumsden and Ms Parry for their attendance and very kind words.

I cannot finish without thanking all the adults 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 LT4, 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

Parent Community Group

Swap & Sip 2026

The vibes were high as we celebrated our 3rd Swap and Sip event last Friday night. Thank you to the seasoned swap and sippers, and the many new faces from both RHPS and beyond, who joined us on the night.

It was a lovely night to catch up, sip champagne and gather a whole new

wardrobe for ourselves and loved ones.
The raffle was also a huge success - so a big thank you to the incredible businesses below who donated:

- Aura by Shaeliegh Rose (hairdresser)
- Pippin Girl
- Mitcham Social
- Fernwood Fitness Mitcham
- Mastika
- Gia Pilates
- Core Plus Mitcham
- Flower Pot Florist
- Savers Ringwood
- Warran Glen
- Inglewood Coffee Roasters
- Spending
- Julia's Ringwood North
- Maroondah Osteopathy & Sportscare

<u>In total, we raised over $1000 for RHPS!</u>

Thank you for coming, thank you for donating your incredible clothes and we look forward to hosting you again in 2027!

Jade & Sarah

Father's and Friends Stall

We hope all our fathers and special people enjoyed a wonderful weekend celebrating.

A huge thank you to the families who donated beautiful gifts, and to the lovely volunteers who set-up and helped students with their purchases: Tanya, Sarah, Jade, Melanie, Rachel, Maree, Bianca, Naz, Cheryl, Steph and Estelle. Thank you also to our grade 6 leaders for your assistance on the day and to Mr A for helping make the set up and pack down a smooth process.

Special Lunch Day thank you

We hope that all the students enjoyed their pies, sausage rolls and cookies last week. Special lunch days can't run without the support of our parent community to assist in getting orders sorted and out to classrooms - so thank you to all of our wonderful parent helpers who assisted in sorting and delivering lunches out to students so efficiently. We were so grateful to have so many volunteers that made the process very calm and easy. Thank you also to Felicity, Steph, Tracy and Melanie for counting and collating orders ahead of the big day.

Save the date! RHPS Fun Day Saturday 28th November

Please save the date and keep an eye out for more information at the beginning of Term 4 about our upcoming RHPS Fun Day on Saturday 28th November. There will be lots of opportunities to take part in supporting the day and we are encouraging all families to make a note in your diaries as we will need lots of support to make the day a success.

Toy Donations

We are putting the call out for donations of excellent quality second hand toys, games and puzzles that will be used for a second hand toy stall at the RHPS Fun Day in November. The upcoming school holidays are a great opportunity for a spring clean! Look out for further information on the drop off times in Term 4, on Compass.

Next PCG Meeting

The next meeting of the PCG will be in week 1 of Term 4, on Thursday 8th October at 7.30pm in the multipurpose room. Everyone is welcome!

Community Notices

Please note that whilst Ringwood Heights PS appreciates the financial support provided by the organisations advertising in Heights Happenings, the school does not necessarily endorse any of the products or services advertised. No responsibility is accepted by the school for accuracy of information contained in advertisements or claims made by them!"

Growing Wellbeing Activity Day

Maroondah City Council

Feel good with fun, free activities for all ages!

Join us and experience ways to look after your mental health and wellbeing while discovering tips for supporting your family and friends to thrive too.

- Active kids activities
- Interactive art
- Presentations and performances
- Positive ageing information and activities
- Youth space and more!

EASTLAND

YOUR LIBRARY

Free event

Thursday 1 October

11am to 2pm

Ringwood Town Square and Realm

179 Maroondah Highway, Ringwood
(opposite Ringwood Station)

For more information

www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/GrowingWellbeingActivityDay
or scan the QR code

1300 88 22 33 or 9298 4598 www.maroondah.vic.gov.au

mcc1709-Aug26

KELLY CLUB SPRING 2026 HOLIDAY PROGRAM

RINGWOOD HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL
60 SUMMIT CRES, RINGWOOD NORTH, 7:00AM - 6:00PM

CCS PROGRAM SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE! *Conditions apply

WEEK 1

Mon 21 Sep

KIDS VS STAFF

Who will come out on top? Challenge the staff in Dodgeball and Chicken Tag, put your teamwork to the test with Paper Cup Pyramids and Build a Bridge, then get creative with our Design, Build & Fly craft challenge. It's kids versus staff in a day full of fun and friendly competition!

FULL FEE $75

AFTER MAX CCS* $7.50

Tues 22 Sep

INCURSION

BRICKS 4 KIDS

Build, create, and imagine with the Bricks 4 Kids LEGO Incursion! Take on exciting building challenges, work as a team, and bring amazing LEGO creations to life in a fun, hands-on experience.

FULL FEE $105

AFTER MAX CCS* $10.50

Wed 23 Sep

EXCURSION

MOVIES DAY OUT

Lights, camera, action! Join us for a trip to the cinema to enjoy a fantastic movie on the big screen. Sit back with your friends, relax, and experience the magic of the movies!

FULL FEE $115

AFTER MAX CCS* $11.50

Thur 24 Sep

CREATE & TAKE

AFL GRAND FINAL DAY

Celebrate footy finals fever with our AFL Create & Take day! Design and make your own AFL-themed creations to take home, enjoy exciting footy games, and show your team spirit in a fun-filled day of Grand Final excitement!

FULL FEE $90

AFTER MAX CCS* $9.00

Fri 25 Sep

PUBLIC HOLIDAY

We are closed.

FULL FEE

AFTER MAX CCS*

WEEK 2

Mon 28 Sep

EXCURSION

CHESTERFIELD FARM

Join us for a fun-filled day at Chesterfield Farm! Meet and feed friendly farm animals, enjoy a tractor ride, explore the farm, and experience life on a real working farm. It's the perfect day for hands-on outdoor adventure!

FULL FEE $115

AFTER MAX CCS* $11.50

Tues 29 Sep

WILD WILD WEST

Yeehaw! Join us for a day of cowboy fun featuring Tin Can Target and Camper & Tent games, create your own Sheriff Badge, and make delicious Chocolate Fudge with Pretzels!

FULL FEE $75

AFTER MAX CCS* $7.50

Wed 30 Sep

SMASH HITS

Get ready to sing, dance, and shine! Enjoy exciting musical games, show off your skills in our Talent Show, create colourful Musical Note Mosaics, and cook tasty Smashed Potatoes. It's a chart-topping day of fun!

FULL FEE $75

AFTER MAX CCS* $7.50

Thur 1 Oct

INCURSION

BILLY CART

Get creative as we design and build our very own Billy Carts! Work together, unleash your imagination, and see your creations come to life in this exciting hands-on incursion full of creativity and fun.

FULL FEE $105

AFTER MAX CCS* $10.50

Fri 2 Oct

FRIDAY FUN DAY

Finish the holidays with a day full of laughter and fun! Play Silly Sausages and Toe Fencing, make Fluffy Slime, create Crazy Spoon Monsters and Bubble Blowing Paintings, and enjoy making your own delicious Pizzas!

FULL FEE $50

AFTER MAX CCS* $5.00

Contact: Meghan Email: ringwoodheights@kellyclub.com.au Phone: 0412 525 359
Further information: www.kellyclub.com.au/hp#info

*Childcare subsidy (CCS) may apply. Please refer to Services Australia Childcare Subsidy for eligibility and entitlement.

ENROL NOW AT
kellyclub.com.au/ringwoodheights