



Russell Lea
PUBLIC SCHOOL



Newsletter

Term 2 Week 6 Friday 7 June 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>

June 12
Kindergarten Excursion

June 20
In The Spotlight Dance

June 21
P&C Trivia Night

June 25
In The Spotlight Dance

June 26
Public Speaking Final

July 5
Last day Term 2

July 23
First day Term 3



A Great Place To Read

Our library has always been a wonderful sanctuary for all the keen readers in our school and last week it received a beautiful improvement. A much-anticipated artwork created by Ms Parisi was unveiled to the delight of students, teachers and parents. Ms Parisi was commissioned by our P&C to create the work and the final result has exceeded our high expectations. The work depicts a student riding (a very friendly looking) dragon through a sky filled with floating books. The books reflect many of the character strengths that combine to build strong and healthy wellbeing. It has been a pleasure to witness students talking about the work with comments such as “that is me on the dragon” and “it feels like you are in the sky”. We know this artwork will endure and help students celebrate the joy of reading for years to come. Congratulations to Ms Parisi and thank you to our P&C for generously funding this project.

Dan Sprange
Principal

Zone Cross Country

As noted in the last newsletter our Cross Country team dedicated several lunchtimes to training for the Zone event. Their hard work paid off with extraordinary individual efforts and courageous team work resulting in RLPS winning the Zone Cross Country Championship proportional shield, and the Boys Championship shield for the second year running. Congratulations to all our Zone runners for working so hard and achieving your best. A special thank you to the teachers from Abbotsford PS who hosted the event, the RLPS teachers who supported and to Linda Moxham for the expert training.



Library Leaders

Our Library Leaders have been formally appointed to their positions. As well as demonstrating a love of books and reading each student has dedicated their own time to helping other students connect with the library. We know their leadership will make a positive difference to our library and students. Congratulations.



Kindergarten Leadership

The students of KL have taken responsibility for improving our playground. They have planted a garden bed and are working hard to ensure other students also nurture it. They created signs and have ensured the plants have a good chance at growing strong. Thank you for greening our playground KL and for working so hard to ensure everyone understands the importance of caring for our local environment.



The Prime Minister Visits

Last Friday the Prime Minister was visiting a local home in Russell Lea. As this home is across the road from the school Mr Sprange and Bella took the opportunity to say hello. The Prime Minister mentioned a new family was moving into the house so Mr Sprange and Bella provided him with an enrolment pack for the family and told him about our wonderful school. Bella represented the school with great aplomb and was excited to share the news of her impromptu meeting with the big boss. Well done Bella.



2024 Athletics Carnival

There was lots of amazing jumping, throwing and running effort on display at our annual Athletics Carnival. Our House Captains also rose to the occasion and injected great enthusiasm into the atmosphere for each final and relay race. Congratulations to everyone who had a go and tried their best. Thank you to Ms Stannizo for putting the event together and to all our generous volunteer helpers. We look forward to the zone event in Term 3.



Reading At Home

Last week, we completed an audit of our home reading materials to ensure that students are bringing home the best quality texts we have. You will now see more consistency in the brand of book that your child brings home. When reading these texts, engage in discussions about the story's content, ask questions, discuss the meaning of new vocabulary, make predictions, anything that helps them develop their comprehension skills. The books we selected all have key teaching notes and comprehension questions that parents may utilise at home to support discussion. Should your child have difficulty reading some of the words in these texts, please support them to sound out the word if appropriate for their reading ability, or provide the word to them, as opposed to encouraging them to guess or look at the pictures. Please note that you may also begin to see increased variation in the levels that your child is coming home with. This is due to our move away from a levelled system, with greater focus on selecting texts for students that are relevant to their reading stage of development.

As well as these books, the teachers will be sending home an increasing number of decodable readers so that children can continue to practice the decoding skills that they are learning at school. Reading these books at home with your child is an essential aspect of their learning journey and development as a reader. You can gauge your child's progress by observing their ability to confidently sound out words and read with increasing fluency. If your child gets stuck on a word, encourage them to sound out the individual letter sounds to see if they can blend the sounds together. This aligns with the decoding strategy we're emphasising. However, if they're still struggling, it's perfectly fine to provide the word to keep the reading experience positive and enjoyable.

The purpose of increasing our focus on decodable readers is to help build a strong foundation for reading. The reading material we introduce to students initially, shapes their reading habits. Decodable books help children rely on their knowledge of letter-sound relationships, which is crucial for becoming skilled readers. We want to support children to develop a "reading reflex," where children naturally use their phonics knowledge as their first reading strategy. This leads to more confident and independent reading.

Students in Stage 2 and 3 now also have access to home readers. If your child is in one of these stages, please contact your child's teacher if you wish for them to bring these books home.

We hope that this slight change is a positive step in your child's reading journey. When supporting reading at home, please remember to make sure your child's book comes back to school each day. Thank you for your support in helping your child become a successful and confident reader.

Levelled



Decodable



More information regarding our teaching and assessing of reading will be made available to parents in Term 3, along with helpful information on how you can support your child further at home.

Russell Lea Telegraph

Brought to you by R LPP

The latest issue of our
student newspaper.

\$1 Million Dollar Fish

By Casper Crothers 10/5/24

A top end fisherman caught a late night barramundi which has made him the first person to win the biggest prize in the Northern Territory's annual Million Dollar Fish competition. Keegan Payne, a 19-year-old male from the rural Northern Territory town of Katherine, snagged the \$1 million barramundi bounty early on the 28th of April, while out fishing with mates and his sister on the Katherine River.

Anzac Day

By Casper Crothers 10/5/24

On the 25th of April, 1915, the Australian and New Zealand soldiers in those forces became known as ANZACs. Anzac Day is a day to commemorate the day Australian and New Zealand troops landed on the beaches of Gallipoli, Turkey on 25 April in 1915. It's a day where we remember those men and women who fought for our freedom, by going to the pub with mates, eating some ANZAC cookies, and for the adults they share a beverage and enjoy some 2 up.

Mothers Day

By Max Moretti 10/5/24

In the past week and a half, all of the students have been creating portraits of their mothers for the mothers day morning tea today. The mothers could have a small variety of food and drink, but the

pictures were endless. You could take the picture home if you paid a 1 \$ gold coin donation. The only reason it was today is because mothers day is on Sunday and could not be hosted then, so I wish all of the Mums a Happy Mothers day.

Cure For Tasmanian Devil

By Luca Montrone 17/5/24

A new vaccine could be rolled out to prevent Tasmanian devils from getting Devil Facial Tumour Disease (DFTD).

Scientists from the Menzies Institute for Medical Research said they were working on a bait vaccine that, if successful, could help protect the marsupials from the deadly disease in as little as four years.

However Devil Facial Tumour Disease is a parasitic cancer that causes tumours to grow on the face of Tassie devils. The tumours get in the way of feeding, sadly causing the animals to starve to death. The Menzies Institute estimates the number of Tassie devils across Tasmania has declined by about 50 per cent due to the disease, with populations affected in 65 percent of the state.

Solar Eclipse

By Cooper Field and Oliver Batersby 17/5/24

On April 8th 2024, a total solar eclipse happened, every 18 months it occurs making the sky completely black. A total solar eclipse lasts about 10 seconds to about 7 and a half minutes. In approximately 144 years the longest solar eclipse will occur with it lasting 7 minutes plus. Total solar eclipses are especially rarer because roughly 70% of all eclipses are not total. That truly makes them a one in a lifetime experience.

Selective School Test

By Ewan Stewart 17/5/24

Selective school, the test that can determine peoples high school lives incredibly. The selective school tests are the second hardest test to participate in besides the H.S.C in Australian schools. Participants study gruellingly to be able to even stand a chance and not only that but if you get less than 80% in every you won't even get considered for selective. However in the rare case that no-one gets the 80% threshold they will consider some students for selective. When you start to apply you choose three schools, first, second and third, then each school will hand pick which students they accept and which they reject or put on the waiting list, in case an accepted student chooses to reject their position. The participants are all waiting till the schools give their answer.

Mini Planet Parade

By Cooper Field and Oliver Batersby 17/5/24

A planet parade is when all the planets of the solar system line up in a straight line. These occur roughly every thirty years but strangely there is one happening on June 3 2024 when the last one was in 2022. Even though it's a planet parade it's not really a proper planet parade because it only includes 6 planets and it doesn't include earth. Still, it's very cool that lots of planets line up perfectly!

Library Leaders

By Raphael Mestric 24/5/24

On Thursday Week 3 the 10 library leaders got selected. But first, what is a library leader? Well a Library Leader is a new leadership role that was announced last term and the people who got it were announced recently. A library leader is someone who helps out with the school library and other events. They helped out during the book fair and will play a big role in book week in Term 3. To apply for this special role, you had to fill out a form with about 10 questions and then Ms Fav and Mrs Hall would judge your form and then they would decide who got in. They had so many applications that they had to make the number of library leaders 10 instead of 8.

Vivid

By Luca Montrone

On the 23 of May one of Sydney's most iconic and exciting events took place. From the Western Suburbs to the piers of Circular Quay. This year a few new exhibits such as customs house, Modern Museum

Sydney Film Festival

Every year Sydney brings the best new films to the Australian audience.

This will happen on the fifth of June to the sixteenth of June, the latest film that was nominated best film for the Sydney Film Festival was *The Mother Of All Lies* (2023)

There are many films to choose from but if you plan on going its up to you on what to decide to watch

PSSA Soccer Teams

Max Moretti

24,5,24

Recently the new PSSA soccer teams have been selected in all teams (junior girls junior boys senior boys and senior girls) there are some very skilled players and they have been doing very well with all 4 teams winning last week which is pretty impressive. With another addition there are also a lot of the school leaders like Daniel, Winter, Darcy, Sahana and Jack. The spots in the PSSA teams were all definitely deserved.

Book fair

24,5,2024

The book fair is this week and everyone seems to be enjoying it so far. The book fair is when a mini shop is set up on the upper level of the library.

Currently the set-up has been set in a way so that all students are encouraged to read different books and articles.

Debating

Raphael Mestric

31,5,24

This Tuesday, both the debating teams had their first debate. They versed Haberfield public school and both teams won.

New Location Relocating to

Haberfield Tennis Centre (The Ark)

154A Hawthorne Parade

Jeff Viskovich Tennis School



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2024

After School Term 3 classes

Starting Monday 22nd July
through Friday 26th

Saturday Morning classes

Starting 27th July

All classes 1 hour per week for 10 weeks
Max 7 per group **Cost \$250** ind.GST

- Children 5-16 years of age
- Beginners to Advanced players
- Training squads for competition players

*For booking and enquires
please contact Jeff Viskovich*

0408 169 543

jeffviskovich@gmail.com

2024

Winter Camps

Camp 1 July 8th to 12th

(Monday to Friday) 9am - 12pm

\$400 per child (5 days)
Or \$80 / Day

Camp 2 July 15th to 19th

(Monday to Friday) 9am - 12pm

\$400 per child (5 days)
Or \$80 / Day

- Private lessons available

\$50 - 1/2 hr, \$100 - 1 hr

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Please complete and Email to: jeffviskovich@gmail.com

Child's name: _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____ Postcode: _____

Phone: Home _____ Work/Mobile _____ Email address _____

Parent's Name: _____ School attending: _____

Ability level (approx): Beginner Advanced Beginner Intermediate Advanced

Prefered days and times: _____



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Our school holiday programs are the perfect chance to introduce your child to the world of volunteering – and empower them to give back in an age-appropriate way.

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 - preparing easy meals for the homeless community
- **HELPING HANDS FOR THE HOMELESS - 8-14YRS**
 - making meals & essential items for vulnerable people
- **COOK4GOOD - 12YRS+**
 - preparing meals for the homeless community

BOOK NOW:

WWW.KIDSGIVINGBACK.ORG/SCHOOL-HOLIDAY-PROGRAMS/

LOCATIONS - PADDINGTON & PARRAMATTA





PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR

COMMUNITY FUNDAY

SUNDAY 9TH JUNE, 1PM-6PM

Drummoyne Oval & Taplin Park

FREE ENTRY!

FIREWORKS AT 5:50PM



👏 RIDES 👏 FIREWORKS 👏 LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
👏 PETTING ZOO AND PONY RIDES 👏 FOOD TRUCKS
👏 COMMUNITY STALLS



Wristbands for unlimited rides *Purchase on the day

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