

RED HILL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Arni (3NS), winner of the "Young Farmer Award".

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❖ RAT Kits (via email)

4TH FEBRUARY 2022



ACT
Government
Education

Red Hill
SCHOOL

Open hearts • Inquiring minds



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Leadership Team Overview

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to new and returning families, students and staff in 2022. At the moment we have 840 students, with many families joining us after moving suburbs or arriving from interstate and overseas. Wherever our new families have come from we are delighted to have you with us in 2022.

The school year is now officially underway! Students and staff have settled in quickly to the new routines and expectations and the playground is filled with laughter and excited voices.

This is a short newsletter to introduce our staff, answer some questions we have been asked quite often this week and share some important information.

Kind regards

Louise Owens (Principal)

PRINCIPAL	Louise Owens	
DEPUTY PRINCIPALS	David Corcoran	Curriculum Coordinator
	Nathan James	Student Welfare
Executive Teachers	Kristy Aitchison	Early Childhood
	Deb Lawrence	Lower Primary
	Nghi Perrim	Upper Primary
PRESCHOOL – Red Hill	Amanda Tutalo	Kerry Sturgeon
PRESCHOOL – Griffith	Cass Moorby	Bronwyn Beattie
KA	Melissa Aniversario (Kim Werner Friday)	
KG	Alex George	
KM	Nicole Mengel	
KMC	Kristy McCumiskey (Karen Farrell Friday)	
KR	Nazmeen Rahman	

1D	Isabelle Dunlop	
1H	Adam Hambly	
1J	Juliette O'Connor	
1LF	Sue La Flamme	
1LW	Kath Winchester and Vickie Larnach	
2B	Tania Brown (Tahnee Carters Monday)	
2BC	Angel Chung and Nigel Byng	
2KC	Kirsten Khan and Tahnee Carters	
2MP	Kylie Martin (semester 1); Janice Peh (semester 2)	
2Z	Mollie Zaja	
3E	Skye Eddie	
3K	Claire Kerswell	
3NS	Nicole Smith	
3S	Karen Spence	
3SE	Susan Edwards	
4B	Rachael Bellwood	
4H	Samantha Harris	
4K	Ben Kemp	
4P	Dianne Peios	
5F	Julien French	
5G	Amber Griffin	
5J	Linley Jenkins	
5MN	Mel Newton	
6J	Ann Jenvey	
6KN	Karen Nixon	
6N	Heidi Norton	
6P	Nghie Perrim	
6S	Holly Shaw	
Teacher Librarian/Library Tech	Hazel Naidoo	Kelly Nash

Response to Intervention (RTI)	Catherine Thorpe	TBA		
Visual Arts	Helene Halliday			
Languages	Frances Szeremet (French K-3)	Chad Birks (Mandarin 4-6)		
PE/African Drumming	Dan Graetz	Rob Elsom		
Defence Mentor	TBA			
School Psychologist	Ruaan Kriel (3 days per week)			
BUSINESS MANAGER	Cheryl Gillett			
School Secretary	Jo Hastings			
Enrolments	Sandy Porter			
Office Support	Ivanka Kennedy			
School Assistants	Nicole	Kerry Sturgeon	Mollie Zaja	Deepa Walia
	Zac Lawrence	Jake Frazer	Amy Bilston	Veronica Fischetti
BUILDING SERVICES OFFICER	Anthony Hosking			

Questions and Concerns

Our staff are here to support students, parents and each other. If you have any questions or concerns, big or small, please do not hesitate to talk to your child's teacher. However, there may be times when the teacher is unable to help you, or you feel your question has not been answered. On those occasions, please come to see a member of the leadership team. We want to work in partnership with you and the sooner we are aware of a concern, the faster we can work together to find a solution.

Leadership team year level support Term 1 2022	
Preschool	Kristy Aitchison
Kindergarten - Year 1	Debra Lawrence
Year 2 and Year 3	Dave Corcoran
Year 4	Kristy Aitchison
Year 5	Louise Owens
Year 6	Nghi Perrim
Student Welfare and LSU	Nathan James

Frequently asked questions

WHY CAN'T THE SCHOOL SEND RAT KITS HOME WITH MY CHILD?

Good news! ACT Education advised earlier that kits had to be handed to parents/carers to ensure they arrived home safely. Based on feedback from schools and parents, this advice has thankfully changed. From next week onwards the school will be able to send kits home with students and the QR code will no longer need to be scanned. We will send kits home with the oldest child in each family, messaging you on the afternoon that this happens. Please bear with us though, because we don't yet know when the next shipment will arrive and even distributing kits through the students takes time.

IF MY CHILD HAS HAD COVID, CAN HE/SHE RETURN TO SCHOOL?

YES. Even if another member of the household currently has Covid, your child can return to school as long as he/she has completed the required isolation period and is no longer symptomatic.

IF A SECOND PERSON IN THE HOUSE GETS COVID CAN MY CHILD ATTEND SCHOOL, EVEN THOUGH THEY HAVE ISOLATED FOR SEVEN DAYS?

NO, unless they have completed a second isolation and testing period. For example, Adult 1 tested positive for Covid, the child tested negative on Day 6 and completed a seven-day isolation, however partway during the isolation period Adult 2 tested positive. In this scenario the child must complete a new testing and isolation period from the date Adult 2 tested positive before he/she can return to school.


MY CHILD APPEARS UNWELL BECAUSE HE/SHE HAS HAYFEVER. CAN HE/SHE COME TO SCHOOL?

Please see your family doctor if you believe your child has hay fever and request a medical certificate. Some adults and children in our community have reported believing they had hay fever in the holidays, only to discover that they had Covid. It is important that you seek medical advice. If a child attends school without a medical certificate and has a runny nose, watery eyes and/or sore throat they will be sent home.

WHAT SUPPORT WILL SCHOOLS PROVIDE IF MY CHILD STAYS AT HOME?

For those who decide to keep their children home in term one, the following options are in place. Please make sure you contact the school in writing if this is the case so that we can mark your child as on leave.

Preschool to year 2

Students will be able to access a range of learning resources through the Education Directorate's [Home Learning website](#) . These resources are aligned with the Australian Curriculum and updated each Friday afternoon.

Learning material will include daily lessons in English, mathematics and one other learning area. This learning will not be formally reported on in the semester 1 school report. Additionally, from week 3 onwards teaching teams will provide weekly home learning on our school website for literacy and numeracy.

A wellbeing check-in will be conducted once a week by the classroom teacher.

Year 3 to year 6

Students will be able to access English, mathematics and inquiry through Google classroom and the home learning website from week three onwards. (There will be no explicit instruction for students learning remotely.) Students can also access flexible learning packs through the Education Directorate's [Home Learning website](#).

Students can submit completed work for feedback and some of this learning may be reported on in the semester 1 school report.

A wellbeing check-in will be conducted once a week by the classroom teacher or an executive teacher.

Note: If your child has a chronic medical condition that places them at greater risk whilst at school because of Covid please talk to your doctor. If there are reasonable adjustments, we can make to support your child at school the doctor can advise us. Where adjustments aren't possible an alternative program can be negotiated to support your child's education.

School Board

Red Hill School will have **two school board elected vacancies** for parents in 2022: one (1) P&C Association member and one (1) parent member. This is a great way to be involved in your child's education and contribute to the school's operation and policies. If you would like more information, please contact Louise Owens or use this link:

[School Boards - Education \(act.gov.au\)](#).

The nomination period opens on Monday 7 February Week 2, Term 1. New school board members start their term of office on 1 April 2022.

Note: Because of legislative changes people wishing to nominate for a P&C Association member vacancy on the board need to **declare on their nomination form that they intend to be actively involved in the P&C association of the school** during the term of office on the board. Parents and carers can nominate in either or both vacancies.

Defence Mentor

Expressions of interest are being urgently sought for the position of Defence Mentor at our school. The position is for ten hours a week and is flexible to suit the applicant's existing commitments. This is also a wonderful way to be involved in the school. Please contact Louise Owens or Nathan James if you are interested.

Acknowledgements

Congratulations to Arni (Saiarnav Gonuguntla), who has won a "Young Farmer Award". This competition was conducted by the Navya Andhra Telugu Association in Canberra (NATA) on January 22nd, 2022.

NATA is a committee formed by the Telugu (one of the Indian languages) speaking people in Canberra.

Arni grew vegetables (beetroot, potatoes and onions) and microgreens using hydroponic farming. He also gave a presentation regarding his work without adult assistance.

Arni won first prize in the 7 to 9 years old category.



Uniform Shop

TERM 1 2022

Due to COVID restrictions, all uniform shop orders are to continue via flexischools.

<https://www.flexischools.com.au/>

COVID restrictions permitting...new families can book time with the Uniform Shop Manager if needed; please email for a booking time: rhps.uniformshop@gmail.com.

Secondhand requests can be emailed through to the shop manager.

Donations are to be placed in the purple bin in the front office foyer.

Lost property will continue to be monitored and items that are labelled sent to the front office for return to the student. Anything not labelled will be sent to charity.

Canteen

The school canteen is open Tuesday -Friday for lunch. Orders need to be placed on flexischools by 8am each day and will be delivered to classrooms by senior students at lunchtime:

- Kindergarten – year 3:11.10am
- Years 4-6:1pm

The link to Flexischools can be found on the school website. Unfortunately, counter sales are not currently available because of Covid restrictions.

School Garden Working Bee

SCHOOL GARDEN WORKING BEE

DATE: 13TH FEBRUARY 2022

TIME: FROM 8AM - 1PM

WHERE: SCHOOL GARDEN

(at the back of the Year 6 building and the oval – entry through gates off the oval)

OTHER INFO:

Come along anytime between the times! Bring your garden forks, rakes and spades!

SAUSAGE SIZZLE from 12 noon

For catering, please indicate your attendance and reply to

Flip 0407017289