**Principal’s Message**

**Teacher Aides Leaving**
It will be a very sad day for Richie tomorrow. Due to circumstances outside the control of Education Queensland and the school, we have to release 6 of our teacher aides. These amazing ladies have been the key to our improved attendance, schoolwide reading, A-E data and NAPLAN results while also providing extra support for students with disabilities in our school. With these aides now gone, parent support will be paramount if we are to continue to get the outstanding results we have been getting over the past 3 years. Our departing aides will surely be missed by the Richie community and we all thank you for your dedication to improving the education of all students at Richie.

**School Changes**
Due to the departure of some of our teacher aides please be aware of the following.
- Reading Groups and the Levelled Literacy Intervention program will continue.
- Prep classes will continue to have teacher aide support.
- Students with Disabilities will continue to be supported.

**New Librarian**
Due to the reduction in teacher aides at Richie, the school has had to employ a teacher (Mr Crow) to work in the library for 3 days a week taking over duties from Mrs Clark who has done a fantastic job in the library for many, many years. Thank you Mrs Clark for your tireless effort to make our Library such a valuable resource.

**Day 8**
Day 8 numbers for 2016 are 365. This has meant the school is now funding over 1.5 teacher wages to keep all year levels as straight classes in 2016. It is hoped the school community supports this initiative to get better outcomes for our students.

**Mr Turner on Leave**
As of next Monday, Mr Turner from 5T will be on leave for 2-3 weeks. Mr Turner will be replaced by Miss Casey for the duration of the leave. I am sure 5T parents will make Miss Casey feel very welcome.

**Parent/Teacher Meet and Greet**
Many thanks to the families that came to the Parent/Teacher ‘Meet and Greet’ last week. We appreciated your support for this important activity. Parents who did not attend should have by now received from their children a pamphlet/information sheet outlining what occurs in your child’s classroom.

**Snakes at School**
Richie has had a number of snakes spotted and removed over the past fortnight. Please remind your children to stay well away when they see a snake, tell others to stay away and tell an adult of its location.

**WEEKLY SCHOOL WIDE BEHAVIOUR FOCUS:** (Week 3-4)

- **I AM RESPECTFUL** - When playing games I must respect the decision of team when enforcing rules.
- **I AM SAFE** - I must keep my hands to myself (no touching, taking others hats, no barging)
- **I AM A LEARNER** - Reading every night will improve my reading level
School Leader Induction
Many thanks to the parents who supported the school induction last Friday. It really meant a lot to the leaders.

Parent/Teacher Contact
By now all teachers should have attempted to contact all parents in regards to their children’s progress for the first few weeks of school. Please contact admin if you have not had contact with your classroom teacher yet as we encourage effective regular contact between parents and teachers to support student learning at Richmond Hill State School.

Netball and Rugby League start.
Good luck to our netballers and rugby league players who start the interschool competition tomorrow. All students participating should have already had an agreement signed by their parent/guardian and returned to Mr Miller. Failure of the student to abide by this agreement will mean they will not be able to participate in Friday afternoon sport for that week.

Use of Adventure Playgrounds at Richie
Just a reminder to parents that due to Workplace, Health and Safety issues, all adventure playgrounds at Richie are not to be used by any students between 8am and 9am as well as between 3pm and 4pm.

Learning Support Plans
In the coming weeks, teachers will be contacting parents of students who require learning support plans. These plans outline areas that the teacher will focus on in Literacy and/or Numeracy for this semester. Parents are advised to meet with teacher to understand the support plan and work with the teacher in improving their child’s educational outcomes. Please note that not all students need to have a learning support plan.

Indigenous Support Meeting
Many thanks to the parents who attended the Indigenous support meeting earlier this week. It was great to see your support and we appreciated your contributions to discussion about how Richie can further assist indigenous student education and attendance.

Home reading At Richie
This year home reading is completed on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights. All parents should be assisting the school by sharing the reading experience with your child, especially in the lower school. With the reduction in teacher aide numbers, it is even more vital for all parents to assist in home reading tasks. The completion of home reading tasks also has a bearing on whether a student can attend the gotcha parties at the end of the term too. Please make sure you sign off after each nights reading. With your nightly help, your child will improve their reading.

P&C Meeting Tonight
The P&C is having a general meeting tonight at 6pm at the school staffroom in the office area. All parents will have the opportunity to find out a little more about our P&C, what it does to assist the school and how you can help the school by becoming a member. Hope to see you there.

Breakfast Club
Just a reminder to all parents that the breakfast club operates every day from 8am – 8:25am. This program is free of charge to all students.

Have a great fortnight everyone!
Mark Brady

SCHOOL DAY ATTENDANCE
WEEKLY AWARD
1st Place: Year 4 98%
2nd Place: Year 3 97%
3rd Place: Prep 96%
Congratulations students, this attendance is tremendous!

EVERY DAY COUNTS AT RICHIE HILL
**2016 SCHOOL PRIORITIES** Mathematics, Differentiation, Reading, Writing.

‘KNOW THE CURRICULUM-KNOW THE STUDENT-VARY THE PATHWAY’

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**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL BRIEF**

Miss Lisa Pitt

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**POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR EXPECTED AT RICHIE HILL**

I am safe, I am a learner and I am respectful.

So far in Term 1 staff have distributed 1220 Gotchas-catching students doing the right thing in their classroom learning, work with teacher-aides and teachers and playtime interactions with peers.

Students not playing by the rules and positive choices parents will have received a phone call to support expectations and staff and their child to build habits to be successful as a learner.

*Please do not hesitate to call and discuss a matter if it rises and we are not aware of it as a school team. “TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE MORE”*

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**TUCKSHOP VOLUNTEERS**

URGENTLY NEEDED IN 2016

If you have 1 hr or 2hrs to spare come along and lend a hand in preparing food items for our school tuckshop.

PHONE: Carol Lamb on 47 873856

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**SCHOOL DAY ATTENDANCE**

Richie Hill Target

EVERY WEEK Is 95%

Most classes on are on target some classes slipped on Wednesdays & Fridays.

“EVERY DAY COUNTS”

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**EARN & LEARN ITEMS**

Readers and Math items selected to be used by students in classrooms—Thank You!

A collection of Readers

Multimedia stereo jackbox and headphone Sets

Sorting Sets…..Tangrams in a jar

Animals, Fruit, Transport, Sea Creature Counter Containers

Mini Bells

Recording microphones

Year 5 and Year 3 students check out some of the items below
LEADERSHIP THOUGHTS SHARED AT STUDENT INVESTITURE

“Do unto others as you would have others do unto you.”

**COMMUNICATION** everyone is given two ears 1 mouth so you need to listen twice as much as you speak (Listen before you talk)

**COLLABORATE/TEAM WORK** - work with others-not on your own share the load (together is better)

**NEGOTIATE** - the art of give and take (find ways to help others)

**PLANNING** - breaking a task into bits or chunks to get it done (have a plan)

**VISION** - if you see the outcome clearly you will more likely achieve it

**PERSISTENCE/DETERMINATION** - encourage when things go wrong do not give up-say to yourself pick yourself up dust yourself off and try again

Leaders are readers - Kids who read yearn to learn!
A lunchtime activity (first lunch only)

**WHO:** Year 1-Year 5

**WHERE:** LIBRARY

**TIME:** 11.15-11.45

**DAYS:** TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY-FRIDAY

**CLUB MANAGER:** Miss Lisa Pitt

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**RICHIE HILL CHESS & DRAUGHTS CLUB**

A lunchtime activity

(first lunch)

**WHO:** Year 1-Year 6

**WHERE:** Library

**TIME:** 11.15-11.45

**DAY:** every day of the week

**CLUB MANAGER/SUPERVISOR:** Staff on duty in Library

**Club Membership forms** for Lego and Chess/Draughts

Clubs collect from office sign & return.
Hello everyone,

As I visit the classrooms, I am delighted and amazed how each child is treasured as individuals by our amazing staff at Richie Hill. The dedication and care towards every aspect of our wonderful children is inspiring. I see the commitment, the extra time and resources added to create a comprehensive learning experience. The 100 extra things that pop up in any given day that our compassionate team address so patiently. Another great year at Richie Hill!

With these blistering hot days we are experiencing, look for early nights, lots of water and shade when playing outside. This week we will restart our Uno club outside of our great tuckshop and our library is another fun place to enjoy. I look at our diligent Lollypop team out there in the worst of it and think they are heroes! Thank you Lollypop ladies! Have an adventurous week, try something totally new! Love and God bless, Chappy Lydia.

2016 SCHOOL BANKING PROGRAM

School Banking is every Tuesday. Parents who would like their children to participate in school banking but whose children don’t have a savings account should call in to the Commonwealth Bank branch. The School Banking Program rewards children who demonstrate good savings behaviour through the Rewards Program. Richmond Hill P & C receives commission for each account opened as well as commission based on the amount of banking children are doing. If you would like to know more, please pick up an information package at the school office.

VOLUNTEERS

Here at Richie Hill we encourage parent volunteers in the classroom. If parents are volunteering in their child’s classroom they do not need a Blue Card check however if working in another area/classroom in the school a Blue Card check is required. Volunteer forms for Blue Card checks are available from the office. It is a yearly requirement that the school has a copy of your current blue Card if you are working in another classroom. New volunteers need to collect a Volunteers Policy from the office and return the necessary forms and a copy of blue card if applicable, to the school office. Existing volunteers will also need to complete a new Volunteer Agreement form each year.

2016 SWIMMING PROGRAM

Invoices and permission notes were sent home this week for Year 1 & 2 students to participate in the 2016 Swimming program.

Please return these notes, along with payment, to the school office by Monday 22nd February.

Unfortunately, those who do not return both permission forms and money will be unable to participate.

Gold City School of Dancing
Established 1986
Principal: Joanne Roche

New Enrolments for 2016
Classes available: RAD Classical Ballet, ADA Tap and Jazz
All enquiries phone 4787 1330
Classes re-commence Tuesday, 2 February
For the convenience of our school community, school photos can be ordered and paid for online using a secure online platform. Orders placed online DO NOT require an envelope, cash/cheques or paperwork returned to school.

Envelope Orders: photos can also be purchased in the traditional manner using an envelope, with cash/cheque enclosed.

The preference of our school is that orders and payments be made online, as this reduces the administration and associated security issues related to the return of cash & envelopes on photo day.

To place your order visit [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au) and enter the code- JCF CZP MLY. This code can also be found printed on your envelope. Please be aware that-

Sibling/Family Photos can be ordered online or via envelope. To ensure a smoothly run photo day, online orders for Sibling/Family Photos will be cut off at 12.00 a.m. the night before our photo day to allow a list of students that require Sibling/Family Photographs taken to be compiled. Sibling photos can still be ordered after the online cut off date by collecting an envelope from the office and returning the envelope on photo day with your payment enclosed.

All online orders should be placed on or before our day of photography.

The online code above may also be used to order sports and other group photos.

All orders placed online will be delivered to the school for collection

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**4S News**

**Water Bottles**

Due to the hot weather students are drinking a lot of water. Parents are asked to send a water bottle with their child to school so they always have water on hand. Students are encouraged to fill it up before school and at each lunch break.

**Homework**

In order to attend the Gotcha party at the end of term all students need to complete 90% of their homework throughout the term. Be aware that some students have already not completed homework two weeks in a row, they will be unable to attend unless they complete this work.

**Lunch Boxes**

Due to having 54 students using one fridge for lunches please be sure that your child brings an appropriate sized lunch box. As they are stored in the fridge they do not need to be of the insulated variety. It would be appreciated if each lunch box could be clearly named on the outside to avoid confusion.

**Home Reading**

Many students have chosen increasing home reading in their term goals. This is wonderful that they realise extra practise will assist them in reaching their reading goals. I look forward to seeing all students regularly reading at home during the term.
Voluntary Financial Contribution
Information Sheet

Each State school is resourced by the State Government through appropriation funding to provide a core educational service to students. Voluntary financial contributions are used by schools to provide an enhanced educational service and to enhance resources available for student learning, recreation and comfort.

Operating Statement
The costs of providing instruction, administration and facilities for the education of students at the school are met by the State Government for students enrolled at the school who are Australian citizens or permanent residents, or the children of Australian citizens or permanent residents.

The school is resourced by the State Government through school appropriation funding to provide a core educational service.

Section 56 of the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 provides that the Principal may ask the parents of a student of the school to make a voluntary financial contribution to supplement government funding for instruction, administration and facilities for the education of the student at the school. If the student is an adult, the principal may ask the student to make a voluntary financial contribution.

Voluntary financial contributions are used by the school to provide an enhanced educational service and to enhance resources available for student learning, recreation and comfort.

A voluntary financial contribution is not a fee. Debt recovery action will not be undertaken by the school for non-payment of all or part of a request for a voluntary financial contribution.

A voluntary financial contribution is separate from a Student Resource Scheme that might operate in the school.

While the request to parents may indicate a nominated amount, the financial contribution to the school is voluntary, and there is no obligation on a parent to make all or part of the contribution.

To enable an informed decision to be made by the parent, the request for a voluntary contribution should indicate how the funds will be used by the school.

The school and the parents share decision-making and responsibility for the operation of the voluntary financial contribution funds. The amount of the requested contribution and the operation of the voluntary contributions are endorsed by the Parents and Citizens’ Association annually.

The voluntary financial contribution funds may be managed by the school or the Parents and Citizens’ Association, but not by a third party.

The voluntary financial contribution is not to be a deterrent for a student enrolling at the school, participating in extra-curricular activities or undertaking a particular subject.

Where a parent decides not to make a voluntary financial contribution, instruction, administration and facilities for the education of the student at the school will continue to be provided by the school, and the student will suffer no educational detriment by way of school action as a result of the decision.

For any payment by cash, cheque or credit/debit card, a receipt will be issued.

At Richmond Hill State School we ask for a voluntary financial contribution of $40 for Prep students and a Technology Levy of $30 for other students. Payment is accepted at the school office by cash, eftpos or cheque.
HPE is in full swing now at Richie Hill. The senior grades are well into their skill development phase, in readiness for ‘Tchoukball’ and ‘Newcombe’. While the lower grades have been busily working on ‘Gross Motor Skills’.

All students are studying personal safety in Health as we work through the “Daniel Morcombe Safety Unit”. The three R’s are a major focus. RECOGNISE, REACT and REPORT. All parents are encouraged to have a chat with their children and discuss safety procedures around the household, including a list of people they can talk to if they feel unsafe.

We have begun our Walk Around Australia challenge and it is very exciting to see so many parents choosing to join their children each morning. In just two weeks, we have managed to walk nearly 500km. To put that into perspective, that’s all the way to Townsville, then onto Proserpine. Walk Around Australia is be held every morning, Monday to Friday from 8:00am till 8:30am. Why not come along and join your child.

The grade 1 and grade 2 swimming program will begin next Thursday and continue for 4 weeks. Any parents/helpers who are able to assist our instructors with supervision in the water, please indicate times available when you return your child’s permission slip.

The “Richie Rashers” netball team started of with a bang last week, winning both of their matches. Well done girls, keep up the great work! The “Richie Rhinos” rugby league team are keen to have their first match this week after a skills session last week, led by the district selectors.

Lastly, a huge congratulations to Kathryn Squair who was recently selected in the North Queensland squad for swimming. She will travel all the way to Chandler in Brisbane and compete in five different events, after recently slashing a massive 5 seconds off her Personal Best time in Breaststroke. We wish her all the best.

That’s all for now folks. Stay fit and active.

Mr Miller
HPE Teacher.

Hello from 6B

Wow, the weeks are flying past and we have all been working especially hard on our learning. English has been very exciting as we’re writing a letter home from Gallipoli, so we’ve looked at the conditions, some of the wounds that the men suffered, as well as asking ourselves, how did they survive? Ms Bush has super clever letter writers in our class and most of us are up to typing up and handing in the letter so then we can begin the next step in our learning, deciding on a position about war, whether we support or don’t support it. Once we’ve decided on our position, we can then begin to create a PowerPoint to show our thoughts. Federation was a busy time for Australia and we now know that the Father of Federation was Sir Henry Parkes and we’ve written some diary entries to show his achievements along the journey. We’re just starting to look at the rights and changes in the status of women in the 20th century too, and yesterday we learnt about some inspirational women. Every one of us has the potential to achieve to great heights. Great to see most of us are completing our homework plus nightly reading. We all know how important our nightly reading is.

Thank you to those parents who were able to make the Meet and Greet last week, it was fabulous to meet you and for those who were unable to attend, every student was sent home with the brochure the next day, outlining what we are up to this term.

Have an enjoyable remainder of the term,

From all of us in 6B.
Over the last two weeks the students have been learning how to write a persuasive text. They have learnt a specific structure and about high modality words. Ask your child about the reasons that we developed for banning homework! Everyone had an opinion on that topic!!

In Maths, we have learnt about rounding numbers and estimated distances all around the world. The students have found the perimeter of shapes in the classroom and at home and are now learning how to calculate area. We have also had a look at metric and imperial measurements.

All students have began constructing their 3D paper mache mask. The mask will represent an animal that your child believes they have the same characteristics as. I wonder if you can pick what animal your child has chosen? Below are a few examples.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animal</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kookaburra</td>
<td>I laugh a lot like they do</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duck</td>
<td>I have a big mouth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rooster</td>
<td>They make a lot of noise like me</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kangaroo</td>
<td>I jump around a lot (sporty)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parrot</td>
<td>I talk a lot</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reminders:

- Library borrowing is Tuesday. All students are expected to borrow and require a library bag. Please ensure that your child has one.
- Healthy snacks are allowed each morning.
- Each child is encouraged to have a water bottle inside the classroom.
- Reading logs need to be signed nightly.

If you have any queries, please come and see me or send me an email rcrow45@eq.edu.au

Hello from 4K!

We’re into week four already and things are starting to get really interesting!

The students are really enjoying the Twits by Roald Dahl and getting into writing interesting noun and verb groups to describe the characters and their unusual behaviours! We will shortly begin writing our own chapters.

The Spelling Mastery unit has become a hit and the students really enjoy the lessons and I have to say that there has been a very positive response to the Think Mentals program as well with very clear and explicit teaching and understanding of a range of mental arithmetic strategies. As I tell the students, this is the maths that you do every day!

Mud pies and rocks. Yes, it must be Science time! We have started looking at the processes of weathering that occur in our environment and this week we have witnessed the weathering of mud pies by shaking them in plastic containers. The students have learnt that over time, weathering is more pronounced. Next, we learn all about erosion and how these two processes have shaped our environment.

Mr Kitchen.
This week in History we have been looking at early Australia after 1800 and the reasons why penal colonies and free settlements were established. We also have been looking into the sinister past of such places as Port Arthur in Tasmania and Pinchgut Island (Fort Denison) in Sydney Harbour.

In English, we have been investigating persuasive and narrative genre structure. In Maths we have been solving the area and perimeter of rectangles, understanding place value and comparing large numbers to real life places and events. School sport has started and several children from 5T had their first game last Friday – all thoroughly enjoyed themselves and eagerly told me of how well they played.

Year 5H

It’s been a busy first couple of weeks in 5H. We’ve hit the ground running and are excited to be learning about the structures of Narratives and Persuasive Arguments. We’re revising lots of hands-on and mental strategies in Mathematics. In Science, we’ve been investigating natural environments including Deserts and Rainforest and students in year 5 have been excited to learn about adaptations in these environments. As you can imagine, we’re exhausted already!

Thank you, parents and caregivers, for getting started on home reading so quickly. It is fantastic to see so many students so enthusiastic about reading each night (to reach their reading goals for this term). Please ensure that you are signing off on your child’s reading each night so that you child can receive his/her reading certificate on parade.

As a reminder can you please ensure your child is bringing their water bottle to school each day, as it is extremely hot and this will cut down the amount of time students will need to leave the class during learning time...

Until next time....

Miss Ham
What a frantic start to the term... we are already doing assessment items in most subjects. The students are working hard in English, writing letters from the perspective of an ANZAC in the trenches at Gallipoli. Our History is well under way also, with some students doing extra research at play time and at home on the topic of Sir Henry Parkes (The Father of Federation).

In Science we are investigating the effect of heating and cooling on different materials. Our goal is to find out if all changes to materials can be reversed. We are going to attempt to do the experiments in class, but with a very short term some of them might have to be done at home. If that is the case I will provide less homework that week.

Please come in, email or ring me if you have any questions or concerns about your child or the work we are doing. Also feel free to drop in for an informal chat after school just to catch up on current events.

Mr Peter Chinn.

Administration of medication to students during school hours

Education Queensland’s policy regarding medication is as follows -

a. Only medication prescribed by a medical practitioner may be administered. This means that no naturopathic or “over the counter” lines such as Panadol or cough medicine may be given by a staff member. Instructions indicating specific times and the quantity of medication to be administered are to be written on the medication container by the pharmacist—ALL medication should come to school in the original prescription container.

b. Should medication, as described above, be required to be administered at school, a WRITTEN request is required. Specific medication forms are available from the office and are to be completed before medication can be administered by staff. This request is valid for one week. For those students requiring daily medication, a specific written request at the beginning of each year will be sufficient.

A record is kept of each administration of medication for the protection of the students and the school.
Parade Awards