



Russell Lea
PUBLIC SCHOOL



Newsletter

Term 3 Week 10 Friday 27 September 2024

Important Dates

Please refer to our website calendar for a full list of 2023 school dates

<https://russelllea-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/russell-lea-public-school-calendar.html>

September 27
Last day of Term 3

October 14
First day of Term 3

October 25
World Teachers Day

November 1
Halloween Disco

November 12
P&C Meeting

November 19
Stage 2 Excursion



300 Inspiring Steps

On Thursday Indi walked 300 steps with the entire school cheering her on. She always inspires us with her courage, humour and tenacity and this was especially the case yesterday. Indi and her family are a much-treasured part of the community and their experience with education at RLPS is example of everything that makes our school a great place to be. The enthusiasm for Indi's success and joy at completing the walk was heartwarming. A proud moment for Indi and our school.

Dan Sprange
Principal

September

Congratulations to everyone who took part in Steptember. As well as cheering Indi on with her walk across the playground students participated in many high movement activities. A large group had a go at the Beep Test with Mr Diaz and after many exhausting runs Harry Culpan-Hammon was the last student standing. Congratulations to Olive and Eve for registering the most steps on the day. The RLPS community raised almost \$1000 online and \$390 via gold coin donations. If you wish to contribute further please consider donating directly via the link below:

<https://www.september.org.au/fundraisers/russellleapublicschool>



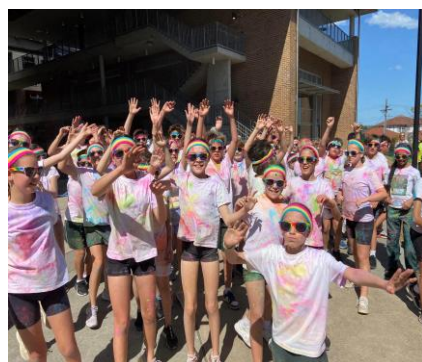
Band Concert

Our band impressed on Wednesday night at our annual band concert. The Training Band, Intermediate Band and Extension Band performed, with each demonstrating amazing growth in their skills. It is clear from their stage presence that each band member enjoys performing and does so with great confidence. Events like this one demonstrate how important it is to give children the opportunity to commit time to extra-curricular activities which build belief in themselves and positive identity over time.

Colour Run

Last week students participated in a Colour Run. They ran a course within the school that included various obstacles and colour stations. As you can see from the photos it was hard to avoid the colour or the fun that went with it. Thank you to all the parents who volunteered on the day. A huge shout out to Sonja Screpis who put the entire event together and made it special for students. If you haven't completed your sponsorship there is still time.

<https://www.rips-pandc.com/rips-school-colour-explosion-2024>

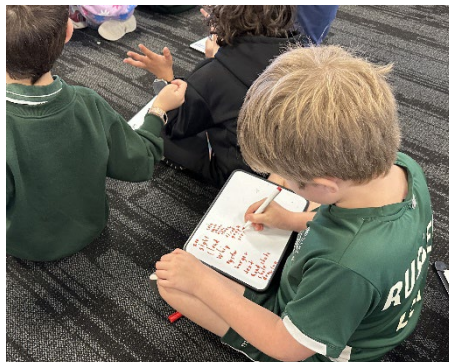


Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

Phonics is the main way in which children at Russell Lea Public School are taught to read in their earliest years. It is a method for learning reading and spelling through the decoding of the alphabetic language. Phonics, taught in a structured way, is the most effective way to teach reading and spelling. At RLPS, learners are taught reading and spelling, using an explicit, systematic phonics lesson, daily throughout the week. Each session follows a structured and progressive format. These take the form of explicit teacher led sessions that are complimented with individual practice using books, games and activities. Teachers assess student understanding throughout each session and routinely assess knowledge of graphemes and the application of this knowledge in reading and spelling, to see whether the learner is ready to move on to the next phase of their learning.

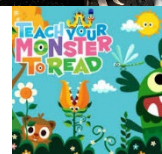
Over the last few years, K-2 teachers have undertaken a considerable amount of professional development to improve their understanding of phonics and their capacity to enhance student outcomes through their teaching and assessing. As a result of this, RLPS has once again achieved results that are significantly higher than the expected state average (usually around 55%) in the mandated Year 1 Phonics Screening Check, and results that have once again improved upon our own personal best. Well done Year 1 students. May you all enjoy the lifetime of reading ahead of you.

Area	2022 Result	2023 Result	2024 Result
Fluent (green)	83.33%	88.7%	93%
Score over 32	79.16%	80.6%	84.05%
Full Score	19%	8.1%	19.72%
Developing (yellow)	11%	9.7%	5.6%
Needs Additional Support (red)	6%	1.6%	1.4%
Mean Average Mark	34.04	34.4	35.71



HOW TO SUPPORT AT HOME?

- Practise segmenting and blending
- Encourage decoding of unfamiliar words when reading
- Support your child to complete their phonics homework
- Practise new sounds and graphemes
- Practice reading and spelling High Frequency Words
- Use Decodable Readers to explicitly practice application of phonics knowledge
- Read to and with your child everyday



Don't forget to log on to the Apps to complete further phonics practice at home.

External Validation

External validation is a comprehensive review process undertaken by all public schools in NSW. It involves an external panel assessing our school's performance, practices, and achievements against set standards. This process aims to ensure that we are meeting educational goals and providing the best possible learning environment for our students, whilst holding schools accountable for their performance and ensuring that we are delivering quality education to all students.

We are pleased to share that our recent internal assessments indicated strong student performance across various subjects, and our evaluation against the set standards showed great growth since our last External Validation. Our dedicated teachers and staff have worked diligently to implement effective teaching strategies, and the positive feedback from our students and parents reflects our commitment to excellence. These results were further validated during the external review where we were able to highlight our achievements and areas of strength.

We are now beginning to formally identify areas for further improvement as we create our new school Strategic Improvement Plan for 2025-2028. As part of this we will be engaging in thorough consultation with our school community.

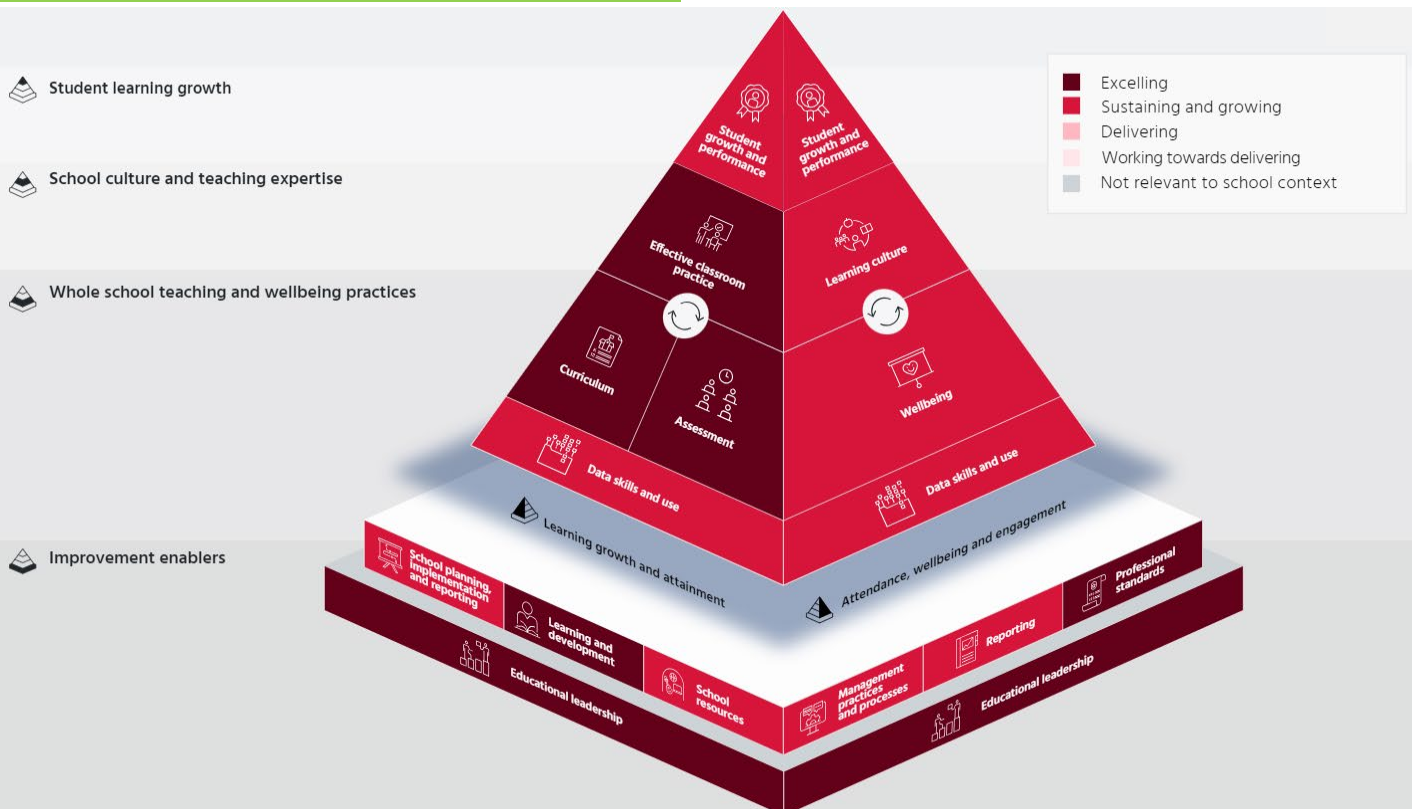
Your involvement is vital to our success! Here are a few ways you can participate:

- **Share Your Feedback:** We encourage you to provide feedback about your experiences at our school. This input will be invaluable during the self-assessment phase. We will tell you more about how you can do this in Term 4.
- **Participate in Discussions:** Attend school meetings and forums where we will discuss our goals and plans. Your perspective is important!
- **Stay Informed:** Keep an eye on future newsletters and announcements regarding the process. We will share updates and outcomes with you.

We are excited about the opportunity that the creation of a new Strategic Improvement Plan presents for our school. By participating in this process, we can further enhance the quality of education we provide and ensure our students thrive in a supportive learning environment.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to our school community.

2024 External Validation Assessment



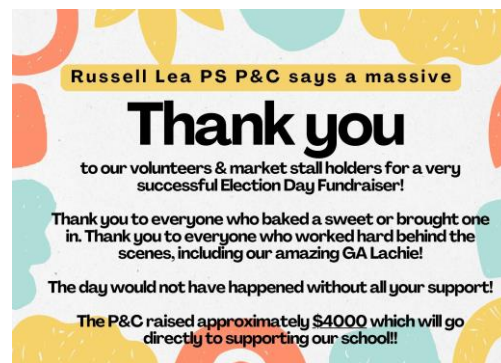
Stage 2 Excursion

Stage 2 had great time experiencing nature at Wattamolla in the Royal National Park. Many ideas from the classroom were brought to life with this excursion. Thank you to everyone who supported students on the day, especially Ms Fordham who organised the event. One of our students was inspired by the scenery and captured it beautifully with the landscape shots you see below. Well done Jimmy.



Election Day Fund Raising

Thank you to everyone who helped make our Election Day activities so successful. We had many parents help out and generously donate their time. Special thanks to Ting, Jemma and those who ran the cake stall and BBQ all day. Choosing the best stall was very difficult for Mr Sprange. Congratulations to Eydi and Khanyisa who were awarded best stall. Their stall was beautifully presented and they had friendly service and a great mix of items including books, toys, snacks, drinks, plants and jewellery. Special mention to those who were selling their own artwork and jewellery. Lucia had beautiful artworks, the Stewart brothers self published books and Maddie, Olivia and Camille had home made jewellery. The Loom Brothers were impressive with their custom designs; as were William, James and Markus with their 3D Printed toys.



Congratulations to Mr Sprange's Number 1 Market Stall! Eydi& Khanyisa



Friendly service, great mix of items including books, toys, snacks, drinks, plants and jewellery, all presented beautifully.

Special mention to those who were selling their own artwork and jewellery. The Loom Brothers were impressive with their custom designs; and William, James and Markus with their 3D Printed toys.







Russell Lea PS P&C says a massive

Thank you

**to our volunteers & market stall holders for a
very successful Election Day Fundraiser!**

**The day would not have happened without all
your support!**

**The P&C raised approximately \$4000 which will
go directly to supporting our school!!**








Weldon Children's Services






Vacation Care Program – RUSSELL LEA OOSH

SEP-OCT
2024

The program Opens 7am – Closes 6pm
Excursions depart at 9am unless otherwise noted below
EARLY BIRD RATE CLOSES – TUE 17th SEP, 10am – Rate will then increase by \$10
ALL BOOKINGS CLOSE – TUE 24th SEP, 10am



Mon 30 th SEP	Tue 1 st OCT	Wed 2 nd OCT	Thu 3 rd OCT	Fri 4 th OCT
WATER FUN DAY	SUPERBOWL & PIZZA	NATURE CANVAS PAINTING	TRU NINJA WARRIOR	PARTY DISCO & SLIME DAY
				
Join us for a day full of water games, sprinkler fun and cool activities to keep everyone refreshed and entertained. We'll have water balloon tossing and slip'n'slide down our water slide. Don't forget to bring spare clothes and a towel!	Come and enjoy a fun day! Challenge yourself to bowl the perfect ten-pin bowling game, who can get that illusive strike! And after all the fun, enjoy a delicious lunch of Italian Woodfired Pizza at the bowling alley!	Gain inspiration from the beauty of nature and express yourselves artistically on canvas! The children will hone their painting skills while connecting with the natural world all around us to create their own magical piece of artwork!	Race your friends at this amazing obstacle adventure park!! Test your strength, balance and skills as you navigate the foam pits, warped wall and jump into the stunt man airbag! The children will love running the Tru Ninja Warrior course!	Get Grooving to your favourite songs that you can dance and sing along to at Weldon's greatest Disco Party! Children will enjoy a fun and energetic day involving different art and craft activities and make colourful Slime.
Fee: \$79	Fee: \$105	Fee: \$89	Fee: \$105	Fee: \$79
What to bring: Wide brimmed hat, closed in shoes and a water bottle are required. NB: Bring spare clothes if the weather is predicting showers or rain.	Arrive at program: 9:30am What to bring: Weldon T-Shirt, wide brimmed hat, closed in shoes and a water bottle are required. NB: Bring spare clothes if the weather is predicting showers or rain.	What to bring: Wide brimmed hat, closed in shoes and a water bottle are required. NB: Bring spare clothes if the weather is predicting showers or rain.	Arrive at program: 8:30am What to bring: Weldon T-Shirt, wide brimmed hat, closed in shoes and a water bottle are required. NB: Bring spare clothes if the weather is predicting showers or rain.	What to bring: Wide brimmed hat, closed in shoes and a water bottle are required. NB: Bring spare clothes if the weather is predicting showers or rain.

Mon 7 th OCT	Tue 8 th OCT	Wed 9 th OCT	Thu 10 th OCT	Fri 11 th OCT
PUBLIC HOLIDAY PROGRAM CLOSED	CRAFT EXTRAVAGANZA	LASERWARRIOR	SCG TOUR & GAMES	PJ, TRIVIA & MOVIE DAY
				
	<p>Come along and participate in a craft extravaganza! The children work as a team to create a large piece of artwork that we'll display in our OOSH office for all the families to see! They'll also enjoy other creative and fun craft activities!</p>	<p>A LaserWarriors day is a blast for all! Develop your fitness, gross coordination and agility while having fun. Enjoy the strategy and teamwork to win objective oriented games such as Capture the Flag, King of the Hill or the FortNite style game, Battle Royale!</p>	<p>Through the twists and turns of this iconic ground, the kids will feel like sports stars as they walk the path of sporting champions! They'll get a high commentator's view from the media centre, visit the changerooms, and take part in fun sporting activities and games in the warm-up rooms!</p>	<p>Come dressed in your favourite pyjamas and participate in a group trivia contest! Be creative and come up with a name for your team and then celebrate your win by choosing a movie to watch!</p>
	Fee: \$79	Fee: \$89	Fee: \$105	Fee: \$79
	<p>What to bring: Wide brimmed hat, closed in shoes and a water bottle are required.</p> <p>NB: Bring spare clothes if the weather is predicting showers or rain.</p>	<p>What to bring: Wide brimmed hat, closed in shoes and a water bottle are required.</p> <p>NB: Bring spare clothes if the weather is predicting showers or rain.</p>	<p>AFTERNOON EXCURSION 1.00PM-2:30PM Back at program by 3:30pm</p> <p>What to bring: Weldon T-Shirt, wide brimmed hat, closed in shoes and a water bottle are required. NB: Bring spare clothes if the weather is predicting showers or rain.</p>	<p>What to bring: Wide brimmed hat, closed in shoes and a water bottle are required.</p> <p>NB: Bring spare clothes if the weather is predicting showers or rain.</p>

Book today via your OWNA App or Portal –

For enquiries or additional information, contact the program Director on rlmcs@weldon.com.au | 0437 769 929.
Weldon Head Office 8741 0500 | email info@weldon.com.au



RUSSELL LEA P.S. DRAMA SCENE

Celebrating 4 years of Drama Scene @ R.L.P.S.

TRY A **FREE** DRAMA CLASS

Themed Drama Games - Improvising - Play Making

KINDERGARTEN - Year 1 - Year 2
Year 3 - Year 4

Wednesdays @ Lunch Time

IN THE P.A. CLASSROOM

TERM 4

starts

23 OCTOBER



dramascene.com.au

REGISTRATION - WhatsApp Steph 0407 235 914



The Russell Lea kids from the 40s and 50s are going back to school.

11th of October is the day when former students will be getting together,
some for the first time since leaving 2nd class.

3 months ago, some of us met in the museum
of the new Russell Lea School.

It was great to share memories of the wonderful school days and reminisce
about the milk and the good times too.

If you are interested, phone Keith Rowe on 02 9713 9038
or email keith.rowe4@gmail.com

Morning tea will be provided, bring your old photos,
and some lunch, make a day of it.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS!



playful



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- * **Superheroes & Ninjas**
- * **Learn to Code with LEGO® Robotics**
- * **Wizards & Witchcraft** (inspired by *Harry Potter*!)
- * **Mining & Crafting** (inspired by MineCraft™!)
- * **Remote Control Mania**
- * **Pocket Brick Monsters** (inspired by Pokémon™!)
- * **And MORE!**

Leichhardt Creativity Centre plus Pop-Up Venues across the Inner West (See Website for details)



BOOK NOW!

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Step into Volunteering

Ever thought about volunteering and didn't know how to take the next step?

The best way to find out more is to come along to our free information sessions and learn about:

What is volunteering?

Why volunteer & the benefits of volunteering

What types of positions are available?

Are there links between volunteering and gain employment?

What statutory checks may be required

How to connect with local services

When: Thursday

Date: 24 October 2024

Time: 10.00am – 12.00pm

Venue: Woodstock
Community Centre, 22
Church Street, Burwood

FREE

Registration is essential.

Book online at <https://bit.ly/4dpdw9Y>

Enquires contact:

**Burwood Council's Volunteer Program on 9911 9855
or volunteering@burwood.nsw.gov.au for assistance.**

Funded by the the Australian Department of Health and Aged Care



Burwood
Inc.1874



Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or WeChat
www.burwood.nsw.gov.au



The Lab Network (<https://thelab.org.au/>) is a group of not-for-profit technology clubs for young people on the autism spectrum. They provide a welcoming space where participants can explore their own technology interests at their own pace in a safe social environment, with help from mentors. The Lab aims to support participants to develop important skills, gain confidence, and pursue their passions. While The Lab is not NDIS registered, many Lab participants use their NDIS plans to pay for Lab sessions.

What We Do in Lab sessions

At each weekly two-hour Lab session, two technology professionals work individually with between 10 and 15 young people to develop their social and technology skills. Participants can share their interests in a wide variety of activities such as gaming together, video creation, graphic design, coding and game development. Mentors are available during Lab sessions to support activities or to work with participants on new projects of interest to them. We've found that some of the most useful things first learned by participants during Lab sessions are social and personal skills. The Lab is about technology skills too, but typically the coding and design skills come a little later once participants have settled in. This can take a little time and one of the essential aspects of The Lab is that kids find their own place and in their own time. At most Labs, participants will need to bring their own laptops or devices.

Our Approach to Lab Sessions

The Lab takes an unstructured approach so every session can be different. Participants undertake activities because it interests them, not because they have to. These interests drive the direction and type of activities; like learning a particular IT programs, or just mixing with others who share similar interests in games. The Lab is designed to be a cool and accepting place to visit, hang out and learn while having fun. This approach is deliberately unlike a classroom and is based on the experience with thousands of young people. Hence, there is no expectation of specific learning outcomes or guarantees of participants' engagement. The Lab may not suit everyone, with the best gauge of engagement is whether or not the participant is keen to continue. We have found that much informal learning occurs within platforms such as computer games – but this is not always obvious to others. If you are not sure what your child is doing when they use technology, or you have any concerns, please ask the mentors.

The Role of the Mentor

The mentor's role is to support participants technology and skill development experience during Lab sessions and to foster a fun and positive environment. Mentors are there to assist young people to share their interests, to develop new skills and to have fun whenever possible. Mentors have a wide range of experience with video games, games development, coding or digital media in a variety of areas. Lab mentors are computer programmers or designers with mentoring skills. They are committed, caring people, often with personal experience of autism and considerable computing experience. You'll find few behavioural issues in a Lab session and mentors are not expected to be teachers, disciplinarians or therapists. The Lab provides technical computer mentoring and support only.

Registration

You must register your child through The Lab Network and select the appropriate location. You will then be contacted with further information and details: <https://thelab.org.au/>

The Lab Five Dock

The Lab Five Dock is specifically catered for ages 10–13 years to help build foundational skills, with mentors supporting participants in gaming, coding and 3D printing. We offer a welcoming atmosphere for social development, alongside a vibrant mix of technology and fun! All sessions are run at Five Dock Library on Monday afternoons from 3:30pm to 5:30pm for 9-weeks during school terms. Parents are required to stay in the library space where there are workspaces and free WiFi.

- As these participants are younger, there are sign-in and out sheets for every session.
- We ask all parents and carers to stay in Five Dock Library for behavioural management and safety purposes, and also request their contact number, in case they are needed urgently.
- Written permission must be delivered to a mentor or Lab organiser, prior to the end of session, that the child will leave unaccompanied.
- Parents and carers are to inform The Lab about any medications, allergies, behavioural issues or additional needs that may need to be considered or managed, which is completed when purchasing tickets for our documentation.
- Timers, visual displays, and verbal reminders will be demonstrated to set routine and structure.
- Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) is required for The Lab Five Dock.

The Lab Rhodes

The Lab Rhodes is designed for ages 13–16 years with a focus on technical and creative skills, supported by professionals in coding, digital design, gaming, 3D printing and more. We offer a welcoming space to encourage social growth in a secure and supportive environment. All sessions are run at The Learning Space, Rhodes on Thursday afternoons from 3:30pm to 5:30pm during school term. Parents and carers are welcomed to stay in the library space where there are workspaces and free WiFi.

- As these participants are older, there are no sign-in and out sheets.
- We ask all parents and carers to be nearby and request their contact number, in case they are needed urgently.
- For new families, parents and carers are requested to stay at The Learning Space during your child's session for behavioural management and safety purposes, for at least one term.
- Parents and carers are given the option, when purchasing tickets, to allow their child to arrive and leave the venue without their supervision. This is considered written permission to The Lab.
- Parents and carers are to inform The Lab about any medications, allergies, behavioural issues or additional needs that may need to be considered or managed, which is requested when purchasing tickets for our documentation.