RALEIGH PUBLIC SCHOOL



Nurturing Children in an Innovative and Creative Environment

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School Principal: Mrs Katrina Meenahan

Newsletter, Term 3, Week 10

22nd September, 2020

23rd Sep Sporting Schools AFL

25th Sep Sporting Schools Basketball

25th Sep Last day of Term 3

12th Oct Staff and students return. **No** Pupil Free Day.

19th Oct School photos

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to the last week of Term 3! Although some of our school programs have had to be altered due to COVID-19, our students and staff have still had an amazing term learning inside and outside the classroom. Both classes have seen our students settle back into classroom routines and produce some excellent new learning. Our students have been settled and happy in classrooms and the playground and this had made for a wonderful learning environment for all.

At the beginning of Term 4, we do not have a pupil free day on the first day as the teachers complete their Term 4 professional learning at the end of the term, after the students finish. Students' first day of Term 4 will be Monday the 12th October and their last day will be Wednesday 16th December. The staff will have their final day on Thursday 17th December. We would like to wish everyone a safe, healthy and relaxing holiday break and we look forward to another great term of learning in Term 4.

Next term, we expect the COVID guidelines that are in place currently, will continue. This week we have been excited to have had nearly everyone at school each day, which is great and helps support continuity of learning. I would like to remind everyone that the guidelines remain the same, students and staff should not attend school if they have flu-like symptoms. Due to the low rates of influenza currently circulating in our community, we must take symptoms seriously. Students or staff who display flu-like symptoms should NOT be at school. They are required to show a negative COVID-19 test result, (text message is easiest) and be free of symptoms before returning to school. Further advice for families can be found via the following link https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families

Creative Sandpits

Last Friday for STEM, our buddies put their plans into action and created sand pit prototypes. It is hoped that next term, these ideas might be refined and then presented to myself for consideration for our playground. I look forward to seeing what they are planning.







P&C Zoom Meeting

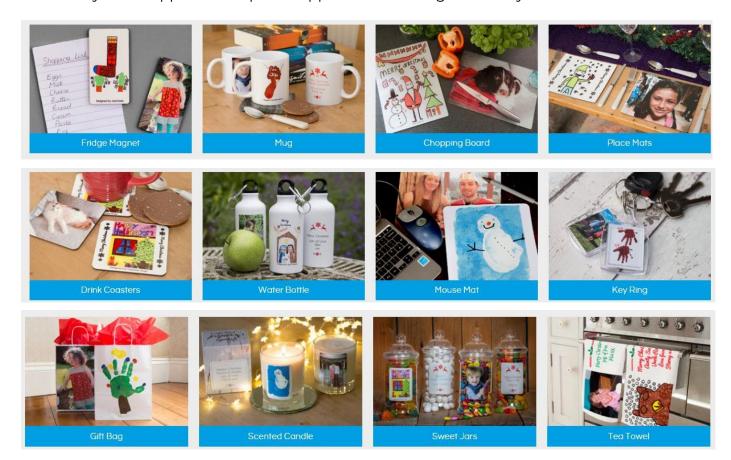
Thank you to our parents and Mrs Irene Jones, who were able to join us for our Term 3, P&C Zoom meeting last Thursday and to those who sent their apologies. We had a productive meeting and discussed a number of things. One of the issues raised was the P&C bank balance and that due to the COVID situation, the P&C cannot run their regular fundraising ideas. This month the P&C had been booked in to do the gates at the Bellingen Markets, which they were obviously unable to do and they had also hoped to do a Bunnings BBQ, which at the moment they would also be unable to do.

Our P&C supports many programs that we run within our school and we could not run some of these or it would cost families more to participate in them without P&C support. Some of the recent and up-coming support include: subsidising the Life Education visit, Surf Safety day, subsidising our book prizes at the end of the year to ensure every child receives one.

Two alternative fundraisers have been suggested for Term 4 and we will need your help to support them, to help your P&C and school. Further information will be sent home at the beginning of Term 4, so keep an eye out!

- Family Pie Drive Families can purchase these for themselves and also ask family, friends and work colleagues to purchase them as well
- Personalised Gifts (which would be great for Christmas) Our students would create an
 artwork that could then be added to a variety of items such as tea towels, drink bottles,
 cards, coasters, place mats, mouse mats, mugs, candles, sweet jars and many more
 items for people to order and purchase online. These would then be sent directly to your
 home address.

With everyone's support we hope to support our amazing P&C and your child.



...and there's more!!

New 2021 -2024 School Planning Cycle

Over the past 8 weeks, Bernadette and I have been analysing data and taking a very close look at what we have been doing at Raleigh Public School over the past 3-5 years and beyond. We have looked at attendance, enrolments, academic performance, student wellbeing, parent satisfaction, finances and human resources. We have gathered a lot of data and are beginning to see some patterns.

We are now seeking support and data from our students, parents and the wider community. We understand that due to the current COVID restrictions, some families are feeling a little disconnected from school, as some of our regular programs, assemblies and coming in personally to the school have not been able to occur. When completing the tasks please be honest as this data is being collected to improve our school and try to make it even better.

We are asking families to please help us by completing two brief tasks to give us some further information about our school.

Task 1: Last week an email and text message was sent home with a link to the short survey. You can fill this survey in online or complete the paper version attached to the newsletter. We have a \$50 Park Beach Plaza voucher to be drawn this Friday 25th September. To go into the draw you will need to include your child's name on the survey and return the survey by Thursday 24th September. If you wish to remain anonymous this is fine, but unfortunately we have no way of identifying you to go into the draw.

Task 2: Could you look at the photos attached and make a few comments about what you think about when you see them and return this sheet by this Friday 25th September. This task was completed at our P&C meeting on Thursday and we had some excellent comments. P&C members who have completed this already, may like to contribute more, however we understand if you do not wish to.

Basketball and AFL

Sadly this week we will complete both our AFL and Basketball lessons for the term. I have applied to for Term 4 Sporting School funding and hope to be able to secure coaches for different sports in Term 4. The students have enjoyed participating in these two sports this term.





Home reading and comprehension

Our home reading program is an important part of your child learning to read. We have reading activities in class and the practice at home supports and builds on these skills. Thank you for taking the time to read and listen to your child read. Comprehension skills are your child's ability to understand what they read and make meaning of new words. You can support this at home by:

- Having a conversation and discuss what your child has read. Ask your child probing
 questions about the book and connect the events to his or her own life. For example, say
 "I wonder why that girl did that?" or "How do you think he felt? Why?" and "So, what
 lesson can we learn here?".
- Help your child make connections between what he or she reads and similar experiences he or she has felt, saw in a movie, or read in another book.
- Discuss the meanings of unknown words, both those he/she reads and those he/she hears.

(https://www.readingrockets.org/2020)

Toys at School

At Raleigh PS we have a large beautiful playground and play equipment area to play in at breaks. In the classroom we like to focus on the tasks and work we are completing. For this reason, we have a rule at Raleigh that we do not bring toys or sporting equipment to school. These can become a distraction both inside and outside the classroom and sometimes even cause bickering and fighting amongst students. Please do not allow your child to bring any toys or sporting equipment, this includes the Ooshies that are currently being handed out at Woolworths. Please leave all of these items for play at home. The only exception to this is if your child in K-2 is bringing an item for news. If this occurs it must stay in their bags at all times, a good alternative to the item is a photo of the item, which can be emailed to Bernadette.

We wish you all a safe and happy holiday break.

Regards, Katrina Meenahan

Student Banking Award

Congratulations to Sylvie who has gained her Bronze Student Banking reward. Well done!

An Additional September Birthday

We would like to wish Ryland a very happy birthday. Hope you had fun.



Bellingen Cricket Club and Junior Cricket Club

are inviting players (male and female) from 8 years to Seniors to come and play cricket in our U/10, U/12, U/14 and Senior teams for the upcoming 2020/21 season.

Online registrations are being taken at www.playcricket.com.au

Training for Under 10s and 12s

will commence this Tuesday the 15th September

For more information please contact

Simon Degenhard - 0429 008 850



BELLINGEN SWIMMING CLUB



Want to get the kids into swimming this summer?

Swim Club is a great way for kids to improve their swimming and have fun at the same time. Suitable for kids from 5 years and up.

Practice race starts, develop confidence in difference strokes ready for the school swimming carnival and improve fitness in a relaxed, friendly environment.

Starts 16th October at 6pm, at the Bellingen Swimming Pool.

Come along for a free trial to find out more.

Children need to be accompanied by an adult. Active Kids Vouchers accepted

Contact: Jo Hodgson 0419 442 089

