



# NEWSLETTER

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## SICKBAY LINEN

(3:30pm) **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March**    **Michelle Marsh**  
 (3:30pm) **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March**    **Allison Esmonde**

## DIARY DATES

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March**    **Last Day of Term 1!**  
**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March**    **Casual Dress**  
**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March**    **Be You Survey Closes**  
**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April**    **First day of Term 2!**  
**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May**    **School Photo Day**



## Principal's Report

### Coping during the current COVID-19 crisis

The last few weeks have been particularly challenging for our students, staff and families with the coronavirus outbreak causing uncertainty, nervousness and lots of confusion for many of us. As a school, we're trying really hard to keep families informed of the most recent advice coming from the Department of Education and of the measures we are taking to minimise risks within our community. Like everyone, we're doing our best to manage our way through a really difficult situation. We are talking with our students about the virus in kid-friendly terms and encouraging good hygiene practices throughout the day. In order to support us to minimise risk, can we please ask parents to consider the amount of time spent at school during pick-up and drop-off times and to observe the recommended social-distancing advice where possible. If possible, please try to avoid visits to the classroom and/or office. Tiana and Shelby are always here to take your calls and messages can be left for class teachers at any time. As you're probably aware, we have also cancelled all assemblies for the rest of term and our end of term hat parade will not be taking place. Although we're working hard to ease worry and anxiety amongst our students, we also need to make sure we're doing everything in our control to prevent possible exposures. It's important to note that we have had no indication that anyone within our school community has had an exposure to the virus.

For families that are choosing to self-isolate and not send their children to school, we are making available information and resources to help you continue with at-home learning. This will be provided via Compass tomorrow. This includes suggested schedule for a work-at-home school day, suggested activities, resources and free online learning platforms available for families. Along with this at-home learning pack, most of our information is being provided via Compass, so please make sure that you are accessing the platform if you are not already doing so. Shelby can help you with login credentials if required. If you are choosing to keep your child at home, please record the absence on Compass as 'parent choice' and include a note 'COVID-19' in the details/comment field. Our teachers are not in a position to provide individual work packs for students who are not currently attending, as we are all working hard to maintain current learning and teaching programs for the majority of students who are still attending school.

We really do appreciate all of the support and understanding from our families as we work together to maintain as much 'normalness' as possible at school. There is only six more days of school left until the holidays, so we're close to the finish line of Term 1. What happens during and after the school holidays is anyone's guess at this point, but as always, I will keep you up to date with any new information or advice coming from the Department.

### **Cross Country**

We had a great day down at Tirhatuan Park on Friday at our cross country and fun run event. The weather was fantastic and the kids gave their best effort out on the course. Congratulations to the runners who qualified for the district event. With sporting events, amongst other things, up in the air with the current coronavirus pandemic, we will notify parents when the district event is scheduled to take place.

I would like to thank Mr Campbell for his hard work in the lead up to the event and to the many parents who worked hard to ensure the day ran smoothly and was a big success.

**Julian Growcott**  
**Principal**



## Be You

### Big Life Journal – Parent & Carer Resources

Thank you to Susie Beal for providing information on some resources you may find valuable.

*If you are struggling to find the words to your child's comment "I'm not good at maths" or what shows will make it into Tech Time over the weekend and nearing holidays or you're just looking for some extra growth mindset help at home, take a look at Big Life Journal.*

*Big Life Journal create engaging resources that help kids ages 4+ to develop resilient, growth mindsets so they can face life's challenges with confidence. For parents, it provides you with free weekly printable resources to teach important life skills and reinforce the learning your children already do in the classroom to develop a growth mindset.*

<http://www.biglifejournal.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/biglifejournal/>

<https://www.instagram.com/BigLifeJournal/>



### Assembly Aspirations

A big thank you to Kelly Beal in Grade 5 who presented our first Assembly Aspirations. Kelly shared with our Rosewood Downs School community her love of animals, caring for them and her long term goal to become a vet. Assembly Aspirations is part of our Student Voice initiative and a great way for us to learn more about one another. We look forward to Assembly Aspirations each week. A big thank you to Paul from Lunchiez who is donating a free Lunchiez order to each week's Assembly Aspirations presenter.

### Neighbourhood House

Sharon, from Dandenong Neighbourhood House, has advised us that all Neighbourhood House events have been cancelled until further notice. Despite our challenging times, Sharon is working from home and staying connected with our Rosewood Downs Community. Sharon has set herself and our community a project for the coming months...

### 'A Rosewood Downs Recipe Collection'

Sharon's vision is for families to select their favourite recipe and their 'story' that goes with the recipe. A photograph may also be included. Your contribution may be sent to Sharon at:

[projects@dandenongnh.org.au](mailto:projects@dandenongnh.org.au)

The always positive Sharon is looking forward to a big Neighbourhood House celebration where our Rosewood Downs Community can join together to cook and share their delicious food.

### Neighbourhood House Help

Once again Sharon is looking after our Rosewood Downs Community. If you, or know someone, in need of a little extra support Neighbourhood House has Care Packs available. Please see Julian or Deborah if a little extra support is required.

We have also collected some basic supplies, from our Hall kitchen, that have been donated by our school community for Neighbourhood House events. If you are out of flour, gluten free flour, cake mixes, sugar, butter or eggs please see Julian, Deborah or Shelby at the Office and we may be able to help out. Once supermarket shelves start filling up again you may like to drop off a donation to replace our Neighbourhood House supplies. Thanks.

Take care and stay safe.

### Be You Action Team



## Office News

### School Photo Day – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May

School Photos are to take place on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May following the school holidays. This year our school photos will be taken and produced by The School Photographer. Further information will be provided at the start of next term.

### Parent/Student Information Update

To ensure that our records are correct and up to date, Student Enrolment Information Forms have been sent home today with each student. Please thoroughly check the details on these forms, update where necessary and return it to the school office as soon as possible. These forms must be returned regardless of whether any updates are required. If you have any questions regarding this process please contact the office.

## Assembly Aspirations

Kelly Beal (5T)

Proudly Sponsored by:

**Lunchiez**

## Student of the Week

Congratulations to the following students who won this award for showing **Integrity**

Unit A	Mayer Halliwell	Unit B	Leen Marji
Unit C	Olivia Fletcher	Unit D	Elena Trakilovic

Congratulations to the following students who won this award for displaying **Honesty and Trustworthiness**

Unit A	Nikiforos Maragos	Unit B	Hadden Marsh
Unit C	Dev Walia	Unit D	Ellie Dunstan

## Music Awards

PC	Vardan Kosakyan	2S	Matthew Luckfiel
3W	Mingqi Duan	6PB	Charli Paterson
1HP	Amelie Lalut	1PT	Zayd Elali
3T	Lorik Krasniqi	5T	Erfan Akbari

Anita Chan

Music Co-Ordinator

## Sports Awards

There have been no sport awards.

Lindsay Campbell

Sport Coordinator



## Sport News

### Greater Dandenong Division Swimming Trials – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March

Well done to the six students who represented our school at the Division Swimming trials. Thank you to the students and their parents for being available to attend the competition on our curriculum day.

#### 9/10 year olds

Andrea Ivezic	50m Freestyle (2nd)
	Breaststroke (1st)
Hadden Marsh	50m Freestyle (2nd)
	Breaststroke (1st)

#### 11 year olds

Margita Putnikovic	50m Freestyle (2nd)
	Breaststroke (3rd)
Jack Sheedy	50m Freestyle (1st)
	Breaststroke (1st)

#### 12 year olds

Maria Milkovic	50m Backstroke (4th)
	Breaststroke (3rd)
Rad Putnikovic	50m Freestyle (4th)
	Breaststroke (3rd)

#### Open Age

Mixed 4x50m Freestyle Relay (1 <sup>st</sup> )	Andrea Hadden, Jack Maria
Mixed 4x50m Medley Relay (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	Maria (Backstroke) Andrea (Breaststroke) Jack (Butterfly) Hadden (Freestyle)

Congratulations to all of our team for their great effort at the trials!

### House Cross Country and Fun Run at Tirhatuan Park (Kriegel Way) – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March

Thank you to all of the students, staff and families who attended our Cross Country and Fun Run event. We had a great day of competition with everyone having a fun time. The PFA did a great job with the BBQ lunch and there were lots of extra staff and parents helping out with jobs throughout the event.

Congratulations to all of the students who competed and earned points for their House team.

The final results are:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Yarra – 313
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Rubicon – 283
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Goulburn – 249
4 <sup>th</sup>	Barwon – 223

The students who finished in the top 8 spots in each of the age level Cross Country races (Grades 3-6) automatically qualify for the school team. School Sport Victoria has postponed all sporting events until further notice. We will keep everyone updated with more information about a rescheduled date for the District and Division events.

**Lindsay Campbell**  
Sport Coordinator

## JSC

### Harmony Week (16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> March)

Rosewood Downs Primary School children are celebrating Harmony Week this week. It is a time when we celebrate Australia's cultural diversity. Harmony Week is about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone.

Students have done a presentation at assembly, playing indigenous games and class sharing activities to showcase cultures, traditions and backgrounds. Each child decorates their own 'body' in a way that represents either themselves or their cultural background. All the displayed bodies will stick around the hall all holding hands to mark the end of Harmony Week. Parents and friends are most welcome to see the display on Friday assembly in the hall.



**Anita Chan & Lindsay Campbell**  
JSC Coordinators

**Mia Todisco**  
Student Voice Coordinator

## The Green Team

On Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March, RDPS will be joining other schools to switch off their lights for Earth Hour 2020. All lights in all classes will be turned off for one hour from 2:30pm until 3:30pm. We are participating in Earth hour because we want to protect the planet for future generations and support stronger action on climate change.

A way that you could prevent wasteful usage of energy at home would be to turn the lights off when you leave a room.

On behalf of the GREEN TEAM, thank you.  
Written by Paarth (5/6 F) and Lincoln (5T)

**Jo Ford, Mary Chan and Caitlyn Watkins**  
Sustainability Co-Ordinators



## School Banking

### Notice from CommBank School Banking

The health, safety and wellbeing of our communities and our people is our first priority. Due to the rapidly developing situation with coronavirus, School Banking has been temporarily paused from 20 March 2020 until the start of Term 2. Please don't bring your deposit book with your weekly banking into school and we will notify you when banking will recommence.

*Happy Banking.*

**Rachel Cunningham**  
School Banking Coordinator

**Unit A**

The end of Term 1 is rapidly approaching and the Unit A teaching team are delighted with the way our students have settled into their classes and are working enthusiastically. The goal setting interviews enabled the children to set realistic goals to work towards in the weeks ahead.

The Prep students have quickly become part of the RDPS community and this was particularly evident at the Fun Run. The children put in a fantastic effort and enjoyed getting into the spirit of the House competition.

We were very proud of the determination and resilience shown by all of the Unit A students who participated in the event.

This week is Harmony week and we have been embracing the diversity within our community. The children have been encouraged to share aspects of themselves that are very individual, whilst also discussing the similarities between us.

The students are continuing to change their readers each day and the teachers appreciate the comments in reading journals that show us how the children are reading with you, and to you. A consistent approach to reading at home is vital to your children's progress.

Reading bags will be kept at school during the holidays as this avoids bags being misplaced and not returned to school at the beginning of Term 2.

Even though we are sometimes presented with conflicting information in regard to COVID - 19, the consistent advice is that good hygiene is critical. The children are constantly reminded of the importance of washing their hands and using hand sanitizer where available. This is always good practice and we are sure you will reinforce this at home. Remember, as the song goes, 'We are all in this together.'

Even though these are difficult times, we hope that all our students and families stay safe and enjoy the school holiday break. We hope that school will resume as normal next term and we look forward to seeing all our students back ready for a fresh start.

**Unit A Team,**

**Mary Chan (Prep C), Linda Harrison (Prep H), Maddy Hartmann (1HP), Carly Pinwill (1HP), Carolyn Kropf (Aide) & Sandra Stephens (Aide)**

**Unit C**

This term has flown by! It was great to see all students participating in the House Cross Country last Friday.

Unfortunately our excursion to the Melbourne Museum this week was cancelled, we are hoping to go later in the year. We are really enjoying our STEM and Environmental Studies rotations in Unit C. It's great to see all of our students working together, especially during Harmony Week.

If any families with spare egg cartons could send them to school it would be greatly appreciated, our chickens are laying lots of eggs at the moment!

We'd like to wish everyone a happy and safe Easter school holidays and we are looking forward to lots more learning and fun in Term 2!

**Unit C Team,**

**Kristy Telford (3T), Emilie Wilson (3W), Gail Fitzpatrick (3/4F) & Caitlyn Watkins (4W)**

**Unit D**

Wow! We can't believe how quickly this term has flown by with school holidays just around the corner! The students have had a jam packed first term, from our 'Be you' Kaboom sports day, to our recent Fun run. We are so impressed with the hard work and positive attitudes our students in Unit D have displayed throughout the term.

The grade twos continue to investigate place, space and interconnection with a particular focus on special places and connections for Indigenous people. They have been exploring different dreamtime stories and how they linked to specific places. This week, students will also be presenting their Think Plus posters. These have been made while working in teams, demonstrating their understanding of neurons and the way they fire and wire chemical connections in our brains.

The grade ones have made a start on Narrative writing, and have been discussing and demonstrating their story writing skills. They have also been exploring the different seasons, and the effects each season brings to their lives and to the external environment.

Stay safe and have a lovely break. We look forward to seeing you in term 2!

Unit D Team,

Terrie Palmer-Tanner (1PT), Karen Woodhouse (2W), Natalie Semercioglu (2S), Carolyn Kroft (Aide), Cheree Parsons (Aide) & Leah Gambetta (Aide)



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**MONDAY 6TH APRIL 2020**

Rowville Secondary College East Campus  
Humphreys Way, Rowville

**TIME 9:30AM - 2:30PM**

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