

Russell Lea
PUBLIC SCHOOL



Newsletter

Term 1 Week 8 Friday 19 March 2021

Important Dates

Please refer to our website calendar for a full list of 2021 school dates

March 26

Harmony Day

March 26

Harmony Day

April 1

Last day Term 1

Easter Hat Parade

School Improvement Plan

This year our school will commence another school improvement cycle. Our improvement will be guided by a new school plan which will be published at the end of the Term. The focus of this plan is student achievement through improved data evaluation and teaching and learning strategies. These improvements will be supported by improved leadership capability and parent engagement around evidence based practice.

The new plan has been drafted to reflect the implications of the Situational Analysis completed in term 4 last year and the expectations of the School Excellence Framework. These documents explain best practice for all schools and what our data is telling us about our local context. We are also guided by another key document published by the Department of Education: *What works best*. This document describes the strategies and practices which the Department of Education has identified as having the biggest impact on student learning. You can access a summary paper here:

<https://www.cese.nsw.gov.au//images/stories/PDF/What-works-best-2020-update.pdf>

Throughout the improvement cycle we will communicate our progress to the school community and the implications for future development. The plan will be published on our school web page.

Dan Sprange
Principal

Character Strengths

At RLPS we use a positive psychology approach with students. Ms Abdulkhalek and Mrs Stewart-Slaats introduced our school to these ideas in 2019 and since that time we have been helping students to understand and focus the strengths which will give them the most opportunity to succeed. The approach is based on internationally recognized research by Martin Seligman who describes positive psychology as “the scientific study of human strengths and virtues.” His work identified 24 distinct character strengths which are common across cultures, age groups and genders. Our students are familiar with these strengths and all learning spaces have visual displays of each strength. The concrete columns which hold each floor of our school up are also covered with visuals of each character strength. These columns display the attributes of each character strength and socially as well as physically hold our school community together.

As students grow and become familiar with character strengths they learn to identify and develop their unique talents. When you exercise your strengths on a regular basis you do well and this brings positive emotion and belief in oneself. Students with well developed understanding of their strengths are more resilient and are able to maintain positive relationships with others. Students at RLPS also recognise that everyone has different but worthy strengths. This allows all students to feel valued and work hard to be their best self.

Early Stage 1 has been working in class and during Library time on the character strengths of Kindness and Self-regulation (self-control). Quality literature is used to help bring each strength to life. Students learn the behaviors that are associated with each strength as the characters in each book interact and the story unfolds. This term enhanced understanding of kindness and self-regulation through reading has ultimately helped students to be more successful with friendships and in their management of conflict or negative emotions. One of the books featured is “Have You Filled A Bucket Today?” This book encourages positive relationships as students learn how nice it feels to fill someone’s *emotional bucket*. When they express kindness, appreciation and love on a daily basis they feel good too. Our students know that behaviours such as sharing, smiling, loving, helping, complimenting and respecting can “fill” someone’s bucket. The artwork below captures some lovely bucket filling by Kindergarten.



RLPS Skiing

Are you interested in watching your child ski with the first RLPS ski team? One of our families is looking to put a team together for the NSW Interschool Ski Competition. Please email the school if you are interested. Find out more here:

<https://www.interschools.com.au/home-nsw-act-qld-sa/online-entry/>



Hockey Representatives

Recently Sienna Josh Joshi-Kraus, Charlotte and Elizabeth Allan were selected to train with the Inner West Representative Hockey Squad of 33 players.

Charlotte and Elizabeth were lucky enough to be selected to play in the two representative teams.

All three of them had a great experience training and learning as part of the development squad. Charlotte and Elizabeth will compete in their first representative Gala day in a few weeks.

Well done girls.



Like Us On FaceBook

RLPS now has a FaceBook page. To find us use the link below or simply do a search to find us. Like our page to keep up to date with school activities, events and information to support student learning. You can also follow our Twitter feed @russellleaps

<https://www.facebook.com/OfficialRussellLeaPublicSchool>

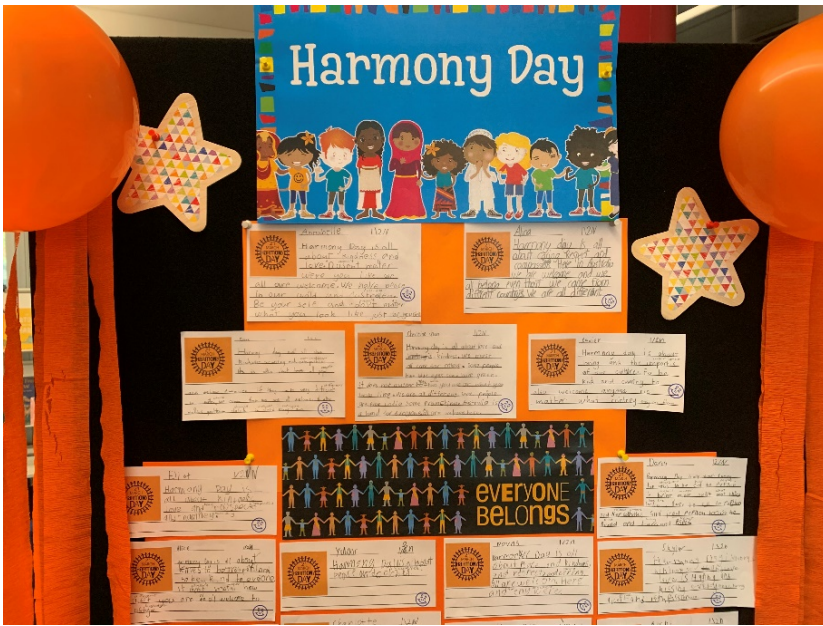
Zone Swimming Success

Our swimmers continue to shine with their high performance and positive attitude. The senior girls relay won the Zone 200m relay event by almost three seconds with a time of 2.34.85. They went on to place 7th at the District event improving their time by three seconds. Well done Elizabeth, Jessica, Willow and Charlotte. Skye also claimed first place at Zone with her swim in the 50m freestyle.



Harmony Day In The Library

Students have been enjoying quality literature during Library sessions this week in order to assist with their understanding of Harmony Day. Harmony Day is celebrated and acknowledged on the 21st March every year. Through literature, students have been able to gain an understanding, that no matter who we are, what we look like or what our differences, “we are all welcome here” and “everyone belongs.” We will be celebrating on Friday 26th March by wearing **orange** to support cultural diversity and an inclusive Australia.



Kids Holiday Club at Drummoyne Baptist Church



Who?	Children in Primary School
When?	Wednesday, 7th April 9:20am to 3:20pm
Cost?	\$10 per Child

Register by 4th April 2021
drummoynebaptist.org.au/ministries/kids

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS DRAMA WORKSHOP

Kindergarten
up to
Year 7

DRAMA MAKING

Separated into
age groups
for Drama
games, craft,
improvisation,
kept
with
friends.



**PLAY
THE
DRAMA
WAY
FOR
A DAY**



Wednesday

14 APRIL

BEFORE CARE

7.30am - 9.00am

WORKSHOP

9.00am - 4.00pm

AFTER CARE

4.00pm - 6.00pm



Taverners Hill
Infants School
PETERSHAM

COSTS

\$75 WORKSHOP

\$10 BEFORE CARE

\$15 AFTER CARE

FREE



Simply REDEEM
NSW Creative
Kids Voucher



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www.dramascene.com.au

Ask Steph Waites Questions: 0407 235 914 Home in the Inner West since 2003