



ROSEWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

Vol. 3 | Week 7 | Term 1
7 March 2023

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Already, we are halfway through the term. Things have been quite busy with lots happening inside and outside the classroom.

The **Rose Room** has seen the Kindergarten students learning many new sounds and settling very well into big school routine. Both girls are using beautiful manners and have become 'part of the family'. Year 2 students are doing very well learning a new Literacy reading and writing program. The 'big kids in the class' are displaying themselves as excellent role models for their classmates and both have taken on this responsibility very well.

The **Wood Room** is also extremely busy. In Geography, they are learning about natural features E.g., Uluru, Blue Mountains. In Writing, they are studying the book 'Indiana Bones'. Number patterns, place value and addition/subtraction strategies are being learned in Mathematics. During Science, they are discovering living things, learning about life cycles and needs.

Term One Sport is Soccer. All students participate in sports lessons with Mr Bell and **PDHPE** is focusing on safety and wellbeing.

Highlands Swimming Carnival - well done to Cooper who swam second in his heat of the

IMPORTANT DATES

TERM 1

School Photo Day
Tuesday 14 March

P&C Meeting @ Rosewood Golf Club
Wednesday 15 February, 6:00pm

Harmony Day @ Khancoban PS
Monday 20 March

National Ride2School Day
Friday 24 March

ALPSS Athletics Carnival
Thursday 30 March

ANZAC Day Service
Wednesday 5 April

Last day of Term 1
Thursday 6 April

10yo boys 50m freestyle at gundagai last week.

Cooking with Mrs T - cooking lessons are always enjoyed by the students and I commend those students who step out of their comfort zones by trying new things. Sometimes they may not like something but other times they are pleasantly surprised by how good some things taste. We are very grateful for Mrs Turner who volunteers every Thursday to teach cooking to the students. How lucky are we? So far this year the students have made crumpets, blueberry sauce and muffins, chicken nuggets and tuna pasta salad.

Clean Up Australia Day - students and staff did their bit by cleaning up around Rosewood Memorial Park and the Rail Trail. Mr Bell said that approximately half of the rubbish collected was recyclable so the students reduced the amount of landfill rubbish as well.

School Photos - photos will be taken next week on Tuesday 14 March. students are required to wear clean school uniform with white socks and black shoes (dark shoes if not black). All students will have an individual photo taken, regardless if parents order a package. A whole school photo will be taken so please ensure students attend so they do not miss out. Sibling photos (enrolled students only) will also be taken for those who have ordered.

ALPSS Athletics Carnival - all students will be attending and participating in the carnival. Humula Parents and extended family are invited to come along and cheer. If you'd like to volunteer to assist with timekeeping, please contact the school. Humula P&C will be catering and order forms will go home soon.

Bullying No Way! - this has now been rescheduled to later in the year.

Harmony Day @ Khancoban Public School - more information to go home soon.

National Ride2School Day is the perfect opportunity to kick-start new healthy habits and promote the many benefits of active travel. We encourage all students and their families to leave the car at home and give riding, walking, scooting or skating to school a go. Staff members will be meeting with students and riding from a few locations around Rosewood back to school. Notes indicating where your child/ren will be meeting staff is due back. Mr Bell will also be conducting some bike activities at school during the day. These activities are always very popular and enjoyed by the students. Please ensure students have a helmet and suitable shoes for riding, even if not riding to school in the morning.

ANZAC Day Service - we will be holding a service at Rosewood Memorial Park on Wednesday 5 April. The service will be followed by a morning tea at the school. We hope parents and community members are able to attend.

New Flooring - during the school holidays, we will be having new carpet and lino laid in the main building and the library. The school will have a fresh new look for Term 2.

Cameron Bremner
Principal

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

After a student has had an absence, an explanation must be received by the school upon their return to school. Explanations must be given. Explanations given verbally by the child are not accepted. This can be by a written note, a phone call or private message to a staff member on Messenger.

It is a legal and Departmental requirement for schools to follow up on unexplained absences. We appreciate your quick response.

If no reasonable explanation is received, the absence will be considered '*unjustified*'.

LATE ARRIVALS

Please be reminded that parents must sign their child/ren in at the office if they arrive late or leave early (even if it is 5 only minutes). If it is of a confidential manner, this explanation may be given to a staff member and '*explained to XXXX*' written into the partial absence register. If you can't attend the office with your child, please follow their drop off with a phone call or message.



Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to...



Learn



Make friends



Build skills through fun



education.nsw.gov.au

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...	they miss weeks per year	and years over their school life
1 day per fortnight 	= 4 weeks 	= Over 1 year missed
1 day per week 	= 8 weeks 	= Over 2.5 years missed

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Compulsory School Attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.





If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.

My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a *Compulsory Schooling Order*. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to [complete their schooling.](#)

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's *Policy library*

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's *Wellbeing and Learning* website

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 512

www.dec.nsw.gov.au

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