

RALEIGH PUBLIC SCHOOL



Nurturing Children in an Innovative and Creative Environment

Find us at 12 North Street, **Raleigh** 2454
Email: Raleigh-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
School Principal: Mrs Katrina Meenahan

T 6655 4228 F 6655 4548
Website: <https://Raleigh-p.schools.nsw.gov.au>

Term 2, Week 10

30th June, 2020

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|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 3 rd Jul | Last day of Term 2 |
| 20 th Jul | Staff Development Day, no students |
| 21 st Jul | All students return |
| 31 st Jul | Tree Day |

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Wow, what a crazy term we have had and now we are at the end. To think we have gone from remote learning at home, to a return to face to face learning. We have dealt and coped with changes to how we interact with others with increased hygiene measures, social distancing and new community rules. Although COVID-19 has not ended, we have seen a return to some form of reality in most things.

Thank you again to our parents and students for your support and positive attitudes over the past term. To our amazing teachers and staff who have kept things running smoothly and as normally as possible, for your children. Let's hope we all have a relaxing, restful and healthy holiday break, ready for Term 3, when students return on Tuesday July 21st.

Please Stay Home if Unwell

It is cold and Winter and this brings with it the sniffles, coughs and colds. Unfortunately, in the current situation we are in, all students and staff who have even mild cold like symptoms must not come to school. The government advice has not changed and if you or your child are displaying these symptoms, the recommendation continues to be that you seek medical advice about testing. Your child can not return to school until they are completely symptom free. If they are absent for three or more days, they require a medical certificate. Proof of advice that they have been tested is also acceptable and does not require an additional trip to the doctor. We all understand that this can be difficult and we appreciate your ongoing support and understanding in this matter.

New Format

We are trialling a new, more accessible format for our newsletter to allow a wider range of people to access it. This will evolve as we become more familiar with it.

Bee Unit

This Term, the students and staff have really enjoyed learning about the honey, stingless and solitary bees we find in Australia and our local area. It was great to be able to talk about the same topic across many subjects and tie this together. Our students from Kindergarten to Year 6 have developed a wide knowledge about bees and we hope that this interest will stay with them as they grow older. Bees play a very valuable role in the everyday life of humans, as they are responsible for pollinating around 80% of the fruits and vegetables that we eat.

Last week, the 3-6 class wrote persuasive texts about Saving the Bees. This was the first attempt at a persuasive text for a while and we have included a few at the end of the newsletter to showcase some of the great work the 3-6 students have been producing.

‘Say No to Bullying’

Earlier in the year, before the disruptions of COVID-19, every student in our school created a Poster for Interrelate’s ‘Say No to Bullying’ competition. We had 100% of our students enter the competition. We were one of approximately 25 schools who were finalists in the 100% Participation category. On Friday the students watched the Presentation Ceremony online. Although we were not winners this time, it was exciting for our students to hear our names mentioned. Well done everyone on a fantastic effort!



New Native Flowering Garden

To support our native bees and as a part of our bee grants we have created a new native flowering garden. We have also added additional plants to some of our existing gardens to give them a boost. Over the past few weeks Jimmy has been preparing the area by clearing a small existing garden bed, trimming and removing unwanted bushes and creating a new garden edge. He then moved over 9 cubic metres of mulch on Thursday, ready for our new plants to be delivered on Friday.

Thank you to Colin, from Boggy Creek Natives, who we were able to purchase over 200 plants from, in tube stock and pots and they were delivered early Friday morning. Our students helped Jimmy plant some of the plants and then he worked hard to complete planting the rest. Wow, what an amazing result. We can not wait to see the garden grow and flower over the coming months and years. Our native, *Tetragonula Carbonaria* bees will love it!





Australia's Biggest Child Protection Lesson

Last Thursday, the students in 3-6 joined thousands of other Year 3-6 students around the country to participate in Australia's Biggest Child Protection Lesson. The students reinforced already known concepts and discussed new and relevant topics. This project was created and run by the Daniel Morcombe Foundation. Later in the year the K-2 students will be participating in similar activities.



Semester 1 Reports

This Semester the reports will follow a very different format to normal. They will not have grades for individual subjects and will have a comment only for English, Mathematics and the Other Learning Areas. The reports will be sent home later in the week.

Friday Fun Day

This Friday, we have decided to have a fun rewards day to thank all of our students for their hard work, patience and persistence during this difficult term. Students can come to school dressed in their Pyjamas or comfortable clothes. At the moment the weather is predicted to warm up later in the week and be 24 degrees on Friday, so check the weather before dressing. We plan to do some fun relaxing activities and have a lazy movie afternoon.

Kind regards
Katrina Meenahan

Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC)

Raleigh Public School students have been registered for the Premiers Reading Challenge. The holidays are a good time to get reading towards the PRC.

A 'Personal Reading Log' has been attached to this newsletter. Please fill it out and return it next term so that Rom can process this information.

Save the Bees Writing from 3-6

The following persuasive texts were written by students in the 3-6 class. They have been edited for spelling and punctuation with the help of Mrs Meenahan. We hope you enjoy and realise the importance of bees in our lives.

Save the Bees by Isabella

We must save bees and protect them, using whatever we have. Bees are dying and people aren't doing anything to help them but you can, we can make a difference! So many things are happening that are affecting bees and the way they're living. Take climate change for example, bees aren't used to this and although it may seem like we can't help, we can.

Even though people and factories are tearing down and killing the homes of bees, we can give them a new one. I'm not suggesting you become a beekeeper, just give them somewhere to stay. You can make a hotel for them to stay in, just make sure you have a large, beautiful, bee friendly garden. It's not very hard, you just need to want to do it and isn't it an amazing feeling, knowing that you gave shelter and home to these amazing insects.

Without bees, scientists predict we will die not too soon after. Why is this? It is because bees actually pollinate 80 percent of our food and flowers and without them we won't have as much food, which will be a major problem for everyone. If we start producing less food, it would become very expensive and hard for people to get, which could cause starvation.

If you have a beautiful garden that animals like to eat, you may be familiar with pesticides and insecticides, but these are bad news for bees. Pesticides can kill certain weeds or flowers, but that would mean that bees wouldn't get nectar, which would mean they could starve and die and that also means no honey. Insecticides are made to kill or harm one or more types of insects and bees are actually one of them. Some insecticides actually kill bees, which again would mean no honey or even no food.

Bees obviously make honey and if they were to die out, that would be a problem for a few reasons. Honey is delicious and it's used in a lot of things, but the main reason why honey is so important is it has great medicinal qualities. Honey actually has medicinal properties like if you've ever had a sore throat you may have used honey to make it better or if you've ever had a small cut you may have used honey to help heal it.

Bees are extremely important which I hope you now see and I also hope you try some of these suggestions to help save bees. Help save the bees and help save humans too, bees are extraordinary and without them we would be nothing!

Save the Bees by Heath

Bees are one of the best pollination systems in the world. They are a good honey maker and they pollinate all the flowers and crops we grow. If they die our food population will go down a lot. So, we need to take care of the bees and not use deadly chemicals and pesticides on bees, so they don't die.

Bees can pollinate a lot of crops and flowers. We need them so we won't die a short time after. If they stop pollinating, our food supply will go down rapidly and food will become a lot more expensive, only the rich will eat and some people will die of hunger.

Chemicals are killing these insects and it is not just chemicals it is also smoke, bushfires and pesticides. Bees make sweet honey and they need flowers to make it. Some people use deadly chemicals and they spray it on flowers so they will die and this is killing the bees. No honey will be made if bees die. Some people will spray the chemicals on their crops, so insects don't eat them, but they don't know that they are also killing bees.

If bees die, people might die a short time later, but we can survive, but we can't use deadly chemicals or pesticides. Stop destroying hives and make sure you take care of the bees if you have some and if you don't, maybe you can get some and take care of them. Bees are one of the best pollinators in the world, do not live for a very long time, but they can pollinate a lot of flowers. A bee hive can pollinate around 2000 flowers a week. You can make a bee friendly yard which attracts bees in your yard.

I think that these paragraphs are very useful to help save bees and stop the extinction of bees. Bees are lovely insects to have and they help everything including food crops. They make everything a lot less expensive. So help save the bees!

Save the Bees by Oliver R

Today I'm going to talk to you about bees and how they are dying. These are some of the ways you can help to save the bees.

The bees are dying off because people are using pesticides, which is a poison. The bee goes on the flower, it gets poisoned and then it forgets where its hive is and gets lost and dies. I think everyone should stop using pesticides. If the bees and flowers die all the food will stop growing and we will get sick or even die. The apples, carrots, bananas and many other vegetables and fruits will stop growing, so PLEASE stop using pesticides and insecticides. If you see someone using chemicals go up to them and tell them to stop.

People should start buying bees to pollinate their garden or even just to have free honey or flowers. The honey is really good for you, if you have a cut or a sore throat. So, buy bees, they make your garden shine.

You can also make bee hotels and have a bee friendly pond and garden in your backyard.

I feel like people should stop using poison on the plants, so the bees don't die. Bees are nice, they will not sting you. only if you get too close or if you hurt them. You can get native bees or European honey bees, they both make honey and they both pollinate the garden. So do something now to help save the bees!

Save the Bees by Tyson

This persuasive essay is about saving the bees. There will be three different arguments about why it is good to save our bees. So, saving our bees is really important to our environment and our plants. So here are some reasons to try and help our environment.

These little creatures help us with our worldwide food sources. Some of our fruits and vegetables need pollination to help with the plant's food production. Eighty percent of our food production is helped by our bees, like our fruits, veggies, nuts and grains. But in Australia we have native plants and fruits and native bees help pollinate these.

The bees also help with other plants like flowers. They need pollinators like bees to come and pollinate them so they can seed, so another flower can grow. The pollination is like a life cycle. The flower starts off as a seed then grows into a flower so they are ready to be pollinated by the pollinators. A bee comes along taking its nectar and pollen, leaving other flower's pollen on the flower. That is what pollination is, they move pollen from one plant to another sharing the plants pollen.

There are many pollinators like birds or bees, but the bee does most of the work pollinating those plants. So the pollen and nectar from a plant is a part of their diet and they make their food sources from the flowers, the nectar is turned into honey and the pollen so they make bee bread to feed their young. The bees get the pollen and take it into a room of the hive where they leave it to store and a small process starts turning the pollen into a bread-like material. The bees eat that as well and the bees give it to their larvae and eggs while they are growing.

Some companies are removing bush lands and forests to build places or to sell it for money and the wildlife will have no homes. The bees need a hive to survive, but with it destroyed they will die. Even with weeds like daisies or clovers, bees still visit them for pollen. People use pesticides in their garden to get rid of the weeds, but the bad thing is the bees get poisoned, so they can't find their hive and they die or they just die from the amount of poison they got sprayed with.

These are some good reasons why you should save the bees. So have a think about what you are doing and can change to help save the bees.



SParky & Shady

**Helping kids understand themselves
so they can live happy, loving and fulfilling lives.**

July Two Day Holiday Workshops

- ★ 6-9 year olds Mon 13th & Tues 14th July
- ★ 9-12 year olds Thurs 16th & Fri 17th July

Norm Jordan Pavilion, Coffs Harbour Showground.

Parents attend with kids. 9am - 3.30pm both days.

\$330 for one child and parent. Current health guidelines will be followed.

- ★ Or do the entire program online as a family
\$120 for one month's access.

"I highly recommend 'Sparky and Shady' to all parents looking for strategies to build resilience in their children." Dr Nicola Holmes

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