Positive start to the year

We have been very pleased with our start to 2014. I would like to express my thanks to all staff for ensuring that students are settled into routines, working productively and playing well with peers. We are so lucky to have a great team of dedicated class teachers. We also have talented and professional support personnel, including our librarian, music teacher, learning and support teacher, ESL teachers, teacher aides and admin staff.

Class parents 2014

Thank you again to all our class parents for 2014. This week everyone will receive a note from the P&C with the details of each class parent. If you did not leave your contact details at the Parent/Teacher evening, please provide your class parent with them to ensure you do not miss out on important information relating to your child’s class. Thank you.

KM  Kate Royson  2W  Christina Holt  
KR  Jo Dalziel  3/4F  Jannet Pawsey  
1C  Michelle Bellamy  3/4N  Gina Pirello  
1L  Daniela Zepeda  3/4W  Sue Goggins  
1N  Natalie Wren  5/6C  Louise Colclough  
2S  Lynette Miller  5/6M  Di Price

School Photos – Wednesday 19 March

School Photos are fast approaching on Wednesday 19 March. Accompanied with your newsletter today you will receive your child’s photo envelope. Please take the time to peruse the large range of packages and choose the package that is right for your family. Additional envelopes for family, captains, SRC and whole school photos are in the school office for pick up at your convenience.

This year we encourage you to order online if possible to simplify the administration process. After ordering simply record your reference number on the envelope.

All students need to bring their envelope on photo day.

For smooth organisation of the photo process please do not seal envelopes inside each other. You can pay for all children in one envelope. If paying by cash, please enclose correct money as no change will be given. We look forward to capturing another fantastic year of your child/s schooling at North Ryde Public.

Mrs Angela Churchland – School Photo coordinator

Annual Walk-a-thon

The annual Walk-a-thon is tomorrow. Students are to wear school uniform (not the sports shirt) and joggers. You are welcome to come and join in the fun.

We hope you have been assisting your child/ren to collect pledges from family, friends and neighbours. The P&C will be organising parties for the classes who are first return their money, who have raised the most money by Friday 14 March and who have raised the most in online donations by Monday 31 March.

Zone Swimming Carnival – Good luck!

We wish the following students good luck as they compete in the Zone Swimming Carnival on Thursday and Friday.

Thank you Miss Chiddy for organising the team, and thank you to the accompanying teachers, Miss Chiddy, Mrs Brown and Mr Milner. We would especially like to thank the P&C and Kate Derbidge for organising for our competitors to have brand new North Ryde jade swimming caps for the event.

Thursday 6 March  
Harry O’Brien  
Will Emerson  
Sarah Brown  
Jewel Goggins  
Sid Pandit  
Bailey Hayes  
Sinead Madden  
Nathaniel Chappell  
Lachlan Wilson  
Rachel Fairhall  
Daniela Dobric  
Eloise Vuong  
Jarrod Everitt  
Tiarna Henley  
Amy Houssenloge  
Thomas Csano

Friday 7 March  
Elly Pawsey  
Luke Hagarty  
Hayden Moore  
Eloise Vuong  
Emma Derbidge  
Harry O’Brien  
Will Emerson  
Sarah Brown  
Jake Nguyen  
Jewel Goggins  
Bailey Hayes  
Eva Madden  
Nathaniel Chappell  
Thomas Csano  
Rachel Fairhall  
Grace Qassis  
Sid Pandit  
Dominique Houghton  
Sinead Madden  
Lachlan Wilson

Clean Up Australia Day

Well it didn’t happen on Friday as planned, but by this afternoon all students did participate in a clean-up of the school grounds. Thank you students and thank you parents for helping them to remember to bring gloves. Let’s hope we can keep the grounds litter free.

Mr Jason Milner – Environmental contact
Coming events for Term 1

**Week 6**

**Wed 5 March** Walk-a-thon

**Thu 7 March** Zone swimming carnival

**Fri 8 March** Zone swimming carnival

**Week 7**

**Tue 11 March** Annual Walk-a-thon – Tomorrow

Walking – 8.00am

**Thu 13 March** Year 1 Museum excursion

P&C meeting – 7.00pm – staffroom

Tuesday 11 March – The Walk-a-thon. We will be holding our annual Walk-a-thon tomorrow, Wednesday 5 March. We are always welcome parents, carers or grandparents to join us for this fun event. Thank you to those parents that have already volunteered their time.

Don’t forget to return all sponsorship forms and cash donations by Friday 14 March 2014.

**Online Donations for walk-a-thon**

This year, we have offered students the opportunity to receive online donations. This means that you have the chance to email those long-distance friends and family and ask them to donate securely online. We hope this encourages a wider network of donors. The feedback so far has been very positive!

Note that when donations are made online, the donation is made towards the class, not the individual student. However donors still have an opportunity to make a comment or note of encouragement to a child.

Students will still have the opportunity to receive cash donations as well, should they wish. We will continue to regularly share the online donation progress by class. This will be displayed on the school notice board in the COLA. We hope this encourages students to seek more donations so that they can win the class party!

Online donations can be made up until 31 March 2014.

Online donations up until Friday morning 28 February 2014:

Jannet Pawsey, Chaitali Desai & Kat Israel – Fundraising Team

fundraising.nrps@gmail.com

**Week 8**

**Tue 18 March** Stage 2 Botanical Gardens excursion

**Wed 19 March** School Photos

**Thu 20 March** Harmony Day

**Fri 21 March** National Day of Action – Say no to bullying

**Week 9**

**Thu 27 March** Whole school assembly – 2.20pm

**Week 10**

**Mon 31 March** Young Leaders Day

**Wed 2 April** School Disco

**Week 11**

**Tue 8 April** Kinder 2015 Parent Info Afternoon at 4.30pm

P&C meeting – 7.00pm – staffroom

**Thu 10 April** Whole school assembly – 2.20pm

**Fri 11 April** Last day of term

**P&C News**

**P&C School Website**

https://www.sites.google.com/site/nrpspc

School Disco – Save the date: Wednesday 2 April

The School Disco is one of the social highlights for our students. Please keep the date free as this is a night that students don’t like to miss. Whilst our children have an opportunity to enjoy a social event with the support of our teachers and the Dance 2bfit Team, parents will be invited to enjoy a bite to eat and a chance to catch up with other parents. More details will follow, but keep the date free.

Thank you so much to those people that have already offered their time to help on the day. We really appreciate the support to make this an exciting event.

**Annual Walk-a-thon – Tomorrow**

We will be holding our annual Walk-a-thon tomorrow, Wednesday 5 March. We always welcome parents, carers or grandparents to join us for this fun event. Thank you to those parents that have already volunteered their time.

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**Uniform News**

**Green Valley Papua New Guinea**

Mrs Southam has contacted North Ryde Rotary and we are looking forward to handing over 20 boxes of brown and gold items to the students in Green Valley Papua New Guinea.

Thank you again to our wonderful team of helpers (Deb Durham, Samantha Culham, Anna Hagarty, Shelley Rowbotham and Tanja Hayes) who also cleared out the old brown and gold emergency garments from the office and took several loads of non-NRPS clothes that had been left at the Uniform Shop, over to St Vincent’s in Cox’s Road.
Canteen News

Volunteers

Thank you to the parents who have been volunteering their time to help in the canteen. It is great to see some of the new Kindy parents.

This year we will continue with the Class Volunteer Roster system, so please check the table below to know which week your year is required to help out. We are always looking for new helpers to assist in the canteen so please don’t hesitate to contact us if you are able to help at any time, not just when your child’s year is on the roster. If you have time to spare, even if it is just for an hour, we would really appreciate it. If you are able to help please write your name on the roster posted on the canteen doors or contact:

Jodie Hutchison: jbehutchison@gmail.com or 0402 424 556

This week’s canteen roster:

Wednesday 5 March        Year 2 (Walkathon Day)
Caroline Foster – lunch sales
Kiran Ambadipudi

Thursday 6 March
1 - 2 volunteers needed

Friday 7 March                 Year 3/4
Kiran Sharma, Emma Underwood
1 volunteer needed

Volunteers are needed for each day next week.

Class Volunteer Roster – Term 1

Please see below the Class Volunteer Roster for the coming weeks. It has been amended to better represent class sizes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>21 March</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>26 March</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>5 March</td>
<td>28 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3/4</td>
<td>2 April 12 March</td>
<td>7 March 4 April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6</td>
<td>9 April 19 March</td>
<td>14 March 11 April</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Online Canteen Ordering

Registration Process

If you would like to order lunch for your child from the canteen, this can only be done through the School24 system.

Registration only takes a few minutes to complete. Go to http://www.school24.com.au and enter in the School ID as 25162963. Remember that you can top up your account either through a bank transfer or by paying cash at the banking table on a Monday morning in the COLA. Please remember that a bank transfer can take up to 2 working days to process so ensure you top-up in advance of when you need to order.

Special events and our popular Sushi Fridays can only be ordered through the School24 system. So register and top-up now to ensure you are ready to order.

Membership Fees – changes

If you use the online canteen, you will be charged a family membership fee of $2.20 per each term that you use the canteen. The P&C has agreed to cover 50% of the cost to use the system this term, making the fee extremely reasonable.

The P&C has been supporting families for the last 12 months by covering half of the membership fee. Please note however that from Term 2 onwards, families will be required to pay the full fee of $2.20 per term.

If you have any questions regarding the Online Canteen, please contact Jannet at: Canteen.NRPS@gmail.com

Sushi Friday – orders due by Tuesday 11 March 11.55pm
Don’t forget that all online sushi orders are due by Tuesday 11 March at 11.55pm. There is still time to top-up any online accounts to ensure that your child does not miss out.

Sushi Friday – orders due by Tuesday 11 March 11.55pm

Sushi menu items

| Baby sushi: | Cooked tuna (3):          | $1.50     |
| Avocado (3): | $1.50                     |
| Cucumber (3): | $1.50                |

Big sushi roll

| Cooked tuna: | $3.00  |
| Avocado: | $3.00 |
| Cucumber: | $3.00  |
| Chicken schnitzel & cucumber | $3.00 |
| Tuna & cucumber | $3.00 |

Go to the ‘Special Events’ section on the School24 website to order.

Orange & Mango Slushies coming soon! – Stay tuned

Invitation

Come and learn the processes involved in completing the lunch orders as well as learn how to serve in the canteen.

When: Monday 10 March 2014 – 2.30pm
Where: Meet in the canteen
RSVP: by Friday 7 February 2014
jbehutchison@gmail.com or text Julie on 0402 424 556

We hope to see some new faces!
School Band News
With Concert Band rehearsals now chugging along and both Training and Concert Band tutorials in full swing, we at NRPS have a lot to be excited about! It has been a privilege to see children fully engaged in their music lessons with various tutors from Key Music Australia (KMA).

Rachael Tindall takes all clarinet, alto saxophone and flute lessons, Nick Leonard teaches the trombone and euphonium, Tim Hamblin takes students for percussion lessons while NRPS welcomes Scott Watson, who is new to teaching at our school and takes all trumpet lessons. Tutors have given practice requirements and instrument handling instructions to each student. Instrument cleaning and care information will follow soon.

Weekend Band Workshop - Save the date!
A date has been set for the annual Band Workshop to be held on the afternoon of Sunday 6 April. This is a key part of your child's band experience with the afternoon designed to consolidate learning and develop a team approach to making music at NRPS. Any initial enquiries can be addressed to susanblencowe@gmail.com

Thank You
Thanks must go to Shelley Robotham who has overseen a massive stock take of all sheet music owned by North Ryde Public School. It was a huge undertaking and we are very grateful. Our bands have an extensive repertoire!

Rehearsal Times
Concert Band rehearsals - Tuesdays 3.10pm – 4.10pm
Training Band rehearsals - commencing on Tuesday 11 March 8.00am – 9.00am

It has been excellent to know that students are working hard to arrive early and stay back 10 minutes after each rehearsal until all equipment is packed away.

Rental Agreements
If you have opted to rent an instrument this term, please send in the 'Instrument Rental Agreement' that was sent out to families last week. If you have any questions regarding this, please email susanblencowe@gmail.com

Susan Blencowe - Band Coordinator

Playground update
The P&C has commissioned a designer to start working on the concept for our new playground! We can't wait to share more details as the designs progress - watch this space!

Playground help needed
Can you spare an hour on Sunday March 16 - from 2.30pm?

The Joseph family have some lovely sandstone they are generously donating for use in our new school playground. We need helpers to lift the stone blocks and load them into trailers, then unload them at school.

The more helpers we have, the quicker we can get the job done. We imagine it will take an hour or two, but even if you have half an hour to spare, that would be a great help.

Ideally, we need 3 or 4 lifters at school and another 3 or 4 at the Joseph's home (also in North Ryde).

Please let Kat Israel know if you might be able to spare some time to help. KatIsrael@gmail.com or 0420 687 778

Stage 2 teamwork

Uniform Shop
Open every
Monday 2.30-3.30pm
Thursday 8.40-9.30

Skoolbag app
Download our school app now. Just search for North Ryde
Schoolhouse Museum News
Local Sandstone Quarries

Did you know that when North Ryde PS was built in 1877 the area was orchards and farmland and contained several sandstone quarries? The stone footings were quarried locally for the single North Ryde PS schoolroom, now the NSW Schoolhouse Museum.

This advertisement appeared in the Sydney Morning Herald on Saturday 30 November 1878. It advertises a 51 acre farm close to the ‘near new public school’ containing an orchard and ‘a fine grey-stone quarry …. from which the public school stone was quarried’. The location of the farm was bounded by Field of Mars Common, Twin Rd, Quarry Rd and Mrs Folkard’s Farm and was adjacent to the orangeries of Messrs Cox, Hicks, Heard, Benson, Jupp and Allen. (Source: Trove http://trove.nla.gov.au/)

We are holding our first community/parent meeting for 2014 on Wednesday the 5th March and would like to encourage our parents to join us. At the same time as the meeting we will be having an incursion for the children “Travelbugs”. The children are very excited about the visit from the ‘bug lady’. The starting time for the incursion is 4pm and the meeting will be commencing at 4:30pm.

Another first this term is the opportunity for the children to have breakfast or afternoon tea at one of our local cafes. This will be happening on Thursday 6 March. The children are looking forward to going out with their OSHC friends.

We will be making more frequent visits to our community as the year progresses. This gives the children a strong sense of identity within their OSHC and local community.

PS We’re now on Twitter @SchoolhouseMus

Schoolhouse Museum team

Great calendars Year 2

Well done Kindergarten!
Library news
Registrations for the 2014 NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge are now open! A separate note with more detailed information has been sent home today and can also be accessed via the school’s website. The PRC is a great way to support reading at home and to acknowledge your child’s reading efforts at school. The Challenge runs until the end of August.


Fabulous work Year 1

Congratulations Natasha

Natasha competed in the State Athletics Multi Event in Shell Harbour on the weekend. She came 5th out of 57 competitors. Well done, Natasha.

Stage 3 C.A.R.E.S Excursion

On Tuesday 25 we were lucky enough to visit the C.A.R.E.S road and bike safety centre in St Ives. Here we met two senior constables who taught us about road rules, bike safety, riding a bike and how to look after our bike and biking equipment. We completed a variety of obstacle courses and even had a chance to compete in a ‘slow race’. In the final part of our day we had the opportunity to ride on a mock road. On the road there were traffic lights, road signs, pedestrian crossings and even a roundabout. We all had an amazing time.
Homework help
Do you struggle to understand your child's homework? Does your child need to practise their spelling and times tables? Are you looking for inspiration for projects and assignments?
The free School A to Z app has been created by the Department of Education and Communities to help parents and their school-aged children, wherever and whenever they have homework and study questions.

Homework and multi-tasking
Somewhere along the line we seemed to have absorbed the idea that teenagers can multi-task perfectly because they're digital natives. Can kids really do their homework and multi-task?

When lunch comes home again – uneaten
Almost nine out of 10 Australian parents say children's resistance is a major obstacle in their efforts to provide a healthy diet, and in many cases school lunches are one of the battlegrounds.
But it's a battle families can do without and there are some simple steps to help avoid it.

Help with English
Does your child need help with spelling or writing? Here are some resources that may help.

Maths
Struggling to remember everything you learnt in maths? If you need a refresher course, here are some tips and tools to help you to help your child.

Community news

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Languages class at North Ryde Public School
Are you interested in your child learning another language? We already offer LCF Mandarin classes after school. Now there is the opportunity to learn French, Spanish, Italian or German. If you are interested, contact s.eliezer@lcflclubs.com.au ASAP.

If there is enough interest lessons will start this term

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The Children’s House Montessori School
Open Day
Saturday 8th March 2014
10am to 2pm
109 Cressy Road
North Ryde
02 9885 0400
Ryde Secondary College will be conducting College tours throughout the year as follows:

- Wednesday 19th March  3.30pm
- Wednesday 21st May  9.00am
- Wednesday 18th June  3.30pm
- Wednesday 20th August  9.00am
- Wednesday 17th September  3.30pm
- Wednesday 15th October  9.00am
- Wednesday 19th November  3.30pm

Tours run for approximately an hour and a half starting from the school office. Enter via Malvina Street gate and follow the path to the office.

Please phone 9809 4894 to book. Also please advise the office if you need to cancel your booking.

Parents/Guardians and children are welcome.